

# TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER

### Fall 2019

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## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Lucia Vacca**

Sub-Convener:

Patricia Cross

Welcome back everyone. Now that summer is behind us, we will be focusing on CWL events scheduled for the Fall months. The newly-elected Toronto executive is working diligently to give you information to assist you in the planning of work programs for the Fall. This newsletter contains information to encourage discussion in your respective councils and to inform your members of the events coming up, updates to Policy and Procedures, resolutions passed at the Toronto and Provincial Conventions, Youth Award winners, Land Acknowledgement, Elections from Provincial and a new theme *Loneliness*, Federal Legislation Bills, etc. Be sure to read the full content in each of the Standing Committee Chair's reports for a better appreciation of each of the areas of responsibilities to take action.



One of the upcoming events is the CWL 2021 National Convention Fundraising Concert on October 27<sup>th</sup> - note the date. Hope to see you there!

Thank you to the councils and members who have subscribed for 2019. If you have any questions or address changes, please contact me at [newsletter@cwltoronto.ca](mailto:newsletter@cwltoronto.ca). The subscription form for 2020 will be in the Winter 2019 newsletter issue and electronic forms will also be available for downloading from our TDC website [www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca). Be sure to subscribe before February 2020.



*National Theme*  
**2019-2020**

I recall a special moment at a recent baptism of seven children in my parish at St. Edward the Confessor. One of the children was about four years old, with the rest being mostly infant age. Following the baptismal liturgy, the child and his parents approached me. The young boy reached out his hand to shake mine, and expressed the words, "Thank you for baptizing me!". The joy on his face was priceless.



A number of years, earlier, as Vocations Director, I recall taking the men of Serra House to a dinner at St. Michael's Cathedral, as it was known then (it is now a Cathedral-Basilica). The Rector had invited some of the older retired priests who had been living in the residence to join us for dinner. One of the priests, closer to 100 years old, was invited to deliver a message to the seminarians who were present around the table. To our surprise, and given his very fragile physical appearance, he insisted on standing. We had assumed it would be a long message, given his years of wisdom. However, he spoke only a few sentences.

In a loud voice, he said, "I want you all to go home and find your baptism certificates. Look it over. Read the names of your parents, godparents, and the priest who baptized you. Celebrate the date of your baptism even more than your birth date, because that is the day you were received into the life of faith and into the Church. Pray for your parents, pray for your godparents, and especially pray for the priest who baptized you. Thank them in your prayers and ask God to bless them." Then he sat down.

I must say that even though his message to us was so many years ago, I have always taken his words to heart. I sent to Ireland for my baptism certificate, only to discover I was baptized two days after birth. I read the names of my parents once again, and of my godparents (my godmother, my father's sister, died only this past year). I read the name of the priest, whom I obviously never met, but if I did I would have certainly thanked him as that young boy thanked me just last week.

At the recent Convention of the Ontario CWL Council I noticed at the closing Mass for the new leadership team, that they blessed themselves with holy water, as a reminder of their baptismal commitment.

Perhaps as we conclude our Summer season, whenever you enter a church or leave it, you can remember to thank your parents and godparents, and the priest who baptized you, as you bless yourself with holy water, a reminder of your baptism day, the day you were brought into the life of faith and became a child of God.

Maybe the priest was right in suggesting we discover our baptismal date and celebrate it with even greater joy than our birthday!

May God bless you as you serve him in response to your baptismal call.

Fr. Pat O'Dea

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## **PRESIDENT**

## **Hilarion Mitchell**

Fall marks the return to CWL activities, reaping the fruits all of the League's Spring and Summer conventions and other events. This 2019-2021 TDC Executive was installed in May at the Toronto Diocesan Convention. It is most humbling to share this first newsletter article as President for the next two years, and to usher in the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Toronto Diocesan Council with each of you.



Accolades to the 2017-2019 TDC Executive under Ann D'Souza's presidency, for the many achievements that are now part of the rich history of this council. Thank you to the retiring Executive, Regional Chairs and Convention Committee for your commitment and dedication that will ensure a seamless transition for your incoming counterparts. Congratulations to Shirley Christo on receiving her Life Member's pin at the convention in May and being recognized at the other levels of the League on this achievement.

It is now the dawn of the new Executive, Regional Chairs and Convention Committee elected or appointed to their respective positions. Entering their first time on the Diocesan Executive are Shaila D'Souza, Nancy Fenech, Elizabeth Joseph, Lolita Perry and Ciscily Winkler. Returning and completing the executive are Father Patrick O'Dea and others in new roles are Ann D'Souza, Connie Cristinziano, Sue Lubowitz, Iris McNulty, Kate O'Quinn, Andrea Smart and Mary Tuccitto. Welcome back, Anne Marie Martyniuk with other newly-appointed Regional Chairs Angie Baglieri, Mary Grossi, Marie Barry, Aurora Chavez, Nenita MacKenzie and Araceli Farinas. Lucia Vacca is continuing as Newsletter Editor while Janet Dunn,

Elisabeth Quail and Margaret Arangio are the Convention Committee. During this term, filled with milestone 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries, your TDC Executive, together with each of you, is ready to implement the priorities below and others that will emerge.

### **Toronto Diocesan Council 2019–2021 Priorities**

- The League Strategic Plan
- Membership Recruitment, Retention and Development
- National 2019-2020 Theme: *Care for Our Common Home*
- Provincial 2019-2021 Theme: *Loneliness*
- League Anniversaries: National 100<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in Montreal; Toronto 100<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and Toronto hosting of the 2021 National Convention
- Toronto: *Celebrating our Cultural Diversity*: Incorporate an educational session and entertainment at the 2020 TDC Convention

### **League 2019 Convention Highlights**

It was a privilege to be the TDC voting delegate at the Ontario Provincial Convention and one of the two accredited delegates at the National convention. The *Care for Our Common Home* theme with the focus on Water was evident with the guest speakers, Masses and prayer services at all conventions. There were updates on the Strategic Plan on which Sue Lubowitz, President-Elect/Organization Chair, will provide updates at the Fall Regional Meetings and as they become available.

### **Provincial Convention**

Forty-six members, including TDC Executive and Life Members from Toronto, attended the Ontario Provincial Convention. There were speakers on *Dignity for All* from St. Paul University Ottawa and the Kingston Street Mission in context to *the Care for Our Common Home* and *Homeless* themes.

The Ontario Provincial Executive and Diocesan Presidents selected an environmental topic related to water as part of their oral reports. Toronto Life Member Mary Capobianco spoke on *Persistence*, referring to the length of time a compound remains in the environment once introduced. For example, components of an ink cartridge may take more than 450 years to fully decompose and 75% of cartridges in Canada are not recycled. Hence, Mary initiated the *Ink and Toner Cartridge Challenge*, in which a few Toronto councils participated. As TDC President, yours truly spoke on *Detergents*. Their use has lasting environmental implications as they contain phosphates and surfactants. These chemicals affect fish and other aquatic life by decreasing available oxygen, weakening the protective mucus

layer that coats fish, exposing them to parasites and bacteria, and damages the gills of fish.

Resolution ON.19.04 Nuclear Weapons Ban which originated from Toronto, was adopted at the Provincial Convention. Our appreciation to St. Mary’s Council, Brampton, Peel Region, for gifting the League with this resolution.

