



THE RIGHT TO LIFE

Association of Thunder Bay and Area

LIFE – Precious at all Stages

SPRING / SUMMER 2025



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AGM 2025 FEATURES KEYNOTE SPEAKER ANGELINA IRELAND, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF DELTA HOSPICE SOCIETY

The very well-attended 52nd Annual General Meeting of the Right to Life Association of Thunder Bay and Area was held on Tuesday, April 29th at Summit Church with keynote presenter Angelina Ireland of Delta Hospice Society.

Bishop Alan Campeau, who was recently installed as Bishop of the Thunder Bay Diocese, opened the meeting with prayer. Following the business meeting, our AGM this year was privileged to have Angelina Ireland as our special guest speaker.

As a result of a personal battle with cancer, Angelina became a client of the Delta Hospice Society (DHS) located in Delta, British Columbia. After her successful recovery, she joined their Board of Directors and in 2019 became President of the Society. Because DHS would not perform MAiD or refer patients for MAiD, and even though 22 years remained on the lease agreement with Fraser Health Authority (FHA) Institute, their lease was broken and the buildings expropriated by the FHA.

In her presentation, Angelina warned of the recent trends in expansions to MAiD: “One-stop shopping” is now available in some funeral homes where a room for MAiD is available; “MAiD Houses” are springing up in cities across Canada for people who don’t want to be “MAiDed” in their family home; and MAiD is being pushed on people or their loved ones who are seeking health care.

She also spoke of emerging studies suggesting the person being “MAiDed” looks peaceful because one of the drugs administered is a paralytic, while the experience is probably more like being water-

boarded (drowning) and unable to react due to paralysis.

Over the last several years, Angelina has continued the fight to defend the organization from various levels of government and euthanasia advocates, to protect the true principles of palliative care. Instrumental in the election of a pro-life directorship, Delta Hospice has been able to develop innovative programs that fight for the protection of Canadians who seek healthcare and not MAiD. One such program is the Do Not Euthanize (DNE) Advanced Directive Kit. Information about the DNE kit and how to order it online can be found at <https://deltahospicesociety.org/do-not-euthanize-dne-defence-kit/> or info@deltahospice.org or phone: 1-800-232-1589.

As Executive Director, Angelina remains committed to providing a sanctuary for the living and assistance to families who are looking for genuine and compassionate care and treatment on their end-of-life journey.

This work will become even more important as people and/or their loved ones are being more and more aggressively coerced into MAiD, or pressured into stopping food, fluid and oxygen, and as we approach March 2027, when MAiD solely for mental illness will be addressed by the Canadian government after being deferred back in 2024.

If you were unable to attend Angelina’s presentation at the AGM, or if you would like to watch it again or share it with others, you will find it at www.thunderbay.life

 <p>Jane Doe National Registry #610001</p> <p>I REQUIRE HEALTHCARE NOT “MAiD”</p> <p>For more information contact: #1-800-232-1589</p>	 <p>Delta Hospice Society <i>comfort, meaning, dignity and hope</i></p> <p>I, Jane Doe, have signed a Do Not Euthanize Advance Directive (DNE)</p>
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OTTAWA NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE HUGE SUCCESS

On May 8, 2025, the 28th annual National March for Life (MFL), organized by Campaign Life Coalition (CLC), took place in Ottawa with thousands of pro-life groups and individuals in attendance.

MFL, the largest annual protest on Parliament Hill, takes place during the month of May to mark the Day of Infamy. When the 1969 omnibus Bill opened up the floodgates to abortion, pro-lifers held a rally in front of the Parliament Buildings and marched through downtown Ottawa demanding that elected representatives fight for the right to life of every human being *from conception to natural death*. Since the legalization of euthanasia and assisted suicide in 2016, the March has also sounded the alarm over the steadily increasing number of vulnerable citizens killed by medical professionals under the euphemism “MAiD” or “Medical Assistance in Dying.”

Each year Thunder Bay RTL offers a subsidy to those who want to attend. This year, two people were subsidized including one Board member whose detailed report can be found at our website thunderbay.life.

