

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 1

Greetings to His Holiness Pope Francis

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: we, the Knights of Columbus, in the jurisdiction of Ontario, ardently desire to place on record our steadfast loyalty to His Holiness, the successor of Peter, Vicar of Christ, and Pastor of the Whole Church;

AND

WHEREAS: called to be Christ's Vicar on Earth at a most critical time in the history of the Church, Pope Francis has courageously accepted his responsibilities and his pontificate is one of addressing the challenges which confront the Church as well as all Humanity.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Knights of Columbus in the province of Ontario in Convention, assembled in the city of Niagara Falls, hasten to renew our devotion and affection to our Holy Father Pope Francis and humbly pray, in these troubled times, that Almighty God may grant to His Vicar on Earth fruitful years of life and consolation.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: that a letter to that effect be sent to His Holiness no later than 30 June 2024. (for greetings letter see Appendix A)

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 2

Greetings to the Supreme Knights of Columbus - Patrick Kelly

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: we, the Knights of Columbus of Ontario, assembled in Convention, in the City of Niagara Falls, proudly recognize the outstanding Christian Leader in the person of Patrick Kelly, our Supreme Knight.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we hereby assure our Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly unabated loyalty to the Knights of Columbus, Our Patron Christopher Columbus, and our Founding spiritual leader, Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: we humbly pray God to protect our Supreme Knight and pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide him in the discharge of his responsibilities.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: that a letter to that effect be sent to Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly no later than 30 June 2024. (for greetings letter see Appendix A)

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 3

Greetings to His Majesty King Charles III

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: in the heart of Canadians, regardless of political affiliation, there is an attachment to the person of our most Gracious Sovereign, at a time when Christian virtues seem to be losing their appeal, it is refreshing to find them personified in one so highly placed;

AND

WHEREAS: patriotism is a venture every Knights of Columbus in this great country of ours embraces;

AND

WHEREAS: His Majesty sets an example of public and private responsibility.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Ontario State Council Convention delegates reaffirm its commitment to salute His Majesty, and humbly pray, God save the King.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus in Ontario, assembled in the annual convention, hereby assure Your Majesty of intense and unabated loyalty to your august person and the unifying traditions of the Commonwealth.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: a letter to that effect be sent to His Majesty No later than 30 June 2024. (for greetings letter see Appendix A)

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 4

Greetings to the Right Honourable Prime Minister of Canada - Justin Trudeau

Submitted By: Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: in a nation as great as ours, not alone because of the members of its population or wealth of its holdings, but because of the true contentment of its people;

AND

WHEREAS: Canada is considered a great country, and this is in no small measure due to the unselfish spirit of its citizens, who, by way of fraternal organizations such as ours, are helping to make society a better nation for their families to live freely in a more prosperous tomorrow;

AND

WHEREAS: the leaders of our nation have a very great responsibility and to the first citizen, the Right Honourable Prime minister, falls the greatest one.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that we, the Knights of Columbus of the province of Ontario, in convention assembled in the City of Niagara Falls, offer our prayers and hope that God will guide you in your endeavors as the leader of our great country, Canada.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: a letter to that effect be sent to the Right Honourable Prime Minister no later than 30 June 2024. (for greetings letter see Appendix A)

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 5

Greetings to the Premier of Ontario – Doug Ford

Submitted By: Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: in the heart of Ontarians, regardless of political affiliation, there is an attachment to our political leaders; at a time when Christian virtues seem to be losing their appeal, it is refreshing to be able to celebrate according to our various faiths and beliefs;

AND

WHEREAS: Patriotism is a principle that every Knight of Columbus in this great country of ours, where religion and liberty are allies, cherishes;

AND

WHEREAS: the Premier sets an example of public and private responsibility.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Ontario State Council Convention delegates reaffirm their commitment to support our leaders.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: a letter to that effect be sent to Ontario Premier Doug Ford no later than 30 June 2024. (for greetings letter see Appendix A)

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 6

**Greetings to the Mayor of Niagara Falls –
Jim Diodati**

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: the city of Niagara Falls has welcomed the Knights of Columbus for their convention and has shown outstanding hospitality to our members and families.

AND

WHEREAS: the facilities have provided superior accommodations.

