

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



**Annual Report
2023**

The Purpose of the Ontario Provincial Council

- To implement the Catholic Women's League objectives and policy in the province
- To represent the Catholic Women's League members of Ontario at the national level
- To coordinate the diocesan councils in the province
- To be a link between the diocesan councils in Ontario and the national council for reporting, for resolutions and for those matters requiring an instructed vote at the national convention
- To disseminate information and direction from the national council to the diocesan councils in the province
- To provide direction, inspiration and encouragement to Catholic Women's League members and councils in the province
- To submit resolutions and briefs on provincial matters as required
- To maintain contact with the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO)



NOTE: A new structure of councils was implemented over the past two years as part of the 5-year strategic plan. The national office also started using the results from the national parish survey for its annual report. This Ontario Provincial Council annual report is a further blending of last year's format with some diocesan councils in the old and some in the new. The questions at the beginning of each section of the report correspond to the questions included in the 2023 national parish survey. The report for 2024 will be done completely within the new structure.

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The Ontario Provincial Executive

2022-2024 Ontario Provincial Officers

Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Thomas Dowd
President	Linda Squarzolo
President-Elect/Organization	Colleen Martin
1 st Vice-Pres/Spiritual Development	Wilma Vanderzwaag
2 nd Vice-Pres/Community Life	Karen McDonald
Recording Secretary	Anna Tremblay
Administrative Assistant	Rebecca McCarrell
Treasurer	Marie-Theresa Lamphier
Past President/Historian	Colleen Perry
Christian Family Life	Betsy Currier
Communications	Emma Rose Rayburn
Education and Health	Hilarion Mitchell
Legislation	Joanna Sisk
Resolutions	Mary Capobianco

2023 Diocesan Presidents

Ottawa-Cornwall *	Melina Nobert
Hamilton	Joyce Cotter
Hearst	Nancy Bouvier
Kingston	Lyne Tuepah
London	Mary Bannon
Pembroke	Annette Chaplin
Peterborough	Maria Fitzgerald
Sault Ste. Marie	Lisa Henry
St. Catharines	Lisa Fillingham
Thunder Bay	Judith Imbeault
Timmins	Shirley Gravel
Toronto	Sue Lubowitz

* This is the first year the councils of Ottawa and Alexandria/Cornwall dissolved to form the new diocese Ottawa/Cornwall.

Mission Statement

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.



**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

June 2023

Dear League Members,

As we read through the reports printed in this book, we can appreciate all that has been accomplished by the members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada in the Province of Ontario during 2023. Members focused on the provincial theme, "Go Make a Difference!" and found ways to adopt it in all their League programs.

The League plays an important role in the society of today. At 33,000 members in Ontario, it is the largest organization of Catholic women. The members have made a difference in their parishes, communities and across the country. Councils strove to increase the faith of their members, provided service to others, and advocated for social justice. Members have become more knowledgeable about social issues, developed new skills, and shared their faith through their attendance at the webinars which were offered by provincial officers. The reports printed in this book are a reflection of all these actions.

The provincial executive has shown a commitment to serve members across the province. They have dedicated their time and talents to offer programs to lead the League and have made a difference during their term of office.

Appreciation and congratulations are sent to all members for your efforts to work *For God and Canada*. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide you and hold you in her loving arms.

Blessings,



Linda

Linda Squarzolo, President

DIOCESE OF SAULT STE. MARIE



DIOCÈSE DE SAULT STE-MARIE

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR'S MESSAGE

Dear friends in the League,

Greetings in the Lord! It is my pleasure to offer this message for the 2023 Annual Report of the Provincial Council of the CWL. I know well the good work of the League from my own personal experience (and that of my mother, a member of long standing). But reading a report booklet such as this one, which compiles the efforts of so many, simply highlights for me the impressive work of the League throughout the province.

I truly believe that the League is a tremendous force for good in our Church, and can be even more. It is my hope that reading this report will inspire the members of the League to even greater works of faith, hope and charity, for the glory of God.

I have had the pleasure to journey with the CWL here in Ontario for the past two years in my capacity as Bishop of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie. It has truly been a joy and a privilege. I have especially enjoyed the moments when I was able to offer some spiritual formation for the League members. These were well attended, showing the real thirst for spiritual growth among the women of the League.

In the spirit of this report booklet, which not only speaks of the past but which is meant to inspire the future, I would like to encourage all League councils to continue to work on the spiritual development of their members, and to offer leadership training programs to members and especially to officers. It is a sure way forward for the CWL.

I wish you all the best with God's blessing, and I ask your prayers for me!

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Thomas Dowd
Ontario Provincial Spiritual Advisor

2024-03-16 • Prot. no. 170/2024

Linda Squarzolo

Inform the Membership of the League's Position on Current Issues, Priorities and New Programs

The following national priorities were introduced, discussed, and acted upon:

- The theme "Catholic and Living It!" was adopted and councils found various ways to implement it in their work.
- Wednesday Communiques, received from national officers, were forwarded to their provincial counterparts. Members were encouraged to support suggestions, implement programs, and offer their services for working groups.
- The Unity Outreach Project was presented to every diocese, who then contacted every parish council and visited between 70- 90% of them.

The following provincial priorities were introduced, discussed, and acted upon:

- Provincial officers and diocesan presidents implemented the theme "Go Make a Difference!" by developing initiatives to make a noticeable difference in society. Their projects included addressing issues such as homelessness, human trafficking, and food insecurity. Workshops and webinars were offered to educate members. Programs were developed to pray for and promote vocations, for youth, for seniors and Catholic education. Projects included collecting socks, boots, school supplies, baby clothing and food drives.
- Awareness of Indigenous issues was developed by virtually praying reconciliation rosaries. Information about concerns were shared through directives and in the *ON-Line Newsletter*. Outreach to Indigenous women encouraged them to become members and even included a 700 km trip across one diocese.
- Awarded bursaries of \$500 to four seminarians through the Bishop Pappin Bursary Fund.

Foster Open Communication and Provide Active Leadership

- communications from the Ontario Provincial Council were fostered through:
 - the monthly *ON-Line Newsletter*, the website and Facebook page
 - Oral and written reports at executive meetings
 - Directives from provincial officers to counterparts, as needed
- in-person and virtual meetings for the whole executive as well as virtual meetings between the provincial executive and their diocesan counterparts
- monthly meetings were held with the diocesan presidents and the provincial president and president-elect

Preside at All Meetings of the Council

- The provincial convention was held in-person in Cornwall, Ontario in July.
- The fall Executive Meeting and Administrative Committee Meeting were held in-person in Toronto. The Winter Executive Meeting was held virtually.
- Virtual meetings with the diocesan presidents were held monthly.

Be a Signing Officer for All Official Documents

- Together with the treasurer and secretary, reviewed claim forms and signed cheques.

Initiate Policy, in Consultation with the Officers

- Provincial officers and diocesan presidents developed webinars, projects, and initiatives to make a noticeable difference in society by providing service to the less fortunate, increasing the awareness of social justice issues, and increasing the faith of members.
- Provincial manuals and guidelines were reviewed and updated, as the Ontario Provincial Council would move into the new structure following provincial elections in July 2024.
- Directives from provincial officers were shared via email with diocesan counterparts and other executive members and posted on the provincial website.

Be an Advisory Member of Committees

- Chaired the Administrative Committee.
- Was *ex officio* member of the committees for Policy, Guidelines, and Convention Guide Review, Resolutions Review, Social Justice Award Committee, Bishop Pappin Award, Truth and Reconciliation and Government Visitation.

Be the Official Spokesperson for the Council

- Represented the provincial council on the national board.
- Attended two meetings with government, one virtually and one in-person in Toronto to discuss long-term care and loneliness.
- Sent certificates to councils and members celebrating milestone events.

Appoint Committees

- All sub-committee appointments were vetted by the president with the following committees established:
 - Administrative Committee
 - Policy, Guidelines and Convention Guide Review Committee
 - Resolutions Committees, including review, reading, archiving and government visitation
 - Minutes Review Committee
 - Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Bursary Fund Committee
 - Social Justice Award Committee

- Truth and Reconciliation Committee
- Annual Report Book Committee
- Provincial Convention Committee
- Nominations and Elections Committee

President's Activity Report

- Attended all provincial and national meetings, as required, and gave written and oral reports.
- Together with the administrative assistant sent letters of congratulations, sympathy, and information.
- Wrote monthly "letters" and other articles for the *ON-Line Newsletter*, as well as directives and memos.
- Read and approved all documents sent out by the provincial council.
- Participated in webinars hosted by national officers, provincial officers, and other groups.
- Initiated monthly virtual meetings with diocesan presidents. Offered support, mentorship and guidance when requested.
- Presented workshops, was a guest speaker and attended milestone occasions with diocesan and parish councils, whenever invited.
- Prepared written guidelines to assist diocesan presidents with chairing their conventions and outlining their responsibilities at the end of their term of office.
- Assisted with the preparations for provincial conventions, both current and future.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Encourage the open communication of ideas between levels to foster the education of members and to develop leadership for the future. (D-OPC-N)
- Offer regularly scheduled leadership courses to educate members who accept new executive positions. (D-OPC-N)
- Ensure that mentorship is offered to members accepting executive positions.
- Consider providing annual report questions at the beginning of the year to help councils plan their projects more strategically. (N)

Spiritual Development Standing Committee Report 2023

Chairperson: Wilma Vanderzwaag Book of Life: Cathy McKinney
Sub-chairpersons: Bernadette Burgess, Jeannie Coleman, Frances Murdaca
Dioceses Reporting: 12/12

Number of parishes responding 301 of 491 councils in Ontario

Spiritual advisors were involved in activities for 88 % of councils.

Councils assisted members in their communal and personal prayer life.

- 75% Used a variety of prayer styles for meetings.
- 49% Raised awareness of online prayer services/webinars.
- 49% Organized or promoted retreats, days of reflection.
- 30% Encouraged religious reading and/or participation in book clubs.
- 24% Used spiritual resources from the national website.
- 22% Encouraged use of apps or subscriptions for daily mass readings.
- 4% Encouraged praying the psalter/psalms.

Councils reported new forms of prayer and spirituality used.

- Some councils used the national website #700, 706, 709, 713, 715 and 716, a study book and litany on humility, a lending library of Catholic books, a sunrise rosary, walking and meditation in nature retreat, meditation, a prayer box for parishioners with a communal time to pray for these intentions, the Hallow app, Indigenous spirituality, and 15 minutes at each meeting to discuss religious topics.
- Some councils hosted a member to speak on their favourite saint at each meeting, a Youth Alpha Program, a *Seder* supper, St. Catherine's Starflowers Evangelization Prayer Group, viewing A Case for Christ movie, and study of *Fratelli Tutti*, *Amoris Laetitia*, and *Lectio Divina*.
- Some councils established an email prayer line, art, discussion each meeting on the question "Where has God been active in your life recently?" and bishop's workshops on Synodality.

Councils assisted members in their growth in the Catholic faith.

- 67% Shared information from Catholic sources.
- 54% Raised awareness of Catholic resources such as websites.
- 26% Scheduled guest speakers on religious topics.
- 23% Reported on progress of Synod on Synodality begun in 2022.
- 13% Encouraged study of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
- 12% Studied/read encyclicals by Pope Francis.
- 3% Studied/read Vatican II documents.

Councils initiated and/or participated in ecumenical or interfaith activities.

Councils initiated or participated in interfaith activities such as parish Frontline Outreach Project, Christmas prayer breakfast, "Help a Woman Day" retreat, baby

shower for immigrant family, a float for Christmas parade representing churches, discussion with Chief David Mowat of the Alderville Reservation, Grace Mennonite with "Bears and Blankets", Salvation Army Kettles, an Eastern Rite Ukrainian Church service.

Councils supported and/or promoted religious vocations.

- 43% Donated to a seminary fund.
- 29% Supported consecrated women religions through prayer or donations.
- 6% Invited a guest speaker on ordained ministry/consecrated life vocations.
- 5% Sponsored League membership to novitiates and/or consecrated women religious.

Councils upheld or advocated for the sanctity of life by:

- 63% Promoted pro-life events and encouraged member participation.
- 55% Donated to pro-life causes.
- 52% Participated in 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care.
- 43% Participated in March for Life or similar public pro-life gatherings.
- 47% Included pro-life prayers and reports in meetings.
- 33% Wrote letters to government against abortion and/or MAiD.
- 9% Participated in 40 Days for Life prayer vigils.
- 7% Participated in pro-life webinars or guest speaker events.

Chairperson's Activities Report

- Created liturgy program for Ontario Provincial Council Convention July 9-12, 2023.
- Created liturgy program for winter and fall OPC Executive Meetings.
- Created and led virtual prayer service on May 31, 2023.
- Cathy McKinney, Keeper of the Book of Life, created and led virtual workshop for reporting deceased members on Sept. 24, 2023.
- Hosted virtual prayer service for vocations and spiritual advisors with OPC Spiritual Advisor Bishop Thomas Dowd.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or

reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Each September/October the national chairpersons for the three pillars host a virtual meeting showing various resources available on national website for their pillar, including navigating the national website and location of these resources.
(N)

Organization Standing Committee Report

2023

Chairperson: Colleen Martin
Dioceses Reporting: 12/12

Subcommittee: Glenda Klein
Joleene Kemp
Theresa Ryan

Annual membership campaigns; new and creative ideas.

Membership campaign activities included increasing focus on personal invite, increasing visibility in parish and community, a table in narthex before/after masses, showing national vignettes at masses and being available to answer questions, offering early-bird prize draws (donated items, membership fee, other), inviting those in draw for Christmas dinner, displays at entrances to church, displaying pictures, handing out envelopes membership Sunday, wearing name tags, linking it to an event (luncheon, coffee), inviting parish ladies to events (e.g., paint night, wreath making), using catholicwomenunite.ca, promoting the League at three times during the year (Sept-Nov-Apr), sending an annual letter to members inviting participation in events with dates of each, greeting card sent wishing a good summer and providing dates for fall, blue Sunday with members wearing League promotional clothing, promoting League at other parish events, reaching out to absent members to show they were missed, and sending letters to Catholic school teachers.

Other activities undertaken to promote the League.

Common strategies used in the dioceses

- *To promote the League and retain current members*

Members and councils provided regular updates; recognized special life events; presented membership increase certificates to councils; assisted with fees for those with limited income; surveyed members on needs; provided social time at meetings; offered early bird membership discount; purchased memberships for family and friends; reminded ladies of important social and health issues; produced newsletters/bulletin corner; encouraged visits to provincial and national websites; made phone calls; pastor invited from pulpit; matched member interests to projects; communicated different kinds of members (active through offering prayers); increased visibility (coordinated parish bazaar, pin ceremony during mass); led prayer ministry; mentored members; provided opportunities to lead other than on executive, promoted through Knights of Columbus, contacted members not renewed, donated memberships for elder members, visited members, Catholic Girls League, and shared League experiences.

- *To attract prospective members*

Councils and members created positive and welcoming environment at meetings/events, spoke on the League giving Catholic women a voice and its being fulfilling, invited all women to events, offered prayers for new members, showed compassion through provision of honour guards, offered rides, held meetings less often, and held social/fun gathering every other month.

New and creatives strategies for retention of members

Councils created nominations and elections package, provided in-person and virtual training, provided tools to parishes with recruitment suggestions, wrote new members welcome letter, offered rides, used new meeting structure with less business, offered virtual connection to meetings, delivered unity project, sent emails weekly for consistency, and rotated parishes for weekly rosary in months of October and May.

Councils faced challenges to membership development.

Issues of concern included aging councils, younger members not as interested, return from COVID, stigma the League is old ladies, baking and bazaars, communicating the scope beyond parish, members without computers/internet, identifying a time for meetings convenient for all, language barrier in multi-cultural parishes, loss of envelopes when parish moved to direct withdrawal, low attendance at meetings, impact of scandals on church attendance, reaching those who do not attend church, time commitment expectation too high, increased fees, small parish, lack of support by spiritual advisor, membership drive at time when funds are allocated towards Christmas expenses and snow birds already gone, and no interest in leadership.

Chairperson Activity Report

- Prepared reports, directives, and newsletter articles.
- Each officer and president prepared a 15-minute workshop, and all were delivered simultaneously four consecutive times during the annual convention. Copies were made available on the provincial website after the convention.
- Attended diocesan conventions, provincial convention, Ontario provincial executive, diocesan organization chair, resolution review, policy review, and meetings with MPPs.
- Facilitated monthly League development Zooms, assisted other provincial officers as technician for Zoom sessions.
- Chaired social justice award committee and facilitated presentation of plaque.
- Began the process to review and amend policy and guidelines for new structure.
- Presented national Unity Outreach to two diocesan councils.
- Facilitated collection of diocesan and provincial officer annual reports then formatted document before arranging its printing.
- Part of national *ad hoc* committee to recognize Indigenous sisters in the League.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Annual training opportunity, preferably in-person, for members stepping forward. (D-OPC)
- Encourage members to experience leadership with their diocesan or Ontario provincial council as a team lead/member to build confidence. (D-OPC)
- National office to be service oriented and consider negotiation of benefits to offer members opportunities for reduced pricing of existing spiritual apps, books or religious articles. (N)

Life Member Liaison Report

2023

Life Member Liaison: Shelley Tamas

Honorary Life Members: 3

Life Members: 128

New Life Members

Betsy Currier, Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie; Ann D'Souza, Archdiocese of Toronto; Rebecca McCarrell, Diocese of London; Joan Schurter, Diocese of Hamilton

Deceased Life Members

We are deeply saddened by the loss of five life members:

Edith McPhail – January 10, 2023 – Ottawa-Cornwall Diocese

Elizabeth Condon – February 11, 2023 – Peterborough Diocese

Sylvia Smith – August 30, 2023 – Pembroke Diocese

Joan Bell – October 6, 2023 – St. Catharines Diocese

Connie Zimbalatte – October 21, 2023 – Sault Ste. Marie Diocese

Across the Province Life Members have:

- Served as president and vice-president of national council and various positions at provincial, diocesan and parish levels of the League including life member liaison and maintained contact with other life members through social events.
- Remained active in parish and parish councils with ministries, as mentors, and attending funerals/honour guards.
- Hosted, planned and/or attended the national, provincial and diocesan AMM/conventions.
- Participated in daily Divine Mercy Chaplet for Ukraine, rosaries, Palliative Care Week, review of elements of national standards for palliative care, volunteered/coordinated programs in community (food banks/kitchens, food collection, hospice, palliative care, provided rides, education week, and Canadian Food for Children, St. Vincent de Paul, Baldwin House, Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine, Children's Treatment Centre and Hospice), Way of the Cross, adoration, visiting sick and shut-ins, and social gatherings.
- Stayed up to date with strategic planning and served as committee/focus group member.
- Responded to calls from, engaged with, and assisted parish/diocesan/provincial/national councils regarding League issues (elections, mentoring, encouraging leadership, pillar and League history presentations, newsletters, policy development, amalgamation, archives, resolutions, member recruitment, strategic planning, and Unity Outreach).
- Prayed for members, the League and requested masses for deceased members and spiritual advisors, and for spiritual advisors experiencing difficulties.
- Presented "Being With" Outreach to the Elderly and Shut-in to a council to hopefully alleviate loneliness.
- Participated in synodality meetings and committees.

Biggest Challenges

Life members were confronted with challenges for planning gatherings for advancing age of members; food intolerance and mobility issues, delayed responses, and access to computers, identifying replacements for life member liaisons, motivating capable members to accept leadership positions, and being supportive when also faced with life challenges.

Greatest Accomplishments

Life members benefitted from return to in-person meetings, fulfilled duties and were able to be supportive despite life challenges, offered prayers, presented a 100-year history at diocesan convention, paid tribute to deceased life members, supported each other in the loss of loved one(s), and from remaining active.

