

In Defence of Life

Edmonton ProLife's Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 4

'educating for life'
2005

Fall

Fall into Change

Corry Morcos

President of Edmonton ProLife

As we gear up for our fall activities, we look back and are grateful for the excellent newsletter Paula and Eileen started 3 years ago. With your prayers and support, we will continue in the same vein, promoting and educating for life. We need you to book schools, youth and church groups for our excellent materials, such as Life Principles, fetal development and abstinence programs.

We are disheartened by recent government actions that promote a culture of death, such as Bill C-38, same-sex marriage legislation. Life comes only as a God-given gift, from a father and a mother. Promoting same-sex marriage is part of a culture of death, as no new life flows out of it, as is promoting no-child or one-child policy birth control, morning-after pill, abortion.

As a society we have lost the sense of children "being a blessing", and we are saddened to hear parents proclaim that "they cannot afford" more children. Actually, the economic survival of the nation (and the world) is at stake, as we inch towards negative population growth. Alberta has the highest birthrate in the country, 2.8% let us encourage young families bringing little ones into the world by being supportive in practical ways.

Another government initiative in the culture of death is the introduction of Bill C-407 by Bloc MP Francine Lalonde euthanasia bill. If passed, it would legalize euthanasia and assisted suicide in Canada.

Inside this Issue - Walkathon Insert

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8 – Partner Groups, Crisis Pregnancy, Membership

Please see the article inside or go to the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition Website.

Regarding the slippery slope, we are all familiar with Holland, which has legalized euthanasia now for over 20 years. They have added a lower age (12 and up), no consent (thousands yearly), "tired of living" as a reason, and now children with "severe" disability. Once the door opens, there is no stopping. We were reassured to hear Dr. Phillopos speak on the life-affirming attitude of the Edmonton neonatologists, as you can read in this issue.

Our greatest hope lies with our children and youth, who see issues of life so clearly as black and white, uncompromising. Promote the ASLAN youth conference by sending your children/grandchildren, or support financially youth who cannot afford it.

You can also help by ensuring an insert in your church bulletin or announcement for the Life chain. We will proclaim that the right to life, if denied, negates any other human right.

Dr. Carroll spoke on the Abortion /Breast/ Cancer link. We believe women will choose health and life over the "right to choose" if they know the facts. We will have a copy of his talk in the office.

Treasure you God-given family. Corry

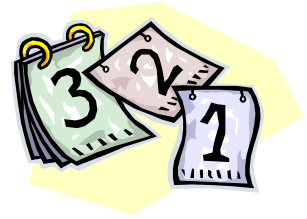
Hello Faithful supporters!

This is the first edition of the newsletter with Karen doing the layout and contributing

Please feel free to offer your ideas comments and suggestions. Hope to see you at the walkathon and Life Chain.



Upcoming Events



- **August 26, 2005 - Thursday from 4 to 5 pm and the last Thursday of every month.** Join Edmonton prolife for an hour of peaceful, prayerful activism against the daily slaughter of innocent babies. Morgentaler Abortion Clinic: 12490 109A Avenue.
- **September 6, 2005 - Edmonton Prolife bimonthly meeting.** All members are welcome to attend. Edmonton Prolife Office #212 11125 107 Avenue. Meeting begins at 7:30, pm we welcome you and hope to see you there. Call the office at 425-1637 for more information.
- **September 17, 2005 - 18th Annual Love Them Both Walkathon.** Saturday from 8:30 to Noon. This is our only fundraiser please consider helping us to build a culture of life. Check the **insert** inside this newsletter or call the office 425-1637 to register or for more info.



- **October 2, 2005 – International Life Chain.** A Peaceful Prayerful witness to the truth. Please consider standing in solidarity with the unborn for one hour from 2:30 to 3:30 pm at Stony Plain Road and 149 Street. Details inside the newsletter.
- **November 17, 18, and 19, 2005 - National Pro-life Conference 2005.** Montreal, Quebec. Sponsored by Life Canada and Campaign Life Coalition. Call 1-866-780-5433 for more information and to register.

Join *Rock for Life Edmonton* in an hour of peaceful, prayerful activism against the daily slaughter of innocent babies. Morgentaler Abortion Clinic: 12490, 109 A Ave.

