



Stratford and District Right to Life

Newsletter

Dec 2015

Newsletter No.140

STRATFORD AND DISTRICT RIGHT TO LIFE IS A PRO-LIFE, non-denominational organization of individuals who believe that all life - before and after birth - has a right to care and protection. We try to serve as a centre of information on the abortion issue, and to reach out to all Canadians concerning the preservation and dignity of human life, and also to urge one to take action in our democratic society.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING

75 FRANKLIN DR. STRATFORD

1:00 P.M.

4TH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

EXCEPT FEB. JULY & DEC

PICKETING

LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

4-5 P.M. IN FRONT OF LHSC

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President's Message

Jacqui Connolly

My sincere thanks for all the well-wishes and votes of confidence extended to me in my new role as President of the Stratford & District Right to Life.

I will do my utmost to fulfill the trust that you have placed in me to continue the work so well done by past executives; with Elisabeth as Past President assisting me, the work will continue. Thank you to all our Members, both new and renewed, and to our area reps, especially during this membership campaign. All of you are the Stratford & District Right to Life.

Our Annual Dinner and Raffle in October were successful, once again. Guest speaker, Fr. Tom Lynch, from Priests for Life, was well received and the evening was a celebration of life and friendship. Congratulations to the Raffle prize winners and thank you to all who purchased the tickets, supporting the Right to Life cause.

Special thanks to all members who got out and sold those tickets for this fundraiser.

With our new Federal government declaring itself to be 100% Pro-Abortion, we can be sure that promoting the Right to Life for all will not get any easier. New Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide legislation and Conscience Rights of Physician laws are currently being drafted. Now, more than ever, we need to make our voices heard on all of these issues. I will be presenting some new ideas for the association in the coming months and also hope to hear from the membership with any initiatives to promote respect for life.

As we prepare for Christmas, let us remember the "Reason for the Season." Our Saviour was a homeless Babe, born into difficult circumstances. Our Hope in the coming year - That all mothers who find themselves in a crisis pregnancy may remember the dignity and worth of the Child that they carry within, and bravely choose Life. May the people they go to for help consider the humanity of both mother and child before encouraging decisions. May all who are facing terminal illness or debilitating conditions be encouraged with hope and treated with dignity. May your Christmas and holidays be merry and Life affirming. See you in the New Year.

Couple's offer to adopt after watching Planned Parenthood video goes viral

November 10, 2015 (*LiveActionNews*) –

In the fourth of a series of undercover investigative videos, a Planned Parenthood worker casually sifts through the “war-torn” remains of an aborted fetus, looking for pieces to sell. “It’s a baby,” she jokes. “Another boy,” she adds, picking up a severed leg.

After watching this video, Kevin Cook, a student at Asbury Theological Seminary in Kentucky, posted the following response:

I have been praying, and hoping, and waiting, and crying out to God for a child for almost two years now. Going through fertility issues is one of the most stressful and heart-wrenching experiences I’ve had to deal with in my short life of 30 years thus far. Nicole and I had a miscarriage about a year and a half ago, and have been desperately trying to get pregnant again ever since, with no luck as of yet.

When I watch the despicable horrors of these videos being released about Planned Parenthood and their profiting from the sale of fetus organs, it doesn’t break my heart... it completely shatters it.

It’s appalling to me how those who pride themselves on fighting for civil rights and social justice keep silent on this. Where is the evangelical left on abortion?!



If anyone out there reads this and is considering abortion, I will take your baby. My wife and I will gladly take all your babies! I’m completely serious. If you are pregnant and don’t want your child, we will. It’s not a fetus. It’s a blessing. Life matters.

For Kevin and his wife, Nicole, this was no idle promise. On October 30, Kevin posted another entry on his blog, along with the picture shown below:

After months of prayer and discernment, Nicole and I have chosen to take action. This past week we began looking into the process of adoption. We did some research and reached out to a number of adoption agencies. Though it may be difficult, we are hoping and looking for an opportunity to adopt a baby who would otherwise be aborted.

