

Saskatoon Core Executive Meeting Saturday November 23, 2019
Queen's House Retreat and Renewal Centre
601 Taylor Street West, Saskatoon Sk.

Minutes

1. Call to order 10:30 AM.
2. Welcome – Ingrid Eggerman
3. Opening prayer – Audrey Zimmerman

4. Agenda – Additions and adoption of Agenda

Mover _Edna Hodgson **Second**er ___Mary Kehrig_____ **Carried**

5. Adoption of minutes May 10th. 2019 meeting

Mover _ Margot de la Gorgendière **Second**er _Marlene VanDresar_ **Carried**

6. Correspondence – Susan Melchiorre – thank you from Jean Mahoney
7. Presidents report – Ingrid Eggerman – see attached
8. Spiritual Advisor's message – Claire Heron – gave us an Advent message on Advent being a time of waiting. Waiting is different for various people and waiting can be very hard for some. Just remember what Advent is all about and prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ.
Be prayerful while waiting

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9. Treasures report – Connie Crichton – see attached
10. 2020 proposed budget – Connie Crichton – see attached

Mover __Connie Crichton__ **Second**er _Flaviana Rodulfa-Loken__ **Carried**

11. Chairpersons Reports - **see all reports attached**

Past President – Marlene VanDresar

Motion - The Saskatoon Diocesan Council donate \$100 to the Saskatoon Diocesan Pastoral Office for care and storage of our archives. This is to be reviewed annually.

Mover – Marlene VanDresar **Second**er Edna Hodgson **Carried**

Spiritual Development – Audrey Zimmerman

Organization -Edna Hodgson

Community Life – June Gorgchuck

Christian Family Life – Flaviana Rodulfa-Loken

Communications – Connie McGrath

Education and Health – Mary Kehrig

Resolutions – Margo de la Gorgendière

Legislation – Margo de la Gorgendière

Clothing Depot Chairperson – Marlene Kuch

Motion – to approve the donation request of the CWL Clothing Depot as requested in the report

Mover – Marlene VanDresar **Seconder** Audrey Zimmerman **Carried**

Our Lady of Grace Region – Vina Edwards

12. Convention Evaluation – Edna Hodgson – see attached

13. CHAS Convention Report – Mary Kehrig and Connie McGrath – see attached

New Business-

a. 2020 Diocesan Convention update – see attached

b. Budget for 2019 Diocesan Workshops – need approval – see attached

Mover _June Gorgchuck **Seconder**__ Edna Hodgson___ **Carried**

c. Fall Directives – Manual of policy and procedures says they should be sent out by August 15. Could the fall directives and the fall meeting Directives be combined to be one directive? **Yes**

d. Regional gatherings? Would it help to have a representative from each region assigned and then have them attend our Executive meetings? Has this been done in the past? – **Regional representatives are part of the Core Executive already and are to be included in meetings.**

- e. Should we invite and provide funding for Bishop Mark to attend the 100-year National Convention in Montreal? **Consensus was not to invite him**
- f. Honorarium for Albert Brown, Director of Justice programs and Saskatoon community services. He will give us statistics and information on the pornography situation in Saskatchewan.
Motion to present Albert Brown with a \$150 honorarium

Mover ___Edna Hodgson___ **Seconder**___ Marlene Kuch_____ **Carried**

- 14. **Round table** – executive members were reminder to read the description of the committee they are chairperson of and report only on all of the items listed – do not include comments on the weather, vacations or include prayers and poems -allotted time is 3 minutes

Vina Edwards – was pleased with the convention

Connie Crichton can send anyone email copies of her reports if needed

Marlene Kuch – reminded us to support the Clothing Depot

Mary Kehrig attended a Face to Face workshop and reported that it was a powerful weekend

Flaviana Rodulfa-Loken – reported that St Patrick CWL has a project for Interval House

- 15. Closing prayer – A Zimmerman

Next Saskatoon Diocesan Gathering is February 1, 2020 at Cathedral of the Holy Family

Reports

Presidents Report, November 23, 2019

Greetings everyone!

Our first Fall Meeting and Gathering after the summer break was held on September 9, 2019 hosted by Holy Spirit Parish Council, Saskatoon. We had a successful meeting and received positive feedback on our speakers. Fr Denis Phaneuf who spoke about Spirituality and Health for Catholics and Cathy Lefleche who gave us information on The Pregnancy Options Centre. We had 60 ladies registered and attend. Thank you, ladies, for your reports, they were very well thought out and informative.

