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Help Promote LifeCanada E-Newsflash!

LifeCanada's monthly news bulletin offers quick news reports on the latest developments in life issues throughout Canada and around the world. We provide information on current research developments, pro-life events and activities, news reports and much more. Please consider forwarding this monthly E-Newsflash to family members, friends, and others who would like to be kept up-to-date and informed on life issues. Sign up for E-Newsflash [here](#).

Join in January 2008 Pro-Life Media Campaign!

You can participate in a national media campaign to mark the January 2008 twentieth anniversary of the Morgentaler Supreme Court decision removing all restrictions on abortion in Canada. Pro-life groups across Canada are sponsoring billboards and other media with the message Abortion: Have we gone too far? The ads encourage Canadians to question the current state of abortion in Canada. LifeCanada has produced postcards with the same message for individuals to pass around, to join in reaching as many people as possible. The postcards show the image of a pregnant woman on the front, with information on late term abortions in Canada on the back, obtained from Statistics Canada. The cards are available for a small fee through the LifeCanada office, at 1-866-780-5433. Mail them to your MP, leave them in your Church, pass them out to family and friends...engage in "creative littering" to help spread the message of respect for life!

Unborn Victims of Crime Act Passes Committee Approval

A bill to protect unborn victims of crime was declared "votable" by a Commons Committee Dec. 5 and received first hearing last week. MP Ken Epp introduced the Unborn Victims of Crime Act Nov. 21—the legislation would allow criminal charges to be laid in the death or injury of an unborn child when the child's mother is the victim of a crime. As the law currently stands, the perpetrator of such a crime cannot be charged with a separate offense in the death of the child. Bill C-484 has wide-spread support among the Canadian public. An Environics poll commissioned by LifeCanada and released in October 2007 found that 72% of Canadians—and 75% of women—would support legislation making it a separate crime to injure or kill a foetus during an attack on the mother. Even among those Canadians who support unrestricted abortion for the full nine months of pregnancy, 55% said they would support such legislation. The bill only applies to cases in which the pregnant woman is a victim of a violent crime. It does not include abortion. Members of the sub-committee received a significant out-pouring of support for the bill from concerned Canadians through personal letters and via an email campaign organized by United Mothers—more than 1,500 email letters were sent through their site.

If you wish to contact MP Ken Epp or your Member of Parliament to encourage him or her to support this bill, you can find out who your MP is by clicking [here](#).



For more information on the bill or to respond to a poll asking whether you support or oppose this legislation, go to www.kenepp.com.

Government Cancels Biased Health Website

The Conservative Government has announced it will no longer fund a national health website criticized for providing biased information on abortion. Managed by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canadian Health Network is scheduled to close down at the end of March 2008. The government cited budget cuts to the Public Health Agency as the reason for the program's cancellation.

The \$7-million-per-year CHN was billed as a user-friendly source of medical information on physical and psychological health for the Canadian public. The Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada (PPFC) acted as the Affiliate for CHN on the topic of Sexuality and Reproductive Health, which includes abortion. Primarily an abortion rights group, the PPFC's role as content specialist for the CHN raised serious questions about the network's objectivity. Most of the CHN website links for resources on abortion led to abortion-rights groups, including the provincial branches of the PPFC, Childbirth by Choice Trust and Canadian Abortion Rights Action League. No links to pro-life organizations were included.

LifeCanada News published an extensive exposé of the CHN's links to Planned Parenthood in 2003. For an in-depth analysis of the concerns raised by the CHN's abortion advocacy, see [LifeCanada News Vol.2 No5](#) on the LifeCanada website.

Ethical Stem Cell Breakthrough

A new discovery in adult stem cell research may signal the beginning of the end for human embryonic experimentation. Scientists in both Japan and Wisconsin have successfully reprogrammed human adult stem cells to behave like embryonic cells, with the ability to develop into all of the major tissues of the human body. By activating a handful of buried genes that normally remain dormant in adult cells, researchers were able to convince the cells to return to an embryonic-like stage of development, capable of growing into all of the major tissues of the body, including muscle, cartilage, neuron and heart cells. The new research technique of causing adult cells to revert back to an embryonic stage offers a potentially unlimited source of "embryonic" stem cells.

The cells are a genetic match to the person they came from, so rejection of tissue grown from the cells would not be a factor in future therapies. Professor Ian Wilmut, the scientist who cloned Dolly the sheep has announced he will no longer pursue the cloning technique he pioneered, saying the recent breakthrough in non-embryonic stem cell research shows greater promise.

Canada Hosts First International Symposium on Euthanasia

The first International Symposium on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide brought together more than 300 participants from diverse backgrounds and interests to address the growing threat of legalized euthanasia and assisted suicide. Held in Toronto Nov. 31-Dec.1, the event was organized by the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and co-sponsored by disability rights groups and medical associations from Canada, the US and the UK. Two days of intense presentations focused on the increasing utilization of covert euthanasia procedures in hospitals and nursing homes, and outlined strategies for defeating euthanasia legislation. Speakers from disability organizations encouraged pro-life groups to steer away from overtly faith-based language when establishing coalitions to oppose euthanasia or assisted suicide, in order to ensure the support and participation of non-religious organizations.



The progression of pro-euthanasia and assisted suicide ideology in western society was made evident during the Symposium. The adoption of such practices as "terminal sedation", followed by death from dehydration, signifies an increasingly utilitarian approach to treating the elderly and terminally ill—terminal sedation is now common in palliative care facilities in North America. The pressures of providing health care services to an aging population may increasingly act as a spur to the further adoption of euthanasia and assisted suicide practices.

Robert Latimer Denied Day Parole

Robert Latimer, convicted of second degree murder in 1997 for killing his 12-year-old daughter Tracy, was denied day parole at a hearing earlier this month. In 1993 he drove his truck into a field and placed his severely disabled daughter in the cab and filled the truck with exhaust fumes. After her death he put her back into bed in her room to make it appear that she died naturally. He was sentenced to life in prison in 2000, with no chance of parole for ten years. At his parole hearing, Mr. Latimer said, "I still don't feel guilty." The parole panel said it was "struck by [his] lack of insight" and recommended he receive counseling. It will be another two years before Latimer will be eligible to apply for day parole.

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 info@lifecanada.org