



**Timmins Diocesan Council  
of The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Resolutions Standing Committee**



Care for our  
Common Home

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Directive #3  
March 2020

Pages: 4

<b>To:</b>	Parish Resolution Standing Committee Chairpersons
<b>From:</b>	Colleen Landers, Diocesan Resolution Standing Committee Chairperson
<b>cc:</b>	Parish Presidents, Diocesan Officers, Provincial Resolution Standing Committee
	Chairperson Wilma Vanderzwaag
	Sub-committee members: TBA

*A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me.*  
Psalm 51:12

Good Moring CWL Colleagues,

It is so important that we continue with letter writing to our elected government representatives at both the provincial and federal level. Letters enable us to add our voice and support to the representatives who have or will be presenting them. A common concern is whether or not members can state they are members of the League. It is imperative we let government officials know we are members so that they realize the level of support for the issue. Attached to this directive are 3 examples of letters that each member can send for the 3 provincial resolutions adopted at the 2019 Provincial Convention. Letters are the most effective way of communicating our action plan. One suggestion that is not in the examples is to include in your closing sentence or statement a question so that a response is required. A common action requested of us on a resolution is to meet with the local government official in support of our resolutions. Government officials want and need us to visit. Why not have a few members from your council bring your letters to their offices in person. Ask to take a picture with them explaining that the membership is interested in seeing that their letters were given. There are guidelines for letter writing in the Resolutions Supplement that is available on the national website, [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca).

The 2019 revised Resolution Supplement reflecting the changes regarding resolutions is now available on the national website, go to Resources, 600 Series and it is 618. Become familiar with the changes and the process for creating resolutions. It was great to attend the Resolution Workshop held by the Ontario Provincial Council in Toronto, Feb. 6-8, 2020. At this workshop we went through the new resolution supplement and the process for resolutions. Many seasoned chairs, had great tips and suggestions for the chairs that were experiencing resolutions for the first time. Sharing our knowledge is so important and can help other councils to take the plunge and create a resolution. If a diocese would like

the PowerPoint presentations from the OPC workshop to use in their councils, please contact me.

Attached to this directive is also the latest report from the Canadian Catholic Institute of Bioethics titled, MAID- A Review of the Legislation by Bridget Campion. Let us continue to request from our government more palliative care and long-term care. We need to put more resources into other means of assisting people who are chronically ill or dying. Cardinal Collins on March 2, 2020 wrote an opinion article in the Toronto Star encouraging us to develop a culture of care. He also went on to say:

"If all Canadians had access to quality palliative care, fewer would seek lethal injection. Instead of developing an overall culture of care, we are rushing towards death on demand. The same doctors who are trying to care for their patients will now be called on to approve euthanasia for them.

We should take time to be truly present to those who may feel that they are on the margins in our community. Those who feel that their life no longer has value must be assured by all of us that this is absolutely not the case — there is dignity within each human life, not just when we are young, healthy and able, but even more so, when we are fragile and vulnerable.

It is up to every Canadian to foster a culture of care and love for one another. The answer is not assisted death in its many forms; it is accompanying our family, our friends and even strangers to assist them in life, recognizing the inherent dignity of every person."

Our resolutions that can help create a culture of care are by implementing the action plans are:

ON.19.03 Long Term Care Beds in Ontario

ON.16.01 Enhance the Canada Health Care Act to Include Home Care

2016.04 Amend the Canada Health Care Act to Identify Palliative Care as an Insured Health Service

Please send any updates of visits to your MP or MPP's office—let's make our voices heard!

Blessings,

Colleen Landers [cladners@fibreop.ca](mailto:cladners@fibreop.ca)

(Send a separate letter to the Premier of Ontario AND to Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Christine Elliott)

, 2020

Premier's Office  
Room 281  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford:

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen and as a Catholic woman who is opposed to abortion, which contradicts my belief in the sanctity of life.

I believe that an abortion can have adverse effects on a woman's mental health, and that a woman who is considering such a procedure must be made aware of all possible mental health risks associated with having an abortion.

I ask the provincial government to require referring and attending medical professionals to fully disclose to the patient, well before performing an abortion, all possible mental health risks that may follow from having such a procedure.

I urge you and your colleagues to consider my request.

Sincerely,

Dear (Minister to direct letter/email to) and a separate one to the Premier of Ontario,

I am writing to you with regards to a resolution that has been brought to my attention by The Catholic Women's League of Canada, Ontario Provincial Council. The province of Ontario is in desperate need of palliative care and long-term beds. Please change your decision to have 30,000 new long-term care beds in place by the year 2030 to a more realistic date of 2025. The number of Ontario residents requiring long-term care beds will increase each year. These beds are needed as soon as possible as many Ontario residents and their families are experiencing stress and hardship due to the shortage.

Please help these residents that are in such a vulnerable situation,

Dear MPP, Minister of Health, Premier of Ontario,

At the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada held on July 14-17, 2019, a resolution was adopted regarding psychotherapy for adults. All Ontarians deserve accessible and timely mental health therapy. At the present time, only a small number of adults have access to this necessary therapy.

I am urging, as a resident of the province of Ontario, that the provincial government fund and implement a community-based psychotherapy pilot project for adults that provides psychologists and other appropriately trained health care providers to determine the viability of a long-term program.

Yours truly,