

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE  
OF CANADA  
CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS**



2013

[Printed with the blessing and approval of His Grace, Most Rev. Lawrence Huculak, OSBM, Archbishop of Winnipeg and Metropolitan for Ukrainian Catholics in Canada (Prot H/75/2014)]

FOREWORD  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE  
OF CANADA

- Was organized nationally June 14, 1944
- Was granted Federal Incorporation June 25, 1980

It was affiliated with:

- Ukrainian Canadian Women's Committee, National Executive as a founding member in 1944

Is affiliated with:

- World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations as a founding member since 1948
- World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations since 1957
- Ukrainian Canadian Congress since 1993

The UCWLC Motto:

**FOR GOD AND THE PEOPLE**

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE  
OF CANADA**

incorporated under the laws of  
Canada on the 25th day of  
June, 1980

**Constitution and Bylaws**

**Preamble**

The **Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada** is the official association of women laity of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada. It is a self-sustaining, non-political, non-profit, charitable organization, which at all levels and through each individual member shall be in all its activities an expression of commitment to Christian life.

**Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada is to unite and organize lay women of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada so that they may, through their united efforts and activities, express their commitment to Christian ideals and foster the development and maintenance of an economic and social atmosphere favourable to the Christian family.

**Article I  
NAME**

The organization shall be known as  
"UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA"  
and is hereinafter referred to as the "UCWLC."

**Article II  
PATRONESS**

The Patroness of the UCWLC is the  
Most Holy Mother of God.

## **Article III UCWLC SYMBOLS**

Emblem, Seal, Hymn, Flag, Icon, Membership Pin, and Publication

### **Section 1.**

#### **EMBLEM**

The UCWLC emblem shall be in the form of a rhombus, enclosing an oval, exhibiting the cross, symbol of Christianity, super-imposed on the centre bar of the Trident, the coat-of-arms of Ukraine, surmounting the maple leaf, symbol of Canada, circumscribed with the inscription: "UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA." The sides of the rhombus bear the inscription in Ukrainian "Ліга Українських Католицьких Жінок Канади" and include Ukrainian and English abbreviations, ЛУКЖК, UCWLC.

The colors of the emblem are white, light blue, dark blue and gold.

The four sides of the rhombus symbolize the four fundamental aims of the UCWLC, namely:  
Catholic faith  
Ukrainian culture  
Social Development (Canadian citizenship), and  
Charitable activities.

### **Section 2.**

#### **SEAL**

The official seal of the UCWLC shall be round, bearing the design of the official emblem and the inscription of the name of the organization in Ukrainian and English. It shall be held at the National Executive office.

### **Section 3.**

#### **HYMN**

The official hymn of the UCWLC is "O Spomahaj Nas Divo Mariye" and shall be sung in Ukrainian at all meetings, Eparchial Conventions and National Congresses.

### **Section 4.**

#### **FLAG**

The UCWLC Flag, blue in color, is a distinguished identification of the UCWLC and was designed to represent each organizational level, namely: the National and Eparchial Executives and the Branches. The design of the flag includes the UCWLC emblem and the motto, "For God and the People." Each flag includes the inscription identifying the Executive or the individual Branch. The right side of the flag is written in Ukrainian while the left side is written in English.

### **Section 5.**

#### **ICON**

The official icon of the UCWLC is the miraculous Icon of the Mother of God of Pochaiv. This icon shall be presented to the outgoing Presidents at all levels.

**Section 6.**

**THE MEMBERSHIP PIN IS IN THE FORM OF THE UCWLC EMBLEM**

**Section 7.**

**PUBLICATION**

The official publication of the UCWLC is the “Nasha Doroha” journal.

**Article IV**

**Section 1**

**HEADQUARTERS AND MAIN ADMINISTRATION**

The headquarters and main administration of the-UCWLC shall rotate from Eparchy to Eparchy, every three years, to the official seat of the Eparchial Bishop or to another city within his Eparchy. The order of rotation shall be decided at the National Plenary Conference.

**Section 2.**

**CONGRESS**

The National Congress shall be held in the Eparchy in which the National Executive has been located for the previous three years.

**Article V**

**THE SPIRITUAL ADVISER**

**Section 1.**

- (a) (i) **At each level**, the Spiritual Adviser shall act as a spiritual guide.
- (ii) **The Spiritual Adviser**, in each case, shall receive due notice of every Executive, General and Annual Meeting, as well as the Eparchial Conventions, National Plenary Conferences, and National Congresses. The Spiritual Adviser shall be entitled to attend and participate in each and every discussion as a non-voting participant.
- (b) **The National and Eparchial Executives** shall have as their Spiritual Adviser their Eparchial Bishop or his nominee.
- (c) **Each Branch** shall have as its Spiritual Adviser the Parish Priest or his nominee.