Please call the office for dates or email Rock for Life
For more information, email edmontonrockforlife@yahoo.ca

For information on any of the above events, call the Edmonton Prolife office at **425-1637** or email us at edmpl@interbaun.com

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Layout Editor: Karen Richert

EPL Board: President: Corrie Morcos, Treasurer: Glen Woolger, Recording Secretary: Anne Wansink, Director: Judy Koopmans

Office Manager: Karen Richert

New board members welcomed. Meetings held bimonthly first Tuesday, 7:30 pm, at EPL office. All EPL members welcome to attend



There is no site like it!

www.edmontonprolife.org

continues as a resource for pro-lifers in the Greater Edmonton Area. Visiting the site, you'll find a calendar of events, past newsletters, pro-life resources, and information about crisis pregnancy aid and post-abortion counseling.

AGM speaker 3rd May 2205 "Life and death in the nursery" Dr. Ernest Phillopos

Dr. Phillopos is the Med. Director of Neonatology at the U of A Stollery Children's Hospital. He spoke to us about the Edmonton protocol of care regarding children born with severe disabilities. Holland has adopted as policy the Groningen protocol, which actively allows for babies with disabilities being euthanised, even against parental wishes. The life-affirming attitude of all care-givers at the Stollery was very re-assuring. All efforts are made to save the life of the child, or to treat even with the smallest hope of success. Parents decisions on the side of life overrule any medical advise for non-treatment. If death is inevitable, the child is kept as comfortable as possible, but not to hasten death. Several parents were present who had given birth to extreme preemies (24-26 weeks). Many questions were answered in a very satisfactory way for all present.

Palliative care in Edmonton

Palliative care is the only way to help loved-ones in their end-of-life care, units are in many extended or long-term care facilities. The most well-known are in the Edmonton General Hospital and the Grey Nuns Hospital. A day unit is functioning through Pilgrims Hospice. An Annual conference is organized by the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care right here in Edmonton, 25-28 September 2005, Shaw conference Centre. If you like to be educated on this issue, or feel called to serve, plan to attend. Info on website: palliative.org

Post Card Campaign

Ron Gordon from Athabasca Prolife has initiated a card-sending campaign, in which Mr. Klein and a local MLA receive a red card/day for a whole year, reminding them of the abortion issue. Edmonton Prolife is participating by taking a turn, and in the month of August a card/day will be sent on your behalf. If you would like to participate call the office.

Euthanasia

Bloc MP Francine Lalonde introduced a private members bill: an Act to amend the Criminal Code (right to die with dignity) in the House of Commons. If passed, it would legalize euthanasia and assisted suicide in Canada. This bill is not about allowing a "death with dignity" but to legalize euthanasia and assisted suicide for people suffering chronic physical and mental pain. They do not have to have tried effective treatment beforehand and have to appear "lucid". Any person can assist in the suicide, as long a medical doctor is present. So, this bill allows a person to kill another person, if that person asks to die. You will need to be careful about what you say to physicians, family, friends or care-givers on a bad day. If you say you wish to die, and say it again 10 days later, your wish may be granted, and you have exercised your obligation to die. Vulnerable people need protection and help, not be killed. This bill HAS to be defeated." Canada has identified a suicide problem among its youth, and we have responded, "How can we prevent it"? Canada has identified a suicide problem among Aboriginal peoples and we have responded, "How can we prevent it"? Canada has identified a suicide problem among people with disabilities and we have responded, "How can we assist them to kill themselves"? Gary McPherson, Chair, Alberta Premiers Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities.

Billboards

Edmonton Prolife will be sponsoring two billboards; one in August, relating to post abortion help and one in October relating to the Abortion Breast Cancer link. If you would like to help with these projects please call the office.

Elder Abuse, Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide:

Must We Consider the Link?

Phil Prins who has been employed in the field of labour relations for 15 years has completed a paper on the issue of Elder Abuse and abuse of the vulnerable.

His focus was on the attitudes that lead to the acts of abuse. Phil asks the question: Since elder abuse and abuse of vulnerable persons has become so prevalent in our society, would legalizing euthanasia or assisted suicide lead to death becoming the ultimate form of abuse.

The answer to the question isn't self-evident.

