

TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021

(September to November)

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Sub-Convener:

Lucia Vacca

Patricia Cross

Welcome back! Now is the time to look forward and transition back to the commitment each one of us has made as a member of the League and “*to promote its interest and growth in every way*” (League Promise). As we continue to navigate the various vaccines and variants of this ongoing pandemic, The Catholic Women’s League has continued to carry on with the Annual General Meeting of Members at all levels, utilizing the various virtual platforms. Many opportunities have been offered during the summer to keep members connected by committed enthusiastic councils.



This Fall 2021 newsletter is the second issue for the current subscription year.

Be sure to read the articles submitted from each executive on their standing committee to note on your calendars. Here are some of the events and articles to keep your council informed for Fall 2021:

- We congratulate Monsignor Patrick O’Dea, our Spiritual Advisor on his 40th Ordination Anniversary
- Toronto Diocesan Council: Celebrating our Cultural Diversity
- Toronto Diocesan 100th Anniversary Closing Mass
- Moira Ste. Marie Memorial 4th Annual Lecture Series
- Parish and Toronto Diocesan Elections
- The League Strategic Plan Implementation Update

We continue to encourage every council to subscribe, especially the executive and any member of the council who would like to learn more about the League. The newsletter is a good resource for those members who are not computer savvy or do not use a computer.

Presidents are to submit the names of members who are receiving service pins in the Winter 2021 issue of the newsletter by the October 30th deadline. Those receiving 20 years of service pins (as reported) or more will be posted in this newsletter, and all will be posted on the www.cwltoronto.ca website under Service Awards. Contact me at newsletter@cwltoronto.ca with any questions or address changes.

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Monsignor Patrick O'Dea

I believe that one of the ways in which God works through the CWL is through their support of vocations, not only at the national, provincial and diocesan levels, but especially at the parish level. In this reflection, I would like to comment on how your work is so inspiring in this important ministry you do.



At the request of St. Augustine's Seminary, and with the approval of the Cardinal, some pastors are invited to accept a seminarian to live with them in their parish for an internship year.

The parish internship is one of the most important years of their formation, as it helps them to better appreciate the dynamics of daily parish life while living and working in the setting.

I just bid a fond farewell to my current seminarian, Sean Jacob, who was with us this past year (September 2020 – August 2021). He returns to the seminary to continue his formation. In previous years, I had the privilege of supervising a few other seminarians as well; four are now priests, and two others may be ordained this coming year.

However, it takes more than the pastor to assist in this internship year. The whole parish is involved, as well as the schools, seniors residences, and other outreach ministries. However, I would like to point out the importance of the Catholic Women's League in this regard. You have long been an outstanding supporter of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. God truly works in you. For instance, I commend your support of the annual Ordinandi Dinner, as well as other vocation projects you support. A highlight of the Ordinandi Dinner is the presentation of the Spiritual Bouquets that each council prepares for those about to be ordained.

A few years ago, I was so grateful to Kate O'Quinn, and her St. Joseph the Worker Council, Durham Region, and neighbouring councils in the Oshawa area, for their coming together to plan a reception in support of the Alameo brothers who had just lost their mother to cancer months earlier. I was so inspired by how everyone came together in support of that family. I know that Fr. Favin and Fr. Ryan will always remember the CWL for that kindness.

Recently, as part of Sean Jacob's departure gift, Elisabeth Quail, President of the CWL of St. Edward the Confessor Parish, worked in close contact with the parish social committee to design a beautiful prayer card which was presented to all parishioners. On the front was a picture of Sean's favourite Saint, St. Theresa of Lisieux, and on the back was a prayer for all seminarians. The witness of the CWL, and others, in inviting prayers for future priests was well-received!

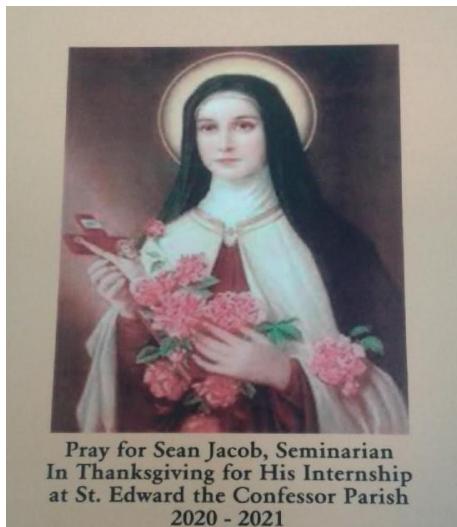
I would like to leave you with the prayer chosen for the holy card. May it assist you in your prayer for all seminarians.

O Jesus, eternal High Priest,
I pray for all seminarians,
Your future priests.
Give them humility, meekness,
prudence, and a burning zeal for souls.
Fill their hearts with the gifts of the
Holy Spirit.

Teach them to know and love the Church, that
they may always and everywhere speak, act,
and think with her. Teach them generosity and
detachment from the things of this world.

But above all, teach them to know You and love
You, the one and only eternal priest. Good Shepherd
of souls, hear this my prayer for saintly priests.

AMEN.



PRESIDENT

Hilarion Mitchell

Welcome Back! This Fall, it means more than our regular return from summer break. The COVID-19 pandemic is now in the 18th month after most regions and councils started 2021 in lockdown which lasted into June. It is now good news that councils will be able to return to in-person meetings and events for the remainder of the year thanks to the success of the COVID-19 vaccines.

“For nothing will be impossible with God.”

Luke 1:37



2020 and 2021 Partial Virtual AGMs and AMMs

Since the Spring newsletter, the Toronto Diocesan Council's 99th and 100th partial virtual annual general meetings were held on May 15th. The provincial and national levels also held their partial virtual annual meetings of members over the summer. The provincial council is continuing the *Loneliness* theme. The 2021-2023 national executive was elected with Fran Lucas now president and has chosen *Catholic and Living It!* as her theme. We also congratulate Margaret Ann Jacobs, on the completion of her term as national past president and chairperson of laws. Visit the national website and see the 2021 Fall issue of The Canadian League which is available online for more details on the new national executive and the League theme.

Toronto Diocesan Council 100th Anniversary

We celebrated our *One Hundred Years: Growing in Faith, Love and Service* virtually on June 3rd with 370 members, and current and past spiritual advisors. Anniversary certificates were mailed to each council and spiritual advisor. Council presidents are to review the letter and certificate with members and maintain them in the council's records. The 100th Anniversary Closing Mass will be on October 7th with details on pages 37 to 39.

Councils Safe Returns In-person Meetings and Events

Most of us will be excited to return to our pre-pandemic routines this Fall. At the same time, there may be members still apprehensive about meeting in-person with the Delta variant, the COVID-19 vaccines being voluntary, etc. The Archdiocese of Toronto continues to provide regular updates to reflect public health and government guidelines for the parishes which must be adhered to.

- Always check with your spiritual advisor before scheduling meetings and events.

- When possible, consider offering a hybrid of in-person and virtual meetings during this period of uncertainty.
- Do not ask members to volunteer their vaccine status or state only vaccinated members to attend in-person meetings.
- Provide sanitizer for hands, shared items (i.e., pens, chairs, high touch surfaces, etc.).
- Members to bring their own refreshments if there are restrictions for congregate eating.
- Plan fun activities or wellness check-up for meetings before the usual CWL business.
- Fall regional general meetings may be in-person, virtual or a hybrid of in-person and virtual based on each region's access to these meeting options.

2022 Instructed Votes

Councils should conduct the instructed votes from National starting this Fall and before March 22, 2022. If the instructed votes were completed virtually, they must be ratified at an in-person meeting. No changes will be allowed with the instructed votes. The proposed amendments must be adopted or defeated as presented so members should not make assumptions.

- There must be a two-thirds in favour to adopt the amendment.
- If less than two-thirds are in favour, then the amendment is defeated.
- Mail the outcome of the votes to my attention, national on the NCR forms and retain a copy.

If the council did not receive their Instructed Vote package in December 2020, the president is to check with the past president then contact national for a replacement. Presidents are to contact their regional chair if they would like further information about the Instructed Votes process.

League Official Spokesperson and Letter Writing

Pro-life, social justice and other issues within our Catholic community and in the broader society, challenge our Catholic faith. The discovery of the remains of Indigenous children at former residential schools in May, called many of us to action. It is a time of reckoning as we make a concerted effort to understand the history of the residential school system in Canada, the role that the Canadian government and various religious organizations including our Catholic church, played resulting in negative outcomes continuing within Indigenous communities today.

