



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

Quick Updates:

- ◆ We launched our new website this summer. Check out ARPACanada.ca and let us know your thoughts!
- ◆ Fall Tour dates are confirmed for September 26-October 14. Visit ARPACanada.ca/events for information about events in your area.
- ◆ Want the latest action items? ARPACanada.ca/take-action or contact Grassroots Manager, Colin Postma (Colin@ARPACanada.ca or 1-866-691-2772) for more information on how to keep active.
- ◆ Ontarians: join the ‘Stop Radical Sex-Ed’ Rally at Queen’s Park on September 21 (story on reverse).

Fall Tour 2016 – When the Foundations Crumble

Please join us for our annual speaking tour as we present in 14 cities in BC, Manitoba and Ontario between September 26 and October 14.

This year we are focusing on three key issues: **Transgenderism, Pornography and our Culture of Death**. When we read the newspaper, watch the evening news, or even as we scroll through our newsfeeds on social media, we can easily become discouraged by the brokenness of this world.

But there is good news! Join us as we explore our calling as Christians to witness to God’s word in the public square – yes, even in the face of troubling times. ARPA Canada’s André Schutten and Colin Postma will educate, equip and encourage you as they share what we are doing to proactively address the difficult and pressing issues of transgenderism, pornography, palliative care and the lack of protections for our pre-born neighbours with a compassionate and truthful response, and invite you to get involved.

All events are free and we encourage youth and adults to attend this informative and timely presentation. Whether you are a parent raising children, an individual who has concerns with the typical responses Christians give to those who struggle with gender identity, or you simply want to know how to respond to these challenging issues in our increasingly secular society, we invite you to attend. Bring your questions, bring your neighbours, family and friends and join us.

Some people have asked about the age appropriateness of the tour topics. While there are mature themes in this presentation, we have made every effort to make it appropriate for catechism-aged students and above.

All events are 7:30-9:30 pm

September 26	Carman West Canadian Reformed Church	October 5	Rehoboth Canadian Reformed Church (Burlington)
September 27	Redeemer Canadian Reformed Church (Winnipeg)	October 6	Smithville Canadian Reformed Church
September 28	Oxford Reformed Christian School	October 7	Fergus North Canadian Reformed Church
September 29	Bethel Canadian Reformed Church (Toronto)	October 11	Aldergrove Canadian Reformed Church
September 30	Ancaster Canadian Reformed Church	October 12	Yarrow Canadian Reformed Church
October 3	Providence United Reformed Church (Strathroy)	October 13	Cloverdale Canadian Reformed Church
October 4	Mitchell Free Reformed Church	October 14	Smithers Canadian Reformed Church

Ready, set, ACTION!

Help build support for C-225, Cassie & Molly’s Law! WeNeedALaw will ask you to send 1 letter to your MP – can you help? Visit www.weneedalaw.ca for more details!

Welcome to our newest team members

This month we welcome two new faces to the team. John Sikkema joins our Law and Policy team in Ottawa as an additional full-time Legal Counsel. In his role, John provides legal research for ARPA's board and staff, conducts federal and provincial legal policy analysis, assists with our court interventions and cases, and lobbies Members of Parliament, among other things.

John is a lawyer who most recently served as Associate Counsel for the Christian Legal Fellowship. Prior to joining the staff, ARPA had already benefitted greatly from John's experience in the summer of 2015 when he authored a ground-breaking report critiquing the Supreme Court of Canada's euthanasia decision and explaining how Parliament can still prohibit euthanasia without needing to resort to using the "notwithstanding clause". John's writing has appeared in the National Post, Policy Options, Comment, and the Christian Legal Journal.



Earlier this summer we also announced the hiring of Harry Moes as our part-time Education Policy Consultant. Harry is responsible for keeping the Reformed community informed about political and policy developments in provincial education systems, specifically in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, and Ontario. He is also responsible for building relationships with these provincial governments in order to advocate for parental authority and responsibility, freedom of religion and association, and parental choice in education.



Harry is well equipped to take on this role, with decades of experience as a teacher and principal, with over thirty years working with the BC Ministry of Education in their school evaluations, and through serving on the board of the Federation of Independent School Association (FISA) in BC for the past eleven years. Harry has hit the ground running, and the next school year looks like it will be very busy with major developments that need to be addressed.

We are grateful to the support of our donors who have allowed ARPA to continue to expand in this way – thank you! And we are thankful to God for raising up and providing people who desire to serve in these roles.

Attend rally to oppose radical sex-ed

Some have chafed at the opposition of some social conservatives to particular sex education programs advanced by provincial governments in elementary schools across Canada. We must be clear on what we are opposed to. We are not opposed to sex education *per se*. We are opposed to age-inappropriate sex education, outside of the home, without parental involvement, input or oversight. We are opposed to a sex education that advances unhealthy and even dangerous sexual practices inside a moral vacuum. What Canada needs is more and better sex education - it just needs to happen in the right place, at the right time, by the right people, to the right degree, