



## President's Update

### August 2022

My dear sisters in the League,

I hope that you have been able to enjoy some down time over the last few weeks to rejuvenate and recharge your batteries for what appears to be a very busy CWL fall.

### Ontario CWL 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

**Attendance:** You were represented at the annual provincial CWL convention by Kate O'Quinn (President-Elect/Organization), Connie Cristinziano (Resolutions) and me as the voting delegate. Kate and Connie were the accredited delegates from Toronto Diocesan Council. In attendance were also accredited delegates from 7 parishes and 13 members at large. Six Life Members came as well as two of them who were there as provincial officers (Mary Capobianco and Ann D'Souza).

**Convention Day One:** On Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> the guest speaker, Fr. Mark Slatter, gave his two part presentation on the provincial theme of Loneliness. In the morning session, Fr. Slatter's talk was titled "The Different Dances of Loneliness". His afternoon session was "Learning to Dance With Our Loneliness". Part of Monday was also given to Colleen Martin, Christian Family Life Chair, to give a report on the work of the Our Lady of Guadeloupe Circle of which she is a member. Colleen's talk was a continuation of her presentation of the one she gave at the TDC National Indigenous Peoples Day webinar on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Fran Lucas, national CWL president, gave a short talk on the national theme, "Catholic and Living It".

**Convention Day Two:** The speaker on July 12<sup>th</sup> was Fr. Daryold Winkler who spoke on "My Reconciliation Journey". If you were watching the papal visit on CBC you might have seen Fr. Winkler as one of the commentators. He left us with the message that the apology is the beginning. The goal is to create awareness. We can all take action in some way. We can write to our elected representatives to join our voices to those of Indigenous people to advocate for clean water, for equal funding for education, for the honouring of treaties. We can learn more through finding out about the land we live on and who lived on it before Europeans arrived, by reading Indigenous authors, by watching films by Indigenous creators, by partnering with Indigenous organizations. And, always, we can pray for reconciliation and healing.

The recipient for the 2022 Ontario CWL Social Justice Award is Sister Pat Carter from the Sault Ste. Marie diocese. You will read more about her in the next issue of the provincial newsletter.

**Instructed Vote:** Provincial President, Linda Squarzolo, sent out the results of these nine votes in Directive #1 (dated July 16<sup>th</sup>). If you missed it, here are the results as sent out by Linda:

Amendment #1 Annual Meeting of Members - YES

Amendment #2 Patroness & Spiritual Programs - NO

Amendment #3 Officers, National Administrative Committee & Number of Directors: YES

Amendment #4 Duties of Officers - YES

Amendment #5 Chairpersons of Standing Committees - YES

Amendment #6 Meetings and Quorums - YES

Amendment #7 Term of Office - NO

Amendment #8 Election of Officers -YES

Per Capita Fee Increase – NO

**Provincial CWL Elections:** The provincial president in her directive also reported the results of the elections but we wish to offer a special message of congratulations to Mary Capobianco (Life Member) who is the new Resolutions chair as well as current TDC Past President, Hilarion Mitchell who takes on the role of Education and Health Chair. We wish them well in their new positions.

### Provincial Theme:



The theme for the next two years will be “Go Make a Difference”. Members and councils are asked to take on a project that will bring about meaningful difference in the world around them. More information will be available at the fall regional meetings.

Linda has chosen the bee as the symbol for this term. As St. John Chrysostom stated, “The bee is more honoured than other animals, not because she labours, but because she labours for others.” The bee is productive, stays focused on the task at hand and does not get side-tracked from the goal. A perfect symbol for CWL members.

### Papal Visit 2022:

Following a letter from National President, Fran Lucas, requesting that all CWL members donate to the cost of the papal visit in July,



**WALKING  
TOGETHER**  
POPE FRANCIS CANADA  
24 - 29 JULY 2022  
**MARCHER  
ENSEMBLE**  
PAPE FRANÇOIS CANADA  
24 - 29 JUILLET 2022

Ontario Provincial Council donated \$5,000 to the Papal Visit to help defray costs as an investment in healing and reconciliation.

### **Indigenous Reconciliation Fund:**



A commitment of \$25,000 over 5 years was announced by outgoing President, Colleen Perry to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. The fund has already collected \$4.6 million from Catholic dioceses as part of its \$30 million five-year commitment. Graydon Nicholas, our guest speaker from the TDC National Indigenous Peoples Day is the most recent addition to the board.

Toronto councils will be challenged to also contribute to this fund over the next five years. More information will be available at the fall regional meetings.

### **Resolutions:**

Two resolutions were accepted for presentation at the 75<sup>th</sup> annual convention. The first, **ON.22.01 Improve Long-Term Care Homes** was from Pembroke Diocese. The second was **ON.22.02 National Strategy to Address Loneliness** was from Toronto Diocese. Both resolutions were passed.

Resolution ON.22.01 deals with provincial concerns. Councils will receive information from the Education & Health chair (Andrea Smart) as well as the Resolution chair (Connie Cristinziano) on action required by councils and members. When the provincial council representatives next meet with MPs at Queen's Park, a visit with the Ministers of Health (Sylvia Jones) and Long-Term Care (Paul Calandra) will be requested to discuss this resolution.

