

The Rose



THE PROVINCIAL NEWSLETTER FOR ALBERTA PRO-LIFE ALLIANCE ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2006

New government, new direction? Will there be movement on pro-life issues?

By Joanne Byfield

Canada elected a new government on January 23rd. The Conservative Party of Canada has formed a minority government under new Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Does the change in government mean anything with respect to pro-life issues? Will we see any change in attitudes or more significantly laws under this new, probably short-term government?

Let's start with the good news. In the last week of the election campaign, then Prime Minister Paul Martin launched into a hysterical defense of "a woman's right to choose." He warned Canadians that a Harper government would threaten this "charter right" and challenged Mr. Harper to promise to revoke section 33 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms so that the federal government could not override a charter guarantee to abortion.

Mr. Martin's scare tactics might have had some effect in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, where the Tories were shut out, but clearly most Canadians did not buy the pro-abortion line (or lie). There is no charter right to abortion in Canada and Mr. Harper and the Conservatives had already said they would not bring in abortion legislation in their first mandate. Canadians still elected a Conservative government. (See our 4-page Special Report on Legal Abortion in Canada in this issue.)

The second bit of good news is that roughly a third of the Harper cabinet is pro-life. According to Lifesite News, Justice Minister Vic Toews, Agriculture Minister Chuck Strahl, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, Agriculture Minister Chuck Strahl, Fisheries Minister Loyola Hearn, Citizenship and Immigration Minister Monte Solberg, Minister for Democratic

Reform Rob Nicholson, Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day, Natural Resources Minister Gary Lunn and National Revenue Minister Carol Skelton are all pro-life. There are other strong and committed pro-life MPs too such as Garry Breitkreuz, Jason Kenney, Maurice Vellacott and Diane Ablonczy.

The not-so-encouraging news is that Mr. Harper is not pro-life but neither is he hostile to pro-life people. He recognizes that a strong and successful conservative party must include social and fiscal conservatives. He does not support legalizing euthanasia. He promised during the election that he would not bring forward legislation on abortion in his first term. He also said that if backbenchers want to bring in legislation he would discourage them.

Before the last parliament fell on a non-confidence motion in November, Saskatchewan MP Maurice Vellacott was preparing an Unborn Victims of Violence bill to ensure that those who hurt or kill babies in the womb could be charged with a crime. Two pregnant women were killed in Edmonton in 2005 but the deaths of the babies could not be considered crimes because the law in Canada does not recognize them as "persons." There is considerable public support for such a bill and Mr. Vellacott could still pursue it.



Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Mr. Breitkreuz too has introduced several private member's motions and bills on life issues in the past.

Finally, it is far easier for backbench MPs in opposition to introduce and advocate pro-life motions and legislation. It is far more difficult to do that as a government member especially in a minority parliament. Party and government officials have far more power and can exert more pressure on members than an opposition party can. It remains to be seen whether a Stephen Harper government will deal harshly with members who advance pro-life legislation.

It is extremely important to keep in touch with your local MP (all the Alberta MPs are Conservatives) and ensure that he or she knows where you stand and that you are paying attention to whether they support life issues. We could be in another election within two years.



My Mother

*Who fed me from her gentle breast
And hushed me in her arms to rest,
And on my cheek sweet kisses prest?*

My mother:

*When sleep forsook my open eye,
Who was it sung sweet lullaby
And rocked me that I should not cry?*

My mother:

*Who sat and watched my infant head
When sleeping in my cradle bed,
And tears of sweet affection shed?*

My mother:

*When pain and sickness made me cry,
Who gazed upon my heavy eye
And wept, for fear that I should die?*

My mother:

*Who ran to help me when I fell
And would some pretty story tell,
Or kiss the part to make it well?*

My mother:

*Who taught my infant lips to pray,
To love God's holy word and day,
And walk in wisdom's pleasant way?*

My mother:

*And can I ever cease to be
Affectionate and kind to thee
Who wast so very kind to me,-*

My mother

*Oh no, the thought I cannot bear;
And if God please my life to spare
I hope I shall reward thy care,*

My mother:

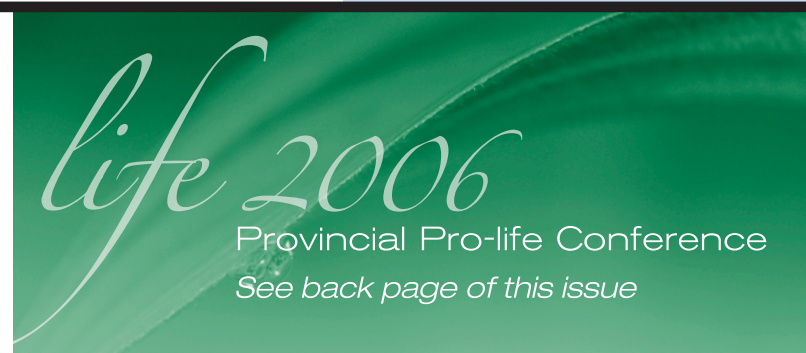
*When thou art feeble, old and gray,
My healthy arm shall be thy stay,
And I will soothe thy pains away,*

My mother

*And when I see thee hang thy head,
'Twill be my turn to watch thy bed,
And tears of sweet affection shed,-*

My mother:

-Jane Taylor



Ken Epp, MP

Edmonton - Sherwood Park

141 Seneca Road, Sherwood Park, AB T8A 4G6

Phone: 467-4944 • Fax: 449-1471

Email: eppk@parl.gc.ca



Proud to serve our community and our country.

www.kenepp.com



TOP 1%
OF RE/MAX REALTORS WORLDWIDE™

PETER D. SCHALIN

(780) 462-5000 **RE/MAX**
Real Estate
peterdschalin.com

Based on Lifetime Achievement Award from
ReMax International Inc.

