# CLC NATIONAL NEWS

AMPAIGN LIFE COALITION CANADA

**APRIL 2023** 

#### President's Message

What I love about Easter is that we now know that at the end of the battle, life wins. Christ by His resurrection proved for all time that death, including the culture of death, no longer holds dominion over those who believe in Him.

Some of the stories in this newsletter are certainly dark. You may be tempted to think that Satan is winning. I'm sure that's what the few disciples felt like when they stood by Jesus at the foot of the cross. We must remember that it was the moment when Satan appeared to have won the war by orchestrating Christ's murder that he was utterly defeated. It was through death that Christ conquered death.

So, whenever you are feeling defeated or like giving up, remember that the battle has already been won. We know the final score. God wins. Devil loses. Never forget that!

A blessed Easter. Christ has truly risen.

Yours for life,

Jeff Gumaisen

Jeff Gunnarson, National President





Photo credit: Shutterstock.com

### Parliamentarians recommend euthanasia for 'mature minors'

The Special Joint Committee on Medical Assistance in Dying, a bipartisan group of MPs and senators tasked with studying the country's euthanasia and assisted-suicide regime, tabled a reckless report in the House of Commons on Feb. 15. It called for an expansion of euthanasia in Canada, including that the lethal practice be expanded to include children, so-called "mature minors."

Recommendation 19 states: "That the Government of Canada establish a requirement that, where appropriate, the parents or guardians of a mature minor be consulted in the course of the assessment process for MAiD, but that the will of a minor who is found to have the requisite decision-making capacity ultimately take priority."

Alex Schadenberg, executive director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, translates: "parents or guardians may or may not be consulted, in the euthanasia death of a child that is deemed capable of decision-making." While advocates of medically killing children will point to the section that says parents or guardians be consulted, the important words are "where appropriate." Schadenberg also stated that the recommendation goes back to the policy developed by Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children and published in the Journal of Medical Ethics in September 2018 when the authors stated that there is no difference in a "mature minor" refusing life-saving treatment (which is allowed in most provinces) and a similar teenager consenting to be killed by euthanasia; the policy says Sick Kids encourages minors to involve their families in medical decisions. The recommendation limits child euthanasia to those whose deaths are "reasonably foreseeable" but considering

Contents

Pro-life nations prevail at UN	P. 1
Africa to Canada: We don't want abortion	P. 2
BC offers free contraception	P. 3
Ex-Trans Sues Over Sex-Change	P. 4
Fake-breasted teacher no longer teacher	P. 6

that this requirement lasted for only a few years in the original law, it is hardly a stretch to say that it is just a matter of time until this stipulation is dropped, too.

Thankfully, several Conservatives on the committee offered a dissenting opinion, saying that among the recommendations they do not endorse included those relating to "mature minors." There were several positive recommendations including improving access to palliative care and increasing financial support for people with disabilities. The report states that without increased support, "persons with disabilities might see [euthanasia] as a way to relieve suffering due to poverty and lack of services."



Photo credit: Shutterstock.com

## Pro-life nations prevail at UN, reject abortion, gender ideology

Campaign Life Coalition has been attending United Nations events since we answered the call of Pope John Paul II in the 1990s to counter the anti-life and anti-family agenda of feminist and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and certain governmental delegations who push abortion as a human right and advance a panoply of gender identities (at one point more than 50 of them).



CLC team at the UN in New York City, March 6, 2023

In the mid-1990s we sent groups to the major conferences in Beijing, Istanbul, and Lisbon, but recently we have been focused on the annual Commission on the Status of Women at the UN in New York City. We sent eight youth delegates – all young women – to this year's ongoing 67th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations. Our delegates created quite the buzz as we defended life and family. All of these young women were former CLC summer interns, and one of them was kicked out of a session simply because she was affiliated with CLC – that is, for being pro-life. Yes, the Commission on the Status of Women kicked a young woman out of an event because she did not share the organizers' radical views on killing preborn babies.

