



LifeCanada E-Newsflash

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Canadians Embracing Life

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Rough week for American abortion supporters

Last week two abortion groups in the United States were forced to abandon campaigns due to public outrage against them. First, a California Planned Parenthood affiliate aired an animated video on its website that depicted a "Superhero for Choice" drowning an abstinence educator, blowing up pro-life activists and decapitating a pro-life protestor. Jim Sedlak of the American Life League group, STOPP, alerted people to the violent and offensive video. Within a couple of days the link to the video was removed from the group's website. STOPP reports that no Planned Parenthood spokesman from the group's national or any local offices has commented on the video. Mr. Sedlak is demanding an apology from the group for its promotion of violence against Christians and pro-life supporters.

Later in the week NARAL Pro-Choice America aired a television ad which accused U.S. Supreme Court nominee John Roberts of supporting and defending violence at abortion clinics. The ad depicted footage of the bombing of a Birmingham, Alabama abortion clinic and implies that Judge Roberts filed a brief defending the bombers. The brief in question was actually filed years before the bombing and did not deal with incidents or people accused of any violent activities. The ad outraged even the liberal media in the U.S. The Washington Post newspaper, among others, wrote an editorial condemning the ad as an unfair and dishonest "slur" against Judge Roberts. Republican pro-choice Senator Arlen Specter denounced the ad in a letter to NARAL. Even Frances Kissling, president of "Catholics" for a Free Choice criticized the ad. NARAL pulled the ad late last week expressing regret that "many people have misconstrued" the ad. On Monday of this week, NARAL's communications director David Seldin announced he was leaving the organization without directly connecting it to the PR nightmare.

Meanwhile back in Canada

Earlier this month, Henry Morgentaler, Canada's leading abortionist, received another award for his work in promoting and performing abortions in Canada. In July the University of Western Ontario awarded the abortionist an honorary doctorate despite protests by thousands of students, alumni, faculty, donors and members of the public. In early August, the Couchiching Conference, an annual event that takes place at Ontario's Lake Couchiching and prides itself on the quality of its speakers and discussion topics, awarded Morgentaler its 2005 Couchiching Award for Public Policy Leadership. It was particularly appropriate that he should receive the award this year since the theme of the conference was "Handcuffs and Hand Grenades: The Use of Force Within and Between Nations." Speakers discussed whether violence was ever an appropriate

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response to provocation, whether in the home, in Canadian society or in international disputes. Violence in the womb did not appear to be formally part of the discussions.

The “horrified” doctor

The deputy registrar of ethics for the BC College of Physicians and Surgeons declared on the weekend that he was “horrified” that a new test to determine the sex of a baby at five weeks gestation was available online. The Gender Mentor Home DNA Gender Testing Kit is available online from the Pregnancy Store in Illinois. The kit costs \$25 US but with shipping and lab work the total tab is about \$400. Critics say they doubt the test’s accuracy at determining the sex of the baby. Acu-Gen, the lab that analyses the test, says it is 99.9% accurate. B.C.’s Dr. Peter Seland told the Vancouver Sun he thinks gender selection is “immoral”, a view he said was shared by the college. His comments prompted the province’s health minister George Abbott to say that he would contact federal health minister Ujjal Dosanjh to express his alarm about the tests. (Mr. Dosanjh is a former BC health minister and former premier who aggressively promoted abortion during his tenure in BC). According to the most recent numbers from Statistics Canada, there were 15,967 abortions in BC in 2002. That number does not include all clinic abortions. Neither Dr. Seland nor Health Minister Abbott expressed reservations about the number of abortions or the fact that they were paid for by taxpayers. The objection is to the fact that women might abort baby girls. To put it more clearly, it seems the two men are saying: “It’s immoral and horrifying to abort babies because they are girls. Can’t you just abort them because they are babies?”

Check out our web re-design

We’ve been working on our website again. Go to www.lifecanada.org and take a peek. Check out our Partners for Life advertisers (wouldn’t you like to see your business or group ad in that space?), and some new material on the site. We’ll be adding some new features in the near future so stay in touch.

MasterCard update

Many of you will have received a bill this month for your LifeCanada MasterCard which includes a letter from the Bank of Montreal explaining that the contract will not be renewed next July when the current contract expires. Some people have called our office to express their surprise at this news. We are hoping that many who hold the card will continue to support us through our monthly debit option or other donations. You can find out about the various options for donating to LifeCanada by going to our website at www.lifecanada.org.

In addition, we continue to receive calls and emails from people asking us what we are doing or what they should do about the situation. We have filed a complaint with the Ontario Press Council over the column written by Heather Mallick which appeared in the Globe and Mail on April 2. We will

advise you about the outcome of that complaint.