MFL activities span a week and typically include Masses and prayer services, Candlelight Vigil, Rally on the Hill, Rose Dinner Gala, and Youth Summit. This year included a first-ever adult Leaders Summit.

The day of the March through Ottawa began with morning Mass at Notre Dame Cathedral, as well as Masses and prayer services at various other locations. Shortly after lunch, CLC President Jeff Gunnarson welcomed everyone to the Hill. A variety of speakers including Angelina Steenstra (Silent No More), Angelina Ireland (Delta Hospice Society), Alex Schadenberg (Euthanasia Prevention Coalition), the Knight of Columbus Grand Chief of Canada, and many others spoke. The march through downtown Ottawa followed with participants carrying pro-life signs and some chanting pro-life slogans. Upon returning to Parliament Hill, a few testimonies from Silent No More were shared. The Rose Dinner Gala followed at the Ottawa Conference & Event Centre, where many pro-life organizations had exhibits and provided pro-life resources.

On Friday, May 9th, the Save The Babies Leaders’ Summit, organized by CLC’s Josie Lukte and Ruth Robert, began with Dunnmedia’s video [The True North in a Post-ROE World](#). Alex Schadenberg, founder of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, warned of the impact of Recommendations 429 and 430 in the government’s Standing Committee on Finance report that was issued in December 2024. (See **RECOMMENDATIONS 429 AND 430** article.) He also spoke about Bill C-7. (See **UN COMMITTEE’S CALL TO REVERSE MAiD EXPANSION IN CANADA** article). Full implementation of C-7 would extend eligibility for mental and physical disabilities, and allow mature minors to choose MAiD.

A panel consisting of Pro-life Legal experts was held. Hatim Kheir (Constitutional Laws) works with PPS (People Protective Services), Alan Honner is a civil and criminal lawyer and spoke about Encroachment on Free Speech, and Phil Morgan, Constitutional Freedom of Conscious spoke about the Bubble Zone Law, properly known as the “Safe Access to Abortion Services Act”. It requires protestors to stay at least 50 metres from clinics and 150 metres from hospitals providing the abortion procedures.

Our RTL Board member who attended MFL stated, “As you can see, the road to ending the killing from conception to natural death has many obstructions. We MUST pray for divine power for intervention in this matter”.



A 4.5 minute video that captures the highlights of this year’s MFL can be viewed at marchforlife.ca or through the link on our website. The next National March for Life will take place in Ottawa on May 14, 2026. RTL members interested in being subsidized to attend can contact us at info@thunderbay.life

RACHELS VINEYARD - A RETREAT EXPERIENCE FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY ABORTION



The next Rachel's Vineyard retreat is scheduled to take place in Thunder Bay the weekend of October 17-19, 2025. For more information, visit www.rachelsvineyard.org or call the Program Coordinator at 807-767-7420.

RECOMMENDATIONS 429 & 430 – IMPACT ON CHURCHES AND PRO-LIFE ORGANIZATIONS

The current crisis in trade relations with the US has overshadowed an issue that should be of great concern to all churches as well as faith-based and pro-life organizations in Canada; recommendations 429 and 430 which could revoke charitable status of Canadian religious organizations.

Recommendations 429 and 430 were part of a report containing pre-budget consultations hastily released by the Standing Committee on Finance in December 2024 amid the chaos of the resignation of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and shortly before Justin Trudeau announced his resignation as Leader and requested prorogation of Parliament.

Recommendation 429 suggests that anti-abortion organizations should no longer be provided charitable status.



Recommendation 430 proposes amending the Income Tax Act to remove the privileged status of "advancement of religion" as a charitable purpose. These will deprive the anti-abortion groups, pregnancy counselling groups and other related groups from doing the work they do to save lives and support the vulnerable.

Leaders of many churches have expressed concern. Vatican News reported, "On February 21, Cardinal Frank Leo, Archbishop of Toronto, wrote a letter to Finance Minister Dominic Leblanc, voicing the Catholic Church's concern remarking that religious charitable organizations strengthen the very fabric of our nation through their dedicated service, outreach efforts, and care for those in need. Cardinal Leo also condemned the proposal as 'utterly deplorable and unacceptable,' arguing that if pro-life and religious organizations were to lose their charitable status, it would go against Canada's long-standing recognition of the irreplaceable role of faith, worship, and religion in society."