In the past, we’ve seen people standing outside an abortion clinic in Lexington with signs and information reaching out to people. Two weeks ago, Nicole stopped by when she was in the area and talked to them. She learned that this was the only abortion clinic in Lexington and is open on Thursday and Friday mornings, during which all they do is abortions, both by appointment and walk-in.

So we decided to step out in faith. We made our own signs and this morning we went out there to pray for and reach out to people with God’s love.

That day, as they stood outside the abortion facility, Kevin and Nicole were mocked and largely ignored. But they didn’t give up. They went home and shared the picture on Facebook, along with their dream to adopt.

Their story instantly resonated with others. Soon tens of thousands of people had shared their post. Messages began pouring in.

Four days after the initial posting, Kevin gave another update on his blog:

We’ve been in touch with dozens of pregnant women who were considering abortion, but after seeing our post reconsidered and messaged us.

We are still looking for the right situation for God to use us to save the life of a child who would otherwise be aborted, and we would love to be able to save two if God provides that! Women continue to message us and we are looking at each one as an opportunity to save a life, either through personally adopting their child or through connecting them with an adoption agency locally. We know it’s a long process and a lot can change over time, but we hope to find our two soon and begin that long journey together!

We’ve gotten in touch with an adoption attorney and are excited about working with her!

Hundreds of women have messaged us saying that they would prefer to give up their baby through adoption rather than getting an abortion, but they don’t know how to do that. A huge part of what we have been doing over the past couple days is connecting these mothers with local adoption agencies. We are planning to put together a resource of solid adoption agencies, both national and regional, to give to women who are considering abortion. The solution to ending abortion includes offering pregnant women clear steps to take when choosing alternatives to death.

Our prayer is to completely overwhelm adoption agencies nationwide with an influx of birth mothers who have seen our message and have chosen life!

The next day, one of Kevin’s friends shared this story on Facebook:

So this just happened. Kevin and I are working at Starbucks and this woman just recognized him from his post about adoption. She just said that another woman is not going to get an abortion because of their post and wants to give the baby to this particular woman and her husband!!!

Kevin and Nicole are still looking for an opportunity to adopt, and have also set up a GoFundMe account to help with the expenses of adoption.

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Stratford and District Right to Life

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We're burning babies

by Jonathon Van Maren

October 29, 2015 ([TheBridgehead](#)) -- I've now gone through the second set of leaked Planned Parenthood videos, the three part series entitled "Fetal Disposition," or in layman's terms, how to dispose of the babies once they've been turned into corpses. I've seen more in my work as an anti-abortion activist than I can possibly write, but for some reason, this series has left me more nauseated and heartbroken than the worst abortion footage I've ever seen. There is something so ghoulish, so hideous, and so cannibalistic about this panel of calm, well-spoken women discussing how to deal with the piles and piles of irretrievably shredded infants. It's times like this when I shudder for our society, for our churches, for our communities, for all of us.

As the panel discussion on what to do with the children who are inconvenient even in death proceeded, Renee Chelian, who owns three abortion clinics around Detroit, revealed her struggles. "The garbage disposal [for aborted fetuses] was the completely legal option which made me sick to my stomach," she said to sympathetic murmurs. "Because there were 45 clinics in the Detroit Metro Area, and many of them using garbage disposals, so I was busy contacting everyone. You have to stop, this cannot be! If it can't be on the front page of the *New York Times* you shouldn't be doing it, any of you. And they consistently showed me a 40-year-old law in Michigan that said pathological waste was fine to go in the sewer system."

During the Q & A, a Canadian abortionist made an appearance in the discussion. She had no problem with corpse disposal: "I don't know about the rest of you, but certainly ours is going to Portland," she said. "The facility is a waste energy facility." At the time, [as news sources reported](#), the remains of pre-born Canadian children were being burned with the trash to help power the society that discarded them. But then again, as Chelian asked, what else do you do with "a whole jar of first-trimester patients?"