Members are encouraged to engage in letter writing and to voice their concerns as private or concerned citizens to their elected officials,

governments, organizations, etc. As a national organization, our national President is the official spokesperson for the League. Members are to follow League reporting protocols by first informing and working with their regional chairs.

Embracing Diversity: Tools for Council Use

One the goals of the Strategic Plan was to embrace diverse cultures and ages. National released the toolkit in August which is available on the national [website /resources/600-series-manuals/623-Embracing-Diversity-Tools-for-Council-Use.pdf](http://website/resources/600-series-manuals/623-Embracing-Diversity-Tools-for-Council-Use.pdf).

Celebrating our Cultural Diversity

A cultural diversity workshop will be held virtually on September 25th from 9:00 am - 12 noon with details on page 40. Cultural diversity was one of the goals planned for the 99th convention in May 2020. The Strategic Plan Encourage Diversity Working Group was convened between April 2020 to March 2021 with members from other provinces including myself and Philiz Goh, St. Monica's Council, Toronto Region. Fifty-one councils in the Toronto diocese responded to the cultural diversity questions in the 2020 organization annual report with results on page 41.

Msgr. Pat's Ordination

Congratulations to Msgr. Pat on his 40th ordination anniversary on September 19th. He has been a gift to the diocesan council since his appointment as our spiritual advisor in May 2016. We are most thankful for his unwavering support to our members, spiritual advisors and the League. Details for councils to acknowledge Msgr. Pat's milestone are on page 11.

We are in the harvest as our prayers, faithfulness and perseverance has yielded much fruit with the COVID-19 virus better controlled and an end to the pandemic has now morphed into a “pandemic of the unvaccinated”. Happy Thanksgiving!

“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:57

COVID

Catholic
Organization full of
Vitality
Inspiration and
Dedication

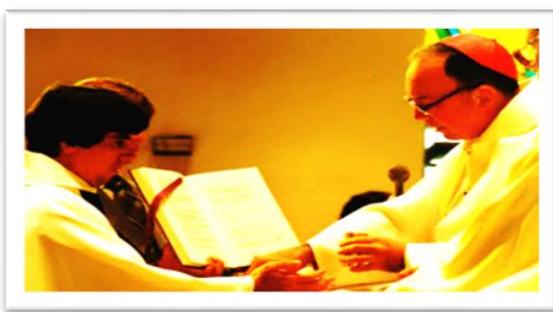
Judy Look, Alberta Mackenzie Provincial President



Msgr. Patrick O'Dea
40th Anniversary of Ordination
September 19, 2021



1981 Ordination
Bishop Francis J. Stafford, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto



On behalf of our members, The Catholic Women's League of Canada Toronto Diocesan Council extends heartfelt gratitude and congratulations.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Kate O’Quinn

Sub-Conveners:

Alice Warford
Monique Forster

“...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” (Galatians 5:22-23)

How many times in the last two years have we heard the phrase “*We are all in this together*”? It is ironic that it has taken a world-wide pandemic for the world to open its eyes to something so obvious and so essential! We are so blessed to have received the gifts of the Holy Spirit – let us always put these gifts into practice and rely on the Spirit for help as we continue our life’s journey.



Toronto Diocesan Council 5th Annual National Indigenous Peoples Day
Our 5th Annual National Indigenous Peoples Day Virtual Event was held on June 21, 2021, with Keynote Speaker, Sister Priscilla Solomon, CSJ, who spoke on *Reconciling Relationships between Canadians and Indigenous Peoples*. Sister’s presentation, centered on conversion, reconciliation and transformation, with insights on Ecological Justice from *Laudato Si*, was thought-provoking and extremely well received. There were over 400 attendees from across Canada. Thank you to my committee members: Sheryl Toscano, Good Shepherd Council, North York Region; Zenora Mahabal, St. Barnabas Council, Scarborough Region; Hilarion Mitchell, and Msgr. Pat O’Dea.

Martyrs’ Shrine has a prayer service on their website: Praying About Residential Schools – The Way of the Cross. The Way of the Cross was filmed in June 2021, on the grounds of the Martyrs’ Shrine. The Scripture Passages were taken from the NRSV version of the Holy Bible. The passages dealing with Residential Schools are mostly direct quotations from The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Report. The prayers were composed by Robert Foliot, SJ. To view this film, go to: <https://martyrs-shrine.com/a-way-of-the-cross/>.

Martyrs’ Shrine 37th Annual Living Rosary Sunday Pilgrimage

Due to COVID 19, this annual pilgrimage will once again be taped and ready to view on Rosary Sunday September 12, 2021. Martyrs’ Shrine will not be opening its Church, or its Grounds, until May 2022. For this year only, the committee made three changes to the format of Rosary Sunday: to

pray for a world-wide pandemic cure; to reduce the number of participants reading from the altar, thus the CWL will not be reading the Glorious Mysteries Reflections, and to rewrite the script to include prayers from Pope Francis' rosary program. To view the taped program, go to: www.martyrs-shrine.com

World Day of the Poor

The 5th World Day of the Poor will be observed on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, November 14, 2021. This year's theme is "*The poor you will always have with you.*" (Mark 14:7) Pope Francis states that "*The poor, always and everywhere, evangelize us*, because they enable us to discover in new ways the true face of the Father. They have much to teach us. This is a summons never to lose sight of every opportunity to do good. Behind it, we can glimpse the ancient biblical command: "*If one of your brothers and sisters ... is in need, you shall not harden your heart nor close your hand to them in their need. Instead, you shall open your hand to them and freely lend them enough to meet their need ... When you give to them, give freely and not with ill will.*" (Deuteronomy 15: 7-8,10) It is not a question of easing our conscience by giving alms, but of opposing the culture of indifference and injustice we have created with regard to the poor.

(Excerpt from Message of His Holiness Pope Francis, June 12, 2021). To view the complete message from Pope Francis, go to:
<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20210613-messaggio-v-giornatamondiale-poveri-2021.html>

Please keep this day/date in mind as you prepare your General Meeting Liturgical Celebrations.

Faith Formation

To assist you with faith development with your Council members, there are various websites for you to access, such as: www.cwltoronto.ca, <https://www.archtoronto.org/discipleship>, www.mycatholic.life and www.loyolapress.com.

St. Augustine's Lay Spiritual Formation Program presents: *The Soul's Search for Joy and Meaning: Answering to Qoheleth's Questions with the Psalms and the Good News of Christ*, on Saturday October 2, 2021. Presenter is Rev. Frederick Chung.

Advent Retreat: *Praying with(out) Images: Devotion to Icons and the Practice of the Jesus Prayer in Eastern Christian Spirituality* on Saturday December 11, 2021, with presenter Dr. Brian Butcher. Location, costs, schedule, details and registration links for both workshops will be confirmed

closer to the date. Both retreats are from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. For further information, go to: www.staugustines.on.ca/events.

Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre in Pickering has events and presentations that are being filmed and shared online, to keep you virtually connected with the Manresa community: <https://manresa-canada.ca/virtual/> Unless otherwise stated, there is no cost for viewing these videos. Please visit and share the YouTube channel with those who would be interested in These presentations:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWzGTMP5TdEeduAdlZbsvZg>

Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC)

WICC organizes World Day of Prayer (WDP) and Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC). WDP is traditionally celebrated on the first Friday of March and a different participating country writes the service each year. For 2022, (Friday, March 5th), it is England/Wales/Northern Ireland, "*I Know the Plans I Have for You*". FLC is a global ecumenical prayer movement for justice, peace and reconciliation. For updates on when and where these events will be happening in 2022, please access these websites: (Please note, these websites are not yet up-to-date, but are included for ongoing access) <https://wicc.org/get-involved/events/> and <https://wicc.org/fellowship-of-the-least-coin/what-is-flc/>.

In closing, remember to share your gifts. As St. Theresa of Avila reminds us: "May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us."

Msgr. Pat 40th Anniversary Ordination

Council Participation

Deadline September 10, 2021

Spiritual Bouquet

Digital Online Birthday Card

Details circulated by email to your Regional Chair.

