

# In Defence of Life

## Edmonton Prolife's Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 2

'educating for life'

Spring

2006

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### BABY BUST!

"The modern population explosion was sparked, not because people suddenly started breeding like rabbits, but rather they finally stopped dying like flies. It was not that fertility rates soared, rather mortality rates plummeted. Since the start of this century, the average life expectancy at birth for a human being has doubled, it may have more than doubled" Nicholas Eberstat.

The population control agencies, especially United Nations organizations, are still spouting their outdated mantras that the world population is rising at an alarming rate, and the planet cannot sustain this unbridled growth. Reality however shows that the world's population is plateauing and by the middle of this century will be in actual decline. Most economies around the world will rely on immigrants to correct the imbalance of working age contributors to an aging population drawing benefits, pegged at 1: 2 by mid-century.

How did we get to this? We all know that the introduction of birth control in the mid 60's had an impact, as was the separation of sexual intercourse from procreation and easy abortions. Heavy taxation on families has taken a toll. Materialism makes children another "add-on" to have. Even so, if parents genuinely believe that having children is desirable, personally and for the good of society, the birth rate would have stayed above replacement levels.

We know that the "culture of death" really has taken hold through intense individualism, the "me" generation. Beyond "me", there is no partnering, coupling, childbearing, and continuation of the human race. Even large financial incentives, as in Quebec and France, have not impacted the fertility rate. In

Germany, 40% of women do not have children, as a career takes priority.

This week an article describes that 87% of college students engage in "cyber sex": cold, impersonal, fantasy. The loneliness though is greater than ever.

As persons who believe in the gift of life, how can we influence the culture around us? We can educate our teens about the beauty of sexual purity and joy within marriage, encourage young families to be open to God's gift of children, teach in our churches the concept of blessings and provisions through faith and fellowship. Anyone of any age can share warmth and friendship through hugs, touch, meals, hospitality, and clothing.

An IpsosReid poll this week showed that the majority of teens prefer to talk to their parents about sexuality, more so than with peers and sex educators. We invite all parents (and grandparents) to come and listen to our AGM speaker Margo Boisvert, who helps teens and parents to share on this topic and distinguish between fact and fiction.

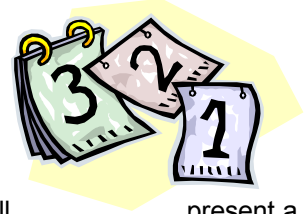
Our mandate to educate on life issues brought us to the Law Court Building, in commemoration of the 1988 abortion law decriminalization. We have posted more billboards, one still on campus, a new one in downtown Edmonton asking for justice for mother and the unborn.

As part of the greater prolife family, we are organizing a vigil at the abortuary during the Alberta Prolife conference, for all to attend in unison.

Bring the popcorn for our movie night, showing "The Island", with discussion to follow (see movie review).

We are so grateful for our speakers, who share real life experiences and consequences, insight and hope. Edmonton Prolife recently had some moms speak of their real life experiences, being involved with the prolife movement, but at the same time being part of family life with all its ups and downs, challenges and rewards. The testimonials help us realize that we are in the forefront of the battle for life, and that we need the understanding and support of the wider community to carry on. Many are available to speak to any group, give us a call!  
Corry