**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

Executive of Alberta Pro-Life

- President – Henny van der Gugten
Spruce Grove hvander Gugten@telus.net
- Vice-President – John Harder
Calgary harder@telus.net
- Treasurer – Erna Moedt
Taber emoedt@telus.net
- Secretary – Irene Vanderveen
Edmonton maplacement@shaw.ca

Directors of Alberta Pro-Life

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|--|
| Gerrit Top | High River | |
| Alie Vogelzang | Barrhead | |
| Michelle Goodliffe | Grande Prairie | mnakmcg@telus.net |
| Neil Kinderwater | Stettler | neilkinderwater@yahoo.ca |
| Corry Morcos | Edmonton | ctmorcos@hotmail.com |
| Erich Wagner | Drayton Valley | albertatank@msn.com |

Staff Contacts for Alberta Pro-Life

- Patty Nixon (office) 780-421-7747
apl@albertaprolife.com
- Theresa McPike (office) 780-421-7747
aplaa@telus.net
- Joanne Byfield (home) 780-939-5940
joannebyfield@compusmart.ab.ca

**RETURN UNDELIVERABLE
CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:
ALBERTA PRO-LIFE,
BOX 11479,
EDMONTON, AB T5J 3K5**

The Back Porch Project



The view from the Morgentaler Clinic.

Alberta Life Issues Educational Society (ALIES) has launched its Back Porch project at the office location across from the Morgentaler Clinic in Edmonton. The tiny enclosed porch at the back of the house is decorated with tiny white lights and an electric woodstove-style heater. It's also stocked with pamphlets on fetal development, post-abortion grief and fetal models ranging from 7 to 30-week babies.



ALIES office manager Theresa McPike in the Back Porch.

ALIES office manager Theresa McPike says volunteers arrive at the house by 7 a.m. each morning before women start to arrive for their abortion appointments. Someone stays until the clients are all gone, usually around 5 p.m. "We hope that some women will see our signs and will come in for more information," she says.

The porch has a sign which says, "Were you informed?" and another that says, "See how your pregnancy would look today. Free pre- and post-abortion information."

So far, those who have come into the porch have been people looking for the Morgentaler Clinic. "We usually have about two minutes to talk to them and we try to give them a package of material with crisis pregnancy numbers and some other information," says Mrs. McPike.

The Morgentaler Clinic performs most of the abortions in northern Alberta now that the city's Royal Alexandra Hospital has quit performing abortions. That's about 5,000 abortions a year. "We know some of these women are pressured to come here," says Mrs. McPike. "Sometimes by their parents, sometimes by their boyfriends or other friends. Some have no idea that

there is an alternative, that there might be people out there who would help and support them with their pregnancy. We want to be that last chance, the beacon of hope for these women who don't want to have an abortion but have nowhere else to go."

ALIES is a charitable organization and moved into the house last October. It is hoping that churches and others will help keep the project alive with donations. "Our monthly expenses for rent and utilities are about \$1,200," says Mrs. McPike. ALIES also rents part of the house to Alberta Pro-Life for office space which offsets part of the monthly cost.

"We also need prayer," says the ALIES office manager. "This is a challenging ministry but one which we think is so necessary. We hope to be a sign of God's love to these women, a sign that they have not been abandoned by everyone. They are in the middle of a crisis and they need love and support. Taking the life of their baby will not solve the problem."

We'll keep you updated on happenings from the Back Porch. If you would like more information about the Porch Project, call Theresa McPike at 421-9941.

The ethics of euthanasia

By Robert Sutherland

This is the first of a three-part series on the Ethics of Euthanasia. The next two parts will appear in the June and September issues of The Rose.

Introduction

Euthanasia is the intentional killing of a human being, for reasons of compassion, resulting in death by unnatural means. The definition involves three things: intention, motive and causation. The intention is to kill. The motive is to eliminate suffering. And the cause of death is human intervention, not some underlying illness. Refusing medical treatment is not euthanasia. In refusing a ventilator or a feeding tube, the intention is to live one's remaining time, however long that is, without artificial support. The intention is not death, because the patient does not attempt suicide when they survive the removal of artificial support. In refusing medical treatment, the cause of death is always natural causes: the underlying disease or illness. The debate is not about letting people die naturally; it is about giving doctors the right to kill their patients.

Wrong in principle: the right to life

Euthanasia is wrong in principle because it is a violation of the right to life. Rights flow from needs which flow from duties.

The basic ethical duty is to seek that which is really good. It is self-evidently true. Why? It is unthinkable that one should seek that which is really bad, or that one should not seek that which is really good. It is a duty one owes to oneself, to others and to God as creator.

What is really good is what fulfills a natural human need. It is self-evidently true. Why? Human needs are those human basic desires (for truth, beauty, goodness, freedom, justice, pleasure, love, self-expression, life, growth, health, food and drink, shelter, god) that are universal, eradicable and irresistible for all human beings as human beings. Real biological, economic, political, social, psychological and religious goods fulfill

those natural needs. There is no such thing as a wrong need. There can be wrong wants. There can be more of a good thing than is really good for a human being. There can be less of a good thing than is really good for a being. But there never can be a wrong need. If it were wrong, human beings would not by nature need it.

