

The Catholic Women's League  
of Canada  
**REGINA DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

**CATHOLIC**  
and **LIVING IT!**

**Annual Reports**  
**2022**

The year 2022 was the first year that councils were asked to complete one comprehensive annual survey, as compiled by the national executive, instead of the reports for each standing chair and executive position. As a result, one survey result was compiled and sent to each diocesan president; it fell to the president to compile the report, but some executive members were able to assist with the report, for which I thank them.

The summary report has information about our diocese, followed by the survey results. The standing committee reports are from the survey, except for the financial information. The regional reports were not included in the survey but were compiled by the regional chairpersons.  
– Janette Rieger, Regina Diocesan President

**Annual reports and Strategic Plan results were written by: Janette Rieger, President; Linda Maddaford, Organization; Claudette (Cookie) Jacques, Education & Health; Agnes Smith, Spiritual Development. Treasurer’s Report and statistics compiled by Viola Joel, Treasurer.**

### Regina Diocesan Summary

January 2022 started with 67 paid councils from the previous year, and 2022 ended with 62 paid councils. Four councils disbanded and did not pay fees in 2022 – St. Stephen in Kamsack, St. John the Baptist in Dysart, Immaculate Heart of Mary in Claybank, and Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Val Marie. Holy Family in Radville did not pay their fees in 2022. In addition, St. Mary in Regina also did not pay their fees in 2022 or in 2021 so they were not counted as one of the paid councils at the start of the year.

Several councils disbanded during the year including St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Stockholm; St. Mary, Churchbridge; St. Stanislaus, Ituna; and St. Anthony, Regina. These councils did pay their fees for 2022.

The total council count at the end of 2022 is 57 councils that are considered paid and active. One council paid their fees in 2022 but wishes to be considered as ‘inactive’ – Holy Angels in Pangman. There were 2,278 paid members for 2022.

The Regina Diocese has 9 regions. The chairpersons of each region represent the councils of their region at diocesan executive meetings. Unfortunately, 3 of the regions do not have a chairperson, so that means that the 27 councils in those regions do not have representation at the diocesan meetings. In other words, almost 50% of the councils are not represented.

At the end of 2022, the Diocesan Council was made-up as follows:

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Past-President – Yvonne Bachelu           | Christian Family Life – Lynda Thul  |
| President – Janette Rieger                | Community Life – Yvonne Jalbert     |
| Organization/Pres-Elect – Linda Maddaford | Education & Health – Cookie Jacques |
| Secretary – Claire Verret                 | Spiritual Development – Agnes Smith |
| Treasurer – Viola Joel                    |                                     |

The positions of Corresponding Secretary, Communications, Resolutions, and Legislation are vacant. Vicki Mayer did hold the position of Communications until November when she resigned for personal reasons. I thank her for her service.

The regions were made-up as follows:

Esterhazy – Donna Sugden

Estevan - vacant

Moose Jaw – Lynda Thul

Our Lady of Good Counsel – Judie Williams

Our Lady of Peace – vacant

Southwest – Rachelle Johnson

Regina – vacant

Weyburn – Camille Goski

Yorkton-Melville – Elaine Hornung

## **2022 Regina Diocesan CWL Annual Report from the National Annual Survey**

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT**

In the Regina Diocese, 25 of the 57 active councils completed an online Annual Report Survey which is almost a 44% completion rate.

Regarding a return to pre-pandemic activity, the vast majority have not returned to their full activities. Only 36% claim to be back at 100%.

There were many responses to what excites respondents about the structure and the future of the League, but most were that there will be smaller executives in the future. Many councils have trouble filling the positions. With a smaller executive at all levels, many commented that there will be fewer communiques to go through, which they see as a positive. Some commented that they are unsure about the changes and how it will affect their councils.

The councils are preparing by reading the information handed out from the various levels, and by attending regional workshops. As president, I presented 3 regional workshops in the fall in Estevan, Southwest (in Swift Current), and Our Lady of Peace (in Assiniboia) where I discussed some options as to how to get members to join committees or to be involved with projects. Most councils have not personally reached out to the diocesan or provincial levels for more information.

The councils are working with the theme *Catholic and Living It!* by being very involved in their parishes, praying the theme prayer, and using the logo. Most comment that they are using the theme by the way they live their lives and share their faith.

Most councils are blessed with spiritual advisors who offer mass before the meetings, attend meetings, give guidance and reflections, give reports, and who promote the League in the parish. Most spiritual advisors are supportive of their council's endeavours and activities. A few councils have a spiritual advisor who has several parishes or who doesn't live nearby, so it is difficult for them to be involved in the meetings.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL SECRETARY ANNUAL REPORT**

The secretaries of councils usually read the minutes at the meetings and they help to keep membership up to date with special events. Most do not prepare and send quarterly reports of activities to their councils. Most councils send minutes electronically by email.

