



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Council
Resolutions and Legislation
Communiqué #2

In a recent Communiqué from Janet McLean, National Chairperson of Legislation, she reminds us that two of the five resolutions adopted at the national convention in August, fall under the Legislation Committee.

Resolution 2015.04: *Invoke Section 33 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in the case of Carter v. Canada.*

Be-It-Resolved, That national council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, in 95th annual national convention assembled, urge the federal government to invoke Section 33 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, keeping the present law against physician-assisted suicide in force, notwithstanding the ruling of the Supreme Court of Canada in the case of *Carter v. Canada*.

Action Plan

1. Write to the prime minister, minister of justice and attorney general of Canada and minister of health with copies to your local members of parliament urging the federal government to invoke the notwithstanding clause, in response to the Supreme Court of Canada ruling on physician-assisted suicide, to give parliament more time to study its far reaching effects.
2. Educate members on end-of life issues and ethical responses.
3. Monitor governments' response to the request contained in this resolution.

Because of the Supreme Court of Canada decision in this case which declared certain sections of the *Criminal Code of Canada* to have no force and effect as they pertain to assisted dying, the government has established a Consultation Committee on Legislative Options on Assisted Dying for the purpose of engaging Canadians on this issue. This is done by direct consultation as well as on line. As members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada we are all encouraged to take part in this consultation. In checking the website I found this ***Important Notice: Direct consultation has been suspended with stakeholders during the election period. Direct consultations will resume, as soon as practical, following the election on October 19th, 2015. During the election period, however, the Panel's online consultation tools will remain open at website www.ep-ce.ca/en.*** Please take part in this consultation process.

Resolution 2015.05: *Reinstatement of the Mandatory Long-Form Census.*

Be-It-Resolved, That national council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, in 95th annual national convention assembled, urge the federal government to amend the *Statistics Act* to reinstate the mandatory long-form census. (This will be auctioned at the national level).

Resolution 2014.05 *Old Age Security Assistance for Individuals 60-64 years of Age Regardless of Marital Status.* This resolution which was adopted in 2014 and still needs our attention as it affects so many people in all walks of life in all provinces. We are encouraged to write letters to the prime minister, leaders of all parties along with federal ministers and other members of parliament. Follow the action plan! Remember to speak to the candidates on these issues as well as any other issues you feel need answers before you mark you(X). Please remember we have a responsibility to vote. Encourage others to do so as well.

One Heart, One Voice, One Mission!

Your Sister in the League
Peggy Roche
CWL Provincial Resolutions/Legislation Chairperson
September 28, 2015