

ST. CATHARINES RIGHT TO LIFE NEWSLETTER



September, 2018

Dying Healed



How should we respond to the government's new legislation on Assisted Suicide? Perhaps the most beneficial response is to spend time with those who are lonely and vulnerable. Life Canada has developed a program to assist in establishing such an initiative.

The Dying Healed Program is designed to give volunteers confidence that their presence at the bedside of a lonely or dying person is an invaluable service. This program is intended to be *preparatory* training for those who would like to spend time with the elderly, ill, disabled and dying, those most vulnerable to the negative influences of Canada's new euthanasia and assisted suicide legislation.

To learn more about the program, attend the screening of the Fatal Flaws movie on September 27 at Harbour Fellowship Church. A discussion of the program will follow the movie.

Wayne Shepard

766 Babies Were Born Alive After Abortions in Canada

At least 766 babies were born alive after late-term abortions in Canada between 2013 and 2018 and presumably left to die. The numbers are likely much higher since data from the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) does not include Quebec.

Information on what exactly happened to these infants, or why there are so many born-alive late-term abortions, is not available, according to pro-life blogger Patricia Maloney who published the statistics August 17 on her blog *Run With Life*.

According to CIHI, between 2013 and 2018, eight babies of 29 weeks gestational age and over, 27 babies between 25 to 28 weeks gestation, 557 babies between 21 to 24 weeks, and 141 babies between 17 to 20 weeks survived an abortion and were [so far as we know] left to die.

A study was done in Quebec in 2016 that found the number of infants who were born alive and died after an abortion jumped from one per 100,000 in 1986-1999, to 19.4 per 100,000 between 2000 and 2012. Those accidental live births totalled 218 babies. That's a 20-fold increase, which according to a National Post report, is "likely because increased pre-natal screening has led to more late-term abortions."

The Post also reported that "Almost all the infants accidentally born alive die within a few hours — in circumstances that doctors describe as generally 'devastating' for the parents."

The Quebec study, led by Dr. Nathalie Auger of the University of Montreal, and published in *Neonatology*, raised such questions as: "How are such infants cared for?...If not resuscitated, is palliative care provided? Are the infants admitted to neonatal units or do they die in the delivery room?"

Maloney first unearthed and published statistics in late 2012 on the number of babies in Canada born alive after an abortion. Conservative MPs Maurice Vellacott, Leon Benoit and Wladyslaw Lizon then asked the RCMP in January 2013 to launch an investigation into possible infanticide. No such investigation ever took place.

Source: LifeSiteNews.com and Run With Life Blog

Inside this Issue	Page
Dying Healed	1
766 Babies Were Born Alive After Abortions in Canada	1
President Mandy Overbeeke and Garret	2
Upcoming Events	2
Latest Abortion Statistics	3
Ontario Campus Free Speech Policy a Step in the Right Direction	3
Billboard and Bus Shelter Campaign	3
New Euthanasia Film Having an Impact	4
Cathedral Ministry Fair	4



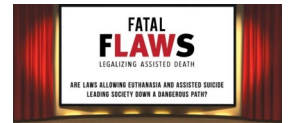
President Mandy Overbeeke and Garret

The regular President's Message is being pre-empted this issue to bring you instead this picture of St. Catharines Right to Life President Mandy Overbeeke with her son Garret William, born September 3rd, fearfully and wonderfully made. As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words. Life is a precious gift from God.

Congratulations to the Overbeeke family!



Fatal Flaws: Fall screening of new anti-euthanasia film. Thursday, September 27, 2018 @ 7 PM Harbour Fellowship Church, 51 S Service Rd, St. Catharines. Free admission. Refreshments will be served.



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St. Catharines Right to Life is a registered non-profit organization providing educational material on abortion and euthanasia, and promoting respect for human life from conception to natural death. We support only peaceful means to promote our aims.

