

President Annual Survey - 2021

ID. Council Code (e.g. AC-056)
name

Mia Paterson-Ward

Introduction

Thank you for participating in the annual report survey. As parish council president, your report adds value to our diocesan, provincial and national perspective. The survey is very comprehensive and broken into each sub-heading. Please do not feel daunted by the length of the survey. There are many options, but we understand that councils will focus on just a few of the priorities listed. It is perfectly okay to leave questions unanswered if your council has not pursued a certain topic.

It is understood with the COVID-19 pandemic and limited council activity there may be a reduction in responses to the questions in this survey.

Several questions which relate to each sub-heading make it clear and easy to complete. Please note that not all questions apply to your parish goals for the year. Answering a "yes" or "no" simply gives evidence to you and other levels of what you are doing. It may also be an impetus to try something new.

For 2021, the open questions are limited to a response of no more than 300 characters. Please be succinct in your responses to these questions.

Thank you for completing this form. It will help us to know better what your council is doing and what interests your members. All survey responses help the board in decision making and the summary becomes a great marketing tool for the League.

Fran Lucas, National President

About You

Q1 Parish Council Name:

St. Joseph Parish Council

Q2 Parish Council Registered Town:

Bowmanville, Ontario

Q3 Parish Council ID number:

PO - #019

Q4 Is your council in an amalgamated parish?

yes

no

Q5 If so, in what year and how many former parishes combined?

N/A

Q6 Reporting to:

Peterborough Diocesan President - Helena Lessard

Q7 What is your name?

Mia Paterson-Ward

Q8 Is this position filled or vacant?

Filled

Vacant

Leadership Profile

As the implementation committee begins its research into leadership in the League, your input into the profile of leadership is important. We invite you to answer the following three questions. (Note: Responses are voluntary.)

Q9 How long have you been a member?

Less than 5 years

6-10 years

11-15 years

16-20 years

21-25 years

more than 25 years

Q10 Have you held this position previously?

yes

no

Q11 What is your age?

under 18

18-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55-64

65-74

75-84

85+

Inform the Membership

The president shall inform the membership of the position of the League on current issues and priorities and programs.

Q12 Where do you get information from which to inform your members?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> local newspapers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> diocesan newsletters |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> national website | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> parish bulletins |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> national communiques | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Canadian League</i> magazine |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Google searches |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catholic Organization for Life and Family | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> provincial websites or newsletters | |

Other, please specify other information used:

Adhoc emails from our Diocesan President, and email from various executive members from National and Provincial teams.

Q13 What current national priorities have been introduced to and discussed or acted upon by your council this year?

- Care for Our Common Home*
- rights of the pre-born under the UN *Convention on the Rights of the Child*
- Canada's support for the *Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons*
- Bill C-7 *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying)*
- none of the above

Q14 What methods did you use to introduce these topics?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> arranged for a speaker on the topic | <input type="checkbox"/> wrote about the topic in a newsletter/bulletin/e-mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> engaged the standing committee chairperson | <input type="checkbox"/> none of the above |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> discussed the topic at a meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable |

Foster Open Communication

The president shall foster open communication with the spiritual advisor on all League matters.

Q15 How frequently do you meet with your spiritual advisor?

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> weekly | <input type="radio"/> rarely |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> monthly | <input type="radio"/> never |
| <input type="radio"/> annually | |

Q16 Would you say your spiritual advisor is supportive of the CWL?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> yes | <input type="radio"/> no |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|

Q17 In what ways have you engaged your spiritual advisor in the CWL?

Getting his feedback and input on what needs to be done in our Parish.
Getting his help with our CWL endeavours for fund raising and the store and welcome counters
Getting his help with the HYBRID meetings setup and with unlimited time for online meetings.
Fr. Craig is our spiritual advisor and he has been amazingly helpful to our team when it came to technology.

Preside at Meetings

The president shall preside at all meetings and conventions of the council concerned.

Q18 What resources do you use to preside at meetings?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Constitution & Bylaws | <input type="checkbox"/> Parliamentary Procedure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> council policy and procedure manual | <input type="checkbox"/> Robert's Rules of Order |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Handbook | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Manual of Policy and Procedure | |

Other, please specify what other resources are used at meetings:

The historical experience of past executives when it comes to what works best for our CWL

Signing Authority

The president shall be a signing officer for all official documents.

Q19 What types of documents have you signed on behalf of your council?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> banking documents | <input type="checkbox"/> letters directed outside of the CWL |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cheques | <input type="checkbox"/> petitions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> letters directed within the CWL | <input type="checkbox"/> none of the above |

Provide Active Leadership

Q20 At which events did you represent your council?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> anniversaries | <input type="checkbox"/> sacramental events |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> church functions | <input type="checkbox"/> regional meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> community events | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> diocesan meetings and conventions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> community fundraisers | <input type="checkbox"/> provincial meetings and conventions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> conferences | <input type="checkbox"/> national convention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fundraising events and dinners | <input type="checkbox"/> Remembrance Day services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> meetings with politicians | <input type="checkbox"/> World Day of Prayer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pro-life events | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> special masses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> workshops | <input type="checkbox"/> I haven't attended any events. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> retreats | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> school ceremonies | |

Other, please specify the other events:

Due to COVID in the past two (2) years, some of these events were not possible to attend. I am recovering from chemo, and my immune system is low, so I have decreased attendance, however my fellow executive team mates have attending functions on my behalf.

