



**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA  
TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL  
104<sup>th</sup> Convention Oral Report**

April 28 and 29, 2025  
Ajax Convention Centre  
50 Beck Road

***Here I am Lord, send me  
Pilgrims of Hope***



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**Name:** Sue Lubowitz

**Position:** Past President

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Madame Chair,

Today is my grandson's third birthday. If you asked him 6 months ago what he wanted to be when he grew up, he would have said a firefighter. Last week he decided he wanted to be a superhero and asked his aunt to make him a cape. As a past president, I was handed many bins of archival material and what I have discovered is that not all superheroes wear capes. In the League, our superheroes are those women who have answered the call and said "Here I Am Lord, Send Me".

Next year I will receive my 20 year service pin and in those bins, I have learned much about the women who came before me. Twenty years ago, in 2005, the League theme was Companions on the Journey. Members were called to see the face of Christ in others as they opened the door to a journey into unknown territory in the spirit of sisterhood. At the national convention that year, 20 women of impact were honoured with a life membership. One of them was our very own Mary Ellen Stinson.

In those bins, was a brown binder that I have brought with me to share with you at the break if you wish to browse it. It's the past president's binder. Tonight you will learn a little bit more about Mary Matthews, Mary Dobell and Jean McCann. Tomorrow morning I'll talk about Patricia Beattie. All four of these women of impact have diocesan awards named after them. Seated at the Life Members table (point to Life members table) are our current women of impact.

These past presidents here today have lived their faith by illustrating the many faces and calling of women in the Church through their leadership. They were open toward living out whatever way they were called by God. They found their place in the League and the Church and have helped me cultivate what that looks like for me. I have relied on them for advice whenever I have reached a crossroad in my journey.

Take a moment during the next two days to come over and speak to them.



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In that binder I was introduced to women whom I had never met but realized that they were also women of impact.

Unfortunately, these women have gone to their reward and this year three more have joined them: Margaret Tipping, Mary Quinlan and Carole Pitcher. But we have their stories to remember them.

These are some of the women of impact in our diocesan council.

Do you have the stories of those women of impact in your parish archives?

I challenge you to make a coffee date with some of your past presidents and record their stories for posterity. Every council should have a past president's binder.

Madame chair, I will be hosting a webinar on archiving on May 15th. All members are welcome to attend and the registration information is on the diocesan website. In the fall, we will begin the election process to elect a new group of women of impact to serve at the diocesan level.

The Mission Statement of the League women calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service. This is an invitation and a promise to us all – an invitation to be a disciple of Jesus and a promise that opportunities are given to members on their journey to God with our sisters if we only say "Here I Am Lord, send me".

My written report is on pages 10 and 11 of the 2024 annual report book.

This concludes my report.

Sue Lubowitz  
Past-President