

The Catholic Women's League Of Canada

London Diocesan Council Manual of Policy & Procedure

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1 . Forward

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- The Council is known as the London Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's
 League of Canada, hereinafter called the Diocesan Council.
- The Diocesan Council received its charter from The Catholic Women's League of Canada in 1921.

6 2. Purpose of the London Diocesan Council

- To promote individual and collective spiritual development among the members.
- To implement Catholic Women's League objectives and policies in the Diocese of London.
- To represent The Catholic Women's League members in the London diocese at the provincial level.
- To coordinate the parish councils in the London diocese.
- To be the link between the parish councils in the diocese of London and the provincial council.
- To disseminate information and direction from the provincial council and pass it on to the parish councils in the diocese of London.
- To provide direction, inspiration and encouragement to The Catholic Women's League members and councils in the diocese.
- The Diocesan Council is governed by the current Constitution and Bylaws of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, the National Manual of Policy and Procedure, the Ontario Manual of Policy and Procedure and the Diocesan Manual of Policy and Procedure.

23 3. Composition of Diocesan Executive Council

The executive council consists of elected officers and other members as identified below and this body will be known as the executive council in this document.

26 3.1 Elected Officers

• The elected officers of the diocesan council shall be: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and three pillar chairpersons.

3.2 Other members of the Executive Council

- The president shall appoint an Administrative Assistant who will attend all meetings and be part of the secretary's committee.
- The spiritual advisor and the appointed regional chairpersons shall be members of the executive council.
- The spiritual advisor and administrative assistant do not have voting privileges.
- The position of past president is not an elected office.

3.3 Committees of the Executive Council

- Administration Team It is recommended that an advisory and planning committee consist of the president, vice-president, past president, secretary, treasurer and spiritual advisor. They shall collaborate in discussions on upcoming meetings, agendas, and planning strategy. This information shall then be brought back to the diocesan executive.
 - In the event of a vacancy in any office, except vice president, a member may be appointed by the president. The appointee, who meets the criteria for eligibility of diocesan office, shall hold that office until the next election. Exceptions that may occur shall be handled in consultation with the president and the spiritual advisor.

3.4 Election Screening Process Information

- The past president is the chairperson of nominations and elections. She shall appoint a diocesan screening officer who is a life member and not part of the current executive.
- The London Diocesan Council has determined it is prudent to screen the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, who are signing officers those in high-risk, financial positions. The screening officer shall perform this screening.
- As part of the election process, those members letting their names stand for the positions noted above are required to provide two (2) references (pastor, friend, professional, work or volunteer associate), a current police check that is no older than six (6) months and must have the authentic stamp of the police dept. and permission for the screening officer to have access to this information for screening. Members of the diocesan executive shall not be included as reference. Diocesan council shall reimburse these individuals for the cost of the police record check.
- Information shall be forwarded to the screening officer, in an addressed envelope marked "confidential". She shall review the material and ensure that all is in order and file it in the diocesan screening binder/file.
- The screening officer shall contact references and review the police checks. She shall notify the chairperson of nominations and elections of the outcome of the screening of the members.
 - The nominations and elections chairperson shall include only the names of the successfully screened eligible nominated members on the acceptance list for high trust, financial positions.
 - Members shall not have access to any information contained in the screening binder/file. All screening information is private and strictly confidential.
 - The binder/file shall be kept in a secure spot and available only to the screening officer and the diocesan president. Records shall remain active 3 terms (six (6) years). Once the member is no longer eligible for election, the file shall be destroyed.

3.5 Standing Committees

• The diocesan council shall have one chairperson of Organization (vice-president) and three pillar chairpersons: Faith, Service and Social Justice.

4 3.6 Sub Committees

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- Each pillar will have a sub-committee to attend to the tasks noted under each heading
 - Sub committee members do not attend executive meetings.

8 3.7 Parish Presidents

- The presidents of the parish councils are members of the diocesan council.
- As there are too many councils in our diocese to accommodate presidents at diocesan executive meetings, they will be represented by regional chairpersons
- At the Annual Meeting of Members or Convention, parish presidents or their designates are the voting members of the diocesan council.

14 3.8 Regional Chairpersons

- A regional chairperson shall be appointed by the president for each region. She is a member of the diocesan executive and therefore has voting privileges at executive meetings.
- The regional chairperson should be a past parish council president.
- The position of regional chairperson shall be a two-year term with a maximum of one consecutive terms.
- The primary purpose of the position of regional chairperson is to be a liaison between parish councils and diocesan council.
- When the regional chairperson approaches the end of her term, she shall submit the names of two members in her region whom she feels will fulfill the duties of the position. The candidate list is to be submitted to the diocesan president-elect in January of the year her term ends.
 - If she chooses to remain in the position of regional chairperson for a second term, her name must be submitted with two other names.
 - In appointing the new regional chairperson, the president shall consult with the president-elect and the spiritual advisor.

The Regional Chairpersons' Duties shall include the following:

- Chairs meetings of the presidents in the region within 14 days following each diocesan executive meeting to distribute the material received.
- Submits a report on regional chairperson activities at diocesan executive meetings. The report is to meet the guidelines set out in this manual.
- Appoints a Secretary/Treasurer for the region.

- Coordinates regional meeting information with the host council.
- Sends invitations for the regional meetings to councils in the region as well as
 parishes that do not have a Catholic Women's League council, and diocesan
 officers and Life members in her region.
- Chairs the fall regional meetings/workshops before turning the meeting over to the diocesan president, if she is in attendance.
 - Receives information/directives from the diocesan executive and forwards to council presidents.
 - Submits annual report to the organization chairperson for the annual report book.
- Facilitates annual on-line survey training if required, and contacts council presidents to ensure on-line surveys are completed by the deadline.
- Attends annual diocesan convention as an accredited delegate.
- It is suggested that each region shall prepare their own Manual of Policy & Procedure to govern and regulate their meetings in regard to representation, procedures and finances.

