# **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."

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#### President's Report

Dear supporters of Life Compass Society, our 9th annual Walk, Bike or Run4Life fundraiser, was, a big success. We net over \$10,000, the most ever, a few hundred dollars above the



Sept. 2021 event. Fr. Larry Lynn, pro-life Archdiocesan Chaplain, and pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes parish, prayed for our safe witness. His encouragement and positive words led us off into the nice sunny

weather and beautiful natural surroundings, of PoCo Trail.



This fundraising success helped us secure a **Skytrain stations and transit bus ad campaign for mid-January 2025,** with Lamar Advertising (See page

3). The ads are the same as those used last

February, but with the addition of a disclaimer strip across the bottom of the graphic as shown on the proof above. (See page 3, \$20 000 grant)

The moral and political currents in Canada are changing. This is especially true with our neighbours below. The instability seems to be worldwide. We hold hope that peace and goodness will counter the uncertainty and negativity that comes from most media sources.

All the best to you and your loved ones for 2025.

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







## • Fr. Larry Lynn and LCS's Annual General Meeting

Father Lynn, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Coquitlam, said "there are good reasons to hope



that the society-destroying" modern, materialistic, and utilitarian mentality, that has entrenched abortion and euthanasia as near-sacred doctrines, is waning. "There's change in the air," Father Lynn told about 25 Catholics attending Life Compass's

Annual General Meeting, held Nov. 16 at St. Clare of Assisi Parish Centre in Coquitlam.

The above excerpt is from an article Terry O'Neill, frequent contributer to the BC Catholic on life issues,

and LCS member. He introduced Fr. Larry and summarized his presentation in a column published in the BC Catholic. The full article in the BC Catholic is linked here: <a href="https://bccatholic.ca/news/catholic-van/u-s-election-a-sign-there-s-change-in-the-air-pro-life-chaplain-says">https://bccatholic.ca/news/catholic-van/u-s-election-a-sign-there-s-change-in-the-air-pro-life-chaplain-says</a>

# Please support our fundraising sponsors.

These businesses are all in Maple Ridge: Pappa Leo's Pizza, Mainland Cartridge, Pyrgos Taverna Greek Restaurant, Home Restaurant, and Ricky's Country Restaurant.











1.www.papaleospizza.com 2. Mainlandcartridge.com 3. <a href="www.pyrgostaverna.ca">www.pyrgostaverna.ca</a> 4. homerestaurants.ca 5. Rickysrestaurants.ca 20110 Lougheed Hwy. #101, Maple Ridge,

#### Life Chain October 2024



This year St. Luke's participants held their peaceful demonstration from noon to 1 pm. Our attendance was about 30 people, down by 20 from last year. The encouraging thing is that there was more response this year from the people driving past us on Dewdney Trunk Road. However, the responses were mainly negative, some even quite disgusting. But even these responses are an indication of something better than the lukewarmness of no response.

Saint Joseph's parish in Port Moody had another successful and well-organized Life Chain. They have

been doing this for several years, and without any significant problems.

We are grateful for the dedication of parishioners and the support and encouragement of our pastors.





#### • Membership Drive 2024 (AGM November 2024 numbers)

We are very happy that our overall number of paid-up members continues to increase. This is not the case in all parishes, but <u>Our Lady of the Assumption is up almost four-fold from 15 to 57!!</u> (thank you to Maureen Currie, Rosa Kim, Marguerite Watkins and others). St. Luke's and St. Pat's overall numbers are up from 142 to 153. St. Joseph increased by 7 to 29. St. Clare of Assisi increased 6 to 54. Most other parishes stayed about the same or dropped slightly this past year.

Membership is \$10 or \$25 for 3 years. If you miss the membership drive (February or March) you can use e-transfer to: <a href="mailto:lifecompassprospera@outlook.com">lifecompassprospera@outlook.com</a> or you can use our Life Canada Stripe account.

