

# **2022 State Convention Resolutions**

## **Resolutions 1-8      Congratulatory**

**SUBMITTED BY:**                      **Ontario State Board**

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### **1. With Humble and Sincere Devotion to the Leader of our Church:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights and their families pledge uncompromising support to our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and assure him of our eternal love and prayers;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: We thank our Holy Father, Pope Francis, for his humility, understanding and promotion of love and charity to those who are outcast, lonely and in need.

### **2. With Humble and Sincere Devotion to the Pope Emeritus:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights and their families pledge uncompromising support to our Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI, and assure him of our eternal love and prayers.

### **3. In Recognition of the Spiritual Leadership and Dedication of our Supreme Chaplain:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights and their families offer our prayers, support and deepest appreciation to our Supreme Chaplain, Most Reverend William E. Lori, for his years of service and his unconditional commitment to God, the Church and to the Order;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights look forward to many more years of his spiritual guidance and pastoral service.

### **4. In Recognition of Cardinal Collins' Inspiration, Governance and Ardour for the Church:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights and their families offer our support to His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, for whom we offer our prayers and deepest appreciation for his many years of service and unconditional commitment to God, the Church and to the Order;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: We thank, Cardinal Thomas Collins, and we look forward to many more years of his spiritual guidance and pastoral service.

**5. In Support of our Bishops, Priests and Clergy who Serve us in all Jurisdictions:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights and their families offer our prayers and support to all Past State Chaplains, and to our current State Chaplain His Excellency, Most Reverend Bishop David Douglas Crosby, as well as all Priests and Council Chaplains for their spiritual leadership, devoted work and their dedication to the growth of the Church and Order;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: We thank all our Bishops, Priests and Clergy, and we look forward to more years of their spiritual guidance and pastoral service.

**6. With Humble and Respectful Gratitude to our Supreme Knight, Supreme Officers and Board of Directors:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights and their families offer our prayers and support and honour Brother Knight Patrick E. Kelly for his devoted, honourable and outstanding leadership as Supreme Knight;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we thank our Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly, the Supreme officers, the Board of Directors and the staff of the Supreme Council for their excellent service and their exemplary leadership during the past fraternal year.

**7. In Support for the Cause for Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights and their families pray for and promote the cause for the canonization of the founder of our Order, Blessed Michael J. McGivney, and continue to seek his intercessions.

**8. Support for Armed Forces, Veterans, First Responder and Health Care Workers:**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ontario Knights and their families honour the members of our Canadian Armed Forces, Veterans, First Responders and Health Care Workers, for their heroic service dedicated to our communities and country, and we pray for their safe return to their family.

- Adopt and Refer to Supreme
- Reject

**Resolution # 9**

**Re-election of Supreme Director Arthur Peters to the Supreme Board**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Ontario State Board

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WHEREAS: Brother Arthur Peters has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1986, and prior to becoming a Knight he was a member of the Columbian Squires from 1980 – 1986

and

WHEREAS: Brother Arthur Peters served the Order in Ontario as a member of the Ontario State Board from 2002 – 2013, including one year as State Deputy

and

WHEREAS: Brother Arthur Peters was elected as a Supreme Director in 2016 and after serving a three-year term was re-elected in 2019 and is finishing his second three-year term

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the members of the Knights of Columbus in Ontario nominate Brother Arthur Peters for re-election to the Supreme Board of Directors for his final three-year term.

- Adopt and Refer to Supreme
- Reject

**Resolution #10**

**Support for “UNDER ONE ROOF” and similar future projects**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**St. Patrick’s Basilica Council 485**

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WHEREAS: the 2021/2022 fundraising and housebuilding campaign “Under One Roof” is a fine example of the Knights of Columbus principal of “Leave No Neighbor Behind” because it is helping a brother Knight in extraordinary difficult circumstances of family separation while protecting the vulnerable life of his disabled child;

and

WHEREAS: “Under One Roof” originated in Ottawa Council 12158 (now 485), spread to local councils in the Ottawa Valley and met with wide general support throughout Ontario, aided by communications from State Deputy/Weekly Newsletter/Bulletin, a phone campaign and international interest in the story from Columbia Magazine;

and

WHEREAS: many Councils, though willing, were not able to donate to this campaign, due to the pandemic;

and

WHEREAS: the fundraising campaign has only reached 50% of its \$150K target as of February 1, 2022;

