

Notice of Motion to Increase Per Capita Fees

In accordance with Part XVII, Section 1(b) of the *Constitution & Bylaws (2013)*, notice is hereby given that the following motion proposing an increase in per capita fees for the national level will be presented at the 101st annual general meeting of The Catholic Women's League of Canada in 2021.

Motion:

That the national per capita fee be increased from \$13.00 to \$25.00 effective with the 2022 membership year

Rationale:

The primary source of funding for the national council of the League is per capita fees paid by members at the parish level. These fees cover costs incurred at the national level including expenses of the national executive, the cost of holding an annual convention (net of convention registration fees), funding League development through financial support to councils, the implementation of the League's five year strategic plan, production of a high-quality League magazine and maintaining and staffing a permanent office.

The last increase in the national per capita fee took place in fiscal 2012. According to Statistics Canada, prices are 12.5% higher today than in 2012. From 2012 to 2019 national per capita revenue dropped over 12% and an additional seven percent drop is forecast for 2020. This is a total drop in per capita income of over \$200,000.

In years when the League's operating expenses exceed its operating income, League investment income is used to offset the losses. In the last several years, the League's investment income has dropped due to low interest rates and fluctuations in the stock market. In addition, in 2015 members in national convention voted to donate \$500,000 to the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation which reduced investments. Combined with operating losses in several years, this resulted in a reduction of \$824,692 in the League's investment portfolio from 2014 to 2019. The League's financial policy requires League investments be maintained at 50% of its operating expenses.

League policy requires a five-year operational forecast be used to project its financial viability. Projections for the five-year period 2021 to 2025 show that the League will not be able to meet its policy of having investments of 50% of its operating expenses by 2023 and would be on the brink of insolvency by 2026 without a per capita fee increase. This five-year forecast assumes membership begins to increase in 2022 as projected in the strategic plan and numerous measures are taken to reduce expenses while still maintaining the standards expected by League members.

Given the above, an increase of \$12.00 in the national per capita fee effective January 1, 2022 is proposed. This would result in a national per capita fee of \$25.00 which should be sufficient for League sustainability for the subsequent 10 years.