



2026

SEPTEMBER

Smithers ProLife Society
Newsletter

Walk for Life

☎ 250 847 2475
✉ wecaretoo@telus.net
🌐 lifecanada.org/smithers

✉ Box 3252
📍 1316 Main Street
Smithers B.C,
VOJ2N0



Smithers Crisis
Pregnancy Care Center

🕒 Tuesday 10 -1:00 or
by appt. 250-847-2475

🌐 Website:
smitherspregnancy.com

☎ 24hr Helpline:
1-877-88-WOMAN

🌐 Crisis Website:
www.onlinecare.ca

Free, non-judgmental support:

Pregnancy Tests
Pregnancy Choices Lay Counselling
Post Abortion Lay Counselling
Sexual Education
Community Referrals

you don't have to go
through this **alone**



DATE: Saturday, Oct. 3,

TIME: 9:30—11:30

PLACE: Starts at
St. Joseph's Parking
Lot and returns there
after 3 kilometer walk .

Signs provided. Info:
wecaretoo@telus.net

JUST THE FACTS—
information video.

“DID CANADA
COMMIT SUICIDE BY
ABORTION”

[https://
www.youtube.com/
watch?v=hwiF85toLJs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwiF85toLJs)



NEWS: Gay couple sues Ontario surrogate mother who refused to abort “Their Baby”



A Canadian couple is suing the surrogate mother who carried their son, **two years after** she refused their request to abort the baby because of a cleft lip. The plaintiffs have indicated they're seeking about \$600,000. Tension appears to have been exacerbated after the woman insisted on going ahead with a home birth and later filed a small-claims suit asking the parents to reimburse out-of-pocket expenses.

For Sally Rhoads-Heinrich, owner of Surrogacy in Canada Online, the unusual sequence of events appears vindictive and highlights the vulnerable position of Canadian surrogates, **who are in high demand but are legally barred from charging commercial fees** – unlike counterparts in the U.S. They can only be reimbursed for receipted expenses since health-care costs are covered by medicare. Most get pregnant simply to help others but sometimes fail to get their costs paid or are literally left holding the baby

when the parents walk away, she said. The federal Assisted Reproduction Act is designed in part to protect surrogates and egg donors by making it illegal to commercialize the human-procreation process, noted Juliet Guichon, a bioethics professor at the University of Calgary. But she said the Ontario surrogate's case underscores that women who give birth for others, are still vulnerable. (full article at: <https://nationalpost.com/news/couple-sues-ontario-surrogate-mother-who-refused-to-abort-fetus>.) While Surrogacy can be a beautiful gift from a woman to a married man and woman who are not able to conceive, it still objectifies the woman as an incubator machine and treats the children as products. In a recent American case, the surrogate, who had been ordered to abort the baby, moved from Alaska to Texas because that State had strong pro-life laws but in Canada there is no law that will protect the baby nor the surrogate who is merely a hired womb.

As Josie Luetke from CLC pointed out **“The reality of Canada having zero legal protection for the preborn is that thousands of babies are killed every year for being an unwanted or damaged product”**

Canadians Are Being Contacted at Home About Old Social Media Posts

Source: X / The Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms JULY 21/2026

The Justice Centre is reporting something that should concern anyone who values free expression in this country. Apparently, some Canadians have been contacted at their homes by government officials about social media posts they made months or even years earlier. These reports have emerged following the passage of Bill C-9, the *Combating Hate Act*, which expands Canada's hate speech laws by creating new offences, increasing penalties, and removing certain legal safeguards that previously limited prosecutions for hate-related expression.

This is not an abstract legal debate: when government officials start showing up at people's doors to discuss old online comments, it signals a shift in how speech is monitored and enforced. The Justice Centre is advising people who are contacted to consider recording the interaction and, if they believe their rights have been infringed or that they have been unfairly targeted, to submit their case to: <https://www.jccf.ca/get-help/>

Free speech protections exist precisely so that people can speak without constant fear that a past comment will bring authorities to their door. Whether this new approach stays limited or expands further is something Canadians will need to watch closely. The reports are already circulating. Awareness is the first step.

Full Article at: <https://truenorthcanada.com/canadians-are-being-contacted-at-home-about-old-social-media-posts/>

WIN IN COURT FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH

The Ontario Superior Court of Justice ruled on June 11 that the Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS) violated the Charter-protected freedom of expression of Campaign Life Coalition and one of our staff members by prohibiting signs exposing abortion.

This all goes back to a press conference we held on Parliament Hill in 2023,

The decision has huge implications for all Canadians, as CLC National President Jeff Gunnarson said:

"This is an important victory not only for Campaign Life Coalition, but for every Canadian who believes Parliament Hill must remain a place where one can speak freely on the issues that matter most—in this case, the right to life."

Jeff added that "The Court confirmed that government officials cannot censor political expression simply because they find the message uncomfortable, difficult, or controversial. This is a big win for life and for free-speech rights. This ruling is especially important at a time when freedom of expression and pro-life advocacy are increasingly under pressure in Canada."

Now, for the background ...The case arose from a May 2023 press conference CLC planned to display signs depicting abortion victims at various stages of development. A PPS officer inspected the signs and stopped us from showing them, claiming they were too graphic to be displayed according to a Parliament Hill policy. We were well within our rights to show these signs at the time; the Ontario Superior Court of Justice felt the same way!

The Court held that the PPS decision infringed section 2(b) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and was not justified under section 1 and...

The ruling rejected the use of broad and subjective standards to censor political expression on Parliament Hill. The judge also found that abortion victim photography is not obscenity, that it does not promote hatred, and that PPS was unreasonable to adopt a subjective standard.

Campaign Life Coalition was represented by constitutional lawyer Hatim Kheir and the case was funded by the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms.

<https://www.campaignlifecoalition.com/>



ABOVE: CLC staff with abortion victim photography on Parliament Hill in 2023.

Pro-life Board Members

Chair: Betty Bandstra
Secretary: Kathy Dobrenski
Treasurer: Marian Adema
Memberships: Anne Adema
Fundraising: Jenny Vandenberg
Media: Kris Huxtable
Care Center: Brigitte Kloosterman
Political Liaison : Rod Taylor

CALENDAR

January

-Sanctity of Human Life Day

February

-Last call for Memberships

March / April

-Movie Night

-March 8: Women's Day

-AGM/dessert fundraiser

May

-March For Life (Ottawa)

-Mother's Day

June

-Euthanasia legal 2016

-Garage Sale

-Planning for next year

July/August

-Fall Fair Parade float?

September

-Walk for Life

October

-Breast Cancer awareness

-Oct 15 Infant Loss Day

November

-Educational movie night

-Membership drive

December

-Fundraiser: Bake Sale

CHURCH REPS

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Elisabeth Vanderhorst
Smithers Canadian Ref
Jessica Vandergaag
Smithers Christian Ref
Betty Bandstra
E-Free **Kathy Dobrenski**
Bethel URC **Brenda Ewald**
Telkwa Faith URC
Jenny Vandenberg
Telkwa Community
Karen Fokkens
Baptist **Ed Schneider**
MVA **Brigitte Kloosterman**