**Article VI**

**Section 1.**

**AIMS**

The main aims of the UCWLC shall be as follows:

1. **CATHOLIC FAITH:** to develop and enrich the religious and spiritual life of each member in the context of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, its liturgy, theology, spirituality and its practices and traditions.
2. **UKRAINIAN CULTURE:** to preserve, promote and develop the Ukrainian heritage, language, culture, traditions and arts.

3. **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (Canadian citizenship):**
  - (a) to broaden the understanding of Christian moral standards and values in everyday life, and to deepen the sense of civic responsibility among the members;
  - (b) to initiate and support social action programs, which exemplify Christian ideals and values of justice and love, particularly those related to the sanctity of human life and the sacredness of the family.
4. **CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES:** to participate in service to persons and society, in works of mercy for the poor and the sick, in works of charity and mutual aid intended to address human needs of every kind, as well as in assistance to groups and communities.

## **Article VII PROGRAMS**

The UCWLC activities shall be occasions for the spiritual, cultural and personal growth of the individual members.

A special and central concern of the UCWLC shall be the support of Christian ideals and the maintenance and development of an economic and social atmosphere favorable to the Christian family.

### **Section 1.**

#### **SPIRITUAL**

To achieve its spiritual aims, the UCWLC shall:

- (a) commence all meetings, conventions, and congresses with a prayer;
- (b) encourage frequent partaking of the Holy Sacraments;
- (c) celebrate the Divine Liturgy before Annual Meetings and on all obligatory feast days;
- (d) celebrate the Divine Liturgy during Eparchial Conventions and National Congresses
- (e) encourage members to attend spiritual retreats;
- (f) promote religious publications and religious education.

### **Section 2.**

#### **EDUCATION IN CATHOLIC FAITH**

To promote an education in the Catholic faith and the Ukrainian rite, the UCWLC shall:

- (a) establish faith development classes for adults, youth and children;
- (b) organize training for catechism teachers;
- (c) support programs for the purpose of fostering religious vocations;
- (d) support Catholic education and Ukrainian Catholic schools.

### **Section 3.**

#### **CULTURAL AIMS**

To accomplish its cultural aims, the UCWLC shall:

- (a) support Ukrainian language, history and cultural education through day, evening and summer schools and encourage children, youth and adults to enroll in these classes;
- (b) provide programs to encourage the youth to appreciate and exemplify their Ukrainian heritage and to identify with the Ukrainian people;
- (c) promote integration of Ukrainian artistic achievements and forms of Ukrainian arts as a valuable and relevant part of the Canadian cultural mosaic;
- (d) support programs by which Ukrainian Canadians, within the context of their Canadian citizenship, can cooperate with Ukrainian groups throughout the world and continue to give support to Ukraine.

**Section 4.**

**LEADERSHIP**

While being politically non-partisan, the UCWLC shall:

- (a) develop leadership qualities in its members;
- (b) provide training to enable its members to take an active part in the affairs of the community;
- (c) provide programs to inform members on civic, provincial and national issues.

**Section 5.**

**SOCIAL SERVICE**

To provide better social service, the UCWLC shall:

- (a) organize help for the needy;
- (b) organize Pastoral visits to the sick, shut-ins and needy in their homes and hospitals;
- (c) support worthy and approved campaigns in the community;
- (d) advocate for protection of Human Rights.

**Section 6.**

**UCWLC DAY**

A "UCWLC DAY" shall be observed annually on the last Sunday of May with special prayers to our Patroness, the Holy Mother of God.

The members shall:

- (a) participate in the Divine Liturgy and are encouraged to receive Holy Communion;
- (b) participate in a special organizational program.

**Article VIII  
UCWLC MEMBERSHIP**

The UCWLC has three types of membership, namely:

- Active membership
- Member-at-large
- Honorary life membership

**Section 1.**

**ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP**

- (a) Every lay woman who is a practising Catholic of the Ukrainian rite and a member of a Ukrainian Catholic parish and who accepts both the Catholic and the Ukrainian aspects of the aims and programs of the UCWLC may become an active member upon payment of the prescribed membership dues to the Branch of the UCWLC in her parish. Upon acceptance of her application for membership, a copy of the registration form will be forwarded to the Eparchial and National Executives.
- (b) If there is no UCWLC Branch in her parish, a woman who fulfills the requirements under Article VIII, Section 1, (a) may become an active member in a UCWLC Branch in another parish.

