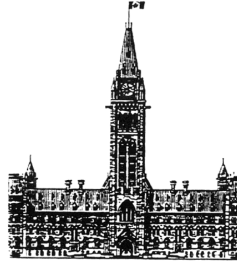


**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council**

LEGISLATION

Feb14, 2016

Communiqué #2



One Heart, One Voice, One Mission

TO: Diocesan Chairpersons of Legislation
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)
CC: National Chairperson of Legislation (for information)
CC: Provincial Webmaster

FROM: Betsy F., ABMK Provincial Chairperson of Legislation

Have you read Janet M's article in the Winter edition of the League magazine? Janet has broken this standing committee down to basics for us, and made it less scary.

The internet is a valuable tool. To access information from the Alberta Legislature go to: www.gov.ab.ca; for the Northwest Territories: www.gov.nt.ca; and for the Federal Government: www.canada.ca. These sites are a wealth of information. The print media is also a great source, but be aware, the news articles may have a particular slant to them. You should also be receiving mailings from your MP and MLA. Don't be afraid to contact them about issues important to your council.

Follow up letters have been sent to Premier Notley and the Honourable Sarah Hoffman, Minister of Health, requesting again to meet with them. They were previously unavailable. Since the first letters were sent in December, there has been a cabinet change. Minister Hoffman is still the Minister of Health, but no longer the minister for Seniors; the new Seniors and Housing Minister is the Honourable Lori Sigurdson. A letter has also been sent to her requesting a meeting. The items we wish to discuss with the premier and ministers are our Independent Seniors' Advocate Initiative, Resolution 2014.04 Income Qualifications for Alberta Dental and Optical Benefits for Single Seniors, and Resolution 2015.01 Establish National Standards & Provincial Protocols for Child Welfare Interventions, as well as palliative care.

With regard to Carter vs Canada, the Federal government has received a four month extension to draft legislation dealing with Physician Assisted Dying. Letters have been drafted to send to Prime Minister Trudeau, Minister of Health Jane Philpott, Minister of Justice and Attorney General Jody Raybold-Wilson and your MP, asking the government to invoke Section 33 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. These letters should have been forwarded to your councils by your Diocesan President. Please read them carefully and consider either sending these letters or drafting your own. We are on a limited time frame with this important issue and must let the government know how we feel. Please send them in as soon as possible. A special committee meeting on Physician Assisted Dying will be held in Ottawa on February 17th, 2016.

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