ORGANIZATION

Sue Lubowitz

Sub-Conveners:

On-line Membership
Member Development

Mary Antonio
Andrea Tjioe

Implementation of the Strategic Plan

A new group of members has joined the implementation working groups. Some of the groups will finish their work by December 2021. Others will continue through 2022 and some even into 2023. Here are the nine new working groups and their objectives:

1. Advocacy: Increase the number of members trained to lead advocacy efforts
2. Collaboration with Government: Increase collaboration with faith organizations and governments at all levels
3. Effective Communication: Increase effectiveness of communication by improving, streamlining and expediting internal and external communication
4. Training Development using Technology: Increase the number and readiness of members to hold office, address the lack of training of members/resistance to taking on leadership roles by using technology to develop training tutorials
5. Networking with Catholic Organizations: Increase opportunities for spiritual development
6. Actively Engage Members: Increase participation of diverse cultural and generational groups
7. Encourage Generational Activity: Increase a sense of belonging and connectedness within the organization
8. Increase Connectedness: Staying connected between monthly meetings and increase the sense of belonging and connectedness among members throughout Canada
9. Smartphone Application: Use of technology/communication methods and tools



The Executive Orientation Program

This new national developed Executive Orientation Program training is now available and each of the ten modules is offered in two formats:

- 1) A self-directed PowerPoint that includes the speaker's notes and enables councils to add their own speaking point and
- 2) An audio/visual recording that does not require a member to lead the presentation

A self-evaluation form to begin with and a session evaluation form to complete after each module is also included. When the module is completed, councils should forward the evaluation to the diocesan organization chair. Each of these resources is available for download from the national website under To Organize/800 Series: Workshops/#828 Executive Orientation. Councils can choose to do one module at a time and they vary in length from 15 to 45 minutes.

Also, five documents will soon be available from the social justice working group. Members will have available practical, educational and insightful resources to help further their work in the core value of social justice. Watch for further details on the national Facebook page and website for the release in early Fall.

Membership

The Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated to councils the importance of online membership for easy and prompt submission of fees, access to paid and unpaid members lists, as well as reporting of deceased members. As of June 30th, the Toronto Diocesan Council has registered 5943 members for 2021. Councils are encouraged to contact those members who have not been reached yet in order to collect fees to ensure that years of service will be recognized and to complete their 2021 membership drive before the 2022 cycle begins in October/November. Hopefully in Phase 4 of recovery by the Fall, councils should come up with alternative ways to conduct their business and plan for the resumption of activities.

Recruitment

By the time you read this, it will be soon time to renew your membership for 2022. Did your parish council take part in the Zoom presentation of the new League Welcome Program in April? This amazing resource from National office was a result of the work done by one of the Strategic Plan Working Groups. It is available on the national website under Resources and is a great tool for councils to welcome new members but also to reassess with long-term members on mutual interests and areas for member development. The 2020 annual report confirmed that the four top ways to engage members was to welcome at meetings, initiate personal conversations, send invitations to participate in activities and provide a new member kit. Think about your regular council meetings to see how they can instill more member engagement.

Annual Reports

Parish councils had a shorter version of the 2020 annual report survey and reported ease in completing it. As we prepare to receive the 2021 annual

report survey in November, you may feel that you had little to report based on council inactivity, but if councils reflect on their past year, they will realize that they received requests for prayers, helped in the screening and sanitizing of churches, continued to do social justice with food drives and a whole host of other activities. Now is the time for council executives to survey their members to see what they have been doing in their work for the League. Parish councils should establish guidelines for completing annual reports and, if at all possible, under public health guidelines, meet in person to complete the reports. Last year, 81 councils completed at least one of the annual reports. I would be grateful to receive at least one report for each of our councils and even more happy to receive the complete set for the majority of our councils.

Development Day

This perennial favourite event is scheduled for Saturday February 12, 2022, and will be held in person. Plans are underway and the details of the venue, theme and cost will be confirmed in the Winter edition of this newsletter. Details will also be posted on the Toronto Diocesan Council's website.

PAST PRESIDENT/HISTORIAN

Ann D'Souza

Even after more than a year and a half, this pandemic is having very different effects across the globe with the impact of virus variants. I hope and pray you and your family are doing well, as we grow in faith, this pandemic has taught us to appreciate the little things in life and to be thankful for what we have.



Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award 2021

At the Diocesan Annual General Meeting in May, we presented the Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award. As you all know we have two categories, but there was no submission for the Auxiliary Level which recognizes members who accepted office beyond the parish level.

We had many submissions at the Parish Level, which recognizes individuals who have done extensive mentoring in their parishes and communities. When the score sheets were recorded there was an amazing consistency between the judges. The award was presented to Ada Caputo, from St. Margaret Mary Council, Humber Valley Region.

Ada has been a trusted and experienced CWL member for 14 years and has held many positions both at the parish and regional councils, and she is a recipient of the Maple Leaf Service Pin Award in her council. Her constant and selfless service to others is seen all around and as Mary Grossi, Humber Valley Regional chair mentioned, “Ada is essential to the fabric of our CWL Council”. She goes about spear-heading fundraising and community building activities in her council and encourages members to move forward and develop their leadership qualities and skills, always encouraging parishioners to join CWL. Congratulations Ada!!

If your nominees did not win this year, I encourage you to please try again next year. There is no limit on the number of times you can submit someone's name. Please look at both Award levels to nominate members.

Moira Ste Marie Memorial Lecture Series

This year we will be hosting the 4th Moira Ste Marie Memorial Lecture Series which will be a virtual presentation. It will be held virtually on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Topic: *Catholic Education “Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together”*

Registration will be online via our website <https://www.cwltoronto.ca/>

The Deadline for Registration is October 12, 2021. See page 44 for more details.

Parish Council Elections

If your council is preparing for the elections, as a past president it will be under your direction. Your committee (keep your president informed who they are) should include your council Spiritual Advisor and two others experienced CWL members who are not running for office, perhaps previous past presidents as they should already have some experience with the election process.

Toronto Diocesan Council Elections

The Toronto Diocesan Council elections will take place at our annual convention on Friday April 29, 2022. The work will kick start next month. I will be chairing these elections as the outgoing past president. It is important to verify all those eligible to run; the information is outlined in the National Manual of Policy and Procedures and in the Constitution & Bylaws.

Diocesan Elections Registry

We need to keep the Registry current and we need your help. Each past parish council president is eligible to stand for election at the diocesan level for six years (three terms) after her presidency term. To help keep the registry accurate and up to date, it is essential that each current parish council send an updated list of their executives to the Diocesan Corresponding Secretary, so that we can update our records. This information then comprises the list of eligible members who can be contacted and offered the opportunity to let their names stand for election. Please forward those updated executive lists as soon as possible.

We will also need your help in ensuring that your membership dues are paid to the National Office in a timely manner. Eligibility is defined as “All members who have paid their membership fee for the current year, with the exception of associate members...”. Please ensure that your treasurer and organization chair have remitted your council’s membership fees to National Office before the Toronto Diocesan Council’s elections.

**PATRICIA BEATTIE ANNUAL MEMORIAL
MENTORING AWARD
YEAR 2021 - *Parish Level*
Presented to**



Ada Caputo

St. Margaret Mary Council, Humber Valley Region

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Nancy Fenech

Greetings everyone. 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, thank you cards, birthday cards to life members, get well, sympathy cards, Christmas cards, etc., as directed by the president; sending out covering letters with the annual reports to the Cardinal, Auxiliary Bishops and Life Members not attending the convention; mailing executive lists to the Cardinal's secretary as well as to National Office and the Ontario Provincial Corresponding Secretary.

Membership updates provided by the parish council Organization Chair to national through the membership online system is not forwarded to the regional and diocesan levels. 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, mailing of financial statements and the various Presidents' packages every year. It will also be used for the 2022 Instructed Votes.

Parish presidents, please complete the form which can be found on the Toronto Diocesan CWL website: <http://www.cwltoronto.ca/resources/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. One area of the form seems to get missed which is the Term: i.e., 2022 to 2023.

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



TREASURER

Lolita Perry

As the summer ends during this extraordinary time, the familiar regimen of CWL meetings resumes either on-site or a virtual setting. It is a series of events everyone is looking forward to attend or join in. This is a busy time of the year for all members in so many ways.



Budget

Many councils are taking the challenges and opportunities of the global situation and turning them to positive creative ways of fundraising. In your role as Treasurer, this is the time of the year to probe and review the budget and year-to-date actuals. Ensure that all the needs and requirements of your councils are adequately covered. Check if there are areas that are becoming obsolete and need adjustment and must be reflected on your next year's budget. This will also guarantee that expenses are at reasonable amounts with available funds to cover them. The updates to the budget would be presented to the general membership for their input and approval.

