



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

MEMO

TO: Presidents and secretaries at all levels
CC: National officers (for information)
FROM: Shari Guinta, National Past President
SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to the *Constitution & Bylaws 2023 (C&B)*
DATE: December 5, 2025

At the fall meeting of the national executive/board of The Catholic Women's League of Canada held in Winnipeg, 10 proposed amendments were adopted for circulation to the membership, following the recommendation of the national amendments committee. According to Part XX (c) of the C&B, "Notice of the proposed amendments shall be circulated to all councils at least six months before the national convention." According to Part XV, Section 3 (c), an instructed vote is required to adopt amendments to the C&B. It is, therefore, the responsibility of you as president, to follow the instructions to facilitate the instructed voting procedure in your council.

Enclosed in this mailing are:

- Procedure for *Constitution & Bylaws* Amendment Proposals 2026 – detailed instructions for the process.
- Notice of Motion to Amend the *Constitution & Bylaws (2023)*. There are ten proposed amendments for your consideration. This includes the proposal, a view of the before/after of the change and the reasoning behind the proposal.
- Proposed *Constitution & Bylaws* Amendment Forms—one page for each proposed amendment that lists the amendment and on which the votes are recorded for the council's records.
- *Constitution & Bylaws* Proposed Amendment Vote Record Form – to record the vote results and to send to the next level. i.e., from parish to diocesan (directly to provincial if there is no diocesan council); from diocesan to provincial; from provincial to national.

Voting at parish level should occur at least 30 days prior to the diocesan annual meeting of members where you or your designate will attend as a voting delegate. A copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws* Proposed Amendment Vote Record Form is retained by the parish council and brought to the convention where the vote is to occur. A copy of the completed form must be submitted to the diocesan council (provincial where there no diocesan council exists) at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting of members. One copy must be sent to the national office (cwlexecutivesecretary@gmail.com) or C-702 Scotland Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5). Emails must be used rather than regular mail when possible.

To review, at a monthly meeting of your council in early 2026, time must be allotted on the agenda for reading, discussing and voting on the proposed amendment. Also, please take note in the instructed voting process that two-thirds of the members present and voting in favour of the proposed amendments are required for a "Yes." Less than two-thirds in favour constitutes a "No." The vote at diocesan, provincial and national levels occur without discussion or debate and only voting delegates in attendance with an instructed vote from their council may vote.

Each diocesan and provincial council president will allot time on her agenda for voting. The final voting will occur at the national annual meeting of members to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia in August 2026.

May Mary's intercession guide you in your discernment of the proposed amendments to the *Constitution & Bylaws (2023)*. Know that my prayers are with you, my dear League sisters.