



Edmonton Prolife Newsletter Spring 2025

Informing Minds and Inspiring Hearts...Educating for Life

In Praise of the Knowledge Sources

Every so often I ask, or am asked, "How did you become Pro-Life?" I very much remember how I came to be on the side of life. I was seventeen years old and somehow on a public bus in Red Deer. I don't recall why I would happen to be on a public bus in Red Deer. I also don't recall having much of a view on abortion. But someone had left a fetal development pamphlet on a seat on the bus. With nothing much to do, I reached over, grabbed it, and read it. I was amazed at how soon everything happened in fetal development. The heart beat at three and a half weeks, brain waves at four weeks, well defined arms and legs at eleven weeks. I was taken aback and disturbed that it was common practice to snuff out the life of little ones such as these, and most assuredly am dismayed to this day.

Being Pro-Life isn't the easiest cause in our culture. Regardless, I am very

grateful to the person who left that pamphlet for me to read and become knowledgeable of what life in the womb really is. I would much prefer to have knowledge on a subject and act accordingly. And for this, I am very grateful for the wealth of wisdom in the Pro-Life camp that provides enlightenment on the sanctity of life.

But with the advancements in science, knowledge from deductive research in fields such as embryology is straightforward and easy. It is unequivocal when life begins and how rapidly that life develops. Science is Pro-Life. What I would really like to tip my hat towards is the sources of knowledge that came before we had the scientific tools to comprehend what we know now.

And in particular, I would like to extend a big thank you to religion, that for thousands of years has held the truth of the sanctity of life that exists at our earliest moment when sperm meets egg. If you were at the

March for Life last year, you would have been fortunate enough to hear our Sikh and Muslim friends speak about the sacredness of unborn life. Our good fortune continued at Edmonton Prolife, as these speakers were gracious enough to join us at our table for the Alveda King presentation.

As for the Jewish and Christian faith, although there are many verses, I'll share Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." This divine knowledge is the backbone of the Pro-Life cause. I am exceedingly grateful to those of faith that work so hard in spreading the Pro-Life message. A particular thank you to our Catholic and Evangelical friends.

Without those of faith, this world would be a much darker and sadder place. Your God-inspired love of life is a blessing to us all!

*Andrew Thomson
Edmonton Prolife President*



Edmonton Prolife AGM + 2 Guest Speakers Saturday, May 31, from 2 pm – 3:30 pm All Are Welcome!

The Edmonton Prolife AGM will be held on Saturday, May 31, from 2 pm – 3:30 pm at the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God Parish (Parish Hall) – 15608-104 Ave., Edmonton. We will start with a quick business meeting, followed by 2 inspiring speakers – Brandon Bosma, who was born with Mosaic Trisomy 18, will share his story, including how he came to be an advocate for those with Trisomy 18 and Trisomy 13. Brandon's mom, Gloria, will share her experience raising Brandon, and how thankful she is for the gift of her son. Coffee and dessert will be served. Let us know if you will be joining us for this event (call 780-425-1637 or email info@edmontonprolife.org)!

LAW COURTS

1a Sir Winston Churchill Square



Law Courts Demonstration

On Tuesday, January 28, we gathered at the Law Courts building to mark the anniversary of the Supreme Court of Canada's 1988 Morgentaler decision that struck down Canada's abortion law. We held signs that read "Protection from Conception Onwards" and "Justice for the Unborn."

Film and Info night

On March 3, the film 'Unplanned' was shown at St. Michael's church in Leduc. In addition, Jeff Owen from CCBP and Linda Menon from Edmonton Against Abortion explained the kind of volunteer and learning opportunities on how to have conversations about abortion and invited anyone interested to be in touch with either of them. They also shared about the activism they both are doing in Edmonton.



Alex Schadenberg Presentation

On Wednesday, March 5, at the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God Parish, Alex Schadenberg from the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition spoke to a group of nearly 30 people. He talked about the current situation of euthanasia in Canada, why people ask for euthanasia, and the importance of protecting people.



Basically Babies is a charity (in Edmonton and Calgary) that provides a full year's wardrobe and accessories (a Basically Babies "Layette") for a newborn to families in desperate situations.

The layettes are distributed through a network of partnering agencies that are working with these families on a long-term basis. One of the partnering organizations will identify a family that is in extreme need and request a layette for them.

How you can get involved:

- Volunteer
- Donate Baby Items
- Donate financially

See basicallybabies.org for more info.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND LEARN

Share Your Gifts

Promote the Beauty of Life

Why volunteer with the Gianna Centre?

