

Dear Pro-life friend:

## Preparing for the election

Campaign Life Coalition held a very important Ontario strategy meeting February 19-21 in Toronto that, among other issues closely examined all 105 Ontario ridings and the potential pro-life candidates at both the party nomination and general election levels. We were extremely pleased to discover the names of more pro-life candidates at this meeting and are currently developing strategies to work with pro-life candidates in all parties. A top-notch CLC election team has been put together. Some of the team members have many years of political experience - both on the campaign trail and in the corridors of power.

Questionnaires have been sent to nominated candidates for several months and responses are already returning to the CLC office. We are busy at nomination meetings helping to sign up pro-life supporters for pro-life candidates who have signed our questionnaire and demonstrated a commitment to the pro-life cause. With the shortened election schedule (six weeks), it is incredibly difficult to implement any strategy or inform you, our grassroots supporters, about where candidates stand on the important life issues. Once the election is called please check out [www.lifesite.net](http://www.lifesite.net) on a regular basis for up-to-the-minute information. If you do not have Internet access, ask a family member or family friend to check it out for you. Please pray for our efforts to help elect pro-life MPs.

Action Item: Please contact Gillian Long or Cyril Bagin in our Toronto office at either (416) 204-9749 or 1-800-730-5358 to let us know about any conversations, exchanges at all candidates meetings or newspaper articles that indicates where a candidate stands on life and family issues. Please do not assume we already know it; all information helps us and other pro-life voters in your area.

## Pro-lifers do make a difference

Since its inception, CLC has encouraged pro-life Canadians to get involved in politics at the local (riding) level. Buy a membership in the party of your choice and work to get pro-lifers elected as candidates and ensure that the issue is kept on the table. In recent months, this strategy has paid off as you, our grassroots supporters, have bought memberships in all parties and worked to get good, pro-life people chosen as their party's nominee. There have been numerous victories, several disappointments and an important lesson to all candidates in recent months. Let us share but a few of them.

The biggest victory was the re-election of Liberal MP Paul Szabo as the candidate for Mississauga South. Szabo is a three-term veteran who, unfortunately, was challenged by a

candidate (put up to it by Deputy Prime Minister Anne McLellan?) who did not seem to hold to the strong pro-life, pro-family, pro-traditional values views that Szabo has so eloquently represented in Parliament. We, along with numerous other concerned citizens immediately sprang to action to help Szabo secure his nomination. On March 11, we are pleased to report, he won the nomination by 130 votes (out of approximately 1800 cast). The support of pro-life, pro-family and religious constituents who did not want to see their good MP go down helped secure his nomination. Afterwards, he graciously thanked us for the role we played in helping him win that night. We were honoured to be part of that process.

In numerous other ridings, we helped pro-life candidates win their nominations. In some of those nomination meetings, the vote was extremely close and our involvement certainly put the pro-life candidate over the top.

Unfortunately, there was also a sad lesson to be learned. In Newmarket-Aurora, Lois

Brown sought the local Conservative Party nomination against party leadership candidate

Belinda Stronach. Stronach supports abortion and same-sex marriage. Brown told us she was pro-life but refused to sign the questionnaire. Without a candidate's willingness to put their views down on paper, we are unable to help them. Brown lost by exactly 100 votes. Our data base for the riding has well over that number of households and our analysis from previous elections found that on average, each household has 3.1 voters in it. We are confident we could have delivered the support that would have helped Brown defeat Stronach. But our hands were tied.

We want candidates to know that we can help and often there is price to be paid for not seeking our help. We also want you to know that when you get involved, you can make a difference. It is never too late, so even if the candidate in the party of your choice has been selected, get involved. Work to help pro-life candidates and try to get the issue before local riding boards. Together we are working to get a pro-life, non-partisan majority elected to the House of Commons so that someday we will be able to get pro-life legislation passed in this country. But it will not happen until each and every pro-life person realizes the potential we have when we work together and get involved.

## Senate committee approves anti-life bill C6

Bill C-6, the government's reproductive and experimental technologies legislation formerly known as C-13, passed the Senate social affairs committee unanimously on March 3. In the news reporting of this event, the media unanimously and dutifully echoed the government's claim that C-6 banned human cloning and regulated the use of embryonic stem cells. We were told by our sources on Parliament Hill that the Prime Minister's Office told the Liberal leader in the Senate to get C-6 (along with C-250 the so-called hate crimes amend-