The natural right to life is based on the natural need for life. We need life instrumentally as a means to other ends: the pursuit of all the economic, political, social, psychological and religious goods that make us truly and fully human. We need life intrinsically because we are our lives. It is not something we possess separate from ourselves. Life is a real good. Death is not a real good. Death does not fulfill any natural need. In fact, death destroys all natural needs, all human nature.

Unlike some other rights, the right to life is inalienable and infeasible. We can defer or postpone or give up our lives without failing to fulfill our basic ethical duty.

But the right to life does not imply a duty to live in all circumstances. It is only the natural duty

to take reasonable care of one's own life and health and to seek necessary medical care from others. "Extraordinary" or "disproportionate" means are not required to preserve life. Where there is no reasonable prospect of benefit, there is no duty to live with artificial life support. Where artificial life support is excessively burdensome, there is no duty we continue it. There is no duty to be a hero. When we refuse medical treatment in those circumstances, we do not violate the right to life. We seek to live, albeit without artificial support. We do not intend death. The refusal of medical treatment in those circumstances is nothing more than the recognition of human finitude and inevitability of death.

A just government secures the natural rights of its citizens through passing and enforcing just laws. Since the right to life is inalienable and infeasible, no government can authorize the intentional killing of a patient and no patient can voluntarily consent to being killed.

The claim that euthanasia might be justified on the basis of the natural need for liberty is

self-defeating. The value of liberty is found in the perpetuation of liberty. The principle of freedom cannot require that one should be free not to be free. Euthanasia is morally wrong for the same reason voluntary slavery is wrong. It is an act of liberty that contradicts the very nature of liberty. It is an act whereby a person abdicates his liberty and forgoes any future use of it beyond that single act. In euthanasia, the person defeats, in his own case, the very purpose, which is the justification of allowing him to dispose of himself. Liberty is not an unlimited good. It has external limits (harms to others) and internal limits (acts inconsistent with the very nature of liberty).

Robert Sutherland is a Calgary criminal trial lawyer. He is a former president of the Thunder Bay Right to Life Association.



There is help
24/7

Please circulate these important phone numbers and websites. We want women to know that there are options when they are in a crisis pregnancy. All of the phone numbers are answered 24/7.

Phone Numbers*

National Crisis
Pregnancy Line
1-800-665-0570

Central Alberta
Pregnancy Line
1-888-443-1611

Websites*

www.pregnancycare.ca
www.beavoice.net
www.pregcare.com

*If you know of other phone numbers and websites please let our office know and we'll add them to the list.

gb engineering ltd.

electrical and controls engineering

gary b beuker, p. eng.

(780) 962-1495, cell 970-2230
49 marlboro drive, spruce grove, alberta
T7X 2L5

OFFICIAL NOTICE to all members of Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Association

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Alberta Pro-Life Alliance Association and its membership, we are giving official notice for the upcoming Annual General Meeting of Members which will take place in Edmonton, Alberta on Friday, May 12th at 3:00 pm at the King's University College, 9125-50 Street. Members are eligible to vote at the annual meeting, however non-members are welcome to attend. Members can receive a member's package ahead of time by contacting the office. Meeting packages will be available to members two weeks prior to the annual meeting. For more information call 1-877-880-5433 (toll free).

MAPLE CEMENT

Contractors

E. Vander Veen
Tel. 451-7873

Dee-Jay Motel

Box 236, Grimshaw, AB T0H 1W0

- Non Smoking Rooms • Color Cable TV
- Kitchenettes – fridges, microwaves
- Plug ins, Direct Dial Phones
- Voice Mail, Modem Jacks • Housekeeping Awards

Gerald & Eileen McGuire

Phone 1 (780) 332-4298 Fax 1 (780) 332-2392
Reservations: 1-888-332-4233 (Canada only)

BERDICK
Makers of Quality Windows and Doors
1504 - 12th Street Coaldale, Alberta
(403) 345-4401
www.berdick.ca



EPR GORDON C. FERGUSON & CO.

Certified General Accountants Management Consultants

GORDON C. FERGUSON, FCGA, ALA, CFP, CAFM
Professional Corporation

405 - 6th Avenue S.W., Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A4
Phone: (780) 849-4949 Fax (780) 849-3401 Toll Free 1-888-849-8383
E-mail: cprslave@telusplanet.net www.gcferguson.com
Affiliated Worldwide with Morisson International

LifeCanada Update

By Joanne Byfield

The LifeCanada executive committee will be meeting for two days in Toronto in April to discuss finances, fundraising and goals and strategies for the coming year. We had hoped to have a two-day retreat for the entire board but costs and scheduling made that impossible.

Our MasterCard funding will end in July and we desperately need to find a solution to our financial situation. We have applied to another credit card company for an affinity arrangement and are awaiting their reply.

We are also looking at new ways of structuring the national organization and its relationship to provincial and local groups. We have initiated discussions with provincial groups and will be working together to try to find an arrangement that works efficiently for all of us.

Our updated brochure on the Health Risks of Abortion has been reprinted and is available for sale. The brochures cost \$35 for 100 copies. They provide a great summary of health effects of abortion and the brochure includes all the references for the studies cited. The updated version includes the latest study on depression by Dr. David Fergusson and new information on the ABC link. These are useful education tools for doctors, health clinics, schools etc. You can order them by calling our office at 1-866-780-5433.

