

The Catholic Women's League of Canada Ontario Provincial Council



Directive #2

September 1, 2022

From: President Linda Squarzolo

To: OPC Executive, Appointees, Diocesan Presidents

Life Membership

At the National Convention in August 2023, it was announced that the moratorium on life memberships had ended. Once again, eligible members can be nominated for life membership.

The following points should be noted:

- Life membership gives the recipient a permanent place on the national council, the voting privileges of an accredited delegate of an annual meeting and entails active service from its life members
- Life membership is not intended to be an award or a reward for years of service or as a retirement gift. The way to honour them is with the Bellelles Guerin Award, certificates of merit or with the maple leaf service pin.

Criteria for Life Membership

- The member must have been a member of the League in good standing for 10 years.
- The nominee must have demonstrated her love of the League, her encouragement of others and her ability to participate in study, research, presentations, workshops, etc.
- The nominee must be available and willing to continue to serve the League at the national level on committees, preparing briefs, researching reports and resolutions, facilitating workshops and attending conferences at the request of the national president.
- In Ontario, the nominee must have served in executive positions at the diocesan level for a minimum of eight years including two years as past diocesan president at the time of the anticipated presentation, **and** have proven her willingness to serve on provincial level by letting her name stand for a previous provincial election
- The nomination process may begin as long as the nominee has met the criteria by the date of the planned presentation.

Life Member Nomination and Approval Procedure

- The notice of Nomination for Life Membership form is completed to confirm the nominee meets all the criteria. This notice of nomination is approved by

motion at the diocesan executive, (secret ballot vote), signed by the council's president and secretary and sent to the executive director at national office by September 15th.

- Nomination forms are available for download from national website.
- It is signed by the nominating council secretary and both the diocesan and provincial presidents pending final approval upon completion of all other documentation (Life Member Nominee Questionnaire, Life Member Checklist for Provincial Council and provincial president's signature). The forms are mailed to the national executive director by December 15th.
- The nominating council provides a contact name and address.
- The Life Member Nominee Questionnaire is completed by the nominee indicating her willingness to actively continue serving the League. The questionnaire is sent to the nominating president who forwards it to national executive director by Dec. 15th.
- National office verifies that the nominee meets the criteria and notifies the diocesan and provincial president.
- Upon endorsement by the provincial executive, forms are sent to the national executive director for final acceptance.
- The nominating council submits a cheque for \$300 and gives the specific date in which the life membership will be presented to national office by February 1st.

If any diocesan councils wish to nominate a potential life member for presentation in 2023, you will be required to meet before the September 15th deadline, present and vote on the motion and send the initial nomination forms to the national executive director, with a copy being sent to the provincial president. When the provincial council meets for the Fall Meeting, a vote will be taken to give provincial approval.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Your sister in the League,

Linda

Linda Squarzolo
Ontario Provincial President