



**Nova Scotia Provincial Council
Catholic Women's League of Canada
Legislation Communique #6
*Care for our Common Home***

To: Diocesan Counterparts (**For distribution to all parish councils**)
From: Mary ten Brinke, Nova Scotia Provincial Legislation Chairperson
Date: November 3rd 2020
Copied: Provincial President Glenda Carson and Executive (for information)
National Chairperson Betty Colaneri (for information)

Care For Our Common Home

Sisters in the League. I hope this communique finds you and your loved ones safe and staying healthy. Who would have thought that this pandemic would last this long (and will continue for a while yet) and have such devastating effects on us all. As we are holding our breathe at the start of a second wave, may we follow the provincial guidelines to keep us safe and put our trust in the Lord. For those still unable to attend mass physically, it is so wonderful that Mass for Shut Ins, with our Provincial Spiritual Advisor Fr Patrick O'Neill at the helm, has resumed. Now, more than ever, we need to turn to God and ask for guidance and support during these very trying times.

Our National Legislation Chair, Betty Colaneri, recently added her communique #10 to the national website. Parliament resumed September 23rd. **Bill C-7 An Act to Amend the Criminal Code** (medical assistance in dying) has completed first reading. Members are encouraged to write letters and send emails to their local M.P.'s as soon as possible to protect conscience rights in our province. In my last communique I spoke on this issue and who to contact.

Recently, I was contacted by the Antigonish Diocese as several members brought forth an email they received from Coalition for HealthCare and Conscience where they were requesting people to write letters to M.P.'s and ask them to protect the vulnerable by opposing upcoming legislation to expand euthanasia to include people with disabilities. The question is can we, as members of the National Catholic Women's League of Canada support this request?

We need to remember that when we use the organization name, indicating CWL support, there needs to be formal, written direction from the National Council if a petition or letter writing campaign is being endorsed by the CWL as an organization. If there is no directive from National, you may still support a cause through email or letter writing. You just can not include the organization name. In her last communique, Betty encouraged letter writing and to contact M.P.'s to voice our concerns regarding Bill C-7.

The federal government has been putting forth several benefits for Canadians to apply for in response to COVID-19. **Bill C-4 An Act Relating to Certain Measures in Response to COVID-19** received royal assent October 2nd 2020. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has the following benefits Canadians will be able to apply for:

- the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)
- the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)

More information on these bills are located on the federal government website. We are asked to please monitor these bills.

“Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.”

Mother Teresa