Phil analyzes the current legal and social culture in Canada in relation to elder abuser. He studied government and private reports on the incidence and nature of abuse. Incidents of assisted suicide in the State of Oregon and incidents of euthanasia in the Netherlands are discussed. Books written by advocates of legalizing assisted suicide are studied.

Phil then points out the "disarming connections" between elder abuse and assisted suicide.

These connections are not only based on individual cases but also on the attitudes that are clearly evident in places where euthanasia or assisted suicide is accepted.

A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the office.

Nursing Home Violence

What Abuse or Neglect is:

~Understaffing which results in warehousing elders rather than ethical care. Bedsores, weight-loss, malnutrition. In the U.S. fines of over \$1,000 a day may be imposed for such abuse and neglect.

~Failure to feed or hydrate elder when elder unable to feed his/her self; resulting in starvation, dehydration and death.

~Failure to give fluids to reduce trips to bathroom resulting in bladder infections, dehydration, confusion & even death.

~Chemical restraint by administering medication to keep elder quiet, compliant, manageable, cheaper to house, which may result in confusion or even falls and injuries.

~Diapering though not incontinent. Refusal to assist elder to bathroom, scolding when elder soils

him/herself. Elder diapered, then administered laxatives & instructed to soil him/her self-resulting in mental destabilization.

~Restraints, failure to get elder up out of bed Gerry chair used as restraint or to discipline elder. Assault such as hitting, pinching, kicking, slapping shoving.

~Verbal abuse such as scolding, cursing and shouting. Theft of elder's belongings frequently referred to as missing or lost items. Elderly at risk of injury by placing in same room or close proximity to physically aggressive or demented persons.

~Safety Issues: No fire safety Discipline: isolating elder, denying food, medication. Eviction because of elder's or family's expressed concerns about facility or food or quality of care Threats such as, "We will send you to Alberta Hospital" or "Maybe you should find somewhere else for momma /papa".

~Failure to provide privacy, silence (overcrowding).

~Failure to provide mental/social stimulation.

~Failure to provide safe ethical nursing care; harmful care by untrained persons; causing pain when transferring elder, Inedible or inadequate food, inappropriate diet.

~Failure to provide palliative care.

~Failure to spend elder's monies/assets for his/her care, comfort Competent senior declared incompetent, detained in institution, family, trustee take control of money, estate.

Reprinted from the Elder Advocates Website

"Rise in the presence of the aged, and honour the face of the old man. . ." - Leviticus 19:32



The Life Protecting Power of Attorney – A Good Alternative to Living Wills

After the death of Terri Shiavo many people continued to ask questions regarding their own personal state of affairs regarding the care they would need if they became incapable of making decisions for themselves. Who will provide for their care? Who will make care decisions for them? Even our current provincial government is reviewing the Dependent Adults Act and the Personal Directives Act. You can access information about the act at <http://www.phen.ab.ca/perdir/index.html>

Although it may be difficult to imagine a time when you may not be able to make your own decisions, for some people this reality can come far too soon. Often times we reject the idea of a “living will” for we see this as a tool to permit or request someone to kill us when we feel we are a burden to others and no longer want to live or when others would not want us to live, because they see us “suffering”.

We know that death is a natural event that happens, our goal is to ensure that it remains that way. There are many types of Living Wills, Advanced Directives and Power of Attorney. We urge you to carefully examine the contents of these documents to ensure you have not unintentionally signed a document that will remove basic delivery of food, hydration and antibiotics if you are unable to provide that to yourself.

You need to be aware that signing a Living Will or Power of Attorney document that was written by your lawyer may be detrimental to the level of medical care you receive when needed.

If you have already signed a document please check it over. If you do not understand the language used get clarification or get a new document.

No Living Will in existence could begin to cover the myriad of possible future medical problems. Please consider obtaining the “Life Protecting Power of Attorney. By signing this document, you place possible future decisions for your medical treatment in the hands of someone you trust in the event you are incapacitated.

If you have not signed a directive for personal care, please consider purchasing the “Life Protecting Power of Attorney for Personal Care”. This document was written by the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition in order to protect you.

This document is available for \$10.00 please call the office, 425-1637 to request your copy today.