We have also begun planning for our second annual October billboard campaign on the link between breast cancer and abortion. Our first was quite successful and included 38 billboards and transit shelter ads across the country. The billboards carried the message, "Stop the cover-up" and directed people to our new website at www.AbortionBreastCancer.ca. We had many thousands of hits to the site during and following the

campaign. This year we hope to have over 100 billboards. We will have the same message available and we are also working on another message which would say "Why wasn't I told?" with the website address. Groups could choose either message for their billboard. If your group would like to participate in the campaign, please let us know. The campaign runs during breast cancer month but it is important to get ad space booked in late spring to ensure that billboards are available. We'd also like to tie in newspaper ads, if groups are interested in running ads in local papers. We also promote use of the Stop the Cover-up business cards which have abortion statistics on the back. These cards are available from Toronto Right to Life at very reasonable prices. We would also welcome participation from Knights of Columbus, CWL or other church and pro-family groups who might want to sponsor a billboard in their communities. Please contact us or pass the information on to groups in your area.

The national pro-life conference will be held this year in Vancouver, hosted by the Pro-Life Society of B.C. and co-sponsored by LifeCanada, Healing the Culture and Campaign Life Coalition. The theme is "Healing the Culture: A New Beginning" and will focus heavily on the Life Principles curriculum. For more information or to register online, you can go to www.2006prolifeconference.com or contact Pro-Life BC at ProLife BC, #1 - 2599 Cedar Park Place, Abbotsford, BC V2T 3S4. Phone 604-853-3425 or email info@2006prolifeconference.com.

We are always encouraging new members to join LifeCanada. If your local group is not a member, please encourage them to join.

SERENA NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Serena values life from conception and is dedicated to the promotion of married love and the enrichment of family life.

Our Service Provides:

- NFP resources for parishes
- Pre-marriage presentations
- Couple to couple instruction
- Information sessions for health professionals
- Classroom presentations

Serena Alberta
Box 1820, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2P2
(780) 488-5221 (in Edmonton), 1-866-488-5221
Email: serena-a@telus.net
Serena Canada website: www.serena.ca

A Natural Family Planning Service

*A registered charitable organization

Bute TRAVEL SERVICE LTD.

477-8561
TOLL FREE
1-800-661-8906

11733 - 95 Street, Edmonton, Alberta — Henry Woudstra, Manager

The Travel Experts!

St. Francis Community • Ministries • Registered Charity #862190121

St. Francis Thrift Shop

4801 50th Ave Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1S7
Phone: 780 968-0462 Fax: 780 968-0446

Elsie Alexander Pro-Life Scholarship



Sponsored by Lethbridge and District Pro-Life

The Elsie Alexander Pro-Life Scholarship was instituted in 1997 by the Lethbridge and District Pro-Life Association in recognition of the leadership and many years of dedicated service of Elsie Alexander to the pro-life movement at the local, provincial and national levels.

The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage young people to

- 1) learn more about the pro-life movement
- 2) become actively involved in pro-life programs, and
- 3) participate in voluntary activities in their school, church and/or community.

Application deadline: Friday, March 17, 2006

Age of entrants: Limited to 2006 Grade 12 graduates, residing in the Lethbridge region

Scholarship value: \$1000.00

To view the full contest rules, along with specific essay topic information please visit www.albertaprolife.com and select the "Elsie Alexander Pro-Life Scholarship" link on the homepage.



We deliver.

Let CLN deliver your posters & flyers to over 600 Churches, Christian Bookstores, Bible Colleges, Ministries & Businesses.

Call 640-2011

CLN CITY LIGHT NEWS

9827E Horton Rd SW, Calgary AB T2V 2X5

Ph. 640-2011 • Fax 640-2000

info@calgarychristian.com • www.calgarychristian.com

LIFE DIGEST

Half of Canadians say they'd support restrictions on abortion

An Ipsos Reid poll conducted a week after the Jan. 23 election found 50% of Canadians would still support the Harper government if it introduced legal restrictions on abortion. Forty-five percent said they would rather have an election. Ipsos Reid President Darrell Bricker attributed the acceptance of such legislation to the fact that Canadians are sick of elections. It may be, however, that the poll results reflect what pollsters have been finding for many years. Canadians do not support unrestricted access to abortion. Polls have consistently found over 60% of Canadians think there should be some legal restrictions on abortion.

Legal challenges to U.S. Roe v. Wade decision

In late February, the United States Supreme court agreed to hear an appeal by federal lawyers to lower court decisions which struck down a law banning partial birth abortions. Abortion advocates described the court's decision to hear the appeal as "a dangerous act of hostility." They fear that the court, now presided over by Chief Justice John Roberts and another new appointee Justice Samuel Alito, might overturn abortion rights enshrined since the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. The two new justices have been described as pro-life. The court will likely hear another abortion case too. Last month, the state of South Dakota declared abortions to be illegal except if performed to save a woman's life. The law effectively makes abortion illegal. It is expected that the new law will be challenged and will work its way eventually to the country's highest court.

Abortion is great except if girls are targeted

The Canadian media was full of stories in early January about the horrors of sex selection abortions in India. The *Globe and Mail* referred to "10 million missing girls" the number estimated to have been aborted over the past 20 years. Pro-life groups have been talking about sex selection and forced abortions in countries like India and China for more than a decade but a study published in the *Lancet*, a British medical journal, finally

made it respectable for mainstream media to mention it. The news stories prompted commentaries about "anti-girl bias" and calls for the practice of sex selection abortions to end. Sex selection abortions are illegal in India and have been since 1994 but they continue.

