

**Pembroke Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada
Spring Zoom Meeting, March 6, 2021, Oral Report
Carmel Rumleskie, Past President**

Lord, let the faith of our ancestors live on in us!

One part of our responsibility as Past Presidents is to review the Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) with the members. The latest edition is from 2013 and until the amendments are voted on in 2022 and finalized, it will be 2023 before we must follow them. Every council should have a few copies of the C&B and refer to it at every meeting. This small pocket-sized booklet governs us. It is very informative and by reading it through you will get an overall understanding and appreciation of the League. On page one, the crest, as designed and adopted in 1922, shall be the cross, symbolic of faith, surmounting ten maple leaves, symbolic of the provinces of Canada, with the words: "The Catholic Women's League of Canada For God And Canada", enclosed in an unbroken circle, symbolic of constant service to God and Canada. The colors of the crest shall be blue, chosen for Our Lady, and the papal colors, white and gold. The crest shall be authentically reproduced and used with dignity and respect. Members shall make written request to the national executive for authorization to reproduce the crest. The CWL flag, adopted in 1990, is the permanent public symbol of the League. The policy of the League shall be:

1. to have membership and operation based on the parish unit, with diocesan, provincial and national representational levels.
2. to operate on a system of standing committees and to make the fullest possible use of these committees in the involvement of all members.
3. to develop leadership qualities and provide training to enable members to take active roles in the affairs of their faith, community and society.
4. to maintain affiliation with the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations.
5. to cooperate at all levels with other organizations where and in whatever manner the council concerned agrees is necessary or desirable to accomplish the Objects of the League.
6. to maintain liaison with pastoral councils in accordance with the Code of Canon Law.
7. to remain politically non-partisan.

****Flipping through the book, you will see headings like Objects, Spiritual program, Membership, Duties of Officers, Standing Committees and National Council.**

****Please read these sections carefully as they will explain how the League is structured and how the League accomplishes its Objects.**

*****During this pandemic, please keep in touch with your members as best you can for we thrive on the support and friendship of sister members.***