Palliative Care & A Caregivers Guide **A handbook about end of life care**

Produced by Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association and The Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

In the long and often painful journey one goes through when a life threatening illness overtakes a loved one, family caregivers are always those that suffer along with the patient; yet their needs are often overlooked.

When we think of the dying, our first thoughts are with respect to the dying person. But the assistance provided by family caregivers is often the cornerstone of the care the family member receives.

Palliative care, often referred to as hospice care, describes the care and support offered to people in their final stages of life.

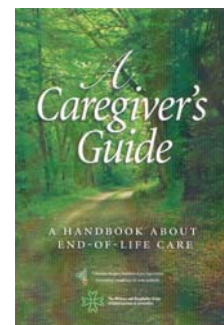
Whether someone spends his or her last days of life at home or in a hospice, hospital or long term care facility; palliative care and home care workers and family caregivers strive to improve the quality of that person's life. They provide physical, spiritual and emotional support while respecting the dying person's wishes and quality of life.

A Caregivers Guide presents family caregivers the medical and nursing information they will need in clear, easily understood language. This will help them to understand the journey upon which their loved ones have embarked, to become effective, informed members of the palliative care team and to provide essential physical, spiritual and emotional support. Sharing this journey with a loved one can be demanding but it is also one of the greatest gifts friends and families can share.

This book is available FREE of charge. If you would like a copy please call the office at 425-1637

Be near me when my light is low”

In Memoriam
Alfred, Lord Tennyson



Please note the Palliative Care Conference on page 3

Are You going to be Attending the University of Alberta in the Fall?

One of the best-kept secrets on campus is the campus pro-life group. If you are looking for a group where you can feel at home please check out their new website.

www.ualberta.ca/~prolife/

Find information on the club's meetings and activities, as well as links to pro-life resources.



Calling All Youth

ASLAN

(Alberta Students for a Life Affirming Nation)
exists to inspire and encourage youth.

1 Timothy 4:12

"Let no one disregard you because you are young, but be an example to all believers in the way you speak and behave and in your love, your faith and your purity."

Special Guest Speaker: Wendy Lowe

"The Next Great Generation" - Living Life Fully with Great Love and Respect

Wendy Lowe is the Executive Director of the Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre. She speaks throughout North America on crisis pregnancy issues and youth sexuality, challenging young people to abstinence. Wendy has just finished co-authoring a book on adoption titled, "Affirming the Birthmother's Journey". Wendy will be speaking to us about living lives that are full. She along with others think that today's teens are the next great generation. She believes that our culture has a warped view of love and relationship and will be challenging us to lead our generation to a real understanding of what it means to live a full life, with great love and respect. Love and respect are not possible apart from a full commitment to the value of every single life. Wendy will make you think, laugh and most importantly desire more for your life.

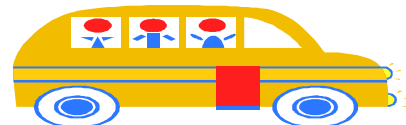
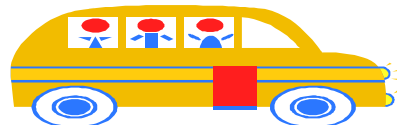
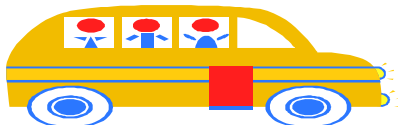
Special Music by: PROFILE

Early Bird registration only \$20

Great Youth Group Activity

Register online at www.albertaprolife.com

**Edmonton Prolife will be providing FREE Transportation to Westlock.
Please call Karen at 425-1637 to reserve your seat on the bus!**



What is the Purpose of the Edmonton ProLife LIFE CHAIN?

The Edmonton ProLife Life Chain will provide a visual statement of solidarity by our local community that abortion is grievously wrong and that the majority of people are opposed to the unmerciful killing of preborn children.

Please try to visualize 1000 or more Edmonton and area residents standing 10 feet apart on both sides of Stony Plain Road and 149 Street for many city blocks, while holding signs that read; *Abortion Hurts Women, Abortion Kills Children, See the World Through Your Childrens Eyes, Thank you Mom for giving Me Life, Women Deserve Better than Abortion, and Life: The First Inalienable Right.*

Our Prayerful witness is scheduled for one hour, 2:30 to 3:30 PM, on Sunday, October 2, 2005, Stony Plain Road and 149 street and we hope that you would consider it an extension of your regular worship on the Lord's Day.