After several of the organizers huddled around the list of attendees, one of them approached one of our delegates and asked her to leave because her presence was making others "feel unsafe." Odds are most people in the room had no idea who she was or what her affiliation even meant. But the pro-abortion feminists running most of the show at the Commission certainly know about CLC and they could not countenance our presence. Fortunately, another one of our youth delegates slipped under the radar, so we were able to learn what they did not want us to hear: more promoting abortion as a woman's right, more promoting of contraception, and more diminishing the rights of families.

In recent years, we have co-hosted pro-life parallel events at the conference and hoped to do so again this year. However, applications for official parallel events now require prospective hosts to sign an attestation accepting woke ideology ("heterosexism as a "form of oppression," the "right to abortion"). We cannot sign such a document so we could not host an event. We have opposed this language at the UN for decades and our presence continues to cause consternation among pro-abortion NGOs and country delegates. While in New York, our group submitted a petition signed by thousands of our supporters, urging UN Women, the UN agency that organizes the Commission, to scrap this attestation. Our CLC representatives hand delivered the petition to the UN Women head office and copies of it to the embassies of the five member

states who sit on their board – Ukraine, Cameroon, Italy, Colombia, and Thailand. Our team will be following up with each embassy to ensure that these types of attestations and values tests are put to an end.

Even without hosting a parallel event, our youth attended dozens of events, asking panelists – everyone from feminist "experts" to government officials – hard questions about abortion, forcing them to either defend their pro-abortion statements or (as often) simply restating their position as if that were proof of their vehement statements. Another thing we do at the UN is support other pro-life groups and country delegations so that they know they are not alone in the fight to defend all human life. This work is important because politicians like Justin Trudeau and Joe Biden often appeal to UN agreements and documents to support their pro-abortion, anti-family agendas. Our work is vital to (at least) mitigate the damage. Working with like-minded NGOs, CLC co-signed a memo urging all member states to keep controversial and problematic language out of the outcome document which was being negotiated by member states.

Around 4am on Saturday March 11, members states ended negotiations by adopting the agreement. Many nations fought back against the imposition of a right to abortion and comprehensive sexuality education (an umbrella term for radical sex-ed for children, gender ideology, and the promotion of an LGBT agenda on minors), causing a massive pushback against the efforts of Trudeau's government, the Biden administration, and the European Union. This was a major victory for the pro-life and pro-family movement around the world. We are expecting a significant pushback to our pushback in the near future. Those who support abortion and seek to destroy the traditional family unit will come back with a vengeance so we must remain vigilant and continue to stay involved at the United Nations. Thank you in advance to everyone who supported our efforts with their sacrificial giving and prayers.

### African politician tells Canadian Govt.: We don't want your contraception, abortion



Ugandan Member of Parliament Lucy Akello at the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development, Ottawa, Canada, March 7, 2023

A Ugandan Member of Parliament along with a Nigerian representative told a Canadian federal Foreign Affairs Committee on March 8 that Africa does not need or want contraception and abortion exported from Western nations to develop, but instead needs education, housing, and clean drinking water.

"Our people are still loyal to religious truths and cultures," said Ugandan Member of Parliament Lucy Akello in person to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development that met on March 7 to discuss the topic of "sexual and reproductive health and rights of women globally."

The meeting opened with Elizabeth Sully of the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute lamenting to the committee about the overturn of Roe in the U.S. in the spring of 2022 causing the risk of "backsliding" on the "progress" Western nations have achieved in Africa and other countries in pushing contraception and abortion. Akello responded that African people see through the West's expensive marketing campaigns to make "abortion look good."

"The women I represent are able to see through this," she said. "We believe life starts from conception. And, where I come from, once conception takes place, it is life. And even when you get a miscarriage, that life is given a decent burial, irrespective of the sex. Africa generally finds abortion repugnant." She also took issue with the Western push for "comprehensive sexuality education" in her country, which is largely synonymous with promoting promiscuity, homosexuality, and gender-confusion. "The parents I represent see comprehensive sexuality education as an assault to the health and innocence of children," Akello said.

