



THE CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S
LEAGUE OF
CANADA

93RD ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN | AUGUST 11 - 14, 2013



Convention News

Wednesday, August 14



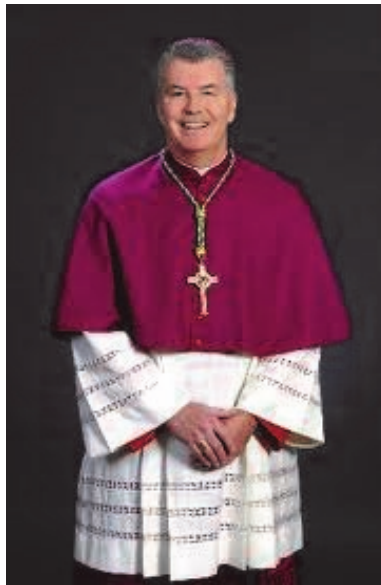
Closing Eucharistic Celebration & Reaffirmation of Officers

League sisters love to sing and rejoice! On Wednesday their voices filled the air, jubilantly and powerfully as they celebrated the conclusion of the national convention.

Most Rev. Archbishop Currie presented his homily and, reflecting back on the day's business sessions mused "we don't all think alike, thank God!"

Danielle McNeil-Hessian led the reaffirmation ceremony of national officers, officially commencing their second year in office. Special welcome to new Provincial Presidents; Dorothy Johansen (Alberta Mackenzie), Monica Brechka (Manitoba), Rita Janes (Newfoundland & Labrador); Suzanne Wiseman (Quebec), Betty Colaneri (Ontario), Suzanne Wiseman (Quebec) and Marge Zsabo (Saskatchewan).

Wednesday marked the installation of new national spiritual advisor, Bishop William McGrattan from Toronto. Welcome to the League!



Communications Report

Cecile Miller, national chairperson of communications, introduced the "Pornography Hurts" campaign. Members were provided with postcards and encouraged to send them to various governing bodies throughout Canada.

A new League website will be launched soon. Look for an announcement! This website is designed to be a dynamic, easier to navigate tool for members.

For those who are interested, the CWL's twitter hashtag is @cwlnational.

Above photo from Archdiocese of Toronto website, www.archtoronto.org

Final Business

The second day of business sessions took place Wednesday.

There was lively debate on the floor over the resolutions presented by the resolutions committee. Two resolutions were passed:

- 2013.01 Building Relationships and Partnerships with Canada's Indigenous Peoples. (Community Life)
- 2013.02 Employment Insurance Benefits for Cancer Patients and Their Caregivers (Legislation)

Anne Chase, a 15 year cancer survivor and 50+ year member, gave an enlightening presentation on ovarian cancer awareness and prevention.

Maribeth Stewart, WUCWO vice-president for North America, spoke of WUCWO's organizational structure and encouraged members to attend the upcoming WUCWO Regional North American Conference in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

National officers continued presenting their annual standing committee reports. Velma Harasen gave a follow up presentation on Velma's Dream and her trip to Israel, encouraging members to continue to pray for Christians in the Holy Land.

Kathryn Perry, author of "The Courage to Dare: The Spirituality of Catherine Donnelly, Founder of the Sisters of Service" relayed information about newly found documentation of the role that Catherine Donnelly played in founding the Sisters of Service and the impact she had on the church in Canada.

Members attending the convention bid a fond farewell to National Spiritual Advisor, Most Rev. Archbishop Martin Currie.

Danielle McNeil-Hessian (Past, Past-President), Velma Harasen (Past-President) and current National President, Betty Anne Brown Davidson thanked Most Rev. Archbishop Currie for his years of service to the League, his guidance and his friendship.



As the 93rd Annual National Convention comes to a close, sincere thanks go out to the following volunteers, without whom these newsletters would not have been possible:

Rita
Janette
Ron
Cynthia

Royal Gala Banquet

In a fitting end to the convention, members were invited to the Royal Gala Banquet at the Delta Regina. A procession line of honoured guests entered the room to the accompaniment of bagpipes, introductions were made and members were treated to scrumptious dinners and tasty desserts.

The opportunity to meet new friends and catch up with old ones was a blessing for all who attended.

The entertainment for the evening was “Queen Elizabeth II” who graced the Delta Regina with her presence. Entering with an RCMP officer, the Queen brought laughter and joy to roughly 500 members and guests gathered to celebrate faith and the end of a successful convention.

Heartfelt congratulations to Marge Szabo and her dedicated team of volunteers for their superb efforts!

Convention 2014

Led by National officers, Anne Marie Gorman and Marion Fogan, members from New Brunswick showed their enthusiasm for the League and their excitement for hosting the 94th Annual National Convention.

With matching T-shirts, beach balls and flags, they showed an up beat video highlighting the beauty of Fredericton while serenading the audience with voices of Celtic angels.

Exploring the Maritimes is like



stepping into a brand new world!

A charming city like none other, Fredericton has great shopping, striking scenery and enough Celtic music to keep your feet dancing throughout your entire stay.

Join the League in celebrating the 94th Annual National Convention in “Freddie Beach,” down by the sea.