Pro-choice researcher finds abortion can lead to depression

New Zealand epidemiologist Dr. David Fergusson published the results of a 25-year longitudinal study of over 1200 girls tracked from birth to age 25. The study found that 42% of the girls who underwent abortions experienced major depression, nearly double the rate of those who were never pregnant and 35% higher than those who completed their pregnancy. They also experienced higher anxiety disorders and were more than twice as likely to have a drinking problem and three times as likely to be dependent on illegal drugs. Dr. Fergusson describes himself as "an atheist, a rationalist and pro-choice." He told the *Medical Post* that his analysis confirmed that the mental health problems followed the abortion rather than caused the abortion.

Morgentaler: The ever ready litigant

Henry Morgentaler, the 82-year-old abortionist from Quebec, is suing yet another province to force taxpayers to pick up the full tab for abortions at his private clinic. He is currently suing the province of New Brunswick and has now added Quebec to the roster. Quebec pays the full cost of hospital abortions and part of the cost of clinic abortions but women must pay an additional \$200 to \$600 at private clinics. Morgentaler and his lawyers argue that women should not have to wait for service at hospitals nor should they have to travel to cities. Abortion should be available everywhere and fully paid for by taxpayers. A spokesman for the Association for Access to Abortion, Claude Paquin, says that the case is about choice and quality. "Women like it a lot when they come to a specialized clinic because they're not going to lose three days of work. They're going to lose only one."

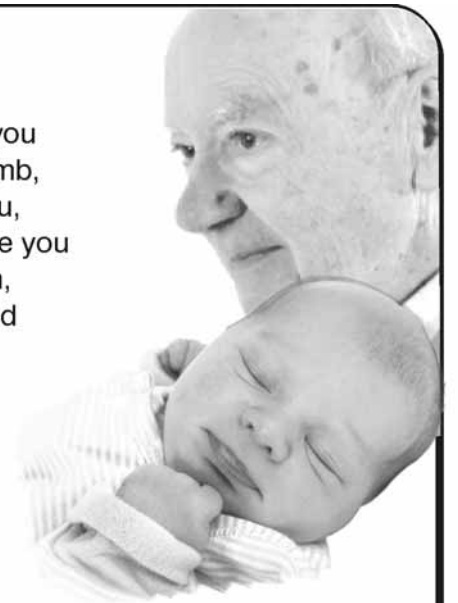
Remember us in your will

On a couple of occasions in the past few years, Alberta Pro-Life has been honoured and grateful to be named in wills as a beneficiary. These bequests remind us how seldom such gifts come along. Occasionally, families of deceased people have suggested that memorials could include donations to APL. We are always appreciative of such gestures. Fundraising is a tough job and for groups like Alberta Pro-Life, who do not have charitable status, it is even tougher. Much of our work is political and therefore not eligible as charitable. We cannot issue receipts for income tax and many donors prefer to give their money to groups that can issue receipts.

So, we occasionally like to remind people to remember us when you are planning your will. Our work is very important and your bequest could be of tremendous help. Also, we do appreciate being included as a group to which mourners might consider making a memorial donation.

Before
I formed you
in the womb,
I knew you,
and before you
were born,
I dedicated
you.

Jer 1:5



R Western Catholic
REPORTER

8421-101 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T6A 0L1

Ph: (780) 465-8030 Fax: 465-8031

Email: wcr@wcr.ab.ca

Website: www.wcr.ab.ca

Subscriptions: Canada \$30/yr
US and Foreign \$75/yr

Mom gets probation for killing her son

By Joanne Byfield

Assisted suicide is a crime in Canada and carries a maximum sentence of 14 years in prison. A Montreal Superior Court Justice told a court in January that assisted suicide and mercy killing were serious crimes in Canada. He then proceeded to hand down a sentence of three years probation to 60-year-old Marielle Houle who helped her son, Charles Fariala, commit suicide in September 2004.

Mr. Fariala was 36 years old and recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Some media reports said he could no longer "bear the symptoms" of the disease but in fact it appears that he was not suffering physically so much as mentally. He was severely depressed about his future prospects, a common experience of MS sufferers. He asked his mother, to whom he was very close, to help him commit suicide. Justice Maurice Laramee agreed that the son was depressed but questioned Mrs. Houle's role in helping him to plan his death and agreeing to do the deed for him. He thought perhaps support and professional help might have changed his mind.

Mr. Fariala consumed pills and other medications, and had his mother tie his hands with leather cuffs

(one assumes that was to prevent him from changing his mind and fighting to live.) After he was asleep, his mother put a mask over his face and a plastic bag over his head to suffocate him. After his death she called police and confessed.

Judge Laramee said the light sentence in no way condoned assisted suicide. He described Mrs. Houle as an emotionally fragile person for whom prison would be too cruel.

The difficulty is, however, that the sentence does leave the impression that this was not much of a crime. As Diane Rivard, a spokesperson for Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, Quebec division, told CanWest News Service, "We don't want people to think, 'It's just three years' probation, maybe it's worth it to help someone commit suicide.' It's a slight fear we have, that people will be encouraged."

The Council for Canadians with disabilities expressed even stronger fears. Laurie Beachall, national co-coordinator of the group said, "Unfortunately, whatever the judge wants, the message is that assisted suicide is OK and our organization is opposed."

PARK
LIGHTING

The Lighting Specialists

10353 - 170th Street

Edmonton, Alberta T5P 4V4

Ph: (780) 434-9600

Fax: (780) 434-7051

JOHN HARDER P.ENG

[403] 861-3148
Calgary, Alberta

**OILFIELD
FORMATION
EVALUATION**

NEWS FROM GROUPS

AIRDRIE & DIST. PRO-LIFE

Gail Matovich
matovichmg@shaw.ca

CALGARY PRO-LIFE ASSOC.

