

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 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 Ottawa, 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 2025. (Letter of Greetings found at Appendix A)

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**

Resolutions 2025

Rsolutions 2

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: the, 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 2025. (Letter of Greetings found at Appendix A).

☐ Approved ☐ Rejected ☐ Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 3

Greetings to the Prime Minister of Canada

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 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 Ottawa, 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 Prime Minister no later than 30 June 2025. (Letter of Greetings found at Appendix A)

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 4

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 Ottawa, 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 his leadership be sent to Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly no later than 30 June 2025. (Letter of Greetings found at Appendix A)

☐ Approved

☐ Rejected

☐ Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 5

Greetings to the Premier of Ontario

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 the Premier of Ontario no later than 30 June 2025. (Letter of Greetings attached in Appendix A)

☐ Approved ☐ Rejected ☐ Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 6

Greetings to the Mayor of Ottawa – Mark Sutcliffe

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: the city of Ottawa 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 Ottawa, his Worship Mark Sutcliffe 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 2025. (Letter of Greetings attached in Appendix A)

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 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: Supreme Master 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 Master.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: a letter to that effect be sent to Supreme Master Michael McCusker no later than 30 June 2025. (Letter of Greetings attached in Appendix A)

☐ Approved ☐ Rejected ☐ Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 8

Expression of Support for our Military Members

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council (State Chaplain)

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 Chief of Defence Staff and the serving Chaplain General NLT 30 June 2025. (Letter of Support found at Appendix A)

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



Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 9

Celebrating our 125th Anniversary in Ontario

Submitted By: Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: we, the Knights of Columbus, in the jurisdiction of Ontario, gathered for the Celebration of our 125th anniversary in Ontario during our 122nd annual State Convention;

AND

WHEREAS: anticipation of and enthusiasm for this objective have been engendered in those attending this convention and will be transmitted by them throughout the Order;

AND

WHEREAS: it is fitting that the 125th anniversary celebration be opened with zeal to give strong impetus to this important milestone and our enduring legacy in the province.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Knights of Columbus in the province of Ontario in Convention, assembled in the city of Ottawa – the birthplace of the Knights in Ontario – hereby declare that the 125th anniversary of the Order in Ontario be officially inaugurated on this date, April 26, 2025, the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: that all those present who witness this act be charged to return to their home communities and instill all Brothers with their anticipation and enthusiasm, and with the spirit of our Founder, Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney, embodied so vividly through our Faith in action programs.

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

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 10

Protecting Christians in Canada

Submitted By:

Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: many Christians across Ontario and Canada are concerned about government and corporate overreach in their communities, workplaces or schools;

AND

WHEREAS: Catholic and Christian Doctors have faced serious challenges to their conscience rights due to the legalization of euthanasia and assisted suicide, with [provincial legislation](#) requiring physicians and nurses to [provide a referral](#) for the procedure against their moral principles;

AND

WHEREAS: Crimes and arson against churches are on the rise, with an estimated [112](#) churches vandalized, burned down, or desecrated since 2021;

AND

WHEREAS: The House of Commons Finance Committee (during the 1st Session of the 44th Parliament) in [Recommendation 430 of their December 2024 Pre-Budget Consultations Report](#), recommended that the Government of Canada “Amend the Income Tax Act to provide a definition of a charity which would remove the privileged status of ‘advancement of religion’ as a charitable purpose,” seriously harming Catholic parishes and the Knights of Columbus from performing their missionary works of charity;

WHEREAS: Catholic Parents continue to be concerned about the well-being of their children’s education, especially in the public school system, where attacks on the dignity of the human person have become commonplace;

WHEREAS: Jamil Jivani, Member of Parliament for Durham, has introduced a non-partisan petition in the House of Commons which calls for all levels of government to protect Christians in Canada by defending the rights of parents to play a leading role in their children's education, safeguarding conscience rights and the freedom of religion for unionized and non-unionized workers (including health care professionals), strengthening penalties in response to crime targeting churches and places of worship, and protecting the legal status and freedom of expression of Christian charities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that members of the Ontario State Council of the Knights of Columbus be made aware of Mr. Jivani's non-partisan petition (found at <https://www.protectchristianscanada.com/>).