One council raised the concern that is probably shared by many. That is, that the secretary position is no longer just about taking minutes but requires someone who is comfortable with a computer, technology, and using email. As they noted, the duties of the secretary will be increased in the future.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL TREASURER ANNUAL REPORT**

Donations were given to the national voluntary funds of: Catholic Missions in Canada, Catholic Near East Welfare Association, CCCB Palliative Care Kit, Coady International Institute, Development and Peace, and the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition. In total, the 25 responding councils donated to these and to other charities to a total of \$42,811.00, or an average of \$1,712.00 per council. Having said that, a few of the councils did not make any donations in 2022 so the actual average per *donating* councils would be higher. One issue was that some councils did not hold fundraisers, which affected donations.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL PAST-PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT**

Some councils do not have a past-president but the ones that do appreciate having someone to guide the council with their knowledge, organizational skills, and experience. Also, some past presidents are still on council in other capacities. Their knowledge of the League has been valuable to the current president as well as having someone available to give a second opinion.

Most councils keep their archives in the church or hall. The majority of items archived are photos, newspaper clippings, funeral cards and obituaries, minutes, and financial statements. Some councils keep annual reports from their chairpersons and summaries of council activities. One council keeps the updates from the child that they sponsor through Chalice.

The vast majority of councils do not have a history book. The councils that do have a history book keep photos with some councils keeping binders and booklets that were compiled for anniversaries. One council reported having a very comprehensive history book. The history books have not been sent by one council to national office, but one council reported that they would send it if requested.

Nineteen past-presidents were not able to present information from the *Constitution & Bylaws* at a meeting, while 6 were able to do that. Fifteen councils do not have a parish council policy manual. Most of those councils do not feel they need one and are not planning to develop one; only a few councils are planning to develop one. Ten councils do have a policy manual and half of those say it needs updating, especially as the restructuring of the League takes place.

A few of the past-presidents contribute by helping wherever needed, helping the other chairpersons or filling vacant positions, helping with fundraising, standing in for the president when she is not available, and helping with the planning of regional meetings.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT**

The councils assist members in their communal and personal prayer by using a variety of prayer styles, spiritual programs using resources from the national website's strategic plan, retreats, days of reflection, on line spiritual webinars.

Councils assist members in their growth in the Catholic faith mostly by sharing information from Catholic sources. To a lesser extent, other equally used methods are websites, online communities, courses, programs, workshops, and guest speakers.

One council used guest speakers and one used websites to keep up to date on the role of women in the church and the appointment of women to positions in the Vatican. Seven councils used other methods, which were not listed.

Councils have supported women and men discerning their vocations by promoting the CWL Bursary Program, prayer for vocations, and donations for the education of priests. Councils have supported parishioners in the lay formation program through prayers and encouragement. Councils have supported seminarians going into the priesthood. One council supports Camp Lemieux where vocations begin as the camp is very Catholic. Prayer cards with a prayer for priests on one side and a prayer for vocations on the other side are made available. One council supports youth in their separate school with donations and prayers for the MyGen Youth Rally which is held annually.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL ORGANIZATION ANNUAL REPORT**

Many councils do participate in annual membership drives. For some councils it means contacting the current members by a variety of methods. Other councils reach out to potential new members by personal invitation, emails, texts, phone calls, bulletin announcements, presentations in the church, displays in the church foyer, show CWL videos, hand out CWL pamphlets, membership brunch, and Christmas party.

One council sends out information packages to all member in the fall with some fun items inside and the invitation to renew. Another council hands out the renewal forms to each member so that the forms and membership fee can be placed in the collection plate in the envelope provided. And yet another council places an envelope in the Sunday collection envelopes marked 'CWL Membership' in the November section. Several councils have now set up e-transfer so that members can pay using this method.

CWL information sessions for members include the sharing of communiqués, articles from the League Magazine, and regional workshops. Many councils make use of bulletin boards in church to share information, photos, and upcoming events.

For information sessions for prospective members, some councils have a new member form and package available for handout. Many council members have personal conversations with prospective members. Some councils hold a fellowship events or socials where non-members and women from other denominations are invited to attend. At these there are spirituals, lectures, games, music, and food. One council featured a slide show about what their council does in the parish and that resulted in two new members.

The majority of councils (84%) did not invite their counterpart from the diocesan level of the League to provide information and League development.

The question was asked as to what resources/assistance is needed. The responses included regional meetings or workshops, ideas for membership recruitment, a spiritual program that could be used at each meeting, prayer services, League development where regular members learn to share about the League, ideas for small councils, and how to inspire members to participate. The ones mentioned the most were membership recruitment, and a spiritual program and prayers to use at meetings.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE ANNUAL REPORT**

Councils undertook a great variety of initiatives to support marriage and families such as giving gifts to newlywed couples, including crucifixes; giving baby gifts when children are baptized such as white stoles, baby afghans; and celebrating special wedding anniversaries. In addition, donations were given to organizations that support families, and donations given to families in need. Information was provided about marriage and marriage counselling, abortion, and assistance was given to schools.

