

Executive Office

FROM:

Military Ordinariate Provincial President

TO:

Base Council Presidents MO Admin Committee,
MO Life Members,
MO Archivist



The Catholic Women's League of Canada Military Ordinariate Provincial Council

TO: Base Council Presidents
MO Admin Committee, MO Life Members, MO Archivist

FROM: Military Ordinariate Provincial President

DATE: January 22, 2013

MEMO: # 3 (2012-2014)

SUBJECT: Executive Office

My Dear CWL Sisters;

Another year has come and gone. I suspect we are gearing up for a new and better year. New recruitments are just around the corner waiting to be recognized. What better way to start the new year than ordering your CWL t-shirts so a sea of blue can be seen this summer. Don't forget the deadline for ordering is February 28th.

Let's draw our attention to executive offices:

It has been made abundantly clear that councils are having difficulties with members taking over the helm for executive positions, it has been suggested, it is due to aging members. Did we not win the battle that retired members/dependants of retired members could hold office? Bishop Donald Theriault revised the "Declaration of Eligibility Criteria" effective March 2012, due to councils stating that aging, knowledgeable members wanted to hold office and councils wanted the burden of limitations lifted. Well, it has been lifted, unfortunately, it didn't seem to make a difference from the emails I have been receiving. So, let's look at this from a different perspective: could it be too much paperwork, most members have access to computers, can't be it, is it going to meetings, no, we attend monthly meetings anyway. I have looked at this from every angle and it seems to be the responsibility of the position that is the problem. Now that we have addressed the problem, let's try to find a solution. Have you heard of job sharing? **Job sharing is an employment arrangement where typically two people are retained on a part-time or a reduced-time basis to perform a job**, many companies are recognizing this to be a very viable resolution to the demands of family life and employment in today's age where responsibilities are many. I would suggest here lies the key to keeping our doors open, the alternative is closing them. It is solely up to each and every base council to make that decision. Are we really ready to concede defeat? I think not!!

Now, from the obvious to the ironic: It has also been brought to my attention, that a couple of base councils have Presidents, though, I'm sure their hearts are in the right place, do not want to relinquish their office to another member. That's a no, no! This cannot happen; each President adds a little flavour to the council and must be permitted to do so. If not, the council will become

stagnate. It will not grow nor flourish. An executive office of president and secretary are an elected two year term only. Treasurer's office may stay an additional term if needed due to the financial aspect. A president of a base council can be considered an additional third year if given permission by the MO President when absolute necessary. To be a mentor can be a grand gesture when a new president comes up to the plate, don't ever feel you are being discarded.

After reading this memo, base councils may feel I am being overly direct or simplifying matters, however, the position of MO President is not always a flowery job. I too have my concerns and quirks and my fundamental role is to make suggestions and address the issues as they are brought to me via email/phone calls. If I don't know the problem, I cannot propose any options. Let us put our heads together and devise a plan to enrich councils that may be feeling the pinch and any ideas/new concepts that can be put into action to aid others. Please don't hesitate to pass them along directly to the councils or our MO Admin to pass on. Always remember, we are in this together and no one council is an island but one of many. If it makes you feel any less alone, many civilian councils are having the same issues, even large memberships. We are mighty sisters, we are the **Military Ordinariate Catholic Women's League**, pray and pray some more, the tide will turn and the result will be our future.

Yours in Christ

Donna Penney

MO Provincial President