



# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## MEMO

**DATE:** March 26, 2020

**FROM:** Janet McLean, national secretary-treasurer

**TO:** Parish treasurers

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

**ATT:** Pre-authorized Debit Plan form

Spring is in the air and, before long, members will be celebrating the greatest mystery of their faith, the Feast of the Resurrection. I sincerely hope that your parish council has had a fruitful, faith-filled and fun winter season.

When 2020 per capita fees were remitted to national, parish councils had to include a payment of \$0.50 per member for general liability insurance. This change was approved by the national executive/board in November 2018 and communicated to provincial treasurers for dissemination at all levels. Unfortunately, some parish councils were not aware of this change, so confusion arose when 2020 per capita remittances were sent to national office. I apologize if your council was not aware of this change. The decision to have this insurance compulsory for all councils was made in the best interests of all members. Although claims against parish councils are rare, they do happen and, as a Star Trek fan, I think of the words of Mr. Spock, "The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few." Parish councils will receive confirmation of this insurance coverage in this spring mailing. Perhaps as treasurer, keep this certificate with the account books so that the council knows where it is if needed. It is important to note that functions at which alcohol is served are not covered under this policy. However, the council may be covered for these events by your parish's general liability insurance, or coverage may be obtained from a local insurer for such a function.

Would you like to save time and money? Does your council process membership renewals online? If you answered yes to these two questions and have not signed up for the pre-authorized debit plan for parish councils, consider doing so. Once the council enrolls in this plan, per capita fees due will be automatically deducted from the council's bank account when online membership renewals are completed. This will save the cost of a stamp as well as any cheque costs that might

otherwise be incurred, not to mention time in sending the remittance to national. Attached is a copy of this form to be completed in order to take advantage of this service. The form can also be downloaded from the national website at [cwl.ca/resources/500-series-forms/](http://cwl.ca/resources/500-series-forms/). If you have any questions about this service, the national office staff will be pleased to help you.

I extend my thanks to all treasurers for completing the annual report form for 2019. Information from parish councils is important and enables me to complete my annual report. Thank you for your dedication to your council and the League.

Best wishes for a joyous Easter season.