Provincial Life Member Liaison Activities

- For convention: completed annual report, written and oral, on life member activities; introduced new life members to attendees; hosted life member luncheon; prepared PowerPoint presentation on deceased members for the prayer room.
- Maintained life member directory and binders, updated binders looking worn and moved Ottawa and Alexandria-Cornwall into binder for new amalgamated diocese of Ottawa-Cornwall.
- Forwarded weekly communication to the diocesan life member liaisons including national life member liaison communiqués, birthdays in next week with a request for prayers for those members, requests for prayers from life members in Ontario, Ontario life member news, and other items of interest.
- Forwarded Ontario life member birthdays to national life member liaison for inclusion in national calendar.
- Extended sympathy, birthday wishes, and get well wishes to life members and their families either by email, phone or general post.
- Sent:
 - Christmas cards to diocesan and national life member liaisons
 - message to Bishop Dowd, Provincial Spiritual Advisor, recognizing his anniversary of ordination and birthday
 - thank you notes to diocesan life member liaisons completing their term of office
 - congratulatory letters to new life members

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Continuation of the weekly timing of news from the provincial life member liaison. (OPC)

Christian Family Life Standing Committee Report 2023

Chairperson: Betsy Currier

Sub-chairpersons: Angela Pellerin and Audrey Shelton

Dioceses Reporting: 12/12

Councils upheld or advocated for the sanctity of life.

- 9% Promoted pro-life events and encouraged member participation.
- 8% Donated to pro-life causes.
- 12% Participated in 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care.
- 8% Participated in March for Life or similar public pro-life gatherings.
- 8% Included pro-life prayers and reports in meetings.
- 11% Wrote letters to government against abortion and/or MAiD.
- 7% Participated in 40 Days for Life prayer vigils.
- 12% Participated in pro-life webinars or guest speaker events.

Support for Marriage and Families as Appropriate.

- Invited families to parish events, hosted family Candlelight Mass.
- Hosted presentations on Elder Abuse, Fraud and Grandparents' Scams, "Falling", mental health, shared care team approach to provide home support to older adults.
- Hosted a luncheon to introduce our new Syrian refugees, coffee hour for international college and university students.

Support of Youth as Appropriate.

- Facilitated activities/crafts with school children.
- Hosted presentations on human trafficking.
- Presented donations/bursaries/plaques to local Catholic and non-Catholic elementary and high schools.
- Funded youth projects, supported summer bible camp programs, and donated to World Youth Day.

Reach Out and Provide Ministry to Others as Appropriate.

- Distributed winter clothing, furniture, food to the poor, needy, immigrant families, Salvation Army, and food banks.
- Brought meals to sick and shut ins.
- Collected and distributed personal items/donations to local women's shelter.
- Visited and brought Holy Communion to sick and dying.
- Prayer shawls given to palliative and hospice patients.
- Cancer turbans made for oncology patients.

Support and/or Promote Religious Vocations as Appropriate.

- Supported consecrated women religious through prayer/donations.
- Donated to a seminary fund.
- Invited a guest speaker on role of women in the church.
- Invited a guest speaker on vocations to ordination and consecrated life.
- Sponsored League membership to novitiates and/or consecrated women religious.
- Supported parish priest including financially toward his missions in Africa.

Chairperson's Activities Report

- Attended provincial executive meetings, diocesan, provincial and national AMMs/conventions.
- Submitted reports, newsletter submissions, directives.
- Wrote letters to Prime Minister, MPs, MPPs on a variety of issues.
- Sent postcards to Prime Minister Trudeau, and to my local MPP (pornography hurts, palliative care, mental health, medical assistance in dying) .
- Attended two parish council anniversary celebrations.
- Prepared and sent 16 packages calling for applications to the Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Make reports, printed information, emails, newsletters available from other levels to parishes as appropriate. (P)
- Continue to use virtual platforms to raise awareness of and educate members on sanctity of life, anxiety, mental health and prayer. (P-D-OPC-N)
- Shorten annual report survey and ask a question such as: What activity was most meaningful? Keep it simple for all to be able to do their part. (N)



Communications Standing Committee Report

2023

Chairperson: Emma Rose Rayburn

Sub-chairpersons: Lisa Fillingham and Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan

Dioceses Reporting: 12/12

Councils primarily used {top 3 regular communication and top 2 social media} as methods of communication to keep membership informed:

- In order of most used – emails, meetings, and telephone/word of mouth
- Facebook is the top used social media followed closely by websites
- Many indicated that they send cards of greetings, sympathy, and support to members when appropriate.
- Many dioceses and councils produced monthly newsletters and sent them out by email and mail.

Unusual and/or significant activities as Reported.

- Promoted draws/prizes to encourage new members and/or to encourage attendance at meetings.
- Built fellowship and increased visibility through CWL Mass first Sunday of the month.
- Newsletter offered online and/or published every other month at various levels.
- Members gave testimonials on why they are a member and spotlight on parish councils in diocesan newsletters to attract more readership.
- Attended Immaculate Heart Beats Cenacle.

Chairperson's Activities Report

- Attended provincial executive meetings, provincial convention, and other meetings as required.
- Submitted meeting, oral convention, and summary reports as required.
- Facilitated creation of the monthly *On-Line Newsletter*, posted to the website, and circulated reminder email to the subscribers.
- Regularly posted articles and graphics to Facebook, and to the website as per policy and guidelines.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- National office survey parish members using the membership portal to determine where improvements are possible, then make amendments to make the portal more user friendly. (N)
- National office to survey members on tools used, how and when, as well as which are most successful, to enlighten future developments. (D-OPC-N)
- Continue to include in guidelines and handbooks various methods of communication to include members who are not connected digitally or who are less familiar with digital technology. (OPC-N)

Community Life Standing Committee Report

2023

Chairperson: Karen McDonald

Sub-chairpersons: Pat Weller, Kathleen Niro

Dioceses Reporting: 12/12

Councils supported immigrants and refugees moving to Canada.

- Sponsored families and assisted with settling in Canada (Ukrainian, Nigerian, Syrian, East Indian); gifted CWL membership; sought employment and education for children; offered rides to Mass and appointments; donated food, clothing, furniture, personal care items, bedding, and household supplies; provided familiar ethnic meals; partnered with Open Door, St. Vincent de Paul, Good Shepherd, Catholic Charities Clothing Cupboard and ADFO-SDG; taught the language (especially to assist with mass responses), assisted with mass in immigrant language; assisted new family with attendance at local school; hosted a baby shower for young immigrant family; extended invitations to dinner, join with parishioners after mass, to attend League meetings, and for children to attend youth group; donated money and baby items to Ukraine Relief Fund; assisted with finding housing and doctor; worked with Ukrainian parish to assist with arrival of new families; and participated in Ukrainian celebrations.
- Collected eyeglasses to send to Third World Eye Care Society.
- Participated in Development and Peace activities, took action to reduce water consumption, and to reduce and reuse before recycling.
- Participation by members in Sunset Walk with Mary at Ecology Garden.
- Created awareness about illegal border crossings.
- Recited special prayers at general meetings for all refugees.
- Created awareness of Indigenous land settlements, the requirement for better housing and cleaner water to drink.

Councils reported the following activities related to community life standing.

- Hosted an evening on Elder Abuse; educated members on Indigenous Reconciliation and Healing; had guest speaker presentations about homelessness, abused women, human trafficking, and assisting children with addictions living on streets (Carson organization); invited Cobourg Police Services to make presentations and provide resources on human trafficking and on Fraud and Grandparents' Scams.
- Councils supported the 'Stand for the Land' initiative by Development and Peace.
- Wrote to Mayor to request more affordable housing for individuals.

Chairperson's Activities Report

- Attended virtual webinars on *Domestic Violence; Walking Together as People of Faith* with Fr Bouvette; and *Addressing Food Insecurity*.
- Attended virtual lecture on *The Wounds of the Past, Truth-telling and a Future of Hope: Doctrine of Discovery and the Path of Reconciliation* with Archbishop Bolen.
- Developed *Bee Compassion in Action* challenge involving topics of homelessness,

human trafficking, Truth and Reconciliation for *Go Make a Difference* provincial project.

- Attended monthly virtual meetings with national and provincial chairpersons.
- Accepted invitation to sit on national committee developing a position paper on Truth and Reconciliation and attended six virtual meetings.
- Represented Ontario Provincial Council at Thunder Bay Diocesan Convention.
- Attended retreat at Anishinabe Spiritual Center in Espanola, ON.
- Highlighted National Day for Truth and Reconciliation; Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe/National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples; and shared information regarding 1st National Ribbon Skirt Day.
- Attended virtual National Rosary of Reconciliation.
- Reviewed list of resolutions for archiving and submitted report.
- Attended virtually the national annual meeting of members in Saint John, N.B.
- Circulated information about National Day of Prayer for Christians in Holy Land asking members to recite prayer for peace from CNEWA.
- Attended provincial administrative committee and executive meetings, diocesan/provincial conventions; submitted reports, newsletters and directives.
- Completed and submitted three national surveys.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Encourage councils to create a Truth and Reconciliation committee and to discuss Truth and Reconciliation healing initiatives. (P-D)
- Focus the national survey on wider range of topics under Social Justice pillar. (N)
- Provide clearer direction to councils on how the new pillars work and encourage parish councils to share success stories on their transition. (N)
- Include stories about council accomplishments in *The Canadian League* magazine. (N)



Education and Health Standing Committee Report 2023

Chairperson: Hilarion Mitchell

Sub-chairpersons: Angela Pellerin and Audrey Shelton

Dioceses Reporting: 12/12

Catholic Schools and Catechesis

- Assisted students preparing for Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation; and provided crucifixes, rosaries, bibles, books, plaques, bible bookmarkers, Holy Spirit and Lamb of God pins, medals or monetary gifts for baptisms, First Communion, and confirmation candidates.
- Supported home schooling families, school breakfast and lunch programs.
- Encouraged support for Catholic education through property taxes and Catholic Education Week. The Director of English Catholic School Board spoke at the Timmins Diocesan Convention about how the CWL could help children in Catholic schools.
- Supported Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, summer bible school, children's liturgy, bible camp and Rosary Apostolate.
- Hosted public speaking, poetry, essay, service awards and contests for elementary and high school students.
- Provided financial support for teens (Emmaus and New Life), World Youth Day, bursaries and scholarships to students entering Catholic high schools and post-secondary education, St. Michael's College Scholarship and Catholic Children's Aid Fund.