**Section 2.**

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE**

Every lay woman of the Ukrainian Catholic rite who accepts both the Catholic and the Ukrainian



aspects of the aims and programs of the UCWLC but who lives in a locality where there is no Ukrainian Catholic parish or UCWLC Branch, may become a member-at-large upon payment of the prescribed membership fee directly to the Eparchial Executive of the UCWLC of the Eparchy in which she resides. She may take part as a non-voting guest in UCWLC Eparchial Conventions and in National Congresses.

### **Section 3.**

#### **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

At the proposal of the National Executive, Honorary Life membership shall be granted by the National Congress to:

- (a) the outgoing president of the National Executive;
- (b) members of UCWLC who meet the criteria outlined by the National Executive.

Honorary Life Members shall have all the rights granted to and duties imposed upon active members except that Honorary Life Members are not required to pay membership dues.

Honorary Life Members shall have the right to attend and participate in discussion at National Plenary Conferences.

Honorary Life Members shall have the right to attend, participate in, and vote at Eparchial Conventions and National Congresses.

### **Section 4.**

#### **RIGHTS OF ACTIVE MEMBERS**

Every active member shall have the right to:

- (a) participate in all General and Annual Meetings of her Branch;
- (b) participate in programs in her Branch;
- (c) vote for election of officers and on all issues before the Branch;
- (d) be elected as a delegate to Eparchial Conventions and National Congresses after having been an active member for a period of one year;
- (e) be elected to Branch office positions after having been an active member for a period of one year;
- (f) be elected to Eparchial and National office after having been an active member for a period of three years.

### **Section 5.**

#### **DUTIES OF ACTIVE MEMBERS:**

- (a) attend meetings of her Branch regularly and punctually;
- (b) pay her membership dues no later than March 1st in each year;
- (c) participate in programs of the UCWLC;
- (d) uphold the provisions of the UCWLC Constitution and Bylaws and accept the decisions of the UCWLC at the National, Eparchial and Branch level;
- (e) acknowledge the guidance of the Spiritual Adviser;
- (f) have the solemn duty and responsibility to rear her children in the Catholic faith and the Ukrainian rite.

### **Section 6.**

#### **LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP**

- (a) Membership shall be lost by reason of voluntary withdrawal.

- (b) Membership shall be lost by order of expulsion by the National Executive upon the recommendation of the Branch Executive and the approval of the Eparchial Executive. The unjustified neglect by a member of the activities or duties required under the terms of this Constitution or the pursuit by a member of activities detrimental to the UCWLC shall be grounds for such an order of expulsion. The member shall be given written notice and shall have thirty days to make representation, oral or written, to the National Executive. The declaration of the National Executive shall be final, but may be reviewed upon the expiration of a period of one year after the order or review.

## **Article IX GOVERNING STRUCTURE**

The structure of UCWLC is as follows:

### **Section 1.**

#### **NATIONAL**

- (a) National Congress
- (b) National Executive Plenary Conference
- (c) National Executive

### **Section 2.**

#### **EPARCHIAL**

- (a) Eparchial Convention
- (b) Eparchial Executive

### **Section 3.**

#### **BRANCH**

- (a) Branch Annual Meeting
- (b) Branch Monthly Meeting

## **Article X NATIONAL CONGRESS**

### **Section 1.**

#### **AUTHORITY**

The National Congress shall be the ultimate legislative and decision-making authority of the UCWLC.

### **Section 2.**

#### **LOCATION OF CONGRESS**

The National Congress shall be held in the Eparchy where the current National Executive is located, and shall elect the National Executive, which shall have its headquarters in the Eparchy hosting the next Congress.

### **Section 3.**

#### **CONGRESS MEMBERS**

- (a) **The National Congress** shall be composed of members of the National Executive, members of the National Audit Committee, members of the Eparchial Executives, Branch delegates and Honorary Life Members. Each of these who registers for the Congress shall have a vote on all matters placed before the Congress

- (b) **The National, Eparchial and the Branch Spiritual Advisers and the Eparchial Bishops** of all Ukrainian Catholic Eparchies shall be entitled to attend and participate in discussions as non-voting participants.

**Section 4.**

**QUORUM OF THE CONGRESS**

Sixty percent (60%) of those registered, in accordance with Article X, Section 3(a), shall form the quorum, which must be present before a vote can be taken.

