



Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada Education and Health Standing Committee

Care for our Common Home

Directive #1

Pages: 2

September 8, 2019

To: Diocesan Education and Health Standing Committee Chairpersons
From: Karen McDonald, Provincial Education and Health Standing Committee Chairperson
cc: Provincial Executive, Diocesan Presidents, Education and Health Sub-Committee Chairpersons and National Education and Health Standing Committee Chairperson

The duties of the chairperson are:

- Catholic education
- literacy and continuing education
 - scholarships and bursaries
 - wellness and sickness/disease
- environment
 - genetics

CWL [Executive Handbook](#) (May 2014)

My League sisters ... it is a pleasure to be serving as chairperson of the provincial Education and Health Standing Committee. I am a 30-year member and I have never been gifted with this committee, until now. Whether you are new to this role or not, we thank you for saying 'yes' to serve. We are all volunteers who are called upon to do the very best that we can ... and we leave the rest to the Holy Spirit.

I am humbled to have been elected to serve again at the provincial level. I love a challenge and after reading the list of chairperson's duties, I would say this qualifies!

I am blessed to have Betsy Currier (a retired nurse from Sault Ste. Marie Diocese) and Joan Schurter (a retired teacher from Hamilton Diocese) assisting me on the E/H *team* as my sub-committee chairpersons.

Kudos to Wilma Vanderzwaag and her E/H team for their work in the last two years. Through prayer and *teamwork*, we will use the gifts that God gave us to continue to *educate* ourselves and be women of action!

Provincial Focus

We have been asked by our provincial president to focus on the topic of **loneliness**. My sub-committee and I will be developing an E/H project related to loneliness ... stay tuned!

Resolutions

Three resolutions relating to *Education and Health* were passed at the 2019 provincial convention. Members are asked to read them and follow up on the Action Plans. Why not choose one (or all) and ask to present it at your Fall meetings.

ON.19.01 Psychotherapy Pilot Project for Adults

(for the full text ... go to <http://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/resolutions/1955.pdf>)

ON.19.02 Abortion and the Effects on Mental Health

(for the full text ... go to <http://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/resolutions/1934.pdf>)

ON.19.03 Long Term Care Beds in Ontario

(for the full text ... go to <http://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/resolutions/1935.pdf>)

Federal Election

Speaking of action, Canada's next federal election will be held on **October 21, 2019**. Start now to identify the candidates in your riding. Find out where they stand on important issues such as Catholic education, health related concerns, and the environment (in keeping with our national theme "*Care for our Common Home*").

With these lyrics from one of my favorite hymns, our journey begins ...

*Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey,
We are trav'lers on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.*

*I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
'Til we've seen this journey through.*

(The Servant Song – by Richard Gilliard)

Feel free to contact me ... email is a great tool but I still enjoy a good telephone chat.

Lots of love,

Karen