

BURSARY FOR LAY MINISTRY

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

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Bursary for Lay Ministry

History and Purpose

At the 47th Annual Convention of the Military Ordinariate (MO) Provincial Council, it was noted that there are increasing opportunities at the parish level for lay faithful to contribute to ministries. A desire was expressed to establish a bursary to help fund education and training for MO CWL members who desire to serve their parish or council in ministry.

The Bursary for Lay Ministry Fund will be used to provide financial assistance to MO members of the CWL wishing to pursue courses, seminars or diploma/degree programs that provide training or knowledge that can be used in service at MO base chapels, in MO CWL base councils, or in the MO CWL Administrative Committee. Examples of course subjects include adult faith formation, catechesis, youth ministry, ministry to shut-ins or patients in palliative care, or spiritual development programs that may give a member the confidence to take on a leadership role in the CWL.

The Bursary Committee, consisting of the MO President, MO Treasurer, MO Education and Health Chair, MO Spiritual Advisor and one MO Life Member, administers the Bursary Fund and reviews applications annually. The Bursary for Lay Ministry Fund will grow with donations received from CWL councils and members.

Criteria and Guidelines

1. Any MO CWL member in good standing may apply in her third consecutive year of active membership at MO base councils, and any year thereafter.
2. Applicants must be actively involved in their base parish and must provide two letters of recommendation testifying to their involvement and commitment – one from her base council Spiritual Advisor or parish Chapel Life Coordinator (CLC), *and* one from her base council President. If a member has recently been posted, letters from her previous council Spiritual Advisor, parish CLC, and council President will be considered. If the applicant is a sitting President, the Past-President may write a letter.

3. Applicants must demonstrate the value of their chosen course by describing how their new skills or knowledge will be used to serve their parish or the MO CWL.
4. Applicants may apply for advance funding in order to register for their course if required, however, the necessity for an advance must be noted in their Spiritual Advisor or CLC's recommendation letter. Otherwise, funding for successful applicants will be forwarded after proof of registration is provided to the MO Treasurer.
5. All recipients must provide acknowledgement of completion of their course to the Bursary Committee and recipients may be asked to speak briefly to their experience at a future MO convention.
6. Available funds do not guarantee that a bursary will be awarded in a given year. If all requested programs are deemed incompatible with the intent of this bursary, or if applicants insufficiently demonstrate their commitment to ministry, a bursary may not be awarded. Decisions of the Bursary Committee are final.
7. Applicants may apply more than once, however the maximum possible funding awarded to any one member is \$500.

Application

1. Applications must be made using the official form, which is available on the MO CWL website at www.mocwl.ca.
2. Letters of recommendation from the applicant's base council Spiritual Advisor or parish Chapel Life Coordinator *and* base council President must accompany the completed form.
3. Applications must be submitted by e-mail to the Bursary Committee care/of the MO Treasurer *and* the MO Education and Health Chairperson by 15 February.