Ph: 403-243-0691
pro_life@telusplanet.net

CHOOSE LIFE ATHABASCA

Ph: 780-675-4442
ARCPam@telus.net

Our group is erecting a sign on Hwy #2 south of Athabasca. The sign will be 4' X 8', close to the highway. One side of the sign will read, "Unplanned pregnancy? Please don't abort. Adoption is the loving option. Phone 689-1149. The other side of the sign will read, "Post-abortion concerns? Confidential counseling. Phone 689-1149." We're raising money for the cost of the sign itself and the monthly rental space at the moment. We have a trained counselor that is ready to help and who will answer calls on a designated cell phone. We also have a small sign three miles south of town that we put pro-life messages on and change now and then and this also gets more pro-life messages into our community. Our small group is always looking for volunteers to be active in our community efforts, so please give us a call anytime! If you would like to make a donation towards our community project, again, just call us and we'd welcome your support.

C.H.I.L.D.

Citizen's Helping in Life's Defense

Ph: 780-962-8108
sheila053@yahoo.ca

DRAYTON VALLEY RESPECT FOR LIFE

Ph: 780-542-7546
mlsmith@incentre.net

EDMONTON PROLIFE

Ph: 780-425-1637
edmpl@interbaun.com
www.edmontonprolife.org

Edmonton Prolife held its annual peaceful protest over the Supreme Court decision to decriminalize abortion in 1988. The Law Courts Building was the place of the protest, with approximately 50 persons (women, men, children, young and old) coming together with signs stating the humanity of the unborn. This year there was no counter-demonstration, and some interviews were conducted. We also participated in the U of A Campus Prolife's first ever one-day booth and poster workshop for pro-life organizations. It was a very useful educational tool for all passing through the Student Union Building. Edmonton Prolife participated and will continue the supporting relationship with Campus Pro-Life and other youth groups. Edmonton Prolife was invited to and participated in a pro-life conference organized by Lutherans for Life, through Concordia University College. Exc. Dir. Mr. Lamb of the U.S.-based Lutherans for Life was the main speaker, with other workshop presentations on Biotechnology, Post-Abortion Counselling, Risky Sexual Behaviour, and How to talk to your kids about sex. It was good to connect with other pro-life organizations and build

together a stronger network.

FORT McMURRAY PRO-LIFE

Ph: 780-791-0306

We were very pleased with the Mark Mallet dinner and auction event last fall, and we would very much like to continue to be able to do these kind of evenings for the pro-life people who live up in Fort McMurray! As most of you know, our city is unique in that we have a lot of people who come to work in the booming industry up here, so lots of families move in for a few years and move back out again. At this particular time we have lost some of our very active pro-life people and we are in need of new people to get involved and help us make a difference in our city. If you know someone who lives in our city that you think would be interested please have them call Jessie @ 780-791-0306.

GRANDE PRAIRIE VOICE FOR LIFE

Ph: 780-538-3344
vf@telusplanet.net

HIGH RIVER PRO-LIFE

Ph: 403-395-2106
highriverprolife@shaw.ca

High River Pro-Life Association has had a change in leadership. Gerrit Top has resigned as president after more than ten years of faithful service. We extend our gratitude to Gerrit and his wife Jenny for their dedication to the group, and look forward to their continued support as members of the board. We welcome as our new president, Heather Baldwin. Heather has been an active board member for many years and we are grateful for her

willingness to step up and lead the group.

LAKELAND PRO-LIFE

Ph: 780-639-3601
rlirette@telusplanet.net

LETHBRIDGE & DIST. PRO-LIFE

Ph: 403-320-5433
lprolife@shaw.ca

We held our Annual General Meeting this year on Thursday, January 26th with guest speaker, Dr. Theresa Burke, founder of Rachel's Vineyard Ministries. Many of you may be familiar with her informative book, "Forbidden Grief - The Unspoken Pain of Abortion." Many people were touched by the nature of her healing ministry with men and women and it provoked an interest in holding Rachel's Vineyard Retreats in the Lethbridge area.

Included in the evening, was a successful silent auction with funds being directed towards a fulltime youth liaison for Lethbridge and area. We are pleased to welcome new board members Connie Hasley and Margaret Oosterhof!

On Saturday, January 28th, Theresa Burke held a day long seminar "Pregnancy Loss and Unresolved Grief" at the Lethbridge Lodge for coun-

TABER PRO-LIFE

Ph: 403-223-8452
emoedt@telus.net

We had a very windy day for our Life Chain in October. About 82 people braved the weather to stand in silent protest for the unborn. In November we had Dr. Clem Persaud (retired professor of bio-technology) speak to our board members. This was an evening open to the public. He spoke on stem cell research. We again need to send out a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our Annual Banquet January 27th. We were expecting more than the 135 that came but the evening went off without a hitch. It was well planned and organized. We'd like to especially thank Judy Layton and the kitchen volunteers and the businesses that donated or contributed in some way: ABC Art, Taber IGA, Halma's Vegetables. We thank soloist/pianist Kristi Vandergeest for performing for us. The speaker, Teresa Burke, was the highlight of the evening. She was a very informative speaker. And of course the board members. Thanks a bunch everyone. We couldn't have done it without you. Watch for our float in the Taber Parade this Summer.

