

2021 ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

Planning for next year's provincial convention began last spring with the booking of the Ottawa Conference and Event Centre for July 11-14. Since that time, the convention planning committee has been formed, chaired by Frances Chicot, and things were progressing well. That is, of course, until the pandemic!

The Ontario Provincial Convention will be held at the Ottawa Events & Conference Centre, 200 Coventry Road. Accommodations will be available at the Courtyard Marriott and the Hampton Inn. At this moment in time, we have a link to the virtual tours of the conference centre given by:

<http://www.gotyoulooking.com/1ottawaconferencecentre/mht.html>

Once you click on the main link, you can view more by clicking (at the top of your screen) Atrium, Conference Areas, Amphitheatres and Meeting Rooms. The hotels are not able to give us a link yet as we are still over one year away from the actual event. More details will follow and made available on our diocesan website.

Protocols from the conference centre and hotels will be in place to protect both staff and clients from COVID-19. We've been informed that there is plenty of time in which to put their protocols in place. Once the hotels are able to set up their links, they will be able to share with us what protocols they currently have in place.

As time doesn't stand still, we've begun meeting virtually to ensure things don't go off course. This has been a challenge because everything is closed including the conference centre, hotels, suppliers, stores, entertainment and travel bookings and so on. Even our opportunity to advertise at the 2020 Ontario Provincial Convention has disappeared but hope springs eternal and we are challenging ourselves to find new ways to adapt to our new changing reality so we will be ready for 2021.

We have been able to get some of our fundraising supplies as stores begin to open up. Our fundraiser items are based on the provincial theme of loneliness and our provincial president's love of the Rosary. Of course, we will also be having a raffle for a beautiful quilt which was designed and handmade by one of our committee chairs. These items are now available and posted on our website:

<http://ottawa.cwl.on.ca/OntarioProvincialConvention2021.html>

As more information comes available, we will update the webpage.