16 3.9 Diocesan Spiritual Advisor

• The spiritual advisor of the diocesan council shall be appointed by the Bishop of the Diocese of London. In January of his/her final year, the bishop should be notified and requested for a new spiritual advisor.

4. Financial Policy

21 **4.1 Source of Funds**

- The funds of the diocesan council shall be:
- Diocesan per capita fees
- Donations (to diocesan reserves)
- Fund raising

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- Bank interest on investments
- 27 Contributions made for specific purposes shall be directed to the respective funds.

28 **4.2** Administration of Funds

- The treasurer shall be responsible for the day-to-day custody of funds and payment of expenses.
- Surplus funds not required for the operating expenses shall be invested in short term deposits insured by CDIC or low risk mutual funds.
- There shall be no access to League funds for personal use.
- Personal funds spent on authorized diocesan council business shall be reimbursed to the individual on submission of an expense form accompanied with appropriate receipts.
- Expense forms shall be submitted in a timely fashion.

- 1 A credit card in the name of the Diocesan Council, treasurer, secretary and 2 president will be obtained with a maximum credit of \$5000. The credit card will 3 be from the same institution as the diocesan funds. Notification of change of 4 executive will be given to the credit card company at the bank visit after each 5 election. The address on file will be that of the current treasurer.
 - The president shall have \$150 discretionary spending allowance for unexpected expenditures between executive meetings.
 - The secretary may request and advance of \$100 each year to mail the annual convention minutes to the councils. Receipts for these expenses are to be attached to the next expense sheet. To reduce costs, annual convention minutes are to be emailed to regional chairpersons for distribution to their region's council presidents, by email if possible.
 - The administrative assistant may request and advance of \$50 at the beginning of her term. The accounts will be reconciled with receipts and a return of funds at the end of her term. To reduce costs, correspondence should be by email whenever appropriate. Cards, certificates and other official documents should be sent through regular mail.
 - The past president may request an advance of \$250 for postage of the nominations and elections packages. Receipts for these expenses are to be attached to the next expense sheet.
 - The life members liaison may request a float of \$100 at the beginning of her term. The account will be reconciled with receipts and a return of funds at the end of her term.
 - A gift not exceeding \$500 shall be given to the departing spiritual advisor at the end of his term. This gift could be given at the convention or an appropriate occasion at the end of his term.
 - The diocesan council shall give a Christmas gift of \$100.00 to the diocesan spiritual advisor and \$50.00 to the Bishop of London and to an auxiliary bishop, if applicable.
 - The past president, as part of her duties, is responsible for the archiving of the diocesan council history A donation of \$500 will be paid to the Diocesan Offices in January for the safe-keeping of these documents
 - The diocesan council shall pay mileage for all those serving on sub-committees to attend meetings, if approved before the meeting by the president.
 - The deposit for the annual diocesan spiritual retreat shall be paid to the facility two (2) years in advance of the event. (if required)
- 37 The deposit for the bi-annual executive orientation shall be paid to the facility (if 38 required) two (2) years in advance of the event. The current president with the 39 current president-elect shall set the dates in co-operation with the chosen facility

4.3 Signing of Cheques

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The official signing officers of the diocesan council shall be the president, the 42 treasurer, and the recording secretary

- All cheques must be signed by two of the signing officers.
- No person shall sign their own cheque.

3 4.4 Treasurer Training

• The Treasurer is entitled to have training by a qualified instructor on Quick Books or accounting program in use at the time.

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7 4.5 Auditor's Report

• The auditor's report will be voted on at the March executive council meeting. This will allow for distribution to the parish council voting and accredited delegates in accordance with the rules for a "not for profit" organization.

5. Executive Council Member Expenses

12 **5.1 Transportation**

- The diocesan council shall cover the cost of executive council members to travel to approved executive council meetings, fall regional meetings and conventions.
- Mileage shall be at \$.40 per kilometre, effective April 1, 2022. Car pooling is suggested whenever possible.
 - Mileage shall be paid when the president or her designate is representing diocesan council at special meetings and events. (i.e., anniversaries, pastoral planning, funerals, etc.)
 - Mileage shall be paid by the diocesan council if a diocesan council member is presenting League Development Days, specialized workshops, and/or any form of League education to a region or parish council.
 - When an executive council member is invited to a council in a region, on behalf of the diocesan council, mileage shall be paid by the diocesan council.
 - When a one-way trip to regional meetings and League Development Days for an executive council member is greater than 200 km, diocesan council shall pay for mileage, accommodation and meals.

28 **5.2 Meals**

• Allowable receipted expenses for meals shall be:

30 Breakfast \$20.00 31 Lunch \$25.00 32 Dinner \$40.00

Maximum expenses shall be \$85.00 per day, excluding gratuities. All meals that are not covered on the meal plans for diocesan delegates at convention be paid at local prices.

Meal expenses do not cover alcoholic beverages.

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5.3 Accommodations

• The president shall have the option of rooming alone.

- The spiritual advisor shall have a single room.
- All other rooms shall be shared, two per room amongst the executive council.
 Should individual accommodations be desired, it would be the responsibility of that individual to pay half of that expense.

5 5.4 Executive Council Meetings

• Diocesan council will pay up to \$300 for lunch and \$300 for the meeting room for executive council meetings.

5.5 Fall Regional Meetings

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- The diocesan council shall pay for the lunch of the invited guests, executive council members, spiritual advisor, local regional chairpersons, and technical services person, (should one be required) attending all fall regional meetings.
- The stipend for the facilitator of the fall regional meetings shall be determined at the September executive council meeting, when possible.

