

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

**Education and Health Communiqué #3**

Mary Hunt, Chairperson  
October 2017



**“Inspired by the Spirit; Women Respond to God’s Call”**

**Catholic Women’s Leadership Foundation**

**The deadline for application is November 15th** with 18 candidates being accepted.

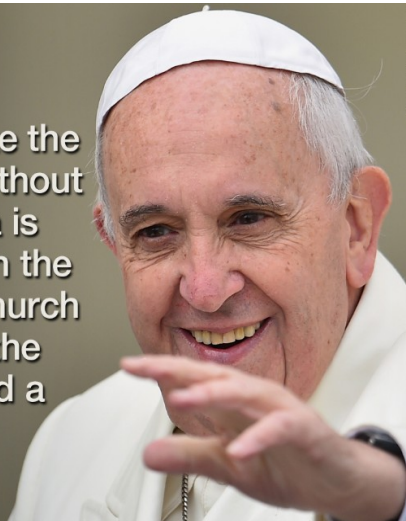
We have been reminded by National Education & Health Standing Chair Fran Lucas that the Catholic Women’s Leadership Foundation (CWLF) applications are now being accepted at this link: <http://cwlfcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/2017-Application-Form-Fillable.pdf>



In meeting the vision of the Catholic Women’s Leadership Foundation has been established to create a “just, merciful, and compassionate world nurtured by the genius of women”, the Foundation, in partnership with the Providence School of Transformative Leadership at Saint Paul University in Ottawa, is offering a leadership program for Catholic women beginning in May 2018. This certificate program is for Catholic women from all walks of life who have a genuine desire to make a difference in their communities, places of work and parishes



A church without women would be like the apostolic college without Mary. The Madonna is more important than the apostles, and the church herself is feminine, the spouse of Christ and a mother.”





## Applicant Criteria.

The program will be subsidized by the Foundation and women must meet the following criteria to apply.

- A Canadian baptized Catholic woman, at least 21 years old who demonstrates a genuine desire to cultivate her gifts of leadership for the enrichment of her community, workplace, family and church;
- Has made a previous contribution to her community in some capacity;
- Has competency in both oral and written English skills;
- Commitment to completing the entire year long program which includes online learning sessions and two residence sessions in Ottawa;
- Embraces the core elements of prayer and reflective practice which are integrated throughout the program.



## Program Outline

The program will be offered through a face-to-face residency program in Ottawa and online guided by trained facilitators. The program includes the following:

- Online introductory module May 2018;
- A five-day residence session in Ottawa, June 3-7, 2018 and a four-day residence session in June 2019 (dates to be determined).;
- Five online study modules (10 hours per month) consisting of videos, readings, personal reflections and discussion forums.

The content of the program will explore the following themes:

- Transformative Leadership,
- Women and Community,
- Spirituality and Emotional Intelligence for Leadership,
- Leadership and Social Catholic Teaching,
- Conflict and Social Change,

The Leadership Program is developed to accommodate women who may be working full time. It will be based on adult learning principles and will be women-centered. The program will feature numerous networking opportunities and a mentorship plan designed to strengthen each woman's ability to grow.

After completing the Program, women will have the skills they need, whether they are speaking on behalf of an organization, fundraising for a local community group, making decisions that affect the health and wellbeing of people, serving as a director of a major organization or a government agency.

**Please prayerfully discern whether this exciting opportunity is one that inspires you to respond to God's call to make a difference in your life and in the lives of others.**



## **The Impact on Women and the Community**

The impact of the Leadership Program is far-reaching for both the community and the Catholic Church. In the quest for Catholic social justice in society:

- Women will gain valuable leadership skills;
- Trained lay women will be capable of providing succession in the area of Catholic social justice currently championed by the diminishing numbers of women religious;
- Registered charities will gain additional skillsets and knowledge, resulting in more effective promotion of their missions to create a just and compassionate society;
- Local parishes, committees and dioceses will be strengthened by the feminine genius as women take on more leadership roles;
- Governments at all levels will be encouraged by a constituency of women not afraid to advocate on behalf of those without a voice.

Further, *graduates will:*

- Establish long-term relationships with like-minded women, encouraging one another;
- Gain the tools necessary to speak confidently about and take action on contemporary social issues in corporate and social settings;
- Benefit from an increase in economic and career opportunities as they gain additional skills, indirectly enhancing influence within their personal spheres.