Wellness and Sickness/Disease

Awareness of mental health (teen suicide, bullying, etc.) was raised.

- Invited guest speakers or provided awareness on mental health (i.e., faith, walk-in clinic, Bell Let's Talk); methadone clinics and additions; and self-care activities to reduce effects of stress.
- Signed petitions on sexual identity programs in Catholic schools, and MAID.

Awareness of palliative care was raised.

Members participated in national 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care; attended the Canadian Conference of Catholic Horizon of Hope in the parishes; attended the OPC Horizons of Hope and Compassionate Community Care presentations; volunteered at hospice centre; and attended a prayer service.

Councils educated members and their parish communities on women's health issues:

Councils provided awareness on dementia, respiratory illness and mental health, vaccinations, flu shots, fitness, gluten intolerance and celiac disease, cardiovascular disease, OPC brain fitness and health, nutrition and diabetes, regular dental check-ups, COVID-19 aftermath, blood donor services, File of Life program and use of Naloxone.

Activities promoted the need to care for the environment:

- Encouraged the need to recycle; reduce waste and water consumption; composting of coffee grounds and food waste; resales of jewelry, purses, and clothing.
- Provided presentation on textile waste and encouraged less printing.
- Participated in Earth Day, Earth Hour, World Water Day, Green Churches, Stand the Land Campaign, and Sunset Walk with Mary.
- Supported natural habitat for birds and pollinators; made bird feeders and community gardens; and encouraged carpooling to meetings.
- Promoted the Season of Creation, Pope Francis' *Laudato Si* "Care for our Common Home"; and offered masses to combat climate change.
- Promoted single use plastics ban; and suggested use of reusable water bottles and bringing their own utensils, plate, cup, and cloth serviettes for functions/ meetings.
- Installed water fountain and new dishwasher to eliminate plastic water bottles.

Chairperson's Activities Report

- Attended all executive meetings and provincial convention.
- Facilitated presentations on Nutrition Month on Prediabetes (March 8) and Horizons of Hope Overview (May 8).
- Attended the Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) Symposium (May 9-19) in Toronto, updated the OPC Catholic Education in Ontario pamphlet, and followed environmental initiatives.
- Prepared directives, reports, and newsletter articles to raise awareness of various issues related to Education and Health.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Subscribe and or use [Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute](https://www.catholicbioethics.org/) website to receive updates on ethical issues from a Catholic perspective.

Past-President/Historian Standing Committee Report 2023

Chairperson: Colleen Perry

Dioceses Reporting: 12/12

The top five reasons parishes reported consulting the past president were:

- general information on various matters such as the new League Structure
- policy and procedure manuals - how to put one together and advice on amendments due to national changes to structure
- council history and archives
- elections process, clarification, and advice
- meeting procedures, agendas, and minutes

Parishes reported the following activities:

36% Updated council archives.

13% Shared a copy of a history book with national office.

35% Displayed archived material (albums, minutes, etc.).

40% Shared Constitution & Bylaws updates at a meeting.

24% Updated policy and procedure in the past two years.

Significant and/or unusual activities reported:

- Many councils struggling to fill executive positions; vice-president serving as past president, and past president also serving as president.
- Storage space for archives has become an issue; councils are looking for recommendations on effective storage solutions.

Chairperson's Activity Report

- Attended all meetings and convention, and completed reports as required.
- Continued the work of the previous past president in gathering materials for archiving.
- Began preparation for election process for 2024 provincial elections.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or

reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national,

- Recommend regular follow up of all levels with parish councils, especially new ones, so all would feel connected. (D-OPC-N)

Legislation Standing Committee Report

2023

Chairpersons: Joanna Sisk

Sub-committee members: Onagh Dooley, Donna Provost, Anne Vincelli

Dioceses Reporting: 11/12

Councils used the following:

- 2% Workshop "Faith in Action"
- 10% Mailing from government reps
 - 2% Hansard, printed reporting of government proceedings
 - 3% LEGISinfo website
 - 2% Federal department of justice website
 - 3% In-person/online government forums
- 37% Other resources

Government bills/legislation/laws from what level of government and studied by what level(s) of the League.

Federal (councils reported studying all these Bills at parish and diocesan levels)

- Bill C 7 MAiD
- Bill 42 Gender affirming health care advisory committee
- Bill C-4 banning conversion therapy
- Bill C18 Forced Organ Harvesting
- Bill C-311 Violence against pregnant women
- Bill 211 abortion
- Bill S248 Exploitation of children
- Bill C 281 Children forced labour
- Bill C 24 Environment
- Bill C337 Textile waste in Canada

Provincial (levels who reported studying indicated in brackets)

- Bill C39 Long term care homes (parish and diocesan)
- Trafficking issues in the province (diocesan)
- Provincial resolution of food security (diocesan)
- Lack of Doctors (Parish and diocesan)
- Safe water for Indigenous in the North (parish and diocesan)

Local

- Protect Greenbelt around/in Toronto/GTA (parish and diocesan)
- Accessible washrooms in Hamilton parks (parish)

Federal and provincial legislation concerns of parishes.

All mentioned in sections above and the following:

Textile waste in Canada - federal

Food loss and waste - federal

Intermittent Catheter Care Coverage - provincial

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- To avoid losing resolutions in the new structure, include in the provincial guidelines specific placement of resolutions and the use of the provincial *ON-Line Newsletter*, *The Canadian League* magazine, and other League media publications to regularly share resolution updates and activity suggestions. (D-OPC-N)
- Have someone in each diocese trained on the resolution process to give workshops and assist parishes. (D-OPC)



Resolutions Standing Committee Report

2023

Chairpersons: Mary Capobianco

Dioceses Reporting: 11/12

Resolutions subcommittee members:

Resolutions Reading Committee: Debbie Bates, Joleene Kemp, Anne Madden

Resolutions Review Committee: Mary Capobianco, Linda Squarzolo, Colleen Martin, Joanna Sisk, Colleen Perry, Wilma Vanderzwaag, Tracy MacInnis (Secretary)

Government Visit Committee: Mary Capobianco, Colleen Martin, Wilma Vanderzwaag, Joanna Sisk, and Linda Squarzolo.

Resolutions Archiving Committee: Mary Capobianco, Glenda Klein, Pauline Krupa, Colleen Perry, Joanna Sisk

Councils reported in the annual survey as indicated by the percentages.

45% Reported using the resolution's resources available.

78% Reported being aware of resources available.

44% Reported some of their councils were interested in the development of resolutions.

40% Reported that their members were likely to participate in virtual resolutions education through League webinars and workshops.

Research and Preparation of Resolutions and Briefs

There were two resolutions brought forward to the 76th annual Ontario provincial convention; ON.23.01 To Establish a Sustained Universal Intermittent Catheter Coverage; and ON.23.02 To Add Compassionate Care to the Temporary National Voluntary Fund. Both resolutions were approved and the second was forwarded to national.

Study and Implementation of Resolutions Passed by Other Levels

- Councils reported studying and raising awareness of National Resolution 2023.01 Enact Federal Legislation to Reduce Food Loss and Waste.
- Most councils studied the 2023 and previous resolutions passed to take recommended action and/or share information provided by their counterparts in communiques from other levels.
- Action taken included inviting speakers, writing letters and circulating petitions on topics of homelessness, mental health, exploitation of children, long term care, the expansion of MAID and sanctity of life.

Chairperson's Activities Report

- Prepared directives, bulletins and reports as required by provincial guidelines.
- Attended all provincial executive meetings and convention.
- Supported diocesan resolution chairs through email and phone calls.

- Chaired a virtual meeting with diocesan resolution chairs.
- Submitted articles for the *ON-Line Newsletter*.
- Promoted the *Faith in Action-Go Make a Difference* initiative.
- Developed a new presentation for the resolution dialogue at annual convention.
- Attended the Ontario Provincial Council annual convention facilitating the resolutions dialogue and resolution presentation during the business session.
- Continued to highlight and promote available resolutions resources.
- Organized and participated in a virtual meeting with stakeholders and policy advisors from the office of the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.
- Organized and attended in-person meeting with MPP Raymond Cho, Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, and MPP Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, to discuss areas of concern.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Members continue to be aware of the resolutions approved by the League at all levels and implement the action plans. (P)
- Councils without a resolution chairperson share information with members through other committees. (P)
- Conduct workshops on how to locate and utilize the adopted resolutions and existing resources available at all levels of the League. (D-OPC-N)
- Resolution workshops should continue to be offered to stimulate a greater interest in resolutions. This can be conducted both in-person and/or virtually. (D-OP



Administrative Assistant Report

2023

Administrative Assistant: Rebecca McCarroll

Dioceses Reporting: not applicable

Activities

- Attended all provincial executive meetings and convention.
- Prepared reports and summary reports as required.
- Forwarded executive reports prior to OPC meetings.
- Prepared and sent provincial correspondence including, sympathy and get-well cards, congratulatory/anniversary/years of service certificates and letters as requested, thank you cards, and 'thinking of you' cards.
- Prepared and mailed or emailed Christmas and Easter greetings to all archbishops and bishops in Ontario.
- Maintained and circulated updated committee lists for provincial officers, diocesan presidents, and spiritual advisors.
- Sent letters of invitation to prospective vendors for 2024 OPC convention and maintained a response list for the convention committee.
- Acted as hostess for all in person meetings.
- Kept "Correspondence Received" and "Correspondence Sent" binders updated.
- Prepared and submitted annual report for 2023.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national,

- Due to elimination of the communications standing chair and corresponding secretary positions, it is particularly important to continue the appointed position of Administrative Assistant at the provincial level and consider a similar position at parish and diocesan levels. (P-D-OPC)



RECORDING OF MINUTES

- Maintained archive copies of all minutes and relevant reports.
- Used a recording device to make the task of recording minutes easier.
- Noted more councils are circulating minutes via email rather than reading them at meetings.
- Some recording secretaries wear several “hats” (sending out cards and correspondence, maintaining membership lists).