## Upcoming Event



- **March 6 – 12 Bioethics Week**  
Wednesday, March 08, 2006, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Organizational Ethics for Healthcare: The "New Kid on the Block". Everyone Welcome! For more information, please phone 492.6676
- **March 11, 2006 – Banquet and Social with Michael Coren.**  
Mr. Coren is a broadcaster, columnist, author and advocate of family life. Michael will present a voice of reason in a non-reasoning society. Laced with humor and good advice, Michael is guaranteed to entertain and inspire. Call 998-3163 for more information.
- **March 27, 2006, 7:30 pm Movie Night – The Island**  
Come watch the movie, and share your thoughts. See review on page 7. Edmonton ProLife Office. Call Karen at 425-1637 for more information
- **April 24, 2006 Edmonton ProLife AGM**  
Edmonton ProLife annual General Meeting 7:30 pm, Guest speaker will Margo Boisvert who will share her work as a chastity speaker in local schools, at 8pm Edmonton ProLife Office, please call Karen at 425-1637 for more information
- **April 28-30, 2006 - Rachel Vineyard Retreat – Post Abortion Healing**  
An Inter-denominational Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion, miscarriage or stillbirth, will be held in Edmonton and Rural Area, April 21-23, 2006. The retreat is a confidential and emotionally safe environment for those struggling after abortion, stillbirth, or miscarriage. Contact Marlene at [MAJButterflies@aol.com](mailto:MAJButterflies@aol.com), Carla at 780-963-4048 or visit [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org)
- **May 11 to 13, 2006 – Annual March For Life**  
Ottawa Ontario, national event more info at [www.lifesite.net](http://www.lifesite.net)
- **May 12, 2006 – Anniversary of the passing of the Omnibus Bill**  
On May 14, 1969 the omnibus bill was passed opening the door to abortion on demand. Prayer vigil held at Morgentaler clinic 4:30 to 5:00 pm in conjunction with the APL conference.
- **May 13, 2006 – Provincial ProLife Conference - “Feminism: Redefining Motherhood?”**  
King’s University College in Edmonton. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Julie Parton of the Life Training Institute and former director of Focus on the Family’s Pregnancy Resource Ministry.
- **Klondike Days 2006** – Volunteers are needed to make this event successful please call the office if you want to reserve you shift early
- **Join others in an hour of peaceful, prayerful activism against the daily slaughter of innocent babies. Morgentaler Abortion Clinic: 12490, 109 A Ave.**

Every Wednesday from 10:00 am to 11:00 AM

The third Sunday of every month. Candle light Rosary at 7:30 pm. Contact Maryellen at 476-4026

Last Thursday of the month from 4 to 5 pm (EPL sponsored)

Rock for Life holds Mercy services every Wednesday evening at 7 pm [edmontonrockforlife@yahoo.ca](mailto: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](mailto:edmpl@interbaun.com)

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Edmonton Prolife held its annual peaceful protest over the Supreme Court decision to decriminalize abortion in 1988. The Law Courts Building was the place of the protest, with 50 persons (women, men, children, young and old) coming together with signs stating the humanity of the unborn. This year there was no counter-demonstration, and some interviews were conducted.

Edmonton Prolife was invited to and participated in a prolife conference, organized by Lutherans for Life, through Concordia University College. Exc. Dir. Mr. Lamb, of the US based Lutherans for Life, was the main speaker, with other workshop presentations on Biotechnology, Post-Abortion Counseling, Risky Sexual Behaviour, and How to talk to your kids about sex. It was good to connect with other prolife organizations and build together a stronger network.

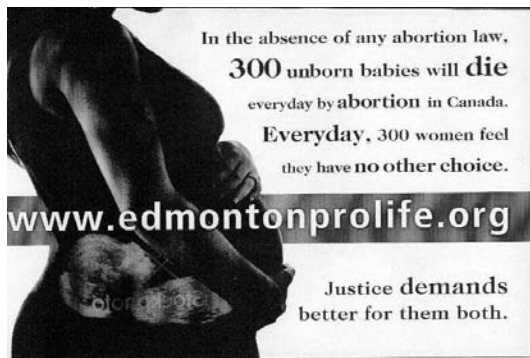
U of A Campus Prolife held its first ever one-day booth and poster workshop for prolife organizations. It was a very useful educational tool for all passing through the Student Union Building. Edmonton Prolife participated and will continue to support Campus Prolife and other youth groups

Casting Call

for Edmonton Prolife's FUNdraiser

"Dancing with Zoe" professionally coordinated by drama teacher MB Mitchell. Do you enjoy live theatre? Would you like to act and help Edmonton Prolife in its educational mandate? "Dancing with Zoe" is the story of a mentally handicapped woman who polarizes a family and the townspeople of "Welcome, Alberta", by her outrageous, yet childlike antics. She naively lavishes kindness and affection on everyone, even to those who berate her. When the town is about to be visited by a CBC documentary film crew, a vocal minority goes through the paces of temporarily ridding itself of this embarrassing town "mascot" during the week of filming. She also unwittingly becomes the catalyst in the healing of some relationships and in the revelation of a family secret. For more information please call Karen at 425-1637 or 980-9686

Edmonton Prolife has a new billboard ad located at the Provincial Court House. Our goal is to keep the prolife issues in the public eye. We hope to be able to locate some near the university LRT. If you would like to help sponsor more of these ads please call the office at 425-1637. Thank you.



