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London Area
Right to Life Association Inc.

Newsletter



A London Pro-Life Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2015

Volume 49 Number 1

Upcoming EVENTS

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**March 14 REGION # 1 ANNUAL
MEETING (Komoka)**
(pro-life groups from SW Ontario)

**March 16 London Area Right to Life
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** (see pg. 1)
7 p.m. at LARTLA
office 3-1193 Oxford St. E

April 18 ANNUAL DINNER/ SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, April 18th
Hellenic Centre, 133 Southdale Rd. W.
Speaker: **Sister Linda Dube**
Tickets sold at the office by Bonnie
Call soon! 519-659-3334 (see pg. 3)

May 13-15 MARCH FOR LIFE, OTTAWA CATHOLIC H.S. BUS

3 days-Vigil, March, Rose Dinner
and pro-life conference
Call Ann Clarke: 660-2798 ext.24059

May 14 MARCH FOR LIFE, OTTAWA ONE DAY BUS

Leaves midnight the 13th
Returns 11:30 pm the 14th
Call Cheryl: 519-670-5558

LAST THURSDAY OF MONTH HOSPITAL WITNESS

Victoria Hospital at corner of
Commissioners & Wellington
3:30-5:00 pm
Call John: 519-657-9009



PLEASE PRAY FOR CANADA

President's message by Michael Hale



I write this message the day after Canada's Supreme Court struck down the law against assisted suicide. One could look at this ruling and despair for our country and our world.

I view this with some hope. Hope that the Prime Minister will recognize that assisted suicide is wrong for the country and its future. My hope resides in the "not withstanding" clause which was included in our Constitution to deal with these type of situations and the hope that the Prime Minister will have the courage - no matter the downside to his political future, to invoke it.

Regardless of this sad situation, there are many stories where people continue to choose Life. We have included some of these inside.

Our annual Celebration dinner is coming up April 18th at the Hellenic Centre. Mark that date in your calendar and come out and have a great time celebrating Life with your friends.

Monday, March 16th is our AGM. I mentioned in our last Newsletter that we will have a few people retiring from the Board this year. In order for this Association to do what it needs to, we need help. We need four to five new people to step up and help us on the Board. Please consider joining us. Without your help, we will have a difficult time.

We are immersed in our School Education program where we go into over 100 Separate Schools and teach the Grade 5 & 6s about Life issues. Please pray for our volunteer presenters who generously donate their precious time to help our future generations better understand Life.

Lastly, please pray for Canada. We know what comes of opening the door to controversial Life procedures. We are once again being assured that safeguards will be in place to ensure doctor assisted murder will be well controlled. We know from experience that this is a fallacy.

Michael

A Prayer for Courage

Preach the message; be persistent in doing so, whether in season or out of season; convince, reprove, and encourage, but with great patience and instruction. (2 Tim. 4:2)

Lord Jesus, bless and strengthen all those who seek to promote respect for LIFE, especially our spiritual and political leaders. We need Your grace to encourage us to help protect the helpless and most vulnerable in our world.

With You, all things are possible...

From the Office *by Bonnie Pember*

“Why are you pro-life?” ...”

Dear pro-life friends, the office has been busy and it's only February! The pro-life elementary school program has been underway since January 20th. There are 21 area schools, 49 presentations, 1,326 students and 58 teachers involved in the “I am special” program and the rewards are many!!

While giving a pro-life presentation at one of our London schools, a young girl asked me “why do you want to be a volunteer with London Area Right to Life?” I told her and the rest of the class that I believe in LIFE because my Mom and I almost died when I was born but my Dad told the doctor to save us both. Both of our lives were precious. On the student feedback sheet, some students wrote that my story made them think and they were glad that I had shared.



An enthusiastic teacher at Mother Teresa Secondary School invited me to give a Power Point presentation to her Grade 11 Parenting class. The students asked some very challenging questions which were addressed by me and their teacher. At the end of the class, one student stayed behind and we talked about whether God is “pro-life” or “pro-choice”. He was concerned about all the suffering in the world and why should a child come into this “world of pain” as an unwanted baby. I explained how abortion is horrific because the baby feels pain as young as eight weeks and that God loves each person and wants no one to die. The young man thought for a few moments, took copies of all the pamphlets and said he would do a project that would promote pro-life. How beautiful is that?

Each of us has a story to tell, a reason why we believe that life is sacred from natural conception to natural death. I've also had calls from a grandmother who was trying to get her granddaughter to choose LIFE rather than abortion and a tearful young mom share how a genetics counsellor tried to persuade her to abort her child who could have a birth defect. We cried together, prayed together and I gave the callers the information for the appropriate agencies who could help.