### **CWL Provincial Elections, 2019-2021 and *Loneliness* Theme**

Elections for a new Provincial Executive were held, resulting in TDC members being elected and now part of the new Provincial Executive with Colleen Perry, President. Mary Capobianco will serve as Community Life Chair and Ann D’Souza as Communications Chair. *Congratulations, ladies!* Colleen has selected ***Loneliness*** as the Provincial theme during her term. Loneliness is the emerging epidemic with mental and physical health implications. Loneliness affects all age groups and has been linked to anxiety, depression and even suicide.

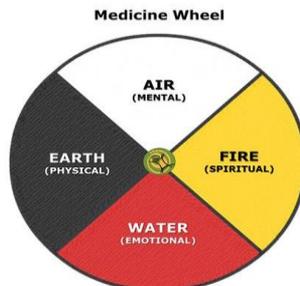
**Action:** Members, councils and regions are to provide suggestions on how they and the TDC will address the issue of *Loneliness* over the next two years.

### **Land Acknowledgements**

The National Manual of Policy and Procedures was updated in March 2019. All levels of the League are to include the Land Acknowledgment before all meetings, conventions and gatherings. This is part of the reconciliation process with our Indigenous Peoples.

**Action:** The President and the Recording Secretary are to ensure that the agenda includes the Land Acknowledgement for the local territory so that it is read for all meetings and events.

Councils are to use the remaining months of the year to complete their 2019 goals and projects. May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us as we undertake the current priorities and those to emerge during this milestone anniversary term as we *Care for Our Common Home* and each other in our work for God and Canada.



## SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Kate O'Quinn

Sub-Conveners:

Alice Warford  
Monique Forster

*“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.”*  
Psalm 32:8

As I begin my two-year term as your new Spiritual Development Chair, I take comfort and strength in Psalm 32:8. I feel very blessed to be assigned this role, knowing that God is watching over me, guiding me; that Jesus has left his footprints for me to walk in; and that the Holy Spirit is lighting my way! I look forward to working with Parish Council Spiritual Development Chairs as we journey together in our faith development.



Our **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Indigenous Mass** was held June 23, 2019, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Alice Warford and the team from Scarborough Region CWL Councils for organizing this event. The event began with a smudging ceremony, followed by the celebration of Mass and a wonderful homily given by Fr. David Reilander, President of Catholic Missions In Canada. A reception followed and an inspiring presentation/message by Fr. Reilander. Thank you to all who helped with this very successful day. Any parish council interested in hosting this event next year should contact me as soon as possible.

The **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Living Rosary Sunday Pilgrimage** will be held on Sunday, September 8, 2019, at Martyrs' Shrine in Midland. The day will begin with Mass at the Polish Altar at noon, followed by the procession of the Blessed Sacrament and Living Rosary at the Papal Altar at 2:30 pm. Celebrant and Homilist is Most Reverend Wayne Kirkpatrick, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Toronto.

The month of October is dedicated to the Rosary. The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to include the Rosary in your daily prayers during this month. Perhaps gather with other members or ladies of your parish to say the rosary as a group.

**Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC)** organizes World Day of Prayer and Fellowship of the Least Coin. For updates on when these events will be happening in 2020, please access the following websites:

<https://wicc.org/get-involved/events/> and <https://wicc.org/fellowship-of-the-least-coin/what-is-flc/>. On October 9, 2019, there will be a Grant Impact presentation by Leonora Obara on Kijiji Cha Upendo (Village of Love) Kenya, at the WICC Boardroom, Toronto. Further information can be found on the websites.

### **Third World Day of the Poor**

Pope Francis has declared this day, the 34<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, November 17, 2019. Please keep this in mind as you prepare your General Meeting liturgical celebrations. *“The hope of the poor shall not perish forever.”* (Psalm 9:19) These words of the Psalm remain timely. They express a profound truth that faith impresses above all on the hearts of the poor, restoring lost hope in the face of injustice, sufferings and the uncertainties of life. (Excerpt from Message of His Holiness Pope Francis, June 13, 2019).

**December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.** Councils are encouraged to celebrate this important day in the church calendar. There are many Marian Feast days starting in September through to December. You can easily familiarize yourself with these dates by googling Marian Feast Days.

At the Provincial Convention in Kingston, our National President Anne-Marie Gorman gave us further insight into the National theme *Care for Our Common Home*. Anne-Marie made reference to a book by Katie Smith Milway, *Mimi’s Village and How Basic Health Care Transformed It*. We also watched a video, one of a seven-part video series on Care for Creation, that you can google – *cst101 Care for Creation*. Both are excellent resources you could incorporate into your reflections for your General Meetings. Anne-Marie also encouraged us to google *Living Laudato Si* on the CCCB website. Our Past Ontario Spiritual Development Chair Anna Tremblay, prepared an excellent *Workshop on Water*. We watched a video you can access at [www.storyofbottledwater.org](http://www.storyofbottledwater.org). As Water is the focus this year of our National theme, this is an excellent resource for you to access. My favourite quote from the workshop, *“Water might seem free, but it has a cost that adds up, one drop at a time.”*

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*“A servant is not holy if they are not busy.”* – St. Zita

## ORGANIZATION

**Sue Lubowitz**

Sub Conveners:

On-line Membership  
Member Development

Mary Antonio 905-895-3637  
Andrea Tjioe 416-525-3893

Welcome to all organization chairs. I am honoured to have been elected as your Organization Chair and look forward to working with those of you at the parish and regional levels. As we are entering into a crucial junction of the League's history, there will be a lot of information coming your way. In order to ensure that you receive the information in a timely manner, I intend to send out a monthly update on recruitment and member development as well as the strategic plan.



Feel free to contact me with any issues, ideas or concerns. You can send them to me at [jslubowitz@gmail.com](mailto:jslubowitz@gmail.com)

### Strategic Plan

Three working groups have been established in the inaugural year of the implementation of planning strategically in The Catholic Women's League of Canada. They are the Marketing Working Group (five-year mandate), the Reorganization Working Group (two-year mandate) and the Affirmation Working Group (one-year mandate). Any changes proposed by the three working groups will necessitate changes to the National Constitution and Bylaws. Members are advised to continue operating their councils in the usual manner until further notice. Members are also asked to pray the CWL Prayer for Renewal (<https://cwl.ca/cwl-prayer-for-renewal/>) regularly and often. With the prayerful intercession of all members, may the Spirit guide the groups' deliberations as they undertake the renewal of the League "For God and Canada".

### Membership

As of June 2019, membership for the Toronto Diocesan Council was 6,593 members. As we approach our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, let's make a concerted effort to increase our level of membership by ensuring that Catholic women in our parishes know about the CWL. Some questions to ponder: Are we reaching out to all women in the parish? Do we have successful recruitment tips? How do we keep your membership engaged? Are we submitting fees in a timely manner so that all our members are counted? Council administrators will be notified by National when membership renewal is open. Please share with me your membership stories and ideas!!

## **Annual Reports**

This will be the fourth year that National Council has directed this process. Your council's annual report should reflect the goals and objectives you set out at the start of the year. Deadlines when they are received will be passed on to you. In the meantime, councils can review the past issues of the League magazine and see if they have implemented the directives as part of their annual reporting, based on this feedback. If you have been using the Parish Council Monthly Tracking Calendar, (found on the Diocesan website), then this should not be an onerous task.

## **Member Development**

Does your council have a "Member Development Fund" in the budget? Councils can put aside a set amount from monies raised and use those funds to have members participate in the Leadership and Public Speaking Course, the Parish Executive Training Course, Development Day and Convention 2020. Councils should contact their Regional Chairs to request one of the League development courses offered in their region.

## **Development Day**

Hold this date in your parish calendar: Saturday, February 22, 2020.  
Further details will be available as we finalize details.

