

JUNE
2017

CLC NATIONAL NEWS

C A M P A I G N L I F E C O A L I T I O N C A N A D A

Message from the Vice President

Dear Pro-lifer,

Well, it's over now (the CPC Leadership campaign) and I will try to contain my enthusiasm. Our expectations were exceeded! The pro-life message was proclaimed across Canada from the roof-tops and in mainstream media. And not only did pro-life candidates Pierre Lemieux and Brad Trost survive the media vitriol but showed up in the top 6 on the first ballot! This is the victory my friends. The media and the Party has acknowledged and accepted that we are a force to contend with and we are a large contingent of the Party and the culture. Amen.

The March for Life went off with nary a glitch including successful banquets and youth conference and we thank you for your participation, prayerful and financial support.

The role of father has always been important and in fact crucial to the proper raising of children. In this politically correct world the role of mom and dad are under attack. But under God's protection I confidently wish all dads a happy Father's day. Yours for life,



Jeff Gunnarson,
CLC Vice President



Thousands stand on guard for life

On May 11, more than 15,000 pro-lifers participated in the National March for Life in the nation's capital. Another several thousands of people took part in regional marches for life in eight provincial capitals that same day or the week later. To mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation, the theme of the National March for Life and some other marches was "Life: We Stand on Guard for Thee." Together we stood on guard for the unborn.

This year's events were virtually ignored by the national media and received only scant local coverage. There was some media coverage of the brouhaha over the official 20th anniversary National March for Life flag flying at Ottawa's city hall and later being taken down, but with barely a mention of the March itself. When media picked up the story, they low-balled the attendance figure with the CBC quoting an RCMP source saying there were 6000 people on Parliament Hill while another media outlet also quoted police sources saying the figure was 4500. Another CBC headline read "several hundred" ... This year there was a strong police presence and they did an excellent job cordoning the protesters and keeping everyone safe. We thank the RCMP for their protection on the Hill and the City of Ottawa police for their service on the streets. Although the march was rerouted again by a few dozen anarchists and communist teenagers who blocked the road, the police kept them far away



Contents

National March for Life	P. 1
Conservatives elect new leader	P. 6
40 DfL leaders gather in Ottawa	P. 7

from any contact with pro-lifers. Most marchers had no idea they were even there.

The March began with a prayer by Rob and Fran Parker, the co-founders of the National House of Prayer. Then CLC National President Jim Hughes spoke briefly on the theme and noted that Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, famously said that abortion "saps the life-blood of a nation". Ottawa Archbishop Terrence Prendergast introduced the religious leaders who joined him on stage and Toronto Cardinal Thomas Collins gave some brief remarks urging people of all faiths to continue speaking up for the unborn. There were 20 Parliamentarians on the Hill, many giving brief remarks. MP Arnold Viersen (Conservative, Peace River-Westlock) made a very brief case for why every preborn child should be protected in law: "Human beings have human rights. Human rights begin when the human being begins. Science tells us when the human being begins: human beings begin at conception. Therefore we must defend the human rights of all human beings." MP Ted Falk (Conservative, Provencher) said that Prime Minister Justin Trudeau believes the abortion issue is settled. "Well, Mr. Prime Minister," he said, pointing to the Langevin Building across the street that houses the Prime Minister's Office, "look out of your window, look down here. We will not go away. We will fight back against the attempts to silence us, we will keep this conversation alive, we will show that all life is

Continued on p. 4



The Speakers on the Hill



Rob and Fran Parker from the National House of Prayer led opening prayer



The MCs of the rally on the Hill were John-Henry Westen, Editor-in-chief, LifeSiteNews.com and Marie-Claire Bissonnette, CLC Youth Coordinator



Jim Hughes, CLC President



Supreme Knight of Columbus, The Honourable Graydon A. Nicholas



Archbishop of Ottawa, Terrence Prendergast S.J.



