



PRESS RELEASE For General Release

The Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, representing over 45,500 women in Ontario, will gather at the Marriott-Airport Hotel, in Toronto, on July 7th thru July 11th, 2018 for the 71st annual provincial convention. The theme of **"Homelessness"** will be showcased throughout the convention, where over 300 members representing 13 Ontario Arch/diocese will come together for business sessions, workshops, faith, fun and fulfillment.

The official opening will begin with the Celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday July 8th, at 6:00 PM, with his Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins and Most Rev. Bishop Brendan O'Brien, our Provincial Spiritual Advisor, at Nativity of Our Lord Parish.

On Monday, our keynote speaker will be Namarig Ahmed, who will be speaking about PEACH – Palliative Education and Care for the Homeless, a mobile medicine service. She will describe for us their program and experiences as they dispense health care to a vulnerable and marginalized population.

On Tuesday afternoon, members will be able to attend two sessions (one hour each) of their choice, as listed:

- **Covenant House** - A homeless youth shelter that provides a range of services including education, counselling, health care and employment assistance.
- **Homeshare** – A home provider offers accommodation to a housemate in exchange for an agreed level of help.
- **Ontario 211** – A telephone helpline (2-1-1) and website which provides a gateway to community, social, non-clinical health and related government services
- **Saint Elizabeth Homecare** – "Journey Home Hospice" - a new hospice offering flexible care suited to the unique and complex needs of the homeless.
- **Sistering** – Provides information and referrals to housing, education, health care, therapists and much more.
- **St. Vincent de Paul** – an organization whose mission is to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy.

Our luncheon speaker, Friar Tom, from St. Clare Inn, will speak on how they help women with mental health issues rebuild their lives.

Our National President, Margaret Ann Jacobs, brings her message on Wednesday morning, and we conclude with an invitation to the 2019 convention in Kingston. The reaffirmation of the executive takes place at the closing mass at 12:10 PM at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Mississauga.

**Provincial President Anne Madden, will be available to meet with members of the press on Monday July 9th at 12:15 p.m. following business sessions.
Media Information kits will be available at the Registration Desk**