Akello concluded her presentation by recommending that the Canadian government along with Parliament direct foreign aid resources into "keeping the girl-child at school as opposed to giving them contraceptives." "Where I come from, there is a push to even put girls as young as 13, 14 on contraception. What does this do to a young girl? I also recommend that you respect Uganda as a sovereignty," she added.

Also addressing the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs was Dr. Theresa Okafor, Director of the Foundation for African Cultural Heritage. She spoke about how African people are "deeply concerned" about the "paternalism" and "imperialist approach" that has been used by Western countries, specifically Canada, in its aid to African nations. "Support for the African woman should not be one which strips her of her right to family stability, a right to raise her intellectual and moral compass, a right to economic empowerment, and social inclusivity, also known as, equity and proper health care. These rights are largely ignored and substituted with unsolicited rights to abortion — 'safe abortion,' whatever that means — contraception, comprehensive sexuality education, to mention a few."

Okafor pointed out, contrary to the non-African speakers at the committee meeting, that there is "no international right to abortion." She said that "it is increasingly plain" that foreign funding under Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy is "becoming less about aid, empowerment, health care, and poverty reduction, and more about ideological colonization." "Many African countries are overflowing with condoms and contraception from the West sent to us to fulfill a fictitious 'unmet need' for contraception when what we really need is water, food, housing, employment, and quality education that can break the intergenerational cycle of poverty," she said.

Answering a question later on, Okafor said that Africans "do not want imported values that actually prioritize sexuality in our continent," adding that the African continent can "only be uplifted from poverty when priority is given to the areas that need to be prioritized." "We need what can help [women] develop, and not necessarily prioritizing sex all the time, because I see that there is an obsession to sexualize our continent. And, that is the problem that we're having at the United Nations, when [instead] arguments should be focused on good governance, on employability, on quality education, on food, on clean water, on adequate nutrition."

Uganda is to be highly praised for strongly valuing life, family, and marriage. Ugandan MP Akello and Nigerian Dr. Okafor are to be lauded for their courage in facing the Canadian government and telling it to stop destroying the future of the African people through contraception and abortion. Campaign Life Coalition is extremely grateful to MP Akello and Dr. Okafor for sharing their expertise and testimony. A few years ago CLC produced a mini documentary followed by a conversation on Canada's foreign policy between Nigerian pro-life activist Obianuju Ekeocha and Canada's former ambassador to China David Mulroney. Their eye-opening conversation gives viewers an in-depth look into what we refer to as Canada's ideological colonization. You can watch the program at www.coercivediplomacy.ca.

### **BC** offers free contraception



Hormonal contraceptives. Photo credit: Shutterstock.com

We were dismayed to see BC forcing taxpayers to foot the bill of \$39 million to cover the cost of contraceptives to anyone who wants them. The province's 2023 budget and fiscal plan includes funding to "provide free prescription contraception for all B.C. residents starting April 1, 2023."

The pro-abortion group Action Canada was happy about the news. Why? Because every method of contraception fails at some point. Even groups like Planned Parenthood admit that the pill is only 91% effective while the condom is only 85% effective. And, when contraception fails, users turn to abortion as the back-up solution. Former abortion clinic owner Carol Everett revealed in 2014 how the industry promotes contraception knowing full well that it will lead to abortion.

Elizabeth Sully of the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute told the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development that met on March 7, 2023, in Ottawa that the real reason why abortion must be made available in the developing world is because of contraception. "Contraceptive methods fail," she said, adding "they all fail at some point or another. And so, we need a second line of defence – and that's safe abortion."

Even abortion activists admit that the data shows that most abortions are the result of failed contraception. "Most abortions result from failed contraception," stated Joyce Arthur, founder and executive director of the Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada. Arthur's statement parallels a prediction made in 1973 by Dr. Malcolm Potts, former medical director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, who stated: "As people turn to contraception, there will be a rise, not a fall, in the abortion rate." Even in 1955, problematic sexologist Alfred Kinsey stated that "we have found the highest frequency of induced abortions in the groups which, in general, most frequently uses contraception."

