

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
**The Diocese of St. Paul**

Fall Meeting Report  
October 2010

Annette deB

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Hello everyone! Welcome to our fall meeting and workshop. We will be having two guest speakers present to us later this morning and into the afternoon, so as mentioned in my e-mail a few weeks ago, we will only be actively speaking on topics that need more immediate attention; the rest of the reports and information are in your envelopes for you to take home. Please do make sure you read and update your members on everything of note.

The **correspondence** is available for anyone who would like to review it. Business arising from the correspondence:

- I sent a letter to St. Paul CWL asking if they would consider hosting the **2011 Diocesan Convention** and they have agreed to do this. As agreed at the mid-winter meeting, our convention will be April 8 & 9, 2011.
- Swan Hills CWL has sent a letter offering to host the **Fall Diocesan Executive Meeting in 2013**. As this will be the 50th anniversary of their CWL council, they would also like to host a celebration mass and banquet. As Lynne R will be President when the 2013 meetings schedule will be determined, I have passed this letter to her. If there are no concerns, then we should ensure this date goes on our Calendar of Events for 2013.
- A letter was received from Louise L at the St. Paul Diocesan office requesting our CWL Diocesan Council sponsor **t-shirts for WYD**. At 50 t-shirts and \$20.00 each, that is \$1000. I will ask Jeanette L to speak to this request and then we can discuss our response.
- We have been approved for a National Development Fund subsidy for our workshops that are being held later today.

**Provincial Convention** in Fairview was attended by Mary H and I. Friday's Gathering Day was informative and uplifting with several guest speakers reflecting on various aspects of Peace and Hope. Reports and workshops from the Provincial Convention are available on the Provincial CWL website <[www.cwl.ab.ca](http://www.cwl.ab.ca)>. Please take the time to browse the site for lots of interesting updates.

A few items of note:

**Pennies for the Poor** program (sponsorship for Burundi) has ended as a Provincial initiative as of October 1, 2010. All funds collected under this program should be forwarded to the Provincial Treasurer no later than mid-December as all monies will be forwarded at December 31. The Pennies for the Poor program has been replaced by a new three year Provincial initiative called **Nickels for the North**. This new program is to raise funds to help our sisters in the north with the expenses related to travelling to CWL events and meetings. More information on Nickels for the North is available in the Provincial Fall Newsletter ([www.cwl.ab.ca](http://www.cwl.ab.ca)) and included in your envelopes.

I was asked to find out how your councils handle membership fees, if you know that someone in your parish is not a member because they cannot afford the fees. Do you have any experience with this, and what have you done? Second, the **Online Membership** program is in place and National is encouraging all parishes to utilize this option. More information is available in your meeting envelopes. If you need additional help, this might be a good time to enlist younger or more computer-

savvy women in your parish to either take on the task or teach other members how to use technology so they can take it on. Give it a try and let us know how it goes for your group!

In another month, all councils should be receiving a mail-out from National office with information and voting forms for the proposed **increase in per capita fees for National**. I have included information on the reasons for this requested increase in your packages. This vote is an instructed vote, and must come from the grass roots membership -- all those at the parish level. Your parish presidents will be required to bring your decision to the Mid-Winter Diocesan Meeting, where your votes will be tallied and provide me, as Diocesan President, with my Yes or No response that I must take to the Provincial level. The requested increase is \$5.00 per person and, if approved, will come into effect on January 1, 2012.

Has anyone spoken to their council regarding the possibility of hosting the **Provincial Convention for 2012**? The St. Paul Diocesan Council is responsible for hosting this convention. Facilities will need to be booked, generally a minimum of one year in advance, and pre-planning will be required at least that early as well. I would like to try to have a location agreed by our mid-winter meeting in February so we can send an invitation to Provincial for their approval.

**National Convention 2012** in Edmonton continues their fundraising efforts. On display are items that are for sale as fundraisers. If you can help, please let us know which items you will take back to your council. All the money will need to be collected and sent to the Fundraising Committee. If your council is planning to donate \$1.00 per person per year, this money should be sent to Becky K, Treasurer, National Convention Planning Committee (address available via e-mail request to <cwlabmk[at]cwl.ab.ca>). Please make cheques payable to "CWL National Convention 2012."

**At the Provincial Fall meeting we held a discussion on training and were asked to get feedback on what training our parish councils feel would be the most valuable. Please let me know what you feel is most needed in your parish.**

What does the Diocesan Executive think of the idea of setting up g-mail accounts for the various executive positions and standing committee chairs? The idea would be to pass this account from one person to the next as the executive changes.

Finally, a quick reminder that **Annual Reports** need to be sent to Lynne R (Organization Chairperson) by December 15. At the minimum we would like to see a President's Annual report as this is compiled in the Convention book and shares your accomplishments with all your sisters in the League.

*Annette deB*  
*St. Paul Diocesan President*