**Section 5.**

**VOTES**

**Eparchial Executive**

Each Eparchial Executive shall have one vote for each 50 paid-up members in the Eparchy, but no single Eparchial Executive delegate shall have more than 10 votes.

**The Branch**

- (a) Each Branch shall have the right to elect one delegate to the National Congress for every 10 paid-up members registered with the Branch for the current calendar year (in accordance with Article XX, Section 8) and one additional delegate for any fractional number of members exceeding a multiple of 10. Where a Branch has fewer than 10 members, it shall be entitled to one delegate.
- (b) In the absence of a full slate of delegates from any Branch, the mandate to vote may be passed, in writing, to another delegate of the same Branch. No delegate may hold more than 3 votes.

**Article XI**

**PREPARATION FOR NATIONAL CONGRESS**

**Section 1.**

The National Plenary Conference shall designate the date and place of the Congress and prepare the agenda.

**Section 2.**

**NOTIFICATION OF CONGRESS**

No fewer than 21 days and no more than 60 days prior to the date of the National Congress, the National Executive shall publish in the official UCWLC publication a notice as to the time, place and agenda of the Congress. Information on how members may access the Financial Statement upon request will also be published.

**Article XII**

**AGENDA OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS**

The following items shall be included in the Congress agenda:

**Section 1.**

**Formal opening.**

## **Section 2.**

### **Election of Secretaries:**

- (a) Election of two Congress Secretaries, one from the Eparchy of the incoming National Executive and one from the Eparchy of the outgoing Executive; one to report the proceedings in Ukrainian and the other in English;
- (b) Each of the said Secretaries shall submit a complete report of the proceedings of the Congress to the President of the outgoing National Executive and to the Chair of the Verification Committee as well as to each Eparchial President within one year of the date of Congress.

## **Section 3.**

### **Acceptance of the Agenda.**

## **Section 4.**

### **Announcement of the following Congress Committees:**

Verification, Registration, Resolutions and Nominating.

## **Section 5.**

### **Outline Agenda:**

- (a) Report of Registration, Verification of quorum.
- (b) Report and adoption of preceding Congress minutes.
- (c) Reports of the members of the National Executive.  
Discussion of reports and their acceptance.
- (d) Presentation of Financial Reports
- (e) Report of Public Accountant and/or Audit Committee
- (f) Discussion and adoption of Financial Reports
- (g) Appointment or Waiver of Public Accountant for the next term
- (h) Ratification of the enactments of the outgoing Executive
- (i) Adoption of Resolutions and Recommendations
- (j) Election and installation of National Executive and Audit Committee
- (k) Adjournment with the singing of the UCWLC hymn "O Spomahaj Nas."

## **Section 6.**

### **Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee shall present the incoming slate of Officers and Committee Chairs for the National Executive at the National Congress.

## **Section 7.**

### **Congress Agenda**

The National Executive may add further items to the agenda upon giving one month's notice to each Eparchial President.

**Article XIII**  
**THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

**Section 1.**

**REPRESENTATION**

- (a) The National President represents the UCWLC in World and National Organizations with whom the UCWLC is affiliated.
- (b) The UCWLC representatives to World and National Organizations, with the exception of the President, shall be elected, by the UCWLC National Plenary Conference, for the term of office of the given organization.

**Section 2.**

**MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER GROUPS**

The UCWLC shall act and cooperate with other groups in programs designed to promote human dignity and to achieve greater moral and spiritual development, as well as a better material standard of living for all the peoples of the world. In pursuit of such aims, the National Executive may accept membership in such Organizations or Federations as may be authorized by the National Congress.

**Section 3.**

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

Responsibilities of the National Executive are to:

- (a) Unify, inform, coordinate and organize programs through the Eparchial Executives, to promote the aims of UCWLC;
- (b) Study, discuss and recommend action on the part of the Eparchial Executives and Branches with regard to programs decided upon and established at the Congresses and the National Plenary Conferences;
- (c) Uphold the provisions of this Constitution and the decisions made at the Congresses and the National Plenary Conferences.

**Section 4.**

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE RESOURCE PERSONS**

**1. COMPOSITION:**

- (a) Past Presidents of the National Executive, and
- (b) UCWLC Honorary Life Members.

The Resource Persons shall function according to the rules adopted at the National Plenary Conference.

