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P.O. Box 232, Welland, Ont. L3B 5P4
905-714-0547 - www.wpcprolife.com

**Federal Election 2015:
Do Pre-Born Children Matter?**

ELECTION ISSUE 2015



Justin Trudeau, Stephen Harper and Tom Mulcair

OTTAWA, August 5, 2015 (LifeSiteNews) --With more than 1,000 candidates vying for 338 seats in Canada's House of Commons on October 19 election day, only a handful more than 100 have been identified by Campaign Life Coalition (CLC) as solidly pro-life.

Some are sitting Conservative MPs that CLC has labelled pro-life in its just-published 2015 Election Guide based on their voting record; more are Conservative hopefuls whose evaluation is based on interviews by volunteers; and a few are long-shot candidates running for the Christian Heritage Party..

None is from the Liberals, the New Democrats or the Bloc Quebecois, all of which, says CLC project director Jack Fonseca, "are officially pro-abortion, and have banned pro-life candidates, except in the Liberals' case there are possibly some pro-life MPs who are 'grandfathered.'"

While the governing Conservative Party of Canada's leader, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, "is rated pro-abortion," states the CLC's analysis of the election, the organization still seems to extend a tacit blessing to the Conservatives.

Explains the CLC analysis: "The Conservative caucus is home to about 100 pro-life or pro-life leaning Members of Parliament. Many of these speak out routinely against the barbaric practice of abortion, including MP Stephen Woodworth (Kitchener Centre), MP Brad Trost (Saskatoon-Humboldt) and many others. The pro-life presence is alive and well within the Conservative caucus. The same cannot be said for the NDP or Liberal parties."

The analysis goes on to laud "the Conservatives under Harper" because they "have also strongly opposed efforts by the opposition to legalize euthanasia and assisted suicide."

Federal Election 2015: Do Pre-Born Children Matter?	Page 1
Sex-Selective Abortion	Page 2
Late Term Abortion	Page 3
Pre-Born Victims of Crime	Page 3
Freedom of Conscience	Page 4
Niagara Region Candidates for Federal Parliament	Page 4
Voting: A right & Responsibility	Page 5
Voting means using your Judgment	Page 5

DO PRE-BORN CHILDREN MATTER?

Condemn Sex-Selective abortion	✓	X	X	X	✓
Allow members a free vote on all moral issues	✓	X	✓	X	✓
Allow and defend abortion at any point in a pregnancy	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Support laws that recognize pre-born victims of crime as separate victims when a criminal act is carried out against a pregnant woman.	✓	?	?	X	✓

Welland-Port Colborne Pro-Life Association is an educational group. Our primary purpose is to educate our local Community about pro-life issues from conception to natural death. We also provide a pro-life presence in the community, and, when required, provide support to women in crisis pregnancies.

- President Annette Loeffen
- Treasurer Terry Dyson
- Community Liaison Muriel Dyson
- Secretary Becky Lee
- Membership Director Lisa Loeffen
- Youth Coordinator Angela Braun
- Director Mary Maslink
- Director Dave Harrison
- Member at Large Shirley Brooks
- Editor - Layout & Website Henk van der Wilt



On the other hand, “the election of either the pro-death NDP or the abortion-loving Justin Trudeau would almost certainly mean bad things for preborn children, and for the elderly and disabled who are the targets of euthanasia. We would see an increase in ‘abortion access’ and abortion funding with Canadian taxpayer dollars, both at home and abroad.”

Liberal leader Justin Trudeau comes in for special mention, since he not only explicitly pronounced the Liberals’ pro-abortion policy, but exclusively so: to qualify as Liberal candidates, pro-life Liberals must agree to park their principles at the ornate doors of the House of Commons, and support abortion on every vote.