AND

WHEREAS: the Mayor of Niagara Falls, His Worship Jim Diodati has been most welcoming to his city.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: a letter to that effect be sent to His Worship no later than 30 June 2024. (for greetings letter see Appendix A)

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 7

Greetings to the Supreme Master

Michael McCusker

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: members of the Order experience a sense of personal elation when they serve the Order as members of the Patriotic Degree. They are proud to follow the leadership of the Supreme Master;

AND

WHEREAS: Michael McCusker has served his Country and is now serving the Order's Patriotic Degree with distinction.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus in Ontario, in annual convention assembled, extend our best wishes for continued success in this distinguished office and that of Supreme Director.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: a letter to that effect be sent to SK Michael McCusker no later than 30 June 2024. (for greetings letter see Appendix A)

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 8

Congratulations to Bishop David Douglas Crosby on the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council (State Chaplain)

WHEREAS: His Excellency Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI was ordained to the priesthood for the Oblates of Mary Immaculate on September 27, 1975;

AND

WHEREAS: this year, he will be entering his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination, which essentially put God's seal on Bishop Crosby's acceptance of his vocation as a gift from God;

AND

WHEREAS: ordained a bishop on January 2, 1998, he has served since then, in his episcopal ministry, in the Dioceses of Labrador City-Schefferville (Québec), Saint George's (Newfoundland), Corner Brook and Labrador (Newfoundland and Labrador), and Hamilton (Ontario);

AND

WHEREAS: the State Council and directors and our brothers Knights in the jurisdiction of Ontario have benefitted from his inspiring guidance; his loyalty to programs benefitting the family, his commitment to the defence of the Right to Life of the innocent unborn and his dedication to his vocation to the priesthood, many of which topics he covers frequently whenever the opportunity avails itself.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, assembled in Annual State Convention do hereby convey our heartfelt congratulations and respectful best wishes to our former State Chaplain, Bishop Crosby, in this, the 50th year of his priesthood.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: we pray to our Lord Jesus Christ whom he serves so well and our Blessed Mother whom he loves so much, that he will be showered with many graces and be given many more happy years of healthy and dedicated service to our Church, and to our Order. (for letter of congratulations see Appendix A)

Approved Rejected Referred to Supreme



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 9

Congratulations to Bishop Fred Joseph Colli on the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council (State Chaplain)

WHEREAS: His Excellency Bishop Fred Joseph Colli was ordained to the priesthood on June 21, 1975, for the Diocese of St. Catherines;

AND

WHEREAS: this year, he will be entering his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination, which essentially put God's seal on Bishop Colli's acceptance of his vocation as a gift from God;

AND

WHEREAS: ordained as an auxiliary bishop on February 22, 1995, for the Archdiocese of Ottawa, and then appointed Bishop of Thunder Bay on February 1, 1999, where he currently serves;

AND

WHEREAS: the State Council and directors and our brother Knights in the jurisdiction of Ontario have benefitted from his inspiring guidance; his loyalty to programs benefitting the family, his commitment to the defence of the Right to Life of the innocent unborn and his dedication to his vocation to the priesthood, many of which topics he covers frequently whenever the opportunity avails itself.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, assembled in Annual State Convention do hereby convey our heartfelt congratulations and respectful best wishes to our former State Chaplain, Bishop Colli, in this, the 50th year of his priesthood.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, we pray to our Lord Jesus Christ whom he serves so well and our Blessed Mother whom he loves so much, that he will be showered with many graces and be given many more happy years of healthy and dedicated service to our Church, and to our Order. (for letter of congratulations see Appendix A)

Approved Rejected Referred to Supreme



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 10

Expression of Support for our Military members

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: St. Patrick's Council #11271 in Fallowfield introduced resolution #2 at the State Council Convention in 2009 that was carried by an affirmative vote;

AND

WHEREAS: the subject resolution called for: *“The Knights of Columbus of Ontario at the Ontario State Convention convened in Toronto, Ontario on May 18th, 2009, that we offer our gratitude and support to the men and women of the Canadian Forces as we pray for the safety of those wounded and injured and for the souls of those who have died in the line of duty.”*;

AND

WHEREAS: the subject resolution also stated: *“The State Council formally inform the Governor-General of Canada, the Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Forces, and the serving Chaplain General of our support for the Canadian Forces in the execution of their duties in the defence of our nation, and that any assistance be given to the serving military.”*;

AND

WHEREAS: serving members of the Canadian Armed Forces, (Regular and Reserve forces) are eligible for free memberships in the Fraternal Order of the Knights of Columbus.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Ontario State Council Convention delegates reaffirm its commitment to our men and women in the Canadian Armed Forces.