Our first workshop with our new theme, *Care of Our Common Home* was held on September 14, 2019 in the St. Angela's Region of our Diocese at Eston. The workshop, was created and designed by Marlene Van Dresser, Margo de la Gorgendière, Mary Kehrig and Audrey Zimmerman. Thank you, ladies, for the time and effort that was put into this. Thank you to Claire Heron who gave us a bed and breakfast at her home in Eston and a lovely dinner on Friday evening. Thank you to all of the Eston CWL for their hospitality and help in hosting this retreat, and to Connie Crichton and Margaret Schwab who drove out on Saturday to present the Strategic Planning as part of our workshop. We had a small group of 10 ladies attending, two from Fox Valley, one from Eatonia and the ladies of Eston. We had some very good comments on our evaluation sheets for the workshop.

Our second workshop was held in Cudworth on October 5, 2019. We had 12 ladies attending. We had a good workshop with a lot of good discussion on CWL issues as well as the concern they had of the lack of younger members in their council as well as in their Parish. We encouraged them to keep on praying and that Our Lord and Our Lady of Good Council are still in charge. They were very interested in hearing about the Strategic Planning of CWL.

October 10, we held our first Convention planning meeting for the April 2, 2020 Diocesan Convention to be held at Holy Spirit Parish in Saskatoon. I will be reporting on this later.

Mary Kehrig and I attended the Human Trafficking awareness event in Saskatoon on October 28th hosted by NASHI. The speakers were very informative and a video was presented on the success of the safe house in Ukraine known as the Maple Leaf House. A 13,000 sq. ft house located in Ukraine, purchased through private donations and the many fundraising activities of NASHI. The house provides a nurturing, healing environment for up to 20 young girls, as opposed to the warehousing of an orphanage. The girls receive life skills and attend regular school. They receive medical, dental and vision care as well as post secondary education, in an effort to divert them from human trafficking. CWL has been kept informed of the progress and has attended many of their events its inception 14 years ago. The founder Savalia was attending a CWL event in Manitoba on human trafficking a few weeks after this event. She has asked us to keep her in our prayers, since she was diagnosed with cancer a year ago, but seems to be doing very well in her recovery.

I attended the **Arise retreat** held at St Therese Institute in Bruno on October 18 to 20 along with 250 other ladies from Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba. The retreat was very well publicised through social media and was sold out in 8 hours. With the support of Bishop Mark Hagemoen, the retreat was jointly sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon and the Alumni of Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO) with support from sponsors and organised by a group of volunteers. The retreat was steeped in prayer, thoughtfulness and the effort to make each participant feel as though they were being shown God's love personally and intimately. I felt it was a very worthwhile and successful retreat. Please pray that another retreat will be held in the near future for us as CWL and for the many ladies who wanted to attend but were unable.

October 26, 2019 Marlene VanDresar, Connie Crichton and myself facilitated the Regional workshop in Unity. We had an attendance of 20. Father Greg Roth attended the morning session. Connie Crichton finished the afternoon by her presentation on The Strategic Plan for CWL.

February 1, 2020 we will be having our Winter Gathering at Holy Family Cathedral with Albert Brown, Director of Justice Programs and Saskatoon Community Services as our guest speaker and will give us information on growing epidemic of Pornography.

Our Lady of Grace Region Saskatoon will be hosting a workshop to be held on February 29, 2020 at Holy Family Cathedral beginning at 10 AM. Thank you to Holy family Council for hosting these two events.

I am looking forward to attending the Aboriginal Information evening on November 26, 2019 at St Mary's Parish, Saskatoon.

This concludes my report.

Ingrid Eggerman
Saskatoon diocesan President

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

Saskatoon Diocesan Council

- Statement of Income and Expenditures for the period December 3, 2018 to February 23, 2019
- Statement of Income and Expenditures for the period January 1, 2019 to November 23, 2019
- Budget 2020

Submitted by: Connie Crichton, Treasurer, Saskatoon Diocesan Council

Available upon request

Saskatoon Diocesan Council CWL Past-President/Archive Report

November 23rd, 2019

I have begun the task of scouting for possible candidates to serve on our Diocesan Council for the upcoming 2020-2022 election term; I have sent out by email a request to each of you who currently serve, thanking you for all you have already done and asking if you wish to continue at this time; thank you to those who have already responded; I would like to get some representation from west of Saskatoon or even south; but if not, we will continue with those who are willing from the other regions.

The Centenary Committee at National Level invites us to look into our archives for pictures of memorable CWL events that have happened in our parishes and dioceses over the past 100 years;

so, I will be searching the archive photos for something appropriate to be included in the 100th Anniversary Commemorative Coffee Table Book.

It has been difficult to coordinate a date to work on our CWL Archives at th Cathedral of the Holy Family, as they have been very busy handling the archives from 7 of the religious sisters organizations here in our Diocese. I was finally able to work on November 14th from 1:00 till 4:30 PM and will have worked again on November 21st from 1:00 till 4:30 again, hopefully to weed out what doesn't belong and keep only what is essential; to date I found many things put in Archives that really do not belong there; some Provincial materials which I gave to Margaret Schwab, our provincial Archivist; I also found a quilted hanging that was made by a group of Ladies from St. Aloysius CWL Council in Allan, it is beautifully done and can be used at our conventions as it says "Welcome to Saskatoon Diocesan Convention". I took it to Margaret Schwab as our convention will be at Holy Spirit Parish in 2020 and I felt it should be kept in the Convention Box along with all Convention Supplies and used at our Annual Conventions. It turns out that many things have been put in archives that are not really archives, but because it seemed a good place to put things to be kept. Also, on the subject of Archives, our Diocese asks for a donation to be given to cover archiving materials and upkeep of files as all orders who have their archives stored at the Diocese have given donations to support ongoing care of the Archives.