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



Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 11

Request Partial Withdrawal Christopher Fund

Submitted By: Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: the Ontario State Council has approx. \$944,522 invested in the Christopher Fund held at Supreme headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut;

AND

WHEREAS: the sum of approx. \$284,940 of these funds are matched by the Supreme Council;

AND

WHEREAS: the remaining funds, approx. \$374,642, are not matched by the Supreme Council;

AND

WHEREAS: the current interest for these funds is 0.49% annually;

AND

WHEREAS: Canadian banks and other financial institutions offer much better interest rates, both long term and short term.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention in Ottawa request the withdrawal of the unmatched funds currently held by the Supreme Council under the Christopher Fund (approx. \$374,642) for the purposes of being reinvested in a Canadian bank or other financial institution.

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

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 12

Request Per Capita Increase

Submitted By: Ontario State Council

WHEREAS: the increasing popularity of the Affiliate Program, combined with the increase in honorary membership, the annual losses through deaths and by our aging membership demographic has mean that only 48% of our membership are billable;

AND

WHEREAS: our annual project investments costs for our two mandated District Deputy workshops and our Annual State Convention will be relatively constant at approximately \$225,000 annually, i.e. two workshops \$100,000 and convention \$125,000;

AND

WHEREAS: with increased costs to operate the above events (\$225,000) and run the State Office (\$400,000), for a total of \$625,000, the State Council has been operating with a deficit for the past four years, i.e. since 2021;

AND

WHEREAS: the current projected per capita revenue is approximately \$590,000;

AND

WHEREAS: the projected loss of per capita for the 2025 fraternal year is another \$35,000 from last year and is continuing to decrease with our overall membership. This is despite record membership enrolment in 2024, projected again this fraternal year;

AND

WHEREAS: to continue operating and maintaining services to councils, the State Council has had to cash in reserve funds to cover our annual deficits;

AND

WHEREAS: as these funds are being depleted, the State Council cannot continue to operate a financial deficit;

AND

WHEREAS: with all the State Council initiatives to decrease costs we will still have a projected \$140,000 (approximate) deficit for the 2025-2026 fraternal year.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: for the State Council to run without an operating deficit, the State Council increase the yearly per capita by \$5.00 per payable member starting January 1, 2026.

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**



Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 13

Support for Independent Catholic Schools in Ontario

Submitted By:

St. Patrick Basilica, Ottawa Council #485 in Ottawa

WHEREAS: in the last number of years in Ontario we have seen the remarkable development of Independent Catholic Schools operating outside of the publicly funded school board system;

AND

WHEREAS: the existence of these schools demonstrates that there is a growing demand for more faithful Catholic pedagogy than is currently offered by the publicly funded school boards;

AND

WHEREAS: it is evident that the publicly funded Ontario Catholic school boards often bow to pressures to conform to provincial curricula and policies antithetical to the Catholic world view on faith and morals;

AND

WHEREAS: independent Catholic schools are operated by many dedicated teachers and principals with minimal financial remuneration, most often in rented basements of sympathetic churches. Furthermore, the schools are supported by parents who make tremendous financial sacrifices to provide their children a faith-oriented education;

AND

WHEREAS: independent Catholic Schools have staff who are all practicing Catholics and have constitutions and policies guided by the Magisterium of the Holy See and the Catechism of the Catholic Church;

AND

WHEREAS: a great number of these schools have started in the Ottawa area, many evolving from associations of the Home School movement. The first was Our Lady Seat of Wisdom (OLSW) College which was the subject of specific resolutions of support in 2011 (Council 12158 - now 485) and 2024 (Ontario State Council). Today OLSW is a degree granting College, fully Catholic and independent and the only Canadian college recommended by the Cardinal Newman Society in the Newman Guide to Colleges and Universities. Over the years the Canadian Church has been blessed by the many priest and religious vocations which have their roots at OLSW;

AND

WHEREAS: the Consortium of Independent Ontario Catholic Schools (CIOCS) is an association and network of Catholic schools whose primary purpose is to foster collaboration and communion among its members while upholding shared values, mission, and commitment to authentic Catholic education. Member schools share a common commitment to Catholic teachings and values, integrating faith-based principles into their educational programs and school culture. The CIOCS, currently with 10 affiliated schools, will serve as a valuable coordinating group also worthy of support. <https://www.ciocs.ca/>

AND

WHEREAS: independent Catholic schools always seek to help financially struggling families. Some Knights of Columbus Councils may be able to provide an on-going bursary which can also benefit a school through increased enrollment;

AND

WHEREAS: we are certain that our brother Knights of Columbus would support these schools if they were more aware of their existence and great need;

