

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

OPC AMM Meeting July 12, 2021

Madame Chair,

COVID has had an enormous impact of all of us, in our ability to meet together, share ideas and opinions face-to-face, have our elections in a timely manner, being able to familiarize ourselves with the candidates, have celebrations and award ceremonies and in general accomplish our goals and responsibilities.

For me as past president, I have not been able to visit the archives to update materials and file items from this term. I have missed out on the opportunity to review our extensive history and get an intimate glimpse at the wonderful work of our previous leaders and league members. As historian, it is a privilege to review these treasures, I am sad that this opportunity has been denied this far.

Provincial elections have been delayed by a year, extending our term in office. I realize that has been the case for all of us, as past president it is my responsibility to prepare for the elections and ensure there are competent, willing women to step up and let their names stand as leaders in The League. I personally feel that COVID has decreased momentum and enthusiasm. It is difficult to vote for women you have never met or been able to see in action. I personally feel that resumes are not enough to give a true glimpse of someone's abilities. I am looking forward to the time when we can once again meet face-to-face.

I have learned that patience is one of the greatest gifts given by the Lord. The impacts of COVID have been extremely trying and I have had to practice increasing my patience, that all good things do indeed come to those who wait.

This concludes my report,
Anne Madden
Past President / Historian