## **Life Member**

At the Ontario Provincial Convention held in Kingston in July, five new Life Members were welcomed. Toronto Diocesan Council extends its warm congratulations to Shirley Christo, former Toronto Diocesan Past President, who received her Life Member's pin at our TDC Convention. Shirley has always demonstrated a love of the League through her mentoring of others and is always willing to serve at any level of the League. There are now 13 Life Members and one Honorary Life Member in our archdiocese. Please consult them for any assistance with your council projects.

## **Policy and Procedures Update**

Parishes received in the Spring mailing from National (dated March 25), the following changes to the National Manual of Policy and Procedures. A digital, current and searchable version of the National Manual of Policy and Procedures is available free of charge on the League website at [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) for those who choose not to maintain a paper copy.

Page 81, Lines 20-22. Insert a policy regarding acknowledging traditional lands on which meetings and conventions are held (a separate document will be sent to the regional chairs for distribution).

Page 14, Lines 2-15 Replace the former mission statement with the core principles adopted in August 2018 (please make sure that your members are aware of the new mission statement).

The Toronto Diocesan Council’s Policy and Procedures Manual (updated April 2019) is now available on the Toronto Diocesan website. Does your council have a current Policy and Procedures Manual reflecting your practices and to use as a guideline?

**New League Mission Statement:**

*The Catholic Women’s League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.*

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**PAST PRESIDENT/HISTORIAN**

**Ann D’Souza**

Welcome to all Past Presidents, new or those who are continuing your second-year term. As Past Presidents, we have a distinctive role and viewpoint on the way we execute our role in the League.

Having been a President, you have had the overview and hence the wealth of knowledge and experience to look at things differently and give sage advice and help our members when they approach.



I look forward to working with you all by serving in a consultative capacity; you can find the duties of the Past President in the Executive Handbook. One of the utmost will be in maintaining the archives and histories of our councils.

Past Presidents, please note that as your term ends, remember to complete a summary of the activities of your council over the two years of your term and have it kept in your archives. Keep your minutes, executive lists, photographs and any other important documents, so that they are easily retrieved whenever necessary.

**Mentoring**

If one looks up to check on what is mentoring, it relates to: Mentoring is a relationship between an experienced person and a less experienced person for the purpose of helping the one with less experience. At my workplace, we have courses on coaching, and awards are given for “EDS (Empowering Digital Success) coaching”. It was interesting to note the definition on the “**The EDS Coach**” - Rewards a manager who has

helped their team master the art of Challenger selling or just spends time coaching their team. It almost looks like mentoring, but there is a distinct difference between mentoring and coaching as they are **NOT** identical though related, which leads us to the award we do annually at our CWL convention.

### **Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award**

The Patricia Beattie Mentoring Award is an award to honour all those special dedicated women of the League who have, through their knowledge and active encouragement, promoted growth in other members in the League. Recipients of this award are nominated by their CWL peers and the award is given out annually at the Toronto Diocesan Convention. You can find all about it on our website, the link is:

<https://www.cwltoronto.ca/index.php/forms>

At our diocesan convention in May, we presented two awards for the Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award.

**Karen Lawless**, Life member from St. Patrick’s Council, Mississauga in Peel Region, was awarded the Auxiliary Level. Karen has been a CWL member for 60 years. Over these many years she has been Parish Council President, Historian, and has held various council positions at the Parish, Peel Region and Toronto Diocesan levels of the League. She was also our Toronto Diocesan President from 1999-2001 and Past President from 2001-2003. As a Life Member she has been our Toronto Diocesan Convention Parliamentarian and remained involved as our Life Member Liaison.

Her nominator stated: “Even though Karen sat as TDC President 20 years ago, she supported her parish council’s executive and members then and continues to do so with her quiet and humble presence. She even returned as co-president (2012-13) when no one else stepped in. She continued to support, mentor, advise and inspire the members in all our work. She actively involves us (council and members) in her community work at St. Vincent de Paul and [her advocacy is why] our council remained strong to this day”. *Congratulations Karen!*

**Mary Lynch** from St. Joseph the Worker Council in Durham Region received the Parish Level mentoring award. Mary has been a CWL member for 23 years. She has served as parish and regional Education and Health Chair for many years and is currently President-Elect.

Her nominator stated: “She provides knowledge and expertise on topics related to social justice and dignity of human life. As a result, she engages members to be agents of action, arranges speakers on topics such as Euthanasia and Conscience Rights for HealthCare Workers. Mary’s

support, knowledge, insight, encouraging members to participate in Leadership training, Development Days and conventions, exemplifies love and devotion to the League, and serves as a witness for her League sisters to the love of God by her ministry and service to the Church and to the vulnerable. She visits nursing homes, hospital patients, homeless and invites members to participate with her; she connects with community social services actively visiting locally elected officials on behalf of her parish council". *Congratulations Mary!*

**Parish Council Elections:**

Many councils will be preparing for their council’s elections. Your committee should include your parish council’s spiritual advisor and at least two other members of your council who are not running for election, perhaps previous past presidents. If you are close to your two-year term as past president, then your council should hold elections. You can find information (Parish Elections - key points document) on our website link: <https://www.cwltoronto.ca/index.php/reference-documents>

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**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

**Nancy Fenech**

Greetings to all. This is a new role for me as Corresponding Secretary on the Toronto Diocesan Council. Being organized and keeping accurate records are key to this position.



The responsibilities of Corresponding Secretary shall be as directed by the President. My service is to ensure that correspondence is received and read at meetings; sending Mass cards, sympathy cards, Christmas cards, etc., as directed by the president; sending out covering letters with the annual reports to the Archbishop, Auxiliary Bishops and Life Members not attending the convention; mailing executive lists to the Archbishop’s secretary as well as to National office and the Ontario Provincial Corresponding Secretary.

Maintaining and updating the elections registers of Parish Council Presidents is extremely important, so it is also important that councils’ executive lists be kept up-to-date. Regional chairs are responsible for forwarding Parish Executive Council changes, addresses, etc., as soon as possible, especially after elections take place. The updated information will be used for the Diocesan CWL’s elections register for eligible presidents for nomination in a Diocesan election year, as well as mailing of financial

statements and the various Presidents' packages every year. Parish presidents, please complete the form which can be found on the Toronto Diocesan CWL website: <http://www.cwltoronto.ca/index.php/forms>. Click on Parish Information Sheet for updates to your Council Executive and once completed, forward this form to your Regional Chair as soon as changes take place.

Christmas is coming and as you prepare mailing of your council's Christmas cards, and also your own personal mailings, please visit your local post office and ask for religious stamps. These will be available for purchase soon. It is also a good idea to buy extra religious stamps, while they are available, and use them throughout the year.

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## TREASURER

**Lolita Perry**

As we reconvene this September, I would like to extend greetings to all of my counterparts at the parish and regional level. Fall seems to be a hectic time of the year for Treasurers. This is the time to prepare the budgets for the new year and the list of the annual donations to be made, as well as the year-end financial statements for your council.



### **Annual Reports**

This is also the time for parish councils to start working on their 2019 annual reports for the National report. We encourage all treasurers to fill the report on-line. Information and directions on filing the report on-line will be included with the instructions when sent by National. Information on this will also be given at the Fall Regional Meetings.

