



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

Alberta Mackenzie Secretary's Oral Report Convention 2023 Edmonton

Madam President,

This past year has been one of transition throughout Alberta Mackenzie as councils slowly transition to follow the newly adopted *Constitution & Bylaws*. It's interesting to see how many councils embraced the changes right away, while others are still working their way through the transition. Many councils and dioceses have continued to have both a Secretary and a Communication chair, especially when newsletters and even websites are used to keep members up to date, so the role isn't overtaxing for one person. This is the same in Alberta Mackenzie and it has worked well. As each province is transitioning differently, national office is now sending all Communique's through the Provincial President and Provincial Secretary, to be distributed to the appropriate committee.

Alberta Mackenzie is also transitioning, and it was felt there was a need to incorporate the three core values of Faith, Service & Social Justice into new Gmail addresses. Therefore the previous Gmail addresses were retired, and new ones were created for each provincial officer.

Although technology can be a blessing, it can also be a hindrance as many of our rural councils may not have predictable and dependable Wi-Fi, and many members may not have email or computers for that matter. So it's very important that we maintain our connections with our members through the old fashioned telephone or snail mail. What's better than receiving a phone call and it's one of your League sisters calling to say hello and check in with you, and not someone trying to sell you something?

Throughout the pandemic, Alberta Mackenzie sent Christmas cards to presidents of all councils, which was repeated again this past year. This is just one small way we can show you that you are in the thoughts and prayers of your Provincial Council.

There is a wealth of information on the national website, updated manuals and yes, a revised Handbook for Secretaries. The resources are all there, just waiting for us. Please take a deep dive into some of the **60** Strategic Plan resources that have been created to help you and your councils. One of the resources that I love is "52 Reasons to talk about the CWL". There are 52 words and descriptions. Why not post one a week in your parish bulletins? One that struck me is # 14: FRIENDSHIP Catholic Women's League members build enduring friendships. We celebrate new members, anniversaries and special events along the way. Meetings, socials, projects and

conventions create bonds of friendship. Meet new friends from your parish and beyond. Your place is among friends.

What is your CWL? My CWL is the friendships I have built along the way, and the love I have for my sisters and the League.

This concludes my report,
Jan Myhre, Provincial Secretary