



# The Catholic Women's League of Canada

VANCOUVER DIOCESAN COUNCIL

## Communiqué

*Diocesan Theme – Restore All Things in Christ*

**Chairperson:** Joanne Nuttall-Smith

**Date:** September 13, 2025

**Committee:** Social Justice

**No:** 3

### OUR CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE WAS BORN FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE!

The first council founded in Edmonton in 1912 was affiliated with The Catholic Women's League of England and its main purpose was to address the needs of immigrant women and children. The Catholic Women's League of Canada was then established in 1920 with a main concern for the needs of immigrants. In CWL National's online "Powerful Stories from the First 100 Years", one video says "... she's a mother and a fighter, a woman of faith and also a woman of action. She uses her voice to stand up for others and her prayers to bring change to the world ... she has many friends and sisters ... She is The Catholic Women's League of Canada ". And another: "... a single voice can create change and, joined by thousands more, it can change the world ". Amidst all we do for Social Justice, our hearts still overflow with needs for social change !

### WORLD UNION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS (WUCWO)

The North American WUCWO Conference was held on the Sunday of our National Convention and was dedicated to international social justice interventions taken by WUCWO. We were challenged to propose an intervention for North America along with supportive funding ideas.

At our National Convention, a motion carried for a CWL National "Letter to the Prime Minister of Canada regarding the Plight of Women and Children in Gaza".

Click here for: [Letter to PM](#)

### MAY 2025 PETITIONS

Thanks to all who worked on the Petitions re. Revocation of the Charitable Status of Pro-Life and Religious Organizations, and the Expansion of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) Criteria to Include Advanced Consent. Pastor/parishioner responses were generally very supportive. When connecting with my MP's office, they openly acknowledged the large number of signatures and informed me the MPs will be in their ridings from Oct. 11 to 19, the week of Thanksgiving Monday.

## LETTER RE. “FEMICIDE “

On August 5, 2025, Provincial Social Justice Chair Sherray Duran sent a memo to all Presidents FOR ALL MEMBERS regarding an initiative by Sister Nancy Brown. She is asking our support for changing the Criminal Code of Canada by adding the word “Femicide”. Thousands of voices have big impact Please read Sr. Nancy Brown’s letter attached to this Communique and connect AS SOON AS POSSIBLE by letter, phone call or email with:

The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 **(no postage needed)**

Email: sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca. Phone: 613-992-6022

## CWL NATIONAL RESOLUTIONS (2025)

It was quite exciting to watch the Resolutions process at the National Convention!  
Four Resolutions from other provinces are going to Ottawa this year. You can download them here  
<https://www.cwl.ca/resolutions/>

### 2025.01

Federal Government to Create a Unified and Centralized Cybercrime Reporting System for Individuals in Canada

### 2025.02

Amend the Canadian Criminal Code Section 223(1) defining when a child becomes a human being

### 2025.03

Strengthen Support for Chaplains to Provide Faith-Based Care to Members and Families of the Canadian Armed Forces

### 2025.04

Federal Government to Complete the Development of the Office of Palliative Care

I recently learned St. Thomas More was declared the patron saint of statesmen and politicians by Pope JohnPaul II in 2000. St. Thomas More demonstrated the importance of moral conscience in government and the value of his principles even when facing overwhelming opposition. Thank you, St. John Paul II. St. Thomas More, pray for our politicians, and for us!

## NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

September 30 is the special Day to pray for and to honour our Indigenous peoples.

## WORLD DAY FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES. — October 4

See you at 5pm Mass followed by Food/Music at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Surrey !

Respectfully Submitted

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