

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
VANCOUVER DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

DIOCESAN PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Gisela Montague

50 councils of 57 reporting

INFORM MEMBERSHIP OF LEAGUE'S POSITION ON CURRENT ISSUES

Presidents informed their membership on current issues at general meetings, conventions and through meeting minutes, emails, newsletters, church bulletin boards, phoning committees, communiqués, displays and items for pickup at a CWL counter.

FOSTER OPEN COMMUNICATION

Presidents foster open communication with their executive by developing trust and accepting and respecting individual differences. Discussions are encouraged and presidents try to be open to suggestions. They state that it is important to have personal contact, invite input, delegate tasks and allow freedom of expression. New ideas are encouraged and reassurance is given.

PROVIDE LEADERSHIP

Presidents provide Leadership by recognizing members' abilities and gifts and encouraging them to take on different tasks and offer them assistance. Responsibilities are shared and some councils encourage members to attend diocesan meetings and conventions; by assisting them financially – paying for transportation and/or registrations. Open policy is fostered where everyone is heard and awards and Certificates of Appreciation are handed out. Teamwork is of utter importance and having subcommittees for standing committees is very useful. Spiritual Advisors are encouraged to attend meetings by personal invitation and while it is not always possible for them to attend most are very supportive. They are available for advice, spiritual presentations and retreats.

PROMOTE THE LEAGUE

The National Policy & Procedure Manual, "Leading the League" and the Executive Handbook are used by 60% of the councils as reference for meeting protocol, agendas, questions; nomination and election procedure, as a guideline for awarding pins & scholarships and as a guideline for funeral protocol.

BIGGEST CHALLENGE

The biggest challenge for presidents is to motivate members to step up and take on leadership roles. Other challenges are:

- a. Keeping up with the paperwork
- b. Finding younger members that are committed
- c. Filling positions and managing conflicts
- d. Finding relevant speakers and attracting new members
- e. Time management between work, family and League commitments
- f. Maintaining CWL presence in the parish amongst other parish groups

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

For presidents the greatest accomplishments have been:

- a. Inspiring others through example and witness to appreciate the League
- b. Taking action and making a difference in society
- c. Hosting a successful diocesan/provincial convention

- d. Maintaining current programs in spite of difficulties due to resignations of officers e. Growing in self-confidence
- f. Organizing CWL anniversary celebrations
- g. Still existing with very few working members
- h. Filling the position of Legislation and Resolution for the very first time
- i. Hosting a successful Human Trafficking Forum with other councils in the same region
- j. Facilitating a diocesan Resolution Workshop
- k. Being able to volunteer in the Hospitality Centre during the Olympics
- l. Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Jerusalem with Spiritual Advisor
- m. 12 hour devotion to Mother Mary reciting 2000 Hail Mary's
- n. Increase of membership and attendance at meetings
- o. Attending National Convention in Ottawa
- p. Receiving award for highest absolute increase of membership at National Convention

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS

Some meetings need to be less structured, to provide opportunities for social interaction and celebration of the League's sisterhood. Others have asked to create more interesting meetings and to connect with the members that are not attending. It is very important to have the support of the Spiritual Advisor. League development for struggling councils and especially for new councils is required. Attendance at last year's diocesan convention gave some councils a better understanding of the League. Another suggestion is to use more visuals at meetings and to invite more inspirational speakers.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

We have added four new councils and our membership stands at 4500 members. It is wonderful to see the enthusiasm of the new council members. All elected diocesan officers; some Life Members as well as past presidents are involved with mentoring these councils. Two councils have taken a break and collect only membership fees; hopefully they will have meetings again in 2011. On a sad note we are disbanding one council. The request for leadership workshops is ongoing, especially as some new members become part of the executive with little CWL experience.

Last year we hosted the Priest's Appreciation Dinner, the Diocesan and the Provincial Conventions. Over thirty councils were involved, along with other faith groups, in providing "radical" hospitality at the Olympic Games. We co-sponsored a CWL ad in a special Olympic edition of the B.C. Catholic. We facilitated workshops, made CWL presentations at deanery meetings, attended the "Pro Life March" in Victoria and had CWL display tables at the "Congress", the Youth Conference and the Abbey for the "Salt, Light & Leaven" presentation. It was a special joy to attend several CWL Anniversaries throughout the diocese, ranging from 10 to 80 years. I was proud to represent you at Holy Rosary Cathedral for the celebrations of "Papal Honours" and the "Vigil for Life".

In closing I would like to thank you for your support and prayers during these two years as diocesan president. May God bless you abundantly for all you do for "God and Canada".

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DIOCESAN SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Pat Hampson

MINUTES

Most of the councils reported they circulate the minutes prior to their General Meeting. A roll call is usually taken at the meeting and recorded in the minutes, at the Diocesan level this includes, Executive, Past Diocesan Presidents, Life Members and Council Presidents... Email is most often used as information is circulated, revised and finalized quickly, at the Diocesan level and as well as for councils. Diocesan minutes are sent to the executive for review and then circulated to the councils. Diocesan and Parish Secretaries are responsible to have signed copies of minutes that are passed to archives at the end of their term.

AGENDAS

Some secretaries are active in assisting their presidents with preparation of meeting agendas. Presidents often prepare their own agendas from the minutes as they know which items require further action. Agendas are circulated by email or given out at the meeting; some even use a bulletin board. Notice of Meetings are published in Bulletins, by use of a telephone committee, as well as emailed. At the Diocesan level the Notice is sent to the President for further references that may be emphasized at the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretaries usually read or list correspondence at meetings, some have a file or binder to keep organized. Due to time constraints, items are read that may be of interest to the members and have available all, if the members would like to read and item. Diocesan correspondence. Both incoming and outgoing, is usually received by the President, recorded and filed in a binder, to be listed in the next meeting minutes.

REPORTS

Secretaries are given a copy of executive member's reports and assist at the meeting to prepare annual reports. At the Diocesan level all Elected Officers and Chairpersons are responsible for submitting meeting and annual reports. The copies of all oral and written meeting reports are forwarded to the secretary and filed in individual folders labelled with the committee name.

