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## ***2004 Canadian Abortion Statistics to be released Friday July 13***

Statistics Canada has announced that the Canadian abortion statistics for 2004 will be released on Friday, July 13. The abortion statistics are routinely released up to three years after the date of collection, despite ongoing efforts by pro-life groups to obtain the information on a timelier basis. This year, new data collection procedures in the province of Ontario were blamed for an increased delay of an additional four months—the data is normally released in February or March. The annual abortion statistics are a crucial tool for pro-life workers, despite incomplete reporting and the absence of important demographic tables in the data collection. The statistics provide pro-life organizations with a solid reference point in communicating the scale of abortion in Canada to the general public. The 2003 abortion statistics showed more than 103,768 abortions took place that year.

## ***CBC Wish List Contest Ignited Cross-Country Abortion Debate***

On July 1, 2007, the CBC announced the top wish of Canadians who voted in the Great Canadian Wish List—to abolish abortion in Canada. Support for the pro-life wish was high from the outset of the contest at the end of May, gaining mainstream media attention and triggering a volatile debate among bloggers and commentators on the CBC site. The progression of the contest was closely watched by both sides, with increasing efforts made to draw supporting votes. The success of pro-life networking in alerting supporters across the country about the contest was seen by many as a testimony to the importance of online communication to the pro-life movement. The final results in the contest gave 9,543 votes to the pro-life wish and 8008 to the pro-choice wish. The third category was "for a spiritual revival in our nation" and fourth place was a wish to restore the traditional definition of marriage.

## ***Pro-Life Walk Across Canada to Arrive in Ottawa Saturday August 11.***

A dedicated group of young men and women who set out on a walk across Canada to witness for the unborn are scheduled to arrive at their final destination in Ottawa on Saturday, August 11. The group is part of the US-based Crossroads organization, which holds annual cross country walks for life across the states. This is the first Canadian Crossroads walk, beginning in Vancouver May 19 and stretching thirty-two hundred miles across the country to Quebec. The young people have crossed the Prairies and are now walking along Lake Superior, moving steadily through the forests of northern Ontario. A pro-life rally on Parliament Hill is planned to welcome the walkers to Ottawa and celebrate their witness to life. Contact Campaign Life Coalition's Ottawa office for more information. Call 613-729-0379 or email [clcottawa@rogers.com](mailto:clcottawa@rogers.com).



## ***Montreal Woman Freezes Ova for 7-Year Old Daughter***

A young Montreal girl will someday face the choice of whether or not to give birth to her own half-sister or brother, after her mother froze her eggs for her daughter's future use. Thirty-five-year-old lawyer Melanie Boivin froze 21 eggs for her 7-year-old daughter Flavie, who has a genetic disorder that usually causes infertility. The egg donation is reportedly the first time a mother has contributed her eggs for her daughter's use, according to Dr. Seang Lin Tan with the McGill Reproductive Centre. Boivin's donation was approved by an independent McGill University ethics committee on the grounds that she wanted to provide the eggs "out of love for her daughter." If Flavie decides to use the eggs, embryos conceived from her mother's ova would likely be tested for the genetic disorder she carries, since it can be passed from mother to child. Genetic testing of embryos usually results in the destruction of the embryo if a genetic disorder is found.

## ***Young Adults are Increasingly Pro-Life***

A new US study conducted by Overbrook Research has found a marked increase in pro-life support among adults age 18-29 over the past 15 years. In more than 30,000 survey interviews between 1992 and 2006, young men and women were asked if they considered themselves to be pro-life, pro-choice or somewhere in between, and how strongly. CNSNews.com reported on the results, which showed thirty-six percent of those questioned in 2006 said they were strongly pro-life, compared to just 23 percent in 1992. Women, in particular showed a dramatic reversal of opinion—40 percent of women questioned in 2006 said they were strongly pro-life and only 20 percent said they were strongly pro-choice, compared to a reverse two-to-one ratio in 1992.

## ***40% Error Rate in "Vegetative" Diagnosis for Brain-Damaged Patients, Belgian Study Finds***

Studies conducted by researchers in Belgium have found patients suffering from severe brain damage are misdiagnosed as in a "vegetative" state about 40% of the time. Instead, the patients should have been diagnosed as in minimally conscious state. Ten percent of those misdiagnosed as "vegetative" in fact were able to communicate, the research team said during a presentation to the European Neurological Society Meeting in Greece, June 16-20.

A second Belgian research team found that about 25 percent of patients diagnosed as "vegetative" were capable of regaining a significant degree of mental function, and as many as half would regain some level of consciousness. The studies found the frequency rate of misdiagnosis has remained steady over the past 15 years.

## ***From Sea Unto Sea—for Life! 2007 National Pro-Life Conference in Moncton, N.B.***

Moncton Right to Life is hosting the 2007 national conference October 25 to 27, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Moncton, New Brunswick. LifeCanada will be holding its Eighth Annual General Meeting from 3:00 – 4:30 on Thursday October 25, 2007.

The 13 top speakers include:

- Rev. John Ensor, Baptist minister from Miami Fla, leader of a crisis pregnancy center initiative with HeartBeat International.
- Stephanie Gray, executive director, Canadian Center for Bio-Ethical Reform
- Mary Ann Kuharski, president of PROLIFE Across America, an organization known for posting positive pro-life messages on billboards across the U.S.



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- Dr. Clem Persaud, professor of microbiology (retired)
- Dennis Savoie, deputy leader of the worldwide Knights of Columbus.

For more information or to download a registration form please visit the LifeCanada website:  
[www.lifecanada.org](http://www.lifecanada.org)

## ***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](http://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](mailto:info@lifecanada.org)