



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

London Diocesan Council

To: All Parish Presidents, Parish Past Presidents, Historians and Election Committees
CC: London Diocesan Council, Anne Madden, Ontario Provincial Council Past President
From: Rebecca McCarrell, Past President, London Diocesan Council 2021-2023
Date September 2021

Directive # 2

“These are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and the teachers” Ephesians 4:11

In my May directive I spoke to you about CHANGE! And now, we have changes at our national level as well. Congratulations to Ann Marie Gorman for completing her term during these difficult times. And, welcome to her new role as Past President, Chairperson of Laws!

Mentorship is defined as the guidance provided by an experienced person in a company or educational institution. This is your role as Past Presidents...to be a guide, offer advice when asked, and behind the scenes support for your President. It could be a difficult transition for some, but it is most important for the continuance of our councils. As a mentor you should make your President feel she is in a safe place...she can discuss without criticism and ask advice. This does not mean she has to take your advice...but use it to come to her own decision.

Mentors encourage and enable another person's professional, personal, and spiritual development. A mentor can assist in setting goals and providing feedback. But most importantly, you are able to hone the skills of the President.

These attributes are important as a mentor:

Active Listening: stop talking and listen to what is being said, look at the body language; guide the conversation; pay attention and offer feedback.

Availability: meet in person when able, let your president pick your brain for ideas, be emotionally available,

Analysis: provide honest, insightful answers; be objective and fair.

Most of all, remember you had your turn to shine, now support your successor so she will shine and learn how to do the same for the next in line! This is why succession planning is so important!

If you are interested in assisting me to prepare training videos or resources to encompass the above, please send me a message...my new email is ppresloncwl@gmail.com and I will contact you.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless us in all we do! Rebecca