5.6 Diocesan Spiritual Advisor

- The diocesan council shall pay the cost of replacing the diocesan spiritual advisor in his pastoral duties while he is attending executive council meetings, fall regional meetings, the various conventions, and any other event that requires his attendance in support of the diocesan council.
- A priest replacing the Spiritual Advisor at CWL functions be given a stipend of \$50.

22 5.7 Diocesan Representation at Provincial Convention

• Travel expenses, accommodation, meals, registrations and special events shall be paid by the diocesan council for the vice-president accredited delegate and the spiritual advisor. The 2nd accredited delegate attendance will be as funds permit.

5.8 Diocesan Representation at National Convention

• Travel expenses, accommodation, meals, registrations and special events shall be paid by the diocesan council for two (2) accredited delegates (president and vice-president or their designate) and the spiritual advisor.

30 **5.9** National Representation at Diocesan Convention

 Accommodation, registration and meals for the national president or her representative at the diocesan convention shall be the responsibility of the diocesan council.

34 5.91 Provincial Representation at Diocesan Convention

 Accommodation, registration and meals for the provincial president or her representative at the diocesan convention shall be the responsibility of the diocesan council. • The diocesan treasurer will invoice the provincial council for accommodation, registration and meals for the provincial president or her representative at the diocesan convention.

4 6. General Expenses

5 6.1 Photocopies

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• When an executive council member is presenting League Development Days, specialized workshops and/or any form of League education to a region or parish council, photocopies shall be paid by the diocesan council.

9 **6.2 Computer Expenses**

- To acknowledge the cost of printing from personal printers, diocesan executive council shall pay \$50 for printer cartridges, per term of office, for each executive council member with the exception of the treasurer, president, faith chairperson, vice president and secretary who shall receive \$100 for printer cartridges.
 - Should there be circumstances arise where more cartridges are necessary, they can hand in a receipt to be paid pending discussion
- Regional chairpersons should be paid by the region for their expenses (cartridge)
 - The treasurer shall pay for this expense at the beginning of each term of office.

6.3 Web-Site or Webmaster Expenses

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- The diocesan council shall be responsible for all diocesan web-site expenses.
- Website hosting fee is due in March of each year.
- Domain fee is due in May of each year.
- Should the webmaster be requested to attend any diocesan event to assist with technical presentations, her mileage and meal expenses will be paid in accordance with Section 5: Executive council Member Expenses.

6.4 Annual Executive Council Spiritual Retreat

- Diocesan council shall cover 50% of the cost of the retreat for those attending.
- The annual diocesan spiritual retreat shall include current executive council members, life members, and past diocesan presidents.
- The diocesan council shall pay a stipend of \$500.00 plus mileage, room and board to the facilitator of the annual diocesan retreat.
- The current Faith chairperson and the current president shall set the dates in cooperation with the chosen facility.
- The mileage to this event shall be paid to the Faith chairperson.

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1 6.5 C.W.L. Day at Marian Shrine, Merlin

- A per diem and mileage shall be paid to the visiting priest at the C.W.L. Day.
- This per diem shall be determined at the March diocesan council meeting.
- A \$200 donation shall be given to St. Patrick Parish, Merlin.
- Mileage to this event shall be paid to the Faith chairperson.

6.6 Annual Diocesan Lenten Retreat

- The annual diocesan Lenten retreat shall be held on the first Saturday in Lent, alternating between the south-west and the north-east portions of the diocese.
- The diocesan council shall pay the mileage and lunch for the Faith chairperson or her alternate and the spiritual advisor when they attend the annual diocesan Lenten retreat.
- The stipend for the Lenten Retreat facilitator will be \$200. Mileage and lunch will also be paid.

14 6.7 Bishop's Dinner

- The president and guest shall attend the Bishop's Dinner annually.
- Her mileage and dinners shall be paid by diocesan council.
- She shall attend the dinner closest to her home.

18 6.8 Insurance

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• Liability insurance shall be paid per diocesan executive member and spiritual advisor to the national office and to the provincial office.

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23 6.9. Priest for Life Membership

• Membership for Priest for Life be renewed on a yearly basis.

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7. General Policies

27 7.1 Diocesan Sashes

- The royal blue sashes provided to the executive council members shall be worn on the left shoulder at functions where required (i.e., Honour Guard).
- When the term on the executive council is completed, that member shall pass the sash to the new executive council member.

7.2 Expressions of Get Well

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- Get well wishes/messages/cards shall be sent to a member of the diocesan
 executive or the spiritual advisor experiencing illness, by the administrative
 assistant
- Get well cards to past members of the diocesan executive shall be sent, at the discretion of the president, by the administrative assistant.

7.3 Expressions of Sympathy

- 8 Mass shall be offered on the death of:
- An immediate family member of the diocesan executive and/or spiritual advisor.
- An immediate family member of a past diocesan executive and/or past spiritual advisor.
- A mass and a flower arrangement or a donation to a charity of the family's choice shall be made on the death of a diocesan or past diocesan executive or spiritual advisor. The amount of the latter shall not exceed \$75.00.
- Sympathy cards shall be sent to a member of the current or past executive council, spiritual advisor and life members in the event of the death of a member of the immediate family of an executive council member, spiritual advisor or life member (husband, children, parents, and siblings.) Sympathy cards shall be sent by the administrative assistant.

20 7.4 Expressions of Congratulations

• At the discretion of the president, congratulations shall be sent by the administrative assistant.