SEX-SELECTIVE ABORTION

CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	GREEN	NDP	CHP
<p>Passed resolution condemning gendercide at 2013 convention.</p> <p>"I think we need to work closely with women's groups and ensure that people understand that girls and boys are equal under the law, we don't tolerate discrimination against girls and women." (Rona Ambrose)[1]</p>	<p>Understand sex-selective abortion to be a 'right';</p> <p>When asked specifically if he would advise a woman against gender selective abortion Mr. Trudeau said, "I don't think the government should be in the business of legislating away people's rights." [2]</p>	<p>Not in favour of regulations.</p> <p>Rely on "public education and awareness to bring an end to gender discriminatory abortion" (Elizabeth May)</p>	<p>NDP MP and Health critic Libby Davies and MP Nikki Ashton, the NDP's status of women criti, said in a statement that sex-selective abortion "has no place in our society." They are calling for "education and support in order to combat that inequality." [3]</p>	<p>"Our society recognizes the equality and dignity of both sexes. Canadians ho have been born are protected by the Charter from discrimination based on gender. The killing of an unborn child based on gender preference is not only ageist but also sexist." (Rod Taylor, CHP leader)</p>

NDP leader Thomas Mulcair, a baptised Catholic like Trudeau, supports the party’s pro-abortion position, although with less flare than Trudeau. CLC’s analysis notes that Mulcair is the front-runner in a tight, three-way race, while Trudeau has squandered last year’s lead with silly public statements and his pro-abortion declaration.

Despite making it more than obvious that a voter who puts life issues first has little choice but the Conservatives, Fonseca insists, “Campaign Life has always called for supporting pro-life candidates regardless of party.” Thus, “if the Conservative candidate is pro-abortion,” Fonseca told LifeSiteNews, “we urge voters to look for an independent, and to see if the Christian Heritage Party has anyone running.”

Fonseca also said CLC has in the past approved of voters with no acceptable candidates turning in their ballot with a line through all the names, and the words, “no pro-life candidate” added by way of explanation. “If there are dozens of these at a polling station, the word will get back to the parties,” he said.

In very rare cases, there may be justification, said Fonseca, to select the “least bad” candidate based on the competitors’ other positions, especially on other life issues such as euthanasia, and family issues such as homosexuality “which is related to life issues at a deep level. Abortion and homosexuality both separate sex from procreation and say that sex between adults is merely about giving them pleasure.”

Not everyone in the pro-life movement agrees with CLC. Robin Richardson doesn’t. He is a onetime Progressive Conservative MP, now a Victoria, B.C., insurance agent and charismatic Christian pastor who has worked diligently to get pro-life candidates nominated in local ridings.“

If you vote for a Conservative who is pro-abortion, you are still helping put into power the party with many pro-life MPs, who keep the issue alive and introduce pro-life motions and bills,” Richardson told LifeSiteNews.



As well, Richardson cautioned against voting for a pro-life independent or CHP candidate. "We lost a seat we could have won in Esquimalt a few elections ago," said Richardson, "because a Christian Heritage Party candidate took 500 votes away from the Conservative."

Finally, Richardson notes that "Stephen Harper won't be Conservative leader for ever. He could be gone soon if he loses the election. The next leader could well be (cabinet minister) Jason Kenney," who is a strong pro-lifer. The bigger the caucus he leads, the more chance he has of winning the following election.

However, Jeff Gunnarson, vice president of Campaign Life Coalition, argued that Richardson's approach would essentially make the pro-life movement partisan Conservatives, which he said is "not tenable" for the advancing the cause.

LATE TERM ABORTION

CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	GREEN	NDP	CHP
<p>If you want to diminish the number of abortions, you've got to change hearts and not laws. And I'm not interested in having a debate over abortion law." (Prime Minister Harper) [4]</p> <p>"A Conservative Government will not support any legislation to regulate abortion." (Conservative Party Policy Declaration as amended by the delegates to the National Convention on November 2, 2013)[5]</p>	<p>Steadfastly maintain that a woman's right to choose abortion on demand for any reason is a Charter right.</p> <p>"The Liberal Party is the party of the Charter and we stand up and defend personal rights." (Liberal leader Justin Trudeau)[6]</p>	<p>"The Green Party opposes any possible move to diminish the right of a woman to a safe, legal abortion. We fully support a woman's right to choose." (Elizabeth May, Leader of the Green Party) [7]</p>	<p>Introduced a motion calling on the House of Commons to affirm that "a woman's right to choose abortion is a fundamental question of equality and human rights, both in Canada and around the world." [8]</p> <p>"It's not debatable, it's not negotiable." (NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair) [9]</p>	<p>"The CHP opposes the termination of innocent human life at any stage. The killing of a child in the womb after he or she has fingerprints, a heartbeat, brain waves, and is able to feel pain or even after he or she would be viable outside the womb is unconscionable." (CHP Leader Rod Taylor)</p>

"CLC always supports the pro-life candidate first," he said. "If we were to support a pro-abortion candidate because he is Conservative then goes on to becoming the leader and then Prime Minister, we may end up with a worse situation. The pro-life movement exists to stop abortion. We are not boosters for political parties. No, this is not a tenable position to have."