Many councils support the sanctity of life by holding pro-life memberships, both by the council and personally. Many councils participated in Life Chains, the March for Life, and 40 Days of Prayer for Life during Lent. Donations are given to organizations that support young mothers with baby clothing. Additionally, some parishes not only donate items but they have a Spiritual Adoption program where people pray for an unborn child for 9 months. Many councils hosted 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative care. Councils have masses said, and pray for life issues. Awareness was raised on MAID (medical assistance in dying) and letters were written to MPs and MLAs on this and other pro-life issues. Some councils use the CWL postcards that are available on palliative care.

The youth are supported in the parishes with financial donations towards things such as scholarships; school of religion and other youth programs in the parish; giving gifts to celebrate conferral of sacraments; sponsoring someone to attend the MyGen Youth rally, World Youth Day, and summer camps; and awards at schools and festivals. Councils help with children's liturgy at mass, catechism, and training the youth to become altar servers, hospitality ministers, and to be involved in parish events. Some councils support the youth outside of the parish by being prayer partners at the MyGen Youth rally, and by helping local schools with snacks and lunches. Members knit and crochet toques, mitts, and scarves which are donated to local charities. One council organizes and finances the Catholic Girl's League in their parish.

There is quite a variety of outreach and ministry provided to others in the parish. Many councils visit the sick, the home-bound, and other people in need in their communities with delivery of communion to some. In addition, masses and prayers are offered, and phone calls made to support shut-ins, the sick, and people in need. Some councils hold Honour Guards at funerals and help with the funeral lunches. One council holds an online rosary.

Religious vocations are supported and promoted by prayers – for vocations, priests, religious orders, and seminarians. Donations were given to the Archbishop's Appeal, a seminarian, and a religious order. One council hosted a fall regional meeting and the guest speaker was Shannon Novak, who spoke on the Spiritual Motherhood of Priests.

## **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL COMMUNITY LIFE ANNUAL REPORT**

Members were questioned as to whether they participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Truth and Reconciliation Day in 2022. One council had members that participated in a prayer service with Indigenous groups and another council has members who are teachers that participated in the activities at their school. A few councils had mass said and some councils discussed it at their meetings. Some members attended events as personal attendees, not CWL members. One council voted to send \$130.00 per year, for 5 years, to Truth and Reconciliation Day.

The Food Bank Project was not directly supported by many councils, however that is because many parishes have food donations as a project in which the councils participated.

Councils did not attend the webinar on human trafficking presented by Joy Smith.

Several councils raised funds, gathered donations, collected or bought household items and clothing for Ukrainian refugees. Some of the donations and assistance were coordinated through local people with connections to Ukraine, where the money was sent directly.

Only 3 councils reported using the Development and Peace – Caritas Canada brochure, available from national office, to promote projects supported by the League. And only 2 councils accessed the Catholic Near East Welfare Association brochure, also available at the national office.

## **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL EDUCATION and HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT**

Councils assisted Catholic education in their parish or community by purchasing bibles, gifts for children celebrating sacraments, and supported local Catholic schools with awards to students. Bursaries and scholarships were provided. CWL members help with sacramental preparation, catechism, children's liturgy, and weekly seminars regarding different issues in our faith. Appreciation is given to teachers and educators in various ways such as thank-you notes and donating coffee and muffins. One council supports a Catholic Girls League, and others provide lunches for youth gatherings at weekend workshops.

CWL bursaries and scholarships include post-secondary scholarships, musical festival and proficiency awards, and girls' sports camp scholarships. Students are made aware of the National CWL scholarship as well as Saskatchewan's social justice award along with the Coady Institute and any high school grad scholarships offered by Local CWL councils.

Four councils participated in the Mental Health postcard campaign. Seventeen councils participated in the Palliative care postcard campaign. Five councils participated in the webinar on palliative care on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Eleven councils participated in the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care. Six councils educated members on the League's partnership with Blood Services Canada. Three councils planned actions for World Water Day. No councils planned action for Earth Day in April, nor Earth Action Initiative in September 2022.

CWL members helped the environment by recycling and not using disposable cups and dishes at events. One council worked with our Catholic Girls League to plant and maintain flower beds around the church property. Awareness of the issue is being raised.

## **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT**

Overwhelmingly, most councils rely on email as their primary method of communication. But other methods are used as not everyone has reliable internet, especially in rural areas. Information is also communicated via meetings, parish bulletins, phone calls, and regular mail.

