

The Catholic Women's League of Canada



Antigonish Diocesan Council

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*Here I am Lord, send me!*

TO: Parish Council Presidents  
FROM: Diocesan President, Anne McCormick  
DATE: September 2, 2025  
SUBJECT: Fall Conference 2025 & Convention Updates  
MEMO: # 4 (2024-2026)  
CC: Parish Council Presidents, Diocesan Officers, Life Members, Provincial Secretary (for distribution to provincial counterpart)

Welcome back, CWL Parish Council Presidents!

I hope you all enjoyed a restful and refreshing summer. As we step into the fall, I'm excited to reconnect, share, and continue our League journey together. I hope our upcoming activities and gatherings will provide opportunities to grow in faith, serve our community, and strengthen the bonds of sisterhood that make CWL so special.

**Save the Date: Fall Conference/Diocesan Executive Meeting**

Please join us for Fall Conference 2025 which will be held on **Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** in Stellarton, NS, hosted by Holy Name, Our Lady of Lourdes, & St. John the Baptist Councils. Registration and a continental breakfast will start at 9am; the conference program will take place from 10am until 330pm. Mass will be available at 4pm in host council parish churches.

Registration information, agenda and workshop presentations are being finalized and will be emailed and sent by Canada Post next week.

The Pre-Conference Diocesan Executive Meeting for Diocesan Officers and Council Presidents or their delegates will be held via Zoom on **Wednesday October 15th at 6:30 pm.**

**Provincial & National Conventions**

It was an honour to represent our diocese at both the NS provincial convention in June and the national convention in August and I am deeply grateful for these opportunities. Attending my first national convention was an enriching and affirming experience; it highlighted for me the remarkable leadership and giftedness of our members and reinforced my appreciation for the strength, influence, and faith-filled dedication of the Catholic Women's League. I am proud to be part of this strong and faith-filled sisterhood.

I will give an update on the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution & Bylaws and the two resolutions that were adopted at our Diocesan Convention/AMM in April and the current provincial and national

executive officers. More information on both the provincial and national conventions will be shared at Fall Conference.

At the provincial convention in June

- The Proposed Amendment to the Constitution & Bylaws was adopted by majority vote; it has been forwarded to the national past president for review at the National Constitution & Bylaws Amendments Committee. The National Manual of Policy and Procedure states: “The amending process, from submission to voting and implementation, will take two years for completion.”
- Resolution 2025.01 Provision of a Blood Donation Service for the Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) and Resolution 2025.02 Establish One Plane Away as a National Voluntary Fund were adopted by majority vote and forwarded to the National Chairperson of Social Justice.

At the national convention in August

- Resolution 2025.01 Provision of a Blood Donation Service for the Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) was shared with all provincial presidents at the post executive meeting. The resolution urges them to become aware of this topic as it pertains to their province/territory, and to act on it as deemed necessary/prudent. Action on this resolution by our members can now be implemented.
- Resolution 2025.02 Establish One Plane Away as a National Voluntary Fund did not come to the floor for discussion; more information was requested by the National Resolutions Sub Committee. The provincial council will follow up on recommendations from this committee.

#### 2025-2027 Provincial and National Executive Officers

- Provincial officers are President Sandra O’Connell, Vice-President Ann Myers, Past President Jessie Parkinson, Secretary Janice MacDougall, Treasurer Julie LeLievre, Faith Chair Cathy Farrow, Service Chair Cleo Windsor, and Social Justice Chair Karen Craig.
- The newly elected national officers are Vice- President Glenda Carson, Secretary-Treasurer Alice Noble, Standing Committee Chairs Karen Rossiter (Faith Chair), Madonna Clark (Service Chair) and Jessie Parkinson (Social Justice Chair) who will serve with President Betty Colaneri and Past President Shari Guinta.

Congratulations to all! The national theme “Here I am Lord, send me” and focus on mental health remains in effect until January.

Presidents, please share this memo at your next council meeting. Please encourage your members to come to Fall Conference for a day of sharing, learning and sisterhood!

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide you and may the Holy Spirit empower you to respond to God’s call in loving service.

Your sister in the League,  
Anne McCormick  
Antigonish Diocesan CWL Council President