23 7.5 Ordering Flowers or Donation to a Charity of Choice

• On occasions such as extended illness, hospitalization or expression of sympathy
(a) flowers or gift can be ordered or (b) donation to a charity of choice, can be
made, for members of the executive council members, spiritual advisors and life
members. The cost of the arrangements shall not exceed \$75.00.

7.6 Anniversary Certificates

• Anniversary Certificates shall be presented to parish councils celebrating the following anniversaries; 10, 25, 40, 50, 60, 75, 80, 90 or 100, at the scheduled event or fall regional meetings.

32 7.7 Membership Certificates

- Membership Certificates shall be presented to parish councils who maintain or increase their council membership.
- The certificates shall be presented at the fall regional meetings.

7.8 Life Members and Past Presidents' Tablecloth

• It shall be the responsibility of the Life members' liaison to retain and maintain the tablecloth and transport it to all diocesan conventions ready to be placed on the table, where the life members and past presidents sit.

5 7.9 Spiritual Advisor's Stole

• It shall be the responsibility of the Faith chairperson to maintain the spiritual advisor's stole.

7.10 Diocesan Computer

London Diocesan CWL currently own two laptops. One is for the use of the
 Treasurer and the other is for the use of the Secretary.

11 8. Meetings, Reports, Communication and Files

12 **8.1 Attendance**

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- As a member of the executive council, attendance is required at:
- Executive meetings minimum of four meetings throughout the year as well as the pre and post convention meetings.
- Diocesan convention in April.
- All fall regional meetings.
- If a member is unable to attend a meeting, the president shall be informed, and a written report must be forwarded to the president, prior to the meeting.

20 8.2 Executive Meetings

- The meeting location is at the discretion of the president.
- When unable to hold an executive in person meeting, an online platform will be used to hold a web-based meeting.

24 8.3 Finance Meeting

- Those present at the finance meeting shall consist of the members of the finance committee (See 9.1 Finance Committee) and anyone designated by the president.
- Prior to the January executive meeting, the treasurer shall present the proposed budget for the current year. The fiscal year runs from January to December.
- The treasurer shall then present the proposed budget to the executive council members at the January meeting where the budget will be ratified.

31 8.4 Pre/Post - Convention Meeting

The pre-convention meeting shall be scheduled immediately prior to the convention. The agenda for the pre-convention meeting shall deal only with the information pertaining to the convention and any other business that the president deems immediate.

• The post convention meeting shall be held within 6 weeks following the convention.

3 8.5 Minutes of Executive Council Meetings

• Minutes of the London executive council meetings shall be sent out no later than one month after the last meeting.

6 8.6 Executive Council Meeting Reports

• A concise report, with the exception of the current financial statement, shall be forwarded to all executive council members by e-mail 6 days prior to the executive meetings. (Sunday before) (See Appendix 5 – Guidelines for Written Reports and Directives).

11 8.7 Directives

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- All directives shall be forwarded to the diocesan president and the secretary a minimum of 10 days in advance of the executive council meeting. After approval of the diocesan council president, the secretary will distribute the submitted directives to diocesan council members 6 days in advance of the diocesan council meeting
- Directives will be fully approved at the executive council meeting.
- Regional chairpersons will forward the approved directives to their regional councils within 7 days of the executive council meeting to make them aware of the contents before the regional meeting.
- The secretary will send the approved directives to the website within 7 days of the diocesan council meeting.
- Directives shall be concise and informative and not to exceed one sheet of paper,
 whenever possible. (See Appendix 5 Guidelines on Written Reports and
 Directives)

26 **8.8** Information

- All official letters sent by the executive council members shall be copied to the diocesan president for her information.
- All information sent to council presidents shall be sent to executive council members, including nominations and election information.

31 **8.9Media**

• The president or her appointee as well as the spiritual advisor shall be the official spokesperson for the London diocesan council.

34 **8.10 E-Mail**

• E-mail is a communication tool where agendas, information, minutes and reports can be sent but e-mail shall not be used for motions, except in urgent matters.

Such motion to be ratified at the next meeting.

1 Even though e-mail is a good mode of communication, we must recognize that 2 everyone does not have this capability; therefore, we must continue to use regular 3 postal service as well. 4 8.11 Exchanging Files and Information to Newly Elected Officers 5 Upon completion of the term of office on the executive council, all files should be current and forwarded to the new officer. As well as the current files and 6 pertinent information for the position, (Appendix 1) the following shall be 7 forwarded: 8 9 Diocesan Sash • Wooden block (holds name plate) 10 • Your standing committee directives from the two previous years 11 12 USB stick is recommended 13 • Any educational resources 14 15 Do not pass on minutes of any meetings. 16 *It is recommended to use online resources whenever possible, ie: National Manual 17 of Policy and Procedure, Constitution and Bylaws, and other National resources 18 This procedure shall take place at the 1st scheduled executive council meeting 19 20 following the election of a new slate of officers. The treasurer shall transfer her files by June 30th of the same year. 21 22 Nameplates for new members will be ordered by the treasurer after the post-23 convention meeting. • The secretary shall retain all the minutes in dated binders. 24 25 The administrative assistant shall retain correspondence for only two years. 26 Diocesan council shall pay the expense of an overnight orientation meeting 27 following each election. 9. 28 Committees 29 The president and the spiritual advisor are ex-officio members of all diocesan 30 committees except the Nomination and Election Committee. The Spiritual 31 Advisor is usually involved in the counting/supervising at elections. 9.1 **Finance Committee** 32 33 The finance committee shall consist of the following: 34 Treasurer – Chairperson 35 Vice-President 36 **Immediate Past Treasurer** 37 Immediate Past President

Ex-Officio – President and Spiritual Advisor

Secretary

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9.2 Convention Minutes Committee

A Convention Minutes Committee, selected by the diocesan recording secretary to assist in the recording of motions and business of convention, shall be formed for each diocesan convention or annual meeting of members. It is recommended that committee members should be from different regions, and be seated near microphones to hear clearly what is being said.

