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# CONVENTION NEWSLETTER

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## Manitoba Hosts 98th National Convention August 12 - 15, 2018

### 2017 National Convention Memories

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It was my first National Convention and it was great! We are very fortunate to have many smart, articulate and poised women in leadership roles.

*Lucille Chay*

I can't mention leadership without noting that our Bishops gave us such support both by their constant presence and by their full participation. We are blessed!

*Dianne Fox*

The rainy weather didn't dampen our spirits. On our sight-seeing tour of Charlottetown we were given squeegees to clear the fog off the windows so we could see outside. The hospitality was great!

*Rose Anne Seymour*



Dear League members and Spiritual Advisors,

As summer turns to fall and the leaves begin to change, our thoughts and activities are brought back to the League. A big thank you to all for your support of the 2017 raffle. You will find a list of the raffle winners and sellers'

prizes included in this newsletter. It is wonderful to see that there are winners from across the province and each diocese again this year.

The Convention Planning Committee was busy through the summer as we prepared and presented an invitation, on your behalf, to the delegates in Charlottetown at the 2017 National Convention. Archbishop LeGatt and Archbishop Gagnon, representing Fathers Provencher and Dumoulin as they rowed west 200 years ago, led our Manitoba delegates dressed as voyageurs, religious and settlers. Was that seminarian Edge that joined them or was it Fr Charles Fillion, St Boniface Diocesan Spiritual Advisor?

We sang and waved flags and pictures as we invited all to come experience friendly Manitoba at National Convention next August as we celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Church in Western Canada. We brought home some memories of the convention in the form of pictures. Eva Arsenault, our Publicity and Public Relations Planning Committee Chairperson, has put together a slideshow of the compilation of pictures on Smilebox. A link to the slideshow is found in this newsletter.

**2017 National Convention  
Memories con't...**

I enjoyed visiting Lucy Maude Montgomery's house, and Green Gables, marvelling at the ocean and the red cliffs, loving the friendliness and small size of Prince Edward Island, feeling safe and looked after and, of course, the lobster dinners!!  
*Suzanne Moore*

I had the pleasure of meeting our National President. She is such a down to earth person, I felt like I have known her forever. I love PEI and all the people were wonderful!  
*Colleen Zaluski*

I'll remember the tremendous feeling of family with all the girls and the wonderful prayer service for my health.  
*Crystal Reiter*

The Convention was very well organized. I was impressed with the Masses, the prayer services and especially the quilt blessing for our palliative care initiative. I found this very moving.  
*Janice Butler*

The next year will be a busy one for the Convention Planning Committee as we count down these final months to the 2018 National Convention which we will be hosting in Manitoba. We are truly blessed with the support of our three Archbishops and League members from across Manitoba. We continue to ask for your prayers and support as we move forward preparing our gift of love for our League sisters from across Canada.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide us as we are Inspired by the Spirit and Respond to God's Call.

Susan Bernier,  
2018 Planning Committee Chair  
[cwl2018mb@gmail.com](mailto:cwl2018mb@gmail.com)



Colleen Zaluski, Winnipeg  
Diocesan Spiritual  
Development and National  
President Margaret Ann Jacobs



Crystal Reiter, Provincial  
Christian Family Life and her  
husband Daren

The following link will take you to the *Manitoba Invitation to Convention 2018* in Dropbox. Create your own password, and enjoy the video of Manitoba delegates participating in a presentation, inviting the convention assembly to join us in Winnipeg in 2018.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1zfondngw62x24s/AAAV9FNLR-u1xdKJj2Lrz0via?dl=0>

## Congratulations...

to our prize winners and sellers with a big thank you to all

who sold the 2017 raffle tickets!

### *Raffle Winners*

\$1000 Connie Haas, Lorette MB  
\$750 Simone Bouchard, Dauphin MB  
\$500 Gordon Buck, The Pas MB  
\$250 Laurette Bonner, Virden MB

### *Sellers' Prize Winners*

\$100 Connie Haas, Lorette MB  
\$75 Lucille Lemieux, Dauphin MB  
\$50 E. Catalano, The Pas MB  
\$25 Laurette Bonner, Virden MB

Pictured at right is Fundraising Committee Chair, Suzanne Kiazzyk, prize winners Connie Haas and Laurette Bonner and Susan Bernier, 2018 National Planning Committee Convention Chair.



To view the PEI Convention Smilebox click on the link below.

[http://www.smilebox.com/play/4e4455334d6a51784e44593d0d0a&blogview=true&campaign=blog\\_playback\\_link&partner=smilebox](http://www.smilebox.com/play/4e4455334d6a51784e44593d0d0a&blogview=true&campaign=blog_playback_link&partner=smilebox)

### **2017 National Convention Memories con't...**

Convention days were full including several speaker presentations - one called us to be grateful for five things each day; one called us to offer worthwhile spiritual, personal and family opportunities to embrace younger women and one spoke on the Coady Institute thanking the CWL for their long-standing support. Bishop McGratton challenged us to not lose sight of our identity "We are a National Organization and the voice of Catholic women in our community and country." It was great to gather as CWL members from Manitoba to extend an invitation to attend the 98th National Convention in Winnipeg next year. *Faith Anderson*

## Introducing members of our Planning Committee

Janice Butler is the Treasurer and Budget Chairperson for the 98th Annual Convention Planning Committee.



Janice has been a member of the St. James Assiniboia Council for the past 12 years and has served as the Communications Chairperson, Vice President, Treasurer and was a facilitator for the Catch the Fire program. Janice says, "I am very excited to be on the Planning Committee for the 98th Annual National Convention. As treasurer, I take care of all the financial transactions and prepare budgets and records. We really do have a first class organization in The Catholic Women's League of Canada. We have an excellent committee and we will host an excellent convention in 2018. Do not miss the opportunity to attend".



