



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
ALBERTA MACKENZIE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

Alberta Mackenzie Organization Oral Report
Convention 2023 Edmonton

Madam President,

The past few months have been an exciting and challenging time for our Alberta Mackenzie Councils. With January, came elections for many parishes, and with those elections a new way to organize. While it is not a requirement to change to the new council format until an election occurs in the council, some have opted to begin the year with the strategic planning. There are a number of resources online to assist councils in reorganizing their parish councils.

Planning for this convention required a few meetings with the convention committee. It was a pleasure to work with the enthusiastic convention committee. Meetings were held both in person and via Zoom. While Zoom has been very helpful for staying in touch and holding meetings when we are unable to travel, there is nothing like meeting together with our sisters in the League in person.

The Unity Outreach program will be presented across the Province to Diocesan Councils in the coming months. Parish Presidents, please plan to attend when the presentation is made available in your Diocese. The more knowledge we have, the better we will be able to do the work of The League.

National Office offered three short webinars in March and April. These excellent courses covered the topics: "Act Justly, Love Tenderly Walk Humbly"; "The Exodus Journey to Easter"; and "Who me? A Leader?". These webinars are still available on the National website along with many more inspiring workshops and information.

This year there were no nominees for the Elsie Yanik award. I'm hoping that this is just another consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic. I know there are many members who are deserving of this important honour. The next deadline for submissions for this award is December 31, 2023.

The applications for the Father Walter Krewski Awards were few this year. I have seen some of the statistics from your dioceses and some councils may have missed out on receiving the award because they did not apply. Even if you only have one new member, apply! The next deadline for the Father Walter Krewski Awards is February 28, 2024. The 2024 award is for increases in the year 2023. The awards are for greatest number of new members, greatest increase in memberships (new and rejoining) and the greatest percentage increase.

I was happy to bring greetings to the St. Paul Diocesan Convention on behalf of President Mary Hunt in April.

Along with Life Member Elizabeth Doyle, I was thrown a new challenge from The National Chair for Legislation, Glenda Carson. We were asked to write an article for the Spring League magazine. Together, Elizabeth and I did a lot of research and created the article "Discerning Provincial and Federal Legislation Accountabilities". The article was then edited by Glenda. It was very much a collaborative effort and quite a learning curve.

In closing, I encourage all members to join Past President Judy Look in praying the rosary on Thursday evenings at 7:35 pm. This zoom ministry has been such a help in my life and it has given me an opportunity to connect with and get to know other CWL members across our Alberta Mackenzie Province and indeed from across the country.

This concludes my report,
Betsy Fletcher, Organization Chair