The most popular method of social media used is Facebook, which is used by a several councils with either their council's Facebook page or the parish's. Almost all of the councils who responded to the survey also use the national CWL website. The reasons for accessing the website are quite diverse: general information, research, communiqués, spiritual components (prayers, prayer services, ceremony booklets), news, resources, forms, membership information, ordering materials, learning about the Strategic Plan, reading the League Magazine, and for staying up-to-date. One comment was that the website is not user-friendly.

Just over 1/3 of the councils have a newsletter. Fifteen councils of the 25 are not aware of the resolutions relating to inappropriate internet use and the behaviour associated with it. Finally, 96% of the councils (24 out of 25) distributed the League's 'Pornography Hurts' postcards!

## **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL RESOLUTIONS ANNUAL REPORT**

The vast majority of the councils do not have a Resolutions Chairperson, and the few that do have combined it with Legislation. The biggest issues for councils regarding this standing committee is that they do not have a chairperson, often because their executive and council is small, and that there is no interest in this standing committee. Also, some members won't become involved with this standing committee because they feel it is a big and difficult job, and will be time-consuming.

Only a few councils have used resources such as the Resolutions Guide, the Resolutions Supplement, or others. Three councils reviewed the 2022.01 Resolution – *Enact Federal Legislation to Reduce Food Loss and Waste*. One council (St. Joseph – Indian Head) did submit a resolution, *Child Labour in Mining Mica*, which was passed at the diocesan and provincial levels but was not brought to the floor at the national convention. However, it did raise awareness and another council is making their members aware of this issue. No members are interested at this time to receive specialized training in resolution development.

As the Resolutions standing committee will be phased out nationally in 2023, most councils replied that they will continue to monitor any resolutions that are passed and will promote them with their councils. A few councils indicated that they are unsure as to how they will proceed and will be looking for more information to come out regarding this issue.

## **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL LEGISLATION ANNUAL REPORT**

Most councils report that their members have some level of knowledge regarding issues being discussed by the federal government. This number declines slightly for knowledge of provincial issues, and declines slightly again for knowledge of issues at local levels. Only about half of the councils have some knowledge about the National League's position papers located on the national website. Almost half of the councils are not aware of these.



Regarding Federal Bill C-230: *Protection of Freedom of Conscience*, 5 councils are very aware of this bill while 18 have some knowledge. The number of ‘very aware’ councils rises to 11 for Bill C-7: *Medical Assistance in Dying*, and 14 councils have some knowledge. Not one council reported ‘not aware’ on this issue. Resources used to remain informed on current federal and provincial legislation include mailings from government representatives, forums, and documents. Eleven councils replied ‘other’ but unfortunately there was no space to indicate the methods used. Councils did not indicate that they are monitoring or acting upon any other pieces of legislation.

As the Legislation standing committee will be phased out nationally in 2023, most councils replied that they will continue to take action on items as directed by other levels of the CWL, or as individual members show interest and raise awareness. They will also be looking to the national website for direction. Councils replied that it is important that the League continues to lobby government and keep them accountable. One council commented that it is unfortunate that this standing committee is being taken away because it was how the elderly members of their council who attended the meetings received their information on current legislation issues.

Councils were asked for recommendations or suggestions that may be helpful to monitor legislation with the League. The replies included posting issues on the national website, specifically with a dedicated area for legislation, and to email pertinent information and communiqués directly to council presidents and secretaries.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN ANNUAL REPORT – Part 1**

The Organization section of the Parish Annual Survey asked specific questions about the awareness and implementation of the Resources and Programs that have been developed and rolled out under the National Strategic Plan. For each of the 17 Resources below the question was posed:

*The Strategic Plan has been implemented and almost \$1,000,000 has been invested in helping parish councils. But, for the League to be successful, parish councils must participate in some way in the programs that are developed. Please indicate which of the following programs your council has implemented:*

| <b>Strategic Resource</b>            | <b>Implemented Yes %</b> | <b>Implemented No %</b> | <b>Not Aware %</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Welcome Program                      | 48                       | 48                      | 4                  |
| Diversity Ad, Calendars, Postcards   | 40                       | 40                      | 20                 |
| Social Justice Calendar              | 4                        | 72                      | 24                 |
| National Faith Day                   | 4                        | 64                      | 32                 |
| Catholic Social Teaching Resources   | 0                        | 80                      | 20                 |
| Care for God’s Creation Module       | 8                        | 68                      | 24                 |
| Prayers & Spiritual Program Module   | 24                       | 60                      | 16                 |
| Pamphlet: Social Aspects of Councils | 0                        | 60                      | 40                 |
| Workshop on Creating Prayers         | 0                        | 72                      | 28                 |
| Dignity & Rights of Workers Module   | 0                        | 64                      | 36                 |
| Balance Meetings Poster & Postcards  | 0                        | 60                      | 40                 |

|                                       |    |    |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Newsletter Template                   | 24 | 56 | 20 |
| Misconceptions Workshop               | 0  | 60 | 40 |
| Joy of Leadership                     | 4  | 68 | 28 |
| Catholic Social Teaching Institutions | 0  | 68 | 32 |
| List of Retreat Centers               | 0  | 68 | 32 |
| Life & Dignity of Human Person Module | 4  | 64 | 32 |

