



**Nova Scotia Provincial Council
Catholic Women's League of Canada
Legislation Communique #2
*Care for our Common Home***

To: Diocesan Counterparts (**For distribution to all parish councils**)
From: Mary ten Brinke, Nova Scotia Provincial Legislation Chairperson
Date: March 19th, 2019
Copied: Provincial President Glenda Carson and Executive (for information)
National Chairperson Betty Colaneri (for information)

Care For Our Common Home

New Theme:

As I sit here with the sun shining in my window preparing this communique, I am contemplating on our new theme National President Anne_Marie Gorman presented us at the national convention last August and began this past January "**Care For Our Common Home.**" It leaves me wondering what myself, one person can do to help care for our home? In her message in the winter edition of "The League Magazine" she gives a few ideas of things we can do. Little things such as turning off the tap, educate members on amounts of water being used for various things on a daily basis. Here is a link to our national website on more information on our new theme:

<https://cwl.ca/care-for-our-common-home/>

I have been preparing for Lent and these 40 days that we are journeying through right now by praying and contemplating on what or how will I change? What will I give up or push myself to start? I came across a very thought-provoking Lenten Calendar the other day. It is put out by the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa entitled "**Less Plastic For Lent.**" It gives great ideas for each day of Lent on how to care for our common home with ideas for the kitchen, shopping, plastic bottles, bathroom and clothing.

National Legislation:

Another article of particular interest to me in "The League Magazine" was written by our own National Chairperson Betty Colaneri. I encourage everyone to read it. It is entitled "Coming to Fruition" and in it she compares Legislation to a book. She breaks the book down into 6 chapters and the final chapter is Legislation. It is a very interesting and informative read. I found it helped to put Legislation into perspective and an easier way to understand. There are times when we may not like the story line or how it ends, but it is very important that we are aware of how the story impacts our lives. This is true with **Bill C-45**, the Cannabis Act. Canada became the second country in the world to fully legalize Marijuana for recreational use. As Betty says, "It is important to be informed, be aware of the signs and know where to go for help."

Did You Know?

Legislation is defined as “Social justice in action” in the C.W.L. Executive Handbook. It is the enacting of laws and taking a stand and carrying out League resolutions to influence government policy. There are several stages of a bill before it becomes a law:

- **Introduced** by a member in either the Senate or the House of Commons.
- **First Reading** - in either the Senate or House of Commons. Bill is printed.
- **Second Reading** - where members debate and vote.
- **Committee Stage** – clause by clause study of the bill.
- **Report Stage** – reports to the House any amendments proposed.
- **Third Reading** – debate and vote on the bill as amended.
 - once read 3 times in the House, it is sent to the Senate
- **Passage** by the Senate.
- **Royal Assent** – presented to the Governor General for assent.
 - when bill is given Royal Assent, it becomes Law.
- **Proclamation** – by the Governor General.

Bills in the House of Commons:

Bill S-228 – An Act to Amend the Food and Drug Act (Prohibiting Food and Beverage Marketing Directed at Children) is in consideration of the House of Commons amendments as of March 18th, 2019

Bill S-240 – An Act to Amend the Criminal Code and the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Trafficking in Human Organs). Amendments were made at the House of Commons during the Committee Stage March 1st, 2019

Bill C-243 – An Act Respecting the Development of a National Maternity Assistance Program Strategy has had the Committee Report presented without amendments in the Senate as of December 7th, 2018

Feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions or would like help with anything. We all learn by doing. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us as we work for “God and Canada.”

“It's not about how much you do but how much love you put into what you do that counts.”
Mother Teresa