So, what happens when you flood a population with free contraception? You guessed it, an increase in abortion. Former Planned Parenthood facility director Abby Johnson has presented possibly the most convincing talks and articles on this common sense, cause and effect, natural law phenomenon that anyone can understand and accept. See "Sorry folks. Contraception access increases abortions. And here's the proof" on LifeSiteNews at lifesitenews.com/blogs/tell-methat-good-one-again-about-how-contraception-decreases-abortions/.

As more and more people engage in what they think is responsibility-free sexual relations by means of contraceptives, the number of "unwanted pregnancies" suddenly increases. For many people in this situation, abortion seems to be the only solution. So, as you can see, widespread use of contraception, instead of reducing the abortion rate, actually increases it.

And, did you know that many methods of contraception can terminate a new human life at its earliest stage? The primary

mechanism in many hormonal-based methods of contraception is to prevent ovulation from occurring thereby preventing fertilization from happening. A "backup" mechanism of some of these contraceptives if an egg is released and unites with a sperm, however, is the prevention of the newly-formed zygote from implanting on the uterine wall (endometrium) of the mother. Since a new human being is created at the moment of fertilization, contraception that acts in this way destroys human life and is abortifacient.

In 1994, Saint Mother Teresa had some sobering words about contraception. "The way to plan the family is natural family planning, not contraception. In destroying the power of giving life, of loving, through contraception, a husband or wife is doing something to self. This turns the attention to self, and so it destroys the gifts of love in him and her," she said. "In loving, the husband and wife must turn the attention to each other, as happen[s] in natural family planning, and not to self, as happens in contraception. Once that living love is destroyed by contraception, abortion follows very easily. That's why I never give a child to a family that has used contraception – because if the mother has destroyed the power of loving, how will she love my child?"

Did you catch that? Mother Teresa would never allow a contracepting couple to adopt one of her orphans because she knew that contraception had strangled love in their hearts. Yes, in her opinion, contraception destroys love, which leads to destroying life. Contraception feeds a culture of death. That's why all of us who live in the light and fight for a culture of life must always oppose the evil of contraception. We must fight for a day where fertility is cherished as a precious God-given gift and where men and women are never used as mere instruments for pleasure by means of contraception, but are valued, loved, and respected as whole persons, which includes their fertility.

### **Ex-Trans Sues Over Sex-Change**



Michelle Zacchigna

A 34-year-old Ontario woman who underwent top surgery and hormone injections to make herself look like a man is now suing the medical doctors who provided her with "gender-reassignment surgeries." Michelle Zacchigna from Orillia

believes she was seriously wronged more than a decade ago when medical professionals rolled out the red carpet for her, giving her everything she requested to aid her in her delusion that she was male.

Zacchigna began identifying as "transgender" in her young adulthood, having experienced no dysphoria beforehand. Less than a year after what she called "coming out to herself," she was prescribed synthetic testosterone which permanently virilized her voice and appearance. She underwent a bilateral mastectomy fourteen months later. Finally, eight years into her "transition," she had a medically unnecessary hysterectomy covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan.

"Each step involved irreversible alterations to my body and came with serious risks, but all were met with little challenge despite my longstanding history of mental health struggles and no indication of gender-related distress in adolescence or childhood," Zacchigna wrote online about her journey. "I am alleging that this lack of inquiry is a failure of due diligence amounting to medical negligence towards a vulnerable patient. I will live with the effects of this 'treatment' for the rest of my life."

The ex-trans woman said she is launching legal action not only to seek justice for herself, but, more importantly, to "raise awareness about the reckless nature of 'genderaffirming' health care." She says that while concerns about this issue have been raised internationally, with several countries altering their approach in response to systematic reviews of the evidence, here in Canada, "discussion about it has barely gotten off the ground. I hope to start the conversation."

Michelle is truly a hero for wanting to prevent this kind of abuse, this kind of mutilation, from happening to anyone else. Young people are being rushed far too quickly into irreversible mutilating procedures that do nothing to solve their dysphoria, and in fact, only increase their hatred of self. Tragically, many of these people cannot bear what they've become, and feel the only option is to end their lives. And many have.