If you are thinking about sharing your gifts, gaining knowledge & skills, and making new friends, come and explore the joy of making a difference in someone's life!

Gianna Volunteers

- Find purpose in contributing to the pro-life movement in tangible ways
- Engage with the ministry in various capacities according to your interests and skills
- Gain fulfillment by forming genuine relationships

What could you do as a volunteer at the Gianna Centre?

- Befriend and mentor new moms
- Inspire social media content and design
- Provide office support
- Process donations and "shop" with clients
- Mentor a market mom in the kitchen or craft room
- Care for babies and toddlers
- Facilitate pre-natal and parenting education
- And more!

6-12 month commitment requested

CONTACT OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR TO LEARN MORE!



@giannayeg



780-482-5111



gianna.centre@cssalberta.ca



Opportunity to Serve

HOST HOMES

We are looking for people who have a heart to love and serve vulnerable women experiencing unplanned pregnancies by opening their homes for short-term stays.

Contact

YEG: coordinator@alies.ca

YYC: programcoordinator@alies.ca



Free

PRO-LIFE DIALOGUE WORKSHOP

Choose a time that works for your schedule and let us help you become an even better advocate for pre-born children! The Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform is an educational, pro-life organization offering free, 90-minute workshops on how to have effective conversations about abortion. You'll be equipped with street-tested pro-life apologetics, plus learn about opportunities to join Edmonton Against Abortion for local pro-life outreach!

For more information contact Jeff Owen at jowen@endthekilling.ca



Sign-up Today!

cbr-appointments.square.site/



The Edmonton Pregnancy Care Centre has volunteer opportunities which include:

- In-centre client advocate
- Processing material donations
- Teaching community education in schools
- Facilitating prenatal, parenting and life-skills classes
- Grief and loss support (post-abortion, post-adoption)
- Men's mentoring
- Fundraising and development

Visit pregnancycarecentre.ca for more info



Action Items



• **Participate in the Spring 40 Days for Life campaign – until April 13, 2025.** Let us know if you would like to participate in the peaceful vigil with a group.



• **See the ROE Canada film on Tuesday, April 29, at 7:30 pm.** It will be in the church hall at St. Michael Parish (5105 45A St., Leduc). We hope you will join us for this screening. Let us know if you will be able to attend (call 780-425-1637 or email info@edmontonprolife.org).



MARCH FOR LIFE

• **Take part in the Alberta March for Life (Rally and March) – Thursday, May 8, from 12 pm – 2 pm.** This year's theme is **Proven in Science, Rooted in Love.** There will be a Mass at St. Joseph's Basilica (10044 113 St., Edmonton) at 10 am, lead by Most Rev. W. McGrattan. **Meet at the Alberta Legislature – Violet King Henry Plaza at noon.** Come listen to two abortion survivors and other speakers.

• **Other events on Thursday, May 8 – CCBR workshop** at the Polish Hall in the afternoon. See the time and address on the Alberta March for Life website. **The annual Rose Dinner** at the Polish Hall will be at 6 pm. Come and enjoy dinner and hear the stories from two special guests (survivors of abortion) that will touch your heart. **To register for this event,** and to find more information, please visit www.albertamarchforlife.com.



• **See the *Worth More* film at www.worthmorefilm.ca.** This is a short film about the value of human life. It is specifically a protest against euthanasia/assisted suicide for people with mental illness. You can also view an interview about *Worth More* on the MarchforLifeCanada YouTube channel.

We rely on Albertans like you so we can continue our work

Please consider becoming a monthly donor. Become a one-time donor or a monthly sustainer of Edmonton Prolife today! All help is appreciated. All donations are tax deductible. Yes, I would like to help Edmonton Prolife in their work in defence of life. Name:

Address: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Payment Options (amount) \$ _____. Cheque – Payable to Edmonton Prolife. To pay with credit card, please visit www.edmontonprolife.org and click on 'Donate.' Monthly donations are possible through automatic bank withdrawal (call us at 780-425-1637 to arrange this), as well as through Canada Helps. Membership (\$10.00) and donations are tax deductible! Charitable Registration #118894047. Please mail your donation to: Edmonton Prolife, 310-6770 129 Ave., Edmonton AB T5C 1V7.

Board of Directors: Andrew Thomson (President), Glenn Woolger (Treasurer), Janice Barth, Michelle Lamer, Rosemary Chavunduka, Jake Ranson. Office Administrator: Lori Buhiire.

Contact Us! Call 780-425-1637 or email info@edmontonprolife.org • 310-6770 129 Ave., Edmonton AB T5C 1V7 • www.edmontonprolife.org



We Are Edmonton Prolife



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