Archbishop of Toronto, Thomas Cardinal Collins



Senator Betty Unger, Alberta



Senator Norman Doyle, Newfoundland & Labrador



Senator Tobias Enverga with his family, Ontario



MP Marilyn Gladu, Sarnia-Lambton



MP Phil McColeman, Brantford - Brant



MP Mark Warawa, Langley - Aldergrove



MP Arnold Viersen with his family, Peace River - Westlock



MP Harold Albrecht, Kitchener Conestoga



Former MP and CPC leadership candidate, Pierre Lemieux with his family



Guy Lauzon, Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry



MP David Anderson, Cypress Hills - Grasslands



MP Ted Falk, Provencher



MP and CPC leadership candidate Brad Trost, Saskatoon-University



MP Dave Van Kesteren, Chatham-Kent Leamington



MP Cathay Wagantall, Yorkton- Melville



MP Bev Shipley, Lambton-Kent-Middlesex



MP Kevin Sorenson, Battle River - Crowfoot



MP Glen Motz, Medicine Hat - Cardston - Warner



MP Garnett Genuis, Sherwood Park - Fort Saskatchewan



Saira Blair, House Representative, West Virginia and Youth Banquet Speaker



Rod Taylor, Leader of the Christian Heritage Party



Jakki Jeffs, Executive Director, Alliance for Life Ontario



Georgette Forney (left) and Janet Morana (right), Co-Founders Silent No More Awareness, Angelina Steenstra (middle) Canadian Coordinator

inherently valuable.” Both pro-life Conservative leadership contenders, MP Brad Trost (Saskatoon-University) and former MP Pierre Lemieux, gave brief remarks. Trost reminded the marchers that we were on the Hill because we have hope for a better future, faith in God, and love for our fellow man. Lemieux urged everyone to vote for him if they were CPC members and eligible to vote in the leadership. We thank all the MPs who attended the March -- some to speak, some joining the March itself for a few blocks -- to stand up for the preborn in this very visible witness. Also addressing the throng on the Hill was the Executive Director for Alliance for Life Ontario, Jakki Jeffs, Christian Heritage Party leader Rod Taylor, Supreme Knight and former Lieutenant Governor of the province of New Brunswick, the Honourable Graydon A. Nicholas, and the women and men of Silent No More including its American co-founders Janet Morana and Georgette Forney.

The three-day National March for Life program had other events. On May 10, the Candlelight Vigil was a beautiful, peaceful, prayerful remembrance of the victims of abortion, held after Mass at St. Therese Church, at the National Human Rights Monument. Several hundred pro-lifers, mostly young people, sang, prayed and listened to powerful witnesses and testimonies by the various speakers. On

the morning of the March on May 11, there were numerous church services throughout the city to help put the faithful in the proper frame of mind about engaging our culture in spiritual warfare. In the evening, there was the Rose Dinner featuring keynote speaker Jim Hughes, National President of Campaign Life Coalition, who told humorous stories from his lifetime of pro-life activism. And as the president of CLC, he reminded the audience at the Rose Dinner, that we are called to take the inspiration from the March for Life back to our communities and to be active in pro-life education and politics. We must discuss abortion and euthanasia with our friends, family and colleagues. We must write letters to the editor and call in to radio talk-shows. We must participate in witnesses like 40 Days for Life and LifeChain and other demonstrations of the pro-life message. We must get active in nomination campaigns for pro-life candidates. And we must always vote pro-life. Our message and our influence cannot be effective if we are only visibly pro-life one day a year, for the National March for Life. We must live our pro-life convictions in the public square, engaging those who prefer to ignore the slaughter of 100,000 preborn children by surgical abortion every year and a growing number of abortion by chemical means.

The Youth Banquet, featured TransformDJs, a Christian and pro-

The Candlelight Vigil

On May 10, hundreds attended a candlelight vigil organized by Campaign Life Coalition Youth. The vigil which featured prayer, music, and personal testimonials was a powerful reminder that first and foremost, the battle for life is a spiritual battle.



life electronic music group that got hundreds of young people up and moving and excited for the cause. A Youth Conference the following day was attended by 700 young people, who received pro-life lessons from various keynote speakers. Among the speakers was Saira Blair, a 20 year old state representative from West Virginia who encouraged young people to get involved in their local politics, Dr. Christina Francis, who educated the audience on the issues from a medical perspective, and CLC Youth's Marie-Claire Bissonnette who delivered a talk on why young people need to get involved in the pro-life movement. In addition to the keynote speakers, the young participants also had the opportunity to attend several pro-life workshops.

On behalf of Campaign Life Coalition, we would like to thank every one of you who attended the National March for Life in Ottawa and other regional marches. Thank you to all the clergy, the politicians, advertisers, sponsors, speakers, students, parents, teachers, chaperones and every one of you who supported the march with your financial contributions and your prayers. Whether you were there in person, or watched the broadcast on EWTN, the 20th National March for Life was truly a wonderful and encouraging day and we thank you for your participation. And as many of the speakers on Parliament Hill reminded those in attendance, we are called to be a voice for the voiceless.

