



# LIFECANADA

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# VIECANADA

Respect for Human Life

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## NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Peter Ryan, President 1-888-796-9600

### **MacLellan-Morgentaler Position Spells End of Medicare**

The following statement was released by Peter Ryan, President, LifeCanada

If Anne MacLellan and Henry Morgentaler have their way on abortion, it will spell the end of the Canadian Medicare system. Both the federal health minister and Canada's leading abortion advocate say that any surgical termination of pregnancy, for any reason or for no reason, is automatically "medically necessary" and must be funded by Medicare.

If a wealthy woman with a healthy pregnancy can abort the baby simply because being pregnant interferes with her vacation, and that is considered "medically necessary," how can we stop from calling every medical procedure that people want "medically necessary"?

But if you do that, Medicare has to cover everything under the sun and you have no way to control health care costs. No intelligent person, from Roy Romanow on, is going to deny that if you cannot control costs, Medicare will not survive. Yet the logical implication of the extreme position taken by the pair I call M & M is, in fact, the end of Medicare.

If you define every wanted procedure as medically necessary, you obliterate any distinction between "medically necessary" and "elective." That contradicts the *Canada Health Act*! How ironic that M and M accuse New Brunswick of violating the Act!

Ideological extremism has overtaken Health Canada. The only time in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 that Ottawa penalized an alleged violation of the *Canada Health Act* was for Nova Scotia's failure to pay Morgentaler's Halifax operation for abortions. Why? Because the one thing Health Canada knows for sure is that aborting a healthy pregnancy because it is unwanted is "medically necessary." It seems they think an unexpected child is about the worst disease you can have.

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*LifeCanada is the coordinating body for 88 pro-life education groups across Canada. Peter Ryan is the father of seven and executive director of the New Brunswick Right to Life Association which will apply to intervene if Henry Morgentaler sues New Brunswick.*