

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

Past President Annual Report 2012
Fran L.

Diocesan Past Presidents:

Calgary – Annamaria M.
Edmonton – June F.
Grouard-McLennan – Lucille P.
Mackenzie-Fort Smith – Ruth B.
St. Paul – Annette deB.

The majority of past presidents remained active in their councils by attending executive and general meetings, zone/regional meetings and all levels of conventions. With the National Convention held in Edmonton this year Alberta Mackenzie past presidents took advantage of the opportunity to attend. The following three main duties of past presidents were also fulfilled by most.

Serve in a consultative capacity

Taking special care in advising their president or assisting the president when called upon the past presidents are happy to be there to support and offer guidance. Reference to mentoring the president and other executive members was common.

Responsible for archives and history

Past presidents take their archiving role seriously with one council doing an extensive gathering of council and member information on nearby councils that closed. Other responsibilities carried out included:

- Creating scrapbooks and photo albums
- Collecting meeting minutes and standingcommittee chair reports
- Gathering certificates, newspaper articles, awards, bulletin notices, obituaries
- Responsibility for the *Book of Life* fell to some past presidents

Some councils are going electronic by keeping their photos stored on DVD to allow for easy use at conventions to recap events of the past year. Other councils worked diligently on milestone anniversaries from 50 – 100 years. Subcommittees were struck to assist with this loving task. One diocese set up a Diocesan Archive Committee to ensure standardization of record keeping and securing history for future reference.

Facilitate the study and implementation of the *Constitution and Bylaws (C&B)*

On various occasions the past presidents were called upon to interpret a particular section in the C&B. They continually encouraged members to have their own copy of the C&B and to become familiar with its contents. In a few instances, with the delivery of the

Catch the Fire! leadership program the participants were given a copy. Many reported updating their policy and procedures always staying aligned with the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*.

Perform other duties as assigned by the president

The past presidents are regularly called on to chair the nominations and elections committee or to be a part of this committee. Their continual encouragement of members to take leadership roles came easily for some and they commented that with the *Catch the Fire!* program this could aid their success in attracting members to be part of the executive. As required the past presidents:

- Chaired meetings in the absence of the president
- Recruited new members and encouraged renewal of lapsed memberships
- Gave presentations after attending meetings and conferences
- Delivered workshops

Past presidents are an integral part of the executive and with their love of the League our councils can look to them for support after their role as past president is completed.

Respectfully submitted,
For God and Canada

Fran L.

Fran L.,
Past President