

The Rose



THE PROVINCIAL NEWSLETTER FOR ALBERTA PRO-LIFE ALLIANCE ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2004

Deinsuring reduces the abortion rate

By Joanne Byfield

Alberta premier Ralph Klein has recently stepped up his campaign to reduce spending on health care. In late February at a premiers' meeting he pushed for significant changes to the way health care is delivered. He even mused before the meeting that he would look at deinsuring some services. He has appointed former MLA and cabinet minister Steve West as his chief of staff. Mr. West was a strong enforcer of the so-called Klein revolution in 1993 which saw reductions in spending in most government departments and the premier admitted that the recent appointment was to help push for changes in health care.

This is an opportune time for Albertans to press the issue of deinsuring abortions. We know from successive Leger polls (the most recent in October 2003) that three-quarters of Albertans polled support de-insuring abortion except when the mother's life is threatened or in cases of rape and incest. Alberta Pro-Life has sent these poll results to every MLA.

We do not know what Alberta Health pays for all the abortions performed in the province. In 2000, there were 10,417 abortions paid for by taxpayers in Alberta. We do know, however, that the health authorities in Calgary and Edmonton contract with private, for-profit abortion clinics to have them perform abortions. Between October 1st, 2002 and September 30th 2003, the Calgary Health Region's contract with Calgary's Kensington Clinic was valued at \$1.4 million. Edmonton's Capital Health Authority had a contract with the Morgentaler Clinic for \$2.8 million for the period October 1st, 2000 to March 31st, 2003. Clinics perform almost half of the province's abortions and probably do it less expensively than hospitals. It is safe and probably a conservative estimate that the provincial government spends over \$5 million a year on abor-

tions. This amount excludes indirect costs, that is, whatever is spent on complications, side effects and post-abortion trauma experienced by women.

If the provincial government is serious about reducing health care costs, there is no better place to start than with de-insuring abortions. Albertans would object if the province imposed user fees on any other service, without first deinsuring abortions, the vast majority of which are done because women ask for them not because they are medically indicated.



A new study by Dr. Michael New, a researcher at the Harvard-MIT Date Center, looked at legislative initiatives by various state governments in the U.S. to determine what affect they had on abortion rates. He included state laws to deinsure Medicaid abortions (Medicaid is publicly funded health care for low-income people), informed consent laws, parental consent laws and waiting periods. He found that of all these initiatives, removing abortion funding had the greatest impact on abortion rates. Overall, defunding reduced the abortion rate (the number of abortions per thousand women of childbearing age) by 2.08. It reduced the abortion ratio (the number of abortions per 1,000 births) by 29.66. These were far more significant than the other measures enacted.

So, deinsuring abortions would reduce health costs and if the U.S. situation applies here, it would lead to a reduction in the number of abortions performed. Since all sides of the abortion debate say they want to reduce the number of abortions, deinsuring should be a high priority. Why isn't it?

Politicians know that most people do not support using tax dollars to pay for abortions, especially when a third of them, that's over 3,000 a year in Alberta, are performed on women who have already had one or

Continued page 2



Connecting Communities

*Provincial Pro-Life
Conference*

Coming to Red Deer on
Saturday, May 1st.
- See page 5 -

Repeat abortion rate climbs to 37%

Almost 40% of the abortions performed in Alberta in 2001 were on women who already had one or more abortions. Alberta Health released this information in March to Alberta Pro-Life in response to a Freedom of Information request by the group.

There were 10,589 abortions in 2001, according to the report and 3,904, or 37%, were repeats. The last time APL requested this information in 1998, the rate was 33%.

The report shows that 2,937 women had their second abortion in 2001. 720 women had their third abortion, 177 were on their fourth and 70 women were reported to have had four or more abortions.

"How can anyone pretend that these are medically necessary procedures?" asked APL president, Joanne Byfield. Alberta's official policy is that taxpayers pay only for medically necessary abortions.

"Taxpayers picked up the tab for all these abortions," she said. "So why are we paying for people to have their second, third, fourth and who knows how many other abortions?"

In a media release issued March 11, Mrs. Byfield said, "It's particularly galling when we know that private, for-profit clinics perform almost half of the abortions in the province. They are in the business. Are they going to tell women that an abortion is not medically necessary?"

Mrs. Byfield pointed out that the report used to have more categories, up to seven previous abortions. "Now they lump together everything over four previous abortions. Is that because the number of women having five, six and seven abortions is so high or is it that they'd have to have categories of eight, nine, ten or more previous abortions?"

The repeat rate has climbed steadily in the past three years. In 1999, the repeat rate was 34%. In 2000, the rate peaked at 37.3%.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If your membership is close to expiring (check expiry date on mailing label) we would like to encourage you to send in your renewal!

Some groups need to mail membership renewals directly to their local pro-life group. Please check info on coupon on back page



LIFE DIGEST

Silent No More Scares 'em

The Pro-Choice Action Network announced in its Autumn/Winter 2003 newsletter that it is co-sponsoring a new website to counter the effects of Denise Mountenay's Silent No More Canada campaign. Mrs. Mountenay, of Morinville, Alberta, is the author of *Forgiven of Murder, A True Story*, about her three abortions. Last year she launched a campaign to collect affidavits from women who have had abortions and have suffered physical or emotional problems as a result. PCAN's website, Clarification, hopes to collect affidavits "attesting to the importance of being able to access a safe, legal abortion, or how having an abortion made a positive difference in their lives." They promise to reproduce some of the affidavits on their site, www.clarification.ca, but as of mid-March none were posted. Three essays on the site by post-abortive women seemed to prove the Silent No More case, however. All three still seemed to struggle with their experiences. To help with Silent No More, contact Denise Mountenay at www.togetherforlife.ca or call toll free at 1-888-777-5503.

Case to overturn Roe v. Wade inches forward

A U.S. federal appeal court has appointed three judges to hear a motion by Norma McCorvey to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 decision that legalized abortion in the U.S. McCorvey was *Roe* in the case. The motion was denied last June by a district court judge.

Lawyers for Ms. McCorvey say the case will ultimately be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. They have over 1,000 affidavits from women testifying to the harm abortion causes.

Bring in the clones

Scientists in South Korea announced in February that they had cloned human embryos to the blastocyst stage then destroyed them for the stem cells. The cloned embryos were developed enough, unlike earlier attempts, to be implanted in a womb with a good chance of success. The scientists insist they oppose "reproductive cloning", which allows the cloned embryos to be carried to term and born. Their interest is in "therapeutic cloning", which creates human embryos for the purposes of harvesting stem cells and destroying the human beings. There is no distinction in the technology of therapeutic and reproductive cloning, simply in the end result. The new ethical standard among researchers and biotech companies is that creating human life for harvesting and destruction is a moral good, while creating human life for implantation and birth is evil. In fact, the state of New Jersey has passed a bill which would make it a crime to carry a cloned embryo to term. The law would require any woman found to be carrying a cloned fetus to abort the baby. It also excludes newborns from the definition of "human being".

