



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



**Report for Organization Standing Committee Chairperson
Fall Diocesan Meeting – Saturday September 28th – Sacred Heart Parish, Wetaskiwin
Highlights for Diocesan Secretary**

- Decline in Diocesan membership (about 200 members/year)
 - Similar declines are being experienced across Alberta, Canada, parishes and other Catholic organizations
 - Need to reach out; if every member invited one other Catholic woman this year, this would double our membership within one year – please take this on as a council goal
- Make sure your council is recognizing its members through service pins, the maple leaf service award, and Bellelle Guerin award
 - Celebrate the gifts and talents each woman brings to your council, and the dedicated service each woman provides
 - Recognition for hard work and dedicated service help all members feel appreciated, noticed, and valued – regardless of years of service, age or position held.
 - This year, try to find a way to tell each member of your council how much you appreciate the gift they are to the League – this may be a private thanks, a personal note, a public recognition at a meeting, scroll, certificate, pin or award.
- Build a culture of sisterhood within your council
 - Look out for each other, support each other, and encourage one another
 - Women join the Catholic Women's League for a variety of reasons (eg interest in service, to strengthen their faith, or to make new friends in the parish) but women stay because of a sense of purpose and the deep friendships that form
 - Likewise, encourage other Catholic women in your family to join (daughters, grand-daughters, nieces, cousins, and sisters)
- Zone Restructuring Workshop this afternoon
 - Please look at the zone and regional maps on display – find your council, take a look at the newly defined regions where Midwinter Workshops would be held, and review the final report from the Zone Restructuring Sub-Committee if you have not already
- Parish Buddy calls took place early to mid-September – did you get yours?
 - If you did not hear from your Parish Buddy, let me know – we may have old contact information for your council that needs updating
 - You can also follow up with your Parish Buddy – the list of parish councils by Parish Buddy is posted at the Organization table for your information

Respectfully Submitted,
Clover Oryschak
Organization Chair and President-Elect
Edmonton Diocesan Council