

Life Compass Society



"We acknowledge, respect and promote the dignity and right to life, of everyone, from conception to their natural death, a right that comes from God"

President's Report

Dear supporters of Life Compass Society,

The overturning of Roe v. Wade by the Supreme Court of the US on Friday June 24th, 2022 continues to breathe life into the Pro Life Movement, not just in the US but in Canada too, even worldwide. This ruling allows each state to decide whether or not to allow abortions, since it recognizes that, like Canada, there is no constitutional right to an abortion. We hope that in our lifetime the constitutional right to life for the unborn will again be recognized.

Save the date of our upcoming major fundraiser, our annual **Hike, Bike or Run4Life**. It's at Lions Park and PoCo Trail Saturday, September 9, 2023. Hope you can join us.

In Christ, and for every human life
Richard Whalen (president)

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March for Life in Victoria

This year's march witnessed a significant increase in numbers over last year, but still not back to pre-COVID 19 numbers. Noticeably absent were many of the high school students that used to attend by busloads.



The speakers this year included Archbishop Michael Miller (who celebrated Mass for those of us off seven buses who met at Sacred Heart parish church in Ladner. The archbishop then joined us on the bus to Victoria).

Angelina Ireland of Delta Hospice Society spoke again as did Autumn (Lindsey) Higashi. All the speakers were very good. We're

looking forward to next year's march.



Membership Report 2023

To date we have about 32 more paid up members compared to last year, and the numbers may still increase. **Our total is 294** but it is still just June and so far only 5 parishes have had membership drives: St. Patrick's, St. Luke's, St. Clare of Assisi, St. Joseph's, and All Saints. The current totals are as follows: St. Patrick and St. Luke, 142; St. Clare of Assisi, 48; All Saints, 53, Our Lady of the Assumption, 14; St. Joseph, 22; Fatima, 2; Lourdes, 1; Holy Family 5 and others, 7.

You can mail a cheque (Life Compass Society) to 12085 202 St. Maple Ridge, BC V2X 8X4 to renew your membership which helps offset our overhead costs. If you wish instead to send an e-transfer, it goes to lifecompassprospera@outlook.com

Blooms into Rooms blossoms with Life Compass support. Terry O'Neill

Last Easter marked the 29th anniversary of the Blooms into Rooms project – a project that truly blossomed with the assistance of Life Compass.

It was in 1994 that the pro-life committee at St. Joseph's Parish in Port Moody launched Blooms into Rooms (originally called The Easter Flowers Project) as a way to animate the Prayer for the Reverence for Life's call to support the sick and the elderly. The committee also intended the project to signal opposition to the then-ominous spectre of legalized euthanasia.



Terry O'Neill with cards made by Focolare youth

The idea for Blooms into Rooms was simple: a few volunteers from St. Joseph's would visit a single care centre on Holy Saturday and give patients a flowering plant, a homemade greeting card and, most important of all, some companionship.

And that's where it stayed for more than two decades until Life Compass entered the picture. Connections made around the Life Compass table opened the door to more organizers, volunteers, and—most importantly—more seniors to service.



Gus and Martha Bonnett

The result was that, this past Easter, volunteers from two Catholic high schools and six parishes delivered flowers and cards to 1,300 seniors and six patients in six communities. The event was led by organizers Terry O'Neill and Wim VanderZalm and supported by Catherine Polonio of Coquitlam Florist (which provided the carnations at cost).

Life Compass has become a key partner in this project, not only for



the doors it opened and connections it provided but also because, for the first time this year, it applied for—and received—Pro-Life Sunday funds (\$500 to be exact) to support the project.

The Blooms into Rooms project is more important than ever because MAiD is now not only legal and shockingly permissive in scope but is also being actively encouraged as an end-of-life-care option.

Moreover, statistics show the primary reason so many elderly are choosing to seek assistance in ending their life is because they are lonely, depressed, and feel their life lacks meaning or value.



Wim Vander Zalm and Diane from OLFatima

Life-affirming Catholics have worked hard over the decades to oppose assisted-suicide laws but, even as their warnings of a slippery slope have come true, Catholic opposition has failed to change public opinion, failed to influence politicians, and failed to sway the courts.

That's why it's now vital to connect with those that are most vulnerable in order to give them the love and support they need to continue to choose life. For starters, a single flower can make all the difference.

One stop death in Canadian funeral home.

Alex Schadenberg Executive Director of Euthanasia Prevention Coalition International



Canada legalized euthanasia in June 2016 by giving doctors and nurse practitioners the right in law to approve and kill a person by lethal drugs upon request. There are a few limitations but essentially since Canada expanded its euthanasia law in March 2021 a person essentially needs to have an "irremediable medical condition."



Haut-Richelieu funeral complex

On May 19 Hugo Pilon LaRose [reported for LaPresse](#) that Haut-Richelieu funeral complex in Montérégie Québec is offering euthanasia (MAiD) as one of its "death services." According to LaRose:

With overflowing hospitals, palliative care homes that don't always have room and

Quebecers' growing interest in medical assistance in dying, a funeral complex in Montérégie has been offering for a few weeks a "turnkey" package for patients who want to



die in its showroom.

The death trade, the owner of the Haut-Richelieu funeral complex, Mathieu Baker, knows well. Representing the fourth generation to run the family business, he launched a new "turnkey" offer this spring, for approximately \$700, for his clients who are requesting medical assistance in dying and who want to switch from life to death right in the showroom. A first in Québec, he says.

Baker told LaRose that he is not forcing anyone to have euthanasia and that he only rents a room to a client, while the Québec government pays the cost for euthanasia.

Baker also told LaRose that his mother opposes offering euthanasia and that she wouldn't speak to him for a month when she learned of the new "service."

The Haut-Richelieu funeral complex may be the first to offer euthanasia in Québec but it has already been happening in Ontario.

A [CBC news article published on October 26, 2021](#) reported that the Northview Funeral Chapel in London Ontario began offering MAiD rooms in early 2020. The article stated that the Northview Funeral Chapel had provided rooms for 23 euthanasia deaths at the time of the article. The article also stated that A. Millard George Funeral Home in London Ontario had noticed the trend and was setting up their own MAiD room.

A new business opportunity.

Dr. Claude Rivard, general practitioner, and expert practitioner of medical assistance in dying at the Pierre-Boucher hospital in Longueuil, told LaRose that he is not surprised by the initiative of the Haut-Richelieu funeral complex. He said:

"[It's] a business opportunity that these people see. There is a market in Quebec. In 2021-2022, approximately 5% of deaths occurred through medical assistance in dying. There is a craze for this end-of-life mode," he says.

Killing has become a business in Canada.

Hospitals and nursing homes save money by killing their patients and funeral homes can save money by having clients walk into the business and rent a death room, rather than being picked up, thus creating further profits for the funeral home.

Find the full article here:

[Euthanasia Prevention Coalition Euthanasia Prevention Coalition: One stop death in Canadian funeral home. \(alexschadenberg.blogspot.com\)](#)