### **Diocesan Voluntary Funds**

The Voluntary Fund charities supported by the Toronto Diocesan Council are as follows: St. Michael's Scholarship and the Hope for Children Foundation (Catholic Children's Aid Society). This is a good way to support our young women and men in broadening their education and horizons. All donations can be made any time of the year. However, funds must be received and deposited prior to December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year in order to be included in the 2019 Annual Report. Please note all cheques should be made payable to "The Catholic Women's League of Canada". The Diocesan Voluntary Funds form is on the [www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca) website for perusal and download, go to Resources Tab>Forms.

## **Budgets**

During your council's budget preparations, consider allocating funds to cover the operating costs for the council and members' development and training funds. If feasible, subsidize attendance for members to attend our TDC Annual Convention and Development Days so that they have the opportunity to see the League from parish to diocesan perspectives. For the League's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries - National 2020 and Toronto 2021 - set aside funds for members to participate and attend these events. Budget and donations are to be reviewed by the executive, then presented to the members at the general meeting to be voted on. Have a look at present and previous expenses and revenue generated and use that as benchmark or guide for the coming calendar year. This will ensure that the operating expenses are covered to the best of your council's abilities, and monies are set aside for any planned special projects.

## **Per Capita Fees**

The membership fees set by each council must include the national fees, regional dues and the portion that remains at the council. The \$20 sent to National is broken down as follows: National receives \$13, Provincial \$3 and the Toronto Diocese \$4 per member. It is important to promptly remit the membership fees collected to the National Office; this will ensure the records of years of service are kept up-to date and that there is no delay in members receiving their copy of The Canadian League magazine.

Parish council treasurers were advised by National Office that in 2020, the mandatory general liability insurance will no longer be covered by National but will be the responsibility of the parish council. When remitting the membership fees, you will also be required to send in a cheque for your council's coverage. This is currently at \$0.50 per member. Any further changes will be communicated to all parish council treasurers by National.

For more information and resources visit the TDC website:

[www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca) >resources>reference documents and scroll down to Sample Financial Statements and Treasurer 101.

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*“Nothing seems tiresome or painful when you are working for a Master who pays well; who rewards even a cup of cold water given for love of Him.”*

– St. Dominic Savio

## CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Iris McNulty

I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your Christian Family Life Chair for the next two years. I welcome your questions, ideas and suggestions to assist me in keeping League members informed on the many current topics and issues associated with this convenorship. It covers a wide spectrum and so your involvement is important.



### **Marriage and Family**

Our earliest experiences of love, care and identity begin in the family. What we experience in our biological family is later practiced in the community in which we live. Please refer to [www.colf.ca](http://www.colf.ca) for resources on topics such as parenting, Natural Family Planning and faith.

### **National Family Week - October 7 to 13**

Since 1985, this week has honoured family and reflected on its importance to society. A different theme is highlighted each year on a particular aspect of family life. Along with its partner organizations, links to helpful resources such as nutrition, family/work and kindness can be found at [www.familiescanada.ca/article/national-family-week](http://www.familiescanada.ca/article/national-family-week).

### **Sanctity of Life**

Alliance for Life is sponsoring Petition One Million. Over four million lives have been lost to abortion over the last fifty years. This campaign hopes to obtain one million signatures requesting the federal government to provide legal protection for the pre-born. Signatures will be presented to The House of Commons on International Human Rights Day, December 10. Please complete the hard copy of the petition. It can be downloaded from [www.petitionofonemillion.ca/sign-petition/](http://www.petitionofonemillion.ca/sign-petition/). Consider organizing a campaign in your parish. *“We cannot protect the four million children killed by abortion since 1969 but we can recognize and dignify their lives with every signature we collect.”*

### **40 Days for Life Campaign - September 25 to November 3**

The name of this campaign is derived from events in the Bible which lasted 40 days. They include Noah’s Ark, Moses’ forty days on Mount Sinai and Jesus’ forty days in the desert. The campaign is a witness of prayer and fasting by volunteers near abortion facilities. It aims to save lives in the womb by changing hearts and minds of individuals considering abortion. Since 2007, this group has succeeded in closing down 99 abortion facilities. It has documented in saving at least 15,256 babies. It has recorded 186

employees terminating their abortion-related employment positions. To view a powerful video clip: [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com) (click on the image of infant).

### **National Life Chain - October 6**

Stand proudly with others to pray silently while holding a sign with a powerful message, for an end to the killing of innocent children and for those affected by abortion. Resources and listen-and-act cards are available online at: [www.campaignlifecoalition.com/life-chain](http://www.campaignlifecoalition.com/life-chain).

### **Youth**

Young Adult Ministries in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a RENEW conference November 7-10. Adults aged 19-39 will have the opportunity to experience praise and worship, listen to amazing Catholic speakers and live entertainment. It is open to students, young adults, couples and young families with children. Consider promoting this event in your council and covering some of the expenses for participants. Details may be obtained at [www.ocytoronto.org/renewto/](http://www.ocytoronto.org/renewto/)

Five young adults in the archdiocese have been trained in St. John Paul II's *Theology of the Body* program. Equipped to speak about chastity in elementary and secondary schools, to parish audiences and youth groups, their presentations provide witnesses and evangelization on a Catholic message of authentic love. To book a presentation contact: Desiree at 416-599-7676.

### **Seniors**

There are more persons over the age of 65 than children under the age of 15 living in Canada. Over the last one hundred years, life expectancy has grown by thirty years. Increased connections with God and spiritual development have greater potential as one ages. A new ministry is emerging in some churches to support the spiritual development of seniors. *Ministry of Maturing Adults* recognizes their spiritual potential and attempts to assist them in discovering a new purpose and mission in the context of their faith. How does your council or parish support maturing adults?

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*“If you are humble nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are.”*

– St. Teresa of Calcutta

## **DATES TO REMEMBER - 2019**

September 8	Rosary Sunday, Martyrs' Shrine, Midland
October 6	Life Chain
October 10	Mass for Women Abuse – St. Roch Parish
October 27	National Convention Planning Committee Concert – St. Edward the Confessor Church, North York
November 5	40 <sup>th</sup> Annual Cardinal's Dinner
February 22	Development Day
March 3	Ordinandi Dinner
March 6	World Day of Prayer
March 28	Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest

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## **REGIONAL MEETING DATES - 2019**

September 19	<b>Peel Region</b> General Meeting Sts. Peter & Paul, Mississauga - Mass 7:00 pm (4070 Central Parkway E.)
September 25	<b>Toronto Region</b> General Meeting Our Lady of Lourdes - Mass 7:00 pm (520 Sherburne St.)
September 26	<b>Humber Valley Region</b> General Meeting St. Margaret Mary, Woodbridge - Mass 7:00 pm (8500 Islington Ave.)
October 1	<b>Northern Region</b> General Meeting Guardian Angels, Orillia - Mass 7:00 pm (115 West St. N.)
October 2	<b>Durham Region</b> General Meeting Holy Family Parish, Whitby - Mass 7:00 pm (91 Ribblesdale Dr.)
October 8	<b>North York Region</b> General Meeting St. Edward the Confessor - Mass 7:00 pm (75 Churchill Ave.)
October 17	<b>Scarborough Region</b> General Meeting Precious Blood Parish - Mass 7:00 pm (1737 Lawrence Ave. E)

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# *Happy Anniversary!*

*St. John the Evangelist, Durham Region – 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*Holy Cross, Durham Region – 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*St. Joseph the Worker, Durham Region – 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*St. Columbkille, Uptergrove, Northern Region – 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*St. James, Colgan, Northern Region – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*St. Paul the Apostle, Alliston, Northern Region -55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*St. Maria Goretti, Scarborough Region – 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*St. Leonard, Peel Region – 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
*St. Patrick, Mississauga, Peel Region - 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

