



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

**Organization Chair/President-Elect  
Communiqué #1  
October 2, 2019**



TO: Diocesan Chairpersons of Organization, Diocesan Presidents  
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)  
CC: National Chairperson of Organization (for information)  
FROM: Mary Hunt Provincial Chairperson of Organization

**"Do small things with great love."** Mother Teresa of Calcutta

As your new Chairperson of Organization and President-Elect, I am eager to embrace the challenges and changes being introduced to us through our national Strategic Leadership Plan. National President-Elect Fran Lucas has instructed us to share the introductory presentation ***The League of the Future – Year One*** with as many members as possible. All Diocesan President-Elects have been provided a copy of the presentation to share with their members.

Our ***Mission Statement*** reads: *The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.*  
Never underestimate the strength and power of our sisterhood in our Alberta Mackenzie communities.

I strongly believe that by *consciously* introducing **love** into our prayer life and into everything we do in our service to the League and in living our lives we will reap unexpected graces and opportunities. Love is often expressed through gratitude and an awareness of the people, the environment and the surroundings of the world in which we live.

A little bit about me: my home council is in Good Shepherd Parish Edmonton where I have enjoyed serving on various committees that have provided me with the opportunity to grow in my faith and in my knowledge of the CWL. Little did I know where my journey would take me. As President-Elects we look after memberships, members and leadership development. Dwindling memberships, an aging population and members who are simply tired and do not want to do anything more are challenges we all seem to be facing. One of the first things we should do is to pray...the reality is that without the Holy Spirit and the strength of our faith we may be "spinning our wheels". May we always strive to be hospitable, kind and patient which is not always easy in our busy modern world. As Organization Chairs we must ask ourselves how we can serve our members...how can we make a member feel special...what do we know about our members...do they have needs that we can help with...what are the gifts and talents each member can bring to a council...how can we foster an atmosphere of a strong sisterhood at our meetings and in the projects we undertake?

To promote leadership, Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council has developed two incentive awards for councils to inspire them in their work: ***The Father Walter Krewski Awards*** and ***The Elsie Yanik Award***.

***The Father Walter Krewski Membership Awards*** were introduced in 2007 to honour the memory of this much-loved priest who served as a spiritual advisor on parish, diocesan and provincial CWL councils. He was a great promoter of the CWL and its value in the Catholic Church. The award categories are: 1. Greatest increase NEW members  
2. Greatest overall increase in membership  
3. Greatest percentage increase in membership.

Be sure to talk with your councils about these awards.

**The Elsie Yanik Award** was introduced in 1997 to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council and serves to commemorate the leadership and ministry/service of Elsie Yanik to the Catholic community in the Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith. Speaking at a Provincial Convention she was quoted as saying "**Make a difference. Create a better world by being kind. Kindness is enduring. Kindness is contagious. Kindness makes everyone feel good.**" Her complete biography can be found on the provincial website in addition to nomination information. The spirit of Elsie Yanik lives on in many of our members...take the time to look around and see their accomplishments and impact and nominate them for this very special recognition.

My next communique will focus on membership and resources available to councils.

I invite you to contact me at anytime if you have questions or need assistance. I close with a reminder given to us by Christ

**"Love One Another as I have Loved You...**

**by this everyone will know that you are my disciples"** John 13:34

*Mary*

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