



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

**CATHOLIC
and LIVING IT!**

Catholic and Living It!

Directive #1

Pages: 2

July 28, 2022

To: Diocesan Christian Family Life Standing Committee Chairpersons

From: Betsy Currier, Provincial Christian Family Life Standing Committee
Chairperson

cc: Provincial Executive, Diocesan Presidents, and National Christian
Family Life Standing Committee Chairperson

“The path toward the future passes through the family.”

Executive Handbook p. 43

My Dear Sisters in the League,

It is with great pleasure that I send my first directive as the Christian Family Life Chair for the Ontario Provincial Council. Although I have been a League member for 29 years, this is my first time chairing the Christian Family Life Committee. I am looking forward to the challenge of a “new” position and excited to start on this new adventure with all diocesan chairs of Christian Family Life Committees!

Sub-committee Members

Two very capable ladies have accepted my invitation to serve on this committee with me. **Angela Pellerin** is a former past president of the London Diocesan Council. **Audrey Shelton** is a former past president of the Timmins Diocesan Council. These ladies will be a great asset to our CFL team. I welcome them with a joyful heart.

“Go Make a Difference!”

Our provincial president Linda Squarzolo has chosen for her theme over the next two years “Go Make a Difference!”. In our standing committee, we have so many avenues which we can address to realize her theme. Our responsibilities include marriage and family, sanctity of life, vocations, and

ministry to youth, seniors, single, widowed, divorced, separated. I would encourage each of you to acquaint yourself with services offered in your own diocese that address Christian family life concerns such as:

Family Life Office	Catholic Family Services	Bereavement Counseling
New Beginnings	Marriage Tribunal	Outreach to the Elderly
Children's Aid	Ministry to Youth	Respect Life Office
Diocesan Vocation Director		

Sanctity of Life

It is the belief of the League that the right to life is sacred from the moment of fertilization to natural death.

In her most recent Communique #5 on June 30, 2022, National Christian Family Life Chair Dorothy Johansen reminded us that one of the Objects of the League is to protect the sanctity of life. We've heard and read about changes in the United States with the overturning of "Roe v. Wade" and yet Canada has no plans to consider changing its abortion laws. I urge you to go to the national website to read her message paying particular attention to the actions she proposes to address this issue.

Resolutions

I want to also remind you that there are numerous outstanding resolutions that address issues related to our standing committee... to name just a few:
[2018.03](#) Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative Care Services in Facilities to Exclude Medical Assistance in Dying
[2017.04](#) Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals
[2015.01](#) – Increased Early Access and Intervention to Children and Youth Mental Health Services
Please go to the national website and refresh yourself with the resolutions there. There are many actionable points to address.

I look forward to working with you over the next two years, hearing about the work you are doing in your dioceses and parishes and receiving your directives.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide your work for God and Canada.

Blessings and hugs,

Betsy Currier

OPC Christian Family Life Chairperson