



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
ALBERTA MACKENZIE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

ONE HEART
VOICE
MISSION

**Legislation Report
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council Fall Meeting
September 11-13, 2015**

Madam President:

The first thing to happen with this committee was to email the five Diocesan Presidents to request contact information for their Diocesan Legislation Standing Committee Chairs. Also, emails have been forwarded to the Diocesan Presidents to share with their councils regarding National President Barb D's letter to the Federal Government regarding the abortion pill RU-486 and the CWL's concerns about it. As well, a television clip speaking about Physician Assisted Death was sent out.

At the 95th Annual National Convention in Vancouver, I had the opportunity to meet Janet M., the National Legislation Standing Committee Chair. She was very helpful with advice on how to fulfill my term as Provincial Chair. I will use some of her information in my first communiqué. One very timely piece of advice was to ask the candidates seeking election to federal office where they stand on issues such as physician assisted death, the environment, palliative care, and foreign aid.

Resolution 2015.04: Invoke Section 33 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in the Case of Carter v. Canada, was passed at the convention. This resolution is of particular interest to this standing committee as the issue of physician assisted death was before Parliament before the election was called. The Action Plan for this resolution includes letter writing campaigns, educating members about end-of-life issues and ethical responses, as well as monitoring the government's response to the request made in the resolution.

Currently, the Alberta Provincial Legislature is not in session. There have been some committee meetings and the NDP Government has recently appointed a committee to review gas and oil royalties.

Federally, we will go to the polls on October 19, 2015. We all have a responsibility to really listen to our candidates and then vote according to our values. It is vitally important that we all exercise our right to vote.

This concludes my report,

Betsy F.
Legislation Standing Committee Chair