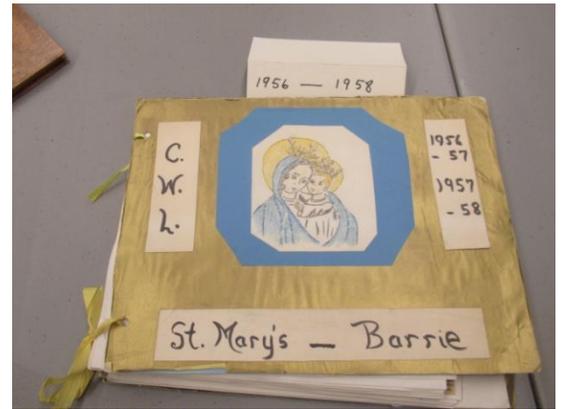
Resolution ON.22.02 was adopted and forwarded to the national resolution review committee but unfortunately was not accepted for presentation at the national convention in August. A communiqué will come from the national Education and Health chair directing councils to focus on this topic at the local level.

I challenge each of you and your councils to continue to work for change by working on the action plans of these resolutions as well as others that are still active. Toronto Diocesan Council will host an in-person workshop called "Faith in Action" in late October. It is suggested that resolution, legislation and communications chairs attend but it is open to any member interested in the process of resolutions.

### **St. Mary's CWL (Barrie) 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

On July 16<sup>th</sup>, I attended the celebration for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Mary's Parish Council in Barrie. The day began with morning mass celebrated by Bishop Boissoneau, Northern Pastoral Region as well Fr. Larry Leger from St. Mary's. Photo albums and scrapbooks from their archives were on display. This was the earliest one I saw from their 100 years.

It was so interesting to read about their involvement in the community from press clippings from the local Barrie newspaper. There was even an article on how the Klu Klux Klan tried to burn the church down! After speeches from Bishop Boissoneau and Fr. Leger, I was able to present the council president, Susan Murley, with a framed anniversary certificate marking the occasion. Regional Chair, Dianne Hunter gave a history of the council and a slide presentation was ongoing from pictures in their archives. Councils from the neighboring parishes, St. John Vianney and Holy Spirit, were also invited to attend the celebration as well as lunch at the Mandarin Restaurant. All in all, it was an excellent tribute to 100 years of service to God and Canada.



### **In Celebration of Dorothy Anne McGuigan (July 27, 1937 - July 13, 2022) Toronto Diocesan President 1995-1997**



Peacefully in her 85th year at St. Joseph's Health Centre in Toronto. Loving wife of Leo McGuigan (deceased 2010). Survived by her children Joanna (Dave), Maureen (Daryl) and Paul (Rhonda) and her grandchildren Brian and Colin, as well as by her brother Johnny (Dolly) and brother-in-law Bob (sister Edith, deceased 2018)

Dorothy was a tireless volunteer member of the Catholic Women's League (CWL) for many years and held the position of council president at the Parish, Regional, Archdiocesan and Provincial levels, ultimately becoming an Honorary Life Member. During this time, Dorothy taught various CWL Leadership courses and attended a great number of conventions. She researched and wrote numerous CWL resolutions on issues of concern to the membership and met with elected officials at all levels to present and advocate for those issues. After serving as Provincial Past President, she took 'early retirement' from her CWL career to take care of Leo whose health was then failing. Dorothy truly enjoyed her work with the CWL and appreciated the camaraderie and good humour of her CWL friends.

In 2009, Dorothy suffered a life-altering spinal cord injury. Following many months of recovery at Trillium Health Centre in Mississauga and Toronto Rehabilitation Institute - Lyndhurst Centre, she returned to her home for several years. In due course she relocated to Lakeside Long Term Care Centre in Parkdale, where she resided until her death. Over this time she was supported by her children as well as by a number of external caregivers, with whom many close and lifelong relationships were formed. Dorothy responded to the challenges posed by her injury with awe inspiring courage and perseverance.

Reception after the Mass was provided by the members of St. Martin of Tours Parish Council. It was wonderful to hear stories about Dorothy from the members and Life Members in attendance.

### **In Case You Missed It**

Since July 1<sup>st</sup>, the following have been made available to councils:

From the national website: [www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)

- ✓ Communications Communiqué #7
- ✓ Legislation Communiqué #3
- ✓ Spiritual Development Communiqué #7
- ✓ Community Life Communiqué #10

From the provincial CWL: [www.cwl.on.ca](http://www.cwl.on.ca)

- ✓ Christian Family Life directive #1 (distributed by TDC chair Ciscily Winkler, July 28<sup>th</sup>)
- ✓ Provincial President's directive #1 (circulated July 16<sup>th</sup>)

### **Dates to Remember**

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> Rosary Sunday, Martyrs Shrine

Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> Toronto Region General Fall Meeting

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> Northern Region General Fall Meeting

Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> Humber Valley Region General Meeting

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> Mass and Education Forum for National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> Durham Region General Fall Meeting

Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> Peel Region General Fall Meeting

Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> Scarborough Region General Fall Meeting

Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> North York Region Fall Meeting

If you have any questions, comments or concerns feel free to call or email me. I look forward to seeing you all this fall at the regional meetings.

Your sister in the League,  
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