* Note because of COVID, many of these celebrations were cancelled, and some were done on-line.

Q21 Did your council subsidize your cost to attend these events and, if so, by how much?

	100% paid	50% paid	25% paid	0% paid
Due to covid, we attended online zoom conferences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
fundraising dinners and events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
workshops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
diocesan convention	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
provincial convention	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
national convention	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Keep Informed

The president shall keep fully informed on the operation of the League and report annually to the membership.

Q22 Have you read the *Executive Handbook* and understand the duties of your executive team?

- yes no

Q23 If yes, has the *Executive Handbook* assisted you in the responsibility of overseeing the operations of your council?

- yes no

Q24 If the *Executive Handbook* has not helped, what were you looking for but could not find?

Q25 Do you provide an annual summary of the council's activities to all members?

yes

no

Q26 By what method? Choose all that apply.

e-mail, [canada post via print outs and website](#)

newsletter

oral report

parish bulletin

written report

none of the above

Advisory Capacity

The president shall be an advisory member of all committees except the nominations and elections committee.

Q27 What committees, other than standing committees, does your council have?

annual events such as teas, bazaars, etc.

policy

scholarship or bursary

social events

catering

donations

visitation

fundraising

funeral lunches

none

other

Other, please specify in two to three words what other committees your council has.

[Set back the past 2 years due to COVID. We were not allowed visitation to sheltered, senior members. We were not allowed to hold teas and bazaars as per government regulation](#)
[Fundraising limited to on-line events](#)
[Social events - were also on-line and donations were accepted from members only this year.](#)

Official Spokesperson

The president shall be the official spokesperson for her council.

Q28 On what issues have you spoken on behalf of your council this year?

[We've spoken on the instructed vote and when attending meetings. In this case on-line meeting for the Diocesan](#)

Q29 Does your council use League letterhead when corresponding?

yes

no

Q30 Do you reference only the membership total for your council when doing so?

yes

not applicable.

no

Communications Satisfaction Survey

Q31 How satisfied are you with the communication you receive from:

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Occasionally	Never
National council	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provincial council	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diocesan council (if applicable)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional council (if applicable)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q32 How relevant is the communication your parish council receives from:

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Occasionally	Never
National council	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provincial council	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diocesan council (if applicable)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional council (if applicable)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q33 Do you find the communications clear and concise from:

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Occasionally	Never
National council	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provincial council	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diocesan council (if applicable)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional council (if applicable)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q34 How often do you receive duplicate communications from national, provincial, diocesan and/or regional councils?

always

occasionally

usually

never

sometimes

Q35 When you receive communications from another level (national, provincial, diocesan, regional) that *invites/requests* participation, do you have enough time to do so?

always

occasionally

usually

never

sometimes

Summary

Q36 Who provided the greatest assistance to you when you assumed the role of president?

- immediate past president
- former past presidents
- life member
- secretary
- treasurer

- current executive
- diocesan president
- provincial president
- my personal mentor
- other

Q37 What were the greatest challenges you faced in transitioning into the role of president? Check all that apply.

- feeling overwhelmed
- feeling undertrained
- not having a full slate of officers
- resistance to new ideas
- finding the time
- amount of paperwork
- member criticism
- running meetings
- public speaking
- meeting expectations
- inexperience

- technology
- trying to please everyone
- keeping members interested
- member conflict
- lack of confidence
- delegation
- recruiting
- tedious policies and procedures
- organizational skills
- other

Other, please describe in two to three words the greatest challenges you face.

Q38 Do you find it beneficial to have a national theme and/or logo through which you can focus your council activities?

yes

no

Q39 Do you like the change of theme with each new national president?



↔

It does not matter to me, since our fundamental goals/ core values never change. It is good, because we can continue to focus on faith, fund raising and social justice. It is who were are.

Q40 How many years should there be between theme changes? Please insert a number.

2 -- Again it really doesn't matter

Q41 List the top two or three things about which you are most proud in your council.

1. When we were short on our executive team, I am very pleased with how our team members rallied together to cover any slack and roles to ensure we still functioned.
2. I'm pleased with how our team switched from paper to electronic, and learnt and used various technologies to ensure our members kept in the know, and were able to join online and in-person meetings, due to covid restrictions.
3. I'm pleased with how our CWL members came together to raise funds among members only, to allow us to donate to charities who need us.

Q42 What was your biggest challenge as president and how do you intend to address it?

Biggest challenge was finding the most efficient way to communicate with all our members, and we found this in our new website, which hosts all information for members. We made a one-stop shop so all members can easily see the highlights and latest information for CWL Nationwide. From member celebrations to nationwide fund raisers to church bulletins and masses/functions/special events.

Q43 List the greatest challenge(s) in completing the survey, if applicable.

Not a challenge. Only thing we noted was that the multiple choice options did not cover all options, so we typed in our responses.

Thank you for taking this survey. Your input helps the board to understand the priorities of councils for future planning.

Before pressing the "submit" button, please "print" the survey responses for your records.

To "print", ensure that pop-ups are enabled. If you are unsure how to enable pop-ups, please contact national office for assistance.

WARNING: Once "submit" has been pressed, the "print" function is no longer available.