

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



LEGISLATION

Communiqué #4

*Inspired by the Spirit,
Women Respond to God's Call*

Date: February 15, 2017
To: Diocesan Chairpersons of Legislation
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)
National Chairperson of Legislation (for information)
From: Betsy Fletcher, Provincial Chairperson of Legislation

Greetings Sisters!

The Alberta Legislature is not currently sitting and will resume on March 02, 2017. Before the legislature retired for the winter break, they passed Bill 25, The Oil Sands Emissions Act. This act puts limits on oil sands greenhouse gas emissions.

An e-petition has been created by National Legislation Chair Nancy Simms. This e-petition is in support of Resolution 2016.05 Amend the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care as an insured Health Service. This petition was fanned out to our membership, if you haven't yet signed, you can find the e-petition at: <https://petitions.parl.gc.ca/en/Petitions/Details?Petition=e673>.

Bill C-277 Framework on Palliative Care Act has had second reading on January 31, 2017 and has been referred to committee. Please write to your MPs asking them to support Bill C-277.

On May 05, 2016 Bill C-268 Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act had Introduction and First Reading in the House of Commons. Clearly, this bill has not made much progress. We need to do more work on this issue. Get out your favourite writing implements and start sending letters to your MP, the Prime Minister, the Minister of Health and the Justice Minister asking for action on this Bill.

In July 2016, the Alberta NDP government appointed a Seniors' Advocate. Sheree Kwong See has been appointed to the position for a term to end in 2019. You can contact her office at: seniors.advocate@gov.ab.ca; the phone numbers are: toll free 1-844-644-0682 or Edmonton 1-780-644-0682. We will continue our work on this initiative. Our request for an amendment to the Health Act, or provision in the Seniors' Act, to make this position an Officer of the Legislature and therefore independent, has not yet been answered.

Yours in Christ,

Betsy