

Court Action vs. Feds

LifeSiteNews - A coalition of Canadian companies and a Christian student ministry are taking Justin Trudeau's Liberal government to court over its requirement that they declare support for legal abortion and other political stances in order to participate in the country's summer jobs program.

The Canada Summer Jobs program offers money to groups that hire students for summer positions. In a break from previous years, it now requires participating organizations to sign an attestation that their "core mandate" agrees with a variety of left-wing positions, including a "right" to abortion – regardless of whether the organization is involved in political advocacy against abortion.

The new group, called Free To Do Business Canada, is challenging the attestation as a violation of freedom of speech, the National Post reports.

"It forces them to publicly agree with government ideology in order to access a public program that should be equally available to all small businesses," spokeswoman Tamara Jansen said during a press conference in Ottawa. "This is unfair and unjust."

The group is framing their effort as bigger than the abortion debate, refusing to take a position on that or any other issue covered by the attestation and not identifying with any religion or political group.

"This is an initiative or policy decision of the government that compels organizations to say something they otherwise would not say," attorney Albertos

Polizogopoulos added.

A first business to join the effort - Sarnia concrete Products Ltd., has a commercial outlook and wishes to stay clear of controversial political issues.

Also challenging the attestation is Power to Change, a registered charity focused on campus Christian ministries. The group's case concerns the government's rejection of its application for 44 summer jobs, because those applications included a letter stating, "Our belief is contrary to the current government's view on women's reproductive rights. Our honestly held belief is protected under the charter."

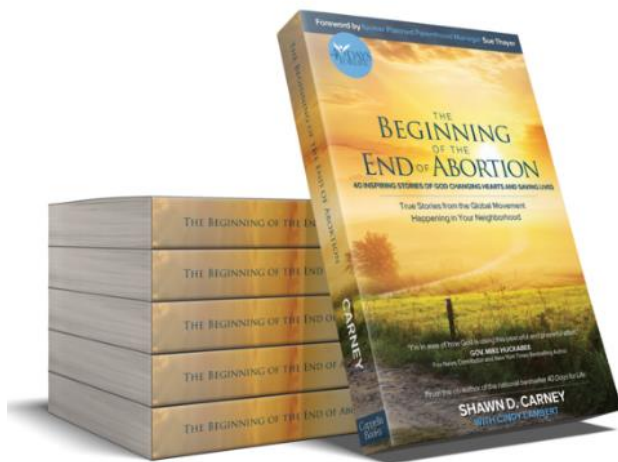
...Contrary to Trudeau's repeated insistence that the attestation merely enforces fidelity to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the charter does not reference abortion. It does recognize "fundamental freedoms" of "conscience and religion," however, as well as "freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression."

Among the organizations to lose funds because they refused the new policy are a summer Bible camp in Alberta, a rural museum on the history of Port Hood, Nova Scotia, a small family-based agricultural irrigation business in Alberta, a Christian farm that provides free vacations to poor families, and the Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto.

Eighty-seven Christian, Jewish, and Muslim leaders have signed an open letter condemning the attestation as being incompatible with a "free and democratic society."

The Beginning of the End of Abortion...

The following is an excerpt from the first chapter of a soon to be released new book from the president of 40 Days for Life Shawn Carney. Details regarding purchasing a copy are available at the end of the excerpt.



Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous. –
Albert Einstein

Erin woke up one morning, saw her two older kids off to school, and dropped off her preschoolers at a friend's house. Slipping into the car, she noticed the time. Her already racing heart stepped up a beat. She was going to be late for her appointment at Planned Parenthood.

She couldn't miss this abortion. She was desperate. She had four children and their father was in jail. On top of that, Erin had just lost her job, her electricity was about to be shut off, and she didn't have enough money to pay the rent.

Her mother and sister had insisted that, given the circumstances, an abortion was the best answer. They had told Erin that she just couldn't handle another child, and she knew they were right. Daily she struggled with the four she had now. How would she deal with another? She hated the

thought of having an abortion, but what other choice did she have?

Hands trembling, Erin picked up her cellphone to call Planned Parenthood to see if she could still come in for the abortion. In her haste, though, she dialed a wrong number. Instead of Planned Parenthood, she got Joseph, a volunteer with the 40 Days for Life campaign who was at that moment standing in front of the Planned Parenthood facility and who had been asked to answer the 40 Days cellphone.