From these resources the ones we are most interested in implementing are; Welcome Program 36%, Prayers & Spiritual Programs Workshop 32%, Life & Dignity of the Human Person 20%, with Care for God’s Creation and Joy of Leadership each receiving 16%. The second resource garnering the most interest to Implement were; Catholic Social Teaching, Newsletter Template, and Misconceptions Workshop each receiving 12%.

Comments on changes to the League’s structure and future were very positive. Most councils were glad to be reducing the number of standing committees and the number of reports to generate and read from National, Provincial and Diocesan. Some councils were waiting until 2024 to move to the new structure and planned to use this year to increase their knowledge and make the necessary preparations. Councils also noted and looked forward to a stronger focus on our goals and objectives rather than paperwork.

Another council commented: I’m not sure the Restructure excites us – but it seems to be a step in the right direction. As you can see from the center column, the highest percentage of councils report Not Implemented followed by one third of councils reporting they are Not Aware of these resources. We have some work ahead of us. But your Diocesan, Provincial and National levels are here to hear you and to help as we move forward, Catholic and Living, Walking Together, For God and Canada.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ANNUAL REPORT- Part 2**

The second portion of the Strategic Planning Initiatives questions were quite general in nature but will help the various levels determine areas that need attention.

Of the 25 responding councils, only 2 had a spiritual retreat in 2022 that was at least 2 hours in duration. An average of 4.4 non-executive members per council helped with planning or organizing an event or project in their councils.

About half of the councils are ‘usually satisfied’ with the level of communication received from each of the national, provincial, and diocesan councils, with an average of 20-32% being ‘always satisfied’. The level of satisfaction is lower for the regional levels. With no opportunity to indicate why they are unsatisfied, I speculate that part of the problem is that many of our regions do not have a chairperson.

For the positions on the council, most councils indicate that around 50% of them are filled by appointment. Unfortunately, many of the positions, including Christian Family Life, Community Life, and Communications report over a 50% vacancy rate; Resolutions and Legislation each report a 80% vacancy rate.

One council reported visiting a federal government representative in person, with none at the provincial or municipal level; no councils contacted any level of government by phone. Much more activity was done by letter with 12 councils contacting a federal government representative, 3 councils contacting provincial, and 2 council contacting municipal. By email, a few representatives at each level were contacted.

Two-thirds of councils are participating in ecumenical activities with the majority being United, Lutheran, Anglican, and Evangelical denominations. The activities were usually of a faith/prayer and a social nature, with a few being of a service nature. The participation happened once in 44% of the reports, but 5 or more times in 22% of the reports. Interfaith interactions are minimal.

Almost half of the councils report having no members under the age of 35, with the other half of the councils reporting minimal numbers in the under-35 age bracket. Not one council reported having more than 5% of their membership in this age brackets.

Members were asked how often they reach out for advice to the various levels. About one-third of councils reach out to the Diocesan level monthly (24%), semi-annually (36%), or annually (28%), while only a few councils (3 councils or 12%) never reach out.

For the Provincial level, 72% of councils never reach out, 24% reach out annually, and 4% semi-annually.

For the National level, 76% of councils never reach out, 12% reach out each of semi-annually and annually. (This refers to the National Executive.) For the National Office, 48% of councils never reach out, 28% reach out annually, and 24% semi-annually.

## **SUMMARY**

There were 2 final questions. The first one asked if this streamline annual report survey was easier to complete than in previous years. Overwhelmingly, the answer was 'yes'! Some commented that even though it was discussed as an executive, it was easier to go through. Some executives gathered in person and some worked together over the phone. Some completed the paper copy first and then inputted it later.

Suggestions for improvement included:

- next year some councils will be using the new standing committees of Faith/Service/Social Justice, while other will be using the current format for the last time. Allowances will have to be made for this.
- perhaps each person who has knowledge of a certain area would be able to access their section online instead of one person completing it all.
- one person found that their comments were not saved when they had to return to finish the report at a later time, so all of the comments had to be re-done.
- if you cannot have dollar signs or decimals in the boxes when requesting dollar amounts, please indicate that.
- some councils still have trouble accessing the survey online, but once they were able to do so, they were able to complete it.