Paulette Chase is the Chairperson of the Special Events Committee for the 98th Annual Convention Planning Committee. Paulette is a member of St. Mary's Parish in Beausejour. Co-Chairpersons are Faith

Anderson, Con Marks, and Lorraine Smith. The Special Events Committee has based their itinerary on celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Church in Western Canada.

An unforgettable visitor's experience Saturday evening will be the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR). This national museum rises from the Prairie earth in Winnipeg at the Forks, where the Red and Assiniboine rivers meet on Treaty One land - a historic meeting place for thousands of years.

On Sunday morning we will be offering two tours. The city tour will showcase many interesting sites, both old and new. The Hermetic Code tour at the Manitoba Legislative building has been listed as a "Best Experience" in Winnipeg.

An evening of storytelling and music takes place on Monday. Be ready for a toe tapping good time.

Last but not least, is a trip to Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site of Canada on Thursday. This site is a former fur trade post, once the most extensive in Western Canada. Entering the massive gates, you will be welcomed by colourful characters from the past and they will sweep you into their world. This is the site where the first of the numbered treaties was made between the Crown and the area's First Nations, creating a gateway to settlement in the west.

Paulette says, "My team and I will be honoured to welcome all members across Canada to our beautiful Province".



Faith Anderson is the Protocol Committee Chairperson for the 98th Annual National Convention. Lynda Pisa is her Co-Chairperson. Faith is a parishioner at Mary, Mother of the Church in St.

Boniface Diocese and has been a member of Mary, Mother of the Church Parish Council for the past 36 years.

The Protocol Committee ensures the necessary participants are in the right order for the various Masses and functions and flags are available and situated in the appropriate places. The Protocol Committee assists the Liturgy Committee with any protocol issues as needed.

Faith received her Life Membership in 2010 from the St. Boniface Diocesan Council. She is currently serving as the Past President of Manitoba Provincial Council.

For the 1999 National Convention, Faith was Treasurer and Fundraising Chairperson. Both positions offered an opportunity to learn the work that is done behind the scenes to host a National Convention. In 2008, Faith was actively involved in the Fundraising Committee and worked with Claire McKay and Irene Bialek to develop the Prayer Room for convention.

Faith says each National Convention has its own flavour. It is special when the National Convention is held in Manitoba as it offers all members an opportunity to participate. It is also an opportunity to see the League at work in another dimension - at the National Level. "I have attended many National Conventions and this was the first where we had two Manitoba Archbishops attend. We were truly blessed by their attendance and grateful for their attention to the reports and business."

To help on this committee contact Faith at [faith.anderson47@gmail.com](mailto:faith.anderson47@gmail.com)



The flags being processed at Opening Mass



Delegates in convention at the 2017 National Convention

## The Centenary Committee Lap Quilt Project



Provincial Presidents carrying in the quilts from across Canada

As members prepare to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, this year the Centenary Committee invited League members to participate in the Lap Quilt Project. By the giving of members' time and talent, beautiful quilts were made by members and councils across Canada to be donated to local hospices, hospitals, and long term care facilities.

During the 2017 Annual National Convention in Prince Edward Island, it was incredibly moving to see each Provincial President carry, in procession, during the prayer service, a quilt representing her provincial council.

Following the National Convention, the Manitoba quilt, made with love by members of St Augustine, Brandon, was gifted to Msgr Louis McCloskey who has served the League in Manitoba as both

Provincial and Diocesan Spiritual Advisor and has retired to PEI.



(l-r) Bill Patterson (husband of Helen, Hospitality Chair and photographer of the presentation), Ann McMurdie, Hospitality Co-Chair, Archbishop Gagnon, Msgr Louis McCloskey, Al McMurdie (husband of Ann, Hospitality Co-Chair).



Rolande Chernichan, Manitoba Provincial President, carrying in the Manitoba quilt.

## *We need Volunteers...*

The Transportation Committee will be looking for volunteers to greet delegates at the airport, to assist in loading the buses for the various special events such as the excursion to Lower Fort Garry, the Winnipeg city tour, the Canadian Museum of Human Rights, the Hermetic Tour of the Legislature building and opening Mass at St. Boniface Cathedral. If anyone is interested in volunteering contact Rose Anne Seymour at [rseymour2@shaw.ca](mailto:rseymour2@shaw.ca)



The Support Committee, lead by Chairman Lucille Chay, needs your help. This committee lends support to all other committees throughout the convention, relaying messages, serving as ticket-takers for lunches and meals, filling in as extra help or for other committee members who may need to leave their positions temporarily. To volunteer contact Lucille [lrchay7@gmail.com](mailto:lrchay7@gmail.com)



## *Photos from the National Convention*



Golden Girl  
Jolene Capina



Voyageur  
Connie Haas



Our members dressed in period costumes



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1. Archbishop LeGatt as Father Provencher
2. Archbishops lead MB delegates in canoe made by Al McMurdie
3. Archbishop Gagnon as Father Dumoulin
4. Lucille Rossington, Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan President, Con Marks, Provincial Resolutions, Susan Bernier, Planning Committee Chair and Mary Margaret Patterson, Provincial Spiritual Development
5. Suzanne Moore Planning Committee Co-Chair and Janet Brunger, Provincial President Elect

6. Rolande Chernichan, Manitoba Provincial President
7. Faith Anderson, Protocol Chair, Rolande Chernichan, Provincial President, Archbishop Gagnon, and Jolene Capina, Liturgy Co-Chair
8. Jacqueline Nogier, National Spiritual Development Chairperson
9. Winnipeg Diocesan Council - Rose Anne Seymour, President, Colleen Zaluski, Spiritual Development, Con Marks, Past President, and Pat Ward, President Elect