

Per Capita Fee Increase Fact Sheet

Facts:

1. It has been 10 years since the last national per capita fee increase.
2. Eight out of the past 10 years there has been an operating deficit.
3. Investment income and sale of investments have covered the operating deficit.
4. Increases in expenses have continued to affect the deficit: facility cost, supplies, conventions, travel, salaries, League promotion, magazine costs.
5. The decrease in membership over the last three years has been close to 12,000 for a variety of reasons.
6. The COVID-19 pandemic has made its mark on the League by distancing members from one another, but also the parish, diocesan, provincial and national councils.
7. The younger generation of Catholics are frustrated and upset with the church and are not playing an active role in the church community.

Solutions:

1. In 2017-2018, talks began to develop a strategic plan to revise and change the format of the League. A motion was adopted to invest \$1,000,000 from the investment fund to cover this five-year project. This would not affect the League's financial operations.
2. It is time for the League to invest in its membership at all levels. The Welcome Program was developed and needs to be promoted with the parish councils through the leadership of the provincial presidents. It is time for the national executive/board to invest in its provincial counterparts so that they are informed of all information and changes, and can pass it along to their diocesan counterparts.
3. The board has already begun to make tough decisions and look at conserving expenses including the reduction to two printed copies of *The Canadian League* magazine. Is it time to make another tough decision by having an in-person national convention every other year and a virtual national annual meeting of members the opposite year?
4. Support is needed from spiritual advisors. It is time for the bishops in the various dioceses to reach out and support the League by speaking to their parish pastors and asking them to be part of this great organization. Members need to invite women from the church community with the parish priest standing next to the parish and/or provincial president. The League needs to show that it is a strong spiritual organization rooted in gospel values that supports God's people. The League plays a vital role in the Catholic church as confirmed by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.
5. Expenses can be reduced, but not so much that they effect the operations of an efficient office.
6. There is only one place to look and that is to increase revenue. The solution is per capita fees. The \$12.00 increase on 65,000 members would give an extra \$780,000 in revenue for 2023. With this increase, the League would be able to:
 - a. Begin returning to investments the money that has been used to operate
 - b. Continue to invest in leadership training within each province
 - c. Encourage the board to reach out to its counter parts within the provincial councils and have virtual meetings
 - d. Increase grants for the provincial councils for workshops
 - e. We could return to three copies of *The Canadian League* magazine

Responsibility:

This is our responsibility, the board members of the League, to provide the information to members on why an increase in per capita fees is needed. What is negative must become positive. We accepted this responsibility when we offered our names to service on the national level and were elected by the membership to serve and protect the League

There are ways we can work together to help with the \$12.00 increase, as was conveyed in my communique.

We as a board have to “walk the talk.”

How can we walk away from the League that has given us a voice in the church, a voice with the CCCB, a voice with the federal government through resolutions, a voice with the World Union of Catholic Women’s Organisations and a voice to express our concerns in developing countries.

The new theme says it all *Catholic and Living It!*