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## **SERVICE AWARDS**

### **Maple Leaf Service Pin**

#### **North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Kay Booker

### **65- Year Membership Pin**

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary: Joan Aikens

### **60- Year Membership Pins**

#### **Humber Valley Region**

Transfiguration of our Lord: Joan Hastie      Joan Montgomery      Lillian Cross

#### **North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Dorothy Murphy

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary: Marjorie Morrison      Annette Quinlan      Yvonne Rattray

### **55-Year Membership Pins**

#### **Humber Valley Region**

Transfiguration of our Lord: Irene DeBono

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary: Sophie Wick

### **50-Year Membership Pins**

#### **North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Patricia Murphy-Masse

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary: Liliane Ziliotto

### **45-Year Membership Pins**

#### **Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord: Gloria Machacek

#### **North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Rosemary Eckert      Velma Letterio

### 40-Year Membership Pins

#### **Humber Valley Region**

Transfiguration of our Lord: Nora Michelucci Josephine Sandrin

#### **North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Rosalie Gregory Barbara Landry

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary: Lucille Hill Kathryn Morrison

#### **Toronto Region**

St. Joan of Arc: Rosanne Kelly

### 35-Year Membership Pins

#### **North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Beverly Lynde

#### **Peel Region**

St. Francis Xavier: Mary Ann Butler

#### **Scarborough Region**

St. Barnabas: Aura Mascarenhas Marilyn Mitchell Nair Bahadur  
Joan Ironside Glendaq McNeil Nicky Rangel

#### **Toronto Region**

St. Joan of Arc: Ann McMahan

### 30-Year Membership Pins

#### **Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord: Betty Reeder Linda Wisz

St. Margaret Mary: Domenica Meffe

#### **North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Marie Dale Margaret Lui Ann Lynch

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary: Donna Kennedy

#### **Scarborough Region**

St. Barnabas: Merle Simpson Lois Larocque

### 25-Year Membership Pins

#### **North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Maria Luz Manalo Marilyn Bowers

Kathy Nelson Norma Rozal

Marga Van Den Hogen

#### **Northern Region**

St. Mary: Antonia Galle

#### **Scarborough Region**

St. Barnabas: Coleen Kristai Anne Broekhof Greta Charles

Marcia Marhong Ruth Williams

#### **Toronto Region**

St. Joan of Arc: Joan Miller

### 20-Year Membership Pins

#### **Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord: Mary Bernadette Carey Nicole Chumo  
Patricia Dyson Ann Hennessy Dolores Pike

St. Margaret Mary: Giulia Mazzella  
Transfiguration of our Lord: Veronica Cymbal

**North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Sheila Aziz Rosalinda De Miglio

**Northern Region**

St. Mary: Carol Cancilla Irene Keyes

**Peel Region**

St. Francis Xavier: Angie Aranjuez Lynette Colaco-DeSouza Ann D'Souza  
Euvronia D'Souza Spinola D'Souza Suzette D'Souza  
Diana Gamboa Maria Martyres Agnes McLean  
Emilia Parado Sonia Villanueva

**Toronto Region**

St. Joan of Arc: Maria Coprara Veronica Stamp

**15-Year Membership Pins**

**Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord: Joseha Martyers Viotet MacDonald Erma Pitre  
St. Margaret Mary: Loretta Bellisario Rosalia Bruno Rosa Chiaravallotti  
Stella Sanginesi

**North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Marita Enriquez Mary Amyotte

**Northern Region**

St. Mary: Margaret Baker Joan Belanger Dorothy Cepas Mary Love

**Peel Region**

Sts. Peter & Paul: Rose Marie Tokar  
St. Francis Xavier: Sheila Saldanha

**Scarborough Region**

St. Barnabas: Cynthia Mason Ignacia Nunes Euthalie Jones

**Toronto Region**

St. Joan of Arc: Alice Amaral Anna Marie Barabas Wanda Brown  
Josie Caprara Susan McElcheran Rafi Parsaei  
Mary Reekie Purisima Robertson Helen Soares  
Patricia (Kelly) Tilley

**10-Year Membership Pins**

**Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord: Julieta Gerochi Maria McEvenue Joan Rollison-Lorimer  
St. Margaret Mary: Anne Angelini Maria Bauer Iole Di Giammarino  
Maria Sciacca Angela Senisi Anna Solano

Transfiguration of our Lord: Lorna Cachola Phyllis Colosimo

**North York Region**

Blessed Trinity: Marie Hannum Linda Letterio Yvonne Singh  
Nadia Tanel Mya Bradford Maureen Connelly  
Joan Emmerson Jacqueline MacKinnon  
Sandy McKenna Terry Tanco

**Northern Region**

St. Mary:	Mary Anne Alexander	Elizabeth Fowlie
	Barbara Johnson	Andrea Michael
	Mary Ann Pope	

**Peel Region**

St. Francis Xavier:	Ann Alfonso	Thelma Alphonso	Caroline Athaide
	Daphne Britto	Carroll Duff	Joan Gardiner
	Rowena Kishan	Blanca Polo	Brenda Soares
	Felicitas Torres		

**Scarborough Region**

St. Barnabas:	Elsa Allen	Merlene D'Oyley Francis
	Jenny Dejaja	Annie Iyengar Agnes Jones
	Zenor Mahabal	Rosemarie Abdool Aurora Lasola

**Toronto Region**

St. Joan of Arc:	Nina Bianchi	Joyce Bova	Marianne Chard
	Stephanie Ficker	Maria Paez-Victor	
	Bebs (Genoveva) Tuazon		

**5-Year Membership Pins****Humber Valley Region**

Nativity of Our Lord:	Simona Barany	Margaret Caruana	Anna Chimienti
	Claire Fenech	Angela Guest	Anita Handrahan
	Ivana Pejakovic	Maria Quatrala	Rose Raut
	Antoinette Rostom	Margaret Wiltshire	Tina Grogna
Transfiguration of our Lord:	Mary De Ciantes	Teresita Escribano	Mima Fantini
	Rose May Lee Chong	Ivete Pinto	TharmiThuraimayagam

**North York Region**

Blessed Trinity:	Mary Anne Benusus-Ferreira	Jean Chiles
	Anne Cira	Marie Nadia Lecce

**Northern Region**

St. Mary:	Pat Elliot	Arlene LeBlanc	Theresa Lynett
	Cathy Martinell		

**Peel Region**

St. Francis Xavier:	Anita Bale	Gizelle Cordeiro	Sharon D'Sa
	Melissa Dias	Lorraine Gonsalves	Tina Louise Gouveia
	Lorena Maria Lobo	Noella Maciel	Ivana Mathias
	Minette Philomena Pereira		Iona Rodricks

**Scarborough Region**

St. Barnabas:	Carol Anne Bastaldo	Patricia Knox	Jesusa Umadhay
	Yolande Sparrock	Monica Tomlinson	Silvie Baichan

**Toronto Region**

St. Joan of Arc:	Marlene Florian	Mimi Paige	Maria Sol Correia
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## COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Tuccitto

Greetings everyone and welcome back. I hope your summer was safe and restful. We should feel refreshed and ready to start our League work with enthusiasm and pride!!

I am excited to start this journey with you as your new Communications Chair for the 2019-2021 term and I look forward to meeting you at your upcoming Fall Regional Meetings.



