



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

MEMO

DATE: April 2, 2021

FROM: Marie C. Rackley, national chairperson of community life

TO: Parish chairpersons of community life

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

My dear League sisters,

I pray this memo finds you, your parish council and your family well. It has undoubtedly been a difficult time with the COVID-19 pandemic, and the ups and downs members have experienced in their communities. However, there is good news—soon, vaccinations will be widely available. Please continue to pray that by December, members might be able to enjoy a joyous Christmas and return things to the way they were. It may not be 100%, but it may be close enough so that Canadians can celebrate.

This will be my last memo to parish councils as I will have completed my term. I have certainly enjoyed serving you and reporting all the generous help and support you have given to Canada and countries abroad. There are many talents within the League, and together, members have made their mark on their communities. How proud members should be that they have continued to serve others in this trying time. A job well done.

Last September, several resolutions under the community life standing committee portfolio were slated to be archived due to old material and changes in the law. These resolutions are still very relevant to the work the League does today. I have listed below a few of these resolutions that can be resubmitted with updated information and presented at diocesan conventions in 2022 and, if adopted, to provincial councils to move forward. The complete list of resolutions can be found at cwl.ca. If you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me through Amanda McCormick at national office. She may be reached at (204) 927-2314 or by e-mail at communications@cwl.ca.

2009.01 Exit Strategies for Prostituted Persons: The topic is relevant; however, it needs new materials. The reference term “prostituted persons” is no longer used. The issue remains important for the League, but a new resolution is needed. .

2005.06 Developing Countries and Water [shared with education and health]: The topic is relevant, and the issue was sent to the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations.

2003.01 Affordable Housing for Low-Income Canadians: The topic remains relevant.

2001.04 Water Quality in Canada: The topic is relevant.

2000.08 Sweatshops: The topic is relevant; however, the second resolved clause covers action that may only be taken by members [e.g. awareness on health and safety issues).

1999.09 Bulk Fresh Water Resources [with education and health]: The topic remains relevant. Canadians do not want the agreement to share Canada's bulk water with the United States. It is also a provincial issue: Jurisdiction over water is divided between parliament and the provincial legislatures, with some overlap. Provinces generally have authority over natural resources within their boundaries. [Provincial focus].

1999.02 Childhood Abuse in Institutions: The topic is relevant, and resources are being made available, with focus coming from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. A new resolution can be presented with a focus on current events.

1999.01 Elder Abuse/Assault Awareness: The topic is relevant; however, the resolution was addressed to members only. A new resolution could be written with reference to long-term care homes [provincially funded]. Provinces continue to address this issue and other organizations.

1997.09 Restorative Justice Programs for Young Offenders: The topic remains relevant, and members continue to monitor this concern.

1984.06 Spousal Abuse: The topic is relevant. An action plan and references are not available on the website. Note: Claire's Law: A resolution to address law enforcement applying the law could be considered. (No teeth to the law if law enforcement will not apply it). New references are required—too many types of abuse.

I want to thank National Chairperson of Resolutions Cathy Bouchard for sending this summary so that these resolutions can be presented with current updated information, so the League can continue to focus on the needs of God's people.

I wish you continued success with your parish councils, and may Our Lady of Good Counsel guide you in the work you do "For God and Canada."