

# Kanata EMC

## Coalition calls for end to publicly-funded abortions

Posted Oct 18, 2012 By Derek Dunn

EMC news - Almost 40 people circled MPP Jack MacLaren's Kanata office on Saturday, Oct. 13, calling on the government to defund abortions.

Led by 16-year-old Julia Bredfeldt, the group Campaign Life Coalition is pressing for an end to taxpayer-funded abortions in all cases, including rape, which they say represents only one per cent of all abortions.

It wouldn't matter to Bredfeldt if she got pregnant, had her future education and job prospects limited, and perhaps wound up on welfare: she still wouldn't have an abortion.

"I would definitely not have an abortion," she said. "It's unfortunate. Just because a kid is unwanted, does that mean you have a right to kill it?"

She didn't speak to tax dollars saved on welfare and justice and related government systems by funding planned-parenthood programs, but pointed to the coalition's assertion that "taxpayers currently pay \$30 million to \$50 million every year towards the funding of abortions in our province through OHIP."

Her mother, Cynthia, said the province has delisted other medical services such as chiropractics, but keeps abortion even though it doesn't fall under medically-necessary services protected by the Canada Health Act.

She said 81 per cent of women who have an abortion suffer from mental health problems, ranging from depression to suicide.

"Pro-lifers have been trying to get this information out for decades," said the Carleton Place resident, whose religion prevents the use of birth control.

Bredfeldt said she doesn't believe most Canadians favour abortion. She maintains a strong majority favour rules limiting abortions, though she admits that could mean the majority are opposed to late-term abortions.

"Even late-term abortions happen all the time," she said, basing the assertion on anecdotal evidence. "I know one doctor who said repeat offenders could be as high as 25 per cent, they use it as a form of contraception."

That's why, she said, defunding abortions and forcing women to pay between \$500 and \$1,000 to have an abortion will reduce the overall number of abortions. And yet she didn't address how that would affect lower income and working class women more than middle and upper income-earning women.

She sees the issue as cultural as well. People emigrate from countries that endorse the abortion of female fetuses, and China's one-child policy means immigrants from that country are pro-abortion, she said.

Bredfeldt denied there are laws against infanticide, citing an apparent case of a woman "throwing her baby over a fence" and not going to jail for it.

### ADOPTION

Many of those at the Carleton-Mississippi Mills MPP's office were Caucasian senior citizens well beyond the age when an unplanned pregnancy could permanently disrupt their lives.

Still, Catherine Wilson is at least one who would say giving a child up for adoption is a preferred option.

"There are long waiting lines for adoption," she said. Then, putting an arm around her adopted son Peter, added in a quavering voice: "My son wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for adoption."

Wanda Hartlin is one of the coalition's main organizers.

She was somewhat disappointed only 44 of 107 ridings held similar rallies, including one at Premier Dalton McGuinty's Ottawa South office.

But she maintains that it isn't the will of the majority that keeps publicly-funded abortions.

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Derek Dunn, Metroland

Cynthia Bredfeldt, centre, at a rally in Kanata presses for the province to defund all abortions, including in rape cases.

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Derek Dunn, Metroland

Frank Korycan was among those at Carleton-Mississippi Mills MPP Jack MacLaren's office on the weekend demanding an end to government-funded abortions. MacLaren was absent.

There is a silent majority whose religion has trained them to be meek and not speak out on social issues.

Therefore parties are misreading pro-life support, she said.

"As Christians we were raised not to be judgmental," Hartlin said.

"We don't judge her act (of aborting.) They are doing it because they don't know they have a choice. They aren't offered a choice. They are encouraged to abort."

The Liberals, PCs, and NDP are pro-abortion parties, she said, adding that only the Family Coalition is against abortion at the provincial level.

So she harbours no illusions that McLaren - who wasn't at the rally - and other elected officials will hear the group's demands let alone advocate for them at Queen's Park.

But when it comes to abortion, she favours the views of a minority superseding those of the majority.

Asked if abortion is an issue that reasonable and moral people can disagree upon, Hartlin offered an indirect response.

"You can disagree on anything, but there is a moral right to life," she said.

"We can agree to disagree. I can't speak for the morality of other people. In the end, we all have to answer to God for our lives."

MacLaren was unavailable for comment on Oct. 15.

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