



Association for Reformed Political Action (ARPA) Canada: February – 2016

## Quick Updates:

- ♦ ARPA Canada is hiring! See details for the full-time Policy Analyst position at [arpacanada.ca/policy-analyst](http://arpacanada.ca/policy-analyst)
- ♦ Early bird pricing for God & Government ends March 18; register online <http://arpacanada.ca/gg2016>
- ♦ The Booties for Babies campaign is in full swing! Reminder: all baby booties must be sent to our office by May 2 (earlier is great too). Email [info@ARPACanada.ca](mailto:info@ARPACanada.ca) for more information
- ♦ There is limited time to prohibit euthanasia, but you need to act! [arpacanada.ca/stop-euthanasia](http://arpacanada.ca/stop-euthanasia)

## Action Item #1 - Euthanasia

ARPA Canada has been lobbying Parliamentarians on this issue since the Supreme Court decision last February. We have explained to them that the Supreme Court made a mistake. Their decision rested on the false premise that the purpose of the law was only to protect vulnerable people in a time of crisis. That simply is not true. Our law has long recognized that euthanasia is also wrong because we may not intentionally kill an innocent human being. We have published a legal analysis which explains this in depth, and have sent that to all MPs and Senators.

This fact is important because it means that Parliament is still able to pass a new law which continues to completely prohibit all euthanasia. But we need your help to make sure Parliament hears this message loud and clear. It is clear from our meetings with MPs that they think they are forced to listen to the Supreme Court and must legalize euthanasia.



**We are calling on you to add your voice to ours.** We have created new EasyMail letters ([easy.arpacanada.ca](http://easy.arpacanada.ca)), each of which is copied to all the members of the special committee on euthanasia as well as the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Health. We would like to see these Parliamentarians inundated with the message that Canada should not cross this line and allow more killing.

Take time to read the articles and then engage with your MP. Visit [arpacanada.ca/stop-euthanasia](http://arpacanada.ca/stop-euthanasia).

**Our goal: 1,000 EasyMail letters by February 19.**

## Action Item #2 – Parental Authority

*(For those outside Alberta, please don't ignore this action update. Manitoba is working on similar guidelines, and other provinces are likely to follow.)*

In less than one year, Alberta has transitioned from a province with an outstanding reputation for upholding parental authority in education to becoming one of the most oppressive jurisdictions in North America. **Christian schools are now being told to adopt policies and procedures by March 31st which directly violate their faith and promote radical ideologies.** If the province does not change its approach (and we will respectfully ask it to change!), Christian parents and schools will have to either compromise their faith or make a principled stand against the province.

The following four points (over) encapsulate our basic concerns about the Alberta education minister's desire to make all schools celebrate his radical gender politics and his unchristian views of sexuality.

### Ready, set, ACTION!

Please take 5 minutes this month to use EasyMail and speak up against euthanasia. There is limited time for Parliament to act, but you can still speak up!

easymail

1. **ludicrous overreach:** the new policies and guidelines from the education minister are so beyond the pale that even public schools are pushing back.
2. **parental rights undermined:** the new policies and guidelines drive a wedge between parents and children and actively seek to undermine this very important relationship.
3. **palpable harm to children:** the evidence from medical experts is clear: encouraging or reinforcing gender dysphoria, particularly with pre-pubescent children, is harmful to the child and virtually guarantees a life of emotional and psychological suffering. The exact students the State pretends to help are the ones most harmed by these policies. These policies also gamble with child abuse by downplaying any risks associated with mixing boys and girls in the same change rooms, washrooms and sports teams.
4. **religious and associational liberty attacked:** the new policies and guidelines violate the Charter's guarantee of freedom of religion (including the right of religious institutions to remain true to their faith commitments without having to teach or celebrate as true and good something fundamentally at odds with their religious convictions). The policies and guidelines also violate the Charter's guarantee of freedom of association (including the right of parents to come together for a legitimate cause and to carry out that cause according to their shared principles without State interference).

*We urge our readers and supporters in Alberta to communicate these points to their elected representatives boldly, but also respectfully.* Though many of you are parents who send your children to an independent school, we suggest you speak as a concerned citizen or parent but not on behalf of your school (leave that to your local school board).

In order to get the full story of what is going on, what is at stake, and what you can do, please read [arpacanada.ca/AB-guidelines](http://arpacanada.ca/AB-guidelines)

## Praise & Prayer

Everything we do is to be done to the honour and glory of God. We encourage you to join us in prayer as we carry out our mission.

### PRAISE:

- For safety in travel and fruitful meetings with the board and staff at the end of January.
- For a 4 month extension from the Supreme Court, to allow Parliament extra time to draft laws around euthanasia.

### PRAYER:

- That Parliament may seize the opportunity they have to prohibit euthanasia while they have the opportunity.
- That the Alberta government may reverse its troublesome guidelines imposed on schools, stripping parents of their God-given authority.

## God & Government 2016

Our biennial God & Government conference will commence, the Lord willing, on May 9-11 in Ottawa. Planning is well underway and registration is now open. Join us for 2 full days of training, equipping, strategizing and lobbying. You will also have opportunity to tour Parliament and the Supreme Court, attend question period or sit in on various parliamentary committee meetings.

Early bird prices (until March 18) include the 2 day conference, an evening banquet with Dr. Rev. Joe Boot and most meals and hotel accommodations in downtown Ottawa – with the option of adding a 3<sup>rd</sup> night stay and participation in the Reformed Pro-Life Prayer Service and National March for Life. Thanks to very generous sponsors, the prices are very low!

Conference only (May 9-11) - \$200

Conference and March for Life (May 9-12) - \$250

This conference is open to members of confessional Reformed churches in Canada who successfully complete the application process. Email us at [info@ARPACanada.ca](mailto:info@ARPACanada.ca) if you are interested in attending.

*"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."* ~ Romans 12:1-2 ~

Contact Us: 1-866-691-2772 | [info@arpacanada.ca](mailto:info@arpacanada.ca)

Donations can be directed to: **ARPA Canada** PO Box 1377 STN B, Ottawa Ontario K1P 5R4