RECORDING SECRETARY’S ACTIVITIES

- Attended OPC administration committee, executive meetings and convention.
- Prepared and distributed a template for summary reports.
- Prepared workshop and materials for 2023 OPC convention.
- Appointed a minutes’ review committee for each meeting in consultation with the provincial president.
- Submitted reports for all provincial executive meetings and convention.
- Submitted article for *ON-Line Newsletter*.
- Recorded and distributed minutes.
- Maintained an archive copy of provincial executive and convention minutes, and relevant reports.
- Maintained the motions book for the Ontario Provincial Council.
- Assisted recording secretaries upon request.
- Fulfilled responsibilities as a bank signing officer.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- That provincial council develop and deliver training sessions for recording secretaries at the parish and diocesan levels and include a review of the *Handbook for Secretaries, Good Gracious! Good Grammar!* and Style Guide for Publications in the national manual of policy and procedure.
- That qualifications for all executive positions be included in the provincial guidelines and the secretary to include efficiency in word processing. (OPC)

Treasurer Report

2023

Marie-Theresa Lamphier

Assistant to Treasurer: Patricia Rivest

Dioceses Reporting: 12/12

Total donations to national voluntary funds:

- Catholic Missions In Canada -----\$ 27,917
- Catholic Near East Welfare Association -----10,050
- Coady International Institute ----- 4,870
- Development and Peace – Caritas Canada----- 19,295

Total donations to National voluntary funds 62,132

Parish councils reported donating **\$826,752.00** to charities.

Parish councils were very generous again in 2023! This is a substantial increase over what was reported the previous year.

- One parish kept their membership fees at \$20 and used fundraising to make up the difference.
- Special funding by a council to support a student from Kenya through the diocesan charity – Kenya Help – this included the student’s tuition and other expenses for the student’s education. Total support to the student was \$2,500. The same council aids Cornerstone Landing – non-profit organization focusing on youth homelessness.
- Another council’s special activity for the year was to walk in support of the “Coldest Night of the Year” – local fundraiser
- Another council donated a\$2,607 to local charities such as Birthright, Veronica’s Veil, Martha’s Table, Kenya Help, St. Vincent de Paul, Hope Fund, Street Mission, the National Bursary Fund, Chalice, food baskets and bursaries.
- One council donated \$6,000 to their parish.
- Councils and members assisted with shipping and handling fees for diocesan project.
- Some councils provided financial gift for retirement and/or anniversary of parish spiritual advisor.
- Fund-raised for building fund or renovations for parish church or hall.
- Funds were spent on yarn for prayer shawl ministries and material for cancer turbans but not included in charitable donations.
- All councils in the Thunder Bay diocese donated towards St. Pat Needs a Hat campaign for the cathedral parish. Total donated \$1,101.
- Other councils donated to snow removal for their parish and supported the Dew Drop Inn serving meals to the homeless and a local school.
- Many smaller parish councils gave what little they had to their parishes for operational costs.

- Some councils in the Toronto diocese donated to Catholic Family Services Durham and parish youth while others hosted lunches for an Outreach Ministry, "The Open Door"; prepared and served hot meals to the homeless and less fortunate; donated personal hygiene products, collection of winter clothes and winter gear to respond to an increase in refugees from Kenya and Ukraine.

Chairperson's Activities Report

- All duties associated with the treasurer position, including entries posted, financial records reconciled, budgets prepared, hotel rooms and meeting space arrangements made as needed, and membership number reports updated regularly.
- Attended meetings and conventions in person or via Zoom.
- Kept those on the provincial executive apprised of maturing GICs, provided renewal recommendations, and made approved renewal arrangements with the various financial institutions.
- Invoiced members as applicable for expenses incurred, monitored repayments, and deposited repayments received to the general bank account.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Consider including membership as part of the responsibilities of treasurer for a consistent, efficient, reconciliation of records of payment and membership lists. (OPC)
- There should be a nationwide computerized software and/or templates for budgets and monthly reporting that each council can personalize. (N)
- The use of e-transfer may allow membership payments to be made more easily. (P)



Hamilton Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Joyce Cotter

Spiritual Advisor: Father Ranjan D'Sa

Members: 6,141

Life Members: 11

Councils: 37/88 reported

Regions: 4

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Three councils prepared using resources on the national website; providing information to members at general meetings and through handouts; and by explaining the duties of executive positions under the new structure.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 72 % of councils in the diocese.

Most councils commented it was well received, an affirming reflection on the past, informative, good feedback/communication, well attended, a sharing of goals, reflective on our personal role in the League, a chance to voice concerns, a relaxed atmosphere, and viewed our lack of membership recruitment differently after this session.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

Some were new to the diocese; for example, community project for youth: engaging youth in League activities; profits from June prom dance donated to One Roof Youth Service in support of mental health; Christmas Shoe Box Campaign for children in Peru; garden tour for Pediatrics unit at Grand River Hospital Cancer Centre; needed items packed in purses or backpacks for Martha House, a home for abused women and children; sock drive to support local shelters; donated clothing, bedding, gift cards, cash, and toys for Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis; baby shower for Shifra Home; and Mother's Day for Babies Too collection for two local homes for single moms.

Other more common types of projects included good will ambassadors; first retreat; high tea for all parishioners; Christmas vendor market; video presentation and donation to A Better Tent City for homelessness; monthly coffee and chatter; fundraiser for parish needs; letter writing campaign for Bill C-314; supported Strathcona Pantry And Women's Shelter with hygiene products and food; working with Knights of Columbus in first huge garage sale with proceeds to help parish; Lenten retreat; rosary making bee; and joint Lenten retreat with other League councils.

There were significant and/or unusual activities reported.

Presidents reported the "Go Make A Difference Project" focus was a Community Project for Youth: Diocesan Council donated \$1,000 to World Youth Pilgrimage to Lisbon, Portugal for youth to participate in the event; donated \$793.20 from convention Mass to Legionaries of Christ that run Youth Mission Hamilton for high school students and young adults which offers camps and retreats, and serves the homeless in community; bake and cabbage roll sale for donations to De Mazenod Door to feed homelessness in community, feeding 500 people daily, and supporting

four children from the Chalice program; 70 overnight bags prepared for women's shelter; worked with Halton Alive's Inspire Hope program; made 300 flowers with youth of the parish for seniors and participated in Christmas Box of Hope program for seniors; offered first ever PD day camp for 12 children who enjoyed activities presented on the Advent theme; to bring a diverse community together, held "Getting to Know You" potluck where people brought a dish from their country and placed pins on a map identifying the country where they originated from; held a living Rosary with parts spoken in different languages; and members helped assemble welcome kits and volunteered at open house of new facility called House of Friendship and their shelter care facility.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Encourage outreach to parish councils throughout the two-year term of presidency. (D-OPC-N)
- Diocesan presidents should have their own administrative assistant. (D)
- Continue monthly virtual meetings with provincial president as it is helpful and in discussing similar issues with other dioceses, results in sharing of ideas, and unity building. (D)



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

Hearst-Moosonee Diocesan Council Report 2023

President: Nancy Bouvier

Spiritual Advisor: Father Herve Sauve

Members: 280

Life Members: 6

Councils: 5 of 6 reported

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Six councils moving to the new structure found there was some resistance to the change; however, in the end, the executive and new pillars of Faith, Service and Social Justice were embraced by all councils.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 80 % of councils.

Most councils found the outreach project was helpful in looking at their strengths and challenges; provided some recruitment ideas; and might have been more social and less formal. One council felt that the Unity Outreach Project would have been more effective as a face to face gathering.

Councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

- Councils had projects unique to the diocese, such as, a concentrated effort to have outreach to shut-ins and seniors; supporting a local women's shelter with toiletry items; and hosting the 97th Annual Diocesan Convention which required everyone in a council to pitch-in.
- One council coordinated a kindness project, painting rocks with inspirational quotes and placing them in a Memorial to the Unborn outside of their church as well as around town.
- Another council decided to meet every second month and then hosted a social gathering and craft making session every other month.
- Reaching out to Indigenous `s in the area, another council visited a reserve 70 kms north of their community and hosted a special rosary for the intentions of the youth, elders, and leaders of the community. Subsequently, the council was invited back for a special meal, followed by a prayer service requested by the community, "Comfort- A Spiritual Journey." Ladies from the reserve also visited the council's community for supper and a prayer service on Saint Kateri.

There were significant and/or unusual activities reported.

Members of one council were strongly involved in the Sisters Together in Christ Project with ladies in the northern, remote community of Moosonee. It is more than 700 kms one way to meet in Moosonee; literally planes, trains, and automobiles to make the connection with their Indigenous sisters. This council is encouraging Indigenous women they meet with to join The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Have you involved your spiritual advisor?

Councils reported 100% their spiritual advisors were involved in their activities. Some councils reported that at times the spiritual advisor is unable to attend meetings but remains connected by receiving a copy of meeting minutes.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- All vice-presidents should spend at least one year shadowing the president and/or being mentored by the president so the transition to the presidency is less daunting. (P-D-OPC-N)



Kingston Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Lyne Tuepah

Spiritual Advisor: Father Stéphane Pouliot

Members: 2,142

Honorary Life Members: 1

Councils: 27 of 41 reported

Life Members: 11

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Councils reported preparing by educating members at general meetings, receiving information at the fall development day, reading newsletters, and creating a gradual transition. Small councils reported experiencing little difference with the new structure.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 83 % of councils.

Most councils reported the sessions were very informative, well received, contributed to a unified understanding, and provided implementation ideas for changes.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

New ideas reported included purchasing a gold tabor for church to use during adoration in commemoration of a 100th anniversary; organizing weekly prayer/reflection gatherings after reactivating their council; remembering missing Indigenous sisters through a red dress presentation; hosting a fancy hat tea party for all members to enjoy, retired priests and deacons for an appreciation potluck, soup lunch for the community, Lenten workshops on 'The Chosen' series, a Truth and Reconciliation prayer service led by sisters from Tyendinaga First Nation and a Christmas party at seniors' residence organized with 5 other Christian churches.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Suggest giving access to membership online database to diocesan presidents so they can perhaps identify struggling councils earlier as there is likely a lack or delay in reporting. To avoid any privacy issue, the diocesan president could sign a confidentiality agreement. (N)
-



London Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Mary Bannon

Spiritual Advisor: Father Paul Kim

Members: 10,653

Life Members: 11

Councils: 58 of 87 reported

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 65% of councils.