CHARTER/ARCHIVES

Most Secretaries know where the charter and archives are located. The Diocesan secretary keeps copies of all minutes, reports, convention material, roll call lists, parish lists; election lists etc. and forwards these documents to the Past President for archiving at the end of the term.

EMAIL

Those secretaries who have access to email use it as their best communication tool. At the Diocesan level, email is the primary communication, information is shared immediately (no waiting for that busy signal) and there is written confirmation for both members.

CHALLENGES

Challenges were expressed by secretaries who did not receive written reports or motions. In some cases just keeping going are a major challenge, executive level changes, more senior membership, and lack of attendance at meetings. At Diocesan it is just keeping on top of everything and trying to streamline where possible. Another Diocesan challenge to get information to those councils who do not have email and making changes when councils send new information.

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Those secretaries, who reported, seemed pleased that they were accomplishing this great task for their council. The realization that they are recording history is itself awesome; and they do it well. Any position we accept we continue to grow.

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TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Suzanne Eng

I received reports from 42 out of 56 councils. It should be noted that there were 4 new councils in each of 2009 and 2010 that did not report.

All council treasurers that did report maintain financial records in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws and the National Guidelines for Treasurers. ("Guidelines" for short)

Established councils have their books reviewed (not audited) at least every two years. The reviewer is usually a member of the parish with financial knowledge. Several councils report that the pastor or spiritual advisor has final approval on expenditures.

Most councils prepare a budget for the year. New treasurers can access the Guidelines for a sample budget.

Challenges include setting budgets, declining memberships due to age, and getting members to pay their dues on time. There were also some concerns about how long National took to process per capita fees. With the on-line registration process now in its second year, this issue seems to have been addressed.

Accomplishments include setting & sticking to budgets, and fulfilling the financial commitments made to their parishes.

Once the donation reports were tallied, I personally was amazed at how generous CWL members are. Over and above any personal donations, the councils of this diocese donated over \$140,000 to numerous worthy causes. Our League is AWESOME!!!

DIOCESAN TREASURER'S ACTIVITIES FOR 2010:

1. Prepared 2009 financial records and forwarded them to accountants for annual review.
2. Attended the Priests' Appreciation Dinner on January 29
3. Participated in "More than Gold" hospitality at the Vancouver Chancery during 2010 Olympics.
4. Presented annual treasurer's report to Diocesan Convention
5. Participated in Human Trafficking presentation at Diocesan Convention
6. Attended Provincial Convention
7. Prepared and presented budget for 2011.
8. Attended Human Trafficking Forum sponsored by Region 6.

Throughout the year, I maintained the financial records, made bank deposits as required, paid all bills as submitted, served as resource person for member councils, and prepared and presented reports at each diocesan meeting.

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Evelyn Rigby

50 reports from 57 councils (1 Inactive)

Of our 56 active councils, only 40 had Immediate Past Presidents. Six new councils had no past president. Other explanations for missing past presidents were as follows: unavailability or unwillingness to serve during the extended terms of their presidents, ill health, lapsed membership, moves and death.

SERVE THE PRESIDENT AND/ OR THE COUNCIL- All comments indicated that active past presidents added an air of stability and provided seasoned strength to their councils. Almost all past presidents regularly attended meetings and events, were available in a consultative capacity, advising on CWL procedures and reminding the president of schedules. Some acted as parish liaisons and others represented or accompanied their president at Archdiocesan meetings.

The extra tasks they performed were numerous and wide-ranging, from organizing quilting bees and activating phone trees, to taking care of the Book of Life and running elections. In addition a number of them chaired standing committees. They ran meetings, fundraised, convened special events, collected for Domestic Abuse Services, delivered donations, took Minutes, acted as Treasurer, helped prepare speeches, stocked up on catering supplies, helped with the membership drive, ran the White Ribbon campaign, gathered information for a Catholic Girl's League, advertised and convened bazaars and work bees, and organized greeters for Mass. In several instances this left them with little time to work on the archives. One past president reported that she was given ten extra tasks. Eight reported that they did not involve themselves significantly in extra activities. Two-thirds of our councils appointed their past president chair of the elections committee. It was evident that councils wanted their past presidents to be involved in most of their activities and relied heavily on them when presidents could not be present.

ARCHIVES / HISTORY-Half of our Past Presidents were caring for the archives with no help. More than half reported having no archival index or history book. Significant anniversaries were recognized as good opportunities to begin or add to one. Most councils mentioned having scrapbooks, photo albums and minutes. A few produced an annual DVD, with one using it as a fund raiser. Almost all councils stored their archives safely in locked cupboards or filing cabinets. A few councils mentioned having no official storage space on their parish premises.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS and MANUAL of POLICY & PROCEDURES- A quarter of our councils used these as a reference, but most councils preferred to rely on the expertise of experienced members with regard to correct League procedure. Only four councils reported giving each member a copy of the C&B.

BIGGEST CHALLENGES- and GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS- Difficulties faced by some councils often became the happy achievements reported by others.

(a) Challenges included finding time to comply with all responsibilities, preserving the fine balance between advising and interfering, training a new president and new pastor, moving

forward from past grievances, keeping the archives updated and forming a vibrant election slate of officers. All recognized that the well-being of the council was paramount, with many reporting how illness, resignations, static and ageing membership, and younger members' reluctance to take office weakened them. Also, many councils recognized that for planned events they needed to find new ways of increasing participation of members beyond the "faithful few".

(b) Accomplishments included good relationships with their presidents, co-operative meetings, availability by email, completion of unpopular jobs, archives weeded, organized and indexed, an updated Book of Life, and all events recorded for posterity. Of note were the welcome given to a new pastor and his subsequent attendance at all meetings, the great satisfaction derived from mentoring a new parish, election successes with complete rosters, new members taking on leadership positions, and the joy of seeing a new executive flourish. Other win situations included calling a meeting to resolve specific problems, organizing rides for members to meetings, making ladies feel welcome, starting Squirettes, assisting seniors, convening the annual ladies luncheon, supporting D.A.S. and encouraging the breast feeding group. Successful support for the parish entailed getting volunteers to fulfill parish obligations, fundraising for a new church and convening Sunday night dinners. Two mentioned keeping their council active with a few committed members. Another referred to being part of the successful Archdiocesan Convention. One acknowledged the tremendous support she had received from a group of Catholic women and another was honored with a Parish Service Award.