The CLC Election Guide identified 51 pro-life candidates in Ontario, where, according to its analysis, the battle moral conservatives have fought against the Ontario Liberal government's pansexual sex education curriculum has cost the federal Liberals much-needed support. In Prince Edward Island there is one, in New Brunswick four, in Manitoba ten, Saskatchewan nine, Alberta 13, and British Columbia 11. In the other provinces and territories, as yet, there is none.

PRE-BORN VICTIMS OF CRIME

CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	GREEN	NDP	CHP
<p>"The Conservative Party supports legislation to ensure that individuals who commit violence against a pregnant woman would face additional charges if her unborn child was killed or injured during the commission of a crime against the mother. [10]</p>	<p>The Liberal Party position is unclear.</p> <p>In 2008 they opposed Bill C-484, the Unborn Victims of Crime Act by saying, "We need to protect everyone against crime but, at the same time, it happens that I believe in the rights of women to choose." [11]</p>	<p>Position Unknown</p>	<p>"Would not support a law that recognized the child in the womb as a victim.</p> <p>Statements made by Windsor area MP Brian Masse indicate the NDP would only support stiffer sentencing.[12]</p>	<p>"All Canadians deserve the protection of the law against assault. When a preborn child and his or her mother are physically assaulted and death or damage occurs, that child, as well as his or her mother, deserve the protection of the law." (CHP Leader Rod Taylor)</p>



FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE

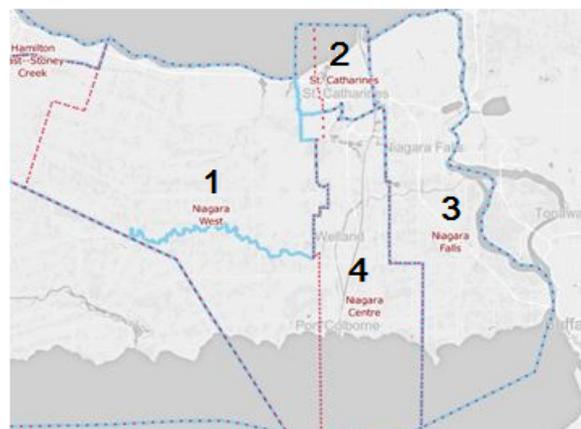


CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	GREEN	NDP	CHP
"In public life there are issues that engage peoples' moral views, engage their faith, engage their ost deeply held beliefs. And it's our party's view that on those issues you cannot impose views on people." (Prime Minister Stephen Harper) [13]	"All Liberal MPs, regardless of their personal views, would be expected to vote pro-choice."" (Justin Trudeau)[14]	"The Green Party "around the world" never whips votes and she doesn't under her [Elizabeth May] party's rules, have the power to unilaterally reject a nomination candidate who holds anti-abortion views [15]	Introduced a motion calling on the House of Commons to affirm that "a woman's right to choose abortion is a fundamental question of equality and human rights, both in Canada and around the world." [8] "It's not debatable, it's not negotiable." (NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair) [9]	"The CHP opposes the termination of innocent huan life at any stage. The killing of a child in the womb after he or she has fingerprints, a heartbeat, brain waves, and is able to feel pain or even after he or she would be viable outside the womb is unconscionable." (CHP Leader Rod Taylor)