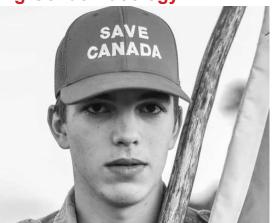
In response to the growing devastation

caused by transgenderism, especially among so many young people, CLC has launched a petition to the Prime Minister and to all the premiers of Canada, demanding that they ban the practice of mutilating and castrating children who struggle with gender dysphoria. Trying to change a child's God-given sex is not only misguided, but it's destructive and immoral. It's simply evil. Banning child "sex change" is a commonsense proposal that puts the health and well-being of children first.



Take action: Sign our petition to ban child "sex-change": clife.ca/banchildsexchange

Student arrested after opposing Gender Ideology



**Josh Alexander** 

You have probably heard by now of the 16-year-old Grade 11 student Josh Alexander who was expelled from St. Joseph's High School in the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board for opposing the board's policy of allowing transgender girls – that is biological males who identify as female – to use the girls' washrooms and change rooms.

The story made the National Post. Even American media like Tucker Carlson of Fox News have taken notice. Alexander expressed his religious belief that there are only two sexes and that people are either born male or female. This is also the moral teaching of the Catholic Church, of which the Catholic school board is part. He was given a 20-day suspension for organizing a school walkout in November in support of a girls' right to safely access female-only spaces. On Feb. 1, a permanent suspension for the rest of the school year was imposed when he tried to

#### Announcements

Place Ad In National March for Life Souvenir Book

Support the National March for Life (NMFL) by sponsoring a business advertisement or placing an "InMemoriam" message for a loved one in the 2023 NMFL souvenir book. Please contact Leeda Crawford at 416-538-**1390** or toll free at 1-800-730-5358. You can also email her at crawfordleeda@gmail. com. Each Rose Dinner guest will receive a copy of the book after the NMFL, and copies will also be available for purchase on marchforlife.ca. They are a great keepsake and souvenir from the NMFL experience. Your generosity helps with the enormous costs of putting on this important witness in the nation's capital and online through our week long programming. The cutoff date to place an ad is April 30, 2023.

# Start planning to attend National March for Life

The National March for Life is on Thursday, May 11. We hope to see you there. Visit marchforlife.ca for details. Order your tickets for the fabulous Rose Dinner following the March at marchforlife.ca/event/rose-dinner-2023/. Hurry, tickets are selling fast.



return to school. On Feb. 6, Alexander was arrested and charged when he arrived at school again.

To be clear, he was not arrested because he opposed the transgender ideology accepted by the school, but because he was trespassing. But it should never have arrived at this point. Even if his protest, and subsequent suspension and arrest occurred at a secular public school, it would be wrong because the Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects citizens' rights for religious freedom, but this is especially egregious at a Catholic school, as the RCCDSB has an obligation to uphold the moral teachings of the Catholic Church.

Sadly, the school board trustees have sided with St. Joseph's principal Derek Lennox and ruled that Josh Alexander cannot appeal his suspension. CLC launched a petition in support of the student, demanding the board apologize to Josh, lift the suspension, and change its bathroom policy so biological males cannot use girls' facilities on school properties. The petition, which has thus far garnered more than 5000 signatures, states: "His suspension is wrong, and represents an egregious act of anti-religious discrimination that is causing Catholics across the country to question this school board's faithfulness to Catholic teaching. This is NOT how a 'Catholic' school should behave."

We applaud Josh for "standing tall for his Christian beliefs" – one of the ironies of this brouhaha is that Josh Alexander is not even Catholic; as a devout Christian, he could not countenance the secularism of the public school system and chose to attend a Catholic school.



Take action: Support Josh Alexander by signing CLC's petition: bit.ly/3YH088Y

## School trustee opposes Catholic rally because CLC is sponsor



Markus de Domenico

The Lift Jesus Higher Rally, held on March 4, 2023, is an annual event for youth and adults that focuses on evangelizing through uplifting music, testimonials, reflections, Divine Mercy celebration and Eucharistic Adoration. The event provides speakers and music, opportunities for confession, and a Mass celebrated by Cardinal Thomas Collins. It is sponsored by Renewal Ministries, EWTN, The World

Among Us, the Archdiocese of Toronto, Gethsemane Miniseries, and Campaign Life Coalition.

