

The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council  
**Education and Health Communiqué # 6**  
November 2014  
Judy L.  
**“WE HAVE SEEN THE LORD”**

*“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it”*

**“Peace be with you.”** In my reading I came across the suggestion that the greeting “peace be with you” is one of the greatest gifts you can give to another person (wishing them peace) and so I want you to have that wonderful gift. It has been a beautiful fall and we have so many reasons to give thanks. We are also blessed with a Church that honours our dead in this month of November. So let us give thanks for the opportunity to be part of a CWL that cares for the health and education of others.

## **HEALTH**

### **Resolutions**

We were blessed with the gift of three resolutions to work on from our national convention in August. I am saying blessed as it gives us the opportunity to educate ourselves about three very important issues affecting our society: electronic cigarettes, flavoured tobacco products and severe combined immunodeficiency.

The resolutions are found on the national website.

When resolutions are passed at national it becomes incumbent on all members to become informed of their content and work on the action plan in their individual councils. It is so important that we communicate with our federal politicians now as it gives our national executive credibility when they speak with the federal government about our resolutions and say 90,000 plus members support these recommendations.

Four resolutions were recommended for information and awareness through this committee. They are: Ban the Addition of Monosodium Glutamate (MSG) from Processed Food, Expiry Dates on Prescription Labels, Pharmacy Dispensing Fees and Mandatory Labeling of Genetically Modified Foods. Each of these topics will be addressed in future communiqués and/or magazine articles. (from the National Education and Health Chair communiqué)

## **Mental Health**

Mental health issues have been a growing concern and not one family in our country has not been effected by some form of mental health illness... depression, bi-polar, suicide, eating disorders, schizophrenia, to name a few. One of the major roadblocks to helping people is secrecy... no one wants to talk about it. Senator Michael Kirby, a guest speaker at the national convention, spoke about this and gave us the website [rightbyyou.ca](http://rightbyyou.ca) in order that we can all become more informed.

## **Hospice Palliative Care**

[On May 28, 2014 the House of Commons agreed to a private member's motion for the government to establish a pan-Canadian palliative and end-of-life care strategy](#) by working with provinces and territories on a flexible, integrated model of palliative care. This motion calls on all levels of government to ensure all citizens have access to high-quality home-based and hospice palliative end-of-life care; to provide more support for family caregivers; to improve the quality and consistency of home and hospice palliative end-of-life care; and to encourage Canadians to discuss and plan for end-of-life care.

In support of both resolutions, [2007.03 Hospice Palliative Care: An Integral Component of the Canadian Health Care System](#) and [1998.05 Palliative Care: An Essential Service](#), please encourage all members to contact their members of parliament and members of legislative assemblies and inquire what steps have been taken within their province to ensure quality hospice palliative end-of-life care for everyone. (from the National Education and Health Chair communiqué)

## **EDUCATION** **Catholic Education K-12**

To have a sense of what is happening in Catholic education in our province, google "ACSTA" to access the trustees website.

The *Catholic Dimension* is a newspaper published twice annually by the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association. It highlights current issues in Catholic education in Alberta and the Northwest Territories, as well as events in our Catholic schools, and is available on the website.

**St. Mary's University College - Calgary**  
**www.stmu.ca**

**Name change to St. Mary's University**

Alberta Premier and Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education, the Honourable Dave Hancock, gave approval for St. Mary's University College in Calgary to change its name to St. Mary's University. The change acknowledges both the university's stellar 28-year history and recognizes its actual status as a fully-accredited university within the post-secondary Campus Alberta system.

**New Four Year Programs effective September 2104**

Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in History  
Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Biology

**Newman Theological College - Edmonton**  
**www.newman.edu**

Online Faith Formation Courses

A comprehensive selection of courses on various aspects of Catholic faith is offered on line.

Each course runs 5 weeks and costs \$70. Take a course for interest or work towards one or all of the 6 specialized Certificates in Catholic Studies. The program is open to adults and youths of all backgrounds and educational levels.

**SENIORS' ADVOCATE INITIATIVE**

Under review

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May November be blessed with many fond memories of your deceased loved ones, information that moves you to effect change, and good health – mental and physical.