

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

ORAL Report:

FALL PRESIDENTS' MEETING OCTOBER 22, 2022

Name: **Mary Lou Hills**

Office/Standing Committee: **Treasurer**

DATE: **October 22, 2022**

Why does Canada, the church and the world need a Catholic Women's League of Canada in today's world? Nothing has changed since The League was established in 1929 as a lay organization of Catholic Women who worked and advocated for social justice. Since then, The League and its members have provided service to those in need, in their parish, their community, the country and the world. The League prayer includes the words "teach us to share with others at home and abroad". With its envisioned future, The Catholic Women' League of Canada sets out to be a respected advocate at all government levels. As members of The League, we uphold and defend Christian education and values.

We know the challenges that are ahead of us -we have lost 18% of its members in the past 4 years; because of the pandemic members have lost interest; many members have died; the issues facing the Catholic church today – the list goes on.

We need to reflect on why we joined The League. We need to remind ourselves of the legacy left to us from our founding members: to continue to speak on behalf of women, to assist new immigrants, to help meet the needs of our local communities and parishes.

As treasurers we can be the ones who assist our executives in meeting the challenges: to retain membership; to assist in creating a healthy monetary atmosphere; helping to reconnect with those members who are still afraid to come to church, a result of the social isolation that we have endured these past 2 plus years. Our role on the executive has not changed. We will still maintain financial records, we will still receive all League monies and pay all accounts as authorized, we will still be a singing officer for all official documents, we will still present a report of revenues and expenditures at meetings, and we still prepare and monitor annual budgets.

What we need to remember are the benefits that membership in the League offers us: the fellowship of a wonderful group of women who continue to help us grow spiritually and personally. Women who see us through the “adventures we encounter” today and in the future.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Lou Hills