

MEMO
Independent Seniors' Advocate
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial CWL Council
Provincial Initiative
June 2015

“Urge the Alberta Provincial Government to amend the Alberta Health Act to ensure that the Seniors' Advocate is an Officer of the Legislature and therefore independent”

“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it”

Diocesan and Parish Council Presidents

- Thanks to all of you “sisters” who worked so diligently collected signatures and prayed for the success of the initiative
- Please send your council report for the initiative to your Diocesan President ASAP
- Because of the newness of the majority of recently elected MLAs, the strategy for completing the provincial initiative has once more changed

New Strategy

- As new MLAs will be pre-occupied with renting office space and, more importantly, learning the intricacies of their job as well as learning legislative protocols, we are deferring the drop-off of petitions until September
- We are asking all councils to make copies of their petitions and send the copies to Judy L. (former provincial Education & Health chair) – address available from your Diocesan President. These copies will be given to the Premier when we meet with her.
- Original copies will still be given to the MLAs
- Due to the reality that the new MLAs will not be familiar with the Seniors' Advocate being housed in the Health Care Advocate's Office, we are asking each council to take with them a backgrounder sheet on why the petition was developed
- The backgrounder sheet will be posted to the provincial website for easy access
- Following the petition drop-off to the MLAs in the Fall, the Provincial President will set up a time to meet with the Premier and Minister of Seniors and deliver the copied petitions to them

It must remain clear that this is an **informal petition** to be distributed to the **MLAs** so they know their constituents' position on this very important issue. It was never intended to be tabled in the legislature; therefore, it does not attempt to meet the stringent requirements of a formal petition.