



Ontario Provincial Council
Resolution Standing Committee

ONE Heart, ONE Voice, ONE Mission

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To: Diocesan Resolutions Standing Committee Chairpersons

From: Linda Squarzolo Ontario Provincial Council
Resolutions Standing Committee Chairperson

Cc: Diocesan Presidents, Provincial Officers,
National Resolutions Standing Committee Chairpersons

I look forward working with all of you in the months and years ahead. I am sure we can learn from each other and share some great ideas.

I have been a League member since 1975 and can hardly wait to receive my 40-year pin later this year. My mother and daughter are both League members, as are several other family members. In three years I plan to give my granddaughter a gift membership for her 16th birthday. I was honoured to be chosen as second vice-president of the Ontario Provincial Council and thrilled to be assigned resolutions. I have served as chair of resolutions at both the parish and diocesan levels, working on four resolutions at those levels. During my last term on provincial, I chaired of the legislation committee, which meant that I was part of the resolution committee and also a member of the delegation to visit Queen's Park. I know how important resolutions are to the League.

The resolutions committee is often daunting to members, but it does not need to be. There are resources available to assist the members of this committee. The **Executive Handbook (May 2014)** outlines the duties for each standing committee chair. If you do not have the most recent copy, go to the national website (cwl.ca) and download the pages that apply. **Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook (2012)** is a special resolutions guide which can be purchased or downloaded. Every Resolutions Chair must have this document for reference. The **national** (cwl.ca) and **provincial** (cwl.on.ca) **websites** have a wealth of information, including previous directives, communiques and all approved resolutions. Knowledgeable people are also an excellent source of great information. Life members, past diocesan presidents, former resolutions chairs and, of course, the current provincial resolutions chair, can answer questions and offer advice.

The fall is the time to begin thinking about topics for the 2016 resolutions. Ideas can be sparked by articles in newspapers or magazines, programs on radio or television a private member's bill in government or personal experiences. Have you been bothered about something that happened in your area? Have you read about an unfortunate situation in the newspaper? Did you watch a program on television and think "That's not fair"? Did you hear on the radio about....? Why not explore the issue further? What can be done about it? How can it be changed? Who will make it different? You????

To get started find other interested members who will work well together, are willing to do some research and share your enthusiasm. Their role is to write letters of inquiry to request information from government, copies of legislation, committee reports; contact professional groups to gather information and/or opinions; review other sources in print (newspaper articles, magazines, books, Hansard) or internet websites. Resolutions begin with the parish members and several parishes can work together to develop the resolutions. Consideration can be given to forming committees on a regional or diocesan basis.

If members do not feel comfortable, or confident enough, to actually write a resolution, there is other valuable work that needs to be done. Five resolutions were adopted at the Ontario Provincial Convention in July and five (including three from Ontario) were approved at the national convention in August. As Resolutions Chairs, it is our responsibility to make League members aware of these resolutions. The resolution, brief, list of resources and action plans are found on the provincial and national websites, listed above. National resolutions will be published in the fall issue of the League Magazine. Provincial resolutions will be outlined in the Trillium resolutions article. Members must be informed about these issues and implement the action plans. Let our ONE Heart ONE Voice ONE Mission resonate through our work on resolutions!

In 2003 I visited an exhibit of dresses which had belonged to Diana, the former Princess of Wales. Included in the show were her wedding gown and several personal items. In 1992 Diana visited Mother Teresa. Mother Teresa gave her a bible, which was on display, and I copied the message she had written:

"Jesus is the truth to be told
Jesus is the life to be lived
Jesus is the love to be loved
Jesus is the light to be lit.
Let us love Jesus with an undivided love and others as He loves you and me."

May God bless you in all that you do on behalf of Him and His people.

Linda

Linda Squarzolo
2nd Vice President/Resolutions Standing Committee Chair
Ontario Provincial Council

