

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council

COMMUNITY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE
Communiqué #1 (September 19, 2016) – Carol S.

Welcome back to another CWL year of working for God and Canada. Our team continues for one more year as your Community Life Standing Committee.

We are pleased to welcome Betty Colaneri as our new National Chairperson of Community Life. Betty's first communiqué to the membership is on the national website <www.cwl.ca> and I would encourage all to read it.

Betty reminds us that Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si'* underlines his dedication to the protection of creation. It is pleasing to see that she refers to the encyclical because this year, among other issues we are called to work on, our committee will focus on caring for our creation. A letter will be forthcoming about a suggested project from this provincial chair to the five diocesan community life chairs. They, in turn, will distribute to all Parish CWL councils.

In the meantime, please be aware that the World Council of Churches has dedicated the period between September 1 and October 4, the Feast of Saint Francis, to prayer and reflection on safeguarding creation.

The Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice offers a dialogue guide for *Laudato Si'* called "On care for our common home." This is a great tool encouraging member discussion. The website: <www.jesuitforum.ca>.

Resolution 2016.01 Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status, an Amendment to the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* was adopted. Councils are asked to review the new resolution and to follow up on the action plans. (*This resolution is under community life.*)

Councils are encouraged to keep informed about Development Peace and the 1% program. Two new programs will be supported this year in Sierra Leone and Afghanistan while continuing the support for Haiti. New brochures will be available from national office at no charge.

A motion was passed at the national convention to establish a permanent voluntary fund for Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA). You will remember that through Velma's Dream, generous support from members helps fund a field hospital and a youth project.

Until next time, should you have any questions or concerns, we are here for you.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide us as we respond to God's call.