



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL
102nd Convention Oral Report
April 24 and 25, 2023
Ajax Convention Centre
550 Beck Road
"Called To Serve"



Name: Connie Cristinziano
Standing Committee: Resolutions
Share the Word: Advocacy

Madame Chair and Sisters in the League:

ADVOCACY

When referring to secular advocacy, it is calling on government officials to pay attention to what is important to us. In Biblical terms advocacy is reminding us to do what God is calling us to and the foundation of our Faith. Inspired by its core values of faith, service and social justice, Catholic women's league members work together to address social justice issues and through the resolutions that we work on we make our voices heard by government.

Ontario had two resolutions that were presented and adopted at Ontario Provincial Convention in July 2022:

Resolution ON 22.02 National Strategy to Address Loneliness gifted by the Toronto Diocese. This resolution was also forwarded to our National Education and Health Chair. In the Winter 2023 Edition on page 8 of our League Magazine, our National Education and Health Chairperson wrote an interesting article on "Reducing Loneliness" and the health risks associated with isolation and loneliness. If you have not done so already, I encourage you to read the article.

On 22.01 Improve Care in Long Term Care Homes, gifted by the Pembroke Diocese.

There is still much more that we as members can do on these two important topics and concerns.

Members have shared in the work and advocacy of a resolution by acting on the various proposals of its action plan. It is when we carry out the action plan that the league makes its real impact and where we express our strong support for the resolution and make our voice heard to government.

Both resolutions were recently presented to the Provincial Government. Our OPC Resolutions Chair shares these words with us in her report:



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"As much as the process for a successful resolution is long and entails a lot of work and challenges, there is nothing more satisfying as the opportunity to speak with government about our concerns"

You have worked hard to learn about and take action on existing resolutions. You can be proud of what the League accomplishes each day and each year through that hard work that started in your parishes. I commend you for all your hard work. Our strength is our unity; together we can accomplish great things. Together we can make a Difference!

Education and bringing awareness of issues is our greatest defense against the injustices and imperfections of our society.

Based on the results from the Annual Reports, there is a need to generate more interest in developing resolutions and the importance of following through on their action plans. As we move forward my focus will be on both of these issues. Stay tuned, and I look forward to working together as we continue to advocate for the voice of the voiceless through resolutions!

My written report can be found on pages 27-28 in the 2022 Annual Report Book.

This concludes my report.

Connie Cristinziano
Resolutions Chair