Vigilance, always vigilance, Chelian warned the other abortionists. The anti-abortion activists were everywhere—if *only she had known*—and "they don't care about truth." One woman piped up to concur, worried that the cemetery that accepted the ashes from the incinerated fetuses might "turn into a memorial for dead babies or something." A chuckle rippled through the hall. That would be unacceptable. These babies, after all, must be forgotten. They *must*. That is why abortionists exist.

for the full article, please go to :

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/opinion/were-burning-babies>



Planned Parenthood workers reveal:

The devious ways we coerced pregnant teens to abort

October 30, 2015 ([LiveActionNews](#)) Former Planned Parenthood worker Lavonne Wilenken describes coercive and biased counseling given by Planned Parenthood workers to teenagers considering abortion. Her testimony adds to the ever-growing pile of evidence that Planned Parenthood has been giving biased and coercive counseling to women for years.

Lavonne Wilenken, who worked as a former nurse practitioner at a Planned Parenthood clinic, told her story back in 1992. Why is it still relevant today? Because it is further evidence that Planned Parenthood has always aggressively promoted abortion as the solution to unplanned pregnancy.

Wilenken says that when a pregnant teenager came to the clinic but seemed reluctant to have an abortion, the following would happen:

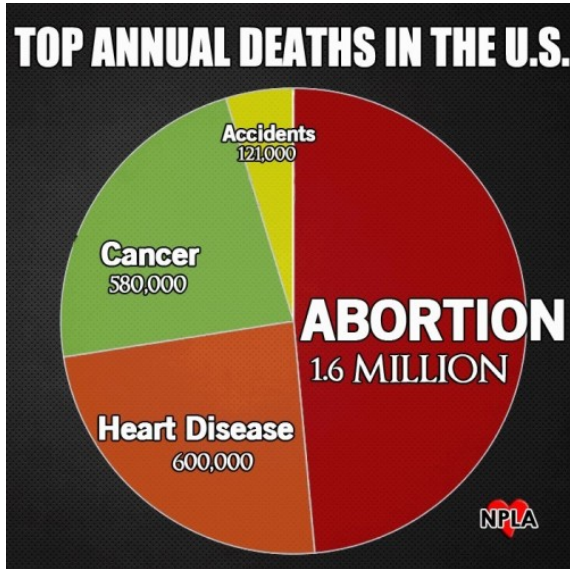
The counselor would say to the teenager, "Well, where's the \$250,000 that it takes to raise a child in society today?" And "What are your parents going to say when they find out that you're pregnant?" And "What is your boyfriend doing? Is he going to help you? Where is he?" and "How are you going to finish your education if you have a baby? Don't you know you can't go to school if you have a baby?" Things like that, very subtle things that will push the girl over and make her decide.

Then they sort of do a "Mutt and Jeff" routine. First will come those questions. Next will come the very motherly, the very soothing, "But we can help you. We can help you out of your problem. Your parents don't have to know. We can help you with the money. You don't have to have any money and we can help you out of your situation because we know that you don't want to be pregnant. You just want to be not pregnant and we know that you know that you can't take care of a baby right now. You know that you're not ready and we want you to do these things when you're ready." So they play on the emotions of the young girl who scared, frightened, doesn't know where to go, but she's been told this is the place to go to get help.

In this way, the teenager was frightened into consenting to an abortion she might regret for the rest of her life.

(excerpted from the article by Sarah Terzo)

This Graph Of The “Top Annual Deaths In The U.S” Will Make You Want To Cry



When you think of the top cause of death, you probably think of stuff like cancer, car accidents, heart attacks and strokes.

These are pretty big killers, claiming thousands – sometimes hundreds of thousands – of lives each and every year.

But there’s something even worse than all of those that kills over a million people a year.

Can you guess what it is?

(excerpted from the article by Michael Cantrell:

<https://www.youngcons.com/graph-top-annual-deaths-u-s-will-make-want-cry/>)



Virginia Miller presents the Mary Devlin Bursary Award to Thomas Horenberg of St. Michael Catholic High School

Justin Trudeau claims to support science. Will that extend to abortion facts?

The Honorable Justin Trudeau has gone on record stating that no one can be Liberal and vote pro-life, on any bill. Euthanasia is something to seriously consider, and abortion is a promoted choice, a women’s rights issue, even a necessity. At the same time, he claims to be a strong supporter of science. So fortunately for Trudeau, and even more fortunately for the pre-born children he casually dismisses, science tells us the abortion debate needs to be re-opened.