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS-Comments fell into two categories, the first being the parish council's internal need, and the other pointing to Diocesan, Provincial or National responsibilities. For the former, there was a need for exchange of ideas with regard to archiving, more support from pastors and increased outreach to other parish groups. For the latter, Diocesan meetings were a great educational tool. It was felt that more attention should be paid to adapting methods more suited to today's life style with simpler and speedier methods of achieving results, educating youth on the endless possibilities that the Catholic Women's League has to offer, providing a detailed list of responsibilities and better guidelines, and making certain that all members obey and understand the bylaws.

DIOCESAN CHAIRPERSON'S ACTIVITIES OVER THE PAST YEAR

As well as acting in an advisory capacity at all executive and general meetings, I submitted the required oral reports and communiqués, I attended three levels of convention and presented reports on them to all the councils I mentored. I assisted my president and various councils with research and advice, always copying my emails to my president and president-elect when advising on policy and procedure. I acted as greeter and mentor at the Priests' Appreciation Dinner and took part in several planning sessions of the Archdiocesan Convention. When members of my own parish council were unable to handle the travel and time involved in Archdiocesan Convention Planning sessions I deputized for them. I also attended one Provincial Convention Planning meeting. I designed an abbreviated annual report form for new councils. Tasked by President Gisela with chairing the Elections Committee for 2011, I began setting up a timetable for the process. I filled in as secretary at one Officers' Planning Meeting, and attended a human trafficking forum at St. Stephen's as well as seminars on parliamentary training. I also updated the archives and archival index in my own home, organized and labeled photos, made copies of pertinent BC Catholic clippings, and worked on the written account of my own presidency. One delightful and rewarding part of my work until September was as head of the Archdiocesan League Development Team, helping to form four new councils. The bulk of my work, however, was only made possible by the generous members of our Archdiocese who provided comfortable billeting arrangements, and, of course, the ferry fund. Deo Gratias!

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ORGANIZATION ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Jenny Shaw

Organization Report 2010 for Convention book

43 councils reported out of 56. This was ten more than last year but still not 100%. It should be noted that two of the councils are extremely new – they started in November and December so they really have nothing to report. Several councils are facing huge challenges with members either dying or needing to take time to care for loved ones who are mortally ill. Membership in the Archdiocese was tantalizingly close to 4500 last year (4498) and the number of councils reached 56. Due to the hard work of Evelyn Rigby the councils of St Joseph's Port Moody, St Helen's, St Joseph's Vancouver and Corpus Christi were added.

Recruitment of members is still done using the tried and true methods of CWL Sunday with speakers at masses and making sure that the League is very visible – the wearing of scarves and pins is thought to be very helpful. Post cards are used to make signs and handed out or left in the pews. Announcements are put in bulletins and there is a strong CWL presence at parish functions such as bazaars, Ministry Fairs or RCIA information evenings.

The **Service pins** awarded were as follows –

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|----|
| ➤ 10 year | 83 | ➤ 25 year | 48 |
| ➤ 40 year | 17 | ➤ 50 year | 13 |
| ➤ 60 year | 5 | ➤ 75 year | 1 |
| ➤ Maple leaf Service Pin | 5 | ➤ No Bellelle Guerin were awarded | |

Other awards included a papal blessing and certificates awarded with flowers for 80 years of membership.

League development and Leadership training was assisted by attending courses and workshops. This prepared members for the responsibility of Executive positions. Councils found adequate **League resource material** on line and in handbooks. More councils are completing **annual reports** as a group – with a social component to the meeting and find this method very successful. Eight of the councils in the diocese have **Life Members** and consider them to be an excellent resource, offering advice and guidance.

The overwhelming **challenge** seems to be one shared by the majority of councils – the recruitment and retention of members – most especially the younger ones. Unfortunately the picture that young women have of the League seems to be older women who do bake sales and funeral teas. The larger picture – the attention to legislation, writing resolutions and the representatives who go to parliament – that is missed, and we need to stress this aspect more so that new members realize that it is not just a bake sale for a new dishwasher in the parish centre (worthy as that cause may be) but the protection of life and moral values and improvement in the living conditions of the citizens of Canada.

Members take pride in all that their **accomplishments** –increasing membership, involving new members and fund raising which enables them to support a vast array of charitable causes. Several councils report that they have suffered setbacks but are managing to keep functioning.

There were a few **suggestions** – one was that the on-line system is a very positive step but could be improved. There could be email prompts to councils about outstanding renewals. The web sites were found to be inaccessible by one council. A new Leadership and Training Workshop should be introduced.

It has been a very busy year there were many **activities** – we had the Priests Appreciation Dinner in February which was very well attended as it was the Year of the Priest. Since it was such a special celebration we made extra efforts – a spiritual bouquet for the priests on a lovely book mark and a video presentation compiled from pictures sent in by the councils and any that could be obtained from the Chancery or Internet for the parishes that still have no CWL. This one event took hours to organize.

In addition to the Diocesan Convention, we also hosted the Provincial Convention in Richmond – so more planning meetings! Both conventions were great – the Diocesan one was considered to be one of the best ever!

Our Past President, Evelyn Rigby worked very hard to set up new councils in several parishes. As a mentor I attended a meeting at Holy Spirit Council, New Westminster and after a promotional meeting at St Joseph's Vancouver, was able to attend one of their meetings too. I also went to promotional meetings at St Helen's in Burnaby, Corpus Christi in Vancouver and St Joseph's Port Moody. I was invited to the inaugural meeting for the new council at St Joseph's in Port Moody. I was delegated the responsibility of League Development by Evelyn - I have started setting up a Team to assist in recruiting new councils and mentoring the existing ones who seem to be having problems.

I have attended all executive and General meetings and encouraged people to get the Life Stories of our "Over 90" members. I went to the fundraising DAS luncheon at St Matthew's and accompanied our president, Gisela to the Rosary for Life at Holy Rosary Cathedral. On December 18th I travelled with some of the other members of the executive, up to Powell River, to attend their 75th Anniversary – great fun! I had the privilege of attending all three levels of Conventions. Thank you for affording me the opportunity to further my knowledge of the League and meet so many wonderful women.