**2. RESOURCE COMMITTEE/ADVISORY**

- a) To fulfill certain specific tasks, the Congress or the National Executive may call a Special Committee (ad hoc) of professionals, who may or may not be member(s) of UCWLC. For its activities, this Special Committee is accountable to the National Executive. The Chair of the Committee shall be a member of the UCWLC;
- (b) Each Standing Committee Chair, upon the approval of the National Executive, shall have the authority to co-opt such other members to her Committee in an advisory capacity as she sees fit.

**Section 5.**

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The National Executive shall consist of the following:

- (a) Officers:
  - Past President
  - President
  - First Vice-President
  - Vice-Presidents - President of each Eparchial Executive
  - President-elect
  - Recording Secretary
  - Corresponding Secretary
  - Treasurer
- (b) Constitution & Bylaws Committee:
  - Chair, Secretary, and
  - Chair of each Eparchial Constitution & Bylaws Committee.
- (c) Chairpersons of the following Standing Committees:
  - Spiritual
  - Cultural Education
  - Social Development and Charitable
  - Legislation
  - Organizational
  - Media/Communications
  - Archives
- (d) UCWLC Publication.

Such other committees as may be established by the National Congress or National Executive.

**Section 6.**

**QUORUM**

One-third of the members shall form the quorum at any meetings of the members of the National Executive.

**Section 7.**

**REMOVAL OF THE CHAIR**

If a Committee Chair does not carry out the undertaking in accordance with the adopted plan of action, the National Executive, in agreement with all Eparchial Executives, may replace her with another person, at the National Plenary Conference, or by way of written notification.

**Article XIV**  
**NATIONAL AUDIT COMMITTEE:**  
 and,  
**NATIONAL VERIFICATION COMMITTEE:**

**Section 1.**

**ELECTION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The National Congress shall elect an Audit Committee for three years, consisting of a Chair, plus two members resident in the Eparchy where the next ensuing Congress is to be held.

**Section 2.**

**OPERATIONS OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee shall:

- (a) Examine and audit all financial accounts and funds and report thereon annually, at the National Plenary Conferences and before each Congress. A signed copy of the audit shall be submitted to the Congress together with the audit of financial records of the previous National Executive for the period from the report of the prior audit to the handing over of assets to the current Executive, including the previous Congress income and expenses;
- (b) Conduct the audit by at least three members. In the event that elected member(s) are unable to serve or in the event of the resignation of the Audit Committee, the National Executive shall fill the vacancy.

**Section 3.**

**ELECTION OF VERIFICATION COMMITTEE**

The National Congress shall elect a Verification Committee of three members, consisting of two members from the Eparchy of the outgoing National Executive and one from the Eparchy of the incoming Executive to verify minutes of the current Congress.

**Section 4**

**OPERATIONS OF VERIFICATION COMMITTEE**

- (a) The Verification Committee shall be entitled to receive a copy of the minutes of the National Congress within one year of the Congress.
- (b) The Committee shall review and verify the minutes and present a report thereon together with such recommendations as it sees fit at the next National Congress.

**Article XV**

**SPECIAL MEETINGS OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

**Section 1.**

**TRANSITION**

Immediately following the National Congress the outgoing National President shall convene a meeting of all outgoing and incoming members of the National Executive and Audit Committee at which meeting each officer shall hand over to her successor all records and materials pertaining to her office, except for the final report of the financial transactions subsequent to the financial report given at the National Congress. Such final financial reports shall be submitted by the Treasurer within four months after the National Congress, at which time all remaining assets shall be transferred to the incoming National Executive. A copy of such final financial reports shall also be forwarded to the Chair of the National Audit Committee.

**Section 2.**

**NATIONAL PLENARY CONFERENCES**

For discussion of administrative and program matters, the National President shall convene the National Plenary Conferences of the National Executive and the members of the Audit Committee as follows:

- (a) Once in each of the next two years following the Congress;
- (b) Immediately prior to the next National Congress;
- (c) Such other Conferences as the President deems necessary.

**Article XVI**  
**EPARCHIAL CONVENTION**

**Section 1.**

**AUTHORITY**

Subject to the decisions of the National Congress and the National Executive Plenary Conference, the Eparchial Convention shall be the guiding UCWLC authority in the Eparchy.

**Section 2.**

**QUORUM OF THE CONVENTION**

Sixty percent (60%) of those registered for the Eparchial Convention shall form the quorum, which must be present before a vote can be taken.

