



**Hamilton Diocesan Council**  
of  
**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

*Inspired by the Spirit — Women Respond to God's Call*



## Education and Health

Directive #1

October 2017

**To:** Health and Education Chairs and Committee members  
**From:** Joanne Palmer, Hamilton Diocesan Health and Education Chair  
**cc:** Diocesan Officers, Council Presidents

There is always one question on our minds, and that question is. "How safe is our water?" We really do not know that question.

In the first term we will look into safe water and how we can keep it safe. At the 2017 National meeting of the Canadian Religious Conference they spoke on the topic of water. Some important facts came up:

- Why is it that every 3.5 seconds a child dies of water borne disease?
- Why do 2 billion people around the world drink dirty water?
- Why do 2.5 billion people have inadequate sanitation?

We in Canada are blessed to have plenty of fresh water. Yet there are still communities that have medium to high risk.

Why has the number of protected lakes and rivers dropped in recent years? The Council of Canadians have advocated for years for national water strategy, yet we are still without one.

The council is promoting the Blue Communities Project, a water security and justice movement that calls on communities to adopt a common frame to work with.

- Recognize water and sanitation as human rights.
- Promote publicly financed, owned and operated water services.
- Ban the sale of water bottles.

To find out more information, visit <https://canadians.org/bluecommunities>.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide you in all you do.