In addition it has been a very eventful year in my parish – a priest left and a new one came, our former pastor celebrated 60 years in the priesthood and the current pastor celebrated 25 years – all these were duly honoured with dinners and receptions!

It has been a privilege to serve the League in this position. I am eager to take on the position of President, and with God's guidance, will fulfill my duties to meet our goals and objectives.

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
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SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Julie Rose

I pray that over the past two years I have been able to offer Spiritual enlightenment through my communiqués, retreat, readings and reflections.

I received 32 reports and as in the past year have learned so much about the women in our Archdiocese. You have taught me so much and have helped me grow in my spirituality. Your love for God and Canada is shown through all that you do. I have truly been blessed by for opportunity to be your Spiritual Development Chair. Thank you for your good works, your prayers and help in “Telling His Glory Among the Nations”.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Ceremonies Booklet: It is to be noted that many of the councils use the booklet for the instillation of officers and/or for the deceased members only. Very few use the booklet for much else. Many of the reporting parishes have an Honour Guard at deceased member's funerals.

Spiritual Programs/Mass: Most councils have Mass prior to their meetings. Programs are set according to the needs of the parish council. Prayers, reflection and videos are used by many councils during their meeting times. Breaking into small groups for discussion on these presentations is also done at meetings.

All Diocesan meetings as well as the executive meetings start with Mass. A scripture reading is given with a reflection of that reading at the beginning of each meeting. A reflective prayer relating to the reading is given at the end of each meeting.

Guest Speakers / Videos Etc.: Some of the parishes bring in a Guest speaker at different times of the year. The Spiritual Advisors are the most frequently invited but other speakers talk on matters that impact our faith or reflect the Liturgical time of the year.

Retreat/Days of Reflection: Most councils have a retreat or Day of Reflection during the year. Some even twice or three times throughout the year. Some reported that they intend to start having Days of Reflection. Some regions join together for their Days of Reflection and/or retreats. This brings together a much bigger group and allows the women to share with others in the neighbouring parishes. Many partake in World Day of Prayer.

STUDY OF CATHOLIC TEACHINGS: Many parishes offer study groups that the ladies are encouraged to attend. Bible study, Life in the Spirit and encouraging members to use such media as EWTN, Salt & Light TV as a source of Church teaching. Spiritual Growth is encouraged by reading the League publication “Women of Pace and Hope” and special pamphlets of prayers and workshops from national. All reporting councils use their Parish bulletins as a means of promoting the League or inviting new members to join in spiritual events. Unfortunately not many parishes elaborated in this area as the question on their report was pertaining to how they promote and publicize courses and programs that enrich your faith rather than what programs are promoted.

ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH: Mainly through promotion, by examples, speaking out to individuals after masses and through our network of e-mails and by newsletters. Through the use of the CWL resource materials and biblical reflections from books. By showing the members the purpose and meaning of different church and community activities and what a difference they can make by their participation in these activities. Promoting awareness of women's role in church and society as found in the scriptures through read stories of women in scripture and discuss their importance to the Early Church as well as their relevance to the Church today. Some of the women are members of the altar society, Eucharistic Ministers or Lecturers. Some teach in the PREP programs, sing in the parish choir, are on their parish councils or special parish committees. They host funerals as well as many other parish events.

EVANGELIZATION & MISSION ASSISTANCE: These are some of the many groups that are supported by the councils in our Archdiocese: Sisters of the Child Jesus, Franciscans Sisters of the Atonement, Domestic Abuse Society, Eva's House Agape Street Ministry, Covenant House, Net Ministry, Campaign Life, Pro-life Society, Net Ministry, MaterCare, Community Services, development and Peace, Food Bank, World Youth Day. Donations to PREP and a gift toward the parish for construction purposes.

LAY MINISTRIES: Our members are very much involved in this aspect of their parishes. May are Eucharistic Ministers, Lecturer, teach PREP & RCIA, sing in the church choir, St. Vincent de Paul members, on the Parish councils and members of their Pastoral committee.

ECUMENISM & INTERFAITH ENDEAVOURS: World day of Prayer seems to be the one event that the majority of the parishes partake.

DECEASED MEMBERS: Honor guards are present at the deceased members funerals whenever possible. Most seem to be reporting their deceased member to National in a timely manner.

ACTION ON RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS STANDING COMMITTEE: Our focus this past year has been on Human Trafficking. Especially with us hosting the Olympics last February. Child pornography and euthanasia were also areas of action taken by some parishes.

BIGGEST CHALLENGE: Having members attend monthly Mass and meetings. Some felt there was not enough time at meetings for Spiritual presentations. Preparing Spiritual reading appropriate for the meetings. Time allotment at meetings seems to be the biggest obstacle in most parishes

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Being able to encourage more spiritual involvement and activates at monthly meetings as well as having more members come out to events like Days of Recollection. Our greatest accomplishment is having a capable and talented member accept the call to leadership.

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS: encourage participation in parish activities; promote study of Catholic teachings; organize spiritual retreats on Role of Women in the church; encourage members to do short reflection on scripture readings during monthly meetings as well as enhance their leadership and public speaking skills.

May our Patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel watch over and guide us as we continue to grow spiritually and continue our service to God and Canada.

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
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CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Susan Schembri

26 reports were submitted, and out of those 26, 5 submitted reports stating that there was no chair in their parish. The president completed the report recording work done by the members.

1.FAMILY & MARRIAGE Councils promote Marriage and Family issues in different ways. One council collected over \$1000.00(in coin) during the pro-life Bottle Drive. Other councils make baby clothes hampers and give them to the Sisters of Charity for distribution. Some councils have a group of ladies that visit single parent families and make sure they are looked after. Other councils attended the Freedom of Love conference by Christopher West. They found it very helpful, and passed the information to their members.