Most councils found the session interesting, was a good way to inform the diocese of some parish issues, helpful in understanding the role of the provincial council, shared a lot of information, should have been before the strategic planning started, provided the sense national wanted to hear what councils had to say, had some questions which were difficult to answer.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

Some projects new to the diocese included birthright bassinet with baby articles; soup supper on Good Friday with proceeds going to Development and Peace; celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day with First Nations representation; soup and chilli fundraiser to support a Pakistani Refugee family, a month long parish collection for a local charity-Ashley's Place; a month long collection for the local food bank; participation in the 12 hours of Prayer for Palliative Care; amending the council's "Manual of Policy and Procedure" to reflect upcoming changes; developing a strategic planning workshop based on information on the CWL website; making a concerted effort to reach out to our homebound and nursing home members; a retreat for a Family of Parishes; sock donations for the homeless; Lenten lunches for the council of churches; a fashion show put on by members of three parishes in a Family of Parishes; travelling to convention in Sarnia; helping with confirmation retreat day, guest speaker and film presentation-The Stone Pillow- on homelessness; "Soup for Ukraine" fundraiser with all proceeds sent to CNEWA; support of Jesu Ashram in India; Affordable Housing Committee; knitted or crocheted chemo beanies and caps for chemo clinic; a new and popular item of recognizing a featured member; self-care tips were provided monthly at meetings and in our newsletter; free community meals; "Family Fun Fest"; continued doing the "My Story" project; bee compassionate project with Our Lady of Guadalupe home for single, homeless mothers; and worked with Matthew House- a home for refugees.

There were significant and /or unusual activities reported.

- Sarnia region hosted AMM/Convention
- A council hosted an Indigenous Blanket exercise for their parish.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Encourage parish councils to familiarize themselves with resources available on the national website. (D)
- Provide tools for local councils to develop creative and imaginative activities to involve members. (D-OPC-N)
- Continue the use of newsletters to inform members at large. (P-D-OPC-N)



DIOCESE OF
LONDON

Ottawa-Cornwall Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Melina Nobert
Members: 2036
Councils: 27/33 Reported

Spiritual Advisor: Father Augustine Obago
Life Members: 20
Honorary Life Members: 1

This council was newly formed through a process culminating with elections in June of 2023 in response to Pope Francis' announcement of amalgamation of the Archdiocese of Ottawa and the Diocese of Alexandria- Cornwall in May of 2020.

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Councils who moved to the new structure reported raising awareness of the new positions, providing membership with detailed descriptions of the new positions and structure, members attending a league development day where a past president presented a summary of all the new positions, investigating the new structure at a retreat-workshop day where Betty Colaneri, National Vice-President, was keynote speaker and Wilma Vanderzwaag from provincial council was in attendance, attended virtual workshops hosted by Ottawa diocesan past president, and presented information from the national website at council meetings.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 33 councils.

Councils reported the sessions were well received, an opportunity to express opinions, helpful to formulate a clear plan for the future, a good thing, very interesting.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

Councils reported projects included a yearlong project on vocations to the priesthood and religious life; activities at monthly meetings to promote vocations; sending appreciation and thank you cards to pastor and deacons, hosting a potluck for pastor to get to know him on a more personal level; involved in organizing the opening Mass and meal for the provincial convention held in Cornwall; held a parish spring tea for the entire parish to raise our profile, a boot drive for school children; a collection of school supplies twice a year for schools attached to our parish, gifting baptism blankets; taking up collections for Baldwin House; sending a shipment of Christian books for sacraments, statues, and other items to mission in northern Alberta; hosted Socktober collecting 194 pairs of socks for the homeless; support to Ukrainian Summer Sunshine Camp for displaced children; and coordinating a go make a difference project collecting baby supplies for Birthright, mitts for local parish school children, and warm hats, socks and other items for shelters.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- There should be a debrief undertaken of the amalgamation process to develop improved guidelines for future amalgamations. (OPC)



Pembroke Diocesan Council Report 2023

President: Annette Chaplin

Spiritual Advisor: Father Michael Coyne

Members: 1,635

Councils: 17 of 25 reported

Life Members: 9

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Councils and members used resources from national, observed and listened to councils already transitioned or in the process, attended diocesan fall meeting where presentation was made by two local councils on their experiences, and attended Unity Outreach where info was shared on the new structure.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 78 % of councils.

Councils reported the outreach sessions enforced that we are part of a national organization with core values and goals; were extremely informative; encouraged discussion; were a chance to assess our role in the CWL and in the parish community; included a lot of content – similar to “Catch the Fire” workshops; were a good opportunity to reflect on our achievements and where we to go from here; and were informative and well presented.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

Councils reported a kindness rock project, homelessness component of the OPC “Bee Compassion into Action” challenge, and started a coffee and donut social gathering after Mass.

There were significant and/or unusual activities reported.

Councils reported using social media for memberships; a free membership draw for members who renewed by December; using Facebook to share motivational messages and videos from national; and using Instagram to encourage younger members. Other councils developed posters using Canva.com to elevate their visibility within the community; made their own CWL brochure using the template from cwl.ca; and at special times of the year such as Valentine's Day, a council distributed special prayers and best wishes to shut-in members or those in long term care.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Implement a four-year term as parish president or standing committee chair as it takes at least 1 year to learn the position; this would require a constitution and bylaw amendment. (N)



Peterborough Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Maria Fitzgerald

Spiritual Advisor: Reverend Roy Villas

Members: 1,411

Councils: 15 of 22 reported

Life Members: 9

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Councils and members prepared for the new structure by spending time to review the guidelines and explain the differences, attending training delivered by the diocesan council, attending provincial and/or national conventions to learn more, and handed out materials.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 100 % of councils.

Councils found the sessions could be used to plan council meetings; had members listening and created an increased readiness to embrace the new format; well-received; an opportunity to ask lots of questions; had members very engaged and vocal; rallied the members and made them responsive to questions; were very helpful; were good and members expressed a wish to receive feedback and/or outcomes resulting from the sessions. Councils also expressed gratitude for being included in the process.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

Councils and members organized a retreat on Catholic Social Teaching; purchased and installed a memorial stone to recognize truth and reconciliation with indigenous peoples in front of the tree planted for the CWL anniversary; hosted a "Giving Baby Shower" at the back of the church and filled playpens; donated in many ways to the diocesan project for Fort Hope.

There were significant and/or unusual activities reported.

Council projects included hosting outreach projects to foster sisterhood such as an evening of painting and an afternoon of wreath making and an Epiphany Party for our parish families; and working collaboratively with elementary and secondary school to provide funding for a storage shed for outdoor playground equipment.



St. Catharines Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Lisa Fillingham

Spiritual Advisor: Father Richard Kowalchuk

Members: 2,446

Regions: 4

Councils: 27 of 30 reported

Life Members: 10

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Councils prepared by attending either in person or via Zoom a PowerPoint presented on the new structure, a hard copy of the PowerPoint developed and presented was mailed to all parish presidents for reference; and providing a printout from national and preparing binders for each new position.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 90 % of councils.

Councils and members found the sessions a wonderful opportunity for members to share and ask questions in a relaxed atmosphere; were productive, enjoyable, and a good way to communicate. Councils also mentioned it was nice to be included in a process and to know their thoughts were welcomed.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

Council projects new to the diocese were a 100th anniversary party for St. Vincent de Paul, Soctober, Warmvember, an eye glass collection for third world countries, collecting pop tabs for the purpose of purchasing wheelchairs, delivering the Eucharist to adult residences; providing immigrants rides to Mass; and blood/plasma donations. Other councils reported supporting Hope Center, McNally House, Women's Place, Chez Marie, Chalice, and Development and Peace.

There were significant and/or unusual activities reported.

- One president reported her council starting a project to recognize the St. Vincent de Paul 100th Anniversary. They started a group to knit/crochet 100 scarves for the homeless, but the group soon became ecumenical and made 250 scarves, 15 prayers shawls and lap blankets.
- Another council attended a 9-week Zoom/in person program using the guide "Listening to Indigenous Circles."
- Other councils hosted a presentation on today's housing crisis, Palliative Care/Hospice Night – guest speaker, blood donor representative who spoke at Masses and at a CWL meeting, 70th Anniversary Party for St. Kevin, and the "Rocks of Kindness Project."

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Emails should go to all members and not to presidents/secretaries to send to other presidents/secretaries and then possibly to members. (N)



Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Lisa Henry

Spiritual Advisor: Father Patrick Woods

Members: 2,286

Councils: 20 of 29 reported

Life Members: 12

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Some councils explained the new structure to members including the changes to the standing committees while ten (10) councils presented workshops available on the national website from the strategic planning working groups. The councils slowly transitioned while at the same time educating their members on the new structure.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 83% of councils in the diocese.

Most councils found the sessions very informative, insightful, helpful in moving forward, and/or facilitated growth for their council.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

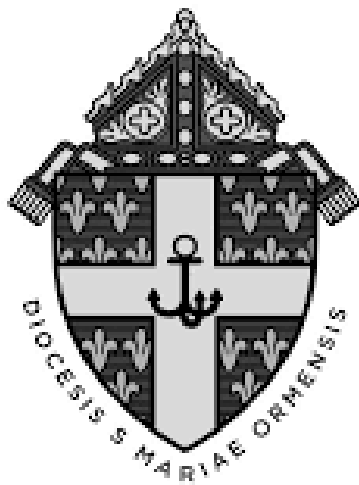
- Some councils embraced the new three pillar structure using it to plan and focus their activities for the year.
- The diocesan council created a project to spend time familiarizing parish councils with the new pillars and where to find resources on the web to assist with programs and support their councils in the transition.

During the year, significant and/or unusual activities were reported.

