



**Nova Scotia Provincial Council  
Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Legislation Communique #3  
*Care for Our Common Home***

**To:** Diocesan Counterparts (**For distribution to all parish councils**)  
**From:** Mary ten Brinke, Nova Scotia Provincial Legislation Chairperson  
**Date:** October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019  
**Copied:** Provincial President Glenda Carson and Executive (for information)  
National Chairperson Betty Colaneri (for information)

### **Care For Our Common Home**

#### **Sister's in the League,**

Happy Fall. The sun is shining brightly, colors of the leaves are gorgeous! What a day the Lord has made. Today is also Election Day. I hope everyone was able to get out and exercise their right to vote!

#### **Legislation:**

Is simply social justice in action; the carrying out of our resolutions to influence League policy. In our role as committee chairs, our main role is:

- monitor and study legislation at all levels of government
- review ongoing and proposed legislation that pertain to League resolutions.

#### **2019 National Convention**

National Legislation Chair, Betty Colaneri, reported the **HUGS Project** was a huge success with far more than the anticipated goal of 2019 packages collected. In Betty's article in the fall edition of The League, she speaks about the importance of Legislation and how essential it is in our daily lives.

Our national theme, "Care for Our Common Home", helps us increase our awareness for strong and immediate action on climate change. Legislation is learning from the past, working the present and improving the future. Members are encouraged to continue to monitor and support **Bill C 262**, which completed third reading June 11<sup>th</sup> 2019, entitled "An Act to ensure that the Laws of Canada are in Harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. CCCB has supported this Bill. **Bill C 75** "An Act to Amend the Criminal Code, the Youth Criminal Justice Act and other Acts and to make Consequential Amendments to Other Acts passed Royal Assent June 21<sup>st</sup> 2019.

It is important that we, as CWL members, 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 not enough time to get written permission, or is not something that the League would or could support nationally, members can still forward or participate in the petition or letter writing on their own initiative. However, the League logo can not be used and can't indicate that the League, as an organization, is supporting the initiative. If members, or councils, wish to support a petition or letter writing campaign on behalf of the CWL, members need to check with the presidents and legislation chairs at the diocesan and if needed, the provincial levels, to ensure it is something that can be done.

When members or councils are considering supporting organizations, it is very important that the background of the organization be looked into and ensure it is in accordance with Catholic values. Look at our National Policy & Procedure Manual under Section 2: Policy – Other Affiliations for further explanation.

Two resolutions were brought to the floor at the convention and adopted. **Resolution 2019.02 Canadian Support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons** falls under the Legislation standing committee. Action plans could include:

- having a guest speaker to inform members on the necessity of banning nuclear weapons
- have printed information and lists of websites for members to become better informed
- letter writing
- monitor federal government response to resolution

In this time of computers, most things are done online. It is important to remember that we must continue to sign petitions – either by physically signing or by signing an e-petition online.

## **Fall Diocesan Events**

October 19<sup>th</sup> – Antigonish Diocese just held their Fall Conference which was hosted by CWL members from Immaculate Conception Parish in Bridgeport.

November 23<sup>rd</sup> – Halifax/Yarmouth Diocesan Annual Retreat will be held at St Vincent de Paul in Dartmouth.

## **Remember**

- Our role begins with the adoption of resolutions
- Bring life to our resolutions by implementing the action plans suggested
- Executive Handbook for our responsibilities
- Talk is not enough – Action gets results
- Access Hansard, which is a printed record of the proceedings of government. This can be viewed on the parliamentary website or from the library.

**“God doesn't require us to succeed, he only requires that you try.”**

Mother Teresa