This concludes my report,

Marlene VanDresar

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

NOVEMBER 23, 2019

As we approach the season of Advent it is a good time to look back at the past year and reflect on our spiritual life. It is a time to set our sights on the Nativity and our preparation for this feast. Some helpful websites for preparation are Dynamic Catholic's "*The Best Advent Ever*", the *Pray More Advent Retreat* or Bishop Robert Barron's *Word on Fire*.

A bible study group or the 33 Days to Morning Glory are also great preparations for the season.

Over the past months the *Care of Our Common Home* workshop has been well received. It brings a breath of life to our members and councils.

Attending the "Arise" retreat at St. Therese in Bruno was a profound experience for me. It opened my eyes to how much women of all ages were thirsting for a closer relationship with God. God's love and healing were quite evident during the weekend. If we want to attract members to the League, I suggest we support women along in their spiritual journey by providing them with experiences such as this.

Enjoy your journey to Christmas and remember those who find Christmas difficult by spending time with them, offering prayers for them or by donating to the less fortunate.

There is an Advent retreat at St. Therese Nov. 29-Dec 1 “*Nothing will be Impossible for God*” with Dr. Mary Healy.

This concludes my report.

Audrey Zimmerman

Catholic Women’s League of Canada
Saskatoon Diocesan Fall Meeting
Organization Report

November 23, 2019

Two main focuses this fall: On-line reports and Membership

The distribution of On-line reports from National has been spotty. As St Bruno Council president, I have not yet received a package from national office. St. Augustine Council in Humboldt also did not receive their information through the mail.

I did receive the information from our Provincial Organization chairperson which I passed on to all council contacts by email. I phoned St. Michael Council in Tramping Lake which does not have email at the moment. Deadlines for paper copy reports is December 15th, 2019; on-line reports are to be completed by January 15, 2020. The paper copies are to be submitted to me by December 15th. “Clean, unfolded paper copies have to be mailed back to National office and then scanned into the survey system when they arrive” – instructions from national.

Membership lists were received just today by my local council. Our membership year is January to December. Membership submissions are to be received by National office by February 28, 2020.

Edna Hodgson
Saskatoon Diocesan Organization Chairperson 2018-2020

DIOCESAN COMMUNITY LIFE REPORT November, 23, 2019

WEAR RED ON FRIDAYS Marie Rackley, National Chairperson for Community Life, asks CWL members to wear red on Fridays as a showing that you are supporting our troops. She writes, “Participating in the ‘Wear Red on Fridays’ initiative demonstrates to Canadians and troops that members care and honour those who fought and continue to fight for freedom, peace and our resolve. Consider showing you care by supporting the troops and wearing RED on FRIDAYS.

On November 26th, Guadalupe Parish and the Provincial CWL Council is hosting an Indigenous Awareness Presentation at St. Mary's Church, upper hall, at 6:30 pm. This is a good opportunity for us to learn and understand the Spiritual and traditions of our Indigenous Sisters. Let’s have a good turnout.

In his message on the “Third World Day of the Poor,” which was on Sunday, November 17, Pope Francis writes, “We can never elude the urgent appeal that Scripture makes on behalf of the poor. Wherever we look, the word of God points to the poor, those who lack the necessities of life because they depend on others. They are the oppressed, the lowly and the downcast. Yet, faced with countless throngs of the poor, Jesus was not afraid to identify with each of them: “Whatever you did to one of the least of these my brethren, you did to me” (Mt 25:40). If we refuse to make this identification, we falsify the Gospel and water down God’s revelation. The God that Jesus came to reveal is a Father who is generous, merciful, unfailing in his goodness and grace. He gives hope especially to those who are disillusioned and lacking in hope for the future. How can we fail to note that the Beatitudes with which Jesus began his preaching of the kingdom of God open with the words: “Blessed are you who are poor” (Lk 6:20)? The meaning of this paradoxical message is that the kingdom of God belongs to the poor because they are in a position to receive it. How many poor people do we encounter each day! It seems that the passage of time and the advances of civilization increase their numbers rather than diminishing them. Centuries go by and the Beatitude appears even more paradoxical: the poor are always poorer, and today they are poorer than ever. Yet Jesus who inaugurated his kingdom by placing the poor at the centre, wanted to tell us precisely this: he inaugurated the kingdom, but he has entrusted to us, his disciples, the task of carrying it forward with responsibility for giving hope to the poor. Especially at times like our own, there is a need to revive hope and to restore confidence. This responsibility is not something that the Christian community may underestimate. The credibility of our proclamation and the witness of Christians depends on it.