**Section 3.**

**CONVENTION DELEGATES**

- (a) The Eparchial Convention shall be held every two years and shall be composed of members of the Eparchial Executive, Branch delegates, members of the Eparchial Audit Committee and Honorary Life Members.
- (b) Each Branch shall have the right to elect one delegate to the Eparchial Convention for every 10 paid-up members registered with the Branch for the current calendar year, (in accordance with Article XX, Section 8) and one additional delegate for any fractional number of members exceeding a multiple of 10. Where a Branch has fewer than 10 members, it shall be entitled to one delegate.
- (c) In the absence of a full slate of delegates from any Branch, the mandate to vote may be passed, in writing, to another delegate of the same Branch. No delegate may hold more than 3 votes.

**Article XVII**  
**AGENDA OF THE EPARCHIAL CONVENTION**

The following items shall be included in the Convention agenda:

**Section 1.**

**Formal opening.**

**Section 2.**

**Election and Responsibilities of Secretaries:**

- (a) Election of two Convention Secretaries: one to record the proceedings in Ukrainian and the other in English;
- (b) Each of the said Secretaries shall submit a complete report of the Convention, within one year of the date thereof, to the President of the Eparchial Executive and to the Chair of the Verification Committee.

**Sections 3 to 5.**

The Eparchial Convention agenda shall include the items listed for the National Congress, Article XII, Sections 3 to 5, on an Eparchial level.

**Section 6,**

The Nominating Committee shall present the incoming slate of Officers and Committee Chairs for the Eparchial Executive at the Eparchial Convention.



**Article XVIII**  
**THE EPARCHIAL EXECUTIVE**

**Section 1.**

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE**

Responsibilities of the Executive are to:

- (a) Organize Branches;
- (b) Unify, inform and coordinate programs, through the Branch Executives, to promote the aims of the UCWLC;
- (c) Be responsible to direct the Branch Executives to carry out programs decided upon and established at National Congresses, National Executive Plenary Conferences and Eparchial Conventions;
- (d) Uphold the provisions of this Constitution and the decisions made at the National Congresses, National Executive Plenary Conferences and Eparchial Conventions.

**Section 2.**

**TERM OF EXECUTIVE**

The Eparchial Convention shall elect the Eparchial Executive, members of which shall be residents in the Eparchy and shall hold office until the next Eparchial Convention. They shall be eligible for election to the same office for two consecutive terms only.

**Section 3.**

**EPARCHIAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The Eparchial Executive shall consist of the following:

- (a) Officers
  - Past President
  - President
  - First, Second and Third Vice Presidents
  - Recording Secretary
  - Corresponding Secretary
  - Treasurer
- (b) Constitution and Bylaws Chair.
- (c) Chairpersons of the following Standing Committees:
  - Spiritual
  - Social Development and Charitable
  - Cultural Education
  - Legislation
  - Organizational
  - UCWLC Publication
  - Media/Communications
  - Archives.
  - Such other committees as may be established by the Eparchial Executive.

**Section 4.**

**QUORUM**

One-third of the members shall form the quorum at any meetings of the members of the Eparchial Executive.

**Section 5.**

**EPARCHIAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE**

**1. COMPOSITION:**

(a) Past Presidents of Eparchial Executive, and

(b) Honorary Life Members in their Eparchy.

The Resource Persons shall function according to the rules adopted at the National Executive Plenary Conference.

**2. CALL OF ADVISORY PERSONS**

Each Standing Committee Chair, upon the approval of the Eparchial Executive shall have the authority to co-opt such other members to her committee in an advisory capacity as she sees fit.

**Article XIX**

**EPARCHIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE:**

and

**EPARCHIAL VERIFICATION COMMITTEE:**

**Section 1.**

**ELECTION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE:**

Eparchial Convention shall elect an Audit Committee of three members: a Chairperson and two active members of different Branches. No member shall be elected for more than two consecutive terms.

**Section 2**

**OPERATIONS OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee shall:

(a) Examine and audit the financial books and records prior to each Eparchial Convention and shall submit to the Eparchial Convention a written report signed by the Committee members participating in the audit.

(b) Conduct the audit by at least three members. In the event that elected member(s) are unable to serve or in the event of the resignation of the Audit Committee, the Eparchial Executive shall fill the vacancy.

**Section 3.**

**ELECTION OF VERIFICATION COMMITTEE**

The Eparchial Convention shall elect a Verification Committee of three members.

**Section 4**

**OPERATIONS OF VERIFICATION COMMITTEE**

The Verification Committee shall verify the Convention minutes and report thereon to the ensuing Eparchial Convention.

