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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, friends, and others who would like to be kept up-to-date and informed on life issues. Sign up for E-Newsflash [here](#).

"City of Bridges" Hosts 2009 National Pro-Life Conference

The 2009 National Pro-Life Conference will be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on October 29-31 at the Hilton Garden Inn. The conference will be hosted by the Saskatchewan Pro-Life Association and co-sponsored by LifeCanada and Campaign Life Coalition. Information will be posted on www.lifecanada.org as it becomes available. Make your plans now to attend this excellent pro-life conference!

New Chair for Pro-Life Caucus

The parliamentary pro-life caucus (PPLC) gained a new leader in December when outgoing chair Maurice Vellacott, MP for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin named Rod Bruinooge, Conservative MP for Winnipeg South as the new PPLC chair.

"My goal for the PPLC is to achieve progress for the unborn," Mr. Bruinooge told LifeCanada. "Seeing Henry Morgentaler win the Order of Canada was a real wake up call for many in the pro-life movement including myself, and it is time for us to take our actions up a level."

Bruinooge drew media attention after his December 29 op-ed in the *National Post* on "Why I am pro-life" identified his position as the new chair of the multi-party Parliamentary Pro-Life Caucus.

"I believe that the work that we do is intrinsically good," Bruinooge said. "We have no need to hide. There are many people across Canada happy to know that we are working on this issue, and thanks to the [media] over the holidays, many more know about us now."

Bruinooge's First Nations heritage has influenced his pro-life perspective, he stated in his *National Post* commentary. "I believe Canada's indigenous people have a unique perspective on many subjects including the unborn. My aboriginal elders have taught me that the cycle of life honours both birth and death, and respect for the unborn is a foundation of this philosophy."



Bruinooge said the PPLC has been an excellent medium for parliamentarians of all parties in the past, which he hopes will continue.

Poll Shows 92% of Canadians Don't Know "Status Quo" on Abortion

An Angus Reid poll has found that a vast majority of Canadians do not know, under the country's current legal situation that abortion is permitted at any time from conception up to the moment of birth.

The Angus Reid poll found that 92 percent of the respondents did not know abortion was available to a woman throughout the full nine months of gestation.

Significantly, a June 2008 poll by Angus Reid Strategies found that 46 percent of Canadians approve of the Canadian legal status quo, even if—as the more recent poll shows—they do not actually understand what the status quo is.

The new poll also found that respondents wanted information to be readily available to women contemplating abortion. Fully 95 percent said all information about all options should be made available to women, and 95 and 96 percent (respectively) said that information about the physical and psychological effects of abortion should be made available.

"Canadian women have a right to know," said Yvonne Douma, Executive Director of Signal Hill, a human rights organization with a mandate to provide accurate information to the public on these and other life issues (www.thesignalhill.com).

The poll also found that an overwhelming number of respondents did not support a woman's right to abort a fetus because of its gender, a practice that is legal in Canada. Only six percent supported a woman's right to choose abortion when the fetus is an undesirable gender, usually female.

"Society recognizes that choice is not an absolute," said Douma. "Some choices cannot be supported as is evident with gender selection abortions. But informed consent is vital to making good choices, and we do not see women getting all the information they need when making these life-changing decisions."

Charges Overturned for Pro-Life Demonstrator

An Ontario criminal court judge quashed charges against pro-life demonstrator Linda Gibbons on Jan. 12, 2009, the second time charges against Gibbons have been overturned in the past few months.

Gibbons was held in custody since her arrest Oct. 8 outside the Scott Street abortion centre in Toronto on charges of disobeying a court order. The centre obtained a temporary court injunction in 1994 establishing a legal "bubble zone" outside the facility. Fifteen years later, the "temporary" injunction remains in place. The injunction was a civil proceeding, the judge conceded, and therefore Gibbons could not be charged with disobeying a court order.

