



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

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



# Resolutions Workshop

Hamilton Diocesan Catholic Women's League  
Fall Regional Meetings  
September 2018

# Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for your love, for the gifts You have given us, especially the precious gift of togetherness in the Catholic Women's League of Canada. Help us to appreciate our journey as we strive to learn about resolutions. Lord, be with us as our Counsellor and our support. Help us to open our hearts and minds, give us the gifts of enthusiasm, patience, understanding, and of sharing the joy and strength we can offer each other.

May the tasks we share in this resolutions workshop be a reflection of the love You alone can give. Let Your love touch others through our lives, deeds, and actions. This we ask in the name of Jesus, Your Son, through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

# What is a resolution?

A resolution is similar to a motion in that it is used to introduce new business to the assembly (Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook)

- \* Can used to inform policy, educate, support, or thank
- \* Can be used to influence others, to state the League's position on specific issues, to petition or express concern
- \* Can be directed internally to the League or externally to government and other organisations
- \* There is usually a call to action

# So where do we start?



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# Four Main Steps

- \* Idea
- \* Communication
- \* Research
- \* Writing the resolution

# Idea

- \* Where do you get the idea(s)?
  - \* By reading
  - \* By being aware
  - \* By talking to people
  - \* By thinking and making informed decisions
- \* Essentially by being responsible citizens

# Communication

Communication is really threaded throughout every step of the development process

- \* What does it mean in this context?
  - \* It means to talk to people and see what others think of the issue
  - \* Begin to educate and be educated
    - \* Your friends and family
    - \* Neighbours
    - \* Your fellow council members
    - \* Local MPP and City Counsellors

# Research

Now, you can begin your research in earnest

- \* Start by coming up with either a question or a statement that you want your resolution to address
- \* Form a committee to help you (divide the load)
- \* Become familiar with the resources available on CWL websites
- \* Review the literature: newspapers, films, tapes, scientific journals,
- \* Go to the library, Service Canada, Service Ontario, subscribe to Hansard

# Writing the resolution

Now the fun begins...



# Parts of a resolution

- \* **Whereas clause**
  - \* The reason why the action in the resolved clause is requested
- \* **Resolved clause**
  - \* The action clause that states clearly the action to be taken
- \* **Brief**
  - \* A concise statement of fact, expands on the resolution
- \* **Action plan**
  - \* Developed to implement action on the resolved clauses

(Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook)

# Parts of a Resolution: whereas clause

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  - \* Used in a comparative sense
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  - \* Whereas, section 81 of the Corrections and Conditional Release Act states that the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness or a person authorized by the Minister may enter into an agreement with an Aboriginal community for the provision of correctional services to Aboriginal offenders, and

\* excerpt from ON.18.03 To Fully Implement Alternative Sentencing to Incarceration of Indigenous Offenders

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  - \* Resolved, that this resolution be forwarded through the national executive to the other ten provincial councils, urging them to become aware of this issue as it pertains to their province/territory, and to act on it, as deemed necessary/prudent
- \* *\*ON.18.02 Full Implementation of Income Security: A Roadmap for Change for Disabled Adult Ontarians*

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# Parts of a resolution: brief

- \* Brief - a concise statement of the facts that expands on the reason why the resolution is necessary
  - \* Organized in essay form
  - \* Uses relevant and current research (including citations in *MLA* format)
  - \* Usually one page or less
  - \* Avoid promoting of assumptions as though they were facts
  - \* Dignified tone, spelling and grammatically correct
  - \* Using all (or majority) of Canadian sources

# POAR: Brief (continued)

- \* In a Brief :
- \* The 2015 Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) called upon the Government of Canada to commit to eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in custody over the next decade (Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, 2015). The government committed to implementing all the TRC's recommendations.
- \* Excerpt from ON.18.03 To Fully Implement Alternative Sentencing to Incarcerations of Indigenous Offenders

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## Action Plan:

1. Write letters to the federal government requesting greater implementation of the awareness campaign on the proper disposal of pharmaceuticals
2. Invite a guest speaker from public health to educate members on potential health risks from exposure to pharmaceuticals in drinking water

1. \*Excerpt from ON.18.01 Develop National Standards for Levels of Pharmaceuticals in Canada's Drinking Water

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# You have a resolution, now what?



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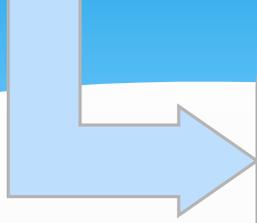
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- Resolutions process

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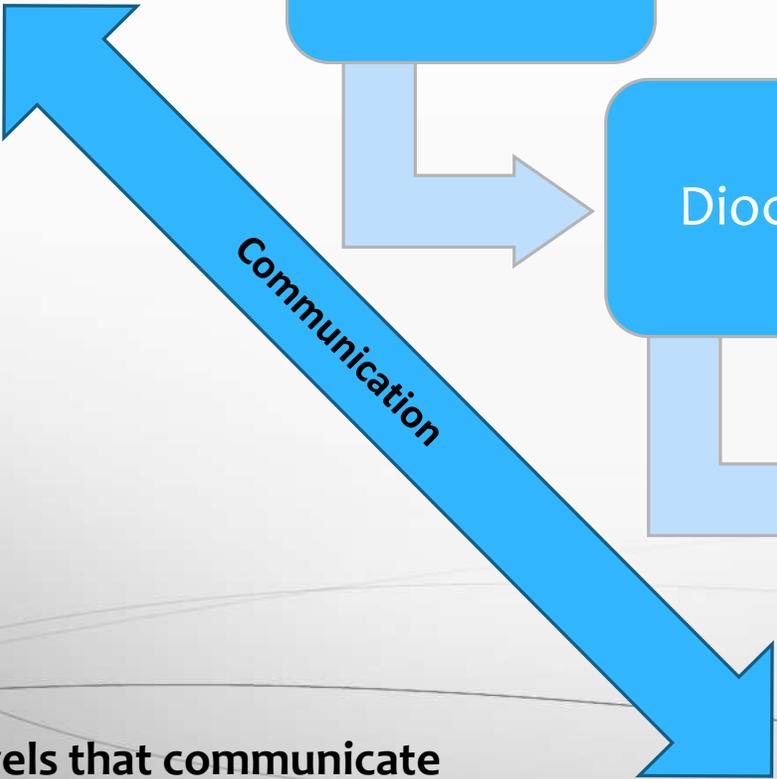
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- \* Passed onto Provincial if passed at convention

# Something to remember...

- \* Pray always – we are doing God’s work
- \* You are not alone
  - \* Other members of the CWL
  - \* CWL executives at all levels
  - \* Life members

# Resources

- \* Resolutions Supplement to the Executive Handbook\*
- \* Executive handbook
- \* Constitution and Bylaws
- \* Policies and Procedure (all levels)
- \* The Canadian League
- \* Robert's Rules of Order
- \* Personal Letter Writing Guide
- \* Resolutions Directives – all levels
- \* Previous resolutions

# Closing prayer

Loving Savior, strengthen me to respond to the Holy Father's challenge to transform the world! I am overwhelmed by this prospect, but if you give me courage and a firm commitment, I will do all that I can. Please give me a grateful and determined heart.