- [1] <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ban-on-entertainment-ultrasounds-urged-1.1242522>
- [2] <http://www.torontosun.com/2014/05/23/trudeau-keeps-it-simple>
- [3] <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ban-on-entertainment-ultrasounds-urged-1.1242522>
- [4] <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/death-penalty-not-on-agenda-pm-1.1029918>
- [5] <http://www.conservative.ca/media/documents/Policy-Declaration-Feb-2014.pdf>
- [6] <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/trudeau-says-he-wont-compromise-liberal-partys-position-on-abortion/article18790285/>
- [7] <http://elizabethmaymp.ca/news/publications/press-releases/2012/09/25/conservative-mps-attempt-to-re-open-the-abortion-debate-is-disturbing/>
- [8] <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/ndp-could-trigger-house-debate-on-abortion-later-this-week-1.2640973>
- [9] <http://ipolitics.ca/2014/05/08/ndp-asks-government-whip-to-rein-in-vellacotts-anti-abortion-spam-emails-from-tory-mp/>
- [10] http://www.ottawacentreconservative.ca/m_criminal_justice
- [11] <http://www.canada.com/topics/news/story.html?id=8e912bf8-ebc5-4f89-8fc5-b92874b5b334>
- [12] <http://blogs.windsorstar.com/news/brutal-murder-of-pregnant-woman-prompts-calls-for-changes-to-the-law>
- [13] <http://news.nationalpost.com/news/canada/canadian-politics/stephen-harper-takes-jab-at-trudeaus-abortion-policy-says-tories-wont-impose-views-on-people>
- [14] <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/justin-trudeau-clarifies-abortion-stance-for-liberal-mps-1.2679783>
- [15] <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/justin-trudeau-s-abortion-stance-leaves-liberal-ranks-in-confusion-1.2648752>
- [16] <http://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/no-anti-abortion-candidates-allowed-to-run-for-ndp-mulcair-1.1812400>

Candidates for Federal Parliament - 2015 election

Area / Riding	Federal (Canada)
Niagara West includes Grimsby, Lincoln, Pelham, West Lincoln and Wainfleet	1
St. Catharines	2
Niagara Falls includes Fort Erie and Niagara-on-the-Lake	3
Niagara Centre (± Welland) includes Port Colborne, Thorold	4



1 Conservative Party Green Party Liberal Party New Democratic Party Christian Heritage Party Libertarian Party	Dean Allison unknown at time of printing Phil Rose Nameer Rahman Harold Jonkers Allan DeRoo	2 Conservative Party Green Party Liberal Party New Democratic Party Libertarian Party	Rick Dykstra unknown at time of printing Chris Bittle Susan Erskine-Fournier Wendi Duggan
3 Conservative Party Green Party Liberal Party New Democratic Party Libertarian Party	Rob Nicholson Steven Soos Ron Planche Carolynn Ioannoni Paul Martin	4 Conservative Party Green Party Liberal Party New Democratic Party	Leanna Villella David Clow Vance Badawey Malcolm Allen



Voting: a right and responsibility

Canadians are being called upon as citizens to exercise their right to vote. By exercising their right to vote, citizens fulfill their duty of choosing a government and at the same time send a clear signal to the candidates being presented by the political parties.

Political candidates are citizens too. In addition, they assume responsibility for the well being of the public. Their commitment and dedication are a generous contribution to society's common good. Indeed, the purpose of the political community is the common good.

What is the common good? It is "the sum of those conditions of ... social life whereby people, families and associations more adequately and readily may attain their own perfection."



Voting means using your judgment

Exercising the right to vote means making enlightened and well-thought-out judgments about the choices available. There are times, however, when these choices may prove very difficult.

It is a sign of a healthy community when informed and responsible citizens engage in an ongoing dialogue on major social issues with their political leaders. This is precisely the kind of community we should strive to support and develop.

No less is expected of us, since we are all called to be truly responsible for one another, especially for the most vulnerable members of our society.

If you have a moment in the next few weeks, contact your local candidates and ask them where they stand on the issues that are important to you. With the background information we have provided here, you have some indication where they stand on the issues of life.

A lot is going to change in the near future, now that the Supreme Court has decided that the government has one year to make a law on doctor-assisted suicide. Several Medical Associations across the country have started with procedures on how to take care of this, once it becomes legal for them to take lives.

Your vote is going to be crucial in deciding which party will take the necessary steps to protect it's citizens.

On October 19, 2015 we ask you to careful consider each of the candidates, and to remind yourself that the next government will be in charge of deciding your end of life choices. It's your vote, make it count!

Follow us on Facebook to read the latest developments on the pro-life front:



<https://www.facebook.com/wpcprolife>