

2014 National Convention - Fredericton, New Brunswick

The 94th Annual National Convention Newsfeed is on the National website.
I encourage you to take time to read it.

I had the privilege to be a delegate and will share only some of the highlights from my experience.

Day 1 Aug 9

We attended a down home Lobster Dinner (biggest lobster I have ever seen) with local talent of fiddle music, a choir, vocalist/guitar player and Acadian music. The locals hosted this in the nearby church hall. Great food, fun and friendship were enjoyed by all.

Day 2 Aug 10

The Resolution Dialogue in the afternoon consisted of 5 resolutions to be considered for the convention. National Resolution Standing Committee Chair Shari Guinta facilitated this exciting event with a short workshop and table discussion. The resolution team worked long and hard to be as prepared for this important step in having our voice heard.

My notes: writing personal letters to Members of Parliament
 Phone call to MP's office to voice concerns or make an appoint to see him/her.
 Ask a question to get a response.

The official opening and Eucharist Celebration took place at St. Dunstan's church. I found it to be very impressive; to see the provincial flags from across Canada with our Canada flag and CWL flag being processed in. We really do reach coast to coast to coast.

Day 3 Aug 11

National President-Elect Barbara Dowding led a touching memorial service for deceased members and spiritual advisors. Red roses (symbols of life in Christ) were presented by the provincial presidents in honour of the deceased members in their province, and National President Betty Anne Brown Davidson placed a white rose in honour of departed spiritual advisors.

This day was very rich with keynote addresses:

Bishop Robert Morneau, Bishop of Green Bay, Newfoundland

"To Live with the Spirit"

Discipleship: following the Lord Jesus

Call to maturity

Call to holiness

Call to community

Call to service

Call to generosity, to share giftedness on the journey

Stewardship: a disciple's response, caretaker of every gift.

To receive God's gifts gratefully

To nurture God's gifts responsibly

To share God's gifts justly and sacrificially

To return to God gifts we have been given.

Be grounded in the gift of the Holy Spirit:

Recommendations: educate yourselves about Aboriginals
Ask MP's and MLA's what they are doing for all Aboriginal people and asks them to include Aboriginal history into the education systems

The Liturgies were inspiring.

Other reports on Velma's Dream and Marty's Dream, Spiritual advisors luncheon etc. all added to a very busy convention.

So much happens at a convention. I hope that if you get the chance that you will go for it and experience CWL fun faith and friendship like never before.

National Convention 2015 in Vancouver

2016 Halifax

2017 PEI

2018 Winnipeg

2019 Montreal

Reports from Provincial President and National Standing Committee Chairs will be in the fall issue of The League Magazine. Take time to read them they are creative, informative and enriching.

There were 585 registered for this convention. Seven of us were from the Ottawa Diocesan CWL. I personally enjoyed spending time with and getting to know these interesting women from Ottawa. The Gala Banquet had assigned seating in alphabetical order by province. At first it seemed awkward but it did not take long for the room to be alive with chatter and laughter.

We are so blessed to have three Ontario CWL members on the National Council

Betty Anne Brown Davidson Past President

Margaret Anne Jacobs, Pres-elect and Organization Chairperson

Shari Guinta, Secretary/treasurer

On the table at the Gala Dinner there was a book mark for each of us; a crochet purple violet (NB's flower) on it a quote by Maya Angelou

"People will forget what you say,

People will forget what you did.

But people will never forget how you made them feel."

New Brunswick's host council did an amazing job.

I felt welcomed, proud, part of something great, blessed, grateful and after the convention, on the long but interesting trip home; overwhelmed with joy but very tired.

Respectfully submitted

Joanna Sisk

Ottawa Diocesan Council