and

WHEREAS: unique projects like “Under One Roof” are larger than most Councils and Districts can fundraise;

and

WHEREAS: there is no existing mechanism within the State Board and State Charities to evaluate, coordinate and incentivize such a large fundraising project on a provincial wide basis;

and

WHEREAS: some councils do not have charitable status;

and

WHEREAS: donations to “Under One Roof” (through GoFundMe) are lower without a tax deduction incentive.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Ontario State Council contribute \$5,000.00 to the “Under One Roof” campaign as a show of solidarity with this province –wide effort;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Ontario State Council consider the criteria that future campaigns similar to “Under One Roof” need to have to qualify for State support per the above resolution.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject



**Resolution #11**

**Financial Support for the Columbian  
Squires Ontario Provincial Board**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**Leo Council 1130**

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WHEREAS: from 2017 at the 114<sup>th</sup> Ontario State Convention, it was voted on that all councils in Ontario State are assessed a \$40.00 annual charge to support the Columbian Squires Ontario Provincial Board;

and

WHEREAS: all Circles are located in southern Ontario in larger councils;

and

WHEREAS: northern and small councils have limited funds and do not benefit from this program;

and

WHEREAS: the Ontario State Board already funds the Ontario Squires program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the payment of the annual mandatory \$40.00 assessment fee to each council be made voluntary.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject

**Resolution #12**      **Delegate Voting at the State Convention**

**SUBMITTED BY:**                      **Toronto Council 1388**

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WHEREAS: voting at the Ontario State Convention follows the principle of “one delegate, one vote” as per Section 45:2 of Robert’s Rules of Order RONR (12<sup>th</sup> ed., p. 385);

and

WHEREAS: a single delegate representing a council may be allowed two votes if and only if the requirements of Section 12. (e) of the Charter Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus are followed which states: “During January of each year the State Deputy may submit to the subordinate councils of the jurisdiction a resolution to provide upon its adoption by a majority of the councils any council in the jurisdiction may be presented at the succeeding meeting of the State Council by the Grand Knight, or, in his absence, a duly elected Past Grand Knight, or by the alternate of one of them, who shall be entitled to two votes on any matter coming before the meeting.”;

and

WHEREAS: the geographic area of Ontario is more than one million square kilometres (415,000 square miles);

and

WHEREAS: due to geography, council size or financial resources, and other circumstances that may arise, it is equitable that any council in the jurisdiction may be represented at a meeting of the State Council, as set out above, by the Grand Knight, or in his absence, a duly elected Past Grand Knight, or by the alternate of one of them, whom shall be entitled to two votes on any matter coming before the meeting;

and

WHEREAS: this provision has been allowed in practice for many years in the Ontario State jurisdiction and delegates representing their councils over the years have grown accustomed to it;

and

WHEREAS: the current requirements to adopt the provision are so onerous and cumbersome as to preclude its adoption in actual practice where its adoption otherwise would be beneficial to the jurisdiction and its councils.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the State Council of Ontario, through its State Officers, consult and collaborate with the Supreme Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus to change the provisions of the Charter, Constitution and Laws of the Knights regarding delegates' votes at meetings of the State Council, with a view to increased simplicity, practicality, ease of implementation and abiding equity.

- Adopt and Refer to Supreme
- Reject





**Resolution #13**      **Our Lady of the Cape**

**SUBMITTED BY:**              **Ontario State Board**

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WHEREAS: Our Lady of the Cape Shrine in Trois Rivieres is Canada’s National Marian Shrine;

and

WHEREAS: our State Deputy has entrusted his term to her intercession;

and

WHEREAS: our State Chaplain has composed a Knights of Columbus prayer for her intercession;

and

WHEREAS: our Faith Director is planning a pilgrimage to Her Shrine in August.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that we all encourage dedication to Our Lady of the Cape, recitation of the Cape Prayer composed by our State Chaplain and participation in the pilgrimage to her Shrine.