**Article XX**  
**UCWLC BRANCHES**

**Section 1.**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF BRANCHES AT THE PARISHES**

At the request of no fewer than ten women of a Ukrainian Catholic Parish and with the confirmation of the Parish Priest that the applicants qualify for membership under Article VIII, Section 1, (a), the Eparchial Executive shall establish a Branch of UCWLC at that parish; provided, however, that not more than one Branch shall be established in a Parish, except upon authorization of the National Executive on the recommendation of the Eparchial Executive.

**Section 2.**

**BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING**

A General Annual Meeting of the active members of the Branch shall be held annually, and the decisions and resolutions of same shall not be contrary to this Constitution, the decisions and resolutions of National Congresses, National Executive Plenary Conferences and of Eparchial Conventions.

**Section 3.**

**QUORUM**

One-third of the members shall form the quorum at any meetings of the members of the Branches.

**Section 4.**

**BRANCH EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The Branch Executive shall be elected at the Annual Meeting for a one year term and shall consist of:

- (a) Officers
  - Past President
  - President
  - First and Second Vice-Presidents
  - Recording Secretary
  - Corresponding Secretary
  - Treasurer.
  
- (b) The Chairpersons of the following Standing Committees:
  - Spiritual and Social Development
  - Cultural Educational
  - Charitable
  - Media/Communications
  - Archives.Such other committees as the Annual General Meeting or the Branch Executive shall decide.

**Section 5.**

**QUORUM**

One-third of the members shall form the quorum at any meetings of the members of the Branch Executive.

**Section 6.**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

- (a) The Branch Annual General Meeting shall also elect an Audit Committee consisting of a Chairperson and two members;

- (b) The Audit Committee shall examine and audit the financial books and records, prior to the Annual General Meeting and shall submit a written report signed by the Committee members participating in the audit-

**Section 7.**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating Committee shall present the incoming slate of Officers and Committee Chairs for the Branch Executive at the Annual Meeting.

**Section 8.**

**TERM OF OFFICE**

Each Executive member and the Audit Committee members shall carry out their duties for one year and be eligible for election to that office for two consecutive terms only.

**Section 9.**

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

The membership dues for active members shall be set by the National Congress, providing that each Branch may make such additional levy upon its members as its Annual General Meeting may authorize.

**Section 10.**

**REMITTANCE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

- (a) each member shall pay her membership dues to her Branch Treasurer not later than March 1st in each year.
- (b) the membership dues as set by the National Congress shall be forwarded prior to March 31st of each year to the Eparchial Treasurer, who shall in turn remit a specified sum to the National Treasurer by May 1st.

**Section 11.**

**BRANCH EXECUTIVE RESOURCE PERSONS**

The Resource Persons of the Branch Executive shall be:

- (a) Past Presidents of the Branch;
- (b) Honorary Life Member(s) in their Branch.

The Resource Persons shall function according to the rules adopted at the National Plenary Conference.

**Article XXI  
MISCELLANEOUS**

**Section 1.**

**DECISION-MAKING**

Providing a quorum is present, unless otherwise specified herein, decisions shall be made by simple majority vote.

**Section 2.**

**EX-OFFICIO**

The President of the Executive, at each level (the National, Eparchial, and the Branch) shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee, the Verifications Committee and the Audit Committee.

**Section 3.**

**DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS**

The National Executive, each Eparchial Executive and each Branch shall use all funds held by it, after payment of administrative and organizational expenses, to promote the aims and programs of the UCWLC at its own level.

**Article XXII  
DISSOLUTION**

**Section 1.**

**THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

The National Executive may only be dissolved by a decision of the National Congress by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the delegates. Such decision must be approved by all Eparchial Bishops.

A notice of the proposed discussion of dissolution must be given to each Eparchial Bishop and to each Eparchial Executive not less than twelve months prior to the National Congress. Notice must also be published in the official UCWLC publication not less than six months prior to the Congress.

**Section 2.**

**THE EPARCHIAL EXECUTIVE**

An Eparchial Executive may be dissolved by a decision made at the Eparchial Convention by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the delegates. Such decision must be approved by the local Eparchial Bishop and ratified at the next ensuing National Congress.

A notice of the proposed discussion of dissolution must be given to the Eparchial Bishop and to each Branch Executive not less than twelve months prior to the Eparchial Convention.

**Section 3.**

**THE BRANCH**

A Branch may be dissolved by a decision of the Annual General Meeting of the Branch by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. Such decision must be approved by the Branch Spiritual Adviser. Notice of such proposal must be given to each member, parish priest, the Eparchial Bishop and the Eparchial Executive not less than two months prior to the Branch Annual General Meeting.