Many faith-based organizations are circulating information and petitions to be sent to the government.

1.888.612.3960

help@abortionpillreversal.ca

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IT MAY NOT BE TOO LATE!

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If you regret your decision and wish you could reverse the effects of the abortion pill, we are here to help!

You are not alone. Many women moments after swallowing the first pill realize that they have made a "mistake" and do not wish to harm their baby. There is a safe, tested, effective treatment to reverse the abortion pill process. You and your baby can have a second chance, but you must act now! Call 1.888.612.3960.

UN COMMITTEE'S CALL TO REVERSE MAiD EXPANSION IN CANADA

According to the Federal Government's annual report on MAiD, there were 15,343 MAiD deaths in 2023, representing 4.7% of all deaths in Canada, compared to 4% the previous year. Since MAiD was legalized in 2016, numbers of deaths steadily increased each year by an average rate of 31% and by 15.8% between 2022 and 2023.

When euthanasia was legalized in 2016, one of the requirements to qualify was imminent death. Expansion to those whose death was not reasonably foreseeable took place through the passing of Bill C-7 in March 2021. One of the government's approved expansions in Bill C-7 permitted euthanasia for mental illness alone, however, a 2-year delay to allow for preparation was granted, followed by further delay until March 17, 2027. People whose death is reasonably foreseeable can be euthanized through Track 1. Track 2 refers to euthanasia for those whose death is not reasonably foreseeable.

In California, where the population is similar to Canada's, approximately 900 people died by euthanasia compared to over 15,000 in Canada. While death by MAiD is becoming ubiquitous in Canada, the world is watching and raising alarm bells. In March 2025, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) asked the government to repeal Track 2 of MAiD because it is "based on negative, ableist perceptions of the quality and value of life of persons with disabilities," resulting in disproportionate effects on marginalized Canadians. The committee also recommended that Canada create a federal MAiD watchdog to look into complaints and investigate reasons people are requesting MAiD. The report stated that the Canadian government is offering MAiD as a relief for people for whom it failed to provide proper services and supports such as health care, housing, employment opportunities and financial support. The committee also recommended rejecting Track 2 proposals of offering MAiD to "mature minors" (under 18 years of age).

In a report issued by CTV news on April 6, 2025, Health Canada said they have no intention of repealing Track 2 of MAiD.

BILL C-218 TO PREVENT EUTHANASIA SOLELY FOR MENTAL ILLNESS

On June 20, 2025, Conservative MP Tamara Jansen (Cloverdale – Langley City) introduced Private Members Bill C-218 in the House of Commons to stop the expansion of MAiD solely for mental illness. The Bill will likely be debated in the House this Fall, and since the Conservatives do not form the government, it will require support from MPs of other parties. Tamara is asking people to contact their MPs and ask them to support her Bill.

In his June 25, 2025 blog post, Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director of Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, called this "great news". He also stated, "For Bill C-218 to be successful, we will need stories from Canadians who have lived with, (or currently live with) mental health concerns and may have died by euthanasia (MAiD) if it had been available at that time. Contact us with your story at: Info@epcc.ca." You can find links to his post and a petition at our website thunderbay.life. Direct access to the petition is at nomaidformentalillness.ca.

On June 21st, MP Tamara Jansen made a surprise visit to the Alliance for Life Ontario (AFLO) AGM and Conference being held in Guelph. She informed participants of her Bill presented in the House the previous day and stressed how important it is to contact MPs this summer to voice support for it. AFLO is the umbrella organization under which Thunder Bay RTL falls. Our President represented us at the event which featured guest speakers Stephen Woodward – Lawyer and former MP, Alexander Raikin – Visiting Fellow in Bioethics at the Ethics & Public Policy Centre, Dr. Laura Lewis – Executive Director of Pregnancy Care Canada, and Amanda Achtman – Founder of the Dying to Meet You Project.

Visit allianceforlifeontario.ca for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

National Life Chain

– Oct. 5, 2025, Thunder Bay
location to be announced.

National March for Life & Youth Summit

– May 14 & 15, 2026, Ottawa