Adopt and Refer to State

Reject

**Resolution #14**

**Oppose the use of abortion to those that are disabled or handicapped and/or is the child found to be disabled or handicapped**

SUBMITTED BY:

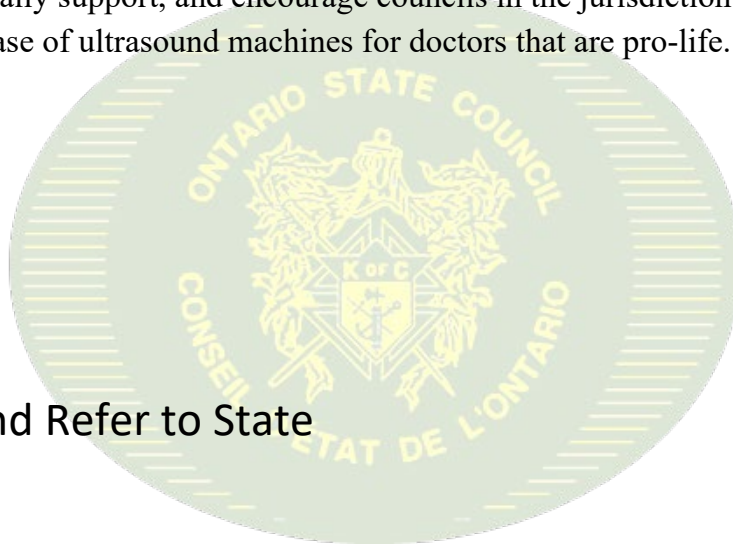
Beaches Council 7008

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WHEREAS: to oppose the use or excuse of power to perform an abortion based on the facts of a disability or handicap, as it goes against the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom to live and to be free based on all rights including handicap and disabilities’.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Ontario Knights of Columbus State Council continue to financially support, and encourage councils in the jurisdiction to financially support, the purchase of ultrasound machines for doctors that are pro-life.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject



**Resolution #15**      **Increased Support for Food Banks**

**SUBMITTED BY:**                      **Beaches Council 7008**

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WHEREAS: since the beginning of Covid donations to local Food Banks have decreased due to K of C council's inability to fund raise;

and

WHEREAS: homeless and needy people are disadvantaged by the lack of food supplies at local food banks.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Knights of Columbus councils continue to show more financial support for food drives to ensure places like The Good Shepherd can continue to offer healthy meals for the homeless and needy.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject



**Resolution 16**

**Central Repository for Storing  
Documentation Supporting Liability  
Insurance (i.e. policies, background  
checks, etc.)**

**SUBMITTED BY: St. Aidan's Council 11332**

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WHEREAS: Ontario Knights of Columbus councils must maintain liability insurance and liability insurance documents should be retained for long periods of time;

and

WHEREAS: all individuals who attend youth and vulnerable individual activities sponsored by the K of C in an official capacity must first be screened and trained, and such screening includes a background check;

and

WHEREAS: our insurance application implies that “all member applications, criminal checks and incident reports (if applicable)” should be “kept secure indefinitely” in case of a claim;

and

WHEREAS: if such documentation is lost, damaged, or disposed of, it could be a liability to members, local councils, Ontario State Council, and the Knights in general;

and

WHEREAS: local council membership, volunteers, storage space, and administrative capabilities can fluctuate significantly over time;

and

WHEREAS: local councils are occasionally dissolved, and thus may not exist in the future when a claim is made, but there may still be potential liability to Ontario State Council;

and

WHEREAS: Ontario State Council, corporately, is more stable an entity and administratively than some local councils;

and

WHEREAS: a central repository may be more reliable and cost effective than each council managing their own small repository.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that a central repository system (hereafter called the Repository) be established and maintained, to which local councils can submit insurance and safe environment documentation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Repository be created and maintained by Ontario State Council itself or, at the discretion of the Ontario State Board, by another organization on behalf of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that at a minimum, the Repository allow for storage of: insurance policy documentation, records of background checks, safe environment training records, and any other documentation that the council is required to maintain to be eligible for and protected by council liability insurance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Repository, at the discretion of the Ontario State Board, also allows for other documentation to be stored that the Board deem advisable to be retained;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Repository may be a physical or digital repository, and the Ontario State Board may determine which type of repository would be best to establish;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Repository allow for storage of documentation for at least the period of time required to ensure maintenance of council liability insurance, as the Ontario State Board is advised by the relevant insurance company;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Repository be established, maintained, and operated in a manner that is respectful of and reasonably safeguards members' personal information and privacy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that a minimum of thirty (30) days' notice be given prior to destruction or removal of any documentation from the Repository be given to the council who submitted that documentation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the option of receiving copies of any documentation stored in the Repository be given to the council who submitted that documentation prior to destruction or removal of any documentation from the Repository;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the costs of establishing and maintaining the Repository be shared among Ontario Councils in a manner and amounts determined by the

