

Ontario Provincial Council  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Oral Report to Convention  
July 2017 – Thunder Bay, ON

**Recording Secretary – Annette Kelly**

**Patience** (or **forbearing**) is the state of endurance under difficult circumstances, which can mean persevering in the face of delay or provocation without acting on negative annoyance/anger; or exhibiting forbearance when under strain, especially when faced with longer-term difficulties. Patience is the level of endurance one can have before negativity. It is also used to refer to the character trait of being steadfast.

In relation to the work of recording secretary, patience is a valuable asset. First of all, patience with oneself as we learn what is expected of us in this new position, or when we make mistakes, or when our computer breaks down and we are waiting for it to be repaired. Our families also require our time and attention, often right in the middle of report times, etc. These delays can be frustrating because they also delay the work we want to process and get out to the members.

Minutes take some time and perseverance to prepare properly and require patience and cooperation with ourselves, the Minutes review committee and team members.

Because we recognize our own struggles, we can be more patient with team members as they learn their roles, and as we work together to prepare the reports for the Minutes and other information.

Family, friends and CWL members also expect us to be there for them in many ways and this can be overwhelming at times. We may need to step back and catch our breath so that we can see how we can serve without frustration or anger.

Members of the Ontario Provincial Council have shown great patience with me throughout these past two years and that has made it easier for me to be patient with myself and with others. The challenges of this position helped me to grow in knowledge and in all the fruits of the Spirit.

We know that God is extremely patient with us and that He is not finished with us yet – we are a work-in-progress.

Madame President, this ends my report,