

Provincial Catholic Women's League

Communiqué February, 2019



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As predicted in the media, we are having a stormy Sunday and it is so nice to be tucked inside a warm home. Many are not so fortunate. I am always saddened when I am at a garage filling my car with gasoline and I see someone filling a small canister with oil to heat their home. Let's pray that during 2019 many more people will have more housing and financial options for their families.

The new CWL theme chosen by our National President, Anne-Marie Gorman, is **Care for Our Common Home**; this year there will be a concentration on water. We explored this theme at our two Executive meetings/leadership workshops on November 3 and January 5. I was so pleased that 10-12 Presidents and local council Executive members were able to join us on both dates for these successful events. We will be exploring this theme in detail at area meetings, the Provincial Convention and in your local councils and seeing what we, as CWL members, can do to care for our Mother Earth.

Please invite your CWL members to attend Area Meetings on Saturday, February 23, 2019 at the following locations and times:

Kings: St. Peter's Community Centre, from 10:00-1:00

Queens: St. Dunstan's Basilica Basement from 10:00-1:00; regular Mass at 9:00

East Prince: Kinkora Place, from 9:00-12:00 (no hot dishes)

West Prince: Tignish Parish Centre, from 10:00-1:00

The agenda will concentrate on the new CWL theme Caring for our Common Home/ Water and leadership development. Members are asked to bring food for a pot luck lunch. Please ensure this information is in your church bulletin. (Information was sent to Diocesan Office for distribution)

Our Executive members are busy making plans for our Provincial Convention May 3 and 4, 2019 at the Credit Union Place in Summerside. Registration forms, the tentative agenda and posters will be distributed and explained at the area meetings. We hope many of your members will be able to attend.

Some of you are new Presidents and we welcome you in your new role and thank all Presidents for your leadership in your local councils. Let me know what we, as Provincial Council, can do to help you or any of your Executive. There are many resources available on the National Website so don't hesitate to download some of these or ask the Provincial Executive, Life Members and your Past Presidents or others for help.

I would appreciate getting the names, phone numbers, and email addresses for your Local Council Executive Form and return it to me by mail or by email at shpierce@bellaliant.net

President-Elect/Organization: Marilyn Gay Garvey, 1301 Bethel Road, Rte. 215, Bethel, PE, C1B 3L3 Phone: 902-218-3003 e-mail: marilynggarvey@gmail.com

Hope you are enjoying our wintery mix of P.E.I. weather. Before we know it, spring will be on its way. By now you have probably had your annual meetings in your local councils. I extend a warm welcome to all the new and returning members.

As organization chair, you are responsible for getting your memberships renewed and your payments into National Office. I hope you have had some opportunities at mass, events, phone or e-mail to recruit new members whether young or older.

This year we will be having our Area Meetings on Saturday, February 23, 2019 on “Caring for Our Common Home/Water Preservation and Leadership Development”. Further information will be found in the President’s communique plus enclosures.

Again, this year, the Provincial Council will be offering six \$200.00 subsidies so that local councils can provide workshops for our members, parishes, and neighbouring groups. I encourage you to take advantage of this funding. Keep our national theme “Caring for Our Common Home/Water Conservation” in mind when planning your workshop. Please get your subsidy forms in early. Deadline date is May 31, 2019.

Please remember that our life members are available to our councils as resource persons. Mary Hagen, Life Member, is our liaison. She does a great job in this area. You can contact her at 902-566-3830.

Many thanks to the councils for doing their annual reports online this past year. There are great ideas and information on activities that we could do in our councils.

Past President. Irene Gallant, 19 Barrymore Court, Charlottetown, PE, C1A 8C6 Phone: 902-894-8375 e-mail: irenegallant@hotmail.com

I trust that you had a very Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year with family and friends. Our house was busy with the grandchildren (girls 16 and 6 and boys 9 and 3). Now the decorations are down for another year and we are looking forward to spring. I had a question from one council regarding archives – they didn’t know a lot about archives, the purpose, and what needs to be kept – here is the response that I gave:

Information that is kept in the Archives is information that is retained for historical purposes and it includes minutes of council meetings, minutes of provincial executive meetings, motions made, annual reports, and other pertinent items related to the activities of the council including articles, photos (with names to identify the people), and any other relevant information that would be retained on activities of the CWL on PEI. We do not store information that is only kept for 5 years - the information retained does not include bank statements or cancelled cheques. There is a small room at SDU Place on the main floor that is specifically for CWL and the archives are stored in it along with other items such as the Books of Life, flags, etc that are used for the convention and conferences. Provincial CWL makes a donation to SDU Place each year to help offset the cost of the room. Copies of each year's convention booklet are stored there; as

well as other information. Usually, the holders of keys to the CWL room include the President, Past President, and President Elect. Some of our newer Life members also have keys as they like to go in and spend some time there.

I mentioned photos in my answer and we would certainly appreciate receiving photos and newspaper clippings but please ensure that there are dates mentioned and names of people on the back. I hope that this information will help you to update your archives and remember, if you would like to have your records retained in the provincial archives, just let me know and I'll make arrangements to receive them. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless you..

