



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, October 19, 2021—The national executive/board of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, consisting of national officers and provincial presidents representing members across the country, met in Winnipeg, October 14-16, 2021, for its annual fall meeting. This unique meeting—the first of its kind for the board—met mostly in person while the remainder of the board joined virtually. All health and safety protocols were adhered to. Roundtable discussions were held with the national officers and provincial presidents regarding important issues of concern that affect members, Catholic women, their families and communities.

For the first time in her role, National President Fran Lucas began the meeting by welcoming the board. Before addressing the items on the agenda, a workshop on the duties of the board followed by a mini-retreat led by Sandra Prather, HOMI, Provincial Animator of Oblate Associates for OMI Lacombe Canada was held. The retreat focused on the new theme that will begin January 2022, *Catholic and Living It!*, as well as Pope Francis' vision of a synod church with three pillars of communion, participation and mission. Ms. Prather stressed that the image of the church is the encounter—the path walking together and recognizing the Spirit is present in everyone.

The business sessions were held over three days and dealt with significant governance issues, operations and reports. The overview of the strategic initiatives and the progress of the implementation committee is of ongoing importance as the League strives to prepare for the future. Embracing technology is one of the ways the League reaches out to members and Catholic women who are young and young at heart. The national website, cwl.ca, has a captivating new banner featuring the pillars of faith, service and social justice along with highlights of important updates and information.

Postcards were distributed to the board as a reminder of the Gratitude Project initiated by the centenary committee. This project is a way for members to thank frontline workers and anyone they would like to express their gratitude to for helping the community during the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The fall meeting was filled with enlightening information and fruitful discussion and concluded with the optimism that members would soon be able to resume in-person meetings.

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 more than 70,000 members represented in every province, territory and the military. The League is organized and pledged to serve all citizens and has often received the commendation and keen appreciation of federal, provincial, territorial and municipal authorities for the voluntary services ably performed by its nationwide membership.