This year, preparing the 2022 budget is more important than ever for the fundraising events have been very limited and restrictive due to the ongoing pandemic situation and therefore councils cannot guarantee planned activities for the coming year. As per the 2020 the annual reports, out of the 69 responding councils, only 56 councils reported that they prepare a budget. A budget is crucial, as it showcases and reviews the previous year's spending and plan for events that will take place in the new year. It is important to first prepare a budget and then to present it for approval. By doing so, the council members are engaged and will have a good idea of where the council stands financially, what they can afford to spend and what they will have to plan for. Once the budget has been approved at both executive and general meetings, then it is everyone's responsibility to work with the amounts allocated, to respect the budget and stay within the guidelines and parameters. Any expenditure outside of the budget and not already covered in your parish Policy and Procedures Manual would then have to be brought to your general membership to approve. This sets a clear guideline for spending by your executive.

During your council's budget preparations, consider allocating funds to cover the operating costs for the council and member development and training. If feasible, subsidize members registration fees to attend our conventions and Development Days so that they have the opportunity to see

the League from parish to diocesan perspectives. Set aside funds for members to participate and attend these events. Have a look at present and previous expenses and revenue generated, and use that as a benchmark or guide for the coming calendar year. This will ensure that the operating expenses are covered to the best of the council's abilities as, well as monies are set aside for any planned special projects.

Per Capita Fees

Members, although an extremely diverse group of women, all have one thing in common, each is required to pay a membership fee. This fee varies from one parish council to another depending on the fees required by provincial and/or diocesan levels. Regardless of the fee paid, \$20 is remitted to the National Office; only \$13 is allocated for the national treasury. With approximately 76,000 members paid for 2019, this means the national treasury has \$988,000 to provide the support, guidance and services members expect from a national organization. The remainder of the \$20 is set for the provincial (\$3) and diocesan (\$4) Councils. It is important to promptly remit the membership fees 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.

The Parish General Liability Insurance has been the responsibility of each council at a cost of \$.50 for each member. For more information and resources visit the TDC website www.cwltoronto.ca >resources>reference documents and scroll down to Sample Financial Statements and Treasurer 101.

If you have not done so, kindly remit your 2021 membership fees to National Office. Although the payment is made to the council the membership renewal is not recorded until National Office has received the money. As Treasurer, you are entrusted with the members' money and you need to forward this to National promptly. The annual membership fees are due to the council on January 1st and should be remitted to National no later than February 28th.

Voluntary Funds

We encourage you to continue or start to support the Diocesan, Provincial and National Voluntary Funds. Please make cheques payable to "The Catholic Women's League of Canada" and remit to the respective councils using the appropriate forms. These voluntary funds include the following:

Diocesan Voluntary Funds

The Diocesan Voluntary Funds form is on the www.cwltoronto.ca website for perusal and download. Go to Resources Tab>Forms. The League charities supported by this Voluntary Fund are as follows: St. Michael's Scholarship and the Margaret Ann Jacobs - Catholic Children's Aid Foundation Scholarship Fund (formerly Hope for Children's Foundation Fund). This is a good way to support our young women and men in broadening their education and horizons. All donations can be made anytime of the year. However, funds must be received and deposited prior to December 31st 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.

Provincial Voluntary Fund

Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund form can be found at www.cwl.on.ca. Kindly reach out to me for contact address.

National Voluntary Fund

Coady International Institute, Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, Catholic Mission in Canada, Catholic Near East Welfare Association and National Bursary Fund. Form can be found at www.cwl.ca

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 1- October 4 Season of Creation

September 8 Workshop: Truth and Reconciliation (Virtual)

September 12 Rosary Sunday: 38th Living Rosary (Virtual)

September 19 CWL Day of Faith (1st annual on 3rd Sunday in September)

September 25 Workshop: Celebrating our Cultural Diversity (Virtual)

September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation /
Orange Shirt Day (Awareness for Residential Schools)

October 3 Life Chain

October 6 Workshop: TBA (Virtual)

October 7 100th Anniversary Closing Mass: St. Michael's Cathedral
(In-person)

October 20 Moira Ste. Marie 4th Memorial Lecture Series (Virtual)

October 30 TDC Newsletter (Winter 2021) Service Pins Submission

October 31 Resolution 2022 Topics Submission Deadline

November 10 Workshop: TBA (Virtual)

November 14 5th World Day of the Poor

February 12 Development Day (In-person)

FALL 2021 GENERAL REGIONAL MEETING DATES

These meetings may be Virtual / Teleconferencing or In-person.
Detailed instructions will be forthcoming from the Regional Chairs.

Thursday September 16	North York Region	7:00 pm
Wednesday September 22	Toronto Region	7:00 pm
Thursday September 23	Northern Region	7:00 pm
Tuesday September 28	Durham Region	7:00 pm
Thursday September 30	Humber Valley Region	7:00 pm
Tuesday October 5	Scarborough Region	7:00 pm
Thursday October 14	Peel Region	7:00 pm

Happy Anniversary!

St. Isaac Jogues, Durham Region – 30th Anniversary

Nativity of Our Lord, Humber Valley Region – 50th Anniversary

St. Mary Immaculate, North York Region – 45th Anniversary

Holy Martyrs of Japan, Northern Region – 65th Anniversary

St. Ignatius Loyola, Peel Region – 10th Anniversary

St. Martin of Tours, Peel Region – 45th Anniversary

St. Patrick, Peel Region – 70th Anniversary

St. Monica, Toronto Region – 70th Anniversary

St. John, Toronto Region – 70th Anniversary

SERVICE AWARDS

Maple Leaf Service Pin

Durham Region

St. Francis de Sales:

Ina Desouza

60-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Transfiguration of Our Lord:

Madeline Pretty Hannah Keenan

55-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

St. Gregory:

Mary Howlett

50-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Transfiguration of Our Lord:

Lynn Baldwin Antoinette D'Cruz
Karen McKeown Corry Van Staveren
Elvie Sandre Marie Watts

Northern Region

St. John Vianney:

Lucy Beauchamp Elsie Lavalee

45-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Transfiguration of Our Lord:

Pauline Cicci

Northern Region

St. John Vianney:

Eugenie Bottone

Scarborough Region

St. Barnabas:

Eileen Doyle Gloria Fernandes Letty Lo
Eleanor Rodrigo Rose Perreira Jan Dempsey
Theresa Snider

40-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Transfiguration of Our Lord:

Jean Kурдell

Scarborough Region

St. Barnabas:

Roseleine Pinheiro

35-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Transfiguration of Our Lord:

Carol McErlain

Northern Region

St. John Vianney:

Barbara Bagnell Nancy Joncas

Scarborough Region

St. Barnabas:

Mary Fernandes Sylvia Trachuk

30-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

St. Gregory:

Helen McBride

Transfiguration of Our Lord:

Martine Van Bergen

Northern Region

St. John Vianney:

Helen McCorkell Laurie Brown

Scarborough Region

St. Barnabas:

Norma Edwards Merle Simpson

25-Year Membership Pins

Northern Region

St. John Vianney:

Vera Hanninen Franca Manicelli

Scarborough Region

St. Barnabas:

Anne Broekhof Sophia Mak Ruth Williams
Amelia Pereira Susanne Leitman

20-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

St. Gregory:	Lorraine Gray
Transfiguration of Our Lord:	Norma de Castro Olga Hilmer
	Bonnie McGuire

Scarborough Region

St. Barnabas:	Euthalie Jones Miranda Pinto Colleen Kristal
	Marcia Marhong Vicenta Suarez
St. Bartholomew:	Linda Sazon

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Iris McNulty

Sub-Convener:

Philomena Menezes

Marriage and Family

Couples for Christ, is a lay organization working towards the renewal of families who will serve God and future generations to live out the teachings of the gospel. It originated out of a charismatic renewal movement for families in the Philippines in 1981. CFC is located in every province. The group aims to strengthen each member of the family in their role and contribution through education; discussion and fellowship. Each module consists of eight sessions. Social justice, respect for life and work with the poor are three essential pillars of the organization. Details on the nearest CFC and how to join: www.couplesforchrist.ca



The Worldwide Marriage Encounter will be held virtually on October 22-October 24 and will be available in English or Spanish. The program is an enrichment experience, based on Catholic values, to support already healthy marriages. Discussion is not a component of the program. Contact: gerard.marge@rogers.com (English) or milena.penaq@gmail.com

Disabled

The Canadian Charter of Rights, Section 15, guarantees people with disabilities to have the same rights and responsibilities as Canadians without disabilities. These rights are consistent with those in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. The Council of Canadians with Disabilities is a human rights organization. It works for an inclusive, accessible and barrier-free environment for the disabled. The organization believes that the disabled must be a part of the decision-making and policy making process. Is your parish inclusive of disabled individuals?

