



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

ALBERTA MACKENZIE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Convention

June 7-9, 2019 Grande Prairie, AB.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE ORAL REPORT

Madam President:

The Christian Family Life Committee has been very active in the duties of keeping our members informed by providing information and communiqués regarding all issues. As previously expressed, the issues facing us at this time are more challenging day by day.

Updates from last report.

The March Goes On! By all reports the 12th Annual March for Life in Edmonton, Thursday, May 9 was a success. Previous to the March a very well attended pro-life mass was held at St. Joseph's Basilica. It was estimated that approximately 2500 people attended the March. The newly purchased banners by AB/Mackenzie Council were carried by Calgary Diocese, St. Paul Diocese and Edmonton Diocese. The CWL with their signs were given a visible place on the steps of the Legislature and were interviewed by Global TV. Supporters included 3 busloads of people from Calgary, a large enthusiastic youth contingent from Red Deer and several rural communities. All four levels of the League were represented. (This committee wishes to thank Mary Hunt for providing this information).

"The March for Life is a very costly venture particularly in respect to traffic control and a policing presence." Donations are gratefully accepted by the March for Life Organizers. Because this is an annual event there is no doubt that costs will rise. We need to keep educating the importance of respecting human life from conception to natural death.

Better Palliative Care for All Canadians

This is a major challenge and we must press more intensely for action on this issue. Might we suggest that you watch the speech on you tube by MP Mark Warawa, BC. Mark talks about his first hand experience facing end of life. He says "the system is broken and needs to be fixed. Leadership is lacking and people are not given the option of palliative care. Doctors look at the physical condition contemplating surgeries and treatments but Mark asks, what about the person? The spiritual and the emotional help is being ignored. A ministry for the rest of the person is left unmet. Basic needs are not being met. It is difficult to access palliative care and there are not enough palliative care doctors." Mark suggests that we need to encourage the medical system to provide a ministry for the rest of the person. He says the system is not designed to meet the need. Please take time to watch Mark's speech and understand the need – A Huge Call for Action!

Ministry to the Divorced

We, as members can give more support to someone who has been divorced and in need of mercy and healing. You are encouraged to read the annulment process article written by the National Chairperson of Christian Family Life printed in the spring issue of the League magazine. We are asked to encourage parishioners who have experienced a divorce to return to the graces of the church by getting an annulment.

ACTION – described in the dictionary as “the process of doing something”. What are we, as members of the Catholic Women’s League, doing about all of the pressing issues? ACTION – without ACTION we set up ourselves and those we serve, for a negative solution.

We do NOT want that to happen! Continue the good work ladies and press on more intensely to a positive outcome.

This concludes my report,

Carol Schlachter, Chairperson
Christian Family Life Standing Committee