-a new president was confused by the terminology of 'Parish Council Report' as she thought it referred to her Parish Pastoral Council. Perhaps the letters 'CWL' could be inserted between 'Parish' and 'Council' to minimize confusion.

The final question asked if there was anything else that they would like the national board to know. Some individual comments are:

- members are concerned with the costs associated with restructuring, and are unsure that the restructuring will actually increase Lague membership and participation.
- it is a challenge to get new members.
- it is a challenge to get members to take a leadership role, especially president.
- there is too much reading for the president to do; information should be streamlined. A newsletter could be sent with each chairperson having only a few items to report.
- could there be an annual calendar of CWL events for the members? This would give a bigger picture of potential up-and-coming events.
- could more ideas to support and include women from other cultures be given.
- there needs to be more work done on Evangelization in the Spiritual Development component of the Strategic Plan.
- help is needed to get younger women involved.
- the Strategic Plan has implemented too many changes and overwhelmed the grassroots members.
- councils are struggling since the pandemic and they feel that the National council and organization has unrealistic expectations for councils.
- councils are struggling to stay active and there are no young people.
- some rural areas are struggling to keep all of their clubs, schools, and organizations going, so they are doing the best that they can.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN COUNCIL STATISTICS for 2022**

**Increase in Membership:**

| <b>Council</b>                   | <b># of Members</b> | <b>Increase</b> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Our Lady of Auvergne, Ponteix    | 29                  | 2               |
| Our Lady of Victories, Esterhazy | 43                  | 5               |
| St. Anthony, Regina              | 20                  | 1               |
| St. Michael, Bengough            | 20                  | 4               |

4 Councils with an increase of 12 members

45 Councils with a decrease of 321 members

13 Councils with same membership

Total Councils paid for 2022 62

Total Membership 2022 2278

Total decrease in membership 309

Councils neither paid nor disbanded for 2022 \*2

\*These are Holy Family, Radville and St. Mary, Regina. Since membership fees were not submitted, their council numbers are not included in the membership statistics.

**Councils Disbanded in 2022:**

The following councils paid their fees for 2022, but disbanded during the year:

- St. Anthony, Regina – 20 members in 2022
- St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Stockholm – 30 members in 2022
- St. Mary, Churchbridge – 11 members in 2022
- St. Stanislaus, Ituna – 9 members in 2022

The following councils did not pay their fees for 2022, and disbanded during the year:

- Immaculate Heart of Mary, Claybank – 22 members in 2021
- Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Val Marie – 1 member in 2021
- St. John the Baptist, Dysart – 10 members in 2021
- St. Stephen, Kamsack – 17 members in 2021

At end of 2022, 62 “Paid councils” plus 2 “Un-paid councils” for a total of 64. From this number 4 have disbanded, leaving the start of 2023 with 60 councils (58 paid, and 2 un-paid).

**Donations to CWL National Voluntary Funds**

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Coady International Institute  | \$600.00           |
| Catholic Mission in Canada (Catechesis Fund)                           | \$950.00           |
| Euthanasia Prevention Coalition  | \$425.00           |
| Catholic Near East Welfare Association- Canada                         | \$600.00           |
| CCCB Palliative Care Kit)  | \$100.00           |
| Development and Peace (Caritas Canada)                                 | \$450.00           |
| National Bursary Fund  | \$0.00             |
| <b>Total amount of all donations made by councils to all charities</b> | <b>\$42,811.00</b> |

**REGINA DIOCESAN CWL ESTERHAZY REGION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2022  
DONNA SUGDEN**

**Councils:** St. Mary, Churchbridge; Our Lady of Victories, Esterhazy; St. Ann, Kennedy; St. Anne, Kipling; St. Joseph, Langenburg; St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Stockholm.  
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Stockholm, and St. Mary, Churchbridge were paid in 2022 but disbanded during the year. Some members have joined other councils.

**Spiritual Advisor:** Fr. Franklin Emeruwa

**Chairperson:** Donna Sugden

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Lucille Haydt

St. Joseph Council, Langenburg has 4 meetings a year. They have a membership lunch in May and give our service pins. The lead the Holy Rosary in their church and help the Knights of Columbus with a Seder Supper before Easter.

S. Ann in Kipling members have a few meetings each year. They did meet to vote on amendments. This past fall they gathered at a nearby labyrinth and prayed the rosary as they walked.

Our Lady of Victories in Esterhazy celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a supper and program for members. They hosted two brunches after mass for their parish. Members gather for meeting usually once a month.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL ESTEVAN REGION ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

**Councils:** Sacred Heart, Benson; St. Monica, Bienfait; Immaculate Heart of Mary, Carlyle; St. John the Baptist, Estevan; Our Lady of Seven Sorrows, Lampman; Our Lady of Fatima, Redvers; St. Anthony, Storthoaks; St. Jean Regis, Wauchope.

