

Dear pro-lifer,

## New Parliament looks better than the old one

Look past the party results and put aside for a minute how moral issues will be dealt with in the next Parliament; look only at who got elected and the June 28 federal election was not nearly as bad as many think it is at first glance. Our analysis finds that there are at least a dozen additional pro-life MPs – and that does not include those who said they would represent the wishes of their constituents or those who did not reveal their views on the life issues. Now when legislation threatening or protecting the sanctity of human life comes before Parliament, we are that much closer to ensuring the dignity of every human being is recognized in law. This, folks, is progress. It might not be as fast as we had hoped to see – frankly we would have liked to have seen the vast majority of MPs elected on June 28 to be pro-life – but we are getting closer to the goal of a pro-life parliamentary majority.

## Abortion central issue in first three weeks

When the *Globe and Mail* reported on its front page that Conservative health critic Rob Merrifield wanted counselling for women considering abortion, that was the cue for the Liberals to launch their pre-planned strategy to attack the Conservatives as social extremists. We warned you before about their strategy. Within days, the major papers were digging for what they labeled as “embarrassing” quotes by pro-life candidates (usually only the Conservatives). You see, many political strategists and the media are self brainwashed. Despite many years of solid evidence to the contrary, they seem determined to believe that abortion is an electoral albatross, an issue that once attached to a party or leader or candidate, will probably sink their chances of victory.

The Merrifield story ran the same day that the Conservatives were pulling even in the polls. Cynics might believe that the media was a willing accomplice in the Liberal strategy to use abortion as a wedge

issue or at least to divert attention away from the corruption of some within the Liberal government. The big brains in Team Martin thought hammering away at abortion “rights” and same-sex “marriage” would help their party. This deeply flawed advice was based on the false assumption that Canadians support the abortion status quo and that championing unfettered abortion would attract female and Ontario voters. They called Stephen Harper pro-life (which he is not), a line dutifully reported by the Liberal’s flunkies in the media. But instead of leaving the image of an extremist Conservative Party, Canadians saw an intolerant, abortion and homosexual marriage obsessed Liberal Party. In their door-to-door canvassing pro-life Liberal MPs were dismayed by the effect their leader’s pre-occupation with alienating religious, pro-life and traditional values voters was having on the electorate.

Revealingly, hardly any of the media and political leaders actually discussed abortion – the truth about the humanity of the child in the womb, the fact that abortion kills a human being. The broad topic of a deliberately evasive “right to choose” repeatedly came up, but not as an issue to be explored or debated. It was used as a political hammer or responded to as something to be completely avoided. Still, the controversy forced many Canadians, candidates and voters alike, to give abortion considerable thought. Pro-life Canadians marvelled that it became such a major topic during the election and forced many politicians, especially at voters’ doors, to discuss the issue. We should be thankful for that. Once again, it has been shown that the elite cannot claim there is social peace on abortion.

## Pro-life positions help, not hurt electoral chances

Abortion is NOT the hindrance many political strategists, media pundits and indeed candidates themselves believe it to be. The proof is in the raw facts and numbers, so please consider:

- In an election in which abortion was featured prominently, there are at least a dozen additional pro-



**Cheryl Gallant compared abortion to a beheading. The media mocked her but never examined the validity of the comparison. For her courageous and principled stand, Gallant was re-elected with 55% of the vote.**



**The media used Conservative health critic Rob Merrifield’s comments on abortion counselling to hammer the party for a supposed hidden agenda to restrict abortion, even though Paul Martin mused about counselling on the exact same day.**



Rose-Marie Ur is one of about 15 pro-life Liberals returned to Ottawa. The lucky voters of Middlesex-Kent-Lambton had three great candidates to chose from as the Conservative and CHP candidates were pro-life

life MPs.

- Only three incumbent pro-life MPs lost and one of them (Liberal Janko Peric in Cambridge, Ontario), lost to another pro-lifer (Conservative Gary Goodyear).

- All but one of the pro-life Liberal MPs won decisive victories, in many cases winning with more than 50% of the vote. The only close race was in Middlesex-Kent-Lambton where Rose-Marie Ur narrowly defeated another pro-lifer, Conservative challenger Bev Shipley.

- About half of the Conservative contingent of 24 MPs from Ontario is pro-life. For years we were told that Ontario was the

land of “moderation” where pro-life candidates, especially, would frighten away voters. Funny how those pushing that propoganda in the parties have almost always been pro-abortion.

- Conservative MP Cheryl Gallant (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke) was vilified by the media for her comments at the March for Life two months ago in which she compared abortion to the beheading of an American in Iraq. She did not apologize for her remarks despite a barrage of media criticism. She won a resounding re-election receiving 27,494 votes or 55.1% of the total, versus her nearest competitor’s 14,806 votes.

- When abortion took central stage, the Conservatives, taking the more moderate position of allowing free votes versus Paul Martin’s strident and false criticism of the Conservatives as doctrinaire pro-lifers, pulled ahead in the polls. Yes, they went up, not down, defying politically correct gravity! It was only when Stephen Harper arrogantly mused about a majority that the media played the fear card (people fearful of the devil they didn’t know) and Paul Martin returned to the theme of healthcare, did the Liberals regain the lead.