An estimated 10,000 Babies are killed annually in Alberta, 5,000 of those right here in Edmonton, by abortionists who are paid with your tax dollars. This powerful Life Chain on October 2, 2005 will offer strong encouragement and hope for reducing that number.

With your firm support, we are confident of reaching our goal of 1,000 Life Defenders. Please join with us. Let us invest one hour to save a lifetime.



National Life Chain Sunday 2005 October 2 (2:30 - 3:30 PM)

What Is Life Chain?

It's a "prayer chain" and public (sidewalk) witness against abortion. Come; let us seek God's divine intervention for the healing of our community and nation.

Who Should Attend?

The Edmonton and area Christian Community and all who are willing to defend human life against abortion. Bring the family including a chair for elderly relatives

Come, Let Us Pray:

- For our personal repentance and for spiritual awakening in our community and nation
 - For unborn children's protection and for legalized abortion to end in America
 - For God to convict and draw to Him abortionists and all who defend them
- For all who witness our Life Chain, that their eyes and hearts will accept the truth
 - For our Christian leaders that they will extol Godliness, whatever the cost
 - For our public officials, that they will uphold justice and righteousness
 - For God's anointing and divine use of 950+ Life Chains in U.S. & Canada (Pastors are invited to add prayer topics for their own congregation)

For Edmonton's Location in the Life Chain Call 425-1637

Edmonton Prolife: Working With Others for Life

Life Canada - Edmonton Prolife is an Associate Member of Life Canada, the national Pro-Life educational group. The object of Life Canada is the establishment and operation of a national association of local and provincial educational pro-life groups across Canada. In co-ordination with local groups, they seek to foster and promote public understanding and knowledge of life issues. *Life Canada News* is published six times a year. To subscribe to *Life Canada News* or to read back issues, go to www.lifecanada.org

Pregnant? Need Help?

Edmonton Crisis Pregnancy Centre
Ph: (780) 482-5111

Pregnancy Counseling Centre
Ph: (780) 424-2624

Alberta Pro-Life - Edmonton Prolife is affiliated with Alberta Pro-Life, the provincial pro-life umbrella group. A portion of your membership fee goes to support their work with local and national groups to effect change in our society. *The Rose* is published four times a year. To read *The Rose* online, go to www.albertaprolife.com

AFT (Join an exclusive club)

What is AFT and how can you join? AFT simply means Automatic Funds Transfer. It is an easy way to support Edmonton Prolife all year round in a very simple way. The "box in the box below" begins "Join now for easy monthly giving". Please, consider becoming an AFT donor. It is the key to stable funding and is therefore so very appreciated by your Edmonton Prolife Board. Your monthly donation need not be large. The average monthly donation is around \$10.00. Your annual membership fee will be covered by the monthly donations. If you have any questions on how you can set up your AFT, please, give Karen a call. She would love to hear from you. Finally, I want to thank all of you who have so generously given of your time and resources to keep us up and working in defence of life.

Thank you, Corry



Clip out and send to Edmonton Prolife, 212, 11125-107 Ave, Edmonton, AB T5H 0X9

Yes, I would like to help Edmonton Prolife in their work in defence of life.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Annual Membership Fee (\$20) _____

Donation _____

Total Payment Enclosed _____

Payment Options

Cheque

Visa

MasterCard

Card # _____

Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Join now for easy monthly giving

Monthly giving is an easy way to spread your generosity out over the year and provide a stable base of funding for Edmonton Prolife programs. Your annual membership fee will be covered by the monthly donation.

I authorize Edmonton Prolife to withdraw \$_____ (minimum \$5) from my bank account on the 5th day of each month. My personal bank cheque marked VOID is enclosed.

Signature _____

Date _____

Memberships and donations are tax deductible. Charitable Registration #118894047



Our Aims and Objectives

To promote respect for all human life from conception to natural death.

To uphold and defend the right to life, the basic human right on which all other rights depend.

To contribute to the understanding of the people of Edmonton and the surrounding areas, by education, that society has a duty to protect this right.

We are committed to peaceful actions to fulfill our mission.

Cheques payable to **Edmonton Prolife**

(3:3)