Gibbons was arrested outside the Scott abortion centre in May and charged with obstructing a peace officer. A September trial resulted in her acquittal when it was established that Gibbons had in no way resisted arrest. The September decision was a significant victory for Gibbons, who has been arrested on the same charge multiple times during the past 15 years.

Gibbons' supporters have accused police and Crown attorneys of charging Gibbons and other demonstrators with obstructing a peace officer, instead of disobeying a court order or contempt of



court, in a deliberate attempt to deny pro-life demonstrators a jury trial, as well as to prevent a challenge to the validity of the temporary court order.

Linda Gibbons has spent more than 5 of the past 15 years in prison for charges related to her peaceful demonstration outside various Toronto abortion centres.

2009 “Have we gone too far?” Campaign

LifeCanada is inviting groups across Canada to help spread a message that has been censored by Advertising Standards Canada (ASC). This industry body has declared our very successful 2008 national ad campaign to be “deceptive.” The ads showed a pregnant woman along with the words “9 Months – The length of time abortion is allowed in Canada. Abortion – Have we gone too far?”

Privately-owned billboards or trailers used as billboards are not subject to the ASC ruling. Many small communities have pro-life billboards at the entrance to their town. We are asking them to consider updating the message with our ad. We can adapt our artwork to fit the size of your billboard or trailer.

Help us show the folks at Advertising Standards Canada that our message will not be censored and our voices will not be silenced.

If you are interested in helping us to spread the word on abortion in Canada, contact Gudrun Schultz in our Ottawa office at 1-866-780-5433 or by email gschultz@lifecanada.org.

New! Abortion/Breast Cancer Business Cards

Educate your community on the link between breast cancer and abortion with these small colorful cards. [Click here](#) to view a sample. The cards are available from the LifeCanada office—call 866-780-5433 or email info@lifecanada.org for more information.

Pro-Life Postcards

LifeCanada’s “Abortion: Have we gone too far?” postcards have been updated to include the latest statistics from Statistics Canada on late-term abortions, from 2005. Distribute the cards in your local parishes and communities. Call the LifeCanada office at 866-780-5433 or email info@lifecanada.org for more information. [Click here](#) to see a sample.

Get in-depth stories on current life issues: Subscribe to LifeCanada News

For thoughtful, well-researched information on current developments in Canada’s pro-life movement, subscribe to our bi-monthly newsletter *LifeCanada News*. The newsletter provides in-depth information on current life issues and offers insightful commentary on developments in our society that impact respect for life in Canada. We cover difficult topics such as the ethics of end-of-life care, what’s wrong with In Vitro Fertilization therapy, and why the crime of rape does not justify abortion.

Educate your community on current life issues by giving your pastor, parish priest or other community leader a gift subscription to the newsletter.

LifeCanada News is a bi-monthly publication—subscribers receive six issues per year at an annual cost of \$15.00. Bulk rates are available. Contact the LifeCanada office at 866-780-5433 for more information.



Pre-Authorized Giving Plan

Become a monthly donor and support pro-life education at the national level! Monthly donations are a hassle-free way of investing in pro-life work throughout the year. Just complete a donor form, send in one cheque to the office, and the pre-authorized amount will be automatically deducted from your bank account each month.

If you would like to donate twenty-five, fifty, one hundred dollars or any other amount to LifeCanada each month, contact the office at 866-780-5433 or email us at info@lifecanada.org to obtain a pre-authorized donation form.

Become a Partner for Life

Invest in the work of creating a culture of life in Canada by advertising on our website at www.lifecanada.org or in our bi-monthly newsletter *LifeCanada News*. Take this great opportunity to build a pro-life network of organizations and businesses across the country and help secure LifeCanada's financial base.

A sponsorship ad on our website - \$500 for one year. A business card ad in *LifeCanada News* - \$125 per issue or \$600 for six issues.

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

Note: LifeCanada does not have a charitable tax number.

To Unsubscribe: please send an email to info@lifecanada.org