Listening, sharing, witnessing... all in a non-judgmental way...encourages other people to be open to the miracle of life given to us by God. Thank **you** for **your** desire to promote respect for LIFE in stages of development! Together we can make a difference in our world.

On the flip side, one of our computers is dead now...the screen is “as white as snow”. We are praying to St. Nicolas for a new one. We hope he is listening? Thank God one computer is still in working order which is a must as we get ready for our upcoming Annual Dinner and Silent Auction. Life goes on and so does the office work...God bless you all.

“Precious Feet Ring” *by Deb Jackson, LARTLA board member*



Well, it was just like any other day so I thought, even though I had not taken part in the 40 days of prayer before. I had participated in different ways supporting this event. I was just finishing my hour of walking out front of the hospital. I had prayed each time I got to a corner and turned around again. Uncertain exactly what to pray I had picked up a book they offer to guide me in prayer as I was at a loss for a good choice of words for the full hour of prayer.

As I was saying I finished my one hour and started talking to the new group coming on to continue to pray when a lady walked up to me and told about this ring she has. It was made with the precious 10 week old baby feet that we give out as a pin here at LARTLA. She explained how she had it made at a special jewellery shop in town and would bring

it in for me to see. I was curious but thought the chances of seeing her again were slim and it was a 12 hour window when we would meet and that she would be there the next day to see me.

However she found me the very next day and brought me that ring. I instantly thought “how clever” and liked it a lot. I decided to go to the jeweller's where it was constructed. The shop was on my way home anyway.

Now it seems crazy to me that I had a birthstone ring on my hand at that time with a stone that I just had inspected for security and was told it was fine for another year as it was old. To my shocking surprise, as I drove to the jeweller's, my stone had come out and was now missing, leaving just a scrolled banded ring. The band needed a new top so I gave it to the jeweller and he added baby feet which completed the ring so beautifully in a pretty pink gold.

Wow, the whole event was gratifying as I do believe this was a blessing and I feel honoured or thankful as it is really quite a beautiful gift. I so enjoy being a part of this so much needed support group for all the mislead and unborn babies in the world.

London Area Right to Life Association

Presents

SISTER LINDA DUBE, OSU



- 👣 **Co-Founder Of Our Lady Of Guadalupe (OLG) Non-Profit Home Of Windsor**
- 👣 **OLG Is A Residence & Support For Women In Crisis Pregnancy**
- 👣 **Come Hear This Incredibly Uplifting Witness To Life.**

**32nd ANNUAL DINNER & 14TH SILENT AUCTION
SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH 2015 | HELLENIC CENTRE, LONDON**



Some of the Silent Auction Items
**Donations of New Items
Or Services Appreciated**

Coordinate through
Bonnie Pember at 519-659-3334

TICKETS

- \$30.00 per Person
 - \$15.00 per Student
 - **Reserve Your Table NOW**
- Tickets On Sale Until April 10, 2015*

• **LARTLA Office:**
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Canadian Progress: Start Talking!

An Update from Western Lifeline

As we settle into the sixteenth year of the new millennium, Canadian politicians and citizens alike continue to use the terms “progress”, “moving forward” and “building a better future”. One might pause to consider such terms within the scope of foreseeable financial trials and tribulations, but how many reflect upon what these terms mean to those whose lives are discarded under the pretense of humans possessing “the right to choose”? What does “progress” mean for those who are unable to speak for themselves? What does “moving forward” mean to those who suffer tortuous deaths at the hands of Canadian society? What does “building a better future” mean for those who have their earthly futures ripped from them before they can lay their innocent eyes on the horizon of our beautiful country? It is up to us to reorient Canada to the roots of its political rhetoric and remind its citizens that we cannot possibly entertain the idea of progressing as a nation while simultaneously stripping hundreds of thousands of children of the most basic human right: the right to life.

This semester, it is Lifeline’s mission to normalize the aforementioned ideals by building its members up and encouraging them to pursue unique educational and proactive opportunities in order to express the pro-life stance with the utmost confidence. Subsequently, club members have had the chance to share their experiences with the rest of Lifeline at discussions held every other week on campus. For example, several weeks ago a Lifeline executive member was able to express her thoughts on the National Campus Life Network (NCLN)’s Annual Symposium held over the last weekend of September. Similarly, two members of Lifeline have been accepted to attend the Canadian Centre for Bioethical Reform (CCBR)’s event called the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) in Florida from February 14-20th, and will be presenting their experience to Lifeline upon their return. This is an exciting opportunity to train with experts in the field of pro-life activism, utilizing abortion victim photography as a means to stimulate meaningful conversation surrounding the choice to have an abortion.