"Hi. This is Erin. I have an appointment for an abortion. But I'm afraid I'm too late."

"Okay," Joseph said, realizing what must have happened. He took a deep breath and tried to be as calm as possible. "Give me your name and number and I'll have someone call you back." After taking her information, he immediately called Elizabeth, a counselor for 40 Days for Life. "You won't believe what just happened," he said. Then he passed along Erin's information.

Elizabeth called Erin. "Hi. Erin? Please don't hang up. You have not reached Planned Parenthood. You reached 40 Days for Life instead."

Erin pulled over to the side of the road, stunned.

"Are you a Christian?" Elizabeth asked her. "Yes."

"Erin, I believe God's grace is at work here in this 'wrong number.' It's no accident that you called us." As she spoke, Elizabeth said a quick, silent prayer. "Why don't you tell me what's going on?"

... Chapter 1 – “Wrong Number”

Shaking and confused, Erin poured out her situation in a rush of words.

Elizabeth took notes and then said, “Erin, can you come to our office right now?”

Erin nodded, then realized Elizabeth could not see her. “Yes,” she breathed.

The moment Elizabeth hung up, she spread the word about Erin’s situation. Immediately ten volunteers, who had gathered outside Planned Parenthood that morning to pray, pooled their cash to pay her rent. Another volunteer offered to pay her electric bill.

When Erin reached the office and heard what had already transpired on her behalf, she reacted with both joy and disbelief that strangers would help her—especially strangers who were gathering outside Planned Parenthood, powerfully opposed to what she had planned to do. If she hadn’t dialed the wrong number, Erin might have easily seen these newfound friends as enemies as she walked past them to keep her abortion appointment.

Erin did call Planned Parenthood later. She got the right number this time. She cancelled her abortion appointment and requested a refund. That was the last phone call Erin would make to them.

But that wasn’t the end of the story. Eileen Hartman, a woman who left the corporate world years ago to dedicate her life to running a pregnancy center and the 40 Days for Life campaign in Indiana, reached out and helped Erin find a job. She believed that Erin had a lot of potential but needed support since her mother and

sister were still encouraging her to abort the baby. She offered the support Erin needed.

When I think of the extremes the medical community will go to save the lives of premature babies, children with cancer, or victims of traumatic car accidents, I’m grieved that Erin’s baby would not have benefited from any of that effort. Her baby was scheduled to be aborted and people were willing to help bring that about, ending that baby’s life. Nothing but an act of God could have put Erin in the path of someone who would look out for her baby. It literally took a wrong number.



Purchase information: If you enjoyed reading this account of a true incident that happened during a 40-day prayer vigil, and wish to read thirty-nine others, check the appropriate book on the return slip found on the cover letter. A gift of \$35 or more will ensure that a copy be sent to you.

Father David

As part of my outreach activities, I frequently travel the diocese, and beyond, to distribute our monthly news bulletin.

Recently my travels brought me to the parish of Saint Michael and Saint Anthony, located on Saint-Urbain street, in the Mile-End district of Montreal.



This area is rich in cultures as seen at the weekday mass where the Polish Franciscan custodians of the faithful greet them in up to 5 languages - French, English, Italian, Portuguese, and, of course, Polish.

On this day, my visit was punctuated by a visiting priest – Fr. David, incardinated in an Oregon diocese and visiting his sister and her family, neighbours of the Polish brethren with whom on this morning he had concelebrated mass.

Fr. David related an experience at the outset of his priestly ministry. Still in residence at the seminary though knowing to which parish he had been assigned, he was summoned by his bishop who indicated that among his first parochial acts would be conducting a prayer service outside an abortion mill newly established near his parish. – *Brian Jenkins*

Prayer Intention – Heavenly Father, we are ever grateful for the faithful pastors you send us. We pray that the temptations of this world not distract them from heeding your call and living exemplary lives which will inspire the faithful to mimic and so grow ever closer to you and avoid the trappings that have plagued mankind throughout history.

Upcoming events: 1 – Corn Roast, Sunday, Aug. 19, 2018, RSVP, (514) 344-2686. **2 – Pilgrimage in the City**, TBA... **3 – “The Euthanasia Deception,”** dvd screening, fall, 2018. **4 – 40 Days for Life** prayer vigil, Sep 26 – Nov 04, 2018... **5 – Life Chain**. Sunday, October 07, 2018.

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