During a Feb.16 presentation by a parent to the Toronto Catholic District School Board about the Lift Jesus Higher rally, trustees Garry Tanuan and Teresa Lubinski made statements in support of both the presentation and the rally,

but TCDSB trustee Markus de Domenico asked for a point of personal privilege during which he noted that CLC is a sponsor of the event and because of that fact, he would not inform his constituents, including parents and students, of the event. Specifically, he stated: "I would never recommend any of my constituents to go to an event sponsored by Campaign Life Coalition."

No one said anything in response to the implicit attack on CLC. In its Fall 2022 municipal voters' guide, CLC rated de Domenico as not supportable due to his voting record on LGBTQ issues, including a vote to change the board's Code of Conduct to accept gender identity and his opposition to faithful trustee Mike Del Grande. However, in 2019 CLC gave him a green-light because he signed a questionnaire that indicated he would support Catholic moral teaching, including on transgender ideology. We have called the trustee out for breaking his word after being elected.

Jack Fonseca, CLC's Director of Political Operations, said de Domenico "opposed a Catholic evangelization event whose mission is to bring souls to Jesus Christ, and at the same time opposed a pro-life organization whose primary goal is to save babies from pre-natal murder," adding that the trustee's statement "tells you all you need to know about trustee de Domenico." While de Domenico does not recommend people attend Lift Jesus Higher, he does promote Toronto's gay pride events in June. As CLC Director of Communications Pete Baklinski said, "trustee Markus de Domenico has proved by his voting record that he does not care in the least that the Toronto Catholic District School Board promotes total fidelity to the faith and moral teachings of the Catholic Church."

And now we see him opposing an event that helps Catholics deepen their faith. What a disgrace. We sent out an eblast to supporters in his ward following his comments to inform them about their trustee and encouraging them to contact us to volunteer on a campaign to defeat de Domenico in the next election, which, unfortunately, is not for another three years.

### Fake-breasted teacher no longer teacher

We are pleased to report that due to the public outrage over transgender Oakville teacher Kerry "Kayla" Lemieux in the Halton District School Board (HDSB), this teacher is no longer in a classroom. Lemieux was caught on camera wearing scandalous garb that included a wig and massive prosthetic breasts with protruding nipples. After the board dallied for months ignoring concerned parents' pleas, Lemieux has finally been placed on paid leave.

As we noted in an eblast, "It's certainly an indictment of the Halton District School Board that it took the better part of the school year to accomplish this great feat," which, if common sense had prevailed, would have occurred immediately upon the revelations in 2022. The case garnered international attention and more than 7000 of you signed our

petition demanding that the HDSB remove Lemieux from the classroom, and hundreds more filled out our postcards. The board initially stood behind the teacher saying that Ontario human rights law required them to support the teacher's cross-identity fetish.



Kerry "Kayla" Lemieux, as a male and as a female. Photo credit: Toronto Sun

The New York Post broke a story with photos that appear to show Lemieux out in public without his female garb, including prosthetic breasts. While sanity eventually prevailed, Director of Education Curtis Ennis and Superintendent of Education Sari Taha are still in charge, and their leadership is compromised by their insistence that a teacher could scandalize students with an appearance that the journalist Jonathan Kay says resembles pornographic Japanese anime. The Toronto Sun's Joe Warmington called it "ironic" that it was a picture of the Oakville teacher "reportedly dressed as a man — not ones of the shop instructor clothed as a busty woman — that led to that person's departure from the classroom."