7 9.3 Resolutions Review Committee

- The Resolutions Review Committee shall consist of the following:
- Vice-President

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- Appointees from the pillars
- Immediate Past Resolution Chairperson
- Immediate Past President.
 - Ex-Officio President and Spiritual Advisor.

14 9.4 Topics for Resolutions

• Topics for resolutions should be submitted by October 1st and the completed resolution shall be forwarded to the diocesan resolutions standing committee chairperson by November 15. The resolution committee to forward to diocesan council by January of the next year. Consult the Resolution Supplement to the Executive Handbook Deadline for submitting title of resolution to provincial resolution chairperson is December 15.

21 9.5 Nominations and Elections Committee

- The Nominations and Elections Committee shall be appointed by the president and consists of the following:
- Immediate Past President Chairperson.
 - Secretary for the elections (appointed by the chairperson).
- At least 2 other committee members shall be appointed by the president consisting of past diocesan presidents or members at large who are not wishing to run for office.
 - Usually, Past president appoints people to help her

30 9.6 Life Membership, Bellelle Guerin or other Awards of Distinction

- The nomination of an individual for life membership is to be discussed at the May diocesan executive meeting following her completed term as past-president of the diocese. Should the individual meet the criteria, the secretary in conjunction with the President will complete the appropriate forms and forward with proper payment to the provincial president to meet the September 15th deadline. Upon approval of the provincial council, the provincial president will forward the nomination with payment to the national council by the December 1st deadline.
- For Bellelle Guerin or other awards of distinction, the executive council will make a recommendation and the vice-president (diocesan organization standing committee chairperson) will contact the parish council president of the selected individual and work in concert with the parish council to obtain these awards.

 These awards may be awarded either at the parish council, a fall regional meeting,

or a diocesan convention as in agreement by the parish council and diocesan council.

10. Convention Policy

10.1 Planning a Diocesan Convention

- Planning a convention is the responsibility of the diocesan president and the executive council.
- An experienced convention chairperson be appointed by the diocesan president for a three (3) year term with evaluation yearly as the liaison
- The diocesan president in consultation with the vice-president shall appoint the diocesan convention chairperson or co-chairpersons, which will not necessarily be the regional chairperson.
- The annual convention is an annual meeting of members (AMM) therefore the business conducted must include receipt of reports, receipt of financial reports, appointment of auditors, and the elections of officers, when applicable.
- The convention may have social time, workshops, guest speakers, and liturgical celebrations. The executive council chooses speakers, workshops, and Mass content. The A.M.M. is for business only and will not have the options mentioned above.
- Time must be allocated to the national president or her representative and the provincial president or her representative for greetings, reports and workshops.
 - The convention committee organizes and executes the facility, meals, entertainment and personal needs portions of the convention i.e., book hotels, order meals, provide hospitality, printing of programs and agenda, etc. in accordance with the London Diocesan Hosting a Convention Manual.
 - The convention committee is responsible for arranging, negotiating and paying for any special equipment required for the convention. AV equipment cost up to \$500 is paid by the convention committee; anything in excess of this amount shall be the responsibility of the diocesan council.
 - No petitions shall be distributed at conventions or regional fall days without prior consent from the diocesan president.

10.2 Location

- The location of the annual diocesan convention shall be determined by the diocesan executive a minimum of 4 years in advance. The vice-president in the beginning of her first term can request the outgoing convention as her term of president to be held in her region.
- The executive council invites and encourages all regions to consider hosting the annual diocesan convention should facilities be available.

• Ideal facilities should be able to accommodate up to 350 for sessions of the convention, and up to 600 for banquet facilities. It is advisable to remember many members have mobility issues and room must be left for movability.

4 10.3 Date

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• The annual convention shall be held the last week of April each year, dependent upon the availability of facilities and the timing of Easter week.

10.4 Convention Finances

- The diocesan council shall determine the allocation of the diocesan convention /AMM registration fees at least 1 ½ years prior to convention at the September executive meeting.
- The treasurer shall register and pay all expenses for the executive council members, life members, past diocesan presidents, and national and provincial representatives. Tours will be individually invoiced.
- The treasurer will invoice diocesan regions for registration and meals for the respective regional chairpersons. The diocesan council is responsible for mileage and accommodations based on double occupancy for the regional chairpersons.
- The treasurer will invoice the provincial council for the registration, meals, and accommodations based on double occupancy for the provincial representative per provincial policy.
 - The diocesan council shall purchase a gift not to exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for the parliamentarian at the convention.
- The banquet ticket, for any past diocesan spiritual advisors shall be paid by the diocesan council, if they wish to attend.
- Lunch tickets for invited ecumenical guests shall be paid by the diocesan council.
- The treasurer shall register and pay all necessary expenses for the invited guests.
- Beginning in 2023 diocesan council will no longer pay for voting member to attend convention.
- Diocesan council shall pay for meals for diocesan media representatives at convention.
- The diocesan council shall pay the cost of the banquet ticket for the Episcopal Vicar within the hosting council's region.
 - The diocesan council shall pay the cost of the banquet ticket for a guest of the
 president in election years at the banquet of her choice either in her incoming year
 or outgoing year.
- The diocesan council shall purchase a gift not to exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per person for the convention chair or co-chairs.
- The diocesan council shall donate \$100 to the family of parishes hosting opening and closing Masses at the diocesan convention.

• The diocesan council shall donate \$100 to the collection taken up at the diocesan convention.