Eggs online

A British entrepreneur has announced plans to sell human eggs on the internet. WomenNotIncluded.com will charge over \$2000 to find a donor, who will then charge for the eggs. Britain has banned the sale of eggs but cannot control arrangements made over the internet with donors from other countries. Businessman John Gonzales, who will launch the business says it will "increase the global egg poolm clearing a vast backlog of eager, yet deprived women and reducing a waiting time of three to five years to mere weeks." It is expected that poor women from outside Britain will sell their eggs.

Deinsuring reduces the abortion rate

Continued from page 1

more abortions. But, they also think that abortion funding is a low priority for voters, that is, they are not afraid of losing votes if they don't deinsure abortion.

That means that we have not done our jobs. Politicians finally understand that we do not want to pay for someone's personal choice to take an innocent human life, but we have not convinced them that we are serious about it. They understand that they could lose votes over high energy prices or BSE compensation but abortion funding? It is not on the voter radar screen.

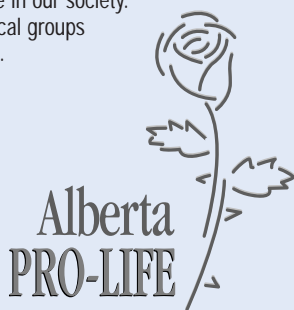
Our job in the next year leading up to the provincial election is to convince every MLA in Alberta, that abortion funding matters just as much as energy prices, agriculture policy, privati-

zation and whatever issue hits the fan over the next few months. We all have a trump card in our hands, the power to vote and we should not be afraid to use it. Tell your MLA that your support depends on a commitment to deinsure abortions. And tell everyone you know to make the same demand. Let's make 2005 a double celebration—a great 100th birthday bash for the province and the year that we deinsure abortion.

What is Alberta Pro-Life

Alberta Pro-Life represents the pro-life position at the provincial level. We inform citizens, lobby politicians and work with local and national groups to effect change in our society. Our members include individuals who have joined Alberta Pro-Life and local groups throughout the province who are either affiliates or amalgamated with us.

If you wish to become a member or would like more information about our activities, call our office at: Phone (780) 421-7747 Fax (780) 421-7749 or toll free at: 1-877-880-5433 e-mail: apl@albertaprolife.com Website: www.albertaprolife.com



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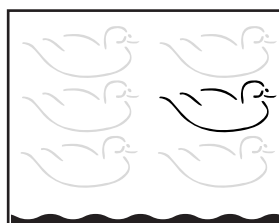
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Pro-Abortion Activist Accuses LifeSite of Misrepresenting Her, But We Have Tape

<http://www.lifesite.net/ldn/2004/mar/040>
(reprinted with permission)

TORONTO, March 9, 2004 (LifeSiteNews.com) – Long-time pro-abortion activist Joyce Arthur recently complained to LifeSite about its March 4 report on her debate with pro-life activist Gillian Long. Arthur claimed LifeSite made two subjective comments and one factual error, saying the LifeSite report was done “without any regard for accuracy or fairness.”

Arthur objected to LifeSite news calling the joint talks a debate, since she has a no-debate policy. To clarify, while Arthur did her best to pretend that Long was not present, the atmosphere of the two back to back presentations and the competing question period seemed very debate-like according to witnesses.

Arthur also claims she was warmly received by the students present but admits that “The afternoon audience was a degree more hostile to the pro-choice viewpoint, presumably because Ms. Long invited her friends and supporters, or perhaps because more anti-choice students chose to attend that session instead of the morning one.”

However, the most serious charge from Arthur was that she was misquoted. She writes, “I did not say that ‘unborn children are not alive until the mother decides so’. I said that a fetus becomes a person when the woman carrying it decides it does.” Arthur continued, “I hope you can understand that the words ‘alive’ and ‘person’ do not mean the same thing. I won’t burden you with the nuances, or with what my comment really meant in context, since it’s probably beyond your comprehension and would serve no useful purpose.”

Despite Ms. Arthur’s protestations, a review of the digital recording of her talk reveals that she did indeed use the word “alive” rather than “person”. Moreover, the recording reveals that Arthur made the statement using “alive” rather than “person” more than once.

Arthur concluded her note to LifeSiteNews.com, “I don’t expect anything from you of course, since it has been proven to me over and over again, that truth and honesty are not Christian traits.”



Courage to Serve Award 2004

Alberta Pro-Life seeks to honor a pro-life Albertan annually to show their appreciation for their efforts towards restoration of Respect for Human Life in the Province of Alberta.

This year’s deadline is April 1st for nominations for the Annual Courage to Serve Award. Submissions may be sent to the Board of Alberta Pro-Life via fax (780-421-7749) or by email (apl@albertaprolife.com). We need the name of the nominator, and contact information for the nominee as well. We also ask that you give as much information as possible as to why you believe your nominee should be the recipient of this award.

Abortion clinics disobey guidelines for late-term abortions

By Joanne Byfield

The most recent statistics on abortions released by Alberta Health show that the number of abortions increased to 10,417 in 2000, up from 10,164 in 1999. Calgary remains the abortion capital of the province with 54.1% of all abortions. Calgary hospitals and clinics performed 5,636 abortions, all paid for by taxpayers. The Edmonton region accounted for 4,477 abortions or 43% of the total.

Teens aged 15 to 19 accounted for 21% of abortions in the province. Alberta women aged 20 to 29 had 5,630 abortions, 54% of the total. Those 30 to 39 had 2,238 abortions or 21% and women over 40 accounted for 298 abortions, just under 3% of the total.

The province’s two private, for-profit abortion clinics now perform 43.4% of all the abortions. They also perform more than half of the late-term abortions, that is, those over 12 weeks. The clinics did 240 abortions between 17 and 20 weeks gestation compared to 191 at hospitals.

The statistics also show that private clinics did not follow the guidelines set out by the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons which require that abortions over 20 weeks be performed in hospitals. Seven abortions over 20 weeks’ gestation were done at private clinics.

The report does not give any information on reasons for abortions or the income levels of women who have abortions. It also avoids the issue of repeat abortions even though an access to information request by Alberta Pro-Life in 1999 found that 30% of abortions are repeats. (See page 1 story for updated repeat numbers).

The report is called Alberta Reproductive Health: Pregnancies and Births, 2002 and is available free from Alberta Health and Wellness, 780-427-7164, or call toll free 310-0000 and ask for 780-427-7164.

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update

Canada Silent No More

By Denise Mountenay

For several months we have been placing ads in the classified sections of newspapers in major cities across Canada. Ads read: "Are you HURTING after an abortion, or regret it? Have you since developed Depression, Infertility, Breast Cancer or any other complications? If so, please call Denise at 1-888-777-5503 free/confidential."

We are in the process of forming an official non-profit organization called 'Canada Silent No More Association'. Our main mission and purpose is to first REACH the over 2 million Canadian women who've had an abortion in the last 30 years and regret it. Many women are suffering physically and emotionally in silent shame and pain never telling anyone they had an abortion. We want them to know that they are not alone and that help is available for them. As the calls come in, we find out where they are at by doing a short phone questionnaire, then as required refer them for counselling. We are also asking them to consider writing out affidavits to possibly be used in the Morgentaler vs. Canadian Preborn lawsuit in New Brunswick. We have 34 to date.