This concludes my report.

June Gorgchuck. Community Life Chairperson.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Pat Deppiesse, our National Chairperson on Christian Family Life, said on her article on Sept. 9, 2019; The Christian family life covers a wide spectrum, the pre-born, youth, disabled, single, married, divorced, seniors, widowed, the elderly, the dying and religious vocations. ***Members vocation is to “grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service. Members cannot do everything, but there is certainly something for everyone!***

As Christmas is approaching let us ponder what activities do, we want to carry out. Let us ask ourselves, what best gift could be to my families and friends? Would they want something that is tangible, or time spent with them? Will this promote good relationship and good memories? What do you want for Christmas? What is valuable to you?

Christmas is all about God’s kindness. The name of Jesus means “God saves”. In His name we have hope, forgiveness, redemption and salvation. So maybe this Christmas, we can do something special to someone that you know, someone that need to feel the” love of God” and may your compassion and empathy ripple.

This conclude my report.

Flaviana Rodulfa-Loken – November 17, 2019

Communications Report

Brief Timetable/Info of CWL Saskatoon Diocese Events

1. Diocese Annual Convention

- a. Held April or May. (Location rotates amongst the 5 Regions; Date is set in conjunction with Regina and P.A. diocese - on different days but near April 26, Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Counsel.) Last was in Watson. Next is April 27, 2020 Holy Spirit Saskatoon.
- b. New executive installed or renewed for second year. President becomes part of Provincial Executive .
- c. *ALL members in diocese (44 councils) invited and encouraged to attend*
- d. Committee reports orally given and submitted in written form.
- e. Guest speaker(s) are informative and/or inspirational
- f. Pay at registration

2. Diocese Executive meeting

- a. To inform each chairperson on the *core executive* of her duty throughout diocese.
- b. Location and date is determined soon after annual convention
- c. Diocesan exec provides 1 workshop in 5 Regions on new theme and strategic plan

3. Provincial Annual Convention

- a. Held in June. Locations rotate amongst the 3 dioceses. Humboldt in 2019; Sacred Heart Cathedral, P.A. May 31, 2020. Regina diocese in 2021; Saskatoon diocese 2022.
- b. New Provincial executive installed or renewed for second year
- c. *ALL members in the province (from 132 councils) invited and encouraged to attend*
- d. Diocesan standing committee chairpersons attend. Diocesan council pays expenses.
- e. Guest speaker(s) are informative and/or inspirational
- f. Provincial Spiritual Advisor is Fr. Peter Nnanga as of August, 2018. Educated in Nigeria, he came to Prince Albert Diocese March, 2014. Since 2018, as parish priest at Spiritwood, Leoville, Medstead, Shell Lake and Chitek Lake he presides over 5 Masses every weekend.
- g. Pay at registration

1. Provincial Workshop for Core Diocesan and Prov. Exec members

- a. Informative training sessions. Last: Queen's House Sept. 21
- b. Next: St. Therese in Bruno, Oct.15 and 16, 2020

4. Diocesan FALL GATHERING

- a. Held in September (Usually one of the 10 councils in Saskatoon is host.)
- b. It is organized by the executive but
ALL members in diocese (from 42 councils) invited and encouraged to attend
- c. Standing committee chairpersons should attend; must submit written report and give oral report on her focus throughout diocese
- d. Includes informational and/or inspirational activity or speaker
- e. Usually good-will offering for lunch which is provided
- f. Last Fall Gathering was Monday, September 9, at Holy Spirit, Saskatoon

5. CHAS Conference in October (Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan)

- a. Location varies; two days
- b. Expenses paid for 2 members: Education & Health, and one other
- c. Delegates expected to submit a report to Diocesan CWL at next meeting

6. Diocesan CWL Core Executive Meeting

- a. In November (Next one: Saturday, November 23, 2019 at Queen's House, 10 a.m.)
- b. Location varies as needed
- c. Standing Committee Chairpersons report on their CWL focus throughout diocese

7. Diocesan WINTER GATHERING

- a. Held usually in February. (Next: February 1, 2020 at Holy Family Cathedral)
- b. Location depends on which council offers to host but usually a Saskatoon council

- c. Organized by the Diocese executive but
ALL members in the diocese (from 42 councils) are invited and encouraged to attend.
 - d. Chairpersons submit written report and give oral report for their particular focus throughout diocese
 - e. Includes informational and/or inspirational activity or speaker
 - f. Usually good-will offering for lunch which is provided
- 8. Regional Workshops**
- a. Five (5) Regions in the Saskatoon Diocese with varying number of councils:
 - i. St. Angela's- 7 in Rosetown /Fox Valley area (Workshop Sept. 14)
 - ii. St. Joseph's- 11 in Unity/Kerrobert area (Workshop October 26, 2019)
 - iii. St. Peter's- 6 in Cudworth/Humboldt area (Workshop Oct. 5, 2019)
 - iv. Manitou – 7 in Wynyard/Kenaston area (date pending)
 - v. Our Lady of Grace – 10 in Saskatoon city. (Feb. 29,2020 at Holy Fam. Cathedral)
 - b. Workshops held every two years. Designed to highlight national theme and strategic plan
 - c. Region representatives sit on Saskatoon Diocese executive. Info should filter down to CWL members from reps and all executive members who attend diocesan meetings.