The March through the streets

Following the pro-life rally on Parliament Hill, thousands marched through the streets of downtown Ottawa. Canadians of all ages, backgrounds, and creeds, marched side by side to stand on guard for life.



Announcements

Canada Day Sale

With cottage season upon us and Canada Day just around the corner, Campaign Life Coalition is offering a massive Canada Day Sale featuring our very popular March for Life gear which was inspired by Canada's 150th anniversary. Our sale includes t-shirts, baseball caps, toques, umbrellas, as well as window stickers. Purchase ahead of time so that you can show off your new gear this Canada Day and throughout the summer. Order online at www.marchforlife.ca or call 1-800-730-5358 to order by phone.

The Annual Rose Golf Tournament

Business for Life & Derrydale Golf Course are once again proud to present the annual Rose Golf Tournament which will take place on September 7, 2017. The \$85 entry fee includes 12 holes with power card, a late lunch (chicken or steak), great prizes and all proceeds to go Campaign Life Coalition. To register please call CLC Head Office at 416-204-9749 or toll free at 1-800-730-5358

Photo Credits

All the National March for Life photos in this issue of CLC National News are courtesy of Nikki Contois and Robert DuBroy. For more photos go to flickr.com/campaignlife



Above: Can you spot His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins?
Photo: Neil McCarthy



Conservative Party picks Andrew Scheer as leader

Since the beginning, CLC has always been involved in politics at every level, from school board to the House of Commons. In the 1980's, pro-lifers were officially barred as candidates from the NDP, and in 2015, by the Trudeau Liberals. Next to the Christian Heritage Party, the only other national party that allows pro-lifers to run for public office is the Conservative Party of Canada. On May 27, the Conservative Party chose Andrew Scheer as the next leader of the party. We congratulate Scheer on his victory despite the fact we did not endorse his leadership bid. Scheer, we noted in our Voter's Guide had a perfect voting record but unfortunately, he vowed not to reopen the abortion issue. No doubt many pro-life Conservatives supported his leadership and we hope that he will allow MPs to speak up and act on their pro-life and pro-family principles, and promote them as leader. We are disappointed that after winning the leadership, he repeated numerous times his vow not to reopen the abortion or same-sex "marriage" issues, despite the staggering abortion death toll since 1969.

We also congratulate Brad Trost and Pierre Lemieux for their strong showing and thank them for their leadership on life and family issues. Neither leadership candidate shied away from these issues which

ended up propelling them to the top half. CLC owes a great debt to these two men who both made the pro-life issue a core principle of their campaigns, bringing the issue to the forefront of the leadership race. Trost started off fourth on the first ballot while Lemieux was sixth, combining for nearly 16% of the points. Eventually, Lemieux fell to seventh, slightly behind Kellie Leitch, whom polls had showing much better. Trost briefly rose to third place before finishing fourth overall. The pundits were shocked at how well both candidates did, considering they did better than some former cabinet ministers as well as several red Tories. But the main story coming out of the leadership convention was that social conservatives were a significant, even decisive voting block within the party. Commenting on the size and motivation of the social conservative vote, former PC leader Peter MacKay said on the CBC that it was no surprise to anyone who has witnessed the annual protest on Parliament Hill – the National March for Life. Trost and Lemieux "over-performed" expectations in part due to the work of pro-life and pro-family groups across the country. CLC sold more than 11,000 memberships to supporters and their family and friends in every province and territory and ran a strong get out the vote campaign. We thank all of you who became members of the Conservative Party and voted for the solidly pro-life candidates.

The Rose Dinner & Youth Banquet

The annual Rose Dinner organized by Campaign Life Coalition and Youth Banquet organized by Niagara Region Right to Life and Campaign Life Coalition Youth took place on May 11 following the National March for Life.



From left to right: Jim Hughes, CLC National President, delivering the keynote address at the Rose Dinner; CLC Vice-President, Jeff Gunnarson, introduced him; Jakki Jeffs, Executive Director, Alliance for Life Ontario, launched a pro-life petition hoping to get more than 2 million signatures; Margie Mountain, National March for Life Co-Chair.



Above: Steven Karlen, Director for North American Outreach, 40 Days for Life. Left: Transform DJs, pro-life electronic music group who entertained the youth at the Youth Banquet and the Youth Conference the following day.