Secondly we know that PUBLIC AWARENESS is paramount in this war against women and their children. We believe that through our personal testimonies and with the latest studies and research, the evidence will speak for itself (Isa. 43:7-11, Rev. 12:11, Eph. 5:11, Prov. 31:8). Through the media, rallies and schools we hope to educate our nation on the truth that abortion damages women physically, emotionally and spiritually and that it killed our children.

Thirdly, we invite post-abortive women from across this country to join us in speaking the truth about the negative impact abortion has on women and our society, and to write out our testimonies as proof that abortion is a wrong, and not a right!

If you feel called to help support or sponsor this new mission please send donations to Canada Silent No More c/o Denise Mountenay, 10602-89 St. Morinville, AB.T8R 1C7. Funds are urgently needed for ads and outreach. "We defeat Satan by the blood of the lamb and the word of our testimony." Rev. 12:11

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APL's March 2004 Press Release

Almost 40% of abortions paid for by taxpayers are repeats: FOI request

Alberta Pro-Life welcomes Premier Klein's announcement that Health Minister Gary Mar will look at ways to cut health care costs to ensure the health system is sustainable.

"We hope that Mr. Mar and the caucus will look seriously at de-insuring abortions," said Alberta Pro-Life president Joanne Byfield. "Alberta taxpayers pay for over 10,000 abortions every year. That's millions of dollars that could go to medical procedures and drugs that cure illnesses or disease."

Byfield said that pregnancy is not a disease and most abortions are performed because women ask for them, not because they are medically indicated. "Abortion proponents constantly tell us that abortion is a woman's choice. It can't be both a personal choice and a medical necessity," said Byfield. She also said that physical and mental health risks associated with abortion increase health care costs.

Alberta Health responded this week to a Freedom of Information request by Alberta Pro-Life asking for the number of repeat abortions.

"Of the 10,589 abortions performed in 2001, 3,904 of them, 37%, were performed on women who had already had one or more abortions," said Byfield. "720

women had their third abortion in 2001, 177 had their fourth. Seventy women were listed in the category of four or more previous abortions."

Byfield questioned why taxpayers are paying for women to have three, four and five abortions. "How can this be medically necessary?" she asked. "It's particularly galling when we know that private, for-profit clinics perform almost half of the abortions in the province. They are in the business. Are they going to tell women that an abortion is not medically necessary?"

"Before we start charging user fees for legitimate health services or depriving people of costly drugs as Mr. Mar has suggested, we should stop paying for abortions," she said. "I hope the public consultation process that Premier Klein has promised will include asking Albertans if they want to continue to pay millions each year for abortions."

She pointed out that an October 2003 Leger poll found that 76% of Albertans polled said they did not support public funding for abortions except in medical emergencies when the mother's life was threatened, or in cases of rape and incest.

"The provincial government should respect the wishes of three-quarters of Albertans and let those who choose abortion pay for it themselves."

For more information, call Joanne Byfield at 780-445-0344 (cell) or Alberta Pro-Life at 780-421-7747.

The Rose Advertising Rate Sheet

On behalf of Alberta Pro-Life, I would like to extend to you the opportunity to advertise in our provincial newsletter, The Rose. Our readership is about 15,000 including individual families, churches, groups and support agencies. Our goal is to educate the public on the facts of abortion and euthanasia. Consider making a difference by advertising in our newsletter.

ELECTRONIC ADVERTISEMENT FILE SUBMISSION

All electronic files must be submitted in the following graphic file formats: .eps, .jpg .tif. We can also accept files in the following document formats: Photoshop, QuarkXPress, Illustrator.

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For further information, contact:

Patty Nixon, Alberta Pro-Life
Phone (780) 421-7747 Fax (780) 421-7749
Email: apl@albertapro-life.com

ELECTRONIC FILE SUBMISSIONS

Fax hard copy to (780) 421-7749
Email: apl@albertapro-life.com



Baby Samuel Posters Now Available

www.michaelclancy.com

This email message came in from Michael Clancy, the photographer who took the famous "baby Samuel" picture:

I have updated my web site <http://www.michaelclancy.com/>. If you click the picture on the home page it will enlarge. You may then print the file to distribute the picture for educational purposes.

The events surrounding the picture have become shrouded in controversy because Dr. Bruner (his hands are in my picture) has continued to deny that Samuel reached out on his own. This controversy is documented on the story page of my site. <http://www.michaelclancy.com/story.html>


This controversy is partially responsible for the events surrounding the picture being drastically under-reported by the media. However, the popularity of the picture is responsible for the request by Senator Sam Brownback for Samuel, his parents, and I to testify before a Senate Committee Hearing in Sept. 2003. <http://www.nationalreview.com/comment/soleni200309301002.asp>

I truly believe if the popularity of the picture continues on an upward spiral the truth will come out. That at twenty-one weeks in utero the child is a reactive human being.

I am now taking orders for posters of the picture. Please visit for details: <http://www.michaelclancy.com/order.html>

If the response is great, the price of the posters will be even lower. Please email me with any questions you may have.

*Sincerely,
Michael Clancy*



Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born, I dedicated you.
Jer 1:5

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Life 2004

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Saturday, May 1st, 2004
Holiday Inn, Red Deer, Alberta

Alberta Pro-Life's Provincial Conference

| I T I N E R A R Y | | | |
|-------------------|--|------|---|
| 8:30 | Registration | Noon | Lunch |
| 9:00 | Annual General Meeting | 1:30 | Joanne Byfield President of Alberta Pro-Life <i>"Insights & Illusions"</i> |
| 10:00 | Break | 2:45 | Break |
| 10:15 | Political Panel Discussion <i>"Levels of Government & Strategies for Influence"</i> | 3:00 | Robert Hinchey Sidewalk Counsellor – Aid to Women (Toronto) <i>"The Heart of the Matter"</i> |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Anne Jablonski, MLA for Red Deer North • Cathy Smith, Medicine Hat Alderman • Therese Gervais, Sturgeon County School Trustee | 4:30 | Closing Remarks |

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All conference fees include the luncheon meal. Registrations received after April 15th will be subject to a \$20.00 surcharge. Please fill out one registration form per person attending.

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Alberta Students for a Life-Affirming Nation

By Anne Pinkoski

In the battle to protect and defend all life against the Goliaths of the world, our country is in need of many, many Davids/Davidas.

A number of them were seen at November's national pro-life conference in Edmonton, and today I am writing to encourage these same youth to actively accept the challenge to fight the culture of death that surrounds us. What ammunition is necessary to bring down a giant?

David used 5 smooth stones. For young people of today, I think these smooth stones could be called **TRUTH, INTEGRITY, ENTHUSIASM, PURITY AND PRAYER.**

Truth comes with information, but not just any information that assaults us daily from the mainstream media. It must be from sources that are based on fact not slogans, and thought, not feeling. Our young Davids were becoming informed by attending the national conference. Continue to do so by reading, researching, joining, participating.