#### Pro Life Sunday Funding and our 2025 Skytrain and Transit Bus Ad Campaign

We applied September 2024, for funding from the Archdiocese Respect Life Office and were granted \$20,000.00 towards our 4-week Skytrain (as below) Transit bus poster ads. The campaign will commence January 13 and will stay on the back of 10 buses that rotate through 12 routes, some in Tri-Cities, more this year in Vancouver, and one that travels through Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows from Coquitlam. The posters will have a disclaimer this year, (Lamar Advertising's new rules), to help minimize vandalism. Otherwise, the posters are the same as those used last year.









We are grateful for the generous grant. The money comes from parishioner donations, collected on Father's Day every year. Our campaign last year attracted lots of attention, both negative (complaints to BC Transit, some minor vandalism) and positive.

We are now considering looking social media content where high school and university students (our primary goal is to reach our youth) tend to focus. However, we know that abortion affects the family community. It's not just women and men who lose a child, but the entire family, including siblings, parents, aunts, uncles and so on. Because family includes extended family. We know that prayer is critical to bringing back a "culture of life". The family is the building block of community, and we know secularism is rampant in BC and far beyond.

Canada in Steep Cultural Decline: No Authentic Hospice Care for our Seniors
Friday, December 13, 2024, National Post newspaper article

# • One in 20 deaths now due to MAID

With only two weeks left to go in 2024, Health Canada had <u>finally released</u> the official figures on medical assistance in dying (MAID) deaths in 2023.

The Fifth Annual Report on Medical Assistance in Dying in Canada, published on December 13th, reveals that one in every 20 Canadian deaths is now due to assisted suicide. There were 15,343 total MAID deaths in 2023, the median age of successful assisted suicide applicants was 77.7 years, and 622 people received MAID for a non-

terminal illness. But beneath those banner figures are some more surprising takeaways that are largely flying under the radar. Below, a cursory look at just how much of an outlier Canada is on assisted suicide.

 Canada has likely already surpassed the Netherlands as the world capital of assisted suicide

As per the new report, Canada is second only to the Netherlands in terms of the percentage of overall deaths attributable to assisted suicide.

In 2023, about five percent of Dutch deaths were due to euthanasia, just ahead of Canada's 4.7 percent. But as detailed below, Canada's growth rate is way higher than the Netherlands.

The Dutch took 22 years to reach five percent, compared to just seven years for Canada.

So, given that the 2023 figures are now almost a year old, Canada is likely already in a situation in which a higher proportion of Canadians are dying by assisted suicide than in any other country.

And that's definitely true at the regional level, with some provinces already posting MAID deaths well in excess of any comparable world jurisdiction.

For the first six years of legalized MAID in Canada, the rate of deaths grew by at least 30% per year...the fastest and most sustained growth rate of any assisted suicide regime in the world....

Half of non-terminally ill people applying for MAID report being lonely

Nearly half of all MAID applicants expressed fears they were becoming a "burden"

Of the 89 people (nurse practitioners, doctors) responsible for carrying out a third of all MAID deaths in Canada, The infamous Ellen Weibe (BC "doctor") administered life-ending drugs to more than 400 patients (2024 National Post profile)

According to Health Canada, the above 89 people effectively perform MAID as their primary job

Read the full article by National Post reporter Tristen Hopper Google: Tristin Hopper National Post December 14, 2024, One in twenty deaths

## Looking Ahead

- 1. Membership drives in parishes February and March
- 2. Ash Wednesday, March 5, Forty Days for Life begins
- 3. Holy Thursday, April 17, Forty Days for Life ends
- 4. Holy Saturday, April 19, Blooms into Rooms for seniors in care
- 5. Easter Sunday April 20
- 6. March For Life Victoria May 8 (and across Canada) https://m4lvictoria.ca/schedule/
- 7. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual LCS Walk, Bike or Run for Life Saturday September 6 or 13