



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

London Diocesan Council

To: All Parish Presidents, All Parish Past Presidents
CC: London Diocesan Council, Colleen Perry, OPC Past President
From: Theresa Ryan, London Diocesan Past President
Date: September 2023
Directive # 1

Ecclesiastes 3:1 "There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens..."

Greetings my sisters in the League! I know that my new role as past president is to consult the president when needed and take responsibility for the archives.

I wasn't sure what else it entails so I went to www.cwl.ca and checked under "to Organize" and then the "600 series, Manuals", and finally to "#611 Handbook for Past Presidents". As I started reading, sure enough, the first two items were those mentioned above.

The next item was to encourage the **study and implementation of the Constitution & Bylaws**

The past president should help members to become knowledgeable about the Constitution & Bylaws and should help the president to conduct the affairs of the council accordingly.

I will try to base my directives on the **Constitution & Bylaws**. Every council should have a paper or electronic copy. Again, if you want the electronic copy, follow the directions above except choose "# 604 Constitution & Bylaws"

As I start reading "**Part IV Objects of the League**", I realize I should memorize these as I have often been asked what our organization is about. We should all have what is referred to as an "elevator speech" ready in our minds. (something short you could say that would be about the time you would ride in an elevator) These objects may help you form that little speech or maybe you have other things you like to add about the Catholic Women's League.

I will end with "**Part V Policy**" # 3 "**to develop leadership qualities and provide training to enable members to take active roles in the affairs of their faith, community, and society**". This is an issue for most councils as there has not been enough training. It is understandable that women would not want to take leadership roles when there is little or no training and they don't know where to go to get it. We at Diocesan are happy to provide training, but we have to hear from you, what you would like, whether it be individual council concerns or you would like a workshop to attend. Have a great summer and please email me and say Hi or how you are doing. pastpresloncwl@gmail.com

Theresa