

Resolutions Communiqué – #4 – August 2018

To: CWL Parish Resolutions Chairpersons

From: Janette Rieger, Regina Diocesan CWL Resolutions Chairperson

I hope everyone had a great summer and is ready to get busy with the CWL! I attended the CWL National Convention in Winnipeg a few weeks ago. As usual, it was a time of faith, fun, and fulfillment! Three resolutions were passed at this year's convention. The national website is still being upgraded so the link to the resolutions is not available as of yet. Therefore, the official titles of the resolutions may vary slightly, but the working titles are as follows:

- **Resolution 2018.01 – Attestation Requirement on Canada Summer Jobs Program**
- Community Life Standing Committee
As you may be aware, this attestation became an issue in spring of 2018 when businesses and organizations applying for the grant were forced to sign an attestation that their organization's core mandate included reproductive rights. Reproductive rights are not enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, but the federal government made it sound as though they are, thereby denying organizations the right to apply for funding unless they stated that they were in favour of reproductive rights. This attestation will likely figure prominently in the year ahead. Please contact your Member of Parliament (MP) to let them know that Canadians still have a right to freedom of religion and to freedom of conscience!

- **Resolution 2018.02 – Setting a Standard for Products Marketed as Flushable**
- Education and Health Standing Committee
Education is needed as many people dispose of items in the toilet that are not 'flushable', costing themselves and municipalities millions of dollars each year. This resolution is hoping to adopt a national standard of testing and labelling of flushable items, and to educate people.

- **Resolution 2018.03 – Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative Care, Free from Medical Assistance in Dying** - Legislation Standing Committee
This resolution was brought forward to raise awareness that some hospice/palliative care facilities are being pressured to provide medical assistance in dying (MAID), contrary to their philosophies and purposes. CWL members are encouraged to write to their MP regarding the need for these facilities to be free from MAID. Raise awareness in your CWL councils of the implications of these facilities being forced to provide MAID.

Be sure to consult with the chair of the appropriate committee from your council when planning action on these resolutions. Consider forming sub-committees so that more members get involved. More hands make less work!



At the National Convention, I attended a break-out session on Homelessness. Although the talk was about a homeless shelter in Winnipeg – Siloam Mission – many of the ideas presented about this Winnipeg shelter could be applied to most Canadian cities. Homelessness is a very current topic even though a resolution pertaining to it was passed in 2003! (See **2003.01 Affordable Housing for Low-Income Canadians.**) It goes to show that this issue is ongoing, a long way from being resolved, and that action can always be taken on resolutions from past years.