**Section 4.**

**PROPERTY OF UCWLC ON DISSOLUTION**

**1. NATIONAL ORGANIZATION**

Upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the UCWLC at the National Level, all property within the control of the National Executive, after the satisfaction of the debts and liabilities of the National Level of the UCWLC, shall be distributed among the existing Ukrainian Catholic

Episcopal Corporations within Canada, proportionally according to the number of members in each Eparchy.

**2. EPARCHIAL ORGANIZATION**

Upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the UCWLC at the Eparchial Level, all property within the control of the Eparchial Executive, after the satisfaction of the debts and liabilities of the Eparchial Level of the UCWLC, shall become the property of the Ukrainian Catholic Episcopal Corporations of that Eparchy.

**3. BRANCH**

Upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of a Branch of the Corporation, all property of the Branch, after the satisfaction of the debts and liabilities of the Branch, shall become the property of the Ukrainian Catholic parish with which the Branch is affiliated, provided that, at the time of distribution, such parish is a charitable organization registered with the Charities Directorate of Canada Revenue Agency. In the event that such parish is not so registered, the remaining property of the Branch shall become the property of the Ukrainian Catholic Episcopal Corporations for the Eparchy within such parish is located.

**Article XXIII  
RULES OF ORDER**

The rules contained in the “Roberts Rules of Order, Revised Edition” shall apply at all meetings, Conventions, Conferences and Congresses on all questions pertaining to parliamentary procedure not specified in these Bylaws and any special rules the UCWLC may adopt.

**Article XXIV  
AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**Section I.**

- (a) Proposals for amendments to the Constitution shall be presented to the National Constitution Bylaws Committee for examination and study at least 12 months prior to the Congress.
- (b) The National Constitution Bylaws Committee shall present the final proposal to the Eparchial Constitution Committee and the Eparchial Bishops at least six months prior to the Congress. The approval of each Eparchial Bishop is required before the proposed amendments are put to a vote at the National Congress.
- (c) Each Eparchial Constitution Committee is obliged to circulate the proposed amendments to the Branches in their Eparchy, at least 2 months prior to the Congress, to enable the delegates to come prepared to vote at the Congress without a discussion.
- (d) Amendment of this Constitution may be effected by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the registered delegates at the National Congress. Given the procedure for bringing amendments to the National Congress, the motion to amend the Constitution shall be put to a vote with no discussion being allowed on the motion.

## **History of UCWLC Constitution and Bylaws, 1944 – 2013**

The first Constitution for the Ukrainian Catholic Women (Women's Branches of BUK) with BUK official seal, was first adopted by the Ukrainian Catholic Women of Alberta, in March 1944. The Constitution was prepared by Fr. S. Semczuk, and approved by Neil Savaryn, Auxiliary Bishop to Bishop Ladyka, Winnipeg, dated December 4, 1943. It was printed in the newspaper "Future of the Nation" on January 4, 1944. The constitution was printed in Ukrainian in Yorkton. The Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada adopted this first constitution in June 1944, with some amendments. The revised constitution was printed in 1947 in Winnipeg, under the title of Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada (Women's Branches of BUK) along with the UCWLC official seal.

In 1956, the National Congress of Ukrainian Catholics in Winnipeg, approved a revised Constitution. It was printed in Edmonton, for the first time in both Ukrainian and English. The Constitution cover included the UCWLC emblem for the first time along with the name "The Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada".

In 1974, the National Congress in Saskatoon approved the English section of the revised Constitution. It was printed in Yorkton in 1976. In 1977, the National Congress in Winnipeg adopted amendments to the English section of the 1976 Constitution. In 1979, the revised Constitution was printed in Edmonton, in both Ukrainian and English.

In 2002, the National Plenary Conference resolved to update the Constitution, by incorporating into the 1979 Constitution all the Bylaws which were adopted by the National Congresses in the years 1979 – 2001 inclusive. In 2003, the National Plenary Conference adopted the English text of the updated Constitution with a new format. The Conference approved the printing of a temporary supply of 2003 Constitution and Bylaws in English, which were printed in Edmonton, and were to serve while the text was translated from English to Ukrainian.

In 2007, the 2003 Constitution was translated into Ukrainian, and printed in Toronto with both the Ukrainian and English text parallel to each other.

Lena Sloboda, UCWLC HLM, compiled the above information  
March 2007

In 2013, the National Congress in Saskatoon approved the amended Constitution that incorporated the required regulations of the new Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (CNFP). Also, the official name was changed to "Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada".

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