

The Kingston Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Education and Health Standing Committee

One Heart, One Voice, One Mission

Directive #2 Pages: 2

Date: February 13, 2016

To: Parish Council Education and Health Standing Committee Chairpersons **From:** Maureen Laurin, Diocesan Health Standing Committee Chairperson **CC:** Diocesan Executive, Provincial Health Standing Committee Chairperson

The Ontario Government's Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is proposing to change the manner in which home care is administrated across the province. Presently, Community Care Access Centres provide information about local care options, access government funded home and community services, and assist the elderly with support in their homes and in long-term care facilities. These 14 centres are not meeting consistent standards of care as cited by Auditor-General Bonnie Lysyk. A 24-page document has been issued to have the 14 Local Health Integration Networks take over the tasks of the CCAC. However, the Ministry has yet to indicate what the end result will be and when this will be achieved.

The National Executive of the Catholic Women's League of Canada have decided to focus on the corporal work of mercy through palliative care. This is an important issue due to the emphasis that is being placed on the subject of euthanasia by the media and by society. Members are asked to understand what constitutes good palliative care and to consider volunteering to assist others in this end of life issue.

A new brochure on Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy and a letter from our national president is being forwarded to councils across our country along with pledge cards. These cards are to be sent to our Holy Father as a spiritual bouquet.

The Catholic Women's League has a National Bursary Fund which is now awarded semiannually. The deadlines for applying for this fund are May 31st and November 30th. Financial assistance is also considered for courses in spirituality growth, faith formation, youth ministry, palliative care ministry, parliamentary procedures and literacy tutoring.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Association of Canada presented a DVD at our National Convention to all provincial presidents. This is a program for children aged three through twelve based on the bible and the liturgy of the Church. It is hoped that children will be enriched by this program and adults will develop a deeper relationship with the Lord.

Nancy Simms, National Chairperson of Education and Health, is encouraging councils to consider becoming "Partners for Life with Canadian Blood Services".

Adult colouring requires an individual to pay attention to details, thus reducing tension headaches, lowering blood pressure, and relieving digestive concerns. Members are encouraged to try this activity to relax and help reduce stress in their lives.

Respectfully submitted.