



“We’re so impressed that you and your colleagues are pursuing full-time pro-life work.”

Member of Parliament at the Parliamentary Pro-life Caucus

Dear friends,

In my last newsletter, I shared what happened when I participated in an abortion debate in Ottawa against staff from Planned Parenthood. The story isn’t over yet (more on that at the end) but there was so much more to share from my trip to Ontario and then Edmonton late last year.

One of the most exciting opportunities I had was to speak to the Parliamentary Pro-life Caucus. The caucus is made up of pro-life members of Parliament (MPs) who are pushing to change the law on abortion.

At the caucus meeting, I was able to share CCBR’s vision to make abortion unthinkable and to let the pro-life MPs know that there are professional pro-lifers who were willing to take this job on full-time. Moreover, I challenged them to be confident in sharing the pro-life view. One of the MPs, whom I had met when I was the president of Carleton University’s pro-life club in 2000, said he was proud of us. **“We are so impressed that you and your colleagues are pursuing full-time pro-life work.”** At least three staff who work for the MPs also attended my debate at Carleton University.



Myself with Maurice Vellacott, Conservative Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Pro-life Caucus in Ottawa, ON. The Liberal Co-Chair is Paul Steckle.



Speaking at the University of Toronto, ON

After speaking at other venues in Ottawa, I was invited to speak in Toronto. The University of Toronto Students for Life are planning to do a Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) this year and wanted me to speak to their group about it. Though the students who came were mostly supportive of GAP, some had a few questions about the method, particularly the use of Holocaust pictures. Because of our presentation, I was able to convince them to do the project in the most effective way possible and to include the

comparisons with past genocides. When I met with some of the group’s leaders afterwards, they told me they were committed to taking the signs on the streets and exposing their school to the truth about abortion. **“We want to make sure we do this project right before I graduate,”** said one of the leaders. If only all students understood the importance of taking the opportunities they have while on campus.

I was also invited to speak to Christ the Living Word Alliance in Scarborough, a suburb of Toronto. At the church, I spoke at their main service and was able to challenge them to not only be pro-life but to support pro-life work. At the end of my talk, I spoke to many church members who told me they were against abortion but

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hadn't known how horrible it was. Several are now financial donors. The pastor also promised to pray for our work and invited me to come back to speak to their church.

Within a week of returning to Calgary, I was invited to speak to one of the Edmonton churches in our denomination. The Journey with Christ is a Baptist church that serves mostly the Filipino community there. Many of the church members had never seen abortion before and some of the young adults were keen to talk to me afterwards. **Three university students even offered to help out with the next GAP we hold in Calgary.**

I also invited one of the leaders of our denomination to hear me speak and asked him for his support as I attempt to speak to other churches in our denomination. He had been heavily involved with pro-life work in the past and was encouraged to hear that I was taking up the work. At the end of my presentation, he said that he was encouraged. **"It was one of the clearest presentations I've heard for why Christians should be pro-life,"** he said. I met with him the following day and he promised to be one of my supporters as well.

Wherever I spoke, it reminded me how essential it is for us to partner with friends and supporters. For example, I couldn't have gone to speak to the Alliance church in Scarborough if it hadn't been for a talk I gave in a Calgary church. And I couldn't speak at all without the financial and spiritual support of friends like you. Thank you.



Sincerely,

Jojo Ruba

The Journey with Christ Church in Edmonton, AB

P.S. Carleton University Update: In my last newsletter, I told you that Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA) voted to deny recognition to any "anti-choice" club. They defined "anti-choice" as any group that wants abortion to be made illegal, as Carleton Lifeline, the pro-life student's club, does. Lifeline did get their club status this year despite the fact their constitution clearly states that they want legal protection for all unborn children. The only reason why the club was granted status is because the other university clubs voted to recognize them. This means CUSA has not changed their discriminatory policy and can revoke Lifeline's status at any time. One of the CUSA executives actually pointed this out to Lifeline, warning them that CUSA will monitor all their activities.

We need friends like you to continue to pressure CUSA to change their policy. As well, we need you to put pressure on the university and to let them know CUSA's ban violates the university's own anti-discriminatory policies. Please contact me for more information on what you can do.

Upcoming Schedule:

Throughout the months of January and February, I will be meeting with church leaders here in Calgary to introduce them to our work. This is part of our goal to launch the truck project here. Please consider financially and spiritually supporting this life-saving work.

Link of the month: A new study shows that graphic images work to stop... smoking! Why can't they see that it works with abortion, too? <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/print?id=2853284>

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