Ontario State Board and which, at the discretion of the Board, may include incorporating the costs into the annual dues owed to Ontario State;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Repository be established within one year and six months of the adoption of this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that local Ontario councils stand behind the Ontario State Board should the Board wish to negotiate that the insurance company providing insurance coverage should establish and maintain the Repository for the Ontario State Council.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject



**Resolution #17**

**Preserving Charitable Status for  
Pregnancy Support Centers and Live Birth  
Centers**

**SUBMITTED BY: Marian Council No. 3881**

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WHEREAS: all Canadian women are entitled to the goods and services provided by charitable organizations, including pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, that support or encourage live birth rights and discourage abortion in the exercise of their rights to freedom of conscience, freedom of association, freedom of religion, freedom of thought, freedom of belief, freedom of opinion and freedom of expression;

and

WHEREAS: all Canadian women are entitled to equal benefit of the law which affords charitable status to charitable organizations, including pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, without discrimination on the basis of the preference and counselling of live birth over abortion;

and

WHEREAS: pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers are entitled to charitable status;

and

WHEREAS: the Federal Liberals wish to end the charitable status of all pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, on the pretext that at least one such center has provided dishonest counselling;

and

WHEREAS: there is no evidence that any pregnancy support center or live birth support center has provided dishonest counselling;

and

WHEREAS: the Federal Liberals have not threatened to end the charitable status of any other charitable entity on the basis that such entity provides dishonest counselling;

and

WHEREAS: the Federal Liberals are not investigating or taking action to prevent dishonest counselling in any other charitable entity, apart from pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers;

and

WHEREAS: the Federal Liberals are discriminating between pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, on the one hand, and all other charitable entities, on the other;

and

WHEREAS: what constitutes “dishonest counselling” is a matter of opinion;

and

WHEREAS: no head of government in a free and democratic society is entitled to determine what is true, what is honest and what is dishonest, and for any head of government to deny charitable status on the basis of what he believes is true, what he believes is honest and what he believes is dishonest, abrogates fundamental human rights and dignity;

and

WHEREAS: without charitable status provided to pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, donations will likely decrease and such centers will be required to pay property tax;

and

WHEREAS, with decreased donations and having to pay property tax, such centers will likely be unable to remain in operation and will be forced to close, thereby resulting in fewer live births and causing mental anguish, distress and unhappiness to women who require their support services in order to deliver their babies;

and

WHEREAS: most Canadian women prefer live birth to abortion;

and

WHEREAS: live birth promotes life and other social benefits, including raising children who become responsible adults and parents, higher education, the advancement of civil society, happiness and Canadian citizenship, and facilitates adoption;

and

WHEREAS: many Canadian women believe that due to their financial and emotional circumstances, they cannot afford financially or emotionally to deliver and/or support their babies and support themselves;

and

WHEREAS, many Canadian women who prefer live birth to abortion require support from pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers in the form of free or discounted room, board, counselling and support in order to give birth to a healthy baby;



and

WHEREAS: pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers encourage women to deliver their babies and discourage abortion, which benefits women and society as a whole;

and

WHEREAS: the Campaign Life Coalition has launched a petition against the Federal Liberal proposal to deny pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers charitable status.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Ontario State write a letter to all Dioceses and the priests of all parishes in Ontario, encouraging them to write letters, participate in petitions and organize campaigns in favor of supporting the charitable status of pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject



**Resolution # 18      Ending Federal Liberal Discrimination  
Against and Unequal Treatment of  
Organizations that Support or Encourage  
Live Births when Compared to  
Organizations that Perform, Encourage or  
Support Abortions**