3 10.5 National and Provincial Representative

- The president shall invite the national president and the provincial president to attend the annual diocesan convention, providing the convention information and convention dates, as early as possible.
- The national and provincial representative will be asked to bring greetings at the opening ceremonies and at the convention. Time will be set aside for her report. Representatives should be asked to do a presentation / workshop during the convention.

10.6 Hotel Reservations

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- The president or her designate determines the sharing of rooms for the executive council.
- The treasurer shall make hotel reservations for the executive council members, life members/past diocesan presidents, the national and provincial representatives, invited guests and the parliamentarian for the convention.
- Sub-committee member's expenses for attending the convention are not paid for by the Diocesan.
 - The treasurer shall make all necessary reservations and arrangements for all invited convention guests. The treasurer shall invoice any guests that attend, as appropriate.

22 10.7 Life Members

• The convention committee shall make all necessary reservations and arrangements for a life members and current past president luncheon to be held during the diocesan convention. This luncheon shall be paid by the diocesan council.

10.8 Liturgy and Spiritual Program

- The diocesan spiritual advisor, the diocesan president and Faith chairperson shall prepare the liturgical celebrations and spiritual exercises of the convention.
- The host convention committee shall assist in the preparation according to the information provided by the diocesan Faith chairperson.
- The final decision shall be made by the diocesan spiritual advisor.
- The diocesan president shall invite the Bishop of the diocese or the Auxiliary Bishop of the diocese, to the diocesan convention supplying convention dates, theme and other pertinent information, as early as possible.

10.9 Convention Program, Agenda and Spiritual Program

• The diocesan president shall be responsible for the preparation of the convention program and agenda.

• The printing of the programs and agenda shall be paid by the convention committee, providing they receive 100% of the registration fee.

3 10.10 Annual Report Book

- The annual report book shall be compiled by the diocesan vice- president (organization standing committee chairperson).
 - The annual report book shall have a list of active member councils included.
- The cost to print the annual report book shall be paid by the convention committee, providing they receive 100% of the registration fee.
 - The diocesan administrative assistant will supply digital copies of the annual report book to all life members, past diocesan presidents, past spiritual advisors, national and provincial presidents and all councils not in attendance at the convention.
 - Copies of the Annual Report Book will be printed and distributed to the Secretary, Archives, Bishops of the Diocese, the Seminary, and the vice-president. (organization chairperson)
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17 **10.11 Collection**

- The convention committee shall be responsible for organizing a collection during the diocesan convention.
- The convention committee shall submit to the executive council, names of charities in the area to receive the proceeds by the preceding October 31. The final decision shall be made by the diocesan council at the November executive council meeting.

24 10.12 Hosting a National Convention

- When the diocesan council wishes to host a national convention, they shall:
- Secure approval from the Bishop of the diocese and the provincial president.
- Forward a letter of invitation to the national council.
- Following acceptance, request that a formal invitation be sent to the national spiritual advisor from the host Bishop.
- Convention co-chairs for the convention should be from the same area.
- The Diocese of London shall make application four (4) years in advance to host a nation convention every twenty (20) years. {The last national convention was held in London August 2003.

10.13 Hosting a Provincial Convention

- When the diocesan council wishes to host a provincial convention, they shall:
- Secure the approval from the Bishop of the diocese.
- Forward a letter of invitation to the provincial council.

- Following acceptance, request that a formal invitation be sent to the provincial spiritual advisor from the host Bishop.
- Co-chairs for the convention should be from the same area.
 - The Diocese of London shall make application four (4) years in advance to host a provincial convention every ten (10) years and not back-to-back with a national convention. (The last provincial convention was held in Stratford July 2016. We are hosting in 2025.)

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11. Bursaries

11.1 London Diocesan Spiritual Advisors Bursary

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<u>Criteria</u>

- This bursary is available only to a League member of the London diocese in good standing, with a minimum of 2 years membership.
- It can be used to finance education at any level university, college and/or technical school.

Other information

- The names of the recipients are not made public due to the financial need attached to this application.
- The diocesan president will announce if any bursaries are to be awarded at the pre-convention meeting.
- The interest earned in the last fiscal year on the London Diocesan Spiritual Advisory Bursary investment is paid out.

Application Procedure

- Application for this bursary must be made on the official application form. (Appendix 2).
- A letter of recommendation from the parish priest, indicating financial need, must accompany the completed form.
- Applications must be mailed or faxed to the diocesan president no later than April 1st.
- All applications will be strictly confidential
- Decisions of the diocesan president and diocesan spiritual advisor are final.
- Application forms and supporting documents may be mailed or emailed to the diocesan president.

11.2 J.L. Hennessey Bursary

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<u>Criteria</u>

- This bursary is available only to a League member of the London diocese and/or her immediate family in good standing, with a minimum of 2 years membership.
- This bursary must be used to finance education at a university level, college or technical school.
 - There must be financial need

Other Information

• The interest earned in the last fiscal year on the J.L. Hennessey Bursary investment is paid out.

Application Procedure

- Application for the J.L. Hennessey Bursary must be made on the official application form. (Appendix 3).
- A letter of recommendation from the parish priest must accompany the completed form as well as a letter of affirmation of financial need.
- Applications must be mailed or faxed to the diocesan president no later than April 1st.
- All applications will be strictly confidential.
- Decisions of the diocesan president and the diocesan spiritual advisor will be final.

22 11.3 Bishop John Michael Sherlock Bursary 2002

- In honour of Bishop Sherlock's ever encouraging and constant support of the League in the diocese of London, a bursary fund has been established for the purpose of assisting seminarians in the diocese of London in need of financial assistance.
- The bursary amount paid will be the interest earned in the previous fiscal year.

28 Criteria

- To be given to a seminarian who, when ordained, will work in the London diocese.
- A seminarian who has a financial need.
 - To be awarded on the recommendation of the Rector.