Further:

- Provincial CWL includes 3 areas: archdiocese of Regina (69 councils); **diocese of Saskatoon (42 councils)**; diocese of Prince Albert (21 councils)
- There is a hierarchy of responsibilities and duties, all clearly defined:
 - Parish council (receives the remainder of the yearly membership fee)
 - Region
 - Diocese (receives \$8 per member)
 - Province (receives \$7 per member)
 - National (receives \$13 per member)Members receive 3 *The Canadian League* mag./yr
- Total of 6 reports are submitted, in the year, by each Diocesan Standing Committee Chair:
 - Diocesan annual convention (end of April or May)
 - Fall Gathering (September)
 - Winter Gathering (usually February)
 - Core Diocese Executive meeting (November)
 - Directives for start of the year (August/September) which go to diocesan president, secretary and provincial counterpart.
 - Annual Report: Summarize Parish Council reports; give to Prov. Counterpart Feb.

Submitted by **Connie McGrath**

Communications Chairperson for CWL Saskatoon Diocese, November 2019

Catholic Women's League of Canada

Saskatoon Diocesan Council

Health and Education

November 2019

The Human Trafficking Awareness Day co-ordinated by Nashi revealed the effects of pornography and realities of the sex trade. Internet, videos and cell phones are extensively used in pornography especially in the United States but organized crime is highest in Cambodia and Thailand. Children are sold by parents or grabbed off streets.

Albert Brown is the co-ordinator of the John School in Saskatoon. The John School is a program for persons 18 years and up who have committed an offense of "communication for the purpose of prostitution".

Since 2001, 600 people under 16, with average age 13, have been apprehended for sexual involvement which included drug abuse. 102 adults have completed John School. This is only addressed when charged by a group of several police. Both adults and staff sign confidentiality in treatment.

Each day starts with prayers where they ask to remove the stone from their heart so they can walk in freedom with power in Jesus. As they sit in a circle and by answering a series of questions everyone tells their story. Telling their story gets rid of emotional baggage. This disempowers unresolved grief by dealing with it. Feelings pushed down create anger and misunderstanding.

Counsellors both from Regina and Saskatoon explained positive relationship styles to control thought awareness and life-long decision making. Take ownership and improve communication skills to resolve problems for a conscious change. Don't give up as results come with perseverance.

A former John stated that one issue (pornography) can start a problem. "Find a solution to affirm love. God is creator of everything. Everyone is equal to God's love. God gives strength for a second chance as he paid a price with his life for all of us."

His wife related how her husband's actions robbed her well-being, killing the fruits of the spirit. She felt she deserved better. Forgiveness, a gift from God, helped her as Jesus forgave her sins on the cross.

A father expressed the effects on the family when his daughter, lured from the Regina Exhibition, was taken into a sex trafficking ring in Western Canada.

Two women explained their different struggles to create positive change as they dealt with being sexually exploited. It was sad to hear that no aboriginals helped them.

An American trained in law enforcement and criminal justice gave their perspective on trafficking. They are very aggressive in the States with death penalty for child rapist and 25 years prison for child trafficking.

May we pray to be aware of life's problems, create solutions and make intentional changes for a positive lifestyle in God's love and glory.

This concludes my report

Mary Kehrig

Resolutions and Legislation Report

Core Executive Meeting
November 2019

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National Chairperson of Legislation, Betty Colaneri, issued Communique #6 on 15 October with a focus on the 21 October federal election. She pointed out Bill C-76 Elections Modernization Act which limits third party spending during a defined period before the election period. There is an increase in actions by third parties, domestic and foreign, to interfere in the elections process. This means more than ever that eligible voters should get out and vote and be informed. To this end a list of party websites was included and mention of the CCCB's *Voting as Catholics: 2019 Federal Election Guide*, and a Novalis publication *For Heaven's Sake, Vote!* This is old news; however, we will be enduring municipal and provincial elections in the fall of 2020 and the same principles will apply. Bill C-50 deals with an advertising and reporting regime for fundraising events attended by Ministers, party leaders, or leadership contestants and harmonizes rules applicable to contest expenses of nomination contestants and leadership contestants. The purpose here is to provide transparency of election related financing for voters.