What is your council doing to foster open communications among members and keeping them informed of League events and initiatives? Do you produce and distribute a parish CWL newsletter? If not, why not start one? It's the simplest and most effective way to keep your members informed and spark the interest of potential new members to join this wonderful national organization. Do you send regular and appropriate emails, remembering to BCC: when sending in bulk? What about a "phone tree"? Despite all the technology at our fingertips, the human touch and the art of conversation is still the BEST way to reach out to our members. I encourage you to share with me any special awards your members receive and your good news stories for posting on our website. We need to "toot our own horn" and be proud.

### Websites and Social Media

Use the words "*The Catholic Women's League*" more often, when speaking or making announcements at your parish and in your parish bulletins. Remember, not everyone knows who the CWL is. Wear your pins and scarves openly and with pride and personally invite new members to join the League. Keep updated on League activities and initiatives from across the country by remembering "Website Wednesdays" and check the League websites often; invite all members to do the same.

**Toronto:** [www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca) **Provincial:** [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca) **National:** [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)

### Pornography Hurts Campaign

Our fight against pornography and all the evils associated with it is an ongoing battle and technology has added to its accessibility. Children and adults alike are exposed to harmful images which can lead to a destructive addiction leaving shattered minds, souls and families behind. Sadly it is a huge industry with many distressing spinoff activities associated with it, such as prostitution and human trafficking. As women of faith we have an obligation to protect those vulnerable in our society by continuing to fight

this ever-growing evil. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Pornography Hurts Campaign. Please continue to print the Pornography Hurts Post Cards by following the instructions on the National website: [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) item number 178 and mail the completed cards to the House of Commons, no postage is required. The fight is not over and we need your help.

**Media**

Support Salt+Light TV and Vision TV for wholesome, interesting programming for the whole family and subscribe to The Catholic Register for print material and newsworthy articles in keeping with our Christian values. There are often book reviews listed.

**Communications Policy Changes from National**

The National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President of Communications Chair Doreen Gowans, issued the Communique #5 on April 30<sup>th</sup> 2019, which mentions changes to the Communications Policy. One of the changes to note is that as of June 30<sup>th</sup> 2019, the toll-free 1-888 telephone line is no longer active. Contact the national office via email for orders, membership and On the Spot. Members should also be informed to communicate with their parish council executive for any inquiries and if necessary with your Regional Chair, the Diocesan level, Provincial level, etc. Please respect the chain of command. Go to <https://cwl.ca/communique-05-communications/> for the full report.

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**COMMUNITY LIFE**

**Ciscily Winkler**

Greetings everyone, it is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I introduce myself as your newly-elected Community Life Standing Chair for 2019-2021. My sincere gratitude to each of you for placing your confidence in me, and also to my predecessors, who have laid down much ground work from which we can learn and extrapolate. We will be sharing many aspects of Community Life through the National Communiques and the Provincial Directives as issues arise.



**Issues Concerning Dignity and Rights of Persons:**

**Mass to End Woman Abuse**

Mark your calendar for October 10, 2019, and visit [www.cwltoronto.ca](http://www.cwltoronto.ca) for more details. Statistics show that crimes against human dignity are on the rise and must be addressed through awareness, education and action to prevent them from happening in the first place. Be proactive to change.

## **Social and Economic Justice**

The Ontario Provincial Council's new President, Colleen Perry, has chosen *Loneliness* for the 2019-2021 new theme. The previous theme on *Homelessness*, which is still a major concern for many, will remain a subsidiary of the new theme.

**Opioids** overdose has reached a national crisis with greater than 90% of deaths being considered as accidental or unintentional; critical measures are needed at inter-professional levels to ensure that these drugs are monitored at all times and be kept out of the hands of vulnerable individuals, while checking for links to other social issues.

**Indigenous issues** addressed by the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission 2015 Report* urged all levels of government to act on pathways to bring reconciliation between the non-Indigenous peoples of Canada and the Indigenous Peoples. The report cited 94 Calls to Action for implementation by the Canadian government. Land Acknowledgements, an act of showing respect and gratitude for land used by non-Indigenous people will become the new norm at all meetings, events or gatherings.

**KAIROS**, an ecumenical movement for ecological justice and Human Rights, recently urged the passing of Bill-262, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People Act; visit [www.catholicregister.org](http://www.catholicregister.org) for more information.

**The Canada Summer Jobs** issue is still being discriminated against by the Federal Government even with a revised attestation; for more details see the *National CWL Communique #6* or visit the Catholic Register website.

## **Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship**

Forced migration has caused the displacement of many families around the world; many spend years in refugee camps before settling in a safer country, while others brave the reality of life or death. Ensure that your council is aware of these situations; learn about the Office for Refugees Archdiocese of Toronto (ORAT); refer refugees or new immigrants to the local Community Family Services where they can be assisted with settlement, counselling and education issues or referred to appropriate programs. There are Welcome Centres in the GTA for assistance.

## **Climate Change**

Pay close attention to climate change by caring for the environment. Farmers in the Global South provide crops for our needs, and often with

little gratuity. Choose buying **Fair Trade** products to ensure that these workers can live with dignity and sustain their families. At home, buy from your local farmers who maintain the enrichment of the soil, resulting in fresher and cheaper food.

### **Developing Countries**

Poverty, lack of resources and opportunities often make it difficult for many people in the developing countries to improve their lives. A small grant, or education in skills and labour will give them a needed start. They will give back to their communities in greater measures while developing self-confidence and independence. Get to know about these countries.

### **Women in Public Life**

A woman in public life adds great dimension to society at large. Through awareness and education, women should be encouraged to embrace all aspects of public life to achieve their full potentials. There should be sufficient support along the way to help with transitioning.

### **Recommendations:**

Share all Community Life issues with your council and ask for feedback. Form a subcommittee by inviting regular membership to join in; many may welcome this opportunity which may encourage their further involvement. For more information on Community Life, read your Canadian League magazine, or visit the National or Provincial websites at [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) and [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca) respectively. Always do your best to attract new members and increase the profile of the League; the greater we make the League, the better we can help those in need, while *Caring for our Common Home*.

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## **EDUCATION AND HEALTH**

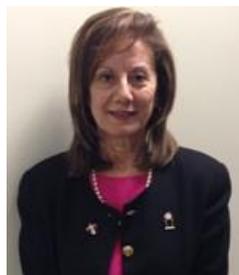
**Connie Cristinziano**

Sub-Conveners:

Youth Awards  
St. Michael Scholarship

Val Egerton  
Donna Capobianco

Summer will soon be behind us and Fall with all its beautiful colors will soon settle in. As we begin yet another new CWL year, let us take a moment to reflect on all God's creation, beauty and blessings. Welcome all current Education and Health Chairs. I look forward to serving as your Education and Health Chair for the next two years.



## **Education Youth Awards**

The presentation of Public Speaking, Essay and Poetry, Service Awards and Scholarship awards is always a special event at our Annual Toronto Diocesan Convention. I am always so amazed to see the energy and passion of our youth as they deliver their well-rehearsed speeches on their creative and varied topics.

We would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all teachers and parents for their support and we recognize in a special way the parishes and regions for their continued commitment, focus and efforts that make these awards possible in schools across our archdiocese. Congratulations to ALL of the students who participated in the youth awards.