Become a person of **integrity**, something our country is in dire need of at the moment, wouldn't you say? When Mother Teresa appeared before the US President at a National Prayer Breakfast in Washington

DC, in 1994, she dared to say what no one there dared to say. "But I feel that the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child, a direct killing of the innocent child, murder by the mother herself." She received a standing ovation from a majority gathered for the occasion. Mother Teresa had

earned the right to speak because of her integrity.

The third stone from your arsenal is part of your character. The **enthusiasm** of youth is compelling and attractive. We are drawn to and encouraged by your eagerness and willingness to get involved.

Purity is also so very attractive. To remain pure, you have chosen to become counter-culture, to swim against the stream. Be pure in speech, behavior, and dress and your words will carry more weight and be more credible.

The fifth smooth stone would be **prayer**. To take the time to be still, to ask for strength, perseverance, courage, guidance and wisdom require the belief that there is a higher power who cares how we live out our lives and how we care for all those He has created.

It took David only one stone to bring down Goliath. Of the five stones mentioned here, I am guess-

ing that one stone would be prayer. Let us storm heaven with petitions and prayers to put an end to the destruction of Goliath's anti-life army.

In the meantime, collect the other 4 stones by :

- wearing a pro-life T shirt on National Pro-Life T-shirt day-April 27. (Rock for Life)
- joining us in Red Deer May 1 for the Annual General Meeting of Alberta Pro-Life.
- supporting a fashion show that features modest dress May 8..
- coming to Drayton Valley for the A.S.L.A.N. Youth for Life Conference (formerly Drayton Youth for Life Conference). Mark your calendars for October 30, 2004. The title is "What's Life All About?" The speaker is Natalie Hudson from Toronto Right to Life.

Details of these events will be released through Alberta Pro-Life as they are confirmed. You can ensure that you will not miss the details by contacting Alberta Pro-life and giving them your email address. (www.albertaprolife.com)

It has been such a privilege to work with youth through Alberta Pro-Life over the past six years. It is gratifying to watch the growth in knowledge and activity and see the commitment and concern that you display. I encourage each young David now to put on your armor and continue fighting in whatever way you are led in this battle that is raging.



"Rock for Life Calgary team members"



"The goofy hat pose at the Rock for Life Calgary training day!"

Rock for Life Calgary Update

By Jeremy Caspell

Rock for Life Calgary recently hosted the first ever training and activism weekend put on by RFL in Canada. It was held at Peacefield Retreat Centre in Millarville and was attended by approximately thirty-five people from all over Alberta. The staff at Peacefield provided us with great food and excellent morning and evening devotionals, led by Mrs. Linda Honey.

Speakers for the weekend included Mrs. Loraine Keess, Kim Howell, and Fr. Joe Soria. Our music team was lead by Nathan Harrison from JPII Bible School in Radway and included Joanne Pollock, Jason Browne, Evan and Warren Adlington and Jeremy Caspell. They provided praise and worship for morning and evening devotions, before and after speakers, and music for Sunday morning Mass at St. Michael's Church in Black Diamond.

Activism that took place included mall witnessing, a mercy service at Kensington abortion clinic, and a table at Victory Bible College's Ignite conference and Starfield conference. Plans are already underway to continue with regular activism in Calgary.

Participants seemed to get a lot out of the weekend. "For me to be there and meet people doing the

same thing, wow, it was really just perfect," said Chelsea Miller, director of RFL Medicine Hat. "All I have to say is rock on and way to go!" said Amanda Phillips, vice-president of RFL Edmonton.

Rock for Life Calgary's planning team was very happy with how things turned out, as it was very evident that the Holy Spirit was working through everything. A highlight of the weekend was the planning session where participants contributed some awesome ideas for RFL work in the future. "It was great to see everyone leaving fired up and ready to increase the number of pro-life activities they're doing. It was also great to network with pro-lifers from all over the province," commented RFL Calgary's vice president Jeremy Caspell. "Hopefully we have set an example so that more events like this can happen and give more youth a chance to make a difference." said secretary, Amy Moroney.

If you are interested in getting involved in Rock for Life, please email president, Joanne Pollock, at canadiagirl@hotmail.com

ESSAY CONTEST

\$1200

in cash prizes will be awarded
in two categories

Grades 7-9 & 10-12

1st place - \$300 each

2nd place - \$200 each

3rd place - \$100 each

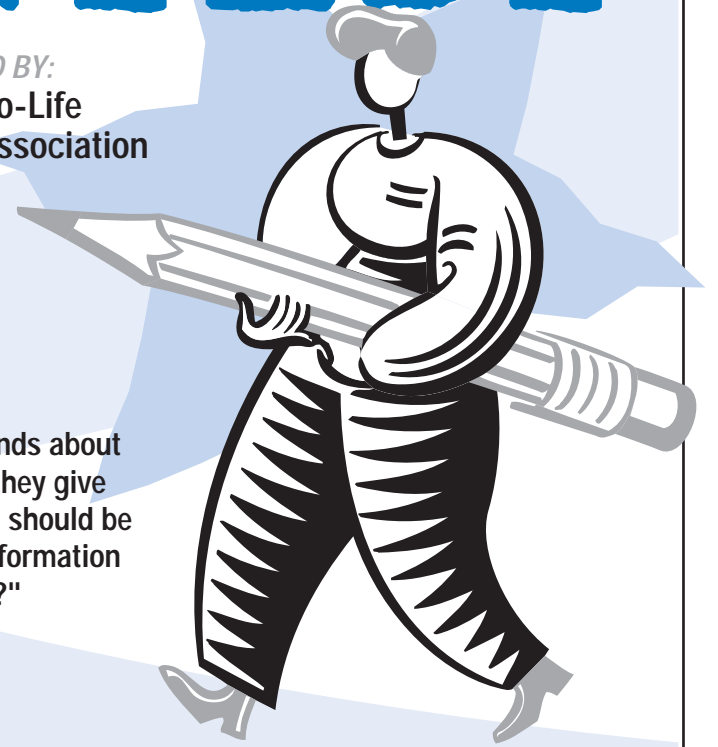
- ★ Winning entries will be published in The Rose, the quarterly newsletter of Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Assoc.
- ★ All winners will receive paid registration to an Alberta pro-life youth event in the next year.
- ★ All entries will be considered for publication on our web page as well as other local, provincial, national and international pro-life publications.

2004

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Topic:

"Do you think women might change their minds about abortion if they were fully informed before they give consent for the procedure? What information should be included: and should the law require such information be given to abortion-minded women?"



CONTEST RULES:

All entries must be received by midnight, April 5th, 2004. Only entries submitted in e-mail format to apl@albertaprolife.com will be considered and a complete bibliography must be included. Please send attached files in a "text only" format. Essays must be not less than 500 and not more than 1000 words, and word count must be posted in a header that also includes first and last name of student, birth date, grade level, names of parents/guardians, school/home school, mailing address and phone numbers. Any entry without complete information may be disqualified.

All decisions by the panel of judges are final. Winners will be notified by e-mail/phone/mail. All entries become the property of Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Association and their affiliated groups upon submission.