Two resolutions were passed at the 2019 National Convention: **Resolution 2019.01 Canada to Honour its Commitment to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child**, and **Resolution 2019.02 Canadian Support for the United Nations' Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**. The action plan for resolution 2019.01 which is under the Christian Family Life committee asks us to write to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice urging for legal protection of children before birth. It asks us to participate in the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children on January 22. This should be in our calendar to inform our membership. The action plan for resolution 2019.02 suggests holding a speaker presentation on the necessity of banning nuclear weapons, provide a list of websites and printed material to

inform, and, of course, to write letters. As these falls under the Legislation committee, I will look into some of the available resources.

Resolutions form the policy of who and what the League is as an organization. They are also how we can act in matters of social justice which is the third of the League's Core Values. The first step is to find a topic for which you have a passion. A resolution can be directed within the League or outside the League if the purpose is to influence others to take action, to petition or express concern as in the two resolutions above. The purposes of a resolution addressed to the League are to propose a plan, establish policy, recommend action or censure. I propose a resolution addressed to the League to make every effort to end the use of single use plastics and Styrofoam at our activities, perhaps even in our parishes. I thought a way to proceed with this might be to contact the Resolutions chairpersons in the diocese and work together to keep the effort of presenting a resolution moving forward.

This concludes my report

Margot de la Gorgendière

November 23, 2019

CWL CLOTHING DEPOT report to Diocesan Core Executive Meeting

On September 12, Manager Bea Megyesi, the Board Chair and the Treasurer attended the 50th Anniversary BBQ celebration of Friendship Inn. Our relationship with the Inn was acknowledged in the opening remarks.

Approval is requested for the following charitable donations totaling \$10, 000.00 for November 2019.

EGADZ	\$1, 000.00
FARM in the DELL	\$1, 000.00
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PARISH (PANTRY)	\$1, 000.00
RONALD McDonald HOUSE	\$1, 000.00

SASKATOON FOOD BANK	\$1, 000.00
SANCTUM	\$1, 000.00
ST. ANN'S VILLAGE	\$1, 000.00
CLOSE TO HOME	\$2, 000.00
LIGHT of the PRAIRIES	\$1, 000.00

For 2019, the total charitable donations is \$40,000.00

This fall, maintenance included a new lock for the back door, two new railings just before the last step into the business area, and new anti-skid strips on the entrance stairs. Much of our maintenance work is done by Knights of Columbus members who volunteer their time.

We are in the midst of Christmas sales at the Depot, so it is becoming busy. A notice is in the Diocesan bulletin and has been sent to all parishes requesting new items for the sale, and for wrapped candy for the candy cups.

Sales have been good and our staff are working hard. Some rural parishes and some city parishes have had large Clothing Drives for the Depot, so there is lots for staff and volunteers to do.

Thanks to all who support this vital mission. As always, there are times when those in need of a new set of clothes or a warm jacket or boots are given those items at no cost to them.

Our mandate is a reality because of the support of the community, and the CWL organizations in the Diocese of Saskatoon. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Kuch

Chairperson

CWL Clothing Depot

OUR LADY OF GRACE REGION REPORT

Our Lady of Grace Meeting was held October 24, 2019 at St. Mary's Hall with fifteen attending from eight Saskatoon CWL councils. Many councils shared information on what was going on in their councils. It was great to hear from them.

Cheques have been received for the Bishop Murray Childcare Program. These will be given to Connie Crichton, Diocesan Treasurer.

Remembrance Day, November 11th, Our Lady of Grace Region was represented by Margaret Schwab who carried the flag and Vina Edwards laid the wreath. Our Treasurer, Connie Crichton, purchased the wreath from Saskatoon Poppy Campaign.

The next Lady of Good Counsel Feast Celebration will be hosted by St. Patrick's Council in April 2020.

The Twilight Retreat has been booked at Queen's House for May 21, 2020.

The CWL Diocesan Convention is at Holy Spirit Parish on April 27, 2020 and there is no need to charter a bus.

This concludes my report.

Vina Edwards
Our Lady of Grace Region

Results of Evaluation forms

May 11, 2019 CWL Saskatoon Diocesan Convention

VG – very good; AV-average; NI-needs improvement

- **49 forms returned**
- Business sessions: VG 36 AV 12 Ni 0
- Standing Committee chair reports: VG 30; AV 16
 - Better than most years, but all should test presentation to ensure length; some very good, some not even on their standing committee (Educ & Health); some too long and not to the point; some a little long; better, not too long except one;
- Speakers presentations: VG 42 AV 3
Excellent; Jim Anderson was informational, spiritual, and inspirational; Bishop Mark was very refreshing; enjoyed both presentations – they followed the theme of the convention; some speakers were difficult to hear; things were run smoothly and the guest speakers excellent; I especially enjoyed Bishop Mark; morning speaker – excellent; bishop's message good, but topic to us not always clear where he was going; some were long; Jim

Anderson was very inspiring; greeting were not for political posturing; greetings from some representatives were especially meaningful – MP, MLA, and diocesan presidents; the first speaker was a little too long, but very good.