33 11.4 Life Members and Past Presidents Social Justice Award

- In recognition of the many works of justice by our former presidents and life members, The London Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada has established a Social Justice Award to be awarded annually. The
- award is intended to recognize men or women engaged in social justice work. A

- person will be eligible to receive the award upon a nomination form being submitted. (See Appendix 4)
- This was first awarded at the diocesan convention in 2013.
- 4 With this award we hope:
- To raise awareness of social justice.
- To build solidarity and community to those in need.
- To hold as our highest priority, the teachings of the gospels through our concern for the common good and dignity of all human persons.
 - To bring to light issues around the world and call the world to action on behalf of those who lack this basic human right.

<u>Criteria</u>

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- Demonstrated involvement in social justice activities.
- Nomination by a CWL Council, a pastor or campus minister or equivalent.
- The award must be used to finance participation in a reputable social justice activity, either at home or abroad, e.g. Development and Peace, work in inner city or northern experiences.
 - Priority shall be given to someone who identifies with Catholic ideals.

Other Information

- A certificate shall be issued to the recipient in recognition of their good work.
- The committee consisting of the president, the Christian family life chairperson, and the spiritual advisor, may decide to give the yearly amount to one candidate or divide it among several nominees.
- The amount paid shall be the amount of the interest earned in the previous fiscal year and will be divided equally amongst the candidates, if applicable.
- Successful nominees will be asked to share their experience with League members.
- Decision of the committee is final.

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12. Amendments to the Manual of Policy and Procedure

- The Manual of Policy and Procedure of The London Diocesan Council shall not
 be in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of The Catholic Women's League
 of Canada.
- When there is a conflict between the Diocesan Manual of Policy and Procedure
 and the National Manual of Policy and Procedure, the National Manual of Policy
 and Procedure shall prevail.
 - If amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws affect the Diocesan Policy and Procedure, the policy and procedure shall be revised at the first opportunity.

1 2	•	New policy and procedure shall be adopted by 2/3 of the total votes at any diocesan executive meeting
3 4 5	•	Current policy and procedure may be amended, suspended or rescinded by 2/3 of the total votes at any diocesan executive meeting.
6	13.	Policy Review
7 8 9	•	The London Diocesan Manual of Policy and Procedure shall be revised as necessary to reflect changes to policy adopted at national, provincial and diocesan levels.
10 11 12	•	The manual shall be reviewed by a review committee every two year under the responsibility of the vice-president. (organization standing committee chairperson)
13	•	The vice-president shall solicit volunteers for the policy review committee.
14 15	•	The policy review committee shall review the current policies and procedures and recommend revisions.
16 17 18	•	Upon the adoption of the revised London Diocesan Manual of Policy and Procedure, all existing policy and standing rules of the diocesan council shall be null and void.
19 20	D	va a C. A. Janvijan
21 22	Da	ate of Adoption
23 24 25 26	Ac	dopted: May 2023
27 28 29 30 31 32		Theresa Ryan, President
33 34		Denise Masse Recording Secretary

Appendix 1- Archive Guidelines

2	Archives Guidelines for League History
3	Provincial, Diocesan and Parish Councils
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4	Archives are the permanent history of the League. Preservation of archives is a priority
5	for every past president! If archives and history are not her priority or interest, the past
6	president is encouraged to appoint an archives sub-committee or an interested and
7	experienced council member to maintain the archives and history. Funds should be
8	included in the council budget to purchase required archival supplies. The sub-committee
9	or interested member will inform the past president about any requirements for archival
10	supplies prior to the setting of the council's budget.
11	Location of Archives
12	All archives should be kept in a locked filing cabinet on church property or in a secure
13	facility at the diocesan archive's location. However, League archives must always be kept
14	separately from other diocesan files.
15	Updating and Indexing Archives
16	Archives should be updated and reviewed every two years. An inventory of archival
17	materials should be maintained. Three copies of the inventory will ensure continuity. One
18	copy is to be kept with the archival files, one copy kept in the past president's archival file
19	(with this Guideline) and, a copy given to the current president and noted in the minutes.
20	History Books
21	All councils (parish, diocesan and provincial) are encouraged to send a copy of their own
22	history book to CWL national office at C-702 Scotland Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3M
23	1X5, marked "Archives." A letter, signed by the current president of that council,
24	authorizing the League to place this history along with other histories of that year in the
25	League archives at the Archives of Manitoba must be included. (National archives are
26	kept at this location.) Once a year, national office staff will prepare an acid free file box
27	with the council histories received that year and submit it and an index of the contents to
28	the Archives of Manitoba. An index of the contents of each box will be kept at national
29	office.
30	Recommended Filing of Information
31	• Binders (large three-ring) and acid free file folders or large envelopes are usually the
32 33	best manner in which to preserve historical information.
33 34	• Photograph albums, with names, dates, location and occasion noted, are invaluable. Use
35	of an acid free pen on acid free paper or typewritten information placed near the picture will give information about the people in the photograph when memories fail!
36	• All information (especially newspaper clippings) should include names, publication and
37	date.
38	• Computer discs can be utilized for preservation of written information, but members
39	need the visual history so all information stored on discs should also be committed to
40	paper (acid free paper, where possible).
41	• Treasurers' books (ledgers only) are retained and may be placed in archives after five
42	years. Cheques and receipts are kept for five years and then destroyed.
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1 Contents of Binders or Archival Files