2.SANCTITY OF LIFE

Most Councils hold membership and support their local Pro Life Groups. Few councils support the Focus on Life dinner, and make sure they are represented at the dinner or financial donation. Few councils had members attend the March for Life in Victoria. Others have held workshops on End of Life Issues by CHABC .One council brought in one of the speakers of the March for Life to speak at their general meeting. Councils subscribe to Newsletter “Life Canada News” and “Euthanasia Prevention Coalition”, and then they circulate the newsletters among their members. Many councils attend Prayer Vigil for the Unborn, followed by Rosary at different locations. All councils reported they write letters to their Members of Parliament on different issues, and they get petitions signed as needed.

3.MINISTRY TO YOUTH

Few councils reported they have the youth in the parish assist with a Bible Study – The Great Adventure. Some councils have a youth group in their parish, so the councils support their activities and provide rides or other assistance if needed. One council had Modesty for Christ presentation- dressing with dignity, and it was well attended. Many councils give bursaries to PREP students and to elementary and High School students.2 councils have implemented fundraisers to assist the youth with their costs to attend the World Youth Day. Some support the CCO Programme or give Prayer Cards for First Holy Communion and Confirmation recipients.

DISABLED:

Most councils reported they assist in this area by providing rides to Mass or doctor's office and shopping. One council hosts an annual birthday party at one of the local residence for elderly. One council has a disabled member take part in the liturgy. Another council managed to donate 6 boxes of BC Grown apples to a local home, and 3 boxes to the Deaf Community. Many councils have parish outreach programme and the disabled can call and ask for assistance.

SENIORS:

Many councils report that majority of membership consists of seniors. Councils honor their seniors in a variety of ways, such as Seniors Appreciation Luncheon, or Tea. One council has adopted a policy to pay for the annual membership fee of members who are 80 yrs and over. One council developed a

very important activity. This council drives senior parishioners to open houses at various independent living facilities around the lower mainland.

WIDOWED:

Most councils provide strong support by way of Mass cards and visits. Members provide Honor Guard and Music for funerals. Some councils have a "Busy Hand Group". This allows members to get together and learn to do crafts and learn to participate in table games. One council reports that they have a "widow" Group in their parish.

SEPERATED & DIVORCED:

Councils all reported that they welcome all members regardless of their marital status. If and when required they refer the individuals to community based support groups, preferably ones that are offered by The Catholic Family Services. Mainly the DAS.

4.VOCATIONS

One council has a "Vocation Prayer Cross" and they circulate this cross from one family to another, to encourage members to pray for vocations. One parish held a series of retreat during the year to learn more about the priesthood and pray for vocations. Some councils sponsored seminarians by way of financial assistance and some by prayers/Most councils supported and had members attend the Priests' Appreciation Dinner. Many councils encourage their members to invite the parish priest for dinner, and they also invite him for their functions held by CWL. Most councils support the seminarians and priests by praying for them. One council visits retired priests.

5.ACTION ON RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS STANDING COMMITTEE

One council reported that they worked on Euthanasia.

6.BIGGEST CHALLENGE

My biggest challenge is keeping my communiqué to 2 pages, when there is so much information to be shared. The councils' biggest challenge is to have a convener for this chair and to have members attend their meeting. Most councils find this position covers a vast area of issues and they cannot always be supportive of all areas, they find it almost too much for one person to cover, especially for some senior members.

7.GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Working with the conveners of CFL and being of assistance to them when they needed help. I have managed to get to know many of them. My greatest accomplishment was that we had a very successful and well attended Sisters' Appreciation Dinner. The councils accomplishment among many was that they were able to raise awareness on Pro Life and Euthanasia.

8.COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

The most common suggestion made is to combine some of the committees as they overlap. A suggestion was made to develop a Diocesan Newsletter for all councils, containing information from diocesan meetings, future workshops, kits developed by other councils and best practices that work , surveys, featuring members (not just executive) for their long lived and worthwhile participation. In light of the comments noted on some reports, I recommend that this chair be shared by two members if possible, to help ease the load.

I thank you for allowing me to serve as Christian Family Life convener. It has been a pleasure and an honor. May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless and guide us as we journey together. God Bless you all.

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
VANCOUVER DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

COMMUNITY LIFE ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Anne Marie Sullivan

DIGNITY & RIGHTS OF PERSON: *(It is our responsibility, as Christian women and members of a national organization, to play an active role in opposing discrimination wherever and whatever form it appears)* Throughout 2010 councils have continued their support in bringing the problem of Human trafficking to the for front by; lobbying , writing letters to government on our CWL resolutions 2008.01 > Preventing Human Trafficking at 2010 Olympics 2009.01 > Exit Strategies for Prostituted Persons and 2009.02 > Protection and Support for Foreign Victims of Human trafficking. They supported Bill C268 , sending postcards saying No to legalize prostitution, attending and sponsoring forum by REED(Resist Exploitation, Embrace Dignity). Several CWL members attend the planning meetings of REED and Emancipation Now, which are groups committed in combating prostitution and human trafficking. Letter writing and sending postcards were also sent to government opposing Bill C384 -(euthanasia and assisted suicide),with one council sending in 600 signed postcards ..

SOCIAL & ECONOMIC JUSTICE: *(We must be active in making sure that the most vulnerable members in our society are protected with love and justice)* Councils continue to help those in need by visiting the sick in hospital as well as home. Bringing communion, assisting in anointing of the sick, arranging transportation to mass and providing senior's luncheons. Support is also given financially as well as volunteering to organizations helping the less fortunate such as the “Door is Open” DAS/OLGC, AGAPE Street Ministry, Sisters of the Atonement, The Inn from the Cold,Talitha Khoum,L'Arche, Pro-Life ,and Canadian Ministries to name a few. With in their own community they gave support to local food banks, soup kitchens, clothing drives for the homeless and organizations such as Food for Cyrus Circle (youth drop-in), Coats for Kids, Tiny Bundles Programme (food bank for babies in Surrey) Globally - Several councils sponsored a child from Chalice Programme or adopted a family through Save a Family Plan. Under economic justice - councils made a resolution in their parish to ban all use of Styrofoam ,promoted Fair Trade products, wrote letters to government in support of Bill C474 An Act respecting the Seeds Regulations their MLA, Bill C 304 (An Act to ensure secure, adequate, accessible and affordable housing for Canadians), CWL resolution 2003 -01 (Affordable Housing for Low-Income Canadians),CWL resolution 1010-1 Chrysotile Asbestos. Supporting economic justice issues, councils reminded their members to support the local farmers, drink tap water instead of bottled water, recycle and reused items, ban Styrofoam.