Contact info: ph: 780-421-7747
Toll Free: 1-877-880-5433
Email: apl@albertaprolife.com
www.albertaprolife.com

Abortion

*Speech given by Jolene Ward,
Grade 8, Graminia Community School,
Devon, Alberta*

For those of you who do not know what abortion is, it's killing unborn babies. Did you know that in one day thousands of women are having an abortion? And in 40 years, 40 million abortions happened. What do you think of abortion? I think it's cruel and disgusting and the mother is selfish. There are generally five types of abortions; all five are awful and disturbing. They can happen at day 1 or day 365 in Canada. There is NO law on abortion. Did you know Alberta's Healthcare covers the cost of all abortions and all tax payers are paying for abortions? The facts speak for themselves. Abortion is a tragedy, not only for the unborn, who will never experience the gift of life, but also for the mother. Abortion damages the mother psychologically and physically. The mother feels guilt and regret and remorse. The mother doesn't want to forgive herself. The mother can have complications and could lose other organs or worse even die. We always wondered what motivates abortionists. What do they think as they tear an innocent unborn baby apart or plunge a knife into its neck? Did you know a baby's heart begins beating between 18 to 24 days and even before the mother knows it's there? Babies are miracles and it's selfish how someone would want to kill it for their own sake. If you think abortion should be a choice, the next opportunity you have hold a baby in your arms and gaze into their eyes and then you'll know the truth.

Rock for Life Edmonton Update

By Mark Isinger

It's the beginning of March, and winter seems to have no end. It's that time of year again. The period where there's not much going on, not very many enjoyable things in recent memory, and not much to look forward to in the near future. We're just over half way through the school year, which apparently has no end either. For many people, including our Edmonton Rock for Life chapter, it's a difficult time - difficult to stay motivated.

Although the chapter does not have much going on at the moment, we've still had a few good opportunities to reach out and are making some big plans for the future. In January, two of our members had the opportunity to address a pair of grade 10 religion classes regarding abortion. For the most part, the presentations were well received by the students, and both teachers were eager to have us back to talk to their classes again in the spring. In February, six of our members were able to go down to Calgary and take part in the activism weekend hosted by Calgary RFL. As well, our chapter got together for a training day and watched the video "Making Abortion Unthinkable: The Art of Pro-Life Persuasion" by Scott Klusendorf and Greg Koukl. The video is very well done, and a good way to sharpen debating skills. We watched it in preparation for the upcoming Genocide Awareness Project at the University of Alberta. Several of our members are planning to debate students on campus together with U of A campus pro-life at the GAP display this month. In April, May, and June, well, you'll hear about those in the next issue of the Rose.

The emotional high so many of us experienced at the National Pro-Life Conference in November seems

far removed from us right now. It is at times like this that I am reminded of an excerpt from the Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis. In the book, Screwtape, a senior devil, is writing to his young nephew Wormwood about how God deals with human beings at certain times in their lives:

"Sooner or later, He (God) withdraws, if not in fact, at least from their conscious experience, all those supports and incentives. He leaves the creature (human) to stand up on its own legs - to carry out from the will alone duties which have lost all relish. It is during such trough periods, much more than during the peak periods, that it is growing into the sort of creature He wants it to be. Hence the prayers offered in the state of dryness are those which please him best. Do not be deceived, Wormwood. Our cause is never more in danger than when a human, no longer desiring, but still intending, to do our enemy's will, looks round upon a universe from which every trace of Him (God) seems to have vanished, and asks why he has been forsaken, and still obeys."

As pro-life activists, it is sometimes hard to look at society and see any trace of God. It is tough to always be enthusiastic. Yet it is in persevering through these periods and soldiering on that really define our commitment to this cause, not the courage and passion you feel when you're surrounded by people who agree with you. It is the prayers and efforts we offer up during these "trough" periods that please God the most, even if they don't please us. And when we can do that, the pro-abortion cause is in serious danger. It's the beginning of March, and spring is almost here!

campus pro-life news



This page contains the latest news from university/college campuses in Alberta. If you know of someone who is interested in being a contact person in another of our colleges or university campuses, please let us know. The more contacts we have in each post-secondary institution the stronger our network becomes. If you also have youth who are planning on attending university this coming fall, this is a perfect time to connect them to active groups already in the schools they are going to, or to help them begin to set up groups when they get there!

National Campus Life Network

www.ncln.ca

Excerpts from the January/February Newsletter

In January 1997 the National Campus Life Network was formed by a group of 40 young people who had the desire to establish a network to link life advocating post-secondary students and groups across the country. These people realized that pro-life students face a two-fold reality at their schools today. First, the very women on university and college campuses are among the most at risk for having an abortion. Secondly, and of great importance, it is through our own schools that the very ideas that oppose life take root. NCLN's urgent mission is to equip students to respond to this unique reality.

New! Two exciting campus resources developed by NCLN

NCLN has received rave reviews about the new resources that have been designed specifically for distribution on campuses. One is a "Right To Know" booklet that presents the pro-life position in a format suited to Canadian university students. This booklet takes some of the most well formulated pro-life ideas and simplifies their content without taking away from their profound impact and truth. The second resource is a poster which NCLN has entitled the "Persons Poster". This takes quotes from throughout history when we have failed to recognize various classes of human beings as persons deserving rights. Special thank-you to NCLN's new volunteer graphic designer, Brian Allen, in Victoria, B.C.

U of C Campus Pro-Life News

By Andrea Kettle

campusprolife@yahoo.ca

U of C Campus Pro-Life has had a successful year thus far with a couple casual social events and speeches from Scott Klusendorf in the fall and Denise Partington in January. CPL also had a presence, as always, at Calgary Life Chain, October 5th. Campus Pro-Life has been engaging the University community most recently through a series of informational posters with such headlines as "Who will speak for the innocent?", "How much is a life worth?", "Partial-birth abortion - Still legal in Canada." (with graphic), "Are you pregnant and in

need of assistance?" (with info) and "Did you know that the birth control pill causes early abortions?". If you are interested in copies, contact Campus Pro-Life.

The club has painted advertisements on the campus Rock three times this year, with one bunch of pro-life slogans staying up for a whole week! In January, the NCLN presentation of the Life Principles message was made more effective by being given in the foyer of the U of C Student Building where lunchtime crowds walked by and some students paused to listen. Campus Pro-Life plans to remember the International Day of the Unborn (March 25th) this year, for our second year in a row.

The club will once again hold a ribbon campaign, this time accompanied by the personal testimony of Denise Mountenay of Canada's Silent No More, an organization voicing the experiences of hurting post-abortive women and advocating against abortion and its disastrous effects on women. CPL also intends to visit a memorial to the Unborn in Calgary and remember those who have died. Presently Campus Pro-Life is in the middle of a search for responsible, dedicated candidates to take over the executive leadership of the club in the coming year. We will be holding the club AGM on March 26th. As always, Campus Pro-Life is interested in your support in the fight to put pro-life into the mainstream at U of C. Thanks for believing in us!

GAP comes to Edmonton

By Patty Nixon

For the past several months the U of A Campus Pro-Life club has been making plans to bring to their campus the GAP (Genocide Awareness Project) display. Krissy Tannas, previous president of the club, started the ball rolling talking to the university to get permission to have the exhibit in the "Quad" area of the university, a high traffic area. Krissy soon ran into hurdles and university officials told her that if the campus group proceeded with the display without university permission that she could be expelled from the university.