More pro-life MPs and many pro-life candidates winning by significant margins refuted the lie about pro-life being a political handicap. Especially on contentious issues such as abortion and same-sex unions, what DOES hurt candidates is being coy or evasive about their position. Hiding behind referenda or otherwise being unclear sends mixed signals and gives credence to charges of a hidden agenda, no matter how ridiculous such attacks might be.

Canadians appreciate candidates who are upfront and honest on moral issues. They are seen as more trustworthy and principled – even to voters who dis-

agree with them on moral issues. No party should try to stop its candidates from clearly articulating their personal positions on abortion. By doing so it writes off millions of pro-life Canadians. You would think that the low voter turnout of 60%, the lowest in over 100 years, would tell the party hacks there is something seriously wrong with their strategies. Canadians are rightly or wrongly perceiving less of a difference between the parties and many just don’t trust them anymore. It doesn’t have to be that way.

## Significant social liberal losses

A number of high profile socially liberal candidates lost. In the New Brunswick riding of Fundy, Rob Moore, who describes himself as pro-life (he didn’t return a questionnaire and CLC did not qualify him) defeated John Herron, the pro-abortion former Tory who switched to the Liberal Party after the Canadian Alliance and Progressive Conservatives merged last December. Herron said the new party’s supposed social conservatism – and we remind supporters that the new party does not have an official position on these or any other issues – made him uncomfortable. Another Tory who switched to the Liberals after the merger because of the new party’s “social conservatism” was openly homosexual Scott Brison. Brison was re-elected but it is notable that his opponent, Bob Mullan, did not indicate he was pro-life or against same-sex “marriage”. The openly gay former mayor of Winnipeg, Glen Murray, lost in his bid to become an MP and certainly a cabinet minister. Murray lost to disabilities activist Stephen Fletcher in the suburban riding of Charleswood-St James. And while former Conservative Party leadership candidate Belinda Stronach was supposed to win her Newmarket Aurora riding easily, hers was one of the last ridings called in the entire country, it was so close. Stronach’s pro-abortion, pro-same sex “marriage” position did not significantly differentiate her from her Liberal opponent.

## Election lesson: principles, conscience must be respected

Clearly, many supporters of the Conservative Party want a socially conservative, genuine alternative to the dominant Liberal agenda of abortion on demand and radical change of family and marriage; but it is clear that the Liberal Party has also had many supporters who respect life and family and do not want to see their society turned upside-down by even more social radicalism. As for the NDP, based on hundreds of stories related to us over the years, many are certainly in the same position. We reiterate this point because it is so important: candidates must be allowed freedom to

stand on principle and make their position on abortion and marriage perfectly clear to voters and, once elected, to be allowed to vote their conscience on moral issues. It will be a benefit to those parties who accept the necessity of this principle and it will make a positive difference to the future of our nation: countless unborn babies and families will depend on it.

## Federal Liberal leadership change opportunity?

At the first sign of trouble less than 10 days into the federal election campaign, we heard rumours that the elite of the Liberal party had met to begin discussing Paul Martin's replacement. Who knows how long until the party replaces its leader but considering Martin's poorer than expected showing on June 28, it will probably be sooner than later. One Liberal Senator has already said that Martin must prove himself worthy of keeping the job by December. We urge those of you who are inclined to identify themselves as Liberals to keep your party memberships up-to-date to ensure that you can participate in the leadership selection process. There is a very good chance that a leadership race could be called hurriedly, so please get involved now. Pro-life Liberals may have an historic opportunity to take their party back from the pro-abortion, anti-family extremists who have run the party for the last few decades.

## Ontario Tory leadership race

The Ontario Progressive Conservative leadership contest is under way and the convention to crown a new leader will be upon us before we know it. About the only thing we know for sure about the contest is that the convention will be held September 18. Other than

that – the rules, the form of the ballot, etc... – is undecided; or at least unannounced. Thus far, the leadership candidates

include former Toronto mayoral candidate John Tory and two former provincial cabinet ministers, Jim Flaherty and Frank Klees. Flaherty and Klees have a



Two former provincial cabinet ministers, both pro-life, will vie for the leadership of the Ontario Progressives. Currently, polls show pro-abortion John Tory, a former Toronto mayoral candidate and PC backroom strategist, as the front-runner. Ontario pro-lifers inclined to support the Tories should ensure their memberships are up-to-date so they can help select a pro-life PC leader.

somewhat pro-life, pro-family record and were members of the PC Family Values Caucus. Tory is altogether another case and absolutely no friend of those who cherish life and family as high priorities. While it is possible that someone else will enter the race, a poll showing John Tory with support above 50% among PC voters, which was reported by the *Toronto Sun's* Christina Blizzard on June 20, may scare off any new challengers. It is imperative that Ontario pro-lifers inclined to support the Progressive Conservative party ensure their party membership is up-to-date so that they will be able to participate in the leadership selection process. Polls such as those that Blizzard reported can be overcome but only if pro-life and pro-family Ontario citizens get involved.