WAINWRIGHT LIFE MATTERS

Ph: 780-842-6135
bkmill@telusplanet.net

Van's
Delicatessen and Giftshop

Jake and Tineke Vandervelde
13036-82 Street
Edmonton, AB T5E 2T5
Ph/Fax: (780) 475-5577

JASON C. VAN DOESBURG
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

300 Westgrove Professional Building
10230-142 Street, Edmonton, AB T5N 3Y6
DIRECT: 451-2665 EXT. 301
PH: (780) 451-2661
FAX: (780) 452-1051

REAL ESTATE • WILLS • PERSONAL INJURY



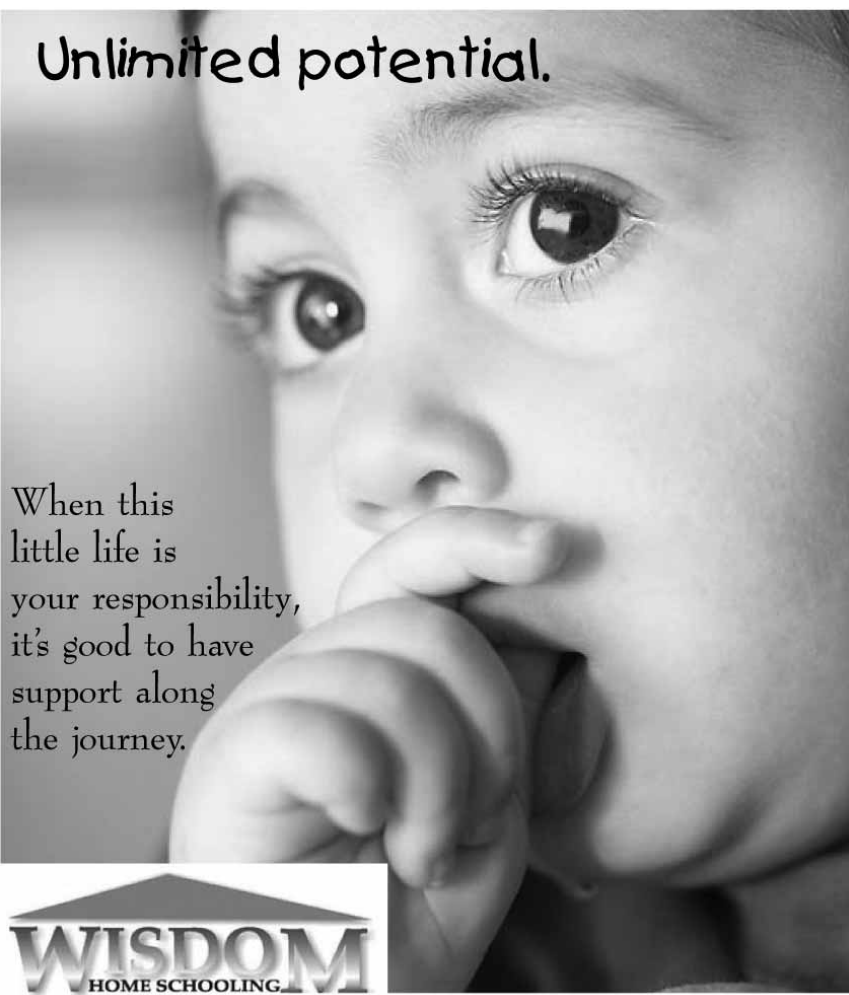
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pray for Us

website:
www.cwl.ab.ca

email:
cwlabmk@cwl.ab.ca



Unlimited potential.

When this little life is your responsibility, it's good to have support along the journey.

WISDOM
HOME SCHOOLING

www.wisdomhomeschooling.com

Thinking outside the box. 780-741-2113

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 17 – Pembina Pro-Life will be holding its Annual General Meeting on the evening of Friday, March 17th. Our guest speaker will be Mr. JoJo Ruba from the Canadian Centre for Bioethical Research. For more information, please call Christie Jullion 780-674-3862.

March 27, 2006 7:30 p.m. Edmonton Prolife hosts a Movie Night – The Island. Come watch the movie at the Edmonton Prolife office and share some thoughts. Call Karen at 425-1637 for more information.

April 1st – Drayton Valley Respect for Life annual brunch will be held on Saturday, April 1st at St. Anthony's Church. The guest speaker will be Stephanie Grey, from the Canadian Centre for Bioethical Reform. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults, and \$8.00 for youth (ages 12-18). For more information, call Lisa Smith at 542-7546.

April 21-23, 2006 – An Inter-denominational Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion, miscarriage or stillbirth, will be held in the Edmonton area. The retreat is a confidential and emotionally safe environment for those struggling after abortion, stillbirth or miscarriage. Contact Marlene at MAJButterflies@aol.com or Carla at 780-963-4048 or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.

April 24, 2006 – Edmonton Prolife will hold its Annual General Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker Margo Boisvert will speak on chastity at 8 p.m. at the Edmonton Prolife Office. Please call Karen at 425-1637 for more information

May 11 to 13, 2006 – Annual March for Life in Ottawa.

May 12-13, 2006 – Life 2006, Provincial Pro-Life Conference sponsored by Alberta Pro-Life at King's

University College. The theme for this year is "Feminism: Redefining Motherhood?" For more information, see ad page 8.

May 13th – Calgary Pro-Life will hold its 26th annual Hike for Life. For more information call 403-243-0691.

May 14, 2006 – Anniversary of the passing of the 1968 Omnibus Bill which removed most abortions from the criminal code.

June 3 – Lethbridge and District Pro-Life holds its annual Hike for Life. This is a great family event and we plan to expand the games and prizes which were such fun for the children last year. Hope to see another great turnout!!!


June 18 – Grande Prairie Voice for Life hosts a family Carnival at Muskoseepi Park from 2-5 p.m. Join us for games, food, music, raffles and entertainment. For more information, call 780-538-3344.