Trudeau’s thank-you speech focused on his “old-fashioned strategy” of talking to people, and really listening to them. Yet somehow he failed to talk to anyone who cared about life, or at least he failed to do that listening he’s so proud of.

Perhaps Canadians are in part to blame. Perhaps we didn’t bring up the issue of pre-born human rights as loudly and as clearly as we meant to. Perhaps we still don’t fully understand the implications of our “no-laws” approach to abortion, an approach that allows abortions at any stage, for any reason, from convenience to gender preference. But science tells us unequivocally that babies are complete, unique, living human beings from conception onward, with their own DNA, their hair and eye colour already determined. They possess the ability to grow and develop at an astonishing rate, and the potential only to develop into a human being, nothing less.

Now science tells us even more. We know babies suck their thumb in the womb, startle to loud noises and bright lights, and recognize the sound of their mother’s voice and cadence of her accent immediately after birth. A recent study also now tells us that babies respond to music at 16 weeks, pulling their tongues in motions indicative of attempts to sing long before they are actually able to speak. Babies respond more strongly after birth to music they heard repeatedly while in the womb.

(excerpted from <https://www.wenedalaw.ca/blog/552-science-supports-abortion-debate>)

The following letter was received from bursary award winner, Thomas Horenberg. Thomas we wish you well in all your endeavours!

Dear Stratford & District Right to Life

I would like to thank you for allowing and giving me the Mary Devlin Memorial Bursary. I always appreciated these types of awards because anybody can get the highest mark in a class, but not everyone has the guts to stand up for their faith. I see this award as that: standing up for faith. I am truly grateful that you saw this character in me and decided that it was worth an award. I will continue to stand up for life issues because “every life is sacred from womb to tomb or conception to natural death.”

May God bless you in all your works and give you the strength to continue to fight for the truth.

From Thomas Horenberg

“Right to Life in Action”

Annual General Meeting of the Toronto Right to Life

submitted by Jacqui Connolly

1. Lawyer for Physicians for Life, Faye Sonier, presented a compelling review of the current state of affairs for Canadian physicians as to their freedom of conscience in regards to procedures they will perform and more importantly, which procedures they will *not* perform
2. (Physician) assisted suicide and euthanasia is now legal in Canada - Supreme Court of Canada has given the government until Feb. 16, 2016 to draft a new law
3. The Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms has always allowed doctors to refuse to perform procedures which violate their conscience; this discriminates against procedures, *not* persons
4. The Ontario Human Rights Code echoes those of the Charter
5. Under the proposed law, doctors who disagree with procedures which violate their conscience would be forced out of their profession – is it reasonable to dictate which morality a doctor may bring to their patient – do we want doctors to check their morality at the door

Go to www.moralconvictions.com for more on this issue

Annual Dinner -Listowel Right to Life – Speaker Alex Schadenburg – submitted by Sharon Walsh

1. Canadian Press Nov. 14: the new federal Liberal government will not be seeking advice from the federal panel on assisted dying that was appointed by the previous Conservative government
2. The media presents stories of terminally ill people enduring great physical pain in their dying days – when death becomes an option, it becomes the solution to many things – people are being euthanized for psychological or social reasons, mental suffering
3. One man was refused funding from his medical insurance company for treatment of his disease but was told that they would pay for assisted suicide
4. Think about it: legalizing euthanasia does not give you the right to die; it gives a doctor the right to kill you; it allows other people to encourage you to kill yourself, or to directly kill you, without recourse
5. Most doctors in Canada do not favour euthanasia, they do not want to kill, but fear that they will be required by law to refer you to a doctor who will
6. Our culture needs love; it is the only antidote to the culture of death; we need to spend time with the elderly, the sick and the suffering

Stratford and District Right to Life Year in Review 2014-2015

THE AGM was held Sept 23, 2014. The executive remained unchanged from the previous year. We did however welcome our new area rep from Seaforth, Marrassa Devereaux.

The new year's activities began with Lifechain on October 5.

Our Annual Dinner and Raffle on October 25, 2014 was attended by a near capacity crowd of 190. Guest speaker was Jonathan Van Maren

The first meeting of this year was held on October 28, 2014 and planning started right away on a very busy year.