### MP stuns with moving speech on not leaving mentally ill behind

It's often rare that our elected representatives in Parliament say something that's truly meaningful and profound. You've probably heard the joke about how to know if a politician is lying...his lips are moving. It's even rarer that an MP would quote from the Bible while making a presentation. But that's exactly what happened on February 13 when pro-life Conservative MP Richard Bragdon (Tobique—Mactaquac, NB) stunned the House of Commons with his speech in support of Bill C-39 that would delay the extension of assisted suicide to those with mental illness. During his speech, Bragdon quoted the most famous Psalm from the Bible, the one about the Lord being a shepherd. He quoted the following passage from that Psalm: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me." While he was quoting the passage, pro-life MP Leslyn Lewis could be seen in the background, softly speaking the words along with him.

Bragdon then explained what this passage means in relation to expanding assisted suicide to those who are mentally ill. "Death casts a very big shadow, and those of us who have lost loved ones know that pain and grief very well. Those who have lost family members and loved ones to suicide know how dark and deep that shadow is. However, there is hope that when we are traversing the very valley of the shadow of death, we can pass through and come out on the other side. There is hope for those who are battling mental illness, depression and anxiety; though it may feel permanent in the moment, there are many people who have traversed that valley and come out with hope and light again in their hearts and souls," he said.

Bragdon continued: "Primarily, it is because they came to the realization that they were not alone. They had loved ones who were with them, family who cared for them, neighbours who extended a hand and those who would run in when everyone else ran out of their lives. When it looked darkest, someone lit a candle in their night that brought hope. I am thankful for those who brought light to me in the darkened times of my soul. I hope that everyone in this room will take the pause that this bill would grant the House, be a light in a darkened place for those who are hurting and extend the hope that is in the valley of the shadow of death. We do not have to fear, but we can walk with people through the most difficult of seasons in their lives."

"Let us bring hope and life. Let us not encourage death or a culture of death but foster a culture of hope and life for those who most desperately need it," he concluded. Bravo to Bragdon for so eloquently capturing the essence of this issue. The entire assisted death regime (MAiD) is about leaving people behind instead of being present to them, shunning them instead of building relationships with them, and finally, killing them instead of caring for them. The only way to reverse course is for each one of us, personally, to begin to build meaningful relationships with the sick and the elderly in our communities, giving them a reason to hope and to live. The culture of death can only expand in a culture of abandonment. So, let us be present to those around us. Let us build meaningful relationships. And, let us not hide our light under a bushel basket.



Conservative MP Richard Bragdon (Tobique—Mactaquac, NB) stunned the House of Commons on February 13, 2023.

#### **CLC** in Action



March 4, 2023: CLC staff attended the Lift Jesus Higher Rally (LJHR) in Toronto where they ran exhibitor booths at both the youth and adult sections

where they talked to attendees about the sanctity of human life and the need to be more involved in the pro-life movement. This annual event focuses on evangelizing through uplifting music, testimonials, reflections, Divine Mercy celebration and Eucharistic Adoration.



CLC staff at the Lift Jesus Higher Rally.

March 10, 2023: CLC's Maeve Roche and Kim Headley drop off CLC's petition at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cameroon to the United Nations in New York urging UN Women to stop discriminating against pro-life and pro-family NGO's at the Commission on the Status of Women. Cameroon is one of five nations who sit on UN Women's executive board for 2022-23.



**CLC's Maeve and Kim** 

March 15, 2023: Maeve Roche and Kim Headley gave a presentation at Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College in Barry's Bay, Ontario. They got the chance to speak to approximately 60 students in the church basement about what CLC does, how youth can get more involved, and pitched our summer internship and upcoming youth summit and banquet to the students. Hanna Kepka was

also there and helped with the booth and mingled with students after the presentation.



CLC's Maeve and Kim at Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College.



Pro-abortion claim: Contraception decreases abortion.

Pro-life response: Historically, as contraception use in a population increases, so has the abortion rate. This is because contraception fails. When that happens, users turn to abortion as the back-up solution. Abortion activists admit that the vast majority of abortions are a result of failed contraception. In fact, the abortion industry capitalizes on contraception's failure mechanism as an opportunity to make money by peddling abortion. Using contraception closes a couple's heart to the gift of one another and to the gift of new life. It has no place in a culture of life.

As you can see from this CLC news, 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!

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