Some things to consider towards making your parish and parish more inclusive of the disabled are designated seating, wheelchair accessibility and space, availability of AM/FM systems for the hearing impaired, large print missalets, capacity for signing for the hearing impaired, automated entry/exit door system.

St. Francis de Sales Chaplaincy services the Deaf Community in four regions of the Toronto diocese. St. Maximilian Kolbe, Mississauga; Holy Spirit, Barrie; St. Stephen's Chapel in Central Toronto and St. Gertrude, Oshawa, support individuals of the Deaf Community. The chaplaincy celebrates Masses with sign interpretation and provides sacramental preparation including marriage preparation. Also available are the sacraments of reconciliation and to the sick. The Toronto diocesan council had a CWL chapter for women experiencing hearing loss from 1970-1985. Email: cstokes@archtoronto.org. Phone: 416-469-9993.

Seniors

Dementia is not a natural process of aging. Experiencing moments of memory loss does not necessarily indicate the onset of dementia. Learn more about Alzheimer Disease and Dementia, their risk factors, who may contract the illnesses, and its effects on family members. Further information or to access the brochure: 10 Warning Signs of Dementia: <https://alzheimer.ca/en/about-dementia/stigma>

World Alzheimer Day: Tuesday, September 21.

Vocations

Serra Club is a Catholic organization of lay men and women supporting priests and promoting vocations to the ministerial priesthood and consecrated life. Serra International has 1100 chapters in 46 countries, with a membership of 20,000. You or your council can support Serra Club through prayer, providing financial contributions, and by attending the annual Ordinandi dinner held every March. Consider adopting a seminarian or priest in your council to support their journey or vocation. This can be done by regular in person contact with them or by phone or social media, inviting them to a meal at your home, including them by name in your prayer intentions, sending them greeting cards on special occasions and feast days.

Sanctity of Life

MAID: The second annual report on MAID by Health Canada indicates that 7600 Canadians died by lethal injection in 2020. This represents an increase of 26% from 2019. MAID represented 2.5% of all deaths. The data was gathered from reports submitted by medical doctors and nurse practitioners.

Euthanasia Prevention Coalition reported that 18.6% or more than 1412 individuals listed loneliness and isolation as a reason to end their own life. This indicates the urgent need for improved access to end-of-life care where pain and fear of pain can be managed in a dignified manner without terminating an individual's life. The federal government predicts that there will be a 20% increase in MAID in 2021. This means that about 9100 Canadians will choose the procedure to end their own life.

Hospice Palliative Care: Does your community have a Hospice Care Home? Hospice Palliative Care homes support individuals who are either living with a life-limiting illness or who are nearing the end of their earthly lives. It serves as an alternative to institutional care and home care providing a loving, caring environment where the individuals are supported in their medical, physical, emotional and spiritual needs. A dedicated, trained medical team, support staff and volunteers provide compassionate care and comfort at no cost to the resident or family. Involvement of family is an important aspect in delivering the care and their needs are also supported. Oakridge Hospice opened in Durham Region in June. It is a ten-bed facility located in Port Perry. Information or to view a brief clip of the facility: www.oakridgehospice.com. Caregiver support resources and educational modules for those living with a loved one facing a life limiting illness or end-of-life: www.hpc.ca

COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Tuccitto

Warm greetings to you, my CWL sisters and welcome back! I hope you had an enjoyable summer and that you were able to gather with loved ones with just a little more confidence and hope, as we move forward in our recovery from this global pandemic. I am excited to get back to our CWL work and to connect with you, hopefully in person soon!



Pornography Hurts Campaign

It is alarming to know that we, as a national organization and women of faith, are not making our voices heard with government when it comes to issues of pornography. It is a huge issue which fuels human trafficking and numerous spinoffs and very lucrative industries, all at the expense of human life. The CWL Constitution & Bylaws, Part XIII, page 27 under Communications clearly states that we are to evaluate and promote good content and keep up the fight against pornography. Yet sadly, in the 2020 Annual Reports it was noted that fewer than 20% of councils participated in

the League's Pornography Hurts Campaign or took any steps to inform members about the negative influence pornography has on children and adults. The report also revealed that no council reviewed or took any action on related resolutions. This is totally unacceptable as with the recent social isolation, economic downturn and lots of unsupervised screen time, the world has experienced an explosion in sexual exploitation. So ... now, is the time for us to fight and fight HARD!! All Communications Chairs are to promote the Pornography Hurts Campaign and to share this information with their members.

Encourage councils to go to the National website cwl.ca

- Download and print the Pornography Hurts Postcards found under – To Organize – Series 100 item 178, and the Mandatory Age Verification Postcards.
- Mail them to our MP's so we can flood their mailboxes with our concerns. No postage is required so please make this project a priority during your term.

Newsletters, Magazines and Websites of interest Reminders

Councils are encouraged to produce by-annual, quarterly or even monthly newsletters to share with members and ladies of the parish. This is the simplest way to keep everyone informed on the work of the League and on upcoming events, generating interest and participation and perhaps even new members.

The Canadian League Magazine Fall 2021

Please be reminded that the 2021 Fall issue of The Canadian League Magazine will be available online only. There will be no hard copies will be printed or mailed to members. Councils may wish to print a few copies in black and white for members who do not have internet access.

The Catholic Register: 100th Anniversary of The Catholic Women's League of Canada

By now you would have seen or heard about the Special 100th Anniversary of the League magazine insert in the September 5th issue of The Catholic Register. It contains congratulatory notes, member interviews and submitted stories on this momentous occasion of the 100th Anniversary of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. It will also include articles on the Toronto Diocesan Council.

- You may also look for it online at www.catholicregister.org or contact the Catholic Register and inquire about getting extra copies for council archives.

Remember Website Wednesdays, go to National: www.cwl.ca Provincial: www.cwl.on.ca Toronto: www.cwltoronto.ca and keep informed.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Ciscily Winkler

Welcome back! This Fall holds hope for the future, albeit, with cautious optimism until the COVIB-19 pandemic is defeated. There have been so many ongoing issues and activities that will keep us busy as we continue with our themes on *Care for our Common Home, and Loneliness*.



Issues Concerning Dignity and Rights of Persons

Indigenous Peoples

The Liberal government has taken six years to implement eight of the *94 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action* (TRC). Federal and Provincial governments have given control of the Child Welfare system to Cowessess First Nations in Saskatchewan. Recent discovery of unmarked graves of children from the residential school system has left the nation in shock and grief which led to call for Pope Francis to render an apology on Canadian soil. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops said Pope Francis extended an invitation to meet with some members of the Indigenous Peoples at a date scheduled in December, to *foster meaningful encounters of dialogue and healing, to express his heartfelt closeness, address the impact of colonization and the role of the church in the residential school system, in hope of responding to the suffering of the Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing effects of intergenerational trauma*. (Sources: nationalpost.com [Melissa Mbarki, Julia Peterson], <https://nctr.ca>).

- Revisit Resolutions 2011.02. Children of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women, and 2013.01, Building Relationships and Partnerships with Canada's Indigenous Peoples.
- Calendar alert September 30
 - Orange Shirt Day Awareness relates to the residential school system and its effects on the Indigenous Peoples.
<https://www.ictinc.ca/blog/what-is-orange-shirt-day>
<https://www.orangeshirtday.org/ontario.html>
 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Bill-C-5)
<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/maple-leaf/defence/2021/07/federal-statutory-holiday-national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation.html>. It is now a national statutory holiday.

Human Trafficking

Ontario is making it mandatory for all school boards to develop a strategy to combat human trafficking by early 2020, said Education Minister Stephen Lecce. The province will spend \$2.4 million to support necessary training and resources to prepare schools to identify, respond, and prevent trafficking of children. It is reported that 249 million women aged 15-49 are known to have suffered physical violence in 2020. With the pandemic, the violence is increasing with rises in domestic violence, child labour and prostitution. (Canadian Press, WUCWO). Follow update on *National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking* (2019-2024).