- Presidents reported activities including hosting a spiritual program with a "Crowning of Mary;" monthly coffee Sundays; fundraisers for a local food bank and a parishioner becoming a deacon; the diocesan convention opening Mass and reception for the first time; a CWL weekend – poster board, welcome cards, prayers, magazine items, and members participating in the Mass wore pins and/or scarves; and a paint night with collection of clothing, money, and school support.
- Others reported assisting a refugee family-dinners, clothes, Christmas gifts for the children; donations to a period pantry, Birthright, Pregnancy Centre, Alzheimer's food drive; and collecting mitts and socks for the needy.
- Activities also included a financial donation to St. Vincent's Place; a tea, bazaar and bake sale with both parish and CWL members; updating the parish council history book on the occasion of a 95th anniversary; celebrating a 70th anniversary with mass, highlighting the council's historical archives and many diocesan members in attendance; presenting four complimentary memberships for life to 100+ years old members; and organized a living rosary ceremony inviting parishioners and other councils
- Some councils participated in Immaculate Heartbeats Cenacle, rosary rally, birthright, Monarch recovery, Valentine cards for seniors, anti-MAiD campaign, end of life discussion, and bocce night.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Provide a standardized governance training resource for executive councils at all levels. (OPC-N)
- For annual reporting, consider including survey questions that ask what was done, how it was done, and what was the outcome; then, have the responses shared with all councils as a learning tool. (N)



The Roman
Catholic
Diocese of
Sault Ste.
Marie

Thunder Bay Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Judy Imbeault

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Michael Mahoney

Members: 1,841

Councils: 12 of 24 reported

Life Members: 8

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 83 % of councils in the diocese.

Most councils found the sessions were interesting and loved meeting with the diocesan executive. Councils had good participation and are waiting for interaction and the results of the presentation from national.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

Some activities new to the councils were collections for the homeless and less fortunate; gifts for children for Christmas, Easter, First Communion and Confirmation; organizing Children's Liturgy during the school year and bible camps through the summer; hosting World Day of Prayer; support for priests; hosted diocesan convention; meeting through Zoom.

During the year, significant and/or unusual activities were reported.

Councils and members focused on vocations to the priesthood, Catholic and Living it, contact with our Catholic schools, spiritual advisor's 40th ordination, signatures for Development and Peace, blessing bags for female inmates who were transitioning into programs or back to society, comfort kits at Christmas time to local police officers to assist with the mental health wellness, Dew Drop In support, hosting a living Rosary, and mini workshops for councils by diocesan president after Mass.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- More meetings, prayer groups, and workshops held by Zoom and in person; members love coming together for fellowship and to share. (D-OPC-N)



Timmins Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Shirley Gravel

Spiritual Advisor: Father John Lemire

Members: 441

Councils: 7 of 8 reported

Life Members: 4

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

Councils reported informing members at meetings about the new structure; reviewing and passing on to members information received from national, provincial, and diocesan; and revising election procedures to be prepared for the first elections under the new structure.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 87.5 % of councils.

Councils reported the project was well received, positive and reaffirming; brought out the many positives of being a CWL member; made members realize how many contributions the League makes to communities and members to each other; revealed how important the CWL is to members and how League sisters provide support and enrich our lives.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

Some projects new to the diocese included giving to the "Women's Pavilion;" participating in the national rock project, a rosary rally, reciting the rosary before mass in the months of May and October; initiating an education week project with a local Catholic school; setting up a CWL booth for parent's night; collecting winter wear (socks, scarves, hats, mitts) for the homeless and those in need in schools and shelters; and collecting school supplies, salt and soap for Canadian Food for Children.

During the year, significant and/or unusual activities were reported.

Once council reported their church needs a new steeple and in October, they committed to raising \$10,000 over the next three years; to date they have raised \$2,000.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected. P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Encourage more councils to use newsletters to communicate with members. (D-OPC-N)



Toronto Diocesan Council Report

2023

President: Sue Lubowitz

Spiritual Advisor: Father Liborio Amaral

Members: 6,864

Councils: 51 of 96 reported

Life Members: 15

Councils moving to the new structure in 2024 prepared.

- Council and members incorporated the CWL core values of faith, service, and social justice at meetings, in agendas, in visuals, and promoted them at the ministry fairs held by parishes.
- In newsletters, emails and handouts, councils included write-ups of activities/events that fell under each pillar.
- Some councils indicated the changes in the Constitution & Bylaws were fully explained when first introduced, discussed, and voted on so no further preparation was needed.

The Unity Outreach Project was presented to 78 % of councils.

- Councils reported the sessions were very encouraging as each member openly shared so many good things about their experience with CWL, as well as concerns on being on the diocesan or parish council knowing the diocesan and national council was listening.
- Most councils found the presentation very good, insightful, engaging, animated, very interactive, had good questions to clarify who the CWL is, showed members their feedback is valued, and had members feeling engaged.
- Some councils expressed gratitude that the presentation made members see how much is being done with a limited number of members.

Many councils had specific projects/focuses that touched on all pillars.

- Projects new to the diocese included a food drive as a parish project to benefit Scarborough Feed and Rouge Park food banks including a viewing of "Mother Teresa Documentary Movie: No Greater Love" with 75 parishioners and the spiritual advisor in attendance; fundraising to assist a grade 12 student and his internship work with the Canadian Centre for Bio Ethical Reform; a hand-written letter writing exercise - called Calling All Canadians to make a difference in Congo under social justice; organizing a rosary hike in the summer months to pray for our Lady's intercession that the senate may rule against MAiD legislation for mental health; and working together on a food drive for the inner youth in the greater Toronto area donating 30 bags, 292 pounds of food to the native child and family services in Toronto.
- One council offered after mass Saturday Soup Suppers to its parish to raise its visibility and encourage more members; while another hosted a speed dating event: A social mixer which involved fast paced interaction and conversation so members could learn more about one another. Yet another council, worked on period poverty collecting sanitary products for women to be distributed through the local community food bank.

- One council hosted a year-long, monthly food drive run during the first weekend of each month. The parish responded enthusiastically each month and contributed nearly 1300 pounds of food and over \$2600 in cash donations; ran a backpack program over the summer where parish members provided back packs and school supplies to be distributed by the Newmarket Food Pantry.
- Another council and its members focused on International Women's Day hosting a luncheon open to the community and sought sponsorship from local businesses with 175 people in attendance.
- The members of another council hosted four lunches to an outreach ministry, i.e., "Open Door" in the community. The members provided and served hot meals to the homeless and refugees from Kenya and Ukraine while also collecting personal hygiene items, winter clothing and shoes, and gift cards from Tim Horton's and Wal-Mart as requested by the coordinator of the Outreach ministry.

During the year, significant and/or unusual activities were reported.

- Two neighbouring councils organized a joint human trafficking awareness and flag raising. One council held an awareness evening and the other petitioned the local municipal government to declare a Human Trafficking Awareness Day and to fly the flag.
- Another council petitioned municipal government to get rid of bus fare for seniors and succeeded in getting seniors to ride free two days a week.
- One council dropped all the required foods for a pancake breakfast to be prepared at the local family shelter for New Year's Day.

Recommendations identifying improvements in policy, guidelines, or reporting and level of the League affected.

P-parish, D-diocesan, OPC-provincial, N-national

- Provide more sessions like the Unity Outreach Project at the local level by the diocesan level. (D)
- The search engine on the national website could be improved. (N)
- Continue with the online webinars, special programs and CWL Wednesdays that bring so much information and knowledge to the members. (D-OPC-N)



DECEASED MEMBERS 2023

HAMILTON



Dorothy Agombar
Lilly Ahrens
Maria Aramini
Catherine Artuso
Zita Babiak
Jean Baka
Lucy Baker
Linda Baldasso
Irene Baptista
Beatrice Beckberger
Maria Bencich
Geraldine Benninger
Ann Black
Donna Blacklock
Alyce Booth
Suzanne Borsellino
Barbara Boyce
Stasia Brohman
Marie Browne
Joyce Bruder
Anne Bullard
Lee Burgess
Isabell Butchart
Nella Callegari
Marjorie Campbell
Gail Campbell
Cathy Caravaggio
Margaret Carney
Marie Cavaliere
Jeanne Chrzanowski
Guisseppa Ciuro
Margaret Clanfield
Shirley Cloutier
Frieda Cole
Augusta Corrin
Argia Corsini
Dianne Cousineau
Eileen Cox
Della Cremasco
Florence Cybulski
Margaret Daoust
Helen Deckert
Betty Denomy
Anne DeRosse
Sandra Dorscht
Olga Dostal
Eunice Drumm
Maria Dupuis
Madeline Durrer
Norma Enright
Olga Fay
Milka Ferko
Pearl Fler
Marjorie Forcier
Eleanor Freeman
Loreen Freiburger
Betty Furlong
Vilma Gallina
Dinah Gatto
Maria Graf
Faith Graham
Adele Granata
Doreen Grondin
Cornelia Grzegorzcyk
Marian Haid
Edith Hamilton
Jo Heffernan
Gloria Hellard
Carrol Herauf
Kathleen Herties
Mary Winfred Holdforth
Henrica Hoogstraten
Margaret Huether
Joan Hundt
Kay Jamieson
Berdina Johnston
Eva Jusek
Carol Kawalec
Yvonne Keenan
Marian Kervin
Norma Kirby
Anastasia Kreigshauser
Marjorie Krukowski
Margaret Kulchycky
Evelyn Kuntz
Agnes Kuntz
Marcy Kuntz
Lydia Kus
Florence Larsen
Louise Lefebvre
Vincenza Letterio
Bernice Lezon
Laura Mackisoc
Beverley MacLean
Edith Madott
Jean Maher
Allen Marg
Rosemary Mastroianni
Ellen McBride
Viva McFarlane
Patricia McFarlane
Mary McGarry
Paulette McGraw
Helen McHugh
Julie McIsaac
Helen McMichael
Helen McNamara
Evelyn McNanney
Marie McNulty
Dorothy Meyer
Gertrude Meyers
Theresa Monaghan
Helen Mueller
Eleanor Nespal
Kathleen Noakes
Marlene Nowak
Jane O'Brien
Christina Opsteen
Mary Pappert
Zophia Paszek
Jean Pavlov
Marjorie Plein
Lucille Porteous
Doris Powers
Kathie Reansbury
Mary Reick
Florence Reinhart
Pearl Reinhart
Vivian Remington
Reona Rogers
Francis Rossignoli
Noella Rutley
Julija Sagadin
Mary Schiestel
Marilyn Schinbein
Joan Schnarr
Joan Schumacher
Roberta Scime
Ada Sclisizzi
Joan Sichewski
Paula Skinner

