



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

London Diocesan Council



To: All Parish Presidents, Education and Health Chairpersons, OPC Education and Health Chairperson Karen McDonald
CC: London Diocesan Council, Dara Hartman and Mary Kennedy (sub-committee members)
From: Mary Bannon, First Vice-President, Education and Health
Directive #9
January, 2020

The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn. Ralph Waldo Emerson



ENVIRONMENT: Ontario is selling off its freshwater to bottled water companies like Nestlé. These companies take Canada's drinking water and sell it for billions of dollars every year. Meanwhile, many First Nations are forced to boil or import drinking water. Drinking water is not a commodity to be sold while promoting it as somehow "purer". As drinking water becomes more scarce due to climate change, it's important we protect this vital resource for future generations. Nestlé is required to submit an application to renew its extraction permit. If enough people speak out, we may be able to convince the government to end the sale of drinking water to Nestle. This information has come from an action group in Canada called North 99. Please consider writing Premier Ford and your local MPP about your concern. Also begin to use only tap water which you might like to filter yourself or have a reverse osmosis system installed.

Bell



HEALTH: January 29th is Bell Let's Talk Day. Mental illness leads to feelings of loneliness since it is the silent, "not talked about" illness. This day we are encouraged to share messages to support those suffering from mental illness on Facebook, Twitter or by email. For each message Bell donates 5 cents. It is a mighty effort to remove the stigma of mental illness by just talking about it. Thanks to your support, the total of Bell's "Let's Talk" funding now stands at \$100,695,763.75, with more than 1 billion messages of support having been sent.



EDUCATION: A reminder about the Spiritual Advisor's and the J. L. Hennessey Bursary available to those members or their children needing assistance to pursue continuing education. Further information is available on our diocesan website cwillondon.com by clicking on FORMS. The deadline is April 1st.

GENETICS: Stem Cells A stem cell is a "blank" cell that has not yet made up its mind as to what it is going to be. An embryo is filled with these stem cells. These can become all 220 cell/tissue types. But the retrieval of these stem cells results in the direct killing of a human being. Adult stem cells are stem cells that are taken from an adult. Umbilical cords, placentas, and amniotic fluid can be saved after birth and adult stem cells can be retrieved from them. Adult stem cells can also be retrieved from bone marrow, from the hipbone, liposuction, and from the nasal epithelium, but cannot become all 220 types. To date, there has been no success in using embryonic stem cells in curing any disease. However, there has been great success using adult stem cells to cure disease. Because these cells can be retrieved from your own body they are much less likely to be rejected. Look up: <https://fwdioc.org/catholic-church-teaching-pollice.pdf>

Blessings for a wonderful 2020! Mary