**Education & Health Standing Committee Chair’s Report**

**96th Annual Diocesan Convention April 21, 2018**

**Normandy Room, Fort Saskatchewan**

Madame President,

**On February 8, 2018** - attended Debate on Catholic Education held at the University of Alberta with Mary Hunt; also, noted several other CWL Council’s had members in attendance as well.

The need for Alberta Catholics to rally in support of publicly funded Catholic education as our opponents to Catholic funded education continue to build support for one funded school system which was clearly articulated by David King, speaker.

**On February 28, 2018** - assisted the ECS Foundation (Dreams for Kids) preparing newsletter mailout to 3100.

**On April 6, 2018** - with thanks to team of CWL members from Holy Family Parish in St. Albert selected the 2018 Poster Contest Winners.

Education Week (April 30th - May 4th) celebrates education across Alberta by showcasing great things happening in our schools and communities. Theme for 2018 is “Learning is a Journey”. This would be and excellent time for Council members to visit schools.

The archdiocese runs two youth camps. One is Camp Encounter at Lac La Nonne; the other is our Lady of Victory at Gull Lake. The camps will run programs in 2018; but will suspend programs thereafter pending an evaluation of the programs and costs of maintaining the camps. If you feel these camps are an investment in our youth, please let the Archdiocese know you want these camps to remain open.

**On April 11, 2018** - participated as a member of a focus group in discussion for the City of St. Albert and Banister Research regarding the potential impacts of legalization of cannabis in St. Albert. There is a need for educational programs

##### stressing the harmful effects of cannabis on health, particularly young pregnant woman.

##### A reminder that the Palliative Care Kit can be found on the cwl.ca website under Education for “12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care” initiative during the week of May 6-12, 2018, the week designated as National Hospice Palliative Care Week by the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association.

This concludes my report. Are there any questions?

***Madame President, there is one resolution under this standing committee.***

Respectfully submitted,

For God and Canada

Mary Pat O’Neill

Education & Health Standing Committee Chair

Edmonton Diocesan Council