Geraldine Smith
Marie Smith
Bernice Snatynski
Cecilia Sobocan
Betty Sokolich
Kay Sorbara
Viola Spielmacher
Rita Spilowey
Anne Steffler
Mary Stephan
Diana Stewart

Corrie Sturrock
Irene Symons
Julijana Taravski
Patricia Telfer
Margaret Terpstra
Madeline Triolo
Mary Tucker
Diana Van Der Pryt
Shirley Vandervoort
Lucy Vella
Ankie Verhart

Palmira Vincentine
Theresa Voisin
Marie Voisin
Joanne Vranic
Audrey Waechter
Kathy Walsh
Ann Walton
Helen Weber
Ann M Young
Marie Zettler

HEARST MOOSONEE

Luigia Dalcin
Adrienne Gaudreau
Gladys Gillissie

Christine Denault
Carmen Neron

Florence Price
Judith Rolar

KINGSTON

Colleen Abrams
Pat Badgley
Anne Rita Beltrami
Della Berthiaume
Lillian Bibby
Alison Boyle
Catherine Brennan
Diane Brennan
Joan Brunt
Agnes Cadue
Barbara Carroll
Susan Clendenning
Helen Coyea
Leona Degenova
Theresa Diotte
Norma Donovan
Dorothy Dove
Marian Dowdall
Cecile Downey
Genevieve Forgie
Jean Fortner
Jane Fowlie
Edith Gavin
Mary Goulah

Mary Haley
Rita Halpin
Liz Hansen
Catherine Harper
Vera Hatfield
Margaret Mary Huck
Joyce Kelly
Eileen Kennelly
Shirley Lajoie
Louise Lally
Alice Laushway
Doris Lupenette
June Lyman
Doreen Lyons
Mary Anne MacLennan
Jean Mahon
Helen McAvoy
Lois McKenna
Gloria McLaren
Claire McNeill
Mary McNulty
Helen Millhardt
Grace Neddow
Jeanet Nye

Aileen O'Neill
Veronica O'Neill
Margaret O'Ray
Louise O'Sullivan
Patricia Patti
Ivana Pecek
Theresa Poelwyk
Theresa Rashotte
Linda Roberts
Norah Robins
Fran Rogers
Jean Shannon
Geraldine Slack
Margaret Slack
Mary St Pierre
Lorraine Stafford
Mary Ann Stewart
Betty Storrington
Audrey Swett
Lynne Terry
Anne Thissen
Cecilia Tomaso
Christine Verheyen

LONDON



Veronica Abrook
Betty Ann Alexander
Lynda Allin
Audrey Ameal
Mercedes Anderi
Andrea Annaert
Kathleen Antaya
Annette Arsenault
Patricia Arthur
Margaret Balga
Bertha Baltessen
Julie Banda
Anne Bannon
Beata Barfuss
Lorette Barrette
Riek Bastiaansen
Helen Beaudette
Trish Berg
Agatha Bes
Alice Beyaert
Vera Bird
Clara Black
Mary Kathleen Blizzard
Gabrielle Bois
Shirley Bondy
Elizabeth Bondy-Medd
Mary Botscheller
Jeannine Bourgard
Cecile Bouteiller
Jean Broadhagen
Doreen Brosseau
Irene Brydges
Marie Burns
Claudette Cadrin
Toni Cajka
Valerie Campbell
Jeannine Campbell
Deborah Carr
Marie Carter
Jean Chadwick
Edna Chevalier
Rose Mary Clancy
Catherine Cloudt
Joan Collins
Brigitta Colman
Geraldine Corbett
Liliana Cordeiro
Teresa Covassi
Helen Croxford
Elizabeth Davis
Pauline de Jeu
Bronislawa De'Araujo
Marina Deboer
Mary DeDeckere
Rachel DeGroot
Muriel Delorme
Dolores Denomey
Jeannine Depont
Zulma Deprez
Madeleine DeVries
Barb Dewaal
Margaret Diczku
Bernadette Diesbourg
Frances Dittrich
Anita Dodich
Myrna E Doyle
Pat Driscoll
Joan Ducharme
Jean Duffy
Elaine Dutton
Arnolda Dwyer
Margret Eastlake
Anne Ennett
Pauline Evans
Rita Fairley
Johanne Fillion
Eileen Fischer
Anne Fitzgerald
Theresa Fitzpatrick
Nancy Flynn
Edith Foden
Nancy Forestell
Anne Fortin
Norma Freund
Marion Fuerth
Helen Fulop
Bernadette Gagnier
Irene Gagnier-Gratton
Anne Gale
Marion Gallagher
Brenda Garrod
Marlene George
Phyllis Gerard
Flora Ghione
Rena Gilbert
Margaret Gillis
Barbara Giovannetti
Rita Girard
Bernadette Girard
Lucienne Giroux
Fern Gormely
Margaret Greenway
Riek Groothuis
Helen Grzech
Petronella Gubbels
Elsie Habermehl
Therese Haggarty
Marion Hall
Ruth Hartleib
Shirley Harwood
Catherine Heffernan
Lillian Hennessy
Kathleen Hillman
Noela Hodgins
Barbara Holman
Emmy Hooydonk
Katalin Horvath
Clare Hunt
Josephine Ieraci
Giovanna Ingratta
Margaret Jacyno
Chris Jenkins
Sharon Johnston
Rose Josten
Julianna Jubenville
Sybil Kaer
Helen Kelly
Elizabeth Kennes
Cecile Kerkhove
Theresa Kester
Rosemary Kevany
Margaret Ann King
Corrie Klaver
Margaret Knapp
Margaret Koeman
Bessie Kominek
Anna Kovacic
Grace Kustermans
Mary Lou Kwaitkowski
Ann Labadie
Rose Lacasse
Cindy Lacina
Carol Laevens
Nola Lamotte
Rose M Lang
Claire Langlois
Cathy LaPorte

Virginia Leduc
Jeannette Lefaive
Rose Lennox
Janet Leonard
Joan Lewis
Mary Lewis
Helen Lewis
Margaret M Litschko
Sharon MacDonald
Sarah MacEachern
Madeleine Marier
Ruth Madziak
Magella Mailloux
Alice Marchand
Doris Marchand
Mary Marchand
Betty Marentette
Jean Marentette
Diane Mariconda
Donna Masse
Mary McAleer
Judy McCarthy
Elsie McIntyre
Patricia McManus
Marilyn Medcalf
Delphine Meeke
Germaine Mervis
Loretta Meyer
Anny Michielsens
Jean Miller
Gladys Miller
Cecilia Mitchell
Anny Moerman
Ilene Moir
Martha Moons
Mary Murchland
Dolores Murphy
Louise Murphy
Mary Murphy
France Nash
Mary Nelson
Irene Noel
Emilienne North
Suzanne Ogden
Doreen O'Grady
Theresa O'Malley
Eileen Oppel
Lu-Ann Oriet
Norma O'Shea

Martha Overholt
Natalia Pacheco
Maureen Papineau
Nancy Parent
Pauline Patterson
Mary Peeters
Mary Jo Pereira
Elizabeth Pharazyn
Gemma Pieniasek
Jacqueline Poliquin
Sylvia Poole
Judy Potter
Jackie Pouget
Patricia Proctor
Marcella Proulx
Elaine Quenneville
Marie Raymond
Rita Reaume
Geraldine Reaume
Maria Donatilde Rebelo
Alida Redigonda
Betty (Elizabeth) Reek
Teresa Reekie
Guiomar Regalo
Margaret Renders
Vera Reynaert
Angela Rice
Margaret Robinet
Nettie Rops
Gertrude Rovers
Laurette Roy
Betty Russette
Helen Ryan
Vera Sadler
Maria Salomone
Evelyn Sargeant
Marie Schell
Mary Scherbarth
Leona Scott
Corrie Segeren
Catherine Sentjens
Rosie Sesink
Rose Shepley
Anna Silveri
Matilda Simler
Joanne Slegers
Marjorie Smith
Peggy Smith
Helen Spence

Helen Stefan
Irene Stepniak
Helen Szvirida
Lynne Taylor
Sharon Thievin
Anne Todd
Helen Toonders
Gloria Torres
Joan Tortyna
Magda Toth
Mae L Tremblay
Camilla Trudell
M. Jean Trudell
Diane Uniac
Mary M Van Bakel
Magdalena Van De Walle
Dina Van den Brandt
Nellie Vanderhyden
Anna Van Haaren
Betty Van Haren
Maria Van Hooydonk
Margaret Vandenberghe
Christine
VandenBiggelaar
Nellie VanderBurgt
Nellie Vanderpol
Aleida Vandersteen
Paula Vannieuwenhuyze
Andrea Vanraes
Francis Verboort
Nellie Verhoeven
Merna Vermeeren
Trudy Verouden
Dorothy Versnick
Annie Versteegen
Patricia Vince
Corrie Vink
Annette Vriends
Chris Walcarius
Doreen Walker
Mary Weaver
Mary Weber
Lee Whitten
Trudy Wolanski
Diane Wolters
Genowefa Wrotkowska
Julianna Zei
Earla Zemmicky

OTTAWA-CORNWALL

Diny Achtereekte
Marilyn Anderson
Mary Arbic
Pat Arcand
Jean Aslin
Edna Assaly
Betty Baker
Lillian Benoit
Joan Blocker
Emily Boileau
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The Ontario Provincial Council 2023 Social Justice Award

was presented to

Joanne Belanger

St. James the Minor Parish, Kingston
Diocese of Kingston

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