<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrcts/pblctns/2019-ntnl-strtgy-hmnn-trffc/index-en.aspx>

Racial Discrimination

Racism is being echoed as different ethnicities experience injustice by those who are insensitive to diversity and inclusivity. The historic effects of colonization have incited calls for the removal and renaming of certain structures to prevent the perpetuation and harmful effects of systemic racism. Noted also, is online racism in the form of emoji language; removal of harmful emoji contents is still a work in progress. In July 2020, Stephen Lecce, Ontario Education Minister, announced *Ontario to end “discriminatory” practice of academic streaming in grade 9*, which will be effective for the 2021-2022 school year. The practice has had dire effects on Indigenous, Blacks, racialized and low-income families.

- Calendar alert: September 25th
 - Toronto Diocesan Council virtual workshop on *Celebrating our Cultural Diversity*, see page 40.

Affordable Housing

Homelessness was dismal pre-COVID-19 but has been a crisis during the pandemic with many homeless persons in Toronto being forced from encampment sites that had been their homes. The call for affordable housing was echoed by citizens who urged that municipalities must make affordable housing a priority to alleviate unacceptable levels of human suffering. *Government in Ontario Making Headway in using surplus lands for Housing* was a published 2019 report by the Urban Research Development at Ryerson University which states that government at all levels have turned to the use of surplus public land to build affordable housing. (Source: Yvonne Kelly, co-chair of the Social Planning of York Region).

- Revisit Resolution 2003.01 *Affordable Housing for low-income Canadians*.

Climate Change

Extreme high temperatures causing fatalities, wildfires, drought and flooding are becoming more common in recent years. Climate Change needs urgent actions to combat its devastating effects. Poverty and food insecurity will become the new normal, especially for people in developing countries, due to unequal food distribution across the globe. It is reported that between 720 and 811 million people faced hunger in 2020, roughly 161 million more than in 2019, according to the recently released State of Food Security and Nutrition in a world report. One-third of the world's food is lost or wasted as cited by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, contributing to six percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. The WUCWO-Women's Voice shares topics such as *Let us read Fratelli Tutti with the eyes of Mary*, and *Integral Human Development*, a Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM) that works within the Catholic church to better care for our common home. *Fratelli Tutti* and *Laudato Si'* are two of Pope Francis' encyclicals on *Care for our Common Home*. Action: Do your part and monitor governments and organizations for Climate Change mitigation.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Connie Cristinziano

Sub-Conveners:

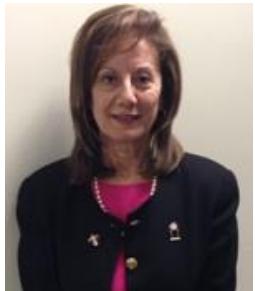
Youth Awards

Val Egerton

St. Michael's Scholarship

Donna Capobianco

Welcome to all new Education and Health Standing Committee Chairs and to all returning ones. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for continuing to carrying out the duties and responsibilities of this standing committee and for bringing forward issues and initiatives to your councils, parishes and communities, especially during these unprecedented times. I encourage each chair to appoint sub conveners to assist with the work of this standing committee. This would be a good way to build a strong and vibrant council by engaging members and giving them an opportunity to share their passions, talents and expertise, in education and health matters and perhaps consider taking an executive position within your council and beyond.



Education

Without a doubt, last year was a tough year for all students, teachers, staff and parents, as they remained vigilant and supported the many changes to programs, procedures and schedules.

Our Provincial Government and Health Officials continue to work together on a “back to school plan” to ensure a safe environment for our students, teachers and staff. Let us continue to keep our students, teachers and staff as they embark on a new school year.

In a recent announcement: www.news.ontario.ca, Ontario announced a new policy framework mandating that all school boards put together anti-human trafficking protocols to better protect students, to be added across all Ontario school boards to grade schools by January 2022. As part of the protocols, school boards must raise awareness of sex trafficking, provide support for students who are at risk of being sex trafficked or who may be grooming and recruiting other students to do so, School aged children and youth are prime targets for trafficking. The average age of recruitment into sex trafficking in Canada is 13 years old *“We need to do a better job at protecting our most vulnerable as the sad reality is that trafficking impacts our children and students the most.”* (Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education)

Education and bringing awareness are the best defenses to protect our youth from this heinous crime. Consider inviting a guest speaker/subject matter expert from the Police Department’s Human Trafficking Crime Unit to one of your general meetings, extend the invitation to your parish and local schools.

Youth Awards

Mary Matthews Public Speaking, Mary Dobell Pro-Life Poetry and Essay Writing and Jean McCann Service Award Contests:

- To be determined, contingent on the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions.

TDC St. Michael’s College Scholarship

This Scholarship is open to any young Catholic woman whose first choice of college will be St. Michael’s College at the University of Toronto. Your continued financial support of the scholarship is greatly appreciated. Please forward your council’s cheque made payable to The Catholic Women’s League of Canada (please include “St. Michael’s Scholarship Fund” on the memo line) to Lolita Perry, Toronto Diocesan Treasurer, along with the TDC Voluntary Remittance Form which can be found on our website: www.cwltoronto.ca/resources/forms.

Toronto Diocesan Council Margaret Ann Jacobs Catholic Children's Aid Foundation Scholarship Fund (formerly Hope for Children Foundation Fund)

This Scholarship provides financial support to youth who are under the care of the Catholic Children's Aid Society services and an opportunity to continue their studies. Councils are encouraged to continue supporting this very worthy scholarship. Please forward your council's cheque made payable to "The Catholic Women's League of Canada" (please include "Catholic Children's Aid Foundation" on the memo line) to Lolita Perry, Toronto Diocesan Council Treasurer, along with TDC Voluntary Remittance Form which can be found on our website: cwltoronto.ca/resources/forms. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

National Bursary Fund

The bursary fund is used to provide financial assistance to members needing it to pursue studies, courses, seminars, conferences, workshops and diploma/degree programs in areas of spiritual growth adult faith formation youth ministry, ministry to patients in palliative care ministry to shut-ins parliamentary procedure, literacy tutoring. The guidelines, application forms and the National Voluntary Remittance forms (for council donations) can all be downloaded from: www.cwl.ca. Councils are encouraged to make donations.

Donations are to be sent directly to the National Office. In the 2020 National Annual Report, Faith Anderson, National Chairperson of Education and Health reported that six Toronto Diocesan councils submitted donations in 2020 for a total of \$450 (Scarborough Region – 3 and Peel Region - 1).

Coady Institute National Voluntary Fund

The Coady Institute (established by St. Francis Xavier University) has partnered with The Catholic Women's League of Canada since 1961. It is through the generosity of CWL councils and members that annual scholarships have been provided, which have enabled women community leaders from around the world to benefit from these programs. Information and remittance forms can be downloaded from: www.cwl.ca.

Health

Canadian Blood Services is always in need of blood donations. As provinces open up and hospitals resume elective surgeries, the demand will inevitably increase.

Did you know that the League has partnered with the Canadian Blood Services and has its own unique ID?

Encourage members, to give the gift of life and register with Canadian Blood Services, '*Partners for Life*' program using the League's Unique Partner ID (CATH011269) to record donations. Donations can be directed to more than one group.

As we begin another CWL season, we are finally beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel as the spread of the Corona Virus seems to be easing. The pandemic is yet not over, but we are fortunate enough to be part of the world that had means to control this devastating disease through the many vaccine opportunities, from mass clinics, to pop up clinics and in some cases door-to-door opportunities. Canada has received enough vaccines to inoculate all eligible individuals. As individuals we need to do our part to help mitigate the spread of the virus and variants of concern and to help keep our communities safe. Have you received your vaccine?

September World Alzheimer's, Arthritis Awareness Month

October 10 World Mental Health Day

November 14 World Diabetes Day

LEGISLATION

Sub-Conveners:

Elizabeth Joseph

Suzanne Cockburn
Sonia Da Costa Spence

Greetings! As we approach the Fall season with churches at 50% capacity and our ability to interact cautiously. Let us give thanks in this season of Thanksgiving, and embrace every opportunity to be mindful of others.



Federal Bills

Bill C5: An act to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, the Interpretation Act and the Canadian Labour

Code to add an annual statutory holiday (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation), on September 30th. The purpose of this Act is to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's call to action number 80 which seeks to honour First Nations, Inuit and Metis survivors, their families and communities; and to ensure public commemoration of their history and the legacy of residential schools remain a vital component of the reconciliation process. The Bill received Royal Assent on June 3, 2021, and comes into force on August 3rd.