- Setting the tone of the convention: VG 35 AV 9
- Developed our theme: VG 41 AV 5
- Enhanced my spiritual development: VG 31 AV 15
Tables under fans; was wishing less “throw-away” at lunch; Jim Anderson was very inspiring; loved idea of holy moment; felt truly, truly home; God bless you all!; really enjoyed the convention especially your lovely church; very good prayer services; lovely to be with faith-filled sisters; awesome day! Had a lot of trouble to hear at times; I am very blessed and happy to be here; mass was beautiful; choir was awesome! Am shocked at the use of all the plastics, and Styrofoam cups and plates being used – contrary to our theme?
- Registration process: VG 42 AV 5
- Hospitality: VG 47 AV 1
- Lunch and Coffee Breaks: VG 43 AV 5
Too much use of Styrofoam and plastic; food was good; plastic Styrofoam, not in synch with our theme; how about we reintroduce real cutlery and dishes? Delegates to be encouraged to bring their own glass mug/thermos cup? A bit embarrassing to see all the garbage (dishes) used at meal time.
- Banquet: VG 24 AV 3
- Convention met expectations: VG 34 AV 10
- Is this the first Diocesan convention you have attended? Yes
5 NO 41
- What day is your preference for this convention? Saturday
15 Monday 20 Indifferent: 4
- **Suggested topics for future conventions:** Education; developing a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ; becoming missionary disciples; defending our Christian beliefs in a secular world; Mental Health; sharing/strengthen our spiritual; Christ Centred; Ecumenism
- **General comments:** great to see the young people helping throughout the day; flowers – nice touch.

Compiled by Edna Hodgson

June 4, 2019

CHAS Report

November 2019

The 16th Annual CHAS Convention in Prince Albert Oct 24-25 theme was “Mission is Possible”.

We enjoyed the optional tour of Mont St. Joseph Home – an updated 120 bed senior care facility built in 1997 replacing an older one.

Dr. Shane Sinclair, an associate professor and spiritual care practitioner from Calgary was keynote speaker. His research paper on sympathy, empathy and compassion was awarded “Paper of the Year” by Palliative Medicine, the world’s premier care journal.

Compassion means “to suffer with” – an intentional response to know a person, discern their needs and meet their needs with action. A helpful suggestion that brought satisfaction was where a client at intake fills a questionnaire as to what they desire. A positive relationship with the suffering patient sharing space with a virtuous caregiver brings compassion.

Compassion comes from inside of you with love. Sit instead of stand. Be intuitive with more than presence by being open with a curious attitude putting oneself in shoes of other so as to understand where they are at. Do the extra little bit above and beyond necessity.

“Suffering and love are two normal parts of transformation” – Richard Rohr. We learn from our life experience of suffering as well as how it is modelled by someone. In relational factors we need to be careful of perceived judgements and stay objective with active listening.

The impact of systemic and time challenge can cause compassion fatigue and burnout of caregivers. Self-compassion can be problematic as it takes two for a relationship. Do unto others for happiness. Evidence shows that people are happier to give than to receive. If you want to be happy, practise compassion. If you want others to be happy, receive compassion.

Dr. Debra Parker-Oliver, a nationally known researcher on Hospice Caregiving and Professor at University of Missouri, topic was “Caregiving: A Journey to Redefine Hope Through Mission”. Despite her professional credentials she found herself ill-prepared to face her husband’s illness and death. About their journey they produced 28 YouTube videos to teach about death, to lose its fear and to live. It affects the whole family. In hospice care they learned to ask and receive social support and pain management. Noting there was no mention of God, prayer or any spirituality, we were surprised with the reply to such a question “Did not want to offend anyone if they had a different belief”!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kehrig

Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan Annual Convention (Prince Albert)

Mission is Possible – The journey of Grace-filled Compassion

October 24-25, 2019 Connie McGrath, CWL, reporting

Daniel Lussier, ICD.D

Daniel Lussier is CEO of the Catholic Health Corporation of Manitoba (CHCM), which was created by the Grey Nuns in 2000. It sponsors 15 health and human service agencies which provide compassionate care and support to Manitobans.

More than ten years ago it launched the Compassion Project which leads people on a journey toward a deeper sense of purpose. They provide programs to health care providers which enhance person-to – person practices and encourage spiritual and communal well-being. The research shows that providing these programs, results in healthier and happier caregivers and the organizations flourish.

He listed 3 pillars to a journey toward our deeper sense of purpose: 1. Awareness 2. Education and Formation 3. Sustainability. CHCM did not reinvent the wheel. Instead, they went to the world to see what research was done already and they built on that. They offer a variety of programs to help health care providers cope better.

