Resolutions and Legislation

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Dear Sisters in the League

Welcome back to a new year in the CWL. Our resolutions weren’t successful the first time around at National, but they were important topics and well worth the effort. For Councils that would like to put forward resolutions this year, here’s a good basic foundation to start with. You must decide if you’d like them to be a Diocesan, Provincial or National resolution. If the issue is local, choose Diocesan. If it is something that is only of interest to Albertans, choose Provincial. If it is an issue that can be addressed at the National level, that’s the direction to take it.

It is important to narrow your focus to a specific, doable topic. If the topic is too large, it can seem impossible or unmanageable. For example, if we are concerned about global warming, and we should be, a resolution about it generally would seem undoable. However, a topic about a specific issue that we can actually impact such as a pledge to not idle our car engines, or for each Council to plant a tree for every plane trip we take, is more narrow, doable, and easier to pass at the National level.

I am very willing to help Councils interested in putting forward resolutions with the brief information that must accompany the ideas. It’s important to have good communication back and forth with the Council, and my hearing doesn’t allow me to use the telephone properly, so having a member with regular email usage to serve as liaison is important.

For the new year, the National conventional put forward a new slate of Resolutions. The first asks the federal government to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act so that foreign workers may apply for permanent resident status regardless of their occupational classification. The second Resolution asks the federal government to revise Canada’s Food Guide and to review the guide every five years. The third Resolution urges the Canadian government to require detailed warning labels on food and drug products to list all inactive ingredients that may cause adverse reactions. The fourth Resolution is an attempt to get the federal and provincial governments to make palliative care an insured health service covered under the Canada Health Act. The final Resolution urges the federal government to include home care as an insured health service under the Canada Health Act.

These Resolutions are a confirmation that our Catholic Women’s League continues to be a dynamic, engaged organization. We are involved in caring for not only our families, but for those without a voice in our society. As we go forward this year, let us all keep these Resolutions in mind and push for them at every opportunity.