## LifeSiteNews.net attacked in media

The *Globe and Mail* attacked LifeSiteNews.net by innuendo by linking a story it ran in May about a CTV made-for-TV-movie on homosexual student Marc Hall and property damage done to Tapestry, a production company responsible for producing the show. The *Globe* extensively quoted a staff member at Tapestry who vaguely described the damage done to their offices and her complaint that websites criticized the show and distributed contact information to "target" them. The next paragraph mentioned only one website – LifeSiteNews. LifeSiteNews' reports on the Marc Hall story did not provide any contact information other than the email address to CTV programming. Furthermore, Toronto police are not treating this as a hate crime.

Detective James Hogan told a LifeSiteNews reporter that property was taken and the offices left a mess and that there was absolutely no indication the crime was motivated by opposition to Tapestry's involvement in the Marc Hall TV movie. It seems that the production company was seeking – and received – a little free advertising for their movie. Still, the accusation was very serious and LifeSiteNews retained legal counsel to write a letter of complaint to the *Globe*. CLC is concerned that pro-family media will be unjustly targeted for hate crime prosecution and we are watching such developments very closely.

## Just say no to abortion-pill pushers

Included in this mailing is a card that can be shown to pharmacists when you are having a prescription filled. The card requests that a pharmacist not fill your prescriptions with products from Paladin Laboratories or Pharmascience Inc. These two companies produce and distribute abortifacient drugs including Plan B, the so-called morning-after pill. The morning-after pill often works by making the uterus inhospitable to new

embryonic life – a tiny human being – thus killing it. Presenting this card to pharmacists is an excellent opportunity to educate them about abortifacient drugs, or at the very least to inform them that you, as a paying customer, do not want to enrich large pharmaceutical companies that are profiting from the killing of unborn babies. If you wish, you may reproduce the card (back and front) and distribute the copies to pharmacists when handing in your prescription.

## Renowned pro-life parliamentarian loses European seat

We are extremely saddened by Dana Rosemary Scallon's loss in the

European Parliament vote last month. Scallon, a Member of European Parliament (MEP) for Ireland and a tireless pro-life crusader, finished fourth in regional balloting; the top three candidates are elected MEPs.

Scallon was a singer and television personality in Ireland before being elected MEP in 1999. Since then, she has opposed the liberalization of abortion and embryonic stem cell research proposed by the European Union. Although other pro-life candidates won elsewhere in Ireland, Scallon's leadership on this issue will be hard to replace and at a time when our friends all over Europe tell us that they expect an even more aggressive push for abortion to be declared a right and for state-funding of embryonic stem cell research. We pray that Europe does not go further down the road of moral decadence and that a Culture of Life is rejuvenated. We are also confident that Dana Scallon will remain a pro-life leader in a new capacity.



**Crusading pro-life MEP Dana Rosemary Scallon lost in her bid to return to European Parliament.**

## Volunteers needed

This summer, we have nine university and college students working in the office. This affords young people an opportunity to get some practical work experience

while also learning about the pro-life movement. They also help relieve the workload of regular staff and volunteers, many of whom take holidays in the summer.

Come September, however, we will need to replace these workers with capable volunteers. There are letters to be written, photos to be filed, mail to be put in envelopes, phones to be answered and much, much more. If you can assist in any of these regular tasks or if you have special skills that CLC might benefit from, please contact us immediately. Whether you can help one day a week or several, your contribution in time and effort will go a long way to helping the unborn. We also have opportunities to help CLC from home. Your local CLC representatives could also use a hand; please contact them to offer any assistance you can.

---

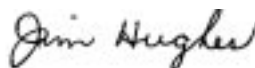
**Action Item: To volunteer please contact Office Manager Deny Dieleman at (416) 204-9749 or 1-800-730-5358.**

---

## March for Life DVD a crowd pleaser

As we reported before, this year's March for Life was the best yet and quite the uplift for all participants. CLC produced a special 20 minute DVD video of the May 12-14 events for an Ontario Knights of Columbus convention a week after the march. The video received loud applause and was such a hit that we have decided to offer a slightly revised version to our supporters. To experience the joy and enthusiasm of March for Life 2004 and hopefully also encourage many more people to come to the 2005 March we are offering this DVD for donations of \$25 or more. Contact Emma at Campaign Life Coalition (1-800-730-5358 or 416-204-9749) if you would like to order bulk quantities of the DVD at special bulk quantity prices. We can also send a VHS version but caution that the DVD version provides far superior video and audio quality.

Yours for life



Jim Hughes  
National President

**As you can see from this newsletter, there are many issues that Campaign Life Coalition must address and on so many fronts. Please use the card and envelope enclosed in this package to financially support your local CLC organization. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.**

**If you do not wish to be on our mailing list, please contact us at the address below.**

Published by **Campaign Life Coalition Canada**,  
104 Bond Street, Suite 300, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 1X9  
phone: (416) 204-9749 fax: (416) 204-1027 email: [clc@lifesite.net](mailto:clc@lifesite.net) website: [www.lifesite.net](http://www.lifesite.net)  
Please forward any questions or comments about CLC National News to Paul Tuns at the above address.