Immigration, Refugees, & Citizenship: *(Canada and the League has a long standing tradition of welcoming new citizens. CWL was first founded in order to help women immigrants (war brides) during World War 1)*

Councils that had refugees or new immigrants in their community reported assisting in a “welcome new parishioners” event where information and pamphlets were given out on the different groups within the parish, assisting in ELS programs , providing interpreters, helping with to shopping, cooking and living in our country, Some councils also helped furnish their homes and provided clothing by holding clothing drives and giving financial donations. Others held parish pot-luck suppers in their honour - eating their native food, making them feel

welcomed. They also held special Spanish masses for their Mexican workers and volunteers aided in transportation to the masses. At a government level they wrote letters to government to improve the immigration laws for those caught in Human Trafficking and Prostitution.

CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE CCODP is Canada's official Catholic overseas development organization, launched by the Canadian Congress of Catholic Bishops Councils continue their support behaving collections at monthly meetings towards the 1 % program, by annual donations to the national voluntary fund for CCODP and by encouraging members to donate personally to CCODP. One council along with the KofC held a Fish-fry the last Friday of Lent with all proceeds going to CCODP, another addressed the congregation at all three Sunday masses on CCODP, handed out and collected Hunger in the World brochures then sent them to CODP, one held a Share Lent coffee collection, several held fundraiser to aid Haiti & Pakistan, while others participated in " stations of the cross" for CCODP. Most of all, councils always keep CCODP in their prayers, for God to guide them in their work.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (To help a family become economically independent is to help a community become economically independent) Councils gave support to developing countries through donations made to several charities such as Canadian Food for Children, MaterCare International, Chalice, Save a Family Plan, Aids program in Africa, and World Day of Prayer. They also raised awareness in Canadian Mining practices in developing countries and wrote letters to government on Bill C300 (An Act respecting Corporate Accountability for the Activities of Mining Oil or Gas in Developing Countries and worked on our CWL resolutions 2007.02 > Global Accountability for Canadian Registered Mining Companies as well as resolutions 2005.06 > Developing Countries and Water, 2000.03 > Promotion of Fair Trade Coffee.

BIGGEST CHALLENGE

Many councils reported that they were overwhelmed with the vast area covered by this chair "Community Life" and would like to see it broken up. Therefore I found my biggest challenge is reporting on issues of importance without overwhelming the members with information, yet still informing them on issues that are necessary.

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I feel one of my accomplishments to be my personal growth on the issue of Human Trafficking of Women and Children , secondly promoting the forum by REED on Human Trafficking ,held at St. Ann's Parish in the Fraser Valley. My third accomplishment would be my presentation on what " Community Life Chair" involves at one of our general diocesan meetings.

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS

I would like to stress to councils that find this chair overwhelming, **we** need your comments and your suggestions in order to make changes, do not just give up. You can make a difference. All headings under this chair are important and by working together we can make it work. Therefore my suggestion is that: All level of CWL take a good look at the content of this chair and send in their suggestions to the National CWL and see what if any changes could be done.

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
VANCOUVER DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

EDUCATION & HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Johanna Nethercott

I received 28 reports from a total of 56 councils. Thank you for all you have done in your councils and communities. Keep up the good work.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Catholic Schools and Catechesis - Councils financially supported PREP and CCD programs and a few councils had members who taught the programs. One council studied catechism at every general meeting. Many councils provided hospitality and gifts to the children receiving their first communion and confirmation. Some councils kept members informed of the new curriculum from the provincial government and how it pertains to Catholic education. One council supported their high school by providing a “dry” graduation party. Some councils financially support the building of their new elementary schools. Another council donated trophies and book prizes to the students of their school for the annual theme essay contest. Two councils started Youth Faith Formation Programs. Another council assisted with T3 Mathew program for young adults. Some member’s facilitated or attended the Great Adventure Bible Study program. One council had a weekly Bible Sharing session.

Rites of Christian Initiation - Many councils had members who were involved with the RCIA as sponsors, facilitators and or provided hospitality during the Easter Vigil.

LITERACY AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Councils kept members informed about continuing education opportunities and had guest speakers on a variety of health related topics including Agape Street Ministry, stress, depression, the Hospice Society, medication for the elderly, extended care, palliative care, Alzheimer’s, Angel’s Cradle at St Paul’s Hospital, and the Nature of the Liturgical Rite. Councils discussed issues such as pornography, human trafficking, abortion, euthanasia, diabetes, stress, cancer, wellness, emergency kits, oral health, blood donation, suicide prevention in different cultures, and vegetarianism. One council contributed to the Newman Association at UBC. Some councils promoted International Literacy Day and computer literacy courses. Others contributed financially to and encourage their members to use their parish libraries. One council had two members attend the Congress, another encouraged attendance at Theology of Life courses. One chairperson attended the End of Life Forum. Some councils encouraged and supported members to attend conventions. Councils encouraged members to contribute to the Coady International Institute.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

Many councils provided their own bursaries ranging from \$200 to \$1000 to students who are going on to a post-secondary educational institution. Other councils awarded bursaries ranging from \$50 to \$500 to grade 7 students attending Catholic high school. One council provided two bursaries to the most improved students.

WELLNESS & SICKNESS/DISEASE

Chairpersons kept their members informed on health topics and encouraged their members to think about the corresponding Catholic point of view. Many councils had members who were Domestic Abuse Services members and some volunteered with DAS. Other councils had members who visited in hospitals and took communion to the sick. Councils had guest speakers on shopping for nutritional products, osteoporosis, heart and stroke, ways to prevent cancer, and nutrition. One chairperson provided her council with information regarding anti-oxidants, toxins, overuse of phosphates, and Triclosan and cosmetic products with parabens. One council held membership with the Catholic Health Association of BC and another council had a member attend the CHABC convention.

