



Ontario Provincial Council  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Organization Standing Committee

Directive #8

Pages: 2 + 2 attachments

Date: January 2019

To: Diocesan Organization Committee Chairpersons

From: Colleen Perry, Ontario Provincial Council, Organization Committee Chairperson, Sub Committee Chair: Glenda Klein

cc: Diocesan Presidents, Provincial Officers, National Organization Committee Chairperson

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Prayer to Sustain Taken from the National website (cwl.ca):

Lord, season after season, You continue to renew the face of the earth, "For from the greatness and beauty of created things comes a corresponding perception of their Creator."

Teach us, Lord, as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, to become attuned to our need to protect the beauty of our common home.

May our efforts lead us to sustain its natural order, so that, in the words of Pope Francis, our heritage is never "deprived of physical contact with nature."

**Membership:** Membership in The League is a gift. A gift to be shared with every woman you know. Why do we tend to hide our participation from family members and friends? Should we not be sharing the fellowship that we feel with them? Should we not be excited to share the stories of all the good work being done across the province to increase awareness of the issues related to those without a home and all the good works of the tens of thousands of donated items for shelters and foodbanks? What is your council doing to invite new members into our family of sisters? Let's share your ideas with everyone...

**Leadership Development:** Has your council hosted a presentation or workshop that would encourage leadership development? Are you enthusiastically encouraging women to apply for the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation's program at St. Paul's University in Ottawa (more information can be found on their website [cwlfcanda.ca](http://cwlfcanda.ca))?

**League Resource Material:** As our organization steps boldly into the Implementation Phase of the Strategic Plan we must rely on accurate information so that confusion does not reign. One way to do that is to wait for direction from the national office before making any changes to the way we do things. What is the old saying about change... it is certainly going to happen? In her third communique, National Organization chairperson, Fran Lucas, states "*There is a lot of member education that can take place at this time. Pages 10 and 11 from The Catholic Women's League of Canada Plans Strategically 2018-2022 booklet are the best starting point. **Ensure members know the new mission statement, the three core values, the core purpose and the envisioned future.** Review Goal 1 and Goal 4 first year strategies to ensure members are familiar with the initial strategies to be worked.*"

The new **Mission Statement** is: The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.

The three **core values** are: Faith – following Catholic teachings; Service – local, national and international; Social Justice – actively involved in society.

The **core purpose** is: uniting Catholic women to grow in faith, and to promote social justice through service to the church, Canada and the world.

Our **envisioned future** states: The Catholic Women's League of Canada is an inclusive and engaged community of Catholic women inspired by faith. It is a vital participant in the church. It is a valued partner for social justice. It is a respected advocate at all government levels. It is connected to the world.

**Annual Reports:** I want to thank all those councils who participated in the annual report survey online. I anticipate that across the province, when the survey closes tomorrow, we will have 75% participation. BRAVO and THANK YOU. Soon the culmination of those reports will be sent to the diocesan presidents and the work of gathering annual reports for annual report books will begin. I will issue a follow up directive once the summaries are sent from national office. The provincial annual report book will be sent electronically this year on a trial basis. Final decisions have not been made as to the "how", but you will be advised as soon as it is.

As I type this directive changes are in motion. Please pray that the Holy Spirit gifts us with courage and patience as we get through this time of change.

I pray daily for you all.

Respectfully yours in faith,

Colleen Perry

Attachments: CWL Strategic Plan + National Organization Communique #3