

Oral Report Organization
72nd Annual Ontario Provincial Convention
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Madame Chair,

Ecosystem is described as a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment. The organization committee is the physical community of interacting individuals and their physical environment. This committee draws together members to encourage and enhance their league experience through league development and leadership opportunities. Organization chairs manage recruitment with membership drives and information sessions. Dare I say that they manage the "ecosystem" of the league!

A big part of this ecosystem is reporting. I can see you all looking down at your hands and shaking your heads. We all do our due diligence in maintaining records and reporting accurately to ensure that our history is recorded accurately. The implementation of the strategic plan will redefine how we do just that. Members must be patient and wait for direction from the national team. Change is never easy, but we will continue to serve God and Canada the best way we know how.

Anyone who is now, or has ever been, in the organization chair is passionate about membership. We all know how and why we joined the league... but do we share that with others? Do we talk openly about the work we do with the homeless, the lonely, the poor, the divorced, and the neglected. Do we discuss the fact that resolutions that originated in parish councils of Ontario have influenced laws provincially and nationally that reflect our catholic values and protect us all from the destructive tendencies of our secular world? Are we welcoming to everyone? Members in my own parish council often rib me because I am so open to asking any woman I meet in church why they are not a member? Do our friends and family know how much we rely on the prayers of our sisters and their undying support of our joys and sorrows?

In order to maintain our current membership levels, we must make those calls to members who can't attend meetings. Ask them to help us out by praying for those that can participate in our projects and meetings. Some of our confined members are thrilled to be included in prayer circles and living rosaries. Remind young mothers and busy businesswomen you know that the power of prayer is unlimited, and they will benefit from the prayers of their sisters in the League.

Servant leadership is a philosophy in which the main goal of the leader is to serve. They place the needs and interests of their followers above their own self-interest and needs. Some of history's greatest influencers practiced servant leadership. They were Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela and Mother Theresa. Isn't that the example we want members and non-members to remember about us?

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. That is what our mission statement calls us to do. Let's strive to be servant leaders at all levels...

This concludes my report