- Help Wanted** – Looking for someone who could do paint some illustrations on our prolife office window. No Pay but great Benefits!
- Wanted** – Looking for people who have left over baby yarn, or people who would like to donate baby yarn, for our knitters.
- Wanted** – Nursing Students and Nurses – Canadian Nurses for Life is organizing a student wing to bring together prolife nurses, for support and encouragement. We need prolife nurses! Call 1-613-728-8125.

**Income Tax Time!**

Its Income Tax time and you may want to consider filing this form with your income tax.

"I wish to protest the use of my tax money to support in Alberta and on the federal level the legalized killing known as abortion. I wish to have it known that, in spite of my protest, I am forced to participate in the taking of human life. I would like this statement to be permanently filed with my Tax Return to show that this involvement is involuntary and against the dictates of my conscience."

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Insurance Number

Date

## **The Overpopulation Lie Mass abortion, 'gendercide,' and contraception, leading to under- population crisis**

Excerpts from Catholic Insight

It is perhaps the single greatest disinformation campaign in human history: The planet is grossly overpopulated, and unless something is done to limit human population growth, calamity will ensue. Many people and governments heeded this call. Programs were developed to slow population growth and society obliged, sometimes unwillingly, to make the wishes of the population controllers a reality.

### **Be careful what you wish for**

After decades of "family planning" policies to contain the world's population the world is facing a different population crisis: rapidly decreasing birthrates and longer life spans. The current population problems cannot be solved by medical discoveries, technology or government programs. The only way to solve this problem is to have more children!

### **Pro-life warnings**

Pro-life leaders have for many years warned that the widespread availability of abortion and the promotion of contraceptives would lead to a crisis in population. Their cries, of course, were ignored, but history is about to vindicate them. Today, in the face of plunging birth rates in much of the Western world, more is being heard about the "population implosion" and the "birth dearth". Never have birth and fertility rates fallen so far, so low, for so long, in so many places. One example is Europe, which has now seen 45 consecutive years of fertility decline.

### **Population Implosion**

There are now 6 billion people on Earth. The planet's population will most likely continue to climb and will peak out at 7.5 to 9 billion, by 2050, it will then go into a sharp decline. The world may soon be facing an *under-population* crisis -- a prospect that has all but escaped world wide scrutiny.

### **Fertility Decline and Aging Population**

The world's population is aging and in decline. As fertility rates fall and abortion, contraception and life spans increase, the world will soon enter a new reality

in which the elderly outnumber the young. The UN adds that the fertility decline in countries such as Italy, Spain and Japan is beginning to have profoundly negative implications. An ever-increasing proportion of older people will have the effect of overtaxing social security systems, pension funds and health-care facilities. It is thought that even massive immigration will not be enough to save such countries from the consequences of below-replacement fertility rates. How will the young view the elderly? We are starting to see a thin wedge of euthanasia here in Canada. As the elderly become a greater majority of the population and require greater resources to care for them, will the young value their contributions to society or simply write them off as a drain on their lifestyle? (See previous edition of "In defense of Life" for emerging Canadian euthanasia issues).

### **World population plummets**

Since 1965, fertility in less developed regions of the world has fallen from six to fewer than three births per woman. The UN now also predicts that by 2050, 80 per cent of the world's population will have below-replacement (2.1 children per family) fertility rates. Japan, if it continues its current abortion policies, and fails to raise its average birth rate of 1.4 children per married couple, will have fewer than 500 people by the year 3000, a pronouncement of Japan's Ministry of Health and Welfare.

