



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



**PROVINCIAL CONVENTION  
COMMUNICATIONS ORAL REPORT 2019**

Madame President,

Much of what this committee reports today has been said before in communiques and reports to previous conventions, but it is important enough to bear repeating – after all we all know about Judy's "Three Cups of Tea".

The Communications committee encourages the use of media for evangelization, to promote the League, to evaluate & promote good content. The shift to electronic and digital media will continue and we as a CWL, and most especially the executive, are faced with finding the right mix between email and social media sites to communicate, while remembering to meet the "un-connected" members in their space by informing them of important information, articles of interest, invitations. Sometimes this requires us to take the information we receive electronically and make that printed copy to circulate or display, so that not being computer savvy does not mean being left out or left behind. Phone the member who is always willing to help, but doesn't come because they "didn't get the email".

The information that is passed to our Parish Council members is very much dependent on the communication that takes place at all levels of the League, and how diligent and dedicated the leaders – as in the President as well as the Standing Committee chairs – are to ensuring information is shared. It is incumbent on all executive to pass along information and it can be hard to both remember and find time to bring up the many concerns at meetings. National Communications Chair, Doreen Gowans recently sent out a communique reminding us of the proper flow of information in the CWL. Members with questions should first seek answers from their Parish council executive. Where needed, the council executive will represent its members by moving the inquiry up to the next level. With this in mind, the toll free 1-888 phone number for National Office will be discontinued as of June 30 this year. There are a few copies of Doreen's communique at my display, and all national communiques are available on the national website. I encourage members of ALL levels to read them.

Please remember that we **MUST** be diligent about proper email etiquette and the confidentiality of the personal information of our members. CWL membership lists, emails, addresses, and phone numbers are to be used only for CWL related communications and CWL sanctioned event information. CWL members must also be careful with their own personal information when using the internet, especially in the new era of "smart appliances" and "connected homes".

We urge members to continue the fight against pornography. In support of National resolutions **2017.02 Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornographic Websites** the Over 18 The Documentary DVD can be purchased by councils through the Media Education Foundation at <http://www.mediaed.org/> and pricing for CWL councils can be discounted if you indicate that you are a church group. Continue to make members aware of this issue and how to protect themselves and their families. Keep sending letters to the government and to your media providers when you see objectionable content.

The provincial website is found at [www.cwl.ab.ca](http://www.cwl.ab.ca) and is updated regularly, please check back often. There is a wealth of information on the national website. Submit photos of your council highlights to On the Spot; and browse while you are there. If you cannot attend the National Convention in Calgary plan to tune in to the livestreaming of Keynote speaker Sr. Dorothy Ederer of Okemos, Michigan, a Grand Rapids Dominican Sister who will speak on Tuesday, August 20th on "What is Our Common Home?".

To quote from Pope Francis' message for World Communications Day which was celebrated this past Sunday, June 2:

*“Ever since the internet first became available, the Church has always sought to promote its use in the service of the encounter between persons, and of solidarity among all. With this Message I would like to invite you once again to reflect on the foundation and importance of our being-in-relation and to rediscover, in the vast array of challenges of the current communications context, the desire of the human person who does not want to be left isolated and alone.”*

As we continue to do the work of the League, as we share ourselves with our sisters in the League, let's remember to bring each member along, whether they communicate in the “old fashioned way” of face to face conversations, phone calls, “snail mail” or in the new “tech savvy” era of emails, Messenger, texts, Facebook. Each member is a vital part of the whole.

This concludes my report  
Annette deBoer