The position of chairperson for the region is vacant.  
A comprehensive report for the region is not available.

### **REGINA DIOCESAN CWL MOOSE JAW REGION ANNUAL REPORT 2022 LYNDA THUL**

This report comes from the following Councils...

Church of Our Lady – Moose Jaw; St. Joseph's – Moose Jaw; St. John the Evangelist – Marquis.

- Some of things the St. Joseph Council – Moose Jaw did throughout the year.
- Joseph's celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022.
- They recognized new members and members years of service with the return of a Pinning Ceremony.
- The Catholic Girls League has grown.
- They participated in the Blanket Ceremony at their Regional meeting in November.
- Together with the Girls' League they planted and cared for the flower gardens in the church yard.
- So many members faithfully pray for the council, for the monthly prayer intentions, and as part of prayer chain and prayer blanket ministries.
- They had a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary project to encourage at least 100 people to attend the Life Chain on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Members mailed Palliative Care postcards to the Federal Minister of Health.
- Support was given to Ukraine, in various ways.
- They continue to support and communicate with their members also in many ways.

Some of the things Church of Our Lady Council – Moose Jaw did throughout the year:

- Donations were made to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, to the Tree of Love, and to the COOL for the use of the Hall.
- Advent and Christmas activities were held.
- Members provide bereavement support to families.

- Continued support goes to the Social Justice Committee as their project for the National theme “Walking together”.

Some of the things done by St. John the Evangelist Council, Marquis did throughout the year:

- Marquis is a much smaller club...we try to have as many meetings as we can.
- Five members come to our meetings. We have one new member ... and three that help out at different events.
- A Fowl Supper was held in October. We had a great turnout after three years.

As we look forward to the year ahead as we continue to serve and promote the Catholic Women’s League of Canada.

**REGINA DIOCESAN CWL OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL REGION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2022  
JUDIE WILLIAMS**

**Councils:** St. Patrick, Cupar; St. John the Baptist, Dysart; Our Lady of Sorrows, Fort Qu’Appelle; St. Joseph, Indian Head; Mary Queen of All Hearts, Lestock; Sacred Heart, Raymore; St. James, Southey.

St. John the Baptist, Dysart disbanded during the year.  
A comprehensive report for the region is not available.

**REGINA DIOCESAN CWL OUR LADY OF PEACE REGION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

**Councils:** St. George, Assiniboia; Ste. Radegonde, Lafleche;  
Our Lady of Assumption, Gravelbourg; Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Coronach  
The position of chairperson for the region is vacant.  
A comprehensive report for the region is not available.

**REGINA DIOCESAN CWL REGINA REGION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

**Councils:** Christ the King, Holy Cross, Holy Family, Holy Rosary Cathedral,  
Holy Trinity, Little Flower, Our Lady of Peace, Resurrection, St. Anne, St. Anthony, St. Cecilia,  
St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Peter, St. Joseph (Balgonie), and St. Agnes (Pilot Butte)  
St. Anthony was paid in 2022 but disbanded during the year. St. Mary did not submit  
membership fees for 2022.

The position of chairperson for the region is vacant.  
A comprehensive report for the region is not available.

**REGINA DIOCESAN CWL SOUTHWEST REGION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2022  
RACHELLE JOHNSON**

**Councils:** Christ the Redeemer, Swift Current; St. Anne, Gull Lake; Our Lady of Confidence, Cadillac; Notre Dame D’Auvergne, Ponteix; Holy Family, Admiral; Christ the King, Shaunavon; St. Lawrence, Maple Creek; St. Stephen, Consul

**Spiritual Advisor:** Deacon David Hagel

**Regional Chairperson:** Rachelle Johnson

**Regional Secretary /Treasurer;** Michele Vallee

2022 proved to be a year of new beginnings, struggles and determination. To instill a sense of normalcy, the Southwest Regional councils were all invited to attend a Fall workshop in Swift Current. Guest presenters were Janette Rieger who spoke on “The CWL Going Forward” and Shannon Novak spoke on “Spiritual Motherhood of Priests Apostolate.” It was great to see the majority of councils attending and resuming friendships. Everyone was ready to resume CWL activities.

