



The Catholic Women's League of Canada Edmonton Diocesan Council



Fall Meeting at St. Rose of Lima, Onoway September 30, 2017 Past President's Report by Mary Hunt

Madam President:

A Past President has an important advisory and consultative role to play in the life and working of her council. She may be called upon to share her knowledge of the League and the council and share her experience of having been President. Through consultative support for the President and executive, the Past President has the ability to serve as a mentor, sister and friend in striving to make the best decisions for the council.

We are responsible for the archives and history of the council and maintaining the records, pictures, scrapbooks, and mementos of anniversaries and special occasions. It is important to make sure that the council's information is stored all together in a safe place and that the location is known. Photo albums need to have names and dates with the pictures. If you have some without information, approach long time members to see if they can identify them.

We should also encourage members to become knowledgeable about the *Constitution & Bylaws* and respond to questions related to their interpretation. The Past President is responsible for reviewing the council's *Manual of Policy and Procedure*. The manual is a useful tool for all members to clarify established and agreed-upon council practices such as; which charities does the parish council support? How many members are sent to annual conventions? etc. If you need assistance, please see me or my Provincial counterpart, Cathy Bouchard. At my display table there is information about the recommended filing of information as found in the National Manual of Policy and Procedure...please be sure to take a copy.

During my time as Past President, I hope to establish a committee to update the historic display panels which were assembled for our 100th Anniversary Celebrations and displayed at the 2012 National Convention and at our 2017 Diocesan Convention. The display represents a cherished legacy for our Diocese. I will continue working on the Bellelle Guerin project which involves gathering information about the inspiring recipients of the award in the Edmonton Diocese. In addition, I would like to update the *We Remember* booklet that provides a valuable overview of the history of all councils in the Diocese.

Available on the National website is a Handbook for Past Presidents that you can download. Please check under resources and go to Manuals. There is a wealth of information available. Some copies are available on my display table for those who do not have access to the internet.

In her September 5th Communique, National Past President Barbara Dowding reminds us of the wisdom of Ecclesiastes 3:1: "*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven*". She goes on to say that while there is a time for everything, sometimes it may feel like there is not enough time for anything. Focus on what can be done and do it well! What great advice for all of us...

This concludes my report. Are there any questions?