AND

WHEREAS: as Canadian society trends more and more secular and even hostile to the Church, the Independent Catholic Schools and their graduates will continue to stand as faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ and His Church. Indeed, these young Catholics are the seeds of future devotion to the Faith and the moral healing of our nation;

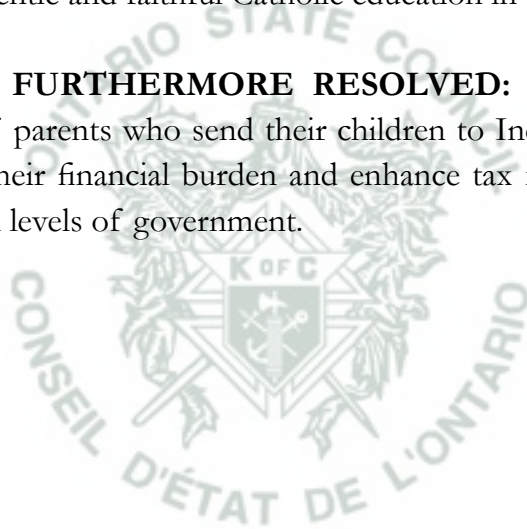
AND

WHEREAS: these Schools are registered with the Canada Revenue Agency and issue tax receipts to individual members;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Knights of Columbus Ontario State Convention recognizes and publicly promotes the key and vital contribution of Independent Catholic Schools for the future of the Catholic faith in Ontario and Canada.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that Ontario State Council will encourage all subsidiary councils in Ontario to identify, meet with and financially support independent Catholic Schools and the Consortium of Independent Ontario Catholic Schools in their mission to advance and foster authentic and faithful Catholic education in Ontario.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHERMORE RESOLVED: that Ontario State Council will advocate on behalf of parents who send their children to Independent Catholic Schools, seeking ways to alleviate their financial burden and enhance tax fairness for these families at both provincial and federal levels of government.



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

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 14

Delegates to the Supreme Convention

Submitted By:

Ontario Council #755 in Cornwall

WHEREAS: on December 23, 2024, State Board circulated the Purpose Structures and Rules of the Diocesan Association and Selection Guidelines of Delegates to the Supreme Convention to subordinate Councils;

AND

WHEREAS: upon review of said document on page 7 the following change was noted. The State Delegation of Ontario would consist of the State Deputy, the Immediate Past Deputy, the State Secretary, and 7 Subordinate Council Delegates who are Representative of the Geographic Diversity of the Jurisdiction;

AND

WHEREAS: the net result of this change is the reduction of one delegate from subordinate Councils at the Supreme Convention;

AND

WHEREAS: we should not be diminishing subordinate Councils Representation at the Supreme Convention.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that all changes to the State Council Purpose, Structure and Rules for Diocesan Association and Selection Guidelines of Delegates to the Supreme Convention be rescinded. This includes but is not limited to Revision #13, October 2024.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that in times of austerity, only two State Board officers {Ref Appendix 2 of the subject document} shall be authorized to attend the Annual Supreme convention, effective July 1, 2025. In priority they are immediate Past State Deputy and the State Deputy or their designated alternatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that any changes to the Ontario State Council Purpose Structure and Rules for the Diocesan Association and the Selection Guidelines of Delegates to the Supreme Convention be submitted to the Annual State Convention delegates for ratification and approval before their adoption in the next fraternal year.

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



Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 15

The Russell J. Cadeau Lifetime of Service Award

Submitted By:

Barrie Council #1626 in Barrie

WHEREAS: we, the Knights of Columbus, in the jurisdiction of Ontario, desire to recognize a member of our state whose lifetime dedication to the order demonstrates unquestionable meritorious behaviour, dedication and service as a Knight to his council, the order, his church and community;

AND

WHEREAS: Past State Deputy (1988-1990) Russell J. (“Russ”) Cadeau demonstrated those aforementioned qualities for over 70 years as a brother knight and a Catholic gentleman;

AND

WHEREAS: Brother Russ has held numerous other executive positions and continued to be an invaluable resource through his life, and is still an inspiration to members of his home council 1626, the state and order;

AND

WHEREAS: the members of Barrie Council 1626 wish to continue Brother Russ’ legacy through continuous recognition of his accomplishments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Knights of Columbus in the province of Ontario in Convention, assembled in the city of Ottawa, find it desirous to institute the Russell J. Cadeau Lifetime of Service Award.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: this award, in the form of an engraved plaque, be bestowed annually to a deserving member of the State of Ontario who, over his lifetime as a knight, demonstrates appropriate qualities as chosen by the State Board, commensurate on recommendations to be based on stipulated nomination criteria submitted by the Councils of Ontario for that fraternal year.

