

Campaign Life Coalition

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Media Release

MD Billings - Ontario's Secret

An article appeared in the Globe and Mail on January 20, 2003. After three years of digging, reporter Lisa Priest uncovered important information through the Freedom of Information Act. She found that Ontario is reluctant to publicize the reimbursement rate for family physicians. This means that tax dollars distributed through OHIP are not accounted for. In most newspapers an annual list of salaries for public officials who earn more than \$100,000 is published by name, occupation and salary. School Board officials, Hospital Administrators and other professionals who are accountable to the public purse are listed.

“The public demands transparency from the people who are remunerated at public expense and rightly so,” said Jim Hughes, National President of Campaign Life Coalition. “Why is this branch of medicine allowed to earn huge salaries and not be accountable? The public has a right to know.”

Lisa Priest revealed that one unnamed physician billed OHIP for \$552,695 in 1998-99. He committed 2,280 abortions in that time period.

“This proves what we have always said, the killing of the preborn is a very lucrative profession and those who carry out the killing are cowardly hiding from scrutiny,” added Mr. Hughes.

The article further points out that provinces such as British Columbia and Manitoba publish the doctors' billings by name. Saskatchewan publishes the average amount by specialty but doesn't identify the doctor.

“Why can't Ontario have the courage to at least publish the amount of tax capital which is spent every year in the deadly business of abortion, as Saskatchewan does,” said Mary Ellen Douglas, National Organizer of CLC. “Tax payers need to know that the killing of the child in the womb is big business for the doctors who accept money to kill on request.”

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