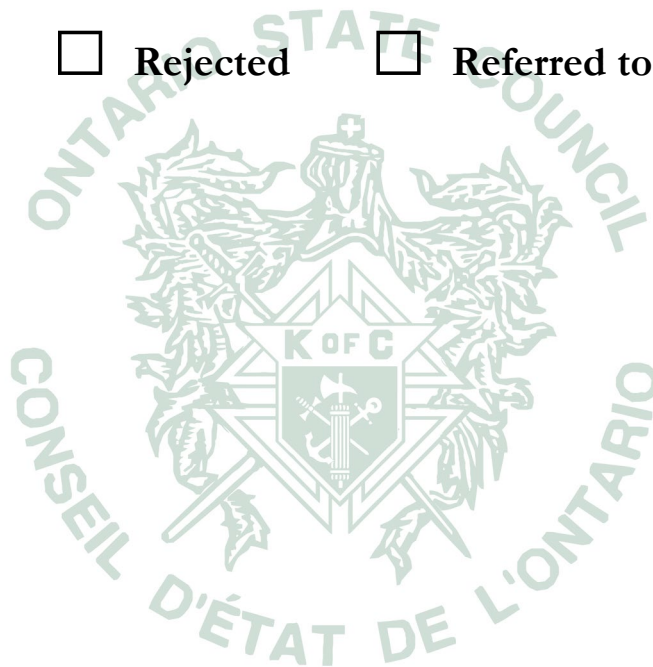
THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: we humbly pray God to protect our military members and pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: A letter to that effect be sent to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and the serving Chaplain General no later than 30 June 2024. (for letter see appendix A)

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 11

Mileage Rates for Voting Delegates Attending State Convention

Submitted By: Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: presently each Council's 1st voting delegate attending the annual State Convention is compensated for his mileage (one way) at a rate of \$0.15 cents per kilometre if the council's voting delegates book their hotel accommodations in the official Ontario State Convention hotel (as per Ontario State Operational Handbook revised September 13, 2019);

AND

WHEREAS: the cost of travel has increased with the rising price of fuel.

AND

WHEREAS: not all council voting delegates drive together.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the Knights of Columbus of the province of Ontario, in convention assembled in the City of Niagara Falls, authorize a one-way mileage rate compensation change from \$0.15 to \$0.25 per kilometer for all 1st and 2nd voting council delegates.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: beginning in 2025 all council's 1st and 2nd voting delegates attending the annual State Convention will be compensated for their mileage if they live more than 40 kilometers away from the State Convention site.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: the change will take effect for the 2025 Annual State Convention and will only be authorized if the council's voting delegates book their hotel accommodations in the official State Convention hotel.

Approved Rejected Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 12

Payment of Council Per Capita Assessments

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: per capita council assessments are the most significant component of Ontario State Council's annual general revenues;

AND

WHEREAS: during the first week of January every active Ontario council receives a council per capita assessment invoice for the calendar year from the Ontario State office for all of the council's assessable members;

AND

WHEREAS: each council must pay their per capita assessment invoice by December 31 of the calendar year for which they are invoiced;

AND

WHEREAS: on November 1, third and final notice letters also are sent to all councils that have not yet paid their annual assessment invoices;

AND

WHEREAS: the December 31 assessment invoice payment deadline, despite initial invoice and third and final notice letter timing, results in insufficient revenue in time to cover State Council's annual expenses;

AND

WHEREAS: furthermore, State Council operates on an annual budget for which expenses exceed council per capita invoice payments;

AND

WHEREAS: during the calendar year State Council also must make advance deposits for the two mandatory District Deputy meetings and the State Convention;