Lifeline has chosen to engage in the political realm by working with the Conservative Club at Western, a club which itself consists of many pro-life members. On Thursday, January 29th both clubs demonstrated their support for a current pro-family Member of Provincial Parliament who is running for leadership within the Progressive Conservative party. Members were introduced to MPP Monte McNaughton at a meet and greet event and were able to converse with him about his values and how they translate to his political actions. In order to further demonstrate the continual need for involvement in the pro-life movement, Lifeline will be hosting an information table on campus during the first week of February. The table will consist of a miniature flag display imitating the one set up by We Need a Law on Parliament Hill in the autumn of 2014. Club members hope to generate discussion by asking the student body what they think the flags displayed on the enlarged map of Canada represent.

Throughout the various events in which Lifeline and its members are involved, the goal remains to fight against the deafening silence which subtly (or not so subtly) encompasses the issue of abortion in Canada. It is with hopeful hearts that Lifeline plans to culminate the school year at the 2015 March for Life in Ottawa, standing for a country with the potential to safeguard all of its citizens, from conception to natural death. Now that’s progress.

Sonya Ramondino

SUPREME COURT OF CANADA – RENDERING PUBLIC POLICY ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE IN THE CARTER CASE

The Macdonald-Laurier Institute awarded the Supreme Court of Canada as Policy-maker of the year in 2014. This award was well deserved. The Supreme Court of Canada has done it again in handing down its decision today that physician assisted suicide is legal, despite the differing opinion of Parliament.

This same issue was raised in Parliament on nine (9) occasions since 1993, and has been the subject of six (6) separate votes - all of which upheld the law against assisted suicide. These decisions were made with the support of all the political parties. But the Supreme Court of Canada does not seem at all concerned about the opinion of a democratically elected Parliament, which supposedly represents the views of the population. The Judges clearly believe that they know better which is in the best interests of the public.

According to this decision all that is required to achieve assisted suicide is the person's consent, providing that the person has a grievous and irremediable medical condition including illness, disease and disability. What could be broader than this?

The opinion by the Supreme Court of Canada is particularly oppressive when it declares that: "Nothing in this declaration would compel physicians to provide assistance in dying." How long will it take before future decisions by the Supreme Court of Canada modify this statement? What about the rights of other medical personnel such as nurses, hospital staff and those working in the fields of psychology and counselling? What about the rights of hospital Chaplains, or the rights of paramedics responding to an attempted suicide? What about teachers, priests and pastors - would they be reprimanded or disciplined if they counselled someone wanting to end their life? Clearly, the court has not thought through its decision.

Today's decision on physician assisted suicide is obviously not based on law and precedent, but is based on the personal opinion of the Supreme Court Judges. This is indisputable, owing to the fact that if the Court had based its decision on the law, it would have reached the opposite conclusion on assisted suicide since this same Court set a precedent in 1993 in the Sue Rodriguez case in which it upheld the law prohibiting assisted suicide.

Under the legal principle of stare decisis whereby a Court is bound by its previous decisions, the Supreme Court should have upheld the Rodriguez case. Instead the Court has abandoned stare decisis and ventured on to a new pathway in rendering its decisions. The Court has declared in this case that all that is required to change previous legal precedents is that new legal issues must be raised and that there be a change in circumstances or evidence which fundamentally shift the parameters of the debate. These broad parameters certainly give the Court wide leeway to decide any future case that comes before it as it sees fit.

This decision of the Supreme Court of Canada today means that all Canadians are now the prey of and vulnerable to the idiosyncratic personal views of the nine appointed judges on the Supreme Court. We live in troubling times.

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These 3 extremely premature babies all defied unbelievable odds to live

(LiveActionNews) - Before you meet these three beautiful babies, there are three notable things they have in common:

1) They could have been aborted.

Every one of these babies could have been aborted, somewhere in America. There are clinics that specialize in aborting babies just like these ones. Thankfully, each of these babies had parents who saw their value and fought for their lives, instead of willfully destroying them.

2) They would have felt terrible pain.

While **science shows** that unborn babies may feel pain as early as their fifth week, it almost undeniably proves that these babies — all over the age of 20 weeks — can feel pain, **excruciatingly so**.