(<http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2004/s1053090.htm>)

*The world is not  
overcrowded.  
There is no  
overpopulation crisis.  
People are not the  
problem.  
People are the  
solution!*

### **Overpopulation and the Poverty Myth**

Many people cite poverty as a reason to limit population growth, particularly in densely populated areas. The major cities in Asia -- Bangkok, Seoul, Singapore, Tokyo and Hong Kong -- are considered overpopulated, but prosperous nevertheless. Clearly overpopulation does not lead to poverty. For example, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan are very densely populated and are some of the richest nations in Asia, if not the world. Taiwan has a population density of 1,460 per square mile, while China has a population density of 360 per square mile. Yet, according to the CIA's "World Factbook 1999," Taiwan's per capita gross domestic product is \$16,500, while China's is \$3,600. But read on, China does have something that Taiwan does not

### **Gendercide**

The communist government of China has had a one-child policy for much of its history, but even now the Chinese government is beginning to question that policy. As most Chinese want sons, they abort the

females on a massive scale. It is not uncommon for a Chinese family to murder its two- or three-year-old daughter if the mother becomes pregnant again with a boy. Within 100 years, China will have far more boys than girls. South Korea faces a similar problem. Because of abortion of females, kindergartens in Seoul today have around 60 percent boys. Who will Korean and Chinese men marry? Is this the great future that these countries really want for their people? What have they accomplished with their population controls?

### **And what of Canada?**

The situation in Canada is as dire as in the rest of the developed world. In hard numbers, Canada's fertility rate stands at an all-time low of 1.5 children per woman, far below the 2.1 replacement rate. Media reports, newspaper columnists, and the Bureau of Statistics never mention the true causes of this decline, which all pertain to the "permissive morality"-contraception, abortion, sterilization, vasectomies, homosexuality, and pornography. "Increasingly, we've become so materialistic, our wants and desires are so high," observed Dr. Berna Skrypnek, a professor of human ecology at the University of Alberta. Canadians are waiting longer than ever to get married, with the average age of a newly wed man or woman being well over 30. This has had its effects on childbearing. The proportion of women having their first baby in their 30s has jumped from 14 per cent to nearly a third in less than a generation.

### **Government's solution**

The federal government will not adopt any policy changes to encourage Canadians to have more children. Instead, it will try to increase the number of immigrants. One observer suggests Ottawa's strategy is to persuade baby boomers to stay in the work force as long as possible. Retirement expert Malcolm Hamilton says baby boomers "must stay on the job and off the dole, or the system implodes." Those citizens do not seem to be heeding his advice; however, as the retirement age has fallen by four years during the last two decades. Hamilton noted that governments have taxed baby boomers to the greatest extent in history, prompting families to put both spouses to work and have fewer children. As well, more is being taken from young workers through increased contributions to the Canada Pension Plan. It would seem reasonable to me that if a government is willing to spend taxpayer money to abort children than they should be prepared to offer tax money to parents who give life not only to their children but to a society.

Edmonton Prolife has many resources on this topic, you may also check out [www.pop.org](http://www.pop.org) and [www.lifesite.net/ldn/2004/may/040518a.html](http://www.lifesite.net/ldn/2004/may/040518a.html). Call the office if you require further information 425-1637.

## **StatsCan Reveals Canada's Birth Rate Continues to Drop: at All-Time Low**

OTTAWA, April 19, 2004 (LifeSiteNews.com) –

Statistics Canada revealed today that the rate at which women are having babies has dropped to an all-time low. The birth rate, as measured in 2002, dropped to 10.5 live births for every 1,000 population, the lowest since vital statistics began to be produced nationally in 1921. The rate represents a drop of 25.4% in the last 10 years alone.

In total, 328,802 babies were born in 2002, down 1.5% from the previous year. It was the 11th decline in the past 12 years.

The fertility rate, an indication of how many babies a child-bearing woman would have in her lifetime, indicates that Canada has one of the worlds lowest, at 1.5.

The fertility rate is an indication of "replacement rate," meaning that 1.5 babies are born for every woman age 15 to 49, or for every man and woman in the population. In order for a population to simply maintain at its current level, 2.1 is an absolute minimum. Canada's fertility rate is an indication of an absolute decline in population.

High levels of immigration are the main reason that Canada's overall population has not yet begun to decline. Canadian governments appear to have a strong preference for immigration to stabilize the population and meet labour force demands while at the same time maintaining policies that strongly discourage Canadians from having children.

Internationally, fertility in Canada falls more or less midway between industrialized nations such as France, Australia and the United Kingdom, which have higher fertility rates, and Italy, Japan and Germany, which have lower rates.

The biggest impact on the national statistics came from declines in live births in Ontario (-2.4%) and Quebec (-1.7%). Combined, these two provinces accounted for almost 4,400 fewer live births in 2002, representing 89% of the net decrease for the entire country.

