

# ANTIGONISH DIOCESAN COUNCIL PRESIDENT

**Annual Report: 2024**

**# of councils reporting: 17/27**

## **Councils' focus on the national theme, *Here I am Lord, send me***

All councils focused on the national theme in various ways. 5 out of 17 councils hosted a guest speaker on the theme; 3 of 17 councils attended a workshop; and 2 councils participated in an online webinar. 13 councils reported they focused on the theme through other practices; however, these were not identified.

## **Councils' focus on mental health**

All councils reported focusing on mental health education and activities through the past year. 5 out of the 17 councils hosted speakers on mental health topics; 4 of 17 councils focused on learning how to get help for those with mental health issues; and 5 of 17 councils explored how mental health affects homelessness, job security, violence, etc. 5 of the councils also reported being engaged in a mental health focus in other ways, not included above.

## **Embracing the new structure of eight executive positions**

The majority of councils (14/17) have embraced the new structure of 8 executive positions. The need for an adjustment period to get used to the new structure was reported; generally, however, members are committed to making it work. It was stated that the new structure is not difficult; the difficulty is filling executive positions because of a lack of willingness to take on chairs for a variety of reasons resulting in a few people trying to do all chairs or councils operating with vacant positions (e.g. no vice-president the last 3 years). In some cases, the duties of the chairs are shared i.e. membership/organization, secretary/communication, the standing committees of faith, service and social justice are working collaboratively.

## **President's Activities: (April – December 2024)**

- Attended the NS provincial convention in Dartmouth in June 2024
- With past president, prepared and presented a training program for incoming diocesan officers
- Organized and chaired diocesan officers' meetings in Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec 2024 and diocesan executive meeting in October 2024
- Organized and chaired Fall Conference in Port Hawkesbury in October 2024
- Presented workshop on leadership at Fall Conference
- Prepared memos for councils and newsletter article for the 2024 fall newsletter
- Regularly viewed the national website
- Attended webinars: Be in the Know: National Communications Plan, September 2024 and Walk Through Salvation History, December 2024
- Attended to incoming and outgoing correspondence
- Worked on revising the Antigonish Diocesan Website
- Participated in Mass for Shut-ins with diocesan council members

I wish to thank all those councils who submitted annual reports.

*Anne McCormick*

Antigonish Diocesan CWL Council President