July 20-29, Edmonton Prolife will be at Klondike Days (now called Capitol EX) – Volunteers are needed to make this event successful. Please call the office at 425-1637 if you want to reserve your shift early.

Join others in an hour of peaceful, prayerful activism against the daily slaughter of innocent babies across from Edmonton's Morgentaler Abortion Clinic at 12409-109 A Ave.

- Every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- The third Sunday of every month. Candle light Rosary at 7:30 p.m. Contact Mary Ellen at 476-4026.
- Last Thursday of the month from 4 to 5 p.m. (EPL sponsored)
- Every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Angela at 489-7597.

ADA REALTY LTD.



SID VANDER MEULEN
Commissioner For Oaths

Bus: 473-8149
Fax: 472-6036

COLOURS ART AND FRAMING

Putting "u" in Colors

- PAINT • BRUSHES • AIR BRUSHES
- CUSTOM FRAMING • DRAFTING SUPPLIES
- CALLIGRAPHY • ART PAPERS
- MAT BOARD • CANVAS

BAINBRIDGE LIQUITEX WINSOR & NEWTON
AIRBRUSHES LETRASET PETERBORO STAEDTLER MARS
PENTEL ARCHES BOB ROSS ROTRING KOHINOOR
GRUMBACHER ALVIN PRISMACOLOR STEVENSON

Students & Seniors Discounting • Free Classes

COLOURS ARTS AND FRAMING

CALGARY	1340 – 16 Ave. NW	(403) 289-1633
CALGARY	3411-20 St. SW (Marda Loop)	(403) 217-2010
EDMONTON	10660-105 St.	(780) 426-7820
EDMONTON	7371-104 St.	(780) 433-4774
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

An inspiring pro-life poster boy

By Julie Kohler
Life and Family Resource Centre Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary

In November of 2005 Southern Alberta was richly blessed by the Tony Melendez concert tour. Tony was born without arms after his mother took thalidomide during her pregnancy. His disability did not slow him down or dull his musical talent.

The impact of Tony and the Toe Jam band on the thousands who attended his performances was beyond all my expectations. The press coverage, sold out conferences, and audience response was simply amazing and I would encourage any pro-life organization to consider inviting Tony and his band. Tony truly is a "living pro-life poster" who brings a message of hope and love wherever he goes.



**National Crisis Pregnancy
24-hour line
1-800-665-0570**

ESSAY CONTEST

2006



Topic:

Pro-life opinions vary on whether graphic images, pictures, posters or billboards of aborted babies are an effective tool in the battle to change the culture. What is your opinion and why do you hold it?

Cash Prizes:

Grades 7-9 & 10-12

\$1200 in cash prizes will be awarded in two categories:

1st place – \$300 ea.
2nd place – \$200 each
3rd place – \$100 each.

Deadline for submissions: midnight, April 30, 2006
For full contest rules, please visit www.albertaprolife.com

Life 2006

Provincial Pro-life Conference

FRIDAY, MAY 12 & SATURDAY, MAY 13

KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, 9125-50 STREET, EDMONTON, AB

Feminism

Redefining Motherhood?

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Julie Parton

Dr. Julie Parton joined Focus on the Family as Director of the Pregnancy Resource Ministry in 1998. She also served as Editor-in-Chief of Focus on the Family's HeartLink newsletter, a bi-monthly publication to approximately 2,500 pregnancy resource centers around the world. Julie currently works with the Life Training Institute (LTI) operated by Scott Klusendorf, President of LTI.

Julie and her husband, Paul, have been married for 39 years and have three grown daughters, and five grandchildren, including recently arrived triplets.

Conference Fees:

\$90/adult – Fee includes conference fee and Saturday's breakfast and lunch meals.

\$25/student (under 25 yrs. old)

Fee includes conference fee and Saturday's breakfast and Lunch Pizza Feast)

Banquet Tickets are \$30/person (not included in conference fee) for conference attendees and \$35/person for non-conference attendees.

Accommodations are available at King's University College. Please call 780-465-3500 to get detailed information on rates and to book your room.

To register by phone call toll free# 1-877-880-5433.

To register online visit www.albertaprolife.com

Friday, May 12th

- 11:00 am Registration begins
- 12 Noon Lunch on your own (Cafeteria available)
- Silent Auction opens
- President's Luncheon Meeting (Oak Room)
- 3:00 pm Annual General Meeting
- 4:30 pm Prayer Vigil across from the Morgentaler Clinic organized by Edmonton Prolife
- 6:00 pm Opening Welcome and Banquet
- Keynote speaker *Dr. Julie Parton*, Life Training Institute
"Abortion: The spiritual and cultural battle of our time."
- Presentation of the Courage to Serve Award
- Dessert Reception to follow

Saturday, May 13th

- 7:00 am Breakfast (included)
- 8:30 am *Natalie Hudson*, Toronto Right to Life
"Youth in the abortion culture. What have we taught them?"
- 10:30 am *Dr. Julie Parton*, Life Training Institute
"Why women choose abortion."
- Noon Lunch Buffet (included)
- Youth Pizza Feast (Oak Room)
- 1:30 pm *Ruth Ross*, Christian Legal Fellowship
"The feminist creed: Liberation or oppression?"
- 3:00 pm *Joanne Byfield*, ALIES
"The Back Porch project."
- 5:00 pm Closing Remarks
- Silent Auction

ALBERTA PRO-LIFE RESPONSE FORM

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

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Prov _____
 Postal Code _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

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

Annual membership fee \$20.00
 Donation _____
 Total payment enclosed _____

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