**SUBMITTED BY:                      Marian Council No. 3881**

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WHEREAS: all Canadian women are entitled to the goods and services provided by charitable organizations, including pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, that support or encourage live birth rights and discourage abortion in the exercise of their rights to freedom of conscience, freedom of association, freedom of religion, freedom of thought, freedom of belief, freedom of opinion and freedom of expression;

and

WHEREAS: all Canadian women are entitled to equal benefit of the law which affords charitable status to charitable organizations, including pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, without discrimination on the basis of the preference and counselling of live birth over abortion;

and

WHEREAS: the Federal Liberals wish to end the charitable status of all pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, on the pretext that at least one such center has provided dishonest counselling;

and

WHEREAS: there is no evidence that any pregnancy support center or live birth support center has provided dishonest counselling;

and

WHEREAS: the Federal Liberals have not threatened to end the charitable status of any other charitable entity on the basis that such entity provides dishonest counselling;

and

WHEREAS: the Federal Liberals are not investigating or taking action to prevent dishonest counselling in any other charitable entity, apart from pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers;

and

WHEREAS: the Federal Liberals are discriminating between pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers, on the one hand, and all other charitable entities, on the other;

and

WHEREAS: what constitutes “dishonest counselling” is a matter of opinion;

and

WHEREAS: no head of government in a free and democratic society is entitled to determine what is true, what is honest and what is dishonest, and for any head of government to deny charitable status on the basis of what he believes is true, what he believes is honest and what he believes is dishonest, abrogates fundamental human rights and dignity;

and

WHEREAS: most Canadian women prefer live birth to abortion;

and

WHEREAS: live birth promotes life and other social benefits, including raising children who become responsible adults and parents, higher education, the advancement of civil society, happiness and Canadian citizenship, and facilitates adoption;

and

WHEREAS: many Canadian women believe that due to their financial and emotional circumstances, they cannot afford financially or emotionally to deliver and/or support their babies and support themselves;

and

WHEREAS: many Canadian women who prefer live birth to abortion require support from pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers in the form of free or discounted room, board, counselling and support in order to give birth to a healthy baby;

and

WHEREAS: pregnancy support centers and live birth support centers encourage women to deliver their babies and discourage abortion, which benefits women and society as a whole.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Ontario State write a letter to all Dioceses and the priests of all parishes in Ontario, encouraging them to write letters, participate in petitions and organize campaigns in favor of ending Federal Liberal discrimination against and unequal treatment of organizations that support or encourage live births when compared to organizations that perform, encourage or support abortions

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject



**Resolution # 19**      **Support Catholic Teachings on Sexual Education in Catholic Schools**

**SUBMITTED BY:**                      **San Damiano, Council No 15861**

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WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization, which upholds the rights of Catholic parents;

and

WHEREAS: the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario in conjunction with Catholic educators and trustees released in 2012 the “Respecting Difference” resource, to promote the equity and respect in Ontario Catholic schools;

and

WHEREAS: in April 2016, the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario released guidelines for sexual education in Catholic schools. Affirming the rights of parents and the importance of fidelity to Church teaching;

and

WHEREAS: in their July 2018 response to the repeal of the previously imposed curriculum, the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario affirmed the role of parents as the primary educators of Catholic students, as set out in the Catechism paras. 2223-2228, and prayed that elected officials would listen intently to all the voices in developing new curriculums;

and

WHEREAS: the Ontario government produced a revised version of its expectations for sexual and health education in 2019, which included early introduction of aspects of certain concepts despite objections from many parents;

and

WHEREAS: many Catholic school boards in Ontario have raised rainbow flags and engaged in other public acts recognizing the month of June as Pride Month, for promotion of LGBTQ and other interest groups;

and

WHEREAS: a Pride flag or resolution endorses a vision of the human person and human sexuality opposed to divine revelation, Catholic magisterial teaching and natural law.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Ontario State Council supports the positions asserted by the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario as previously asserted in its various submissions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED: the Ontario State Council, in particular, asserts the right of parents to have comprehensive access to the content of the curriculum, to receive notice when their children are enrolled in classes with sexual education components, to receive notice of the specific lesson plans involving sexual education components in a timely fashion, or on request, and to be able to withdraw their children from classes or school activities on such topics if called by their conscience to do so;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Knights of Columbus support the teachings of the Catholic faith by opposing the usurpation of our denominational education rights by rainbow flags or “pride” resolutions, favor of a greater adherence to the teachings of the faith, such as honoring the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the month of June.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject



**Resolution # 20**

**Oppose the Expansion of Medical Aid in Dying (M.A.I.D.) and Enhance the Availability of Palliative Care**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**San Damiano, Council No 15861**

