



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

London Diocesan Council



To: **All London Diocesan Parish Presidents, All London Diocesan Spiritual Advisors and all members of the London Diocese Catholic Women's League**
CC: London Diocesan Council; Colleen Perry OPC President,
Fr. Greg Bonin, Spiritual Advisor
Dave Savel, Episcopal Director of Administrative Services, Diocese of London
From: Rebecca McCarrell, President;
Date: March 20, 2021

Directive #17

Opening of our Councils! Update!

My dear sisters in the League, our Spiritual Advisors, and the membership of the CWL London Diocese:

I have been in consultation with the Diocesan Office under Bishop Fabbro, directly with Dave Savel, Episcopal Director of Administrative Services, Diocese of London.

First, I must iterate that the sharing of confidential information is of utmost importance! The instructions sent from the diocese to priests, deacons and parish staff was meant for their eyes only and should **NOT** have been obtained by or distributed by our membership.

There are several issues that must be addressed here.

1. Insurance: the CWL carries its own insurance (each member pays 40c towards this) and it covers our directors (parish executive, diocesan executive) and facilities we meet in.
2. CWL Councils are a stand-alone organization and although we meet within and support the parish structure, we are NOT a parish group. Our councils can function outside of the parish as evidence by the few councils that are currently operating without a parish.
3. Signatory for the CWL councils of the London Diocese. As the current president I am the signatory for our diocese. After the elections, Theresa Ryan will be the signatory.
4. Ensure if you are signing documents that you will agree to be the responsible person for anything that falls under the contract you are signing!

Due diligence for safety of all members in this time of pandemic must be foremost in the decisions made at various levels of the League. Although halls are permitted to reopen (depending on the colour of the region) per the correspondence from the diocese, it does not mean that they must. (thank you for confirming, Dave)

Vaccines are just beginning to be rolled out to the general public. Some of our members will have already received theirs for various reasons. However, until everyone is vaccinated, and the CoVID-19 virus and its variations are under control, it is still UNSAFE to meet in large groups.

Therefore, general meetings and fundraising remain on hold.

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What can happen:

- 1. Executive meetings with less than 10 persons in orange and yellow areas, and less than 5 persons in RED areas can take place with permission of your pastor/ spiritual advisor at the church halls with a signed contract/license.**
- 2. To utilize a church hall, a contract/license must be signed by the president and treasurer that they will be responsible for all CoVID related restrictions and that their membership will also adhere to the regulations. Here is the clause of responsibility**
The Licensee agrees to abide by all protocols, rules and directions of the Parish and Diocese regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Licensee agrees to accept responsibility to ensure all persons attending the Licensee's event shall also abide by all protocols, rules and directions of the Parish and Diocese and to abide by all laws, regulations or directions issued by the Province of Ontario, local county, local municipality and local health unit. The Licensee shall promptly inform the Parish of any persons attending the event that later test positive for COVID-19 so that the Parish can assist in contact tracing and such other measures as the Parish deems necessary or appropriate.
- 3. The contract/license must be signed for a one-year time frame with copies to the parish, the parish council, and the diocesan council. The blank license agreement will be posted on the CWL London website.**
- 4. Proof of insurance must be provided to the parish. London Diocesan Council will obtain a copy of the proof of insurance and make it available to councils. Please give us time to gather this.**

It is still necessary to refrain from meeting in groups. Continued diligence will let us all move on to visiting with family and friends sooner.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca McCarrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Rebecca McCarrell, President, London Diocese CWL Diocesan Council