



Dear friends,

During the Christmas holidays, I met a lady whose daughter had recently attended a community evening at Rehoboth Christian School in Norwich (ON), where Justina Van Manen and I spoke. She had come home from work later than expected but said she'd rather walk in late than miss the presentation.

At the end of the evening the young lady took home a CCBR pamphlet and gave it to an older co-worker. The next day this same colleague said she'd shown it to her daughter who, it turned out, was experiencing an unwanted pregnancy. **After reading the pamphlet and seeing what abortion would do to her tiny baby's body, she decided to carry the pregnancy to term.**

And there's more! London Against Abortion very recently held a "Choice" Chain, when an older man stopped to say that the last time the group was out (the time they'd wanted to cancel due to cold weather) his granddaughter had driven past. **She was on her way to an abortion appointment but saw the pictures of first-trimester abortion victims and changed her mind.**



▲ Activism in London (ON)

Two little children (that we know of!) who were in danger of death are alive today because pro-lifers shared the truth and the means were blessed.

In Alberta, campus outreach was resumed this month by volunteers and CCBR's Calgary staff. Cam Côté talked to a young man who left the conversation saying, **"I really hadn't thought abortion was like killing a born child but you're right: it's a human rights violation."**

What's next?

To launch into Canada's 150th anniversary year, people in Western Canada will be provided with the skills they need to help change minds and save lives. For this purpose, six Calgary staffers and our speaker Devorah Gilman went on a successful tour which started in Kelowna (B.C.) on January 23rd and ended in Mundare (Alberta) on February 4th.



▲ The tour team ready to leave Calgary

In the meantime, various Ontario staff members are in the final stages of preparing for the annual Florida GAP tour. **45 young people** have been accepted to receive training and do outreach on four campuses.

I often think of Darianna, a young student we met at Florida International University. "The last time you came here," she said, "I'd been promoting women's rights on campus and even Miami Beach, truly believing in my cause. **But then I saw the mangled bodies of those little kids and I instantly knew I'd always been wrong.** Now I'm completely pro-life."

What if pro-lifers can't share their message?

When abortion is shown, abortion protests itself. That's why it's crucial that we are able to share the truth in public. In contrast, when pro-lifers are prohibited from publicly sharing this message, democratic values are undermined and, worst of all, pre-born children have no voice. Everyone loses—with the most vulnerable paying the heaviest price.

This is the reason that CCBR **retained constitutional lawyer Carol Crosson and launched our legal department with the expertise of staff member Nicholas McLeod in November of 2015.**

Over the past year, Crosson Constitutional Law (CCL) has represented CCBR:

- to municipalities to advocate for the right CCBR has to share its message;
- to authorities at numerous university and college campuses to ensure that the team can do outreach in these places;
- with police or by-law officers who wrongly told staff or volunteers to stop doing activism.

Many pro-life groups and campus clubs face the same obstacles but, without legal representation, are often limited. As such, **CCBR has offered CCL's services free of charge to the larger pro-life community.** Here's a sampling of who has received legal support *and* continue to reach their communities as a result:



▲ Outreach on campus thanks to CCL

- Abortion Awareness Project
- Guelph for Life
- Lethbridge Students for Life
- London Against Abortion
- Niagara Against Abortion
- Oxford Against Abortion
- Pembina Pro-Life
- Peterborough Pro-Life
- Windsor Right to Life
- University of Waterloo Students for Life

What is happening with the court cases?

Many of you will be familiar with CCBR's bus ad which, since late 2015, was refused by four municipalities. We commenced advertising cases against them 1) to assert that pro-lifers have the right to share their message and 2) to be able to reach the public with an effective ad.

- *CCBR v. Peterborough (ON)*: prior to the hearing, the City admitted that refusing CCBR's right to share its message was a breach of its Charter right. We went to Court on a technicality and received a ruling in CCBR's favour. This was a big win which also generated coverage by more than 100 media sources, many of them showing the ad.

- *CCBR v. Grande Prairie (AB)*: on Dec. 22, 2016, the Court ruled that the ad is likely to cause "psychological harm to women" who have had or are considering an abortion and "fear and confusion among children" who may not understand the ad. (Note that the ad only uses images of children growing in the womb.) This is a serious departure from consistent Supreme Court rulings which provide broad protection for controversial messages. CCBR has appealed to the Alberta Court of Appeal.
- *CCBR v. TransLink (BC)*: we have won two applications against TransLink so far. The next hearing is scheduled for April 2017.
- *CCBR v. Hinton (AB)*: on Jan. 19, 2017, the Court ruled for CCBR, declaring that the Town of Hinton breached CCBR's Charter right to freedom of expression when it rejected our ad unseen, simply because it was pro-life. ▼ CCBR's bus ad



We are so grateful for the legal victories of the past year and the many opportunities to use life-saving projects. Your financial support has been, and continues to be, instrumental to what CCBR and the pro-life movement at large can achieve.

It has also become clear that much needs to be done to continue protecting freedom of expression in Canada, especially for the pro-life message. The costly legal cases we are involved in *need* to progress so that the truth can be shared and little children will be saved from abortion. To allow our legal team to continue defending the efforts of CCBR staff and other pro-lifers, we depend on generous supporters like you. **This month, will you consider giving to this crucial component of our work?**

In this new year, we look forward to your partnership so that together with pro-lifers across our nation, the Lord willing, we will continue building a culture of life—**one child, one conversation, one campus, and one court case at a time!**

Warm regards,

Maaike Rosendal