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WHEREAS: we have witnessed an acceleration of access to euthanasia in Canada at an alarming rate since its removal from the Criminal Code in 2016;

and

WHEREAS: the government of Canada has passed Bill C-7, to amend the Criminal Code to allow assisted suicide to be made available to people suffering from mental illness, as of March 17, 2023;

and

WHEREAS: Bill C-7 establishes a Joint Committee of both houses of Parliament, who will review the provisions of the Criminal Code relating to medical assistance in dying, including issues relating to mature minors, advance requests, mental illness, the state of palliative care in Canada and the protection of Canadians with disabilities, and whereas such consultations are now occurring;

and

WHEREAS: though 87 percent of Canadians could benefit from palliative care at end-of-life, only 35 percent are receiving it, according to a recent report by the Canadian Institute for Health Information;

and

WHEREAS: the federal government previously pledged \$6 billion to go toward palliative care and home care expansion, without expanding such funds to date, but instead extended the timeframe to spend this commitment to 2027;

and

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization, which defends the right to life of all human beings from the moment of conception to natural death, based on both scientific grounds and teachings of the Church, whereby all human beings deserve equal respect, as formed in the image and likeness of God;

and

WHEREAS: the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, in its newsletter *Samaritanus bonus*, dated September 22, 2020, approved by Pope Francis, called euthanasia an intrinsically evil act, in every situation or circumstance, and stated that those who approve laws of euthanasia and assisted suicide become accomplices of a grave sin.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Ontario State Council oppose efforts to expand Medical Aid In Dying as proposed by the federal government in its most recent amendments to the Criminal Code;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Ontario State Council promote a return to the commitment in favor of greater access to palliative care, from both the provincial and federal governments, by enhanced funding;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Knights of Columbus engage efforts to oppose the expansion of assisted suicide, and promote palliative care access and the protection of persons with disabilities, by submissions to the Joint Committee established by Bill C-7, by public statements, or by other means to be determined by the State Council.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject





**Resolution # 21      Canadian Unity**

**SUBMITTED BY:                      Ontario State Board**

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WHEREAS: recent events in Canada are making it increasingly difficult to recognize our country because nefarious forces are trying to make Canadians turn inward and against each other;

and

WHEREAS: the world had been envious of Canada's success in bringing more than 250 ethnicities together in unity. Canada is a model of pluralism, freedom, democracy, and human rights and fundamental freedoms;

and

WHEREAS: Canada needs to heal and be united, so that it may resume its responsibility and leadership and goodwill on the world stage.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus in Ontario, in annual convention assembled, hereby reaffirm our fourth cardinal virtue of patriotism and our love of the Constitution Act (1867), the Canadian Bill of Rights (1960), the Constitution Act 1982, the Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms (1982), and the Canadian Multiculturalism Act (1988);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the Ontario State Council Convention delegates reaffirm its commitment to working harder to unify our country from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic Ocean so that everyone can be heard and respected;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: we, the Members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, in State Council convention assembled, are committed to breaking down barriers between ethno-cultural communities, bringing them together through dialogue and friendship. Our common denominator is Canada, our mutual aspiration must be to "stand on guard" for our nation and for religious tolerance, under one nation "Strong and Free";

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, in the State Council convention assembled, authorize the State Board to encourage initiatives and programs to promote our Order in the province of Ontario to reverse the growing rift.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject

## **Resolution # 22      Public Funding of Catholic Schools**

**SUBMITTED BY:**            **Ontario State Council**

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WHEREAS: Publicly funded Catholic Education is regularly under attack in Ontario and will soon be facing yet another Court challenge to its very existence from two plaintiffs, Havercourt and Sutton, who filed an application in the Superior Court of Ontario in January, 2022\*;

and

WHEREAS: One of the most consistent sources of attack comes from One Public Education Now (OPEN) an organization financially backing the Havercourt/Sutton challenge;

and

WHEREAS: Publicly funded Catholic Education in Ontario is a gift of great value to the common good of the society in Ontario;

and

WHEREAS: The curriculum taught in Catholic Schools is rooted in the Gospel values of Jesus Christ and is designed to offer an inclusive learning environment that fosters spirituality and top academic and community-minded graduates\*;

and

WHEREAS: Catholic Education is part of the teaching arm of the Church just as the Knights of Columbus in all that they do are considered to be the right arm of the Church;

and

WHEREAS: Catholic school communities celebrate what matters most — faith, inclusivity, diversity, and academic excellence. Catholic schools produce graduates who are responsible citizens, caring family members and collaborative contributors to the common good of society;

and

WHEREAS: The Catholic Church has been educating persons since it was formed by Jesus Christ and Catholic Education in Canada has been in existence since the fifteenth century or earlier;

and

WHEREAS: There are presently over half a million students in Catholic schools throughout Ontario, and 29 Catholic School Boards;