[There is] solid medical evidence to believe that the [unborn] child not only feels pain, but feels it more severely than an infant or an adult... [T]his is because this is a “uniquely vulnerable time, since the pain system is fully established, yet the higher level pain-modifying system has barely begun to develop,” according to Dr. Paul Ranalli, a neurologist from the University of Toronto.

3) Abortionists refer to them as pieces of meat.

Abortionists use vulgar, inhumane terms when they talk about babies. Late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart (**who told Live Action** that he has done “twenty-some-thousand” abortions “over 24 weeks”) jokingly **refers** to them as “meat in a Crock-Pot.” And he talks about breaking their bodies to pieces with **“a pickaxe, a drill bit.”** Carhart’s just one of many.

Terrible facts aside, let’s meet these three amazing babies.

Jett Morris



Little Jett weighed only 1.4 pounds when he was born at 25 weeks. His mother’s water had broken five weeks earlier, and she had been told that she needed to decide whether or not to have an abortion. She was given five minutes to make her decision. Medical staff was pressuring her to abort Jett.

Thankfully, Jett’s mother, Mhairi, refused. Along with her husband, Paul, she didn’t waver, even under extreme pressure. Mhairi said that “doctors didn’t even give Jett a chance” and that, when she said she didn’t want an abortion (even after nearly being wheeled into the room), “the doctor looked at his watch and rolled his eyes at me.”

Jett has gone on to prove the doctors wrong and his parents more than right. Not only did he live, but he’s living quite well these days at his home in the U.K. His mother hopes the family’s story will inspire other moms to find out true information for themselves, even when pressured to abort by doctors:

“We have a happy outcome but I worry that other mothers could have had an abortion when their babies might have survived.” ...

[S]he was forced to Google her options rather than being given them by medics – and now hopes her story will be seen by other pregnant women doing the same thing.

Maddalena Douse

Tiny Maddalena was born at 23 weeks, unbelievably small at a mere **382 grams**. And yet, thanks to a pair of scissors on her scale, doctors thought her weight exceeded one pound and fought to save her life. They didn’t realize her true weight until she had already been put on a ventilator, and at that point, they — and she — continued to fight for her life.

Maddalena’s twin sister, Isabella, sadly died after their early birth. But Maddalena continues to grow healthy and strong, and her parents consider her their “little miracle.”

Macie Hope McCartney

Macie has a unique story. At 23 weeks in utero, doctors discovered a grapefruit-size tumor growing on her. Without intervention, she was predicted to die.

At 25 weeks, surgeons from Texas Children’s Fetal Center operated on Macie, leaving **just her head and upper body** inside her mother’s womb as they operated, removing the growth.



Macie stayed safe inside for another amazing ten weeks, finally being “born again” at 35 weeks. Today, she has a scar, but that’s about it; she is **reported** to be “perfectly healthy.”

Keri McCartney, Macie’s mother, says:

If God had not brought us to Texas Children’s, our little girl would not be here...I am grateful that Texas Children’s is building a place like the Maternity Center, but really what they are building is life for more babies like Macie.

America needs to reject abortion – for babies of all ages – and celebrate the beauty of even the tiniest lives. Reprinted with permission from LiveActionNews.



Health Canada may push back abortion drug decision until after federal election(see Feb 2014 LARTLA Newsletter for more information on RU-486)

Abortion , Health Canada , Ru-486

Abortion activists campaigning to have Health Canada approve a foreign-made abortion drug that allows a pregnant mother to kill and then expel her pre-born child are disappointed that a decision has been put off until sometime next fall.

The National Abortion Federation, an umbrella group representing abortion facilities in the U.S. and Canada, leaked to CBC News that Health Canada has requested additional information from Linepharma International, the France-based drug company submitting the application. This means the decision, expected to have come mid-January, will be many months from now.

Linepharma manufactures only mifepristone and misoprostol, a two-drug combination that allows a pregnant mother to abort. The company's mission statement is: "To make high-quality medical abortion products available and to provide related services to all women worldwide."

Jack Fonseca of Campaign Life Coalition said he was pleased that the decision has been pushed back, adding that he hopes the move means that Health Canada scientists are "demanding more data from the manufacturer because they have safety concerns about the dangerous drug."

Health Canada dropped an application to approve mifepristone, also known as RU-486, in 2001 after clinical trials ended in the death of a woman from British Columbia. Despite RU-486 being touted by its advocates as "safe," practically every country that has approved the drug has had women die as a result of complications arising from taking it.