Councils encouraged letter writing on various issues. North Shore CWL councils donated \$5000 to a New Hospice that opened November 2010.

ENVIRONMENT

Councils promoted awareness of environmental issues, Earth Day, re-cycling, and encouraged members to become aware of how individuals can support the environment. One council car-pooled, others recycled paper from meetings and had meeting notices posted online. Some councils eliminated the use of plastic and Styrofoam cups and plates, while another uses recyclable cups at meetings.

GENETICS

Many councils educated members on the churches teachings about stem cell research and encouraged them to go to Father Tad's website for more information, and to review the Catholic Organization for Life & Family website and brochures. One council had "many many" discussions about stem cells.

BIGGEST CHALLENGE

There is so much information to share under this committee. I enjoyed researching and writing my communiqués. At the same time my biggest challenge has been condensing the vast amount of information available into a two-pages.

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This includes updating the Vancouver Archdiocesan Bursary application form and criteria. I gave a presentation on the Education and Health standing committee to Holy Rosary Cathedral council at one of their general meeting.

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

If this position is vacant on your council consider splitting it into two separate positions. Remember that your diocesan counterpart is a great resource available to you. It has been my great privilege to serve you as chairperson. My League work gives me so much joy. It is a wonderful gift from the Holy Spirit for learning and growth. Sisters, please step forward in faith and action. He is waiting to hear you say "Here I am Lord send me."

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
VANCOUVER DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Vinola Aguilera

Number of parishes reporting 25 out of 56; Reading reports gives a good reflection of how much work is being done at parish level. I have observed that the accomplishments exceed the challenges. Thank you to all the Communication Chairs who reported.

Where did the time go? I can hardly believe that a year has passed since our last convention. I have learned a lot about communication, so please permit me to share this information with you. I have just read a book called “The New Tolerance by John McDowell and Bob Hostetler. This book explains how our cultural movement threatens to destroy you, your faith and your children. This critical message will empower you to neutralize this threat by discerning truth from error. The new tolerance offers a thoroughly biblical message of love and hope in the face of a culture increasingly bent on sabotaging the foundation of your faith and that of your children. I highly recommend this book, please be observant for examples that might come across your daily life.

Pornography and Human Trafficking: Councils are working hard through the Wrap Campaign, petitions, and letter writing to MPs to eradicate these two vicious crimes in our society. They are raising awareness of this modern day slavery and cancer in their communities.

Promotion of the League: Councils throughout the Diocese are promoting the league through use of the media, membership drives, invitation from the pulpit, personal invitation and retreats. They keep a high profile in parish activities, wear their scarves and pins at funeral receptions and participate in the Marian Procession while saying the rosary in multiple international languages.

Canadian League Magazine: All councils reported using and promoting the magazine. They select interesting articles for discussions at their general meetings. They share with parish members as well as friends and family members. Some submitted articles to the magazine.

League Websites: Members are always encouraged to share articles, stories, pictures and to post events. They are also reminded to protect the privacy of others by sending written consent to publish pictures, as well as accessing the sites for registration forms for conventions, read communiqués to get ideas and see what the up-line executives are doing. Three great websites!! Three great resource tools!!! Use them.

CRTC and Media: Councils are very much aware of today's issues on TV and the internet. They keep members informed of good content and programs such as the EWTN and Salt and Light. They encourage subscriptions to these networks. Others support local media on league issues, like the walk for life in Victoria. They echoed issues like Abortion, Euthanasia, stop the use of bottled water, and prostitution. Some members wrote CRTC to protest objectionable programming. **Media is the best asset to any organization it is a tool that is underutilized.** Let us continue to use it to further our aims and make our issues known.

Greatest Accomplishments: Most councils felt their greatest accomplishments were educating members by holding workshops, successful Wrap Campaigns, compiling members email addresses and writing newsletters. Others, increased membership, encouraged members to stand for executive positions, invited guest speakers. Some other accomplishments were the joint effort of a “Blood Drive Campaign” a social activity with a “Fashion show;” Sharing inspirational talks, and conducting an emergency preparedness program for the parish community

Greatest Challenges: Finding a chairperson, inactive members, getting notices to members in a timely manner, finding something to share that does not conflict with others and no computer access.

Suggestions: Breaking up in groups at the general meetings with Diocesan standing Chairs, to be reminded of upcoming events, set up a network of Chairs and encourage more communication at a higher level.

Activities of Diocesan Chairperson: Attended the Archdiocesan Convention in West Vancouver and the Provincial Convention in Richmond. I was the planning committee Chairperson for the Provincial Convention. Submitted an article to the Catholic News for the Bursary students and attended all general and Executive meetings and prepared communiqués and reports as required.

Submitted two articles to the Archdiocesan website, assisted with the ICD membership drive, attended The World day of Prayer 2011 and The Sister’s Appreciation Dinner; Sent out communiqués to my Provincial counterpart and attended the Lenten Retreat at St. Clare of Assisi

Accomplishments / Challenges / Comments: My greatest accomplishments were becoming a bit more computer savvy, learning many new skills and protocol as I chaired the Provincial Convention, became more aware of league issues and learning about the correct format for presenting petition.

My challenges were finding my way to meetings as the venues changed from time to time, not being to attend some forums I thought were important, and trying to get parishes to submit reports.

As this is my last report as Diocesan Communication Chairperson I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all. It was a privilege to serve in this capacity and it was a most humbling experience. I trust that I communicated to the needs of all.

I would like to leave this thought. The pen is mightier than the sword and prayer is the most powerful weapon we possess. Let us use these to do God’s work as women of Peace and Hope serving with Faith and Joy. I enjoyed every minute of my time on Diocesan Council and hope to continue to serve if needed. I am grateful for your support and prayers over the last two years. May God bless us all as we work for God and country.

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
VANCOUVER DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

LEGISLATION ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Roxanne McDonald

34 reports on Legislation were submitted – of those 34, 7 submitted reports stating that there was no chair in their parish and no report was filled in. The other 27 reports all had some comments attached.