Many people have asked what they should do about their cards. We still have an existing contract with the bank and we cannot advise people on what they should do. As most of you probably know, we have taken the view that a very small group of people launched a boycott against us. Their boycott was championed by the mainstream media, especially the Globe and Mail, and the bank became the target of unwanted publicity. It will be up to individuals to decide how, and if, they want to tell the bank how they feel about this situation.

LifeCanada backs boycott list

Life Decisions International, www.fightpp.org, has added LifeCanada as a sponsor of its Corporate Funding Project. Life Decisions publishes a list of corporations that support Planned Parenthood. The list is constantly updated and LDI urges pro-lifers to boycott companies which continue to fund Planned Parenthood. To date, 116 companies that were on the Boycott List have stopped donating to PP. You can order the list at the LDI website.

The 2005 Annual General Meeting and National Conference

Please plan to attend the LifeCanada Annual General Meeting in Montreal on Nov. 17. The AGM will be held in conjunction with the National Pro-Life Conference. This year's event will be held at St. Joseph's Oratory from Nov. 17 to 19. We have a terrific line-up of speakers on a host of subjects and a dinner in historic Old Montreal. The conference brochure is now available online at www.lifecanada.org. You can print off the registration form and mail it in. Or, if you just can't wait to register, you can phone the LifeCanada office and register by phone. Call 1-866-780-5433. The brochure includes information on accommodations near the Oratory. You can also print off copies of the brochure for your church or local group.

National prayer and fasting to end abortion

LifeCanada is joining an initiative of Alberta Pro-Life and inviting all pro-life Canadians to set aside Thursdays as a day of prayer and fasting to end abortion. The original idea was to fast and pray over the lunch hour on Thursdays. We understand that all of us have different schedules and conflicting demands. We do, however, believe that this battle, the battle to restore respect for all life, will be won only with God's help and through a great deal of prayer. It is easy to get caught up in our pro-life activities and events. We think the Prayer and Fasting initiative will help to remind all of us where the focus of our work belongs. Please consider joining other pro-life people across Canada on each Thursday and share this idea with your pro-life group.

Workshops

The **Euthanasia Prevention Coalition of Canada** presents Euthanasia

Symposium #6 - Bill C-407: Threatens the lives of people with disabilities? The symposium will be held September 24, 2005 in Toronto at the Ramada Hotel (downtown) 300 Jarvis St., from 10 am to 4 pm. Cost (including lunch): \$50.00 per person, \$30.00 for students. Speakers will include Stephen Drake, research analyst for NOT DEAD YET, Mark Pickup, founder of Human Life International and Canadian disability activist, and Peter Aarsen, an elder planning consultant. To register, call the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition at: 1-877-439-3348.

The **Syracuse University Training Institute** is pleased to announce a five day workshop on "Crafting a Coherent Moral Stance on the Sanctity of All Human Life, Especially in Light of Contemporary Society's Legitimization & Practice of "Deathmaking" of Unwanted & Devalued People." The workshop will be held from Sunday, October 16 through Thursday, October 20, 2005 (with evening sessions) at the Christ the King Retreat Center, Syracuse, New York. For information about fees, accommodations, continuing education credits (RNs and LPNs), registration, etc., please contact Susan Thomas at the Training Institute, Suite 3B1, 800 South Wilbur Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13204 USA or call her at 315 473 2978.

We welcome E-Newsflash ads

You asked and we responded. The LifeCanada board recently voted to accept paid advertisements for our E-Newsflash. The cost of placing a business card advertisement would be \$100 for one month, which includes a \$50 administrative fee. Each additional month would cost \$50. Reductions are available for longer contracts. Six consecutive ads would cost \$300 and 12 ads \$500. Please contact the office at carroll@lifecanada.org or phone us at 1-866-780-5433 if you would like to place an ad.

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan

LifeCanada is now able to accept pre-authorized monthly donations. This is a tremendous option for LifeCanada because it allows us to schedule our educational pro-life activities since we know in advance how much support is coming in each month. It is also easy for our supporters since they just complete a form, send in one cheque and then the pre-authorized amount is automatically deducted from their bank account. Donors maintain control of their donations by simply contacting us by phone, email or letter to let us know if they wish to make changes or cancel the plan.

If you would like to donate ten, twenty, fifty dollars or any other amount to LifeCanada each month, please contact us and we will send you the necessary form to complete.

Become a Partner for Life

We are actively seeking sponsors/advertisers for our newly-designed website (www.lifecanada.org) and for our bi-monthly newsletter. We do not have a charitable tax number but these ads can certainly be a business

expense as you promote your business to our supporters.

Our rates for this project are reasonable. A business card ad in LifeCanada News will cost \$125 per issue or \$600 for the full year. Your sponsorship ad on our website will be posted for a year for a cost of \$500. We see this as a great opportunity to build a pro-life network across the country and help to secure LifeCanada's financial base.

For more information, please call LifeCanada's toll free number 1-866-780-5433 or email us at carroll@lifecanada.org

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