

PRINCE ALBERT DIOCESAN COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017

Since June of 2017, when I took over the chair of this standing committee, I began at once to try to find out whom the parish the presidents and Communications chairpersons were.

I agreed at the post convention meeting to prepare an introductory newsletter in which I would introduce the newly elected Prince Albert Diocesan Council executive based on write-ups they would send me about themselves. Our two co-Spiritual Advisors sent in their write-ups right away. The others trickled in over the next eight months, and at this time, I haven't received them all.

It is amusing that I was the "Communications" Standing Committee chairperson, but there was little or no communication within my diocese. No one seemed to know of or have an updated roster for the parish councils in the diocese.

I was ready to face the challenge! Using an old roster, I was able to get information from former presidents who passed on information about their new presidents. These new presidents then directed me to other presidents in parishes close to them. With e-mails, phone calls and letters, I was able to get information for 17 parish CWL council presidents in the diocese. For some councils, I have contact information for their executive members.

I sent out three communiqués and received no reports or response from the parishes:

1. In communiqué #1, I:
 - a. Extended a welcome to the parish communication chairpersons via two presidents
 - b. Reviewed the responsibilities of our standing committee
 - c. Passed on tips for media interviews, the national and provincial website addresses, face book and twitter information, and On the Spot submission recommendations.
2. In communiqué #2, I reintroduced myself as I now had contact information for a couple more presidents:
 - a. Passed on the Provincial Communication's chairperson's, Adele Giblin's, suggestions in regards to communication which I had included in my first communiqué
 - b. Invited the parish presidents to send me a write up on them so that I could include the write-ups in the newsletter along with the diocesan executive's contributions
3. In communiqué #3, I sent out to 17 presidents and 5 communications chairpersons:
 - a. an updated diocesan roster with 17 presidents and their executive members (for the ones who had sent me information)
 - b. Information on our upcoming diocesan convention to be held on April 14 in Rosthern as many presidents were awaiting that information
 - c. Dates and locations for the 2018 provincial and national convention
 - d. Information from SaskTel on ransom ware and viruses

Communications is the imparting or exchanging of information or news. It is a means of connection between people or places, in particular. I look forward to getting news from my counterparts at the parish level with the intent that we work together communicating "for God and Canada".