



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

MEMO

DATE: October 5, 2018

FROM: Cathy Bouchard, national chairperson of resolutions

TO: Parish council chairpersons of resolutions

CC: Parish presidents, diocesan presidents, provincial presidents, life members (on request)

Two years remain until the League celebrates 100 years as an organization of Catholic women! Looking back on the record of the work done by members, we realize the impact the League has had on the lives of all Canadians. Through resolutions, policies are established, programs are planned, and concerns and views are expressed.

Resolutions adopted at the 98th annual national convention will be published in the fall issue of *The Canadian League* magazine, and will be available online. Many hours of hard work, research, consultation and discussion have contributed in bringing issues to the forefront. Support this work through advocacy and awareness. National office is actively pursuing meetings with federal government officials to discuss the adopted and other resolutions.

I have attached a 2018 Resolutions-at-a-Glance document. Encourage members to actively learn about the resolutions and to follow up on the action plans. Ask the question, "How do these resolutions apply to situations in our city/town, province or country? Who does the League speak for in this resolution?" Members become much more attached to the suggested action in the resolution when it applies to known people.

Every parish council is encouraged to write a resolution. Does the council recognize a need? Talk to other members, work together to research and study an issue and then bring the recommendations back to a council meeting. Feel free to ask for assistance from people outside the council while doing the research. One of the best resources for developing a resolution is the *Executive Handbook*, as well as the *Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook* available on cwl.ca.

Relevant resolutions on the national website go back as far as 1954! At this year's annual national convention resolutions were archived from the more recent past, the earliest being 1972.

“Resolutions are recommended for archiving when it can be shown that they meet one of the following criteria:

- (i) The action(s) requested of the federal government or national organization has been addressed.
- (ii) The topic or action has been addressed in a more current resolution with more current references.
- (iii) The resolution contains non-specific rationale or action steps.
- (iv) The resolution is referring to organizations that no longer exist.
- (v) The resolution is referring to specific dates/events, which are now history.
- (vi) The resolution issue, focus or topic has changed.
- (vii) It is a courtesy resolution.
- (viii) The resolution covers actions that may only be taken by members (e.g. awareness on health and safety issues)” (*How We Serve*).

The annual reporting process continues and online reports have had some successes and some challenges. Use this opportunity to reach out to someone new and get them involved in the League by assisting you with the reporting process. Imagine the conversations and teaching opportunity about League activities to be had!

One common challenge this standing committee has is the inability of councils to recruit a member due to fear and a lack of understanding resolutions. To combat this concern, consider asking diocesan and provincial councils to assist with workshops, or organize a resolutions dialogue at conventions or leadership development days throughout the year. Team up with neighbouring League sisters to organize a learning event. These are some avenues that help engage members to take up some work.

As a new year of meetings and planning emerges, I want to express my appreciation to you for taking an interest in advocacy and social justice through resolutions. It was wonderful to witness members actively engaged and taking an interest in resolutions through concerns and proposed amendments at the annual national convention. Women of God, inspired by the Spirit and called to action through resolutions – let us continue “to take up some work that affects the life of the entire country.” Joan Bona

May you be IN-spired by the Holy Spirit.

God bless you in your work “For God and Canada.”



Cathy Bouchard
National Chairperson of Resolutions

Resolutions At-A-Glance
Adopted at the 2018 National Convention

Resolutions	Standing Committee	Title / Resolved	Action Plans
2018.01	Community Life	<p>Attestation Requirement on Canada Summer Jobs Program</p> <p>urges the federal government to: Remove the attestation for all future Canada Summer Jobs programs.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write to the prime minister, the minister of employment and social development with copies to your local member of parliament urging the removal of the attestation from the Canada Summer Jobs program to respect the rights of freedom of religion and conscience as set in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. 2. Educate members on the importance of understanding the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as it applies to the lives of Canadian citizens and encourage members to speak to family and friends. Have them contact relevant government officials to support removal of the attestation for all future Canada Summer Jobs programs. 3. Sign available petitions, or in absence of one in your area, start a petition following the current federal government guidelines: http://www.ourcommons.ca/marleaumontpetit/DocumentViewer.aspx?Lang=E&Sec=Ch22 &Seq=3 4. Monitor the federal government's response to the request contained in <u>this resolution</u>.
2018.02	Education and Health	<p>Setting a Standard for Products Marketed as Flushable</p> <p>urges the federal government to: Establish a national standard of testing and labelling of products marketed as "flushable";</p> <p>encourage provincial councils to: become aware of this issue as it pertains to their province/territory, and to act on it, as deemed necessary/prudent.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write letters to the prime minister and the department of environment and natural resources with copies to your local member of parliament urging the federal government to establish a national standard of testing to be met by manufacturers of products marketed as "flushable". 2. Request an awareness campaign of the consequences of inappropriate disposal of products in our sewer system through municipal and provincial governments. 3. Hold a speaker presentation on the harmful effects of flushing so-called "flushable" products. 4. Monitor the federal government's response to the request contained in the resolution.

Resolutions At-A-Glance
Adopted at the 2018 National Convention

2018.03	Legislation	<p>Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative Care Services in Facilities to Exclude Medical Assistance in Dying</p> <p>urges the federal government to: legislate the designation of hospice/palliative care services in facilities to exclude medical assistance in dying;</p> <p>encourage provincial councils to: become aware of this issue as it pertains to their province/territory, and to act on it, as deemed necessary/prudent.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write to the prime minister, ministers of justice and health, and your member of parliament, urging the federal government to legislate designation of hospice/palliative care free from medical assistance in dying. 2. Educate members on keeping hospice and palliative care free from medical assistance in dying 3. Where hospices are performing medical assistance in dying, withdraw all funding. Write to the board of directors of hospices stating the reason for the withdrawal of donations. 4. Monitor the federal government's response to the request contained in the resolution.
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