SDR2L sponsored Rebecca Kiesling to speak at our Catholic High schools November 5. We also provided funding for an event board at St Ann's High School in support of Students for Life activities.

Three members of the executive; Elisabeth Dobbe, Janet Albert and Virginia Miller attended a euthanasia workshop in London with Mark Mostert on Nov 5th.

Elisabeth, Janet and Virginia attended the Region 1 Meeting in March in Komoka.

Work was done on several billboards, new ones erected and old ones repaired or replaced.

We had a movie night dessert social in February showing the film Irreplaceable.

Alliance For Life Conference in Niagara Falls in June was attended by 6 members.

March For Life May 14, 2014, in Ottawa, was the largest ever, with over 25,000 attendees.

Our Annual Art Contest was held earlier this year to avoid the end of year rush.


SDR2L has acquired a new office location at 200 Charles Street in Stratford, courtesy of the generosity of Terry and Grace Shaw.

The Mary Devlin Memorial Bursaries of \$500.00 each were awarded again this year to deserving high school students.

Fifteen people from SDR2L attended the Diocesan Day of Prayer in Merlin on August 18.

With this year we will see the last of our Annual Raffles. Even though it is our largest fundraiser, government regulations and the sheer volume of work involved in organizing and holding the raffle is becoming onerous.

We have seen a gradual decline in the number of members of the SDR2L as our several of our elderly members passed on and we have not seen a corresponding increase in younger members.



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Stratford & District Right to Life Annual Dinner and Raffle
 The 43rd Annual Dinner & Raffle was held Saturday, October 24, 2015 at the Army and Navy Hall in Stratford, with the opening "Prayer to End Abortion" led by Fr. Dick Bester. A delicious roast beef and chicken dinner was enjoyed by 165 people, both young and not so young. After our meal, the newly elected Executive and Board Members for the Stratford & District Right to Life were formally introduced. In her final President's Address, Elisabeth Dobbe concluded by presenting Jeffrey Hartman and family with a "Praying Hands of Jesus" statuette in honour of their example of Love in living the Right to Life every day. Immediately after, Elisabeth was presented with a bouquet of flowers, in recognition of the past 6 years as President, by newly elected President, Jacqui Connolly. Flowers were presented to Mary Horenberg for selling the most Dinner tickets, and to Cathy Rops for selling the most raffle tickets. Key note speaker for the evening was Fr. Tom Lynch from Priests for Life. As always, he was informative and encouraging to all of us in the struggle for the Right to Life. The last item on the agenda for the evening was our final fundraising Raffle draw. Congratulations to all the Raffle Prize winners and also to the door prize winners. The evening concluded with the "Prayer for Canada", led by Fr. Seejo.



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From the Editor's Desk

by Virginia Miller



Conscience – knowledge of one's own acts as right or wrong (Webster's dictionary)

Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms – Fundamental Freedoms:

Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms:

- a. *freedom of conscience and religion;*
- b. *freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication;*
- c. *freedom of peaceful assembly; and*
- d. *freedom of association.*

It is important that we understand that freedom of conscience and religion, which we take for granted, are enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms for all Canadians. This should be a safeguard against tyranny and abuse, but these rights are being manipulated, even eroded. New "rights", which are really license masquerading as human rights, are being steadily introduced and passed into law.

The woman's "right" to Abortion has been enshrined in Canadian law throughout all nine months of pregnancy for over 40 years now, up to and including birth; our government refuses to declare personhood for the child in the womb, despite scientific proof and common sense to know that human beings beget living human babies. This lawful "license"(disguised as a right), to abort a living child in the womb overrides the natural human rights of the child in utero because Canadian law refuses to admit that a child in the womb is a living human being. Our conscience should tell us that this is unjust and immoral. Abortions are not performed by all doctors, but pressure is levied against all doctors to refer abortion minded patients to a source of abortion (compliance?). Very recently our government legalized euthanasia and (physician) assisted suicide, in the name of mercy, for terminally ill, pain ridden persons, who should have the "right" to decide their death. This is a repeat of the way abortion became a "right" to kill; mercy for the woman who could not (or would not) bear to have a child (for any reason).

