



**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA**  
**Ottawa Diocesan Council**  
**Education and Health Standing Committee**



*Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*

**COMMUNIQUE #2**

**SEPTEMBER 2017**

**TO:** Parish Education and Health Standing Committee Chairpersons  
**From:** Sandra Blais, Diocesan Education and Health Chairperson

*"Your deeds may be the only sermon some people hear today".*

*St. Francis of Assisi*

**EDUCATION:**

In Communiques of March and April 2017 from Fran Lucas, National Chairperson, and three sub-committee chairpersons, and the oral report from the Annual Provincial Convention by Colleen Randall, they emphasized the importance of all members becoming more educated on health related issues, religious education, and the environment. I encourage all of our Education and Health Standing Committee Council Chairs to increase their awareness and involvement in these related topics, by entering into a discussion, and how to direct their plan of action. I will be more than happy to provide suggestions to any chairperson needing help.

**HEALTH:**

We all have gifts to share. Maybe we could all start by being more vocal on the support to the medical profession, being morally and ethically allowed to practice their professions in an acceptable faith filled manner.

*TRACING 150 YEARS OF "PARAMEDICINE IN OTTAWA 1845-2001"*

I would like to introduce you to this interesting book.

This 182 page hard-covered book, researched, and written by Paramedic, Lynea Finn begins with the city's first ambulance ride. A sick man was brought to the (newly opened) General Hospital on May 10<sup>th</sup> 1845 by the hospital's founder, Elizabeth Bruyere, and her nuns from the Sisters of Charity. Fifty years later the first public ambulance service in Ottawa was operated by the Humane Society! Progress ensued, and over the years the ambulance service has certainly changed and has been transformed from, a driver with a vehicle, to advanced trained paramedics, and sophisticated modern vehicles with medications and lifesaving equipment. Amazing progress from those first dedicated nuns.

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**ENVIRONMENT:**

We need to be more conscious of our environment, starting with our homes, schools, parishes and communities. The Catholic Women's League is a partner in the Recycle and Reuse Program in the Ottawa Diocese. Great strides are being achieved by all our contacts to encourage a broader awareness, by networking to all we meet.