



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, AUGUST 11, 2021—Five hundred Catholic women and guests of faith met August 9th and 10th for the partially virtual 100th and 101st national annual meetings of members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada with the theme, *Care for Our Common Home*.

Making history, the partially virtual annual meeting opened with National President and Chairperson of International Relations Anne-Marie Gorman bringing greetings and welcoming National Spiritual Advisor Most Rev. Bishop Jensen (Prince George), along with members and guests. This virtual event was the first opportunity members across Canada had to gather and unite in faith since the beginning of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

His Eminence Gerald Cardinal Lacroix, ISPX, Archbishop of Quebec and the Primate of Canada, welcomed attendees to the 100th national annual meeting with his words of appreciation, encouragement and hope for the future. He affirmed the League as an organization that builds without destructing and serves through its love—to heal and by taking action. His Eminence thanked members for persevering and said the Lord bestows on members and their families many blessings. Encouraging members to celebrate the League's centenary with joy, he asked them to continue protecting their creation and renew their spirit in service “For God and Canada”.

The 101st national annual meeting opened with reports presented by the provincial presidents who informed that councils had been actively working even through the pandemic. Online teleconferences, prayer services and much more had been held. The presidents noted they looked forward to re-opening in-person meetings this fall.

The morning of August 10th began with the Divine Office, followed by reports from national officers who shared what had been accomplished throughout their extended three-year term. Complete reports from the national officers and provincial presidents will be available in the fall electronic issue of *The Canadian League* magazine.

The League's theme for 2022-2023, *Catholic and Living It!*, was announced by incoming National President Fran Lucas.

The national election and installation of officers was held with the new executive/board announced. Congratulations to National President and Chairperson of International Relations Fran Lucas, National President-Elect and Chairperson of Organization Shari Guinta, National First Vice-President and Chairperson of Communications Betty Colaneri, National Second Vice-President and Chairperson of Spiritual Development Cathy Bouchard, National Secretary-Treasurer Marie Rackley and National Past President and Chairperson of Laws Anne-Marie Gorman. Congratulations also to national standing committee chairpersons Dorothy Johansen (Christian family life), Faith Anderson (community life), Margaret Schwab (education and health), Rolande Chernichan (resolutions) and Glenda Carson (legislation).

The partially virtual gathering concluded with the closing mass live-streamed from Sacred Heart Cathedral in Prince George, British Columbia and presided over by Bishop Jensen.

About The Catholic Women's League of Canada

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is one of the largest organizations of women in Canada with more than 70,000 members represented in every province, territory and in the military. With a membership representing a broad cross-section of Canadian society, the League has received the commendation and keen appreciation of federal, provincial, territorial and municipal authorities for the voluntary services ably performed by its nationwide membership.

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