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



Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 16

Cancel 2026 Per Capita Increase for Councils

Submitted By:

Arnprior Council #2082, Arnprior

WHEREAS: Ontario State has increased the 2025 State Per Capita by 3% on the 2024 rate;

AND

WHEREAS: this imposes an additional burden, particularly on smaller councils and in particular on their Honorary members.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the 2026 State Per Capita of the Province of Ontario remain at the 2025 rate.

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 17

Threshold Requiring Notice of Motion for Council Payments

Submitted By:

St. John de Brebeuf and Companions Council # 8233,
in Kingsville

WHEREAS: Section 122 (b) of the Charter Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus requires, with limited exceptions, that Notice of Motion be provided at a monthly council meeting in advance of the monthly council meeting at which any payment by a council in excess of \$500.00 is to be voted upon (the '\$500.00 Notice of Motion threshold');

AND

WHEREAS: approval of any payment by a council up to \$500.00 requires approval at a council meeting consistent with Robert's Rules of Order, the parliamentary authority of the Knights of Columbus;

AND

WHEREAS: the \$500.00 Notice of Motion threshold has been in place for over twenty years;

AND

WHEREAS: prices of goods and services have increased consistently over the period the \$500.00 Notice of Motion threshold has been in place;

AND

WHEREAS: councils use generally accepted financial management practices measures such as budgeting in order to reduce the number of payment approvals required, consistent and in compliance with the \$500.00 Notice of Motion threshold;

AND

WHEREAS: despite the use of generally accepted financial management practices, as noted, the \$500.00 Notice of Motion threshold makes it excessively cumbersome for councils to respond to council, church and community needs and limits the ability of councils to respond in a timely manner.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Notice of Motion threshold be increased to \$1,000.00, in alignment with current economic circumstances.

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



Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 18

Support for Widowers

Submitted By:

St. John de Brebeuf and Companions Council #8233
in Kingsville

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus have always supported widows and seniors through programs or services that take care of the widows of deceased members;

AND

WHEREAS: members of the Knights of Columbus who are widowers may also require support but find it unavailable to them.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that Ontario councils be encouraged to develop programs or services that support widowers as well as widows.

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 19

Exemption of Veterans from Dues

Submitted By:

St. John de Brebeuf and Companions Council #8233
in Kingsville

WHEREAS: Section 118 (b) of the Charter Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus provides that councils at their discretion may fix a different rate of dues for certain members;

AND

WHEREAS: in a similar vein, Section 118 (c) of the Charter Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus exempts Honorary Members from general fund charges, except payment of the sum of State and Supreme Council per capita charges and levies;

AND

WHEREAS: again a similar vein, Section 118 (d) of the Charter Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus exempts Honorary Life Members from payment of dues, per capita charges and assessments;

AND

WHEREAS: veterans dedicated significant parts of their lives in service to our great country of Canada;

AND

WHEREAS: some veterans may be unable to pay dues, e.g. for economic or mental health reasons, but are not eligible or may be unwilling to apply for the disability exemption from dues and per capita charges under Section 118 (e) of the Charter Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus;

AND

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus of Ontario, particularly during this 125th anniversary year, are showing respect for and assisting veterans through support for initiatives such as Veterans House in Ottawa and Coats for Veterans;

AND

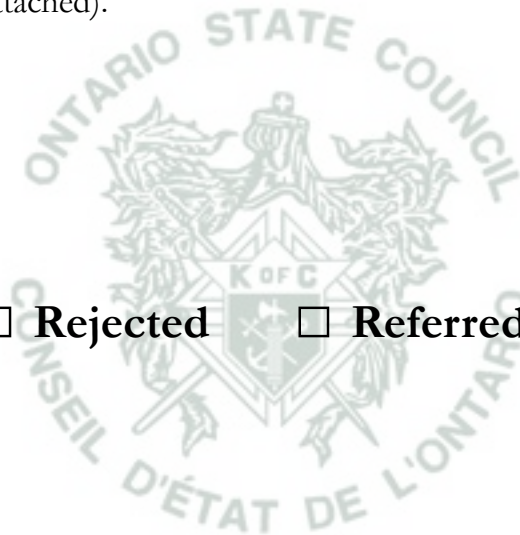
WHEREAS: council members who are veterans may be encouraged to increase their involvement in council activities by being able to obtain total or partial veteran's exemption from dues.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that Ontario local councils be encouraged to develop rates of dues, which may entail total or partial exemption from dues, for council members who request them and who are veterans according to the Veterans Affairs Canada definition of a veteran (see Appendix A attached).

