

Madame President;

Admin85 a resource found on the internet describes social justice as I quote; "often referring to the society, person and the social entities and also addresses the fact that all of them can get the right and same values. This works beyond race and religion when it's all about offering justice to the people."

What an amazing description! This description depicts the objects of the League and the work of the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Madame President, as you will recall, I chose 22 resolutions which pertain to social justice from the 53 active resolutions. I asked the councils across the province to address by calling, writing and e-mailing their MP's and MPP's over this past year and a half to bring the action plans from these resolutions back into focus for both the government and ourselves.

All of these resolutions were developed by the grass roots of the League, our parish councils. These particular ones were developed over a time span from as far back as 1982 which dealt with the Niagara River Pollution, which I might say has vastly improved and continues to be addressed by both the Canadian and American governments. However it is the more recent topic from 2013 ... Reduce the Stigma Attached to Mental Illness, I believe, has exemplified our national theme of One Heart, One Voice, One Mission.

Two dioceses were chosen to address this particular issue and they did a remarkable job with letter writing campaigns and championing the issue. And when reading the year end reports from the 13 diocesan resolutions chairwomen both this year and last, time and time again they spoke of this specific resolution.

Our members are most definitely talking with one voice to all levels of government, with other members, with family and friends, advocating for the men, women and children that suffer and struggle daily from mental illness. And it is not JUST the illness that they must contend with but the stigma that goes with it. Crazy, nuts, gay, not the sharpest knife, idiot, and I could go on and on ... in fact there were 250 examples for this one derogatory statement. But League members are adamant to relinquish this statement once and for all.

Our members are truly working together with one heart as councils are educating themselves on the subject by bringing in knowledgeable speakers to explain and discuss mental illness.

Daily the topic of mental illness hits headlines and sadly it has been given a bad rap and we are desperately battling to remove the stigma attached to it.

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, Madam President, Marlene Pavletic, Pauline Krupa, Linda Squarzolo and me visited with 4 ministries at Queens Park and one of which was the opposition. I am very delighted to say that this was an amazing experience but it was also a very important opportunity for us to talk about this resolution and to thank the government for their ongoing position and work about mental health. They know, as well as we, that this issue needs our ongoing attention and that it is not a subject that is just going to disappear on its own.

We are on a mission ... one mission and that is to work together. By working together we can achieve anything. And I do believe that our theme of one heart, one voice, one mission has truly come to light in the works of The Catholic Women's League through the standing chair of resolutions.

Madame President, this concludes my report.