Bill Connor, the Vice-Provost and Dean of Students, wrote an official response to the Campus Pro-Life group and stated his reasons as to why the club was denied permission to set up GAP. "In order to balance freedom of expression with our obligation to protect the campus community from discrimination and security risks, I would be willing to consider a revised proposal" stated Mr. Connors. Mr. Connors' suggested alternate was, "An alternate venue must be chosen that allows for controlled entry to the display, whether

indoors (preferable) or outdoors in a location that will not disrupt students who do not wish to view the display," continued Mr. Connors. He also stated that any poster that compared abortion to murder could not be displayed.

Chuck Marple, the new president of U of A Campus Pro-Life, responded to Mr. Connor's letter in great detail. Addressing Mr. Connor's suggested alternate location, Mr. Marple stated, "To sequester us in an enclosed location or to put us in a location with minimal traffic has the same effect of restricting our freedom of speech and is unacceptable. We will not tolerate it. Your second suggested revision is unacceptable as well for it goes to the very core of our message that abortion is murder, and murder is comparable to other types of murder. Even if you dispute the comparison, you are essentially saying that the pro-life position must not be displayed. This is a total restriction on our academic freedom and freedom of expression and is at minimal discriminatory."

In order to join together with other Canadian university campuses doing GAP on March 17th, the U of A Campus club decided to set up their GAP display off the university campus this year, with the full intention of appealing Mr. Connor's decision and pursuing legal counsel as necessary to be able to set up their display next year at the U of A. There were a total of eight universities who set up their GAP displays on March 17th including the University of British Columbia, University College of the Cariboo, Okanagan University College, University of Alberta, University of Manitoba, University of Toronto, and Carleton University in Ottawa. Pro-life students at Trinity Western University set up a similar display known as the Matthew 28:20 Project, which also exposes the atrocities of abortion.

The next issue of *The Rose* will include pictures taken of the GAP displays in Edmonton, and across Canada. If you would like to lend your support to the U of A Campus Pro-Life club, you can contact Chuck Marple at breadfan_31@hotmail.com. To find out more information about the Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform visit www.ccbrinfo.ca.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF ALBERTA PRO-LIFE ALLIANCE ASSOCIATION

"The Annual General Meeting of Members will take place on Saturday, May 1, 2004 at the Holiday Inn in Red Deer, Alberta. All members are welcome to attend."

news from groups

AIRDRIE & DIST. PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-948-3127
bmelik@shaw.ca

CALGARY PRO-LIFE ASSOC.
Ph: 403-243-0691
pro_life@telusplanet.net

CAMROSE PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-672-7110
gailschulte@hotmail.com

CHOOSE LIFE ATHABASCA
Ph: 780-675-4442
rcbalay@telus.net

C.H.I.L.D.
Citizen's Helping in Life's Defense
Ph: 780-962-8108
sheila053@hotmail.com

Our group has been on a bit of a slow-train, but we seem to be getting organized and moving ahead once again. We are in the process of meeting with our church contacts in Parkland County. We will be distributing newsletters, obtaining e-mail addresses, and submitting bulletin announcements. We are also working on sending a few youth from the area to the Drayton Youth for Life event in October. Our "Rachel Mourning" statue, located in the Pioneer Cemetery, a non-denominational cemetery on hwy.16A at Pioneer Road just minutes east of Spruce Grove, is a beautiful, serene setting to meditate and pray for the unborn. It serves as a memorial for the many unborn who do not have markers to pray at. We will be planting new bleeding heart plants at the base of the statue this summer. We welcome anyone who would care to join us at our monthly meetings which are over by 9 pm, and we'd love to see you there!

DRAYTON VALLEY RESPECT FOR LIFE
Ph: 780-542-7546
matt64@telus.net
Check out the calendar of events for our upcoming brunch with guest speaker Denise Mountenay!

EDMONTON PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-425-1637
edmpl@interbaun.com
www.edmontonprolife.org
Klondike Days are coming, and once again we will be having an exhibit booth. If you are available anytime during July 22 to 31 and would like to volunteer to man our booth please call the office at 780-425-1637.

FORT McMURRAY PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-791-0306
pslawr@telus.net
School program outlines have been sent to schools outlining presentations which are given at the grades six and eight levels. Videos are shown: "Preview of a Birth" at the grade six level and "No Alibi" at the grade eight level. Fetal models are displayed with questions and discussion to follow. Our bus shelter posters continue to witness for respect for life with the message "Take my hand, not my life." The bus bench back has been recently replaced, carrying the message, "Every human life is *You*nique and worthy of respect." It is situated at the hospital bus stop along with one of the bus shelter posters. We would welcome new people on our committee. Give us a call at 780-791-7777 to get the dates & meeting times.

GRANDE PRAIRIE VOICE FOR LIFE
Ph: 780-538-3344
vfl@telusplanet.net

We have lots of exciting events planned for this year! Christmas was a well deserved break for everyone but now it's time to get back to the hard work. Check out the calendar of events for our upcoming events.

HIGH RIVER PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-395-2106
rayfree@telusplanet.net

LAKELAND PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-639-3601
rlriette@telusplanet.net

LETHBRIDGE & DIST. PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-320-5433
lprolife@shaw.ca
We have been busy with our AGM which took place on February 19th, and a booth at the South Western Alberta Teachers' Convention on February 19th and 20th. Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director of Euthanasia Prevention Coalition of London, Ontario, addressed 213 people at the AGM on the topic of Creating a Culture of Life. Alex was invited to speak at the Southern Alberta Council on Public Affairs at noon the same day. This is a public event where the public at large is invited to challenge the speaker on the issue of the day. The booth at the teacher's convention was well received with requests from teachers for materials on pre-natal life for use in the classroom at both the elementary and secondary levels.

Submissions are now in for the 2004 Elsie Alexander Scholarship. This year's scholarship was totally revised and we have received entries from a good variety of schools. The judging committee will be making their decision by the end of March for this year's winner.

A focus for Lethbridge and area is the initiating of a youth pro-life group. We have a core of enthusiastic youth who are in the beginning stages of getting an organization off the ground. More news of this development in the next issue!!

MEDICINE HAT PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-527-7434
gibach@telusplanet.net
"Thank You" to all our supporters, members and donors for your help this year without which we would not be successful. We have just mailed out requests for this year's memberships and look

for your continued support. There are a couple of events coming up in the spring. Check out the calendar of events to see when & where they are!

PEMBINA PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-674-2952
bdening@telusplanet.net
We will be hosting our annual general meeting on Friday, April 2, 2004 at the Glenreigh Hall at 8:00 pm. Our guest speaker will be Shafer Parker, who also spoke at the National Conference in Edmonton last November. His topic will include more information about stem-cell research. Everyone is welcome, so come on out & join us for the evening!

RED DEER PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-340-2229
bonnie@rttinc.com
We would like to thank Parkland Christian Church for allowing us to use their church for our meetings. We are also appreciative of the support of local churches and groups in the way of donations. Our next meeting will be April 26th at Parkland Christian Church at 7:30 P.M. Call 403-343-2815 to confirm.

