



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winnipeg, Manitoba—November 6, 2019—The national executive/board of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, with more than 77,500 members across the country, met November 1-2 for its annual fall executive meeting. Various committees met to discuss matters important to Catholic women and their families.

A brainstorming session was held by the national executive to determine a priority focus for the second year of *Care for Our Common Home*. The League will partner with Catholic Near East Welfare Association to support *Pieta Bhavan* (House of Mercy) with a drinking water well. *Pieta Bhavan*, a home for women with intellectual disabilities in Kerala, India, experiences severe flooding and water contamination during the monsoon season. Care at home will be addressed by directing the 2020 voluntary fund collection for Catholic Missions In Canada (CMIC) towards rebuilding three churches located in Ahousat and Telegraph Creek, British Columbia and Attawapiskat, Ontario. Further information will be provided at a later date.

An update has been provided by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on the review of Development and Peace—Caritas Canada. The national executive anticipates a final decision this month before determining the future of the 1% Program national voluntary fund.

Implementation of the strategic plan was a key focus throughout the meeting, with the progress of the affirmation, marketing and reorganization working groups reviewed. Following extensive discussion and review of the proposed strategy roll-out, the national executive approved seven additional strategies and working groups for 2020. The new working groups will be tasked with capitalizing on members' willingness to take on short-term leadership responsibilities, providing educational opportunities regarding Catholic social teaching, addressing misconceptions about the League, embracing diverse cultures and ages, creating ready-made adaptable toolkits for use in parishes, addressing members' spirituality, and restructuring the existing standing committee structure at the parish level to respect the uniqueness of councils. Monthly progress reports from the implementation committee are posted on the League website. Members are encouraged to check frequently for updates. A position for a contract project coordinator to assist the implementation committee and working groups in coordinating their tasks was approved.

A Day of Prayer for Christians in the Holy Land to be held annually on the Feast of the Holy Family, was approved, this year falling on December 29th. The national executive encourages League members and councils also to participate in CMIC's Day of Prayer for Canadian Home Missions.

For more information, please visit cwl.ca.

About the Catholic Women's League of Canada

The Catholic Women's League of Canada, founded in 1920, is one of the largest organizations of women in Canada with in excess of 77,500 members represented in every province and territory and in the military. The League is organized and pledged to serve all citizens and has often received the commendation and keen appreciation of federal, provincial and municipal authorities for the voluntary services ably performed by its nationwide membership.