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**



APPENDIX A

Veterans Affairs Canada Definition of a Veteran

Any former member of the Canadian Armed Forces who successfully underwent basic training and is honourably discharged.

When people think of Veterans, many immediately picture someone who served in the First World War, Second World War or the Korean War. While many Canadians recognize these traditional Veterans, the same may not always be true for Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Veterans—those who served Canada since the Korean War.

In fact, some former CAF members don't even see themselves as Veterans. Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) wants to change this and is working to ensure CAF Veterans receive the honour and recognition they have earned and so richly deserve.

VAC considers any former member of the Canadian Armed Forces who releases with an honourable discharge and who successfully underwent basic training to be a Veteran.

This Veteran status recognizes the risk CAF members assume by wearing the uniform and pledging allegiance. Canada's modern-day Veterans are carrying on the traditions, values and legacy of wartime Veterans and all Canadians, especially our youth, should be aware of their accomplishments and sacrifices.

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 20

Cannabis Advertising Concern

Submitted By:

St. Andrews Council #10416 in St. Andrews West

WHEREAS: Enactment of the Cannabis Act in 2018 has legalized the use of cannabis in Canada;

AND

WHEREAS: the Cannabis Act creates a legal and regulatory framework for controlling the production, distribution, sale and possession of cannabis in Canada, with the Provinces and Territories further regulating its sale;

AND

WHEREAS: the Cannabis Act prohibits promotion of cannabis in a manner that could be appealing to young persons;

AND

WHEREAS: under Ontario law you must be you must be 19 and older to buy, use, possess and grow cannabis, the same as the minimum age for the sale of tobacco and alcohol in Ontario;

AND

WHEREAS: through programs such as the Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest the Knights of Columbus is committed to informing youth about the dangers of substance abuse;

AND

WHEREAS: recently a cannabis advertisement of concern appeared in our local community. This was a sign/billboard (approximately 8' x 20') that appeared to be targeting youth and was

located in a high traffic area near a bike path, used by many families, including many under the age of 19. The sign was not located on or near a retail location.

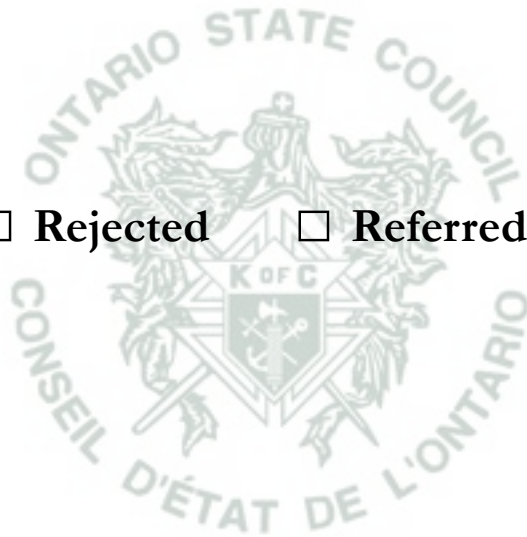
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that members of Ontario Councils be encouraged to report cannabis advertising of concern to their local governments, law enforcement authorities and regulatory authorities such as Health Canada and Ad Standards.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that Ontario State Board, through its newsletter, make members aware of the dangers of cannabis abuse among young people and promote vigilance in reporting advertising of concern.

