

# Campaign Life Coalition

104 Bond Street Suite 300, Toronto, Ont, Canada M5B1X9  
web site: [www.lifesite.net](http://www.lifesite.net)

phone: (416) 204-9749 fax: (416) 204-1027  
email: [clc@lifesite.net](mailto:clc@lifesite.net)

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Dear Pro-lifer,

I have written some of these appeal letters in the most unexpected places: on trains, in hotel rooms, in a parking lot in an unheated van in the middle of winter, in a big old chair under an awning on a verandah and at a farm under a huge shady tree in the summer. Some of them have taken days to complete, others are completed in a short time.

Before starting, I always pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire me to put down on paper whatever it is that He wishes to convey to you. Unfortunately, sometimes I allow myself to rush ahead, instead of listening and waiting for Him to guide me.

Today, this letter is being written from Providence Centre in Toronto. My soon-to-be 96 year old mother-in-law lives here now and our visits are a regular occurrence. There are also many CLC supporters in residence, so I try to take my time and visit with as many of them as possible. They have truly been our lifeline and it is a privilege to be able to visit with each of them.

Speaking of visits, at a recent Toronto clergy luncheon, we had the honour to present author and TV commentator, George Weigel.

For those who haven't read or heard about the frequent acts of violence on Toronto streets, let it be said that the old moniker 'Toronto the Good' is really being put to the test. Although I try to be prepared for everything that may happen, it's not always the case ...

So, lunch completed, George Weigel began to address the gathering. Just then, we heard what sounded like a gun shot. George hardly missed a beat, but I hit the floor, fearing the worst. Those in close proximity to me, however, enjoyed a hearty chuckle, as it had only been one of a number of balloons left over from a previous function in the church hall, that had burst suddenly, startling almost everyone. At the very least, I learned that I am still able to react ...

This month's *CLC News* includes reports on some very upbeat and positive pro-life news.

We are pleased to report that the annual National March for Life in Ottawa was another great success. Other marches in various parts of the country were spirit filled and well attended.

In next month's *CLC News*, we will have much to report on numerous pro-life happenings and a follow-up to this month's extensive coverage of the March (also see the June issue of *The Interim*). Additionally, we will be calling on you to carry out an important summertime activity which will not require a great deal of your time. Watch for upcoming news in our next newsletter. We are very well aware of the many outside activities which demand your attention during the summer months, and we all need to have some much needed rest and relaxation.

During the summer, some of the regular ongoing duties shared by our staff are augmented by our summer interns. They bring a real vibrancy to the work, fill the gaps created by vacationing staff and receive training from a number of pro-life leaders. If you are wondering where the Canadian life and family movement will be in the upcoming years, we have only to look around us and see the huge number of supporters, younger than ourselves, who have accepted the Lord's call and are already onsite.

Over thirty years ago, when Mary Ellen Douglas, CLC's National Organizer, first became involved in the movement in the Kingston area, she was one of the young moms with small children. Today, when asked by a new recruit, if all the CLC activists are as old as she is, Mary Ellen's response is that she joined young and is in it for the duration.

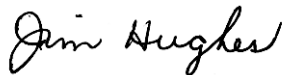
At the March for Life, at least 60% of the participants were under twenty-five years of age; at the youth conference, I was the oldest speaker. So there is no need to worry, the present and the future are being looked after by younger generations who are already involved in the pro-life movement.

However, with the arrival of our summer interns, over the next several weeks, there is a greater strain on our financial resources. We need you, in a special way, to donate generously over the next several months to assist us to pay the wages of these young people and continue to help us to meet our regular and ongoing financial commitments.

Respect for human life through pro-life legislation to protect the unborn, elderly at risk, and the vulnerable, will surely come, providing we continue to call on Almighty God through our prayers, sacrifices and perseverance, to assist us in this struggle against society's evils.

May God continue to bless and care for you and your loved ones and grant you true peace.

Yours for Life,



Jim Hughes

National President

P.S. The first DVD of the 2006 March for Life has been edited and will soon be available for distribution.