

STEWARDSHIP



Peggy Roche
National Secretary-Treasurer



CatholicReference.net defines stewardship as, “In biblical usage the management of whatever a person is entrusted with, not only to preserve but profitably administer for his master, ultimately for God.” The Catholic Women’s League of Canada has done just that by following the guidelines found in the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure and Constitution & Bylaws*.

In consultation with National President Danielle McNeil-Hessian and, through the constant monitoring of investments by Executive Director Kim Scammell, the national administrative committee is able to continue to utilize, develop, and enhance League resources, as was intended by its predecessors. In times of restraint, failed markets, and slow recovery, the League remains financially sound. With a decline in membership comes a loss of revenue.

The national executive is accountable and transparent to the membership. Audited financial statements and oral reports are presented at annual national conventions.

The League believes in giving back to members and does this in many ways, including:

- The National Bursary Fund
- The National Development Fund
- Provincial council grants
- Waiving of life members’ registration fees for national conventions
- Absorbing all costs for provincial presidents attending national meetings and conventions
- Absorbing a greater portion of cost for the provinces hosting national conventions

The national office manages donations to the national voluntary funds from members and has been introduced to a new policy for the recipients to submit annual reports and audited financial statements to national office each year.

Members are encouraged to be good stewards and request clarification on how their contributions will be used. It is important to read reports carefully and be aware of what percentage of donations is used for administration and other allocations. In today’s world we need to be mindful of the potential for the misuse of funds. Good stewards will call to account those organizations which prey on the sentimental and giving natures of naïve donors. †