"One thing that I have learned from service in the Catholic Women's League over the years is that we, as sisters in Jesus Christ, are very good at empowering and encouraging each other.

It is important to do so as we all know that no water can be drawn from a well that is dry. As CWL, we continue to fill each other up with the love of Jesus Christ".

Lynne Tibor CYM
St. John Vianney
(Windsor) Council

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

National Bursary Fund

CWL National Office
C-702 Scotland Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5
E-mail: info@cwl.ca

Revised September 1, 2021

HISTORY and PURPOSE

In 1988, the League received two generous donations in response to the call for lay formation in Pope John Paul II's Exhortation, *Christifideles Laici.*

In light of the expressed desire of the League to encourage members' service "For God and Canada," the national executive agreed by motion that these donations be used to establish a bursary fund.

The bursary fund is used to provide financial assistance to members needing it to pursue studies, courses, seminars, conferences, workshops and diploma/degree programs in areas of

- spiritual growth
- adult faith formation
- youth ministry
- ministry to patients in palliative care
- ministry to shut-ins
- nursing
- parliamentary procedure
- literacy tutoring

US courses may be pursued if the program is not available in Canada.

The national bursary committee receives applications and administers the bursary annually. The value of the bursaries awarded depends on the interest generated from the fund and donations received in any given year and the number of qualified applicants.

The national bursary fund continues to grow with generous support received from members and councils.

CRITERIA and GUIDELINES

1. In her third consecutive year of membership and any year thereafter, a member may apply.
2. Applicants must demonstrate an active involvement in pastoral services and be prepared to serve the church in their province, diocese or parish.
3. Courses, etc. may be taken prior to bursary acceptance, but must be taken within one year following acceptance.
4. Upon proof of acceptance into the designated program, funds will be forwarded by national office in the decided amount to the institution administering the program or to the applicant if proof of payment is submitted. Proof of acceptance must be received within 30 days of approval of the award; otherwise the bursary will lapse.
5. The applicant will provide acknowledgement of completion of the course, seminar, conference, workshop, diploma or degree programs along with a letter from the applicant expressing what she has gained from the program and how she will be sharing this with her community in the future.
6. Applicants receiving an award may reapply for a maximum of three additional one-year periods. The applications do not need to be in consecutive years.

An application form can be downloaded from www.cwl.ca.

APPLICATION

1. **Applications must be made on the official form, which is available online at cwl.ca.**
2. Two letters of recommendation must accompany the completed form. One letter of recommendation must be from the applicant's CWL parish council president; the other from a non-relative. Each letter must indicate the name of the reference, and his or her position and relationship to the applicant.
3. **Applications must be submitted to national office and postmarked by May 15th.** To ensure that no oversight occurs, the applicant should inform national office that the application has been sent. The bursary committee meets in June and the successful applicants are notified by letter. An announcement is made by June 30th on cwl.ca and in *The Canadian League*.
4. Decisions of the bursary committee shall be final.
5. The maximum bursary award is $1,000 per year per applicant for a maximum of $4,000 over a member's lifetime.
6. **The application form, with two letters of recommendation should be sent to**

   CWL National Office
   C-702 Scotland Avenue
   Winnipeg MB, R3M 1X5
   E-mail: communications@cwl.ca

7. A T4A slip will be sent to all bursary recipients by February 28th of the year following receipt of any bursary award exceeding $500.00.