Some councils in the Southwest Region are struggling with participation and diminishing memberships. Two councils are thinking about disbanding or becoming inactive. Regardless some were busy with various activities. One council had their pin presentation after a Sunday mass and entitled it “Sundae on Sunday”. Parishioners were invited to celebrate the pin recipients. It was well supported. Other activities that councils were busy at are as follows:

- Two councils organized a “ ladies’ night” in which all women of the community were invited. A short video presentation was done on the CWL and one council recruited a new member.
- Catered supper (fund raiser) for the Knights of Columbus during their convention as well as entertained the wives to mini golf and a tour of the museum.
- To attract more participation, a pizza supper was offered to the ladies (38 attended the first meeting in the fall.)
- St. Patrick’s Day brunch and pie sales are planned for 2023
- Our Lady of Confidence, Cadillac celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Provided gifts for shut-ins and bingo once a month for assisted living
- Donated to the food bank; collected for the Alzheimer’s disease
- Prepared a joint service for Prayer Christian Unity; supper and retreat with Deacon David
- Church subscribed to FLOCKNOTE which has been extremely helpful in CWL council communication
- Had an information meeting on MAID and the prayers for palliative care
- As a result of the councils outreach ,they were able to get 2 new young members in 2022 and 2 more in 2023. (Shaunavon)
- Christmas party and Novena brought many donations for the Food Bank



**REGINA DIOCESAN CWL WEYBURN REGION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2022  
CAMILLE GOSKI**

**Councils:** St. Michael, Bengough; Sacred Heart, Montmartre; Holy Angels, Pangman(inactive); Holy Family, Radville; St. Mary, Tribune; St. Paul, Vibank (inactive); St. Vincent de Paul, Weyburn  
**Spiritual Advisor:** Fr. Louis Abello  
**Regional Chairperson:** Camille Goski  
**Regional Secretary/Treasurer:** Jean Woodard

2022 saw a return to regular meetings and activities for most Councils in the Weyburn Region. Some Councils met three or four times a year while others met on a monthly basis. But it was with great joy that these Councils members were able to gather together again whether it was in a meeting format or in a planned activity. The Sisterhood was back together and was as strong ever. However, sadly, two of our Councils, Holy Angels, Pangman, and St. Paul, Vibank, made the difficult decision to become inactive. It was hard to continue to carry out the activities of the CWL with only a few members in the Council. These Councils will continue to support their respective parishes in any way they can.

Councils have embraced the new structure of the League with the three standing committees of Faith, Service and Social Justice and support the direction the League has taken to remain a strong, viable national organization.

Council members continue to support their parishes in many ways whether it is cleaning the Church, paying some Church bills, taking part in the Liturgy of the Mass. They also support their communities through donations to various charities, helping newcomers, and those in need.

Our members continue to take part in the CWL online webinars, retreat seminars, and workshops. Also, some members continue to participate in online Alpha programs, prayer groups, missions, offered by other Catholic dioceses across Canada. Our members continue to develop their deep Catholic Faith and share it with others.

All of our members continue to be united by FAITH, striving for SOCIAL JUSTICE together in SERVICE for God and Canada.

**REGINA DIOCESAN CWL YORKTON / MELVILLE REGION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2022  
ELAINE HORNUNG**

**Councils:** in this region include, Canora, Melville, Preeceville, Sturgis, and Yorkton.

Regional Council members include Elaine Hornung, Chair, (Melville); Paulette Cooper, Treasurer, (Yorkton); Louise Tetreault, Secretary, (Melville); Linda Maddaford, Diocesan Vice President, (Yorkton); Parish Presidents Nellie Knihniski (Preeceville); Liz Bahnuik (Canora); and Father Dennis Remot, Spiritual Advisor (Melville).

Two previous councils that were part of this Region disbanded during 2022 – Kamsack and Ituna.

The council had its first meeting under Melville as chair in September with meetings in October, and November of 2022 as well as one in January of 2023. The council urged parish presidents to consider using the Member Information Form found in the Welcome Program. Discussions were held at the meetings to determine when, where, and what topics could be presented at a spring workshop in 2023. During the January 2023 meeting, the idea of merging this council with the Esterhazy council was discussed. The chair of that council, Donna Sugden was contacted. Both regional councils will have their parish presidents discuss the idea with their members to see if this is something the councils would like to do.

All councils of this region participated in activities to raise funds for their council and/or their parish. Some examples: Preeceville had a perogy and sausage lunch, Sturgis sold items at the Sturgis Fall Market, Yorkton had a garage sale as well as a Christmas pudding sale, Canora held monthly perogy sales as well as a fall supper.

Activities for Palliative Care were done at several parishes. Memorial services for deceased members were held in Yorkton and Melville. Donations were given by councils to various charities including Telemiracle, most notably with St. Gerard's in Yorkton donating over \$4000 to over 10 charities and their parish.

Here are a few activities from various councils: Preeceville made comfort pillows for their Health Centre as part of a Palliative Care Project. Sturgis made treat bags for the children who attended Christmas mass. Yorkton made quilts to give to people in need. Melville held an IT workshop to help members struggling with technological devices. Canora held a membership drive, contacting all ladies of the parish. They successfully renewed 24 members and signed up 2 new ones. Sturgis and Melville held farewell and welcome events for their parish priests as they moved out of or into the parish.

Most councils have not yet been able to fill the executive positions, even with the reduced committees.