AND

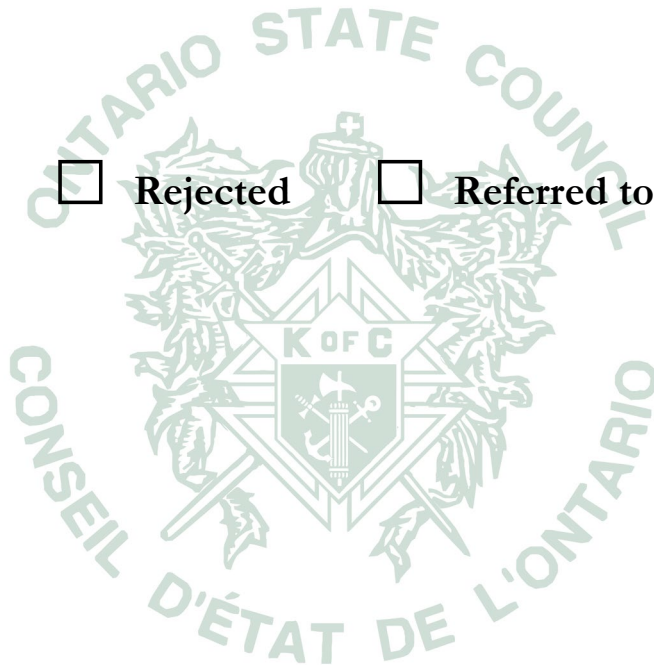
WHEREAS: councils that have not paid their annual assessment invoices before the annual State Convention are barred from voting at the State Convention.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: councils' payment of per capita assessment invoices is due upon receipt and must be received by State Office no later than June 30 of the calendar year invoiced.

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 13

Star Council membership Quotas

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: some subordinate councils have a quota of fifteen (15) new members (maximum) to qualify for Star Council which is very difficult to achieve and is counterproductive.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Ontario State Council Convention delegates recommend that the maximum quota of new members, for any subordinate council, not exceed eight (8) new members to qualify for Star Council.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: the Ontario State Council send a letter to that effect to the Supreme Office of the Knights of Columbus in New Haven, Connecticut for their consideration.

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 14

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: Our Lady Seat of Wisdom comprises a student body of 100 students;

AND

WHEREAS: the College Alumni comprises six (6) ordained Priests with more to be ordained in 2024;

AND

WHEREAS: the College Alumni comprises seven (7) seminarians also studying for the Priesthood;

AND

WHEREAS: the College Alumni also comprises four (4) religious sisters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Ontario State Council Convention delegates recognize the contribution of Our Lady Seat of Wisdom for the Ministry of the Priesthood in religious life, giving young faithful the opportunity to pursue work in God's fields during these times of trouble.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that Our Lady Seat of Wisdom be eligible for donations under our support for the RSVP program.

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 15

Brother Edward Gleeson Inducted into The Canadian Football Hall of Fame

Submitted By:

St. Patrick Basilica, Ottawa Council 485 in Ottawa

WHEREAS: according to the Ottawa Citizen dated December 11, 1906, Brother Edward (Eddie) P. Gleason was: “...one of the greatest football players Ottawa ever produced and one of the greatest halfbacks in the business”. During his career, the Ottawa Citizen newspaper, on 25 and 26 October 1898, referred to him as “the king of half backs” or “Edward P. Gleason, the Great” respectively;

AND

WHEREAS: his record of achievements included: he was Captain of the College Football Club when they were champions of Canada for five consecutive years; he tied for first place for the all-round championship of the University of Ottawa; that he also played for Osgoode Hall and the Argonaut teams;

AND

WHEREAS: Brother Edward Gleason was a member of Ottawa Council #485 of the Fraternal Order of the Knights of Columbus;

AND

WHEREAS: Edward Gleeson was inducted into the city of Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame in 1966.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, in State Council Convention assembled, affirm our commitment to have Brother Edward Gleeson inducted into the Canadian Football League (CFL) Hall of Fame.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, in State Council Convention assembled instruct the State Board to proceed with an application for Brother Gleason to be sent to the CFL authorities for consideration no later than October 2024. For letter see Appendix A

Approved Rejected Referred to Supreme



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 16

Condolences, Past State Deputy **Paul Crawford**

Submitted By:

Toronto Council 1388 in Toronto

WHEREAS: the Order suffered great affliction and momentous loss on July 21, 2023, with the death of Past State Deputy Paul Crawford;

AND

WHEREAS: Brother Paul was born on October 13, 1944, in Toronto. He joined the Knights of Columbus in 1979 and served Toronto Council 1388 in a variety of offices before and after his election as Grand Knight (2011, 2012 and 2022), and served Ontario State Council in a variety of offices, including that of District Deputy, both before and after his election as State Deputy (1998 and 1999);

AND

WHEREAS: Brother Paul earned the deep gratitude of the Order and its members, as he served with great distinction in all capacities in his desire to advance the prestige and strength of our Order which was his great pride and consolation. His deep religious faith and profound love of our church were manifested each day of his life. He was a devoted husband, a loving father and, above all, a Catholic gentleman;

AND

WHEREAS: Brother Paul will long be remembered by countless friends who loved him for his gentleness, intense loyalty, love, humanity and unwavering enmity towards what was unjust and dishonest.

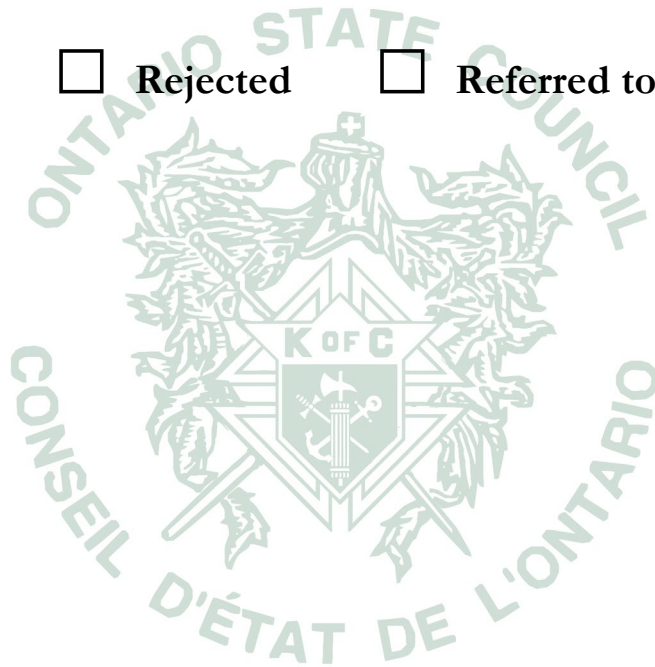
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the Members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, in State Council Convention assembled, record the passing of Past State Deputy and Brother Paul Crawford with profound sorrow.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: we, the Members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, in State Council Convention assembled, express our heartfelt sympathy to Paul Crawford's family and join with them in praying for the repose of his soul, that he may enjoy that infinite happiness which, we firmly believe, in honesty, charity and devotion to our holy religion, Paul's consistent devotion to duty, in all aspects of his life, entitle him.

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 17

Support Continuing Public Funding for Catholic Schools

Submitted By:

Toronto Council 1388 in Toronto

WHEREAS: from the time of Bishop Alexander Macdonell, first bishop of Kingston, Upper Canada (17 July 1762 - 14 January 1840), publicly funded Catholic Education in Ontario has been established through the hard work, dedication and civic-mindedness of many individuals and organizations and is of inestimable value in its benefits to society and the common good in Ontario;

AND

WHEREAS: legislation extending back to the Scott Act and the British North America Act and landmark court decisions have firmly established full funding of English and French Catholic Education in Ontario at all grade levels;

AND

WHEREAS: publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario continues to be challenges, including court challenges, come from various sources, e.g. One Public Education Now (OPEN), using different approaches;

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 which supports high academic achievement and faith-grounded, community-minded graduates with a lifelong love of learning;

AND

WHEREAS: Catholic Education is an important element of the Church's teaching mission just as the Knights of Columbus, in all that they do, are often identified as the strong right arm of the Church;

AND

WHEREAS: Catholic schools must continue to foster faith, inclusivity, diversity, and academic excellence and form 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 people since it was formed by Jesus Christ and, in Canada, Catholic education has existed since the sixteenth century;

AND

WHEREAS: there are over half a million students in Catholic schools in 29 Catholic District School Boards throughout Ontario;

AND

WHEREAS: there are 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: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention, direct the State Council officers write to the Premier of the Province and the Minister of Education supporting continuing funding of the English Catholic and the French Catholic School Boards throughout Ontario.