Monitor & Study Legislation at all levels of Government

Most councils reported letter writing campaigns, petitions, telephone calls, visits to MP's and MLA's and postcards on the following bills:

C-384 – An Act to amend the Criminal Code (right to die with dignity)

M-388 – Call on the government to update the Criminal Code to prevent counseling of suicide over the internet

C-49 – An Act to Amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, the Balance refugee Reform Act and the Marine Transportation Security Act (preventing human smugglers from abusing Canada's Immigration System Act)

C-474 – An Act Respecting the Seeds Regulations (analysis of potential harm)

C-4 – An Act to amend the youth Criminal Justice Act and to make consequential and related amendments to other Acts (Sebastien's Law-protecting the public from violent young offenders)

C-268 – An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (minimum sentences for offences involving trafficking persons under the age of eighteen years)

C-570 – An Act respecting the labeling of food products containing sodium

C-22 – An Act respecting the mandatory reporting of internet child pornography by persons who provide an internet service (Protecting children from online sexual Exploitation Act)

C-545 – An Act to Eliminate Poverty in Canada (Poverty Elimination Act)

C-300 – An Act Respecting Corporate Accountability for the activities of mining, oil or gas in developing countries

C-385 – An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (computer virus programs)

C-510 – An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (coercion) An Act to Prevent Coercion of pregnant Women to Abort (Roxanne's Law)

C-205 – An Act respecting the labeling of food products

Other Local, Provincial and Federal Action:

- Many councils corresponded on a regular basis with Alex Schadenberg of the Euthanasia Prevention Council.
- Letters were written to the 5 provincial liberal candidates on education, pastoral care and the increase in health-cost wastage.
- Postcards were sent to CEO of Fraser Health Region Palliative/Hospice care.
- Many councils attended the March for Life and continue to speak for the unborn.

Action on Resolutions pertaining to this Standing Committee:

- 2008-01- Preventing human trafficking at 2010 Olympics
- 2008.04- Accurate food labeling
- 2002.06- Labeling on Prepackaged foods
- 1997.06- Genetically Engineered Foods

Biggest Challenges

- Finding a legislation chairperson
- Focusing on which issues to pursue and what action will be most effective
- Keeping members interested and motivated
- Lack of time to respond quickly
- Keeping updated on the process of specific bills

Greatest Accomplishment

- Defeat of Bill C-384!! – Relaying information about legislation issues
- Seeing results by members actions: phoning, letter writing, petitions, and post-cards
- Informing members so that they are aware of issues and have a better understanding of legislation and how it affects our lives and how we can affect it!

Comments/Suggestions (from parish councils)

- Have separate meetings on legislation giving more time to focus on specific Bills
- Distribute the study of Bills to specific regions so there would be greater focus and effort
- Provide more communication between legislation and resolution chairs
- Give clear direction and provide definite things to work on
- Have Diocesan chairperson email their communiqués to parish legislation chairs before diocesan meetings so they would be prepared for action

Diocesan Chairperson Activities over the past year

My plea to presidents this past year has been to bring at least 1 of the 2 items from my communiqué to their general meetings whether they have a legislation chair or not. By keeping my communiqués short, concise and focused, parish councils are able to ACT on current issues in a timely fashion. As CWL members and women of faith we have the power, the knowledge and the desire to affect change through legislation. Look what we have done over the past year!

Well done good and faithful servants!

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
VANCOUVER DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

RESOLUTIONS ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Sharon Ciebin

I received 23 parish council reports out of a possible 54, which includes 4 new councils. This year again many presidents wrote out the report and that is encouraging as they addressed the actions and accomplishments of their councils.

Research and Preparation Resolutions & Briefs

Resolution Workshop

A one half day workshop was held in September 2010 for Regions 4, 5 and 6 at St. Joseph's Langley. We had 6 diocesan members and 8 council members in attendance. Two ladies from these regions are presently working on a resolution to be put forward for convention 2012.

Study & Implementation of Resolutions Passed by other levels

Many reports spoke to sharing resolutions with the membership at monthly meetings. Numerous councils studied resolutions and took action by writing letters to the appropriate level of government and/or having a guest speaker at their meetings. Councils use the convention books, various websites of CWL, communiqués and the B.C. Catholic to study relevant up to date resolution topics.

Resolutions highlighted from reports

- Euthanasia and Palliative Care - one council initiated raising funds for a north shore hospice. Another council hosted a guest speaker on palliative care and some councils mentioned receiving the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition Newsletter.
- Trafficking of persons and prostitution was a focus of several councils with members attending information presentations and sharing information at council meetings.

This year, I again focused my communiqués on various resolutions and the action plans that were required. Many councils reported they are actively trying to have their membership write letters, invite guest speakers or gain knowledge on an issue that speaks to their council.

Presentation of Resolutions to Government

Councils make their parish community aware of our visits to the federal and provincial governments during their annual membership drive. One council highlights government visits at their parish fall fair, which to me is a wonderful way to educate all attending the event.

Biggest Challenge

Councils felt that they needed a resolutions chair to be affective in the league. My goal was to educate them that once a resolution is passed it belongs to the specific standing committee it pertains to, an example is 2010.01 Chrysotile Asbestos which falls under community life. Any action taken on a resolution by your council, needs to be reported. Another constant challenge is finding council members willing to step forward in faith to take this committee chair.

Greatest Accomplishments

Educating members and myself on resolutions and how important taking action is. Letting our members know that resolutions are just words until we, at the parish council level and grass roots take action on them. I presented the focus of the different levels of the League to our members at our diocesan meetings, in my communiqués, during parish visits and mentoring of councils. Through research and study I have personally gained much insight into the League which has enabled me to grow in my faith, and in the understanding and respect for what we do and accomplish.

One of my goals over my two year term was to host a resolutions workshop, which was accomplished in September 2010.

Ladies remember to write your letters to our governments, who are waiting to hear from us.

I leave you with a few words of wisdom (copied from convention resolutions report 2005)

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing”
attributed to Edmund Burke

“*If a man loses reverence for any part of life, he will lose his reverence for all life*”
attributed to Albert Schweitzer

“We can do no GREAT things, only small things with great love”
Blessed Teresa

May these words guide us and challenge us to learn and do more as we work for God and Canada.