At this time in Canada, there are those who wish to pass a law which would force doctors who refuse assisted suicide to a patient (because of conscience or religious beliefs) to a doctor who *will* kill them. Just as the person who drives the get-away car in a robbery is complicit with the crime, so a doctor who refers a patient for death is just as guilty of that death as the one who administers the lethal dose. Even though the law of the land has declared euthanasia and assisted suicide to be legal "rights", our conscience and our religious beliefs tell us that this "right" is unjust, immoral, and in reality, another crime against humanity. It is high time that we wake up, fellow Canadians. An enemy is at work here, chipping away at the pillar of basic human freedoms, destroying Life in its infancy, its special needs and its wisdom. These are God given Rights and Freedoms; no man has a right to usurp them, ***but it is happening right now***, first with Abortion, now euthanasia/assisted suicide. Without the Right to Life, no matter what stage, no other right matters. Once our freedom of conscience and religion are legally denied, there is simply Compliance = Slavery.

May the Prince of Peace shower you with His Grace and Truth and Bless you abundantly.

**Abortion does not make you un-pregnant –
it makes you the parent of a dead child**

Federal Government email and web addresses

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Justice Building, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

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MPP's name, Legislative Building

Queen's Park, Toronto, On M7A 1A8

Premier Kathleen Wynne – premier@ontario.ca

Opposition Leader Jim Wilson – jim.wilson@pc.ola.org

MPP – Perth Wellington Randy Pettapiece – randypettapiece@pc.ola.org

MPP – Huron Bruce Lisa Thompson – lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org

MPP Lambton Kent Middlesex – Monte McNaughton

monte.mcnaughton@parl.ola.org

Attorney General John Gerretsen – attorneygeneral@ontario.ca

Health Minister Eric Hoskins – ehoskins.mpp@liveral.ola.org

DID YOU KNOW? In the absence of Canadian Law, abortion is available in Canada through all 9 months of pregnancy, up to and including birth? In the company of China and Korea. Abortion does not make you un-pregnant – it makes you the parent of a dead child.

MEMBERSHIP

Your membership is the lifeline of Stratford & District Right to Life. Please take a moment to renew your membership or consider becoming part of this, your organization, so that we can all work together for the cause of life. Your membership shows that you really do care about the future of your families. Membership is still only \$20.00 per year. You will get a tax receipt for income tax purposes and a subscription to this quarterly newsletter!

Membership Renewal

Yes! I want to support the Stratford and District Right to Life!

P.O. Box 21133, Stratford, ON N5A 7V4

I have enclosed my cheque for \$20.00.

Please send my quarterly newsletter and my tax receipt to:

Name

.....

Address

.....

Postal Code Email

Raffle Winners!

Thanks once again to all who donated prizes, and thanks also to everyone who bought tickets and supported our cause.

The raffle was held at the ANAF Hall, Lorne Avenue, on October 24, 2015.

The lucky winners were:

Handmade quilt: Jim Kelly, Mitchell

Samsung Galaxy Tablet: Howard Culligan, Stratford

\$150.00 cash: Audrey Vorstenbosche

Maple Syrup Basket: Pauline White, Kinkora

Cooler: Steven Anderson, Mitchell

Birdbath: Linda Donkers, Monkton

\$50.00 cash: Janet Albert, Stratford

Compact Grill: Cathy Rops, Mitchell

Faith Plaques: Bev Meyer, Stratford.

Door Prizes were won by

Student prize: Elizabeth Prins

Adult prizes: Herman Van Bakel; Marty Rops,

Rosemary Pugh; Ellen Hopper, Elisabeth Dobbe,

Carol Veldman, Carla Mae Nyenhuis, Steve Veldman,

Josie Schoonderwoerd, Delayne ORourke,

Dora Van Herk, Kevin Horenberg, Rob Scott

98% of
abortions
are for
convenience!



In Memoriam



We encourage everyone to make a donation in memory of a deceased loved one. Cards for Stratford & District Right to Life are available from us or at the Funeral Homes in your area. The funeral home sends the donation to us and we issue a tax deductible receipt.

We extend our sympathy to the families of:

Nicholas Groenestege