**Midwinter Meeting**

**Saturday, February 3rd, 2018**

**President-Elect Report**

Madame President:

This will be an exciting year for CWL as National will be rolling out how CWL can plan strategically over the next five years. Our National President, Mary Ann Jacobs, will be attending our convention in April to bring us up to date on the deliberations that have occurred since the 2017 National Convention and what to expect at the National Convention in 2018.

In your packages, I have provided the revised Diocesan Priorities for 2017-2019, a form to report your council’s Service Awards and the application form for new members for the Walter Krewski Awards. Please take time to review and to submit by February 10th.

Your 2018 Membership Drives should be well underway. I encourage taking the time to reach out to the Diocesan Standing Committee Chairs. In our parishes we have activities but have you considered trying a new project to attract members, could it be identifying an issue and learning how to write a resolution, is it about studying and being informed about the right life. Each of the Standing Committee Chairs can be your resource. Reach out them to attend one of your meetings to bring some of their experiences and insight to your members. Sometime a new prospect from outside your council can breathe new ideas into the council.

Since Fall Meeting, I have attended the Zone 2 Meeting in Evansburg. Sr. Susan Scott presented living our baptismal promise as CWL members bringing collaboration to our councils. Working smarter not harder and to let go of things that are just busy work rather than building sisterhood in our council. I welcome Simone Fere as Chair of Zone 6. Zone Meetings will be held March 10th for Zone 3 and April 28th for Zone 7.

I was invited to address the new priests to our diocesan at the Enculturalization Days sponsored by the Archdiocesan. Jean Ashdown accompanied me and we made a short presentation on who we are, our work and inviting each priest to get to know members of the CWL in his parish. I encourage you to reach out to these priests. Ask them to speak about their ordination journey at one of your meetings. You just might be surprised how you connect with them.

I attended the Provincial Midwinter Meeting, where Archbishop Smith and Gordon Self were the Saturday morning speakers. Much is shared at this table and as you will hear Provincial has taken the initiative to continue advocating against pornography.

Archbishop Smith in his Pastoral Letter dated September 14, 2017 and I quote, “encourages the people of the Archdiocese to embrace willingly and joyfully the full meaning of their identity as baptized members of the church and thus to grow in holiness. “

There is such a need in parish councils for us to reach out in love and compassion. Let it not be said that we have not responded to this call of the gospel. As chairpersons of organization, let us do everything to sustain and maintain members. Nurture encourage and fulfil them.

This concludes my report. Are there any questions?

Mary Molloy

President-Elect

Edmonton Diocesan Council