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**



Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 21

Honorary Title “Mr. Knights of Columbus” bestowed upon State Deputy Bruce S. Poulin

Submitted By:

St. Rose de Lima Council #13244 in Scarborough

WHEREAS: the Governor General for Canada, presented our State Deputy Bruce S. Poulin with the Sovereign’s Medal for Volunteers in 2016 largely for his volunteer work with the Knights of Columbus;

AND

WHEREAS: the Supreme Knight, Patrick E. Kelly, presented our State Deputy with the Circle of Honour Award at the 2024 Annual Supreme Convention in recognition of his administration’s outstanding achievements in the past fraternal year;

AND

WHEREAS: earlier this year, the Lieutenant General for Ontario presented our State Deputy Bruce S. Poulin with the Queen Elizabeth II Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship, again, largely for his work with the Knights of Columbus;

AND

WHEREAS: Ontario has always taken great immense pride in Bruce S. Poulin during his two consecutive terms as our State Deputy covering our 125th anniversary celebrations. Possessing remarkable leadership qualities, he has rendered a legacy of invaluable assistance to his home jurisdiction of Ontario. His Christian example and wise counsel are witness to his exemplary Catholicism.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that we, the Knights of Columbus of the province of Ontario, in convention assembled in the City of Ottawa, the birthplace of Columbianism in Ontario, wish to add our accolades to the exceptional work and effort of our State Deputy Bruce S. Poulin since he joined the Order in 2007.

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: we the Knights of Columbus in Ontario, do recognize our State Deputy as one of the outstanding Catholic gentlemen in Ontario.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: we, the Knights of Columbus in Ontario, hereby bestow the honorary title of “Mr. Knights of Columbus,” upon our brother Knight Bruce S. Poulin and present him with circa 1900 watch fob, fashioned from gold filled mountings, diamonds and fine black onyx – courtesy of the members of St. Rose de Lima Council #13244 in Scarborough.



☐ Approved ☐ Rejected ☐ Referred to Supreme

Resolutions 2025

Resolutions 22

Knights of Columbus Ontario State - Remove the Word State and Replace with Province

Submitted By:

St. Hedwig's Council #16229 in Oshawa

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus Supreme refers to Ontario Knights of Columbus as Ontario State and any other out of the USA council in any other Country has the word “State” added to its name;

AND

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus of Ontario and Canada are part of a sovereign Country that have geographical regions known as Provinces and Territories that have two official languages, English and French;

AND

WHEREAS: the Knights of Columbus of Ontario are referred to as Ontario State versus Ontario Province: also, other Provincial Knights of Columbus Councils should be made aware of this resolution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that we, the members of the Ontario Knights of Columbus, here assembled at the State Council Convention, petition Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus to remove the word “State” from the name of Ontario State and within a reasonable time period to allow for the transition, replace it with Ontario Provincial Council.

☐ **Approved**

☐ **Rejected**

☐ **Referred to Supreme**

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St. Joseph's Centre of Hope for Women with Province

Submitted By:

St. Gaspar del Bufalo Council #18384 in Toronto

WHEREAS: St. Joseph Centre of Hope for Women ("St. Joseph's") is a Registered Charity to which Knights of Columbus councils may make charitable donations;

AND

WHEREAS: St. Joseph's is a pregnancy centre that is located directly beside an abortion clinic on Gerard St. in Toronto;

AND

WHEREAS: St. Joseph's envisions itself as a place where a mother will experience love, encouragement, and acceptance from their counsellors, and where she will be confident in knowing that they will be there for her along the way;

AND

WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus Ontario Council has always been supportive of pro-life activities and organizations;

AND

WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council instituted the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program to encourage Knights of Columbus councils to provide greater support to pregnancy centers and maternity homes;

AND

WHEREAS: St. Joseph's provides the services that the ASAP program urges councils to support but is unique in Ontario as it is located directly beside an abortion clinic. ^{Note 1}

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that Ontario State Council make Ontario councils aware of St. Joseph's as a registered charity and pregnancy centre that merits their support. ^{Note 2}

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that Ontario councils consider supporting St. Joseph's Centre of Hope for Women when making donations through the ASAP program.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that Knights of Columbus members in Ontario pray for the success of St Joseph's and pray that women who are approaching the abortion clinic on Gerard St. will change their minds and seek support at St Joseph's.

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



^{Note 1:} In 2024 a woman from Nunavut was flown by the government and given a hotel room to have an abortion at the clinic beside St. Joseph's. The woman entered St. Joseph's by mistake and spoke to the counsellors. She told them that she did not want an abortion but already had two children at home and could not afford to care for three children. The counsellors told her that they would provide for her needs in caring for the three children for two years. She cancelled her abortion and chose life.

^{Note 2:} This resolution is not intended to discourage councils from supporting other pregnancy centers or maternity homes, but recognizes, based on its location, i.e. the only pregnancy centre in Ontario located directly beside an abortion clinic, the unique needs of St Joseph's and that that it merits Ontario councils' support.