Twenty years ago, the majority of live births in Canada were to mothers aged 20 to 29 years. Mothers in their 20s gave birth to 66.2% of babies in 1982. Only 47.9% of births were to mothers in this age group in 2002.

Since that time, the proportion of births to mothers in their 30s has grown, particularly for mothers in their early 30s. By 2002, 44.8% of births were to mothers aged 30 to 39, up from only 23.0% of births in 1982.1.

## Economics of Abortion – with information

from Alliance Action- “The Economics of Abortion”

Abortion is Canada’s major cause of death - over 96,000 babies are killed annually – more than die from strokes, heart attacks and cancer combined.

Today’s missing Canadians mean lost national production and income. The shrinking production base reflects reduced consumption, a smaller economy and lower tax revenues and growth.

The 96,000 children aborted yearly would pay five hundred million dollars in income tax alone after their first year of employment...had they been allowed to live. Over one million children killed by abortion. That is well over 24 billion lost income tax dollars.

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### *Families are the engine of economic prosperity*

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If these aborted children had been allowed to live, their parents would be providing them with food, clothing and shelter. They would have sent them to schools. How many classrooms are gone? With an average of

40 students in a class, abortion wipes out 2500 classrooms yearly. Is it any wonder teachers can’t find jobs? These aborted children would have grown into adult consumers, stimulating the economy through increased demand for a variety of goods.

Abortions are paid for with your tax dollars. Taxpayers are forced to pay for elective surgery that has nothing to do with health. Abortion treats no medical, psychiatric or social problem. Abortion fosters an economic crisis in health care because it creates costly physical and physiological complications. Abortion and its aftermath eat up much of our health care budget. Abortion destroys health and lives. The real cost of abortion is not the fee charged by the abortionist; rather it is the long term costs felt by every family in Canada.

In 1969, one in fifty pregnancies ended in abortion. Today we abort one of every five children conceived in our country. Since 1971, we’ve been below replacement rate in births – our financial deficit mirrors our people deficit.

Our population shortage leaves us in danger of losing our national health care. We are unable to maintain our roadways because of our insufficient tax base. The Canada Pension Plan may soon be part history, along with the rest of Canada’s social programs.

The results of tax funded abortion over the past 25 years make it clear that abortion does nothing to better women’s lives, our families, our business community or our society. Abortion costs taxpayers billions of dollars. Protect Canadians from economic disaster.... End Abortion.

## What it Costs to raise a Child

By Karen Richert

We’ve all seen the articles about how much money it takes to raise a child from newborn to a young adult, but how much faith can we put into the figures that come out at the end?

There are just too many choices to make along the way that will affect the final figure. Will your child attend every ballet, singing, piano, hockey, soccer lesson there is, or will they be content to play in the backyard, go to the park and hang out with friends? Will they need braces? Will you holiday at the local campground or travel to Club Med so they can go to kids club. The alternatives are too great to quantify. For example: we have never put any of our 6 children in daycare, we managed on one income mostly, subsidized by whatever I could manage with “off hours” from my husbands work schedule. By cutting that cost of daycare we managed to shave off around \$50,000 per child towards the cost of raising a child. Housing costs have remained the same for us. We don’t buy into the philosophy that every child needs their own room, again a major saving in the “raising a child calculation”. Probably the biggest scariest expense is post secondary education, from 60,000 and up! Well let’s not assume the most expensive scenario; perhaps your child will be able live at home for their post secondary education, a big cost savings. Maybe scholarships and grants and bursaries will be available and maybe good old fashioned hard work and saving their work money would be an alternative to parents footing the whole bill. Again there are too many choices to consider when looking at the costs of raising children. So take out your pencil and paper and start to really see what it costs to raise a child, remember if you’re never going to be able to spend \$160,000.00 raising a child then it will never cost that much! Thinking that we have to be able to spend \$160,000 on each child will only lead to us all feeling depressed and turn us off having any more children.

Common sense tells us we’re all very resourceful and will successfully raise our children with whatever resources we have available. The reality is kids don’t need to attend kinder gym, music and jazz classes from the time they can sit up, most of us never did and we’ve turned out just fine. What we did have was the basics for survival in the world that we live in, shelter, food, water, good health, an education, and a good set of values and most importantly we felt safe, loved and wanted.