We congratulate the following first place winners in each of the categories:

### **Mary Matthews Public Speaking Award**

**Winner: Raef Boktore;** St. Angela Merici Catholic School; Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish, Northern Region

### **Mary Dobell Pro-Life Awareness Essay and Poetry Literacy Award Intermediate Essay**

**Winner: Emma Fisher;** All Saints Catholic High School; St. Francis de Sales Parish, Durham Region

### **Senior Essay:**

**Winner: Anaan Jaet;** Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School; Precious Blood Parish, Scarborough Region

### **Intermediate Poetry**

**Winner: Angeline Bernardo;** Mother Cabrini Catholic School; Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Humber Valley Region

### **Senior Poetry:**

**Winner: Priscilla Yeboaa;** Cardinal Leger Secondary School; St. Anne Parish, Peel Region

### **Jean McCann Service Award for Youth**

**Recipient: Belden Sequeira;** Senator O'Connor College School; Precious Blood Parish, Scarborough Region

A complete list of all winners and their selected topics can be found in the 2019 Youth Booklet that all Regional Chairs and Presidents received at the convention. Council Presidents, please share this information with your executive and members at the general meetings.

**Toronto Diocesan – St. Michael’s Scholarship (2018 Award)**

**Recipient: Tianna DiMarco;** a graduate of Cardinal Carter Catholic High School; St. David’s Parish, North York Region.

Now is the time to start promoting the 2020 St. Michael’s Scholarship award. Education Standing Committee Chairs on parish executive councils should access all schools in the area. Place a notice in the parish bulletin or bulletin boards. This will be a great way to challenge all young men and women and will also spark an interest to our youth attending public schools.

**Toronto Diocesan – Hope for Children Foundation Scholarship (2018 Award)**

**Recipient: Pauline Umli** who is now attending Centennial College

Please continue to generously support these two Toronto Diocesan Scholarship funds. The **remittance forms** can be found on the Toronto website: [www.cwl.toronto.ca](http://www.cwl.toronto.ca). Please ensure that cheques are made payable to: **The Catholic Women’s League of Canada** and **not** the Scholarship fund and sent to the Toronto Diocesan Treasurer – Lolita Perry.

**It is time once again to start planning for our 2020 CWL Public Speaking Contests and Youth Awards**

The **2020** Youth Awards Program packages will be available through your Regional Chairs and Regional Education and Health Standing Committee Chairs. Copies will also be available on the Toronto Website.

Councils should begin as early as September to reach out to the schools in the area as well as your individual parishes, perhaps coordinate with the Confirmation preparation classes. Continue promoting these awards. Our youth are the voice of the future.

**Toronto Diocesan Council Deadlines for 2020**

**Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest –**

Submission to TDC - March 13, 2020

**Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay and Poetry, and Jean McCann Service**

**Awards:** Submission to TDC - March 9, 2020

**Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest**

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Registration: 12:30 pm. Start Time: 1:00 pm.

St. Roch Parish (2889 Islington Avenue)

Reminder: all contests at the parish and regional levels and submissions must be completed prior to these deadline dates.

## **Catholic Education**

We continue to hear of the challenges that our Catholic education is facing. I encourage committee chairs to visit their Catholic District School Board Trustees in their areas and to be made aware of any budget changes that will be affected by ongoing government budget reductions and changes to our Catholic education. Share these concerns with your members and parishioners. Check for any planned dates for education forums in your Community. Our voices and action can make a difference to our continued Catholic education system. Make our political leaders accountable for their action and support.

## **Health Canada Online**

I encourage Education and Health Chairs to visit the website: [www.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca). This site provides news and recent information about developments about our health and the health care system. Share this information with your members.

<b>September</b>	World Alzheimer's Month
<b>October 1-7</b>	Mental Illness Awareness Week
<b>October 10<sup>th</sup></b>	World Mental Health Day
<b>October 12<sup>th</sup></b>	World Arthritis Day
<b>November 14<sup>th</sup></b>	World Diabetes Day

Let us share together the opportunities through this Committee Chair for us all to be of service to God and Canada.

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## **LEGISLATION**

Sub-Conveners

**Elizabeth Joseph**

Suzanne Cockburn  
Sonia DaCosta Spence

Greetings to all Legislation Chairs. I am humbled to be serving on the Toronto Diocesan executive and journeying with you. As I reflect on our theme *Care for our Common Home*, I recognize the extreme weather systems we are experiencing and welcome the Federal Government's acknowledgement of the serious challenges posed by climate change which threatens our health and future.



On June 17, the House of Commons passed a motion to declare a National Climate Emergency. The motion passed with a vote of 186 to 63. It supports the Government's commitment to meeting emission reduction targets outlined in the Paris agreement. On June 28, the Federal

Government declared that the Ontario Carbon Tax is Constitutional. This means the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, enacted in April 2019, is within Parliament’s jurisdiction to legislate in relation to matters of “national concern” (Chief Justice Strathy, June 28, 2019).

### **Federal Legislation**

**Bill C-75 An Act to amend the Criminal Code, the Youth Criminal Justice Act and other Acts and to make consequential amendments to other Acts is supported by the Minister of Justice.** The Bill was introduced and had first reading in the Senate on December 3, 2018. The purpose of the Bill in part “decreases sentencing on serious crimes for indictable offences which can be subject to court with a jury and sentencing to a summary offence. It means people who commit a serious crime could avoid sentencing with as little as a small fine” (CWL OPC, June 11, 2019). On April 4, Bill C-75 had second reading and was referred to the Standing Committee. On June 4, the Committee report was presented with amendments, and was adopted on June 11. On June 13, Bill C-75 had third reading, was passed by the Senate and given Royal Assent on June 21, 2019.

**Bill C-418 Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act** is a private member’s Bill introduced by MP David Anderson that had its first reading in the House of Commons on October 30, 2018. The Bill seeks to protect medical practitioners from being compelled to directly or indirectly take part in medical assistance in dying. It had second reading in the House of Commons on May 29, 2019, and was referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

**Action:** Contact your local MP to show support for Bill C-418.

**Bill C-48 Oil Tankers Moratorium Act** had first reading on May 12, 2017; had second reading and was referred to Committee on October 4, 2017. It is an act respecting the regulation of vessels that transport crude oil from marine installations along the BC coast. The Bill had first reading in the Senate on May 9, 2018. At second reading it was referred to the Committee of Transport and Communications on December 11, 2018. On June 3, 2019 the Committee report presented a recommendation. At third reading on June 13, the Bill was passed with an amendment and given Royal Assent on June 21, 2019.

### **Provincial Legislation**

**Bill 21:** The Quebec Bill prohibits public servants in authority from wearing religious symbols such as a turban or hijab on the job. The Bill was introduced on March 28, 2019. The Act amends the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms to specify that persons must maintain proper regard for State laicity in exercising their fundamental freedoms and rights. Its

opponents say the law targets religious minorities while the government argues it affirms the Quebecois people's secular identity. The Bill was passed in principle on June 4 with a vote of 77 to 38, and received Royal Assent on June 16, 2019.

**Action:** Pray that this law will be reversed by the Federal Government.

**Bill 82: Single-Use Plastics Ban Act 2019** had first reading on March 18, 2019. The Act includes a plan that identifies, targets and sets out timelines for the immediate reduction and eventual elimination of the distribution and supply of single-use plastics in Ontario by 2025, and the immediate elimination of certain single-use plastics. This Bill relates to our theme *Care for Our Common Home*.

**Action:** Monitor the status of this Bill.

**Bill 108: More Homes, More Choice, Act 2019** was sponsored by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The Bill had first reading on May 2, 2019. It amends several Acts to implement the changes outlined in the More Homes, More Choices: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan. The Act consists of three sections and 13 schedules. On June 4, the Bill had second reading; and at third reading on June 6, 2019, was given Royal Assent.

**Action:** Monitor *Housing Now*, Mayor Tory's affordable housing strategy, to abandon the plan to build a parking lot and consider building affordable housing in Toronto's West End.