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OFFICE HOURS: 12 to 4 p.m.
Monday To Friday

Life Chain 2018: Sunday, September 30, 2018

Two Locations in Niagara:

Niagara Falls: 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Lundy's Lane.

Contact Annette: loeffenlife@hotmail.com

Grimsby: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Main & Christie Sts. Contact Daniella DeVries, 905-309-6779, Joanne Dieleman 905-309-3340

St. Catharines Right to Life Speakers Workshop: October 20, 2018, 9 AM - 12:30 PM, St. Alfred's Church, 272 Vine Street. Learn how to dialogue about life issues with family, friends, & acquaintances. This year's workshop will include a dramatic testimony from a *Choice42* speaker, Pro-Life 101 Part II, an update on legalized euthanasia in Canada, and breakout sessions. Refreshments and lunch provided. No fee. Please call or email to sign up so we know how much food we'll need.

Equipped for Life course: Thursday nights
November 8, 15, 22, 29, 7:00 PM—8:30 PM,
Knights of Columbus 1394 Hall, 235 Church St.

Featuring Equal Rights Institute videos with Josh Brahm and discussion.

This course is designed to equip us to defend the pro-life position in a respectful and effective way. Please call or email to sign up.

St. Catharines Right to Life Christmas Concert Saturday, November 24. Mark the date!

More details on all these events can be found on ChooseLife.ca on the Events Page. Everyone is welcome. For more information: Call/Text: 905-684-7505 or email: info@chooselife.ca.

Latest Abortion Statistics

Canada

There were 97,764 abortions in Canada in 2016, as reported by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI.) These numbers are incomplete however since there is no legislative requirement for abortions done in abortion clinics or doctors' offices to be reported.

According to CIHI, Ontario had the largest number of abortions at 38,383. 29% of Canadian abortions were performed on women aged 24 and younger. 71% were performed on women aged 25 and over. The gestational age of the unborn child, reported by hospitals (excluding Quebec) only, was unknown in 18.3% of hospital abortions. Of the remainder, 13.6% of aborted unborn children were 13 weeks gestation and older. That's 1,657 of the 22,918 hospital abortions.

At least 616 unborn children aborted in Canadian hospitals in 2016 were 21 weeks gestation or older. Information on the age of unborn babies aborted in clinics and in Quebec is unknown.

United States

Abortion numbers have dropped to an historic low in the United States. 652,639 unborn children were aborted in 2014, the latest year that the Centre for Disease Control has figures for. That is a decline of about half since the highs of more than 1.5 million abortions in the late 1980s, and down from 730,322 in 2011.

The abortion rate for 2014 was 12.1 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years, and the abortion ratio was 186 abortions per 1,000 live births. Compared with 2013, the total number and rate of reported abortions for 2014 decreased 2%, and the ratio decreased 7%.

Billboard and Bus Shelter Campaign

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, St. Catharines Right to Life is flooding the Niagara Region with life-affirming messages on over 45 billboards and transit shelters this fall.

The messages are designed to:

- educate about prenatal facts, as the “**Yawning**” board does
- reach out to women in crisis pregnancies, as the “**Look Beyond Fear**” bus shelter ad does
- promote a culture of life, as the “**Let Life Win**” billboard does

If you would like to contribute toward a Spring 2019 Billboard campaign, please indicate “Billboards” on the enclosed slip when you send in your donation.



Choose Life



Ontario Campus Free Speech Policy a Step in the Right Direction

Ontario universities and colleges will now have to protect free speech on their campuses or risk funding cuts, according to an announcement made by Premier Ford's government August 30. Pro-life clubs have welcomed the new policy. Nearly 90% have experienced censorship.

Post-secondary institutions must state in their policies that they are a place for open discussion and free inquiry. They are also required to discipline students who obstruct or interfere with the freedom of others to express their views. In addition, university and college administrations will not be obliged to shield students from ideas or opinions they disagree with.