Andrew Scheer said prior to the convention he wanted to focus on what united, not divided Conservatives, and thus would run on the best policies of the party. We hope that the policies of opposing gendercide abortions and the protection for preborn victims of crime, two policies passed at last year's CPC convention by a majority of delegates, will be remembered by the new leader. Furthermore, we look forward to Scheer fulfilling his leadership campaign promises, including: allowing private members bills dealing with abortion and other moral issues, ceasing federal funding to universities that do not respect freedom of speech, supporting the rights of parents as first educators of their children, and



Andrew Scheer won the CPC leadership beating out Maxime Bernier in the final round. Brad Trost finished 4th and Pierre Lemieux finished 7th out of 14 candidates.

making maternity benefits tax-free.

We now turn our attention to the 2018 national policy convention of the CPC in Halifax next August. Look for how to get involved in the policy process and getting selected as a delegate for that convention in a forthcoming CLC National News.

US President Donald Trump expands abortion ban overseas

On May 16, following his re-instatement of the Mexico City Policy (that bans funding for abortions abroad) back in January, Donald Trump introduced the 'Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance' policy which expands the Mexico City Policy to all international 'health assistance' programs. In other words, no foreign aid dollars are to be given to non-government organizations (NGO) and other groups that promote abortion and include abortion in connection with family planning. This decision was praised by American pro-life leaders who are now expecting Congress to 'finish the job' by completely defunding Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion provider in the United States.

The less money that pro-abortion organizations receive the better. However, with the United States distancing itself from its 8 years under the Obama administration as a leading exporter of abortion on demand, that title now belongs to Canada under Justin Trudeau. Trudeau's commitment of \$650 million towards abortion funding and abortion advocacy in the developing world has been devastating. We

definitely have our work cut out for us and more importantly we must do everything we can to encourage the official opposition under the leadership of the new leader of the Conservative Party of Canada Andrew Scheer, to challenge the current government on this file, and expose the ideological colonialism that Trudeau is championing.

B.C. elects minority government

On May 9, British Columbians voted in a minority Liberal government with 43 Liberal, 41 NDP and 3 Green seats in the legislature. On May 29, the Green party and the NDP cut a deal to overturn the Liberals, becoming an NDP minority government. This result marked the first non-majority government since 1952, as well as the end of a Liberal majority since 2001. It is important to note that the Liberal party in BC is supported even by some social conservative federal Tories and unlike the federal Liberals, the Liberal party in BC hasn't banned pro-lifers. This provincial election was also significant for the Christian Heritage Party who had its best showing in years. Rod Taylor, the current leader of the Christian Heritage Party (CHP) finished 3rd in the Stikine riding with 9.24% of the vote. This is a very encouraging showing versus the 5% he received the last time he ran in the riding. Ron Gray, the former leader of the CHP finished 4th in Abbotsford South with 4.32% of the vote.

Canadian 40 Days for Life leaders gather in Ottawa

On May 12, a day after the National March for Life, more than a dozen leaders from various 40 Days for Life campaigns across Canada attended a workshop facilitated by Steve Karlen, 40 Days for Life Director of North American Outreach who also spoke at the Youth Banquet the night before. After witnessing tremendous



Representatives from 9 Canadian 40 Days for Life campaigns attended a workshop in Ottawa put on by Steve Karlen, 40 Days for Life Director for North American Outreach

success by the 40 Days for Life program in the United States, Campaign Life Coalition brought it into Canada for the first time in 2007, holding our nation's first 40 day vigils in Ottawa and Halifax. Since then, CLC volunteers and other local pro-life groups have embraced the campaign, making it their own, and over the past few years, there have been 40 Days for Life campaigns in more than 20 cities across Canada. The workshop following the March for Life brought together representatives from Montreal (QC), Ottawa, Guelph, Toronto, Windsor, Mississauga, Oakville (ON), Winnipeg (MB), and Terrace (BC). The representatives were able to share stories and ideas, discuss goals and future plans, but most importantly, they were able to come together in fellowship and meet one another. If you would like to get involved in 40 Days for Life, the next campaign runs from September to November 2017. For more information go to 40daysforlife.com



View from the Hill during the National March for Life Rally. Photo Credit: Kevin Dunn

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 response 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.



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Dear Jim,

Please keep up the fight for Culture of Life. I want to help CLC continue to be a pro-life witness with my donation of:

\$10, \$30, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, \$10,000, Other \$ _____

Any amount would be greatly appreciated!

For my donation of \$30 or more I would like to receive a copy of the National March for Life *Rose Dinner Book*.

I would like to receive a copy of CLC's newly published *Estate Planning Guide*.

I am interested in joining the Rose Golf Tournament on September 7, 2017.

I wish to allocate, annually, \$20 of my donation to a subscription for *The Interim*. (*See over)

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