

Warm greetings from the Okanagan and Kelowna, where we just completed the BC & Yukon Provincial Midterm. The weather was absolutely beautiful and much work was accomplished through discussions and deliberations.

I hope you have found spiritual inspirations throughout your Lenten journey this year, and that you experience an especially joyous Easter..

In this communique, I will focus on three aspects which fall under this committee, namely bursaries, pornography and wellness/disease.

The **Molly Boucher Bursary** application deadline has been extended to April 30th, 2024. Please find the bursary form, guidelines and criteria on the BC & Yukon Provincial website www.bcyukoncw.com. If you are considering further education and meet the criteria and guidelines outlined, you may be the next recipient. Apply soon.

Variety of Postcards to Download and Send to your Member of Parliament

Are you concerned about recent Bills discussed in Parliament and In the Legislature? Are you concerned about decisions made which do not follow the teachings of the Catholic Church? Are you interested in letting your Member of Parliament (MP) and your Member of the Legislature (MLA) know how you feel about a variety of topics. A quick way to accomplish this is to download a variety of postcards, distribute them to your councils and have members write a question on them and sign their names. It takes little time and your elected officials will know how you feel. There are several different postcards which can be downloaded from the National website www.cwl.ca under Resources to help with this task. Pornography Hurts postcards are #178 with the printing instructions being #178A; Mandatory Age Verification postcards are under #179; Palliative Care postcards fall under #180 and the printing instructions for them are #180A. Postcards about Mental Health are listed under #177 with 177A being the front and 177B being the back of the postcard. Make sure to write a question to the elected official asking what they plan on doing to hopefully make these topics adhere more to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Pope's Monthly Intentions

March 2024 For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

April 2024 For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

Guest Speakers

Inviting speakers to your meetings is a wonderful way of educating and also entertaining your members. Remember the National theme of Here I Am Lord: Send Me and the sub-theme on Mental Health. The topics which could be covered are endless. Invite parishioners along with CWL members to also attend these presentations. There have been many new immigrants arriving in many communities in BC in the last while. Is there anyone in your council who could speak on their experience as a new immigrant and how that has affected them (eg coming to a new land, leaving their families, adjusting to a new culture?)

Quote from Pope Francis:

“Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God. Let us pray for peace; peace in the world and in each of our hearts.”

I wish you a fruitful Lenten journey and a blessed Easter filled with peace, love, and the joy of the risen Lord.

Ciao for now and God bless.