Red Deer Pro-Life is also pleased to have this year's provincial pro-life conference in their area of the province! We very much want to encourage all of our members to come out for the day. The conference is taking place on Saturday, May 1st at the Holiday Inn. Check out the display ad in this newsletter to get registration information.

TABER PRO-LIFE
Ph: 403-223-8452
emoedt@theboss.net

WAINWRIGHT LIFE MATTERS
Ph: 780-842-6135
kdcam@telusplanet.net
Our group has had a bit of a hiatus for several months, but we will be getting busier as Mother's Day approaches with the "carnation drive" and garage sale coming up. We would very much welcome some new volunteers to help us make a difference on pro-life issues on our community!

WETASKIWIN & DIST. PRO-LIFE
Ph: 780-352-6893

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| EDMONTON | 10104-149 St | (780) 481-6950 |
| REGINA | 1347 Winnipeg St. | (306) 757-5693 |
| SASKATOON | 405-2 Ave. N | (306) 665-4911 |
| WINNIPEG | 414 Graham Ave. | (204) 956-5364 |

www.artistsupplies.com



CALENDAR OF events

April 1st

Deadline for the provincial "Courage to Serve" award for 2004. See ad on page 3 for description of award.

April 2 & 3

The Pro-Life Society of B.C.'s provincial conference - "Proclaiming Life in a Culture of Death". Joanne Byfield, President of Alberta Pro-Life, will be one of the guest speakers at their provincial conference. For more information on conference registration visit www.abbotsfordrtl.ca

April 2nd

Pembina Pro-Life's annual general meeting, with guest speaker, Shafer Parker, at the Glenreigh Hall on Friday, April 2. Phone 780-674-2952 for more information.

April 5th

Deadline for Essay Contest 2004. Check inside display ad for more information.

April 23rd

Grande Prairie Voice for Life's Easter Bake and Craft Sale. Calling all Bakers and Crafters - Friday April 23rd, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Prairie Mall. Baking can be dropped off at the Mall by 9:30 am or any time during the bake sale hours. For more information call the office at 780-538-3344.

April 24th

Drayton Valley Respect for Life is hosting a brunch with guest speaker Denise Mountenay, author of *Forgiveness of Murder*. The brunch will be held at St. Anthony Catholic Church at 9:30 AM. Price of tickets \$15.00 per person available from Mark & Lisa Smith, or Erich Wagner. Call 780-542-7546 for more information.

April 24th

AFWUF's Conference and Annual General Meeting takes place in Lethbridge. For details on speakers & conference fees visit www.afwuf.org or call 403-287-5093.

April 30th

This date is the contest deadline for Grande Prairie Voice for Life's first ever Cutest Baby Photo Contest. Photos can be submitted for \$10 each or \$7 each to enter two or more photos. The grand prize is a "Family Entertainment Package" including one portrait session and photos, dinner out with the family, free movie passes and rentals plus "The Game of Life." Email your pictures to vfl@telusplanet.net or drop them off at our office - 9613-100 Street, Suite C. For more information call 780-538-3344.

May 1st

Alberta Pro-Life's Provincial Conference - Life 2004 "Connecting Communities". See display ad for more information.



May 7th

Grande Prairie Voice for Life's awesome youth event! A night of comedy, with magician, juggler and comedian - "The Rubber Chicken Guy." Get ready to laugh the night away. Call 780-538-3344 for more information.

Medicine Hat Pro-Life is hosting Mothers' Day Dinner on May 7th at the Dream Center in support of Rachel's House. For details on time & location call 403-527-7434.

May 8th

Medicine Hat Pro-Life's Hike For Life will be held on Saturday, May 8th at 1 P.M. Details will be published in local church bulletins or you can call 403-527-7434 for more information.

May 12-14th

National March for Life & Youth Conference 2004 takes place in Ottawa, Ontario. To view detailed information visit www.lifesite.net.

May 14th

Edmonton Prolife is hosting a "Pro Life Family Rally". Preparations are being made to mark this day and to challenge our government to protect its most vulnerable citizens, the children in the womb. Please make plans to bring your family and be part of this combination camp meeting, rallying point and family reunion for the pro-life movement. This event will precede the AGM for Edmonton Prolife on Saturday May 15. Please call the office at 780-425-1637 if you would like more information.

May 14th & 15th

Edmonton's Project Rachel will be hosting a "Rachel's Vineyard Retreat" for post-abortive women. To get details on this retreat call 1-877-597-3223 (toll free).

May 15th

Edmonton Prolife's annual general meeting. Call 780-425-1637 for more information.

Oct. 14-16th

National Pro-Life Conference - "Alive & Loving It" hosted by League for Life in Manitoba to be held in Winnipeg downtown at the Delta Hotel. More information to follow, but you can call 204-638-6013 for more information.

Oct. 30th

Mark your calendars! This is the date for the popular Drayton Youth for Life Event. More details to follow in the next issue of *The Rose*. If you'd like information ahead of the next issue (June), you can call Anne Pinkoski at 780-542-4085 or email her at lornep@telusplanet.net.

NEWS RELEASE

GARRY BREITKREUZ, MP
March 12, 2004

NEW CRIMINAL OFFENCE FOR MURDERING AN UNBORN CHILD PROPOSED

"Domestic violence statistics against pregnant women show that something has to be done."

Yorkton - Garry Breitkreuz, MP for Yorkton-Melville, has taken another bold step in his ten-year fight to protect the rights of unborn children. Yesterday, he introduced a Private Member's Motion M-560 that calls on the government to create a new criminal code offence for the murder of an unborn child. "Parliament must send a clear message to anyone contemplating using deadly force against a pregnant woman," said Breitkreuz.

Motion M-560 states: That, in the opinion of this House, the government should introduce an amendment to the Criminal Code of Canada creating a new offence to ensure that any person who murders a woman knowing that she is pregnant, shall be charged with the murder of the unborn child.

"I started looking into this issue after reading an article by Mike McIntyre titled 'Homicide doesn't apply to the unborn' in the Winnipeg Free Press," said Breitkreuz. The news item published on March 1, 2004, stated: In fact, the violent "expiration" of the pregnancies won't even register as a crime statistic. Such is the law in Canada, where a fetus — even if full term — has no legal standing. "It is an absolute tragedy. These were babies, which otherwise were going to be born alive," said Dr. Charlie Ferguson, head of the child-protection centre at Children's Hospital. Ferguson said the abortion debate shouldn't get mixed up with this issue, because of the fact the mother presumably had every intention of giving birth before her demise. "The idea of pregnant women being killed is about as gruesome as a crime as you can get, the idea two people are being killed but only one is recognized in law," he said.

"The news story and what I found out with just a few days of research convinced me something had to be done," stated Breitkreuz. "The Library of Parliament researchers confirmed what the Winnipeg Free Press reporter found out, that Statistics Canada doesn't even keep statistics on the number of pregnant women that are murdered. However, they did find two reports, one by the Maryland Department of Health that found that the leading cause of death among pregnant or recently pregnant women was homicide, and the second by Peel Regional Council in Ontario reporting that 21% of abused women were assaulted during pregnancy (Statistics Canada, 1994)," reported Breitkreuz.