**Federal Election** is scheduled for October 21, 2019. Voters are required to prove their identity with one piece of government issued photo ID or two pieces of provincial ID. Register online at [www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca)

As Catholics we need to pay attention to the issues and policies that concern us. Visit the following websites: [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca) ; [www.devvp.org](http://www.devvp.org) ; and [www.catholicregister.org](http://www.catholicregister.org) for the Catholic Register, available online and in print.

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## RESOLUTIONS

**Andrea Smart**

Sub-Conveners:

Celestine Hall 416-694-8922  
Tracy MacInnis 647-973-7645

Welcome back after a summer that we thought would never arrive. At the Toronto Diocesan Convention in May, I was blessed to be elected First Vice-President and assigned the Resolutions Standing Committee. Along with my two sub-conveners, Celestine Hall and



Tracy MacInnis, I look forward to working with everyone over the next two years.

### **Resolutions - Toronto Diocesan Convention May 2-3, 2019**

At this year's convention, a Resolutions Dialogue session was once again held prior to the start of business, where delegates gathered to review the resolution that would be presented on the second day. The purpose of a Resolutions Dialogue is to give interested delegates the opportunity to review and discuss resolutions in an informal setting and, if appropriate, formulate changes by way of amendments that would then be presented during the Resolutions session on Day Two of the convention. The Resolutions Dialogue is always popular; this year approximately 160 delegates attended and discussed the resolution. As there was only one resolution to discuss for 2019, the delegates also participated in a workshop on the *Do's and Don't's of Researching a Resolution*. The workshop was presented by the Ontario Provincial Resolutions Chair, Colleen Martin. The 114 delegates attending the Resolutions Dialogue found Colleen's presentation helpful.

At this year's convention, there was one resolution presented and adopted.

#### **❖ TDC2019.02 Canadian Support for the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)**

Congratulations to St. Mary's Council, Peel Region, for providing such a thought-provoking resolution. We need to be aware that not all countries believe that nuclear weapons should be banned. This resolution is a good example of incorporating our National theme *Care for our Common Home*. The aftermath of a launched nuclear weapon not only destroys human life but all life forms. Hopefully the federal government will take notice and take the necessary steps to sign the UN Treaty. This resolution was sent to the Ontario Provincial Council and accepted for consideration at their 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention in Kingston.

### **Resolutions – Ontario Provincial Convention**

Four resolutions presented below were adopted at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Ontario Provincial CWL Convention this summer.

- ❖ ON.19.01 Psychotherapy Pilot Project for Adults
- ❖ ON.19.02 Abortion and the Effects on Mental Health
- ❖ ON.19.03 Long Term Care Beds in Ontario
- ❖ ON.19.04 Canadian Support for the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)

Three of the four resolutions were addressed to the Ontario Government. Resolution ON.19.04 was forwarded to National Convention Assembly for consideration at their convention in August.

You can go to the Toronto Diocesan Council, Ontario Provincial and National websites or the Fall edition of the League magazine for the outcome of all resolutions.

### **Deadline for Submission of Topics**

Does your council have an idea for a resolution or already working on a resolution that you want to have considered for the 2020 Convention? The deadline to submit the first draft of the resolution with some basic research on the subject is Wednesday, October 31, 2019. One of the Northern Region councils is submitting a resolution for consideration at next year's Toronto Diocesan convention.

As a Resolutions Chair at the parish council level, you are encouraged to help your council research and prepare resolutions and accompanying briefs. What can your council do if they do not wish to write a resolution? Work with your council to study and implement the action plans of existing resolutions adopted at the Diocesan, Provincial and/or National levels. Go to the Provincial CWL website, [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca), or the National CWL site, [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca) and choose a resolution or two and follow through on the action plan attached to the resolution. If appropriate, involve other councils, your parishioners and/or your greater community. Remember, it is just as important to carry out the action plans that have been developed for resolutions as it is to write one.

In closing, please don't hesitate to contact me at [a.smart@sympatico.ca](mailto:a.smart@sympatico.ca) with any ideas or suggestions you may have for future resolutions. There are many resources in place to help your council get started. You can start by checking the websites of the various levels of the CWL. The hard part is just getting started.

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*“Because all creatures are connected, each must be cherished with love and respect, for all of us as living creatures are dependent on one another. Each area is responsible for the care of this family.”*

– Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*, ‘42



## The Catholic Women's League of Canada

### TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

*One Hundred Years: Growing in Faith, Love and Service*

The celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as Toronto Diocesan Council in 2021 is well under way. We have lapel pins of the logo available for you - please contact your President. They will also be available at Regional meetings this Fall; the cost is \$10 each. You can see the design in the heading above.

### **Suggestions for Councils to Help Us Celebrate**

We would like all councils to be included in the planning and celebrations leading up to our 100th Anniversary year. So, if you have not yet done so, please take note of, and act on the following:

1. Many councils have been celebrating major anniversaries over these past several years, so they have had a good start on researching and presenting their own major events and photographs as part of their histories. Send them to us now because we are updating our Toronto Diocesan History Book, which ended with the year 2001. Patricia Cross at [pcpat@rogers.com](mailto:pcpat@rogers.com) and Carole Pitcher at [cpitcher@bell.net](mailto:cpitcher@bell.net) are waiting for your input.
2. We also have a Time Capsule that was created by Life Member Karen Lawless in 1996. It will be opened during our festivities in 2021. Remember, if you have items to add to the Capsule, please let us know, as we will close it again until another milestone anniversary. Pass those on to Ann D'Souza at [ant\\_dsouza@hotmail.com](mailto:ant_dsouza@hotmail.com).
3. Let us know if your council qualifies as one of the oldest, and/or if a member will celebrate a milestone anniversary of her membership in 2021. Also, send us a record of the Spiritual Advisors who have served your council. If any have since passed, please indicate this.

### **A Grand Discovery and Opportunity to Celebrate**

Have you heard of the Junior League? If you don't know about it, your mother or grandmother may be familiar with it. It still exists today and there is a Toronto Chapter. Started in 1901 in the United States, it involved

prominent women in the community, some in business, who would provide financial help to charities as well as participating in charitable endeavours.

In 1914, about 15 Catholic women established a chapter in Toronto. When the CWL began creating councils in 1921, the **Junior League Sub-Division** as it was called, was incorporated into the League. By 1939, it had over 300 members. It held balls, galas, teas, bridge games and all sorts of activities to bring in money for its charities. These were usually held at either the King Edward or the Royal York Hotel. They continued to operate into the 1950's and had a wide range of contacts and sponsors they could approach with proposed projects.

Well, how can we let an opportunity to celebrate this important part of our history pass unnoticed? We have a plan to celebrate and we hope to be able to let you know further details soon. Stay tuned.

Mary Hawkley, Chair  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee  
Toronto Diocesan Council

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*“Every human being is a child of God. He or she bears the image of Christ! We ourselves need to see, and then to enable others to see, that migrants and refugees do not only represent a problem to be solved, but are brothers and sisters to be welcomed, respected and loved.”*

- Pope Francis

*(Message for the 2014 World Day of Migrants and Refugees)*



*2021 CWL National Convention  
Fundraiser Concert*

♪ **SAVE - THE - DATE** ♪

*Sunday, October 27, 2019  
2:00 pm*

**St. Edward the Confessor Parish**  
**75 Churchhill Avenue**  
**North York**

*\$20 per person  
Children under 12 years old are FREE*

*\*MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW\**