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

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: members verify their municipal tax forms and make sure that their municipal tax forms support separate school education as opposed to public school education (always used by default). (Sample of Application for Direction of school Support found at Appendix A)

Approved **Rejected** **Referred to Supreme**

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 18

Support Greater Public Awareness of the Holodomor

Submitted By:

Toronto Council 1388 in Toronto

WHEREAS: the Holodomor, also known as the Great Ukrainian Famine, was a man-made famine that occurred in Ukraine from 1932 to 1933, under Joseph Stalin's dictatorial regime, which killed millions of Ukrainians, with 25,000 dying each day at the famine's peak;

AND

WHEREAS: the contribution of Ukrainians to Canada's development and prosperity as a nation in many different fields over many decades is well known, appreciated and respected, with, as reported in the 2021 Canadian census, approximately 1.26 million people or nearly 3.5 percent of the Canadian population reporting Ukrainian as at least one of their ethnic origins, including 342,000 Ontarians;

AND

WHEREAS: the contribution in Canada and Ontario of Knights of Columbus councils chartered in and serving Ukrainian Catholic parishes has made and continues to make a significant contribution to the growth and strength of our Order, including the recommendation, as made through an Ontario State Convention resolution, that the Knights of Columbus be established in Ukraine;

AND

WHEREAS: the beautiful Holodomor Memorial Parkette, adjacent to the Princes' Gates at Exhibition Place in Toronto, was officially opened on October 21, 2018, as a space to reflect on the tragic events of the past and to foster aspirations for a just and humane society;

AND

WHEREAS: the Ukrainian community commemorates the Holodomor annually in November, commemorating the 90th anniversary in November 2023;

AND

WHEREAS: beginning in September 2025, learning about the Holodomor will be a mandatory part of the Ontario Grade 10 Canadian History course, with this learning further supported across grades 6 through 12 through the “*Holodomor National Awareness Tour*” and the “*Holodomor Mobile Classroom*.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention, support and promote education about and public knowledge of the Holodomor to safeguard freedom and democracy and understand the dangers of totalitarianism.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: to effect support and promotion of education about and public knowledge of the Holodomor, the Ontario State Board write to the Minister of Education on behalf of Ontario Knights of Columbus, expressing support for the province’s new Holodomor-related educational initiatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: to further effect support and promotion of education about and public knowledge of the Holodomor, Councils be encouraged to commemorate the Holodomor annually and support educational activities concerning the Holodomor in their parishes and communities.

Approved Rejected Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 19

Measures to Address Homelessness

Submitted By:

Toronto Council 1388 in Toronto

WHEREAS: economists have suggested that Canada is caught in a ‘population trap’, in which our country currently lacks the infrastructure and capital to adequately absorb current population growth and improve our standard of living;

AND

WHEREAS: considering the population trap, housing costs are extraordinarily high, particularly in Ontario, which is home to 39% of the Canadian population;

AND

WHEREAS: as well-established organizations caring for the homeless attest, those from many different socio-economic backgrounds find themselves homeless, due to an often unexpected and sudden series of adverse events and circumstances;

AND

WHEREAS: as well-established organizations caring for the homeless also suggest, there are innovative approaches to alleviate homelessness that can be implemented through innovative public, private and volunteer sector cooperation and partnerships;