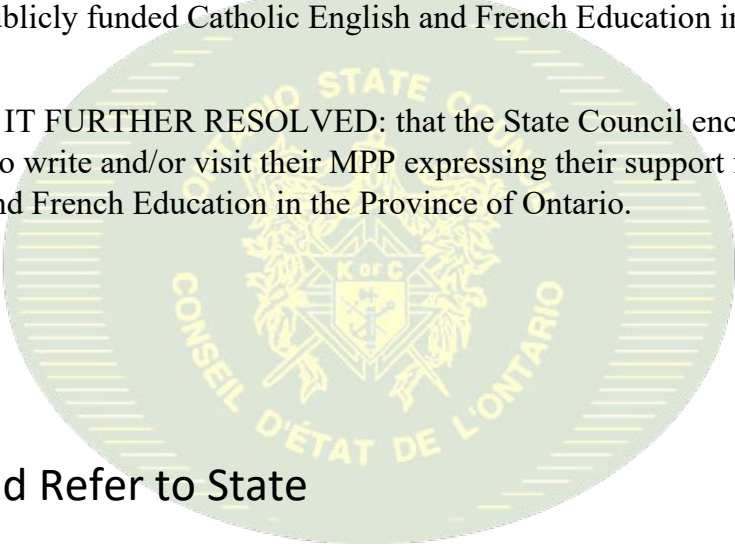
and

WHEREAS: There are presently four types of schools in Ontario, English Public, English Catholic, French Public and French Catholic, organized in four school board associations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the State Council of the Knights of Columbus of Ontario write to the Premier of the Province, the Honourable Doug Ford and the Minister of Education, Stephen Lecce to state our support for the continued funding of the English Catholic and the French Catholic School Boards throughout Ontario;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the State Council encourage each Council in Ontario to write and/or visit their Minister of Provincial Parliament (MPP) stating their support for publicly funded Catholic English and French Education in the Province of Ontario;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the State Council encourage every Knight in Ontario to write and/or visit their MPP expressing their support for publicly funded Catholic English and French Education in the Province of Ontario.

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- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject

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\*Bobby Hristova, CBC Hamilton

\*[www.togetherinfaith.ca](http://www.togetherinfaith.ca)

## **Resolution #23**

## **Ukraine**

**SUBMITTED BY: Ontario State Council**

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WHEREAS: the Russian invasion of Ukraine has resulted the deaths of thousands and the displacement of millions of people, including children

and

WHEREAS: speaking of the invasion, on March 6, 2022, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, lamented, *"rivers of blood and tears are flowing. This is not just a military operation but a war which sows death, destruction and misery"*

and

WHEREAS: Pope Francis further exhorted, "In that martyred country the need for humanitarian assistance is growing by the hour." and "War is madness, please stop."<sup>1</sup>

and

WHEREAS: On March 2, 2022, the General Assembly of the United Nations, in an Emergency Special Session, "overwhelmingly adopted a resolution demanding the Russian Federation immediately end its invasion of Ukraine and unconditionally withdraw all its military forces from that neighbouring country" and *"deploring in the strongest terms its aggression against Ukraine in violation of the Charter of the United Nations".*<sup>2</sup>

and

WHEREAS: The Ukrainian community in Canada is the third largest in the world and Knights of Columbus in Ontario were instrumental in establishing the Knights of Columbus, with active councils, in Ukraine.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Knights of Columbus in Ontario join Knights in all jurisdictions in praying for Ukraine and Russia to live in peace and friendship

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: Knights of Columbus in Ontario join Knights in all jurisdictions in making generous financial donations to the Ukraine Solidarity Fund established by the Knights of Columbus Supreme

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVE THAT: Knights of Columbus in Ontario, through their councils, assemblies, districts, parishes, communities, and individual efforts, provide generous assistance in the form of their time, talents, and resources to the people of Ukraine, for example through work with Ukrainian refugees.

- Adopt and Refer to State
- Reject



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<sup>1</sup> Reuters March 6, 2022

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Press Release GA/12407 2 March 2022