Bill C8: An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act (Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's call to action number 94). The Act amends the Oath of Citizenship in its wording to include the Constitution which recognizes and affirms the Aboriginal and Treaty rights of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples. The Bill received Royal Assent on June 21, 2021, and came into force on June 22nd.

Bill C15: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. The Bill enacts that the Canadian Government must take all measures necessary to ensure that the laws of Canada are consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and prepare and implement an action plan to achieve the objectives of the Declaration. The action plan must include accountability measures applicable to the implementation of the Declaration. Be tabled in Parliament by The Minister and made public. The Bill received Royal Assent on June 21, 2021.

Action: Monitor if the action plan is tabled in each House of Parliament within three years and a report is made annually.

Bill C 272: To Amend the Copyright Act (diagnosis, maintenance, repair). The Act allows a person to circumvent a technological protection measure (TPM) in a computer program if the circumvention is solely for the purpose of diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of a product in which the program is embedded. The law prohibits breaking digital locks to reproduce or alter work without the copywriter owner's consent. However, since the Act covers software, businesses decided to use the Act to keep repair professions from breaking the digital lock thus making many objects irreparable. If a repair person overrides a digital lock to fix a device, e.g., a phone, car or tractor without the company's permission; an offence is committed under the Copyright Act. When companies refuse to repair their own products and customers are forced to purchase new ones, this creates planned obsolescence, which is costly for consumers, and an unnecessary waste that impacts the environment. Removing the copyright-related restriction to repair, enhances the competition for independent repair shops, boosts economic recovery post-pandemic, makes it easier for consumers to have products repaired and reduces electronic waste. The (TPM) exception proposed for repair will help historically marginalized groups to gain better access to repair services and have more repairs become available in rural and remote communities (Hansard 107, May 2021). *"Improper use of the Copyright Act to prevent people from fixing electronic device is immoral,*

expensive for consumers and has a terrible impact on the environment” (Minister Denis Trudel, May 2021). The Bill had Second Reading on June 2, 2021, and was sent to Standing Committee.

Action: Monitor this Bill as it affects all Canadian consumers.

Provincial Bills

Bill 283: An act to establish a National Food Waste Awareness Day to provide a national strategy to reduce food waste in Canada. Annually about 11.2 million metric tons of edible food is wasted in Canada, costing more than \$49 billion. Food waste goes into landfills and approximately 20 % of Canada’s methane emissions come from landfills. The Bill had First Reading on April 13, 2021.

Action: Monitor this Bill as it relates to our CWL theme ‘*Care for Our Common Home*’.

Bill 286: Inherent Rights to Safe Drinking Water Act 2021. To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act 2002. The Act requires specified actions with respect to safe drinking water for Ontarians living and working on Reserves. The Bill had Second Reading on May 10, 2021 and was ordered to Standing Committee.

Action: Monitor this Bill as it relates to Resolutions-2001:04 Water Quality in Canada and ON-2011:01 Safe Potable Water for First Nation Communities.

To access Legislation Information visit:

www.parl.gc.ca/housechamberbusiness/chambercalendar;

www.parl.gc.ca/LEGISInfo. For access to the Ontario Legislature website:

www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/current.

RESOLUTIONS

Andrea Smart

Sub-Conveners:

Celestine Hall
Tracy MacInnis

Welcome back after the summer break with lockdowns now lifted. I hope everyone enjoyed the short pause, are well rested and are once again looking forward to renewing our work in the League.

As the country continues to recover from the pandemic, the Diocesan, Provincial and National councils decided to hold annual general meetings using a partially virtual



format where only a few met in person and most attended virtually. Because most councils did not meet in person, resolutions were not presented for 2020 and 2021. To keep members informed on the League's position on issues such as abortion, human trafficking, water and more, the most current position papers will be posted to the national website www.cwl.ca

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada

There have been several news items recently concerning residential schools and unmarked graves located on these properties. The federal government recently passed two Bills, C-5 and C-15, that apply to some of our past resolutions.

Bill C-5 An Act to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, the Interpretation Act and the Canada Labour Code (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation). This responds to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's call to action number 80 by creating a holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This is a day to honour First Nations, Inuit and Métis Survivors and their families and communities and to ensure that public commemoration of their history and the legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.

Bill C-15 An Act respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. There are current resolutions that address both Bill C-5 and Bill C-15. Refer to National's website www.cwl.ca and check the following resolutions:

- 2017.01 Full Implementation of the Supreme Court Decision in *R. v. Gladue for Indigenous Offenders*
- 2013.01 Building Relationships and Partnerships with Canada's Indigenous Peoples.
- 2011.02 Children of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women,
- 2001.04 Water Quality in Canada
- 1999.09 Bulk Fresh Water Resources.

Resolutions Update from National

A reminder that whereas clauses are no longer presented as part of the resolution. This ensures that the statement of the League's position on an issue becomes the main focus and is presented so the resolved clause is very clear. This gives more emphasis on the heart of the resolution. Material previously contained in whereas clauses become part of the brief. The resolved clause is referred to as the resolution for the purpose of the motion and debate. The Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook was updated to reflect this change.

<https://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/618-Resolutions-Supplement-to-Executive-Handbook-2020.pdf>

2022 Resolution Topics

Does your council have an idea for a resolution or are you already working on a resolution that you want to have considered for the 2022 Convention? The deadline to submit the first draft of the resolution with some basic research on the subject is Saturday, October 31, 2021.

To get started on writing a resolution, check your topic on the National website www.cwl.ca and the Ontario Provincial website www.cwl.on.ca to ensure that a resolution on your topic hasn't already been passed. Consult the updated Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook and follow the directions there.

Please note that resolutions developed and researched by other groups or organizations will not be accepted as resolutions of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Resolution Action Plans

A lot of councils are unsure what to do if they are not writing 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 on to the Provincial CWL website, cwl.on.ca, or the National CWL website, 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 contact me (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!

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless us all. Stay safe and healthy!

"Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to heaven." St. Pius X



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

One Hundred Years: Growing in Faith, Love and Service

There were 370 members, Spiritual Advisors and guests who joined us virtually on June 3, 2021, for the 100th Anniversary celebration. It was a great evening of prayer and celebration on the exact date of the 100th year of the founding of the Toronto Diocesan Council.

We were blessed with greetings from our National and Provincial Presidents, as well as Enid Corbett of the Anglican Church Women of Toronto. His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins also sent us greetings via video.

We were joined that evening by Honourary Life Members Betty Anne Brown Davidson and Margaret Ann Jacobs, who offered toasts to Canada and the League.

With a great deal of time invested, Ann D'Souza and Hilarion Mitchell prepared a slide show of all the parish councils who answered our questionnaire on councils' histories last Fall. About 70% of the councils responded and it made for a wonderful visual display of our impact on the parishes we serve and the broader communities. It left no doubt that the League is present and vibrant in the Archdiocese of Toronto.

We plan to display these slides at the Annual Members' Meeting (formerly known as "Convention") in 2022.

We have received Certificates of Congratulations from both the National and Provincial Councils.

We also wanted to honour our Spiritual Advisors, both past and present. So, Certificates of Appreciation have been sent to them for their generous participation in the work of the League. All councils have also received a certificate to commemorate our 100th Anniversary.

For the 75th Anniversary of the Council, Moira Ste. Marie, Life Member (now deceased) commissioned a scroll listing all the Toronto Diocesan Presidents. This was presented to Archbishop Ambrozic, later Cardinal Ambrozic, to be hung in the Cardinal's Office. We were able to retrieve it and have a calligrapher update the names to reflect all Diocesan presidents to date. We had hoped to re-present it to Cardinal Collins at this year's convention, but as that was impossible, I was able to join a virtual meeting

of the executive with the Cardinal for a few minutes, to let him know we have updated it to celebrate our 100th Anniversary and that it will be returned to the Pastoral Centre as soon as the pandemic situation allows.

Most Reverend Bishop Robert Kasun has generously agreed to celebrate the Centennial Mass with us on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. It is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. I hope you will plan to attend. We are anticipating that we may finally all meet in person, but there will be live streaming of the Mass in case circumstances do not allow large groups to convene. It will also help us reach members who may not be able to travel to St. Michael's. We will have specific details for you by mid-September.

We have not been able to complete our agenda in 2021 as there was no usual gathering for our members. So, for the 2022 Annual Members' Meeting, we will open the Time Capsule which was to be opened this year.

We are also keeping open the option of celebrating with a Spring High Tea.