AND

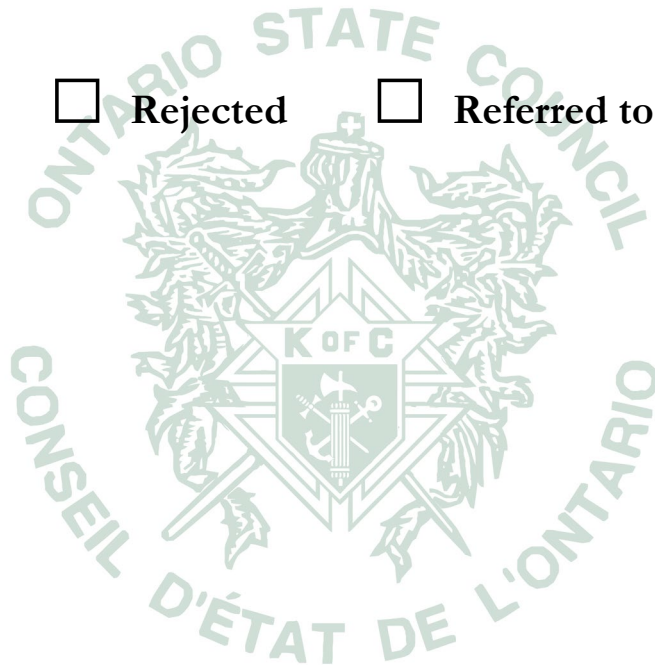
WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus are well-known for creating innovative, successful and well-respected charitable programs such as Coats for Kids and Food for Families to serve those in need.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention support measures to alleviate

homelessness, and direct the State Council write to the Minister of Housing recommending innovative public, private and volunteer sector cooperation and partnerships.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: to also better support measures to alleviate homelessness, councils be encouraged to understand the conditions of homelessness in their local communities and to develop and implement programs which address those conditions as part of their Faith in Action activity.

Approved Rejected Referred to Supreme



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 20

Celebrating Families, Welcoming New Life

Submitted By:

Aurora Council 6519 in Aurora

WHEREAS: it is the Birth of a Child which is proclaimed as joyful news, "*gospel*" itself: joyful good news. The Gospel of life is both a great gift of God and an exacting task for humanity. (Evangelium Vitae #52, John Paul II, 1995);

AND

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus values and celebrates the joyful arrival of all children in their parishes, whether by birth or by adoption.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention encourage subordinate councils to present a meaningful, symbolic gift(s) to the parish families who are welcoming a new life through the baptism of a child.

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 21

Censure any Further Amendments to the Canadian National Anthem

Submitted By:

Reverend Clair Tipping Council 9235 in Brampton

WHEREAS: the British North America Act 1867 was founded upon the Judea-Christian principles inherit with the belief of God in a democracy;

AND

WHEREAS: Part 1: Constitution Act 1982 reads: “*Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law.*”;

AND

WHEREAS: the majority of Canadians, a nation of multicultural values and a belief in God and a profession of the Presence of God in their faith communities;

AND

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus are committed to the preservation of our Church and to serve as an example of the Presence of Jesus in our communities, in our nation and in our world;

AND

WHEREAS: there are a variety of individuals and groups who are requesting changes to our national anthem to reflect the inclusivity and the secular values of Canadian society of the 21st century. Opinions expressed to a variety of media (letters to the editor, radio talk shows, social media outlets & social commentaries) are seeking to request a government policy or legislated change to delete this important expression of our Canadian identity.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention encourage our Councils & Assemblies petition the Minister of Heritage and all the leaders of the political parties represented in our Canadian Parliament not to edit or to delete the following line from our national anthem: “*God keep our land glorious and free.*”

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: the Knights of Columbus Councils will encourage other voices in our communities to be united to express their disapproval of any legislated or policy change regarding Canada's National Anthem.

Approved Rejected Referred to Supreme



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 22

Knights of Columbus Officially Operate in Four Languages

Submitted By:

St. Agnes Council 11559 in Azilda

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus have four (4) official languages, English, French, Spanish and Polish;

AND

WHEREAS: several new Knights of Columbus programs are always introduced in English first, for example, the new Cor Program, and the Knights of Columbus does not introduce programs in French, Spanish and Polish until much later, sometimes even several months;

AND

WHEREAS: there is a lot of confusion in the Territories and Districts where multiple language councils are present concerning implementing ceremonies and programs at the same time. Especially when some programs have been offered to English Councils and cannot be offered to the French, Spanish or Polish Councils due to translation;

AND

WHEREAS: all programs should be introduced simultaneously in all languages to prevent confusion and have some fairness for all councils.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention encourage Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus complete all programs and ceremonies in the four (4) official languages (e.g. English, French, Spanish and Polish) before they are launched in all jurisdictions.

