

Provincial Convention 2019 - Oral Report – Recording Secretary

Madame Chair,

The Environmental Term that I chose for my report is **PERSISTENCE**. *This term refers to the length of time a compound, once introduced into the environment, stays there. A compound may persist for less than a second or indefinitely.*

INDEFINELY is the word that caught my eye when reading this definition. I am sure that, like most people, I hope to accomplish something in my lifetime that will have a lasting impact long after I'm gone. However, I also know that I don't want to be remembered for adversely impacting the environment for all future generations.

This definition led me to initiating the Ink and Toner Cartridge Challenge. During my research in preparing this, I found out that some components of a cartridge may take more than 450 years to fully decompose. In addition, another damaging effect of not properly disposing of ink cartridges is that the black powder in the toners, has been classified as a possible carcinogenic by the International Agency on Research on Cancer.

So based on all of this, I was really surprised to find that research still shows that 75% of cartridges in Canada do not get recycled even though there are plenty of easy options to do so responsibly. I ask Why? I concluded that people simply don't know or may not be aware. So raising awareness and education was key and I sent out the information in the form of a challenge asking councils to share this information and to hold ink and toner cartridge drives in their parishes, councils and communities.

Based on the number of reports submitted back to me from the councils across Ontario, this project was not adopted in great numbers. However, I was encouraged by the reports I did receive as well as the many emails. Some councils held drives, some were prompted to do research on how toners could be disposed of in their own communities and still others simply shared the information with their members. Even if only 100 toners were diverted from landfills – 100 X 450 years will still make a significant impact to our environmental footprint.

During my term as recording secretary, I was responsible to attend and record the minutes for all Administrative and Executive meetings and Annual Conventions. In preparation for these meetings, I issued Notice of meetings along with the agenda and any other pertinent information required for those meetings. An accurate record of all motions made at these meetings were filed into the Provincial Motions Book. Other duties that I was responsible for included: being a signing officer as designated and verifying & signing the credential cards for convention.



As I look back on the last two years as your recording secretary, I can conclude that my term was about **FAITH** – *believing that the Holy Spirit would guide me through it*, **FULLFILLMENT** – *I experienced personal growth and I learned so much from sitting around the table with these amazing women* and **FUN** – *and we certainly have the photos to prove it!*

So I encourage all of you, *PLEASE* to not hesitate if asked to take on the role of recording secretary. You will always have the support of your fellow sisters and the continued guidance from Our Lady of Good Counsel.

This concludes my oral report.

My written annual report may be found on page \_\_\_\_\_ in the annual report book.

Thank

you.