"Realistically, Health Canada shouldn't want to touch this drug again with a 30-foot pole," Fonseca said. "There's no logical reason for them to lift the existing ban... other than political pressure. Why on earth would the agency want to revisit a drug that's a known killer, which it has already banned for killing someone not so long ago?"

Health Canada will give no hint at what its ultimate decision might be, telling reporters that all drug decisions are "based on a detailed scientific review."

The timing of the delay is noteworthy. Making a decision prior to the upcoming federal election could have drastic consequences for the reigning Conservatives. An approval of the drug could potentially result in the party alienating itself from its natural base of people who respect life and think it wrong for a mother to end the life of her pre-born child. Denying the drug, however, could potentially give left-leaning institutions, politicians, and especially mainstream media added firepower to accuse it of being against 'reproductive rights,' and ultimately against women.

Despite the delay, the National Abortion Federation says it remains optimistic about the final outcome.

"[We believe] that at the end of the day, Health Canada will approve mifepristone as a safe and effective method of early abortion, and that Canadian women will then be able to use it with confidence that there has been a very thorough review of the medication, its safety and efficacy," NAF President Vicki Saporta told CBC.

Fonseca said that the only reason the drug has been frequently in the news recently is because abortion advocates have "deliberately orchestrated" a media frenzy to pressure Health Canada into giving approval.

"They're trying to bring intolerable pressure to bear on the people at Health Canada. The goal here is to get the folks inside the Health Canada buildings sweating. Get them flustered, stressed out, so that emotional distress clouds their judgement and they choose to put politics ahead of science and the safety of women," he said.

Campaign Life Coalition is asking concerned citizens to contact Health Canada and urge it to reject the drug.

"I believe that if pro-lifers don't do something to counter-balance the pressure tactics of the abortion lobby/mainstream media, then Health Canada will probably cave," Fonseca said.

Contact info:

Health Canada
Address Locator 0900C2 | Ottawa, ON, K1A 0K9

Email: Info@hc-sc.gc.ca
Phone: 866-225-0709
Fax: 613-941-5366

Pregnant mom of 6 with breast cancer who refused abortion just found out she's cancer-free

February 2, 2015 (LifeSiteNews) - Heather Choate was already a mother of five young children, and had just found out that she was expecting her sixth, when she received the devastating news that she had breast cancer.

That was last summer.

Doctors were insistent about what Heather should do: abort the baby to increase her chances of survival, and then undergo treatment for her cancer.

But Heather would have none of it. "I would rather die than take the life of my child," she recently told CBS News.



Instead, Heather found a specialist who came up with a treatment plan, including chemotherapy and surgery, that she underwent while pregnant.

While there can be risks associated with undergoing chemotherapy while pregnant, there have been an increasing number of cases of women rejecting abortion while simultaneously choosing to also undergo treatment, and then giving birth to perfectly healthy babies.



Such was the case with Heather. On January 6, she and her husband welcomed their daughter, Kiery Celeste, into the world - as healthy as could be.

But that was only the beginning of the good news for the brave mother. Just last week Heather learned that her treatment had been successful: scans show that she is officially cancer free.

"I just got tears really in my eyes because that means we've done it — we have a baby here and things are looking good," Heather said.

It hasn't been an easy road for Heather. She recently wrote on her blog about the events of the past month.

"I feel like after these two weeks, we can take on anything. Childbirth with the flu? Done. 48 hours without my newborn? Done. Surgery 1 week after childbirth? Done," she wrote.

"But I know I couldn't have done any of it without my amazing husband, my angel of a mom, and the Lord who strengthens me and helps me beyond my own capabilities. My faith is strengthened as I witness his hand in our lives and I know we will be able to meet all challenges as long as we turn to him."

In another blog post, recounting the birth of her daughter, Heather wrote: "She is worth every sacrifice. She is my child. The Lord gave her to me and blessed me to be her mother. That is a joy and a responsibility I will forever cherish and strive to fulfill to the upmost degree. Motherhood is sacred. I am grateful and humbled to be so blessed to have precious Kiery as my daughter. She is strong and sweet and good. I am excited to see what things the Lord and life have in store for our future."

She added: "She is whole. She is healthy. It goes without saying that she is living proof that a baby can be born normal and healthy despite their mother being treated for cancer."

Heather's journey isn't over yet, however, as she still has more treatments to undergo: but with a beautiful daughter, and a hopeful prognosis, things are certainly looking up.