As always, we pray that Our Lady of Good Counsel be with us in all our efforts for the good of the League,

Mary Hawley
Chair
100th Anniversary Committee
Toronto Diocesan Council

“There are those who seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge – that is curiosity. There are those who seek knowledge to be known by others – that is vanity. There are those who seek knowledge in order to serve – that is love.” St. Bernard

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

**Toronto Diocesan Council
100th Anniversary Closing Mass**



**St. Michael's Cathedral
65 Bond Street, Toronto, ON M5B 1X1**

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

**Thursday October 7, 2021
7:00 pm**

Celebrant: Most Reverend Bishop Robert Kasun



**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL
CELEBRATING OUR CULTURAL DIVERSITY
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2021**

TIME: 9:00 AM – 12: 00 PM (CST)
MASS: **9:00 AM** Livestreamed from St. Edward the Confessor
WORKSHOP: **9:35 AM** Virtual: Login Details provided upon registration
KEYNOTE: **THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION OF CULTURAL COMPETENCE**
Dr. Angela Cooper Brathwaite, RN, BN, MN, PhD



CELEBRATION OF CULTURES & PERFORMANCES

**Deadline: Wednesday September 8, 2021
(pictures/video)**

Contact:

Luz Del Rosario luz_del_rosario@hotmail.com

Melanie Nazareth mamahatari@gmail.com

Send in your group pictures and videos as soon as you can,
do not wait for the deadline.

WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION

Deadline: Wednesday September 22, 2021

Contact:

Shaila D'Souza shailafatty@gmail.com

❖ Individual and group registrations welcomed.

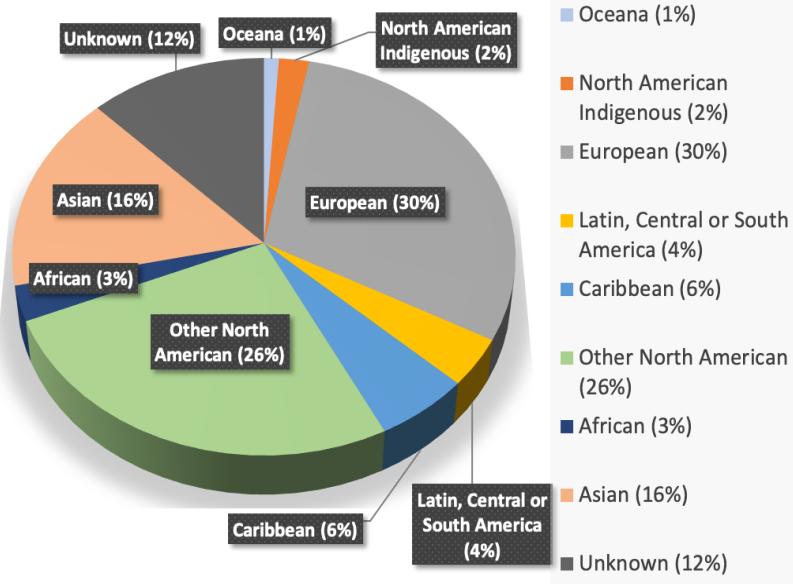
❖ Parish council presidents, send in one registration for all
members of your council.

Provide name, email, council name and region for all
members, spiritual advisors and non-members attending.

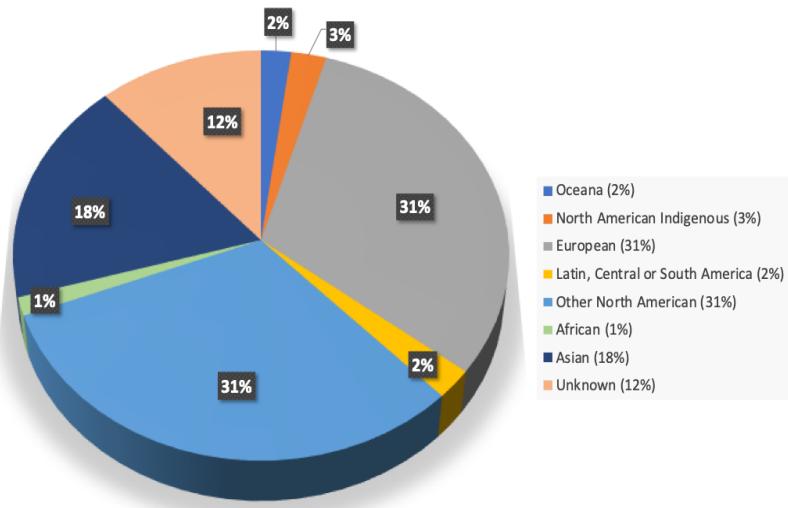
FOR MORE DETAILS: cwltoronto.ca



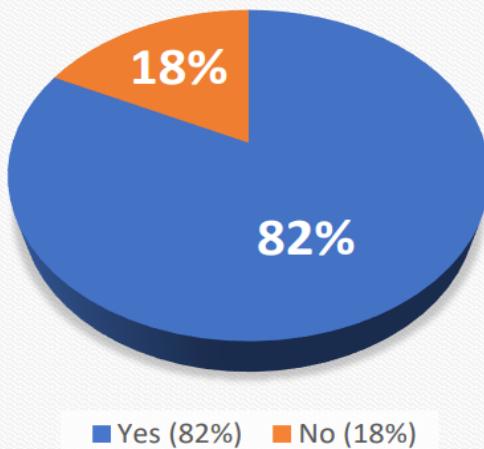
MEMBERS DIVERSITY



Executive Diversity



Does council membership reflect the cultural diversity of the parish and general community?



Note

- 2020 Organization Annual Report Survey (51 councils responding).
- Charts prepared by Philiz Goh, St. Monica's Council, Toronto Region
- Philiz and Hilarion were the representatives from the Toronto Diocesan Council on Strategic Plan Encourage Diversity Working Group convened between April 2020 to March 2021.

"We should all know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color." Maya Angelou

Ambassadors of Peace Prayer

Creator, we come to you rejoicing that we may call you our Creator. We thank you for coming as the Christ Child. Lord Jesus Christ we thank you for sacrificing your life so that we may have new life in this world and everlasting life in the world to come. Open our ears that we may hear your voice.

Creator Father, we ask your Spirit to revive our spirits, clear our minds, comfort our hearts and strengthen us today. Make our hearts one with Yours, that we may always act with generous hearts.

We thank you Creator Father that in your wisdom, you instructed the people of old to spread out over the earth. We praise you for the gift of languages and cultures that help us to be your image in this world. Clear our eyes that we may see the goodness You have created in all creation, especially in all people.

Forgive us for the times when we thought arrogantly about our culture and language and condemned the cultures and languages of other peoples. Forgive us for the sins of racism! Give us the courage, perseverance and insight to deal with injustice.

Creator Father, thank you for reconciling us to you through your Son. Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for calling us to be ambassadors of peace in this world. Holy Spirit, help us to build new relationships with the people in our neighbourhoods, our regions, our country and the nations of the world. Purify our minds that we may be guided by Your holy word. Amen.

(adapted from Ambassadors of Peace Prayer)

<https://network.crcna.org/biblical-justice/prayers-indigenous-ministry-sunday>



4th Moira Ste. Marie Memorial Lecture

**Hosted by: The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Toronto Diocesan Council**

Catholic Education “Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together”

A Lecture Series In Honour of the late Moira Ste. Marie

DATE: Wednesday, October 20, 2021

LOCATION: Virtual via Zoom call

TIME: 7:00 pm – 9:00pm

Registration: via Toronto Diocese website
click link: <https://www.cwltoronto.ca/>



HEAR OUR DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS:

BARRY WHITE
Founding member of the
Catholic Teachers Guild of
Toronto. Interim Director
of St. Michael's Choir School



ANNE O'BRIEN
Director of Catholic Education
Ontario Catholic School Board
Trustees' Association



PATRICK J. DALY
President of Canadian
Association of Trustees and
President of Ontario Catholic
Trustees



- ❖ In the face of the ongoing reality of the COVID-19 pandemic, how do we rebuild, restore, and renew our Catholic schools to meet the academic, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of our students and teachers?
- ❖ Post-pandemic, as families connect and re-engage with their Catholic schools, their communities, and their parishes, how can we continue to rebuild, restore, and renew the essential relationships?
- ❖ A look at the ever-present danger to the Catholic system from the political viewpoint.
- ❖ In recognition of the 5th Anniversary of the Year of Laudato Si', what next steps must we take to continue to rebuild, restore and renew Our Common Home.