Ruth Shaw, the Executive Director of National Campus Life Network, which assists pro-life clubs across Canada, is happy that the Ontario government is taking action on the free speech issue. However, she worries that unless student unions are also expected to respect free speech, things won't change for pro-life students on the ground. “Student unions are separate entities not under the control of the university administration and they are the ones who determine whether pro-life clubs can exist,” she says. “In Ontario, club status has become a huge issue.”

Ruth is also concerned about compliance with the new policy. She would like to see clear measures put in place, so that pro-life students' complaints about censorship will be dealt with fairly.

Marlene Tersigni

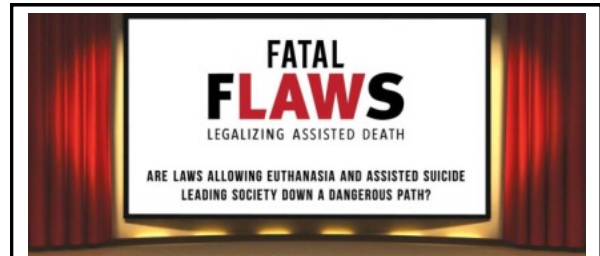
New Euthanasia Film Having an Impact

Fatal Flaws: Legalized Assisted Death, a new documentary about the perils of euthanasia, has already sold more than 1200 DVDs since it was released in May. Screenings of the film have taken place around the world.

Fatal Flaws features personal stories from people who oppose assisted suicide but also interviews euthanasia advocates in the Netherlands and the United States.

Recently *Fatal Flaws* was screened in Guernsey (UK) while their legislature was debating assisted suicide. One of the sponsors of the assisted suicide bill watched *Fatal Flaws*. The next day he stood up in the legislature and said that he changed his mind after watching *Fatal Flaws*. Guernsey then defeated the assisted suicide bill by 24 to 14.

Euthanasia became legal in Canada in 2016. Since that time, over 4000 Canadians have died by assisted suicide/euthanasia. St. Catharines Right to Life will show *Fatal Flaws* on Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 7 PM at Harbour Fellowship Church, 51 S. Service Road, St. Catharines. Everyone welcome to attend.



Fatal Flaws Screening

Thursday, September 27, 2018 @ 7 PM,
Harbour Fellowship Church, 51 S Service
Rd, St. Catharines. Free admission.
Refreshments will be served.

What high profile individuals from the legal and medical profession are saying about Fatal Flaws:

“Fatal Flaws is more than just a great documentary film. It is a clarion call to restore decency to the House of Medicine. For every doctor or patient who wants to understand the difference between medical killing and medically-responsible caring, this humane and sensitive film is a must-see.”

-Ronald W. Pies, MD, Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry, and Lecturer on Bioethics, SUNY Upstate Medical University; Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Tufts U. School of Medicine; Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, Psychiatric Times, USA.



Cathedral Fair: On June 23 and 24, at the Cathedral Ministry Fair, Wayne Shepard and Catherine Mathie informed parishioners about the work of St. Catharines Right to Life.

A similar display will take place at St. Alfred Church on September 29 and 30.

“This is a brilliant film that should be compulsory viewing for busy legislators who haven’t time to do their own research into how euthanasia is changing death and dying in countries such as Canada and the Netherlands. Kevin Dunn interviews supporters and opponents of euthanasia and physician assisted suicide in a non-judgemental way and the responses he gets are extraordinary.”

- Professor the Baroness Sheila Hollins, House of Lords, Past President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, UK

“Compelling, timely and moving. Physicians must see this film, especially those in training as the euthanasia movement is trying to redefine the ethics of medicine.”

- Steven S. Sharfstein, M.D., Former President The American Psychiatric Association, USA

To keep up to date on euthanasia and assisted suicide news, visit the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition blog (epcblog.org) which has become the world’s most comprehensive source of information on these life issues with more than 3400 articles published and 3.2 million visitors.