

## Resolutions Communiqué – #6 – March 2019

To: CWL Parish Resolutions Chairpersons

From: Janette Rieger, Regina Diocesan CWL Resolutions Chairperson

Greetings! I hope and pray that you are able to read this in the warm weather of spring; what a cold winter it has been! On the upside, all that cold weather must have given everyone lots of time to think about and read up on resolutions!

However, as of this date, I have not heard about any forthcoming resolutions from any parishes in our diocese. Since they usually have to be researched, written, edited, and approved before the Diocesan convention, likely there will not be any coming unless an emergency in federal or provincial policy would dictate that a resolution be written immediately.

I understand that the process of writing resolutions can be long and complicated. Further, as I have attended the last 7 national conventions, I have seen some of the wording of the resolutions that have made it to the floor be dissected by members attending the convention until they did not even resemble the original resolution. Therefore, it is with good news that I report that the National CWL has undertaken a review in the resolutions process. A committee has been created that will suggest changes to the resolutions process. As well, they are proposing changes to the *Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook*. Please refer to the national website to read National Resolutions Chairperson Cathy Bouchard's 4 page communiqué (Resolutions – Communiqué #2 – January 17, 2019).

<https://cwl.ca/communique-2-resolutions/>

As well, in her communiqué she has attached the proposed changes to the *Resolutions Supplement*. Click on the blue link on the above mentioned webpage entitled, "Suggested Additions to the Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook", to access these 7 pages of proposed changes.

Perhaps the most significant proposed change involves the "formation of longer-term resolution committees at the diocesan and provincial level to assist in the preparation of resolutions", and to have people on these committees who are considered "experts" in subject areas and in writing to assist parishes who wish to write a resolution.

Secondly, the national executive is overhauling how resolutions will be formatted. They are suggesting that "the "whereas clauses" will no longer be presented as part of the resolutions. The material that was previously contained in the "whereas clauses" will be part of the brief."

Finally, another significant change is how the resolutions will be handled at the national conventions. Suggested wording changes will take place at the resolutions dialogue and not on the convention floor.

Hopefully this overhaul will simplify the resolutions writing process and will encourage councils to once again write resolutions to let their voices be heard!

God bless you! Hopefully I will see you at the Diocesan Convention – May 5 & 6<sup>th</sup> in Weyburn. If you are there, come say hello to me! And, thank you for reading my communiqués over the last 2 years!