



**Ontario Provincial Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

Legislation Committee Chair

Care for our Common Home

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To: Diocesan Legislation Chairpersons

From: Margie Royle, Ontario Provincial Council Legislation Chair

Sub Committee Members: Kathy Huffman, Life Member, Jan Sosiak, OPC Social Justice Award Recipient, 2018

CC: Diocesan Presidents, Provincial Officers, National Legislation Chairperson, Diocesan Legislation Chairs, Archbishop Prendergast

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment to improve the world." Anne Frank

Greetings Sisters in the League,

Minute by minute, we are seeing our winter daylight time increase. Such promise enfolded in each of those precious minutes. We just *know* good things await!

In my first directive we learned that legislation is implementing the action plans of our resolutions. In doing so, we bring life to our works and social justice to vulnerable people and situations in our society. We need not restrict ourselves to just the resolutions of the current year. Sometimes it is necessary to apply resolutions of the past to situations of the present. I urge diocesan legislation chairs to suggest parish councils visit national and provincial websites, not just for the current resolutions, but for a comprehensive list of what has gone on before. One cannot help but be impressed and proud of the work completed before us by so many dedicated and committed women!

May I suggest councils consider:

- a printed list of active and archived resolutions displayed on your parish League bulletin boards and/or meeting room
- an insert in your parish bulletins listing current resolutions
- issuing an invitation to members/congregation (again through bulletin boards and/or parish bulletin) to visit national and provincial websites for their own perusal (National website, cwl.ca, click on "TO ACT ON" then click on 'resolutions by year' and 'archived resolutions'. Provincial website, cwl.on.ca, click on 'resolutions')

Of course, reading the resolutions is only the beginning. Action is the answer!

Further suggestions:

- get to know your local politicians and your Member of Parliament (MP) and Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP)
- call them; make an appointment to meet with them
- ask to be put on their mailing lists
- follow through with action plans suggested with each resolution; this has a very positive impact on the League's government visits!
- letters are preferred over emails and petitions
- letters taken right to your MP or MPP's office are a strong statement
- letters to the provincial government must have a stamp; letters to the federal government can be postage free
- familiarize yourself with terms used in government and general information on legislation
- helpful websites include ...

www.parl.gc.ca www.parl.gc.ca/legisinfo www.canada.gc.ca or
www.cpac.ca

Parliament is to resume from Christmas break on February 18th, 2020. Let us together familiarize ourselves with bills in process and those being introduced. We were gifted with a national voice with the very formation of The Catholic Women's League of Canada almost one hundred years ago. Let us use that gift, let our voices be heard!

Margie Royle
OPC Legislation Chair