

October 30, 2021

Treasurer Communique 2021-2023/01

“Let each of us use every opportunity to spread fire – apostolic fire – for the one who is on fire enkindles fire everywhere: in writing letters, in relationships, in other opportunities”– Blessed Francis Jordan

Dear Sisters in the League and Father_David

I am excited and honoured to serve as your provincial treasurer. This is my third term on the provincial level, and my first as treasurer. I am a retired career banker who focused on service and financial planning. I am a second-generation member of the League and was truly humbled to receive my life membership this year.

I am grateful to serve with six experienced and committed diocesan treasurers:

- Kamloops - Anna Gilbert
- Nelson - Sandra Stajdujar
- Prince George - Pauline Gerwien
- Vancouver - Karanda Tong
- Victoria - Renee Johnson
- Whitehorse - Lidwien Hanrath

We begin our new term with a newly elected national secretary-treasurer, Marie Rackley. I want to acknowledge and offer my appreciation to those who have gone before us sharing their vision, experience and tenacity. At the provincial level we thank Suzanne Eng and on the national level Janet McLean.

What an exciting, challenging time to serve as treasurer! The pandemic has affected members' ability to meet in person for months and has cancelled in person conventions. The implementation of the Strategic Plan has resulted in numerous amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws (2013) and a motion for an increase in membership fees, which will be addressed later. Treasurers play a vital role in their council's success as they support other executive members, administer the day to day financial transactions and prepare annual budgets.

This would be a daunting task and extremely challenging if not for the detailed resources available, which are located on the national website – cwl.ca – To Inform - #600 series Manuals

- 606 Executive Handbook and
- 609 Guidelines for Treasurers and
- Council's policy and procedures manual.

I have benefitted from all three resources, as I familiarized myself with the expectations and responsibilities of my new role.

Annual Reports

It is that time of year when parish councils are focused on completing annual reports. While it is understood that some councils' activities were curtailed due to the pandemic, others creatively continued supporting the national voluntary funds and other charities of their choice. The annual

reports provide valuable information on the activities undertaken and the charities which have benefitted financially. Prior to the pandemic, Janet McLean shared that \$3,500,000 was raised on an annual basis (winter 2020 The Canadian League). What an amazing amount of support to the marginalized in local communities, Canada and the world. .

All parish council presidents should be in receipt of the fall parish mailing. The package contained a memo from Marion Wong, national office assistant, with detailed instructions on how to complete the reports online, paper copies and timelines.

Please note - Electronic Survey Links - Due to revisions to the forms, updates were required and a new link has been provided

<https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=163311569369>

Please provide this new link to your parish councils.

Per Capita Fee Increase National

In December of 2020 all parish council presidents received an extensive package of proposed changes to the existing Constitution and Bylaws (2013) as well as a motion to increase the national membership fee from \$13.00 to \$25.00 per year. Members were to vote in 2021 but due to the pandemic it has been delayed until March 28, 2022. Prior to recommending this increase, the national executive examined all avenues of limiting expenditures and determined the increase was the most viable solution which enables the League to remain operational into the foreseeable future. For a detailed rationale for this decision, I refer you to Janet McLean's numerous articles in The Canadian League magazine, beginning in the winter 2020 edition.

Additionally, Marie Rackley has asked for our immediate support in educating members on the rationale for the increase. Marie's communique #02 dated September 3rd, located on the national website cwl.ca - To Act on - Communiques, is full of information to be shared with parish council treasurers. If councils have voted and wish to change, they can contact national office and request new paperwork. Diocesan Presidents will be addressing this matter and have been provided a fact and solution sheet from Marie. If I can be of any assistance, please contact me.

God Bless

Sharon Ciebin, BC & Yukon Provincial Treasurer. Email treasurer@bcyukoncwl.com