So, to achieve the outcome of a well balanced, kind, considerate and happy young adult there are sacrifices that parents have to make along the way and I suppose you could call these the real “costs” of raising your child.

## **The Island**

### **Warning**

PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some sexuality and language. Check out [http://www.screenit.com/movies/2005/the\\_island.html#p](http://www.screenit.com/movies/2005/the_island.html#p) for detailed info on this movie's rating. This is an excellent site for getting detailed info on movies. Thanks to Paula Rebstock for recommending this site

### **Movie Review**

**By Kenneth Kully**

**U of A campus prolife web guy**

A friend treated me to a movie last night, and we went to see *The Island*. Normally I wouldn't go to a late show on a Tuesday evening with work the next day...but she's a good friend, and fun to hang out with. And she wanted to do something, and I was up for that. So...to the theatre it was!

The more I think about it, two things seem true: a) people seem tired of watching the same old action-driven summer blockbusters, and b) Hollywood's marketing machine seems so mired down in political agenda that even when they have something with the potential to be a smash hit with certain crowds, they fail to market it because to do so they would have to step outside their current ideological mindset.

This is why it's unfortunate that a movie like *The Island* is not making money at the box office.

The reasons are plain enough, at first glance, to see. It's a summer blockbuster, an effects-laden Michael Bay thrill-ride, from a director who has in the past produced such intellectually stimulating fare as *Armageddon* and *Pearl Harbour*, not to mention the *Bad Boys* series of films. Great fun to watch (for the most part -- I've still never been able to sit through *Pearl Harbour*), but that's usually where they start and end. Hence point (a) above -- there have been a rash of pretty damn decent movies recently, or so it seems, and the average movie-goer seems less and less interested in watching a brainless explosion-fest.

But there's also point (b) to consider -- Hollywood failed to market the film. That's not to say there wasn't hype -- far from it. It was advertised quite heavily, and the trailers were predictably flashy and vague. But that's just the point, and that's why the hype failed. Upon watching the trailer before...some movie, although I can't remember which one now...my friends and I scoffed at how it was probably going to be a brainless actioner. But that's just the thing: IT'S NOT. *The Island* shocked me for a number of reasons, not the least of which were that a film with such profound messages about abortion, cloning, and genetic engineering, that a film with subtle but powerful commentary on the nature of the soul and the ability of God to throw a wrench in even the most well-thought-out plans of the selfish and the murderous, and that a

film that is essentially a *pro-life movie* could a) have been directed by Michael Bay and b) have been produced by Dreamworks SKG. Where the film's marketing failed, in that regard, was that (as was previously observed by **LIBERTAS**) it was not marketed as such. And because of that, the movie failed -- enough that Dreamworks is being bought by General Electric as a result.

If the film had been marketed in the same way as *Passion of the Christ* -- i.e. being a little more forward about the message being conveyed, and more specifically targeting the conservative element in America that disagrees with practices like abortion (which is no small number, given that Bush DID win the popular vote in the last election!), who is to say that right-minded people wouldn't have flocked to it in droves and made it profitable? Hopefully, in the wake of ever more positive conservative reviews, the movie will recoup and make money in video sales.

It appears that part of the marketing team for this movie perhaps knew what sort of gold mine they were sitting on. They saw that they'd somehow allowed a dreaded conservative viewpoint to be made with a multi-million dollar effects budget and a big-name director behind it, could it be that this is why they decided to torpedo it?

To read the full review go to:

<http://www.timeimmortal.net/content/view/49/44/1/1/>

## **Edmonton Prolife**

### **AGM Notice of Meeting**

**Needed - Board Members and Auditors (to review the financial statements) for two year terms.  
Call Karen at 425-1637 if you can help with any of these jobs**

### **The Annual General Meeting of Edmonton Prolife**

**Will take place April 24  
At 7:30 pm**

**At the Edmonton Prolife office  
#212 11125 107 Avenue.**

**All members invited**

**This is an opportunity to return any resources you may have borrowed from the office lending library.**

**If you have resources at home or school please make arrangements to return them if you are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting**

**Thank You!**

