



Hamilton Diocesan Council
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Inspired by the Spirit — Women Respond to God's Call



Directive #3

Pages: 2 (Plus 1 Attachment)

September 2018

To: Council Presidents, Council Legislation Standing Committee
Chairpersons, Members

From: Teresa DiFalco, Hamilton Diocese Legislation Standing Committee
Chairperson

cc: Diocesan Officers, Committee Members, Diocesan Legislative Standing
Committee Members

Warmest greetings and blessings to All,

I hope everyone was able to enjoy time with family and friends over the summer months. With fall upon us and as the leaves change colour, there is always ONE constant. *“When everything seems to be changing, we can reply on God’s constancy.” - Hebrews 13:8.* Through His constancy we grow in faith to achieve greater holiness as sisters in Christ.

For your ease of reading and referencing, I have broken down this directive into categories. As well, I have included an “Eye on Legislation” attachment.

SCAVENGER HUNT:

A reminder to all councils/members of the Provincial Scavenger Hunt Challenge. You will recall that our Provincial Legislation Chairwomen challenged each council/member to participate as a means of educating members about events that can lead to homelessness, and ways we can help end homelessness. Councils and/or members are to form a team and select one of three scenarios provided and work through the specific activities provided for the scenario they select. Councils/members will learn together the many ways we can help the homeless, through discovering what legislation is in place and the various programs available in our communities. **The deadline** for this activity and to submit your survey, **is October 16th (World Day of Hunger)**. Information for this activity can be found on the CWL Provincial website at the following link: <http://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/directives/1679.pdf>

LEGISLATION WORKSHOPS:

Over the past year my goal was to help our members gain a better understanding of the Legislation portfolio and to encourage and increase interest and participation of our members. Some initiatives that I undertook to fulfill this goal was to form a Diocesan Legislation sub-committee, and to develop a Legislation 101 Presentation. In doing so, I was able to create templates and hand-outs to share with our members in an effort to assist and encourage engagement and participation. My sub-committee members and I have accepted invitations to be guest speakers at council meetings, and I collaborated with the Diocesan Resolutions Chairperson to deliver a Resolution/Legislation Mini Workshop at our Hamilton Diocesan Convention this past May 2018. We are also scheduled to deliver a workshop at the fall Hamilton regional meeting. With the help of my two sub-committee members, we have made some encouraging progress, and we will continue to work on ways to better serve and assist you.

FYI & ACTION ITEMS:

The following is a summary of resolution outcomes from our from our three recent CWL Conventions (Diocesan, Provincial and National). Please monitor these resolutions and take action as you can, so to help these resolutions pass into law.

Hamilton Diocesan CWL Convention May 2018

There were no resolutions brought forward.

Ontario CWL Provincial Convention July 2018

At the recent Ontario CWL provincial convention, members approved resolution ON.18.02 Immediate Implementation of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change for Ontarians with a Disability. The resolution resolves that “the Ontario provincial council of The Catholic Women’s League of Canada in 71st annual convention assembled urge the Ontario provincial government to immediately implement the recommendations of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change pertinent to Ontarians with a disability.” You can read or download Income Security: A Road Map for Change from this link: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/income-security-roadmap-change>

National CWL Convention August 2018

Our Diocesan President advises that three resolutions passed at the CWL National Convention in August 2018, however Ontario’s two resolutions did not come to the floor. Please monitor the National CWL website for these updates at www.cwl.ca (please note the website is currently down as it is under construction and being updated).

My sub-committee and I remain committed to serving and assisting you in any way we can. We look forward seeing you at our upcoming regional meetings. Please feel free to contact me at any time. My phone number is 905-643-6819, and my email is cta-associates@cogeco.ca

May the Holy Spirit and our Christian values guide and help us fulfill our work as Legislation Standing Committee Chairpersons and Members of the Catholic Women’s League.

Blessings and Hugs,

Teresa DiFalco, Diocesan Legislation Standing Committee Chairperson



ATTACHMENT

EYE ON LEGISLATION:

DEFEATED BILLS:

Bill S-230 *Drug-Impaired Driving Detection Act* was defeated in second reading in the House of Commons. This bill would have supported both resolutions 2005.07 Illegal Manufacture and Trafficking of Crystal Methamphetamine and 2004.12 Marijuana Possession/Use – A Criminal Offence. Continue to encourage members to contact the prime minister, attorney general and federal ministers of health and justice on these issues.

BILL UPDATES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:

Bill C-211 *Federal Framework on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Act* has been referred to the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence following second reading in the Senate.

Bill C-243 *National Maternity Assistance Program Strategy Act* is in second reading in the Senate.

Bill C-277 *Framework on Palliative Care in Canada Act* has passed and received royal assent. Continue to monitor the development of palliative care in Canada and offer assistance where applicable.

Bill C-404 *An Act to amend the Assisted Human Reproduction Act*. It has gone through first reading in the House of Commons and needs the immediate attention of members. Please encourage members to urge members of parliament (MPs) to vote against this bill that would commodify human life. This bill not only speaks against the many pro-life resolutions and Resolution 2011.01 Prohibition of Practices re Human Reproductive Material, but even more so it is against Resolution 2000.02 The Prohibition of the Sale of Human Embryonic or Foetal Tissue, or Reproductive Services.

BILL UPDATES IN THE SENATE:

Bill S-5 *An Act to amend the Tobacco Act* and the Non-smokers' Health Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts received royal assent. Contact MPs and the federal minister of health to ensure the manufacture, sale, labelling and promotion of vaping products are being regulated.

Bill S-228 *Child Health Protection Act* is in second reading in the House of Commons. It has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Health and was returned to the House of Commons with amendments.

Bill S-240 *An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (trafficking in human organs) has been reviewed by the Senate Committee on Human Rights and was returned to Senate with amendments.

Please continue to contact your government representatives with respect to the Bills listed above. Let us all encourage our members and councils to write letters to the Prime Minister, MPs, MPP's and appropriate ministers who make decisions on these issues.