"I don't know why Statistics Canada doesn't collect this important life and death information. But from the research available, it seems that pregnant women are more at risk of being assaulted and murdered. This means that their unborn children are also at risk. I'm not going to wait years for the Liberal government to get its act together. Murderers should face two life terms if they murder a pregnant woman and her baby," declared Breitkreuz.

LifeCanada Media Release

March 4, 2004

EMBRYONIC CANADIANS JUST REPRODUCTIVE MATERIAL!

Canadians looking to Ottawa for renewed integrity and democratic accountability have been dealt another blow. The Senate committee examining a controversial government bill on reproductive technologies has arbitrarily shut out one side of the debate. The Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology refused to hear from the two main groups who oppose Bill C-6 because it would allow human embryos to be killed as part of stem cell medical research. The two national pro-life groups are LifeCanada and Campaign Life Coalition.

"The Senate committee has utterly failed in its essential democratic role, which is to properly vet legislation before sending it for final reading," said Jakki Jeffs, president of LifeCanada. "There is no integrity when a bill is railroaded like this and passed, just to get it out of the way before an election."

A previous form of the bill, C-13, passed the House of Common last fall by a vote of 149-109 after a lengthy debate. "To use any human beings, including the very youngest, as so much raw material for research is to cross a Rubicon into an inhuman world - cloning and beyond," added Jakki Jeffs of LifeCanada. While the bill includes a ban on cloning, the provisions on embryonic research create a slippery slope that will eventually lead to the cloning of embryos, as carried out recently by South Korean scientists.

"Ethics should guide science," said Mrs. Jeffs. "With this bill, science is driving ethics. The Senate Committee has not served the public interest." In turning a deaf ear to the two pro-life groups, the Senate committee has also disregarded the values of most Canadians. A Leger poll last fall showed 70% either have reservations about stem cell research that destroys embryos or oppose it outright. Only 21% expressed unqualified support.

"Alive and Loving It"

The 2004 National Pro-Life Conference hosted by League for Life in Manitoba will be held in downtown Winnipeg at the Delta Hotel from October 14-16, 2004.

ESTATE PLANNING

Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Association

We would like to encourage our members to consider remembering Alberta Pro-Life in their estates. We feel strongly that our cause is of utmost importance, and your gift will help. Ten thousand children are aborted in Alberta every year. Our focus is to save them, and we are pursuing this goal through various activities and initiatives that you read about several times a year in this newsletter.

If you or someone you know is in the position of planning an estate, please consider a gift of money or assets to APL. If you are in the difficult position of planning a funeral, our sympathies are with you, but please consider directing donations toward APL in lieu of flowers.

TUNE IT IN

AM 930
CJCA
THE LIGHT
edmonton

Shine
88.9 FM
calgary

TURN IT UP



Senate refuses to hear from pro-life groups before passing reprotect bill

By Joanne Byfield

The Canadian Senate passed Bill C-6, An Act Respecting Assisted Human Reproduction and Related Research on March 11. The bill, formerly C-13, was passed last year by the House of Commons but was stalled in the Senate when Parliament was prorogued in November. Now, for the first time in Canadian law, it is legal to kill human embryos and use the stem cells for research. The bill also bans human cloning, but many experts have said that the definition of cloning is inadequate and researchers will probably be able to circumvent the ban. The law will be reviewed in three years and many expect that it will be amended to allow "therapeutic cloning", that is, cloning for the purpose of research and harvesting of parts. The created clones would then, by law, be killed. Many Canadian bioethicists have already argued for therapeutic cloning and the Canadian delegation at the UN has lobbied the world body to allow this type of cloning.

There are some good aspects to the law. Eggs, sperm and embryos cannot be sold. Commercial surrogacy is prohibited. Supporters argue that Canada finally has legislation to control research in this area. For more than a decade, there have been no controls on research in this area, although the federal government had asked for a voluntary ban. Many who were uncomfortable with some aspects of this bill, notably the approval of embryonic stem cell research and the creation of embryos for research, reluctantly supported it because of the cloning ban and the regulation of other technologies.

Both of Canada's national pro-life groups, LifeCanada and Campaign Life Coalition, asked to testify before the Senate committee studying the bill. Both were refused. LifeCanada asked that an Ontario researcher who works with adult stem cells be allowed to present the case for adult stem cell research as an ethically superior alternative to the destructive embryonic stem cell research. That request was also refused.


In an October 2003 Leger poll, 70% of those polled said they either opposed or had serious reservations about the destruction of embryos for research. LifeCanada president, Jakki Jeffs, said, "With this bill, science is driving ethics. The Senate committee is not serving the public interest."


Flowers for Life



Fundraising ideas and initiatives are always a challenge, especially because Alberta Pro-Life is not a registered charity and thus cannot issue tax receipts. We frequently get phone calls from people who do not understand why we do not seek charitable status, however after I tell them that we would have stop doing the majority of the work we now do, they understand completely! You'll see on the below response coupon that we're offering you a sample seed packet with each \$10 donation that you send in on the response coupon. We purchased a limit quantity of sample packets from the Northern Alberta Seed Growers in Fort Saskatchewan to be able to show you what the packets look like. The packets that we purchased were originally produced for the now defunct Alliance for Life national pro-life organization. The packet includes perennial "Echinacea" seeds. If you think that your local pro-life group or local church would be interested in participating in a fundraiser next year, let us know very soon so that we can get a better idea just how much interest there is.

These seed packets make great gifts to give the "Moms" in your church on Mother's Day Sunday, or to include in your Mother's Day cards.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada — 
protecting the sanctity of human life.



*"Yahweh called me when I was in the womb, before my birth he had pronounced my name."
 (Isaiah 49:1)*

Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council
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"ALBERTA PRO-LIFE" MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
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 Postal Code _____
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I would like to receive a complimentary seed packet with my enclosed gift of \$10 or more.



PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- Cheque
 MasterCard
 Visa

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE REGISTER ME FOR THE FOLLOWING

- Annual membership fee \$20.00
 Flowers for Life Seeds \$10.00
 Donation _____

Total Payment enclosed _____

Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Association is not a registered charity and thus unable to issue tax receipts for donations.

Please send all membership renewals for Red Deer ProLife, Lethbridge & District Pro-Life, Medicine Hat Pro-Life, Edmonton ProLife, Grande Prairie Voice for Life, and Taber Pro-Life directly to these groups.

CARD # _____
 EXPIRY DATE _____
 SIGNATURE _____

Please make cheque payable to:
 Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Association,
 Box 11479, Edmonton, AB T5J 3K5



Yes...

... I would like to sign up to become a monthly donor!

Option #1 – Monthly Debit from your Bank Account

I give permission to Alberta Pro-Life to withdraw \$_____ (min. \$5) from my bank account on the 5th day of each month. Enclosed is a copy of a voided cheque.

Option #2 – Monthly Credit Card Debit

I give permission to Alberta Pro-Life to process a donation of \$_____ (min. \$10) on my credit card on the 15th day of each month.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Alberta Pro-Life is not a registered charity and cannot issue tax receipts for donations.