- 2 a. **Members:** Councils are encouraged to set up a binder with a page, in alphabetical
- 3 order, for each member. This page will include information about the member, including
- the year she became a member, offices held (which should be updated if the member 4
- 5 advances to other League levels), other League work (projects, convention convener,
- dinners., League community related activities, World Day of Prayer, etc.), ministries in 6
- 7 the church, awards and pins received, a photograph of the member, and any other
- 8 pertinent information as determined by the council. In large councils, a file box could be
- 9 used for each member's information. This page should be sent to the new council when a
- 10 member moves. When the member dies, this page should be transferred to a separate
- 11 binder or file for deceased members, noting the date of death and including death notices
- 12 and funeral cards where available (see "c" below).
- 13 b. Past Presidents: Each past president is encouraged to write two or three pages
- 14 outlining the highlights of her term as president. These highlights become valued
- 15 historical notes for future council histories. There should be a photograph of the past 16 president and of the executive.
- 17 c. **Deceased Members:** When the council keeps a page record of each member (as
- indicated in "a"), the page will be kept in an archival binder, alphabetically or by the year 18
- 19 of death, to be determined by the council. This file can be in addition to or as part of the
- 20 Book of Life, in which the names of all deceased council members are kept.
- 21 d. **Minutes:** Past minutes are archived after six years. They should be retained in **dated**
- 22 binders or files. These minutes are a **permanent** record of council activities and must be
- 23 kept forever! (Council minutes are kept by the secretary for the current president's term
- 24 and the previous two terms for a total of six years before being archived.)
- 25 e. **Motions Books:** A motion book should be kept in an active file by the secretary for six
- 26 years and then placed into an archival motions binder for historical purposes. Standing
- 27 motions are retained in the active file until a motion is made to rescind that particular
- 28 standing motion when it will be placed into the archival motions binder. Standing
- 29 motions may be amended and as amended are kept in the current motions book.
- 30 f. **Annual Reports:** Annual reports of the council and standing committee chairpersons
- 31 are kept by the secretary for six years and then retained in an archival binder for reference
- 32 and indexed by the year the report was given.
- 33 g. **Resolutions:** Resolutions initiated or adopted by the council are kept until the
- 34 resolution has been acted upon and resolved. The resolution and brief only then will be
- 35 placed in the archives.

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36 h. Miscellaneous Archives:

- 37 • list of presidents, spiritual advisors, addresses, terms in office, dates
 - list of the council's executive for each year
- 39 • list of recipients of awards, maple leaf service pins, other League pins, with date of 40 presentation
 - list of life members, honorary life members, addresses and year awarded
- 42 • correspondence of historical interest, i.e., letters from/to church, political or community
- 43 leaders, congratulations, plaques, documents for anniversaries, special services, etc.
 - special projects, including financial statements of the project
- 45 • copies of council newsletters (one per year, unless several were outstanding!)
- 46 • a record of the charter, dates, names of charter members

Archives Guidelines for League History

48 49 Prepared by Archives Sub-committee, 2007

Appendix 2 - Spiritual Advisor's Bursary Application Form Catholic Women's League of Canada **London Diocesan Council** Diocesan Spiritual Advisor's Bursary This bursary is available to League members only. It shall be used to finance education at any level: university, college, technical school, etc. The names of the Diocesan Spiritual Advisor Bursary recipients are not made public. Please send the following by mail, or email to the diocesan president of The Catholic Women's League of Canada by April 1: • Signed application form • Letter outlining financial need • Letter from the pastor of your parish confirming financial need Name: Telephone: _____ When did you join the C.W.L.? Name of parish council: Name of pastor: Proposed studies including name and location of institution: **Signature:** ______ **Date:** _____

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Appendix 3 - J. L. Hennessey Bursary Application Form The Catholic Women's League of Canada London Diocesan Council J. L. Hennessey Education Bursary The London Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League originally founded this bursary many years ago as the Diocesan Education Award. In 1972 the name of the bursary was changed to the J. L. Hennessey Education Bursary to honour a man who devoted his time tirelessly for God, Canada and his fellow man. Father J. L. Hennessey was a past London Diocesan Spiritual Advisor. This bursary is available to any League member or her immediate family. It shall be used to finance education at any level: university, community colleges, technical school, etc. The names of the J. L. Hennessey Education Bursary recipients are not made public. Please send the following by mail or email, to the diocesan president of The Catholic Women's League of Canada by April 1: • Signed application form • Letter outlining financial need • Letter from the pastor of your council confirming financial need Relationship to member: _____ Joined C.W.L. in _____ Name of parish council: Name of pastor: Proposed studies including name and location of institution: Signature: _____ Date: _____

Appendix 4 - Life Members and Past Presidents Social Justice Award - Nomination Form THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA Life Members and Past Presidents **Social Justice Award Nomination Form** Completed nomination forms are due any time before March 1st, 20xx Name of nominating person or council: Address: CWL member: Yes ___ No ___ Parish CWL council:_____ Please attach the following on a separate sheet: 1. Name, address, phone number of person being nominated. 2. Reason for nominating the individual. 3. Demonstrated involvement in social justice programs. Please provide references. 4. Recommendation of a pastor, campus minister, or equivalent with regard to the activity. 5. Description of the social justice activity that has been undertaken: e.g., dates, place, purpose and your involvement and cost. Recipients of the award will be invited to the diocesan convention to speak about their social justice activity. Mail, email completed form and supporting documents to Diocesan President: For further information contact the Diocesan President at: or email:

Check provincial and national websites for the latest directives from your counterpart - do not copy directly into your directive; use quotes and acknowledge source. Use your own words if possible, to convey the message. More than one directive can be submitted when content is important. **Appendix 6 - Standing Rules of Order for Conventions** • Standing Rules of Order will be reviewed in March of each year. • Standing Rules of Order are published in the Convention Program Book for each **Diocesan Convention** • At the Annual Diocesan Convention, the Past President reads the significant rules at the opening of the business meeting