



The Catholic Women's League of Canada BC & Yukon Provincial Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 31, 2025

From June 19-21, 2025, The Catholic Women's League of Canada, BC & Yukon Provincial Council gathered in Kelowna for the 78th Annual Convention. One hundred and fifty-four delegates participated in fruitful meetings, prayerful ceremonies, and fun activities.

The opening Eucharistic celebration was held at St. Pius X Church, with celebrants, Rev. John Garden, Rev. Michael Favero and Rev. Biju Antony. President Catherine L'Heureux officially opened the convention, the Knights of Columbus hosted a reception.

On Friday, the convention opened with reports presented by diocesan presidents and provincial officers, who conveyed the many works and activities of member across the province and the Yukon. Claire Young gave a talk entitled "Actively Aging to Stay Active in Our Mind and Body." Father John Garden presented "Pilgrims of Hope." Doors are commonplace throughout our life, until in the Jubilee Year when we are invited to make a pilgrimage to a Holy Door. The workshop presented by Jan Hillis was titled "Fueling Minds and Bodies, A Delicious Look at Food and Health."

The Convention reconvened Saturday morning with a presentation by Jessie Parkinson "How to Look Your Best and Not Blow the Budget." Betty Colaneri, National Council Vice President gave us "R3 to 1 Unity." She noted the best way to increase membership is personal, one on one – one, called by name, chosen by God. The principles of R3 to 1 Unity – recruit-reach out, retain–show gratitude, regain–welcoming.

The 2025-2027 officers of the BC & Yukon Provincial Council were elected and appointed. They are: Spiritual Advisor Rev. John Garden, President Christa Grillmair, Vice-President Laura Esposito, Past President Catherine L'Heureux, Secretary Laurel Phyll, Treasurer Lynne Langley, Chair of Faith Deb Cloutier, Chair of Service Victoria Oppertshauser, Chair of Social Justice Sherray Duran.

The closing Eucharistic celebration was held at St. Pius X Church with Bishop Gregory Bittman as celebrant. After the final blessing, the newly elected officers of the BC & Yukon Provincial Council were installed.

About The Catholic Women's League of Canada

The Catholic Women's League of Canada, founded in 1920, is one of the largest organizations of women in Canada, with more than 60,000 members representing every province, territory and the military. The League is organized and pledged to serve all citizens and has often received the commendation and keen appreciation of the federal, provincial, and municipal authorities for the voluntary services performed by its national membership. The BC & Yukon Provincial Council represents about 7,000 members in the dioceses of Kamloops, Nelson, Prince George, Vancouver, Victoria and Whitehorse.

For further information, contact secretary@bcyukoncwl.com