All the programs are 6-8 weeks, many have been used for 10 years already, and have had 3500 people participate. Participants are studied before and after. Results are impressive. Some he mentioned:

1. Contemplative approach –The ability to be more compassionate went up.
2. Mindfulness – Significant improvement
3. Study on Perceived Stress – stress at 8 weeks, 3 and 8 months, all significantly down from before the program
4. Study on Well-being – self kindness goes up and stays there
5. Fears of Compassion Study – for others, from others, for self, all go down
6. Spiritual Well-Being scale – overall, meaning/peace and faith all better after the program.

He concluded by having all of us close our eyes while he led us through a 5 minute meditation routine of deep breathing. By being mindful, we slowly relaxed and cleared our heads. It was a mini exercise to show us what the Catholic Health Corporation is doing for caregivers in Manitoba.

Leah Perrault – Director of Mission at St. Paul’s Hospital in Saskatoon.

Leah’s talk focused on Mission in the Middle of the Mess. She gave personal examples in her life when disappointments and tragedy happened. At those times she learned we need to rely on something bigger than ourselves to help us rise to compassion and grace. She was grateful that in her brokenness she had people who reached out to her and expressed love and concern. It was an indication that we have a God who enters deeply into our grief.

Mission is organizational spirituality. Support people who need help. Mobilize others to help. Make connections. Love the people who are impacted. We choose how to react to negative happenings.

Leah explained her Five Mission Practices of Rising Compassion: 1. Competence
2. Connecting 3. Commitment 4. Construction 5. Creativity

Diocesan Convention 2020 Update
For November 23/2019 Executive Meeting

Our first planning meeting was held October 10th at Holy Spirit Parish in Saskatoon. CWL members in attendance were: Florence Sirman (St Peter the Apostle) and chairperson of the Convention, Pat Bitinsky (St Peter the Apostle). Wendy DeSa (St Patrick), Marilyn Rybotycki (St Patrick), Flaviana Rodulfa-Loken (St. Patrick) Marlene VanDresar (Diocesan, St Augustine), Ingrid Eggerman (Diocesan President), Audrey Zimmerman (Diocesan President-Elect), Phil Schaan-Dumont (Our Lady of Lourdes), Adele Giblin (Holy Spirit) and Margaret Schwab (Holy Spirit) Regrets from Marion Laroque (St Augustine) and Andrea Gellata (Holy Spirit)

Duty chairs are: **Registration:** St Patrick, **Decorations:** Our Lady of Lourdes, **Hospitality:** St Augustine/ St Peter the Apostle **Liturgy:** Holy Spirit, **Special Events** Holy Spirit: (St Peter will assist with coffee breaks and registration snacks),

The Budget was set at \$775.00 with registration and printing at \$100.00 decorations at \$250.00, Hospitality at \$75.00, Liturgy at \$50.00 and Special Events at \$300.00.

It was agreed to ask the Knights of Columbus from Holy Spirit to provide a cash bar.

If the entertainment is in the form of a skit, there would be no other expenses for special events but for the \$300 hall rental. Margaret will be inquiring about this with the life members.

Suggestions were made for caterers: Touch of Ukraine, Sardinia and Agnes Lopez (lunch) Margaret Schwab will get these quotes.

A bank account will be opened at Affinity Credit Union, Fairhaven, with signing authorities being: Flaviana Rodulfa-Loken, Wendy DeSa and Marilyn Rybotychi.

A contact list has recently been supplied to me for the dignitaries to be invited including City Mayor, MP, MLA, and church women as available. I will be sending these invitations in November or December.

Two fundraisers will be held: 50/50 raffle and 5 gift baskets (one supplied by each of the councils on this committee)

Attendees were advised that the committee chooses the recipient for half of the Mass collection proceeds and the Diocesan Executive chooses for the other half. Final decision will be made at the next meeting.

A tentative date of January 16 was set for the next meeting.

I sent a letter of invite was sent to Bishop Mark and Abbot Peter on October 6/2019. As of today, I have not received a reply.

A suggestion was made on our evaluation sheets at one of our previous conventions to have Mark and Leah Mallett as guest speakers. Mark is a Catholic singer /songwriter, Catholic Evangelist and Author. He has traveled and has spoken in many provinces and states in Canada and the US and has spoken at a CWL event in Alberta. He resides with his family in Tramping Lake Sk. I contacted him by email on October 6/19, to be our key note speakers. He accepted the invitation for him and his wife to be our guest speaker at our 2020 Convention. He called me by phone to accept the invitation. I asked what they normally charge for this. He said they would be happy with a silver collection. I informed him that we usually provide mileage and an honorarium and that we would discuss it at a future executive meeting. Mark and Leah will also perform a few songs to coordinate with their talks. More information and samples of their music can be found on Marks web page at www.markmallett.com

This concludes my report

Ingrid Eggerman

Saskatoon Diocesan CWL President