

councils will pay absolutely no membership fees for 2011! Congratulations! What a tremendous achievement for your councils and for the League!

Never lose faith, have fun and relish the fulfillment that is yours in the League! Continue to be the beautiful women you are – *Women of Peace and Hope!* †

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE



Pearl Bridgwater
Candiac, Quebec

The past year was both challenging and rewarding. Fortunately I had an amazing team of provincial counterparts with me every step of the way.

Their work was a big help in bringing about the desired results to the two bills of special interest to this committee.

The human trafficking bill, Bill C-268, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (minimum sentence for offences involving trafficking of persons under the age of eighteen years)* has now become law. The new law will provide a minimum sentence of five years imprisonment for anyone convicted of trafficking a minor in Canada. A minimum of six years imprisonment can be added for cases involving aggravated assault. Previous to this new law, the prison term in Canada for victimizing women and children had been non-existent!

Bill C-384, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (right to die with dignity)* was defeated by an overwhelming number of “no” votes (228 to 59). “The CWL has been of central importance to the success of our strategy to defeat Bill C-384. Thank you for your impressive caring and committed work”. This is a direct quote from a letter sent by the director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition in appreciation for your help. I couldn’t have said it better.

Members from all across Canada were part of the large turnout for the annual March for Life. Because of the defeat of Bill C-384 the League will now focus on providing good palliative care and insisting that government does too. The National Pro-Life Fund was \$12,135 and the national executive recommends the money be donated to a Canadian national palliative care group. Doctor Nuala Kenny has been asked to help us choose one that is most deserving.

It is evident that young people are taking up the challenge to help bring about the changes that they believe will make life better in their world. They are not only marching for pro-life but they seem to be pro-religion as well. They attended the March for Life in large numbers.

This year’s Youth Summit, having the theme *Sent*, was well attended and the idea seems to be catching on. Youth summits

began the years preceding the 49th International Eucharistic Congress held in Quebec City in 2008. For the first time this year’s summit was held outside of Quebec. Participants marched over the bridge across the Ottawa River to Parliament Hill in Ottawa carrying the Ark of the New Covenant. The Ark of the New Covenant was passed on after this year’s ceremonies to Montreal where the next summit will be held.

Youth will soon be asked to prepare for World Youth Day 2011 in Madrid, Spain. Please respond generously to their requests for prayerful support. The theme will be *Rooted and Built Up in Jesus Christ, Firm in the Faith*. For all information regarding WYD 2011 get in touch with the local representative in your parish.

Catholic Girls’ League members are involved in projects that foster *faith, fun, friendship and fulfillment*. Growth in membership has slowed a bit but members remain committed. This year we have had two new councils and big plans ahead for Edmonton.

In the *Year for Priests* members embraced every opportunity to host special events for bishops, priests, deacons and seminarians. They were invited to members’ homes and to special gatherings. Their anniversaries were celebrated, prayers and spiritual bouquets were offered, and some councils even adopted a few seminarians. We will continue to show our love and appreciation even though the year officially came to an end on June 19th. †

COMMUNITY LIFE



Mary Nordick
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

As I leave this challenging, wonderful standing committee of community life, I would like to focus on three areas, all intertwined and at the core of all that we do; believe me our members do a great deal in community life.

For the past few years we have been concerned with the global yet local problem of human trafficking. While the 2010 Olympics have come and gone, trafficking remains. Sub-committee Chairperson Pat Battensby reports that British Columbia is turning from a focus on trafficking to one on prostitution and pornography, both integral to human trafficking. Women and children suffer most from human trafficking and men are in the forefront of the demand for and as the suppliers of human “commodities”. Victor Malarek, in his latest book, *The Johns: Sex for Sale and the Men Who Buy It*, argues that it is time to target the johns because without the demand for trafficked bodies there would be no trafficking.