

Nova Scotia Provincial Convention

Communications Oral report June 2017

Madame President, Sisters in the League, Spiritual Advisors :

Thank you to my Diocesan Counterparts, Frankie Dower, Halifax – Yarmouth and Doreen Boudreau, Antigonish for their support this year in forwarding communiques to all the parishes in the Province. I would also like to wish Doreen well as she accepts a new Executive position and I welcome Earlene Landry as the new Communications chair for Antigonish . I look forward to working with her.

The last issue of “Be League” was published in December showcasing Nova Scotia. I would like to thank all of you who sent in articles and pictures to allow other provinces to view the great work happening in our parish councils. “Be League” has been replaced by “On the Spot”. Remember to send in your photos regularly. If you don’t toot your own horn who will? Check it out - you might find some new ideas to use at your meetings. Fresh ideas help Councils stretch and grow.

In the spring issue of the League magazine Dr. Anne Jamieson contributed an article for Communications Chair, Sheri Gunta. The article titled Over 18-Shining A Bright Light On A Dark Reality discusses the ease of finding pornography online and the harmful effects on children. Children of all ages are becoming addicted to online pornography. It is a reminder to continue mailing the Pornography Hurts postcards and perhaps opening conversations around the need for children to be monitored more closely when using the internet.

The danger of the improper use of social media was very evident in our recent election campaign. Three candidates were forced to remove their names from the ballots because of something stated earlier in their careers. People posting on Facebook do not seem to understand that often their words are out there for all to read. Inappropriate conversations not only hurt others but in this world of social media will often come back to hurt you. We would be advised to take Pope Francis’ twitter to heart. “I encourage everyone to engage in constructive forms of communication that rejects prejudice toward others and fosters hope and trust today”

A reminder that the Provincial website address is www.cwl.ns.ca Check it regularly and remember to view the monthly prayer provided by the Spiritual Chair person. I continue to learn how to navigate the website. There is always something to learn. I thank Carol Pottie and Joan Bona for their continued support.

Online reporting seemed to present problems for many Councils. Only 28 out of 73 Parish Councils reported (down from 43 in 2015). It is my hope that we can increase the number this year. Please read my report in the book to see what is happening in those 28 Councils.

I will close with a line from my Communique #3

"Remember that words do matter and we must be aware that we have the power to hurt or help by the way we communicate"

Respectfully submitted

Carol LeBlanc, Communications Chair