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 23

Terminology Used for the Intellectually Disabled

Submitted By:

St. Patrick Council 12782 in Mississauga

WHEREAS: resolution #10 at the State Council Convention in 1999 was carried by an affirmative vote. The subject resolution called for:

“The State Council of the Knights of Columbus amend reference from “*mentally retarded*” to a more acceptable phrase such as “*special needs*” in any literature produced by State Council.”;

AND

WHEREAS: the term “*special needs*” is no longer considered appropriate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention, amend reference from “*special needs*” to a more acceptable phrase such as “*intellectual disabilities*.” in any literature produced by State Council.

Approved

Rejected

Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2024

Resolution 24

Support Catholic Hospitals and Hospices

Submitted By:

Our Lady of Sorrows Council 4189 in Aylmer

WHEREAS: previous Knights of Columbus Ontario State Conventions have passed resolutions urging councils not to donate to hospitals that do abortions or euthanasia (Medical Assistance in Dying ‘MAID’) and hospices that do euthanasia (MAID);

AND

WHEREAS: since the legalization of euthanasia in Canada (2016) many hospices in Ontario, that originally refused to participate in euthanasia, are now providing euthanasia on their premises;

AND

WHEREAS: previously passed resolutions called on councils to ensure that a hospice does not provide euthanasia before donating to that hospice;

AND

WHEREAS: recently the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops reiterated their complete opposition to Catholic hospitals providing euthanasia or abortion on their premises. At least one Ontario Bishop has ordered all Catholic organizations to stop donating to a local hospice because that hospice is actively providing euthanasia.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, in annual State Convention assembled, support the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic hospitals and hospices by only donating to those hospitals and hospices that continue to refuse to participate in euthanasia.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: any contribution made by the Knights of Columbus to a hospital or hospice which is not Catholic or a hospice that encourages

euthanasia should be earmarked for a specific unit or campaign and is not to be used for abortion or euthanasia purposes.

Approved **Rejected** **Referred to Supreme**



Resolutions 2024

Resolution 25

Create a Silver Line Helpline by Compassionate Community Care

Submitted By:

Our Lady of Sorrows Council 4189 in Aylmer

WHEREAS: the National Institute on Aging (NIA) released a report on December 5, 2023, titled: “*Understanding the Factors Driving the Epidemic of Social Isolation and Loneliness among Older Canadians*” found that 41% of Canadians aged 50 years and older are deemed as lonely. The report found that 18% of Canadians aged 50 years and older are very lonely and another 40% are somewhat lonely;

AND

WHEREAS: Canadian author and former member of Parliament of Canada (2011-2015), Mark Adler, in his book titled *Time Bomb* asserted: “*Older Canadians who are isolated experience a four to five times greater risk of hospitalization. Those who live alone are also at a greater risk of elder abuse, fraud and scams.*”ⁱⁱ He also asserted: “*Studies have shown how loneliness and isolation lead to altered immune systems, increased levels of stress, high blood pressure, heart disease, increased levels of cognitive decline and stroke. It has also been found that isolated persons are twice as likely to die prematurely than those who are not.*”ⁱⁱⁱ;

AND

WHEREAS: the United Kingdom has a 24-hour a day help line service that provides older people with someone to speak to when lonely. They also have a team of volunteers who correspond via letter with elders all around the UK. It is called the Silver Line Helpline (thesilverline.org.uk).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, in annual State Convention assembled, support the Compassionate Community Care Charity in its creation of the Compassionate Community care Silver Line Helpline similar to the one established in the United Kingdom in November 2013. Councils can support this program through donations, by joining the campaign as a volunteer and by creating awareness of its existence.

Approved Rejected Referred to Supreme



ⁱ National Institute on Aging: Understanding the Factors Driving the Epidemic of Social Isolation and Loneliness among Older Canadians (2023) Toronto Metropolitan University.

ⁱⁱ Adler, Mark. Time Bomb. Mark Adler Publications. Toronto, Ontario. 2019, p. 119.

ⁱⁱⁱ Adler, Mark. Time Bomb. Mark Adler Publications. Toronto, Ontario. 2019, p. 119-120.