Recording Secretary: Karen Rossiter, 1549 Greenwich Road, PE, C0A 2A0
Phone: 902-626-5362 e-mail: krossiter9@gmail.com

Greeting once again, my Sisters in the League. I hope your holidays were pleasant and you have settled into our winter season.

Now that you have settled into your secretarial roles, I once again thank you and applaud you. If you have any questions or concerns with your duties and responsibilities, don't hesitate to contact me either by email at krossiter9@gmail.com or phone 902 626 5362 and I will do my best to assist you in any way I can.

As you are aware, the annual reports were available online in December. Hopefully, all went well with your reports and they have been completed. If you are having any issues completing your reports, feel free to contact me and I'll do what I can to assist.

By now you should be aware of our New Theme – Care for Our Common Home, with the emphasis on Water. We are very excited about this theme and what it will bring to the League for the upcoming year. We are working hard to make the upcoming area meetings enjoyable. Just a reminder that the area meetings will take place on February 23rd; we look forward to sharing the day with you.

Here's hoping the Holy Spirit continues to guide and shape you in your important role. God bless and stay warm.

Resolution and Legislative: Leah Kinch, 1402 Greenmount Road, Tignish, PE, C0B 2B0
Phone: (h) 902-882-3532 © 902-853-5058 email: leahkinch@hotmail.com

Greetings Sister Members, I would like to thank everyone who took the time to send letters to our elected Government Officials regarding the 2018 Canada Summer Job application and requirements. "The Minister of Employment and Social Development has revised the controversial Attestation which applicants were required to sign in 2018. Catholic employers can now in good conscience sign the 2019 Attestation for summer employees". Please see the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops Website for more information.

Cathy Bouchard, National Chairperson of Resolutions, would like to inform Provincial Chairpersons for Resolutions that National board is undertaking changes in the resolution process. Main area of concern is less debate regarding wording, but more focus on the content of the resolution at the convention. As CWL members, we need to remember that a well written resolution is a Strong statement of the League. This new process of preparing resolutions will be in effect at the 2019 National Convention in Calgary. Education will be the key to this new process.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all members for your hard work to make PEI a better place to live. When thinking about resolutions, remember this quote from Cathy Bouchard.

“Resolutions of today become law tomorrow! Through the CWL, you can be part of the voice that speaks to Government”.

Education and Health Brenda Pitre, 63 Old Martin, Tignish, PE, C0B 2B0
Phone: (h) 902-882-2189 © 902-856-1254. email: pitrefamily@hotmail.com

Greetings to all Sister Members,

This week the new **Canada Food Guide** was released; it includes many changes. It has helpful and educational information aimed at promoting healthier eating with lifestyle choices. Drink more water and eat more plants, says Canada’s new food guide, doing away with the traditional food groups and serving counts familiar to generations of students in health classes across the land. The food-guide facelift unveiled on January 22, the first in 12 years, reflects a new approach by Health Canada aimed at promoting healthier eating and lifestyle choices, rather than emphasizing serving sizes and specific foods. Canadians should eat vegetables, fruits, whole grains and should choose plant- based proteins such as legumes, nuts and tofu. It also stresses that Canadians should make water their beverage of choice as a way to stay hydrated without consuming calories.

Our National President has selected as her theme for her two-year term-Caring for our Common Home. This year the emphasis is on Water. Explore with your family and friends what you can do to reduce water usage. What other ways can we reduce our carbon footprint? Pope Francis says that humanity is failing God’s expectations. We need to be better stewards of creation and we need to start now.

I want to thank all councils who supported the Catholic Girls Bursary. The Bursary Committee will be meeting February 9 at SDU at 10 am; reminding all students of the deadline of January 31, 2019.

In an article in the “Voice for Seniors” January 2019, Dr. Cara Tannenbaum addressed important issues regarding medications for seniors. As CWL members, we need to be educated and well

informed of the increased risks of medication as we age. We also need to focus and be informed on effective life changes which may be very effective.

As chair of Education and Health, I encourage my sister members at any time to know that I am available for discussion on any of these matters.

Treasurer: Janice Keough, PO Box 55, Albany, PE, C0B 1A0

Phone: 902-393-2040 e-mail: janice.e.keough@gmail.com

Greetings to my fellow CWL members. I hope everyone is having a great start to 2019. With the new year, it is time for our local councils to do their budgets for 2019. When preparing your budgets, keep in mind that donations should not be sent to **Development and Peace** through the National Voluntary Fund until further notice. There are questions the League has regarding programs supported by Development and Peace partners. Cheques can be sent in to National Office for the other National Voluntary Funds. There is a press release on the League's website, cwl.ca, that will explain the issue.

We are doing something different this year with the donations from parish council forms.

Rather than filling out the form, councils can just send me a list of what they donated to or spent money towards, for 2018. The reason for this change is to simplify things for our councils. So rather than using the form that we used in other years, now all that has to be done is send me a list of donations and expenses, which can be mailed or emailed to me. **Deadline for submission is February 24.** We use this information to supplement the treasurer's report in our convention booklet. It's great to be able to see how our councils help our local parishes, as well as national organizations.

The information for our **Provincial Convention** will be given out at our area meetings. I would like councils to note that there will be **no refunds given for registration or banquet meals**, as was done in previous years.

If there are any questions regarding our National Voluntary Funds forms, convention registrations, or any general finance inquiries, please contact me.

Community Life: Donna McIver, 1350 Newton Road, Kinkora, PE, C0B 1N0

Phone 902-887-2325 email: donnamciver@outlook.com

National Indigenous Peoples Day is a day recognizing and celebrating the cultures and contributions of the First Nations, Inuit and Metis Indigenous peoples in Canada. It is celebrated on June 21st. Watch for events in your area

Reminder that food banks all over PEI are always in need. Please be generous.

Social and Economic Justice: Homelessness, **Blooming House** is a new shelter for women experiencing homelessness on PEI; please pray for the success of this endeavor.

Outreach Program: Street navigation in Charlottetown now has a new van; they aim to help homeless people and panhandlers by making personal connection, helping them access services, offering warm clothing, they have gift cards available, use of phone or drives to appointments.

Christian Family Life: Cindy McCardle, 1517 Newton Road, Middleton, PE, C0B 1N0
Phone: 902-887-2232 e-mail: blaire@pei.sympatico.ca

A reminder to keep matters related to family, marriage, sanctity of life, and seniors in your thoughts and prayers.

Seniors: A reminder to help our seniors especially in the cold winter months. A service we have in our area is free drives to appointments in Charlottetown or Summerside for Seniors. Check out your seniors' club in your areas to find out their activities and encourage everyone to attend.

Families: Remember our needy families by organizing collections to your local food banks.

56th annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations is May 12, 2019. Visit worlddayofprayerforvocations.com for a message from Pope Francis on this topic, along with a short video that could be shared in your parishes to promote and support vocations.

May we be ever mindful of the needs and prayers for our Families.

Communications/Corresponding Secretary: Cathy Favaro,
147 Cathy Drive, Cornwall, PE, C0A 1H8
Phone: 902-569-8826 e-mail: cathyfavaro@hotmail.com

Greetings to all members! I hope that life has been good to you so far in 2019.

With our new theme, **Care for our Common Home**, and the focus being on water this year, we are reminded that, even though we seem to have lots of water in Canada, we must do our part in conserving and preserving it for future generations. We have to remember that "Water is a gift from God – use it wisely."

Some dates to remember in the coming months are:

World Communications Day - June 2, 2019: In his bulletin dated September 29, 2018, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the 53rd World Communications Day will be, "We are members one of another' (Eph. 4:25); from network community to human communities." The

Holy Father invites people to take time and add value to personal communication with one another. He also encourages us to take digital communication to a personal level by using dialogue to reach out and meet others. For more information Google World Communications Day 2019 or visit the Vatican website w2.vatican.va.

Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel - Friday, April 26, 2019 –: Once again the League is sponsoring a mass on Vision TV, offered for living and deceased members and spiritual advisors.

A reminder that the **National Website** is up and running; we are encouraged to use it. The search button is useful to access information quickly and efficiently by clicking the items at the bottom of the home page. Also submissions to **On the Spot** are welcome at any time and are a great way to share with other councils all the wonderful things that are happening with the CWL across the country.

The Canadian League will be released February 5, 2019. We are encouraged to read it and share it. Please feel free to offer feedback and suggestions for articles/features by contacting Doreen Gowans, National Chairperson of Communications, at communications@cw1.ca.

I look forward to seeing you at the Area Meetings in February Wishing you all the best☺

Spiritual Development- Marion Murphy, 7 Treeside Lane, Millvale, PE, C0A 1E0
Phone: 902-621-0725

How quickly a year goes! It seems such a short time since last year's area meetings and annual meeting. They are quickly approaching. Plan to attend to benefit from the spiritual programs, the speakers and workshops. They are great opportunities to learn what has worked for others and any area where we need to focus our attention. I went to my first annual meeting in the 1960s and have not missed many since then. It's always good to renew friendships and put support behind resolutions and local concerns. The social aspects of these meetings are good for the soul I encourage each council to get some of your younger members to attend. We need to hear their ideas.

I hope you are having prayers for deceased members before wakes. This is a way to show CWL in action and is appreciated by the families. It is wise to contact the family to see if they would like prayers and then to coordinate this with the priest and funeral home. A Mass could be offered by your council in a few weeks' time

If you are finding the winter long, you might think of someone in your parish who would benefit from a hand-written letter, or even a phone call. It can be lonely for those living alone. A letter may be read many times. Another way to pass a long evening is to dig out the old photo albums and go down memory lane. This could bring up a reason to write that letter. Going down memory lane is a good thing!

The theme of the prayer for **Christian Unity this year is Justice for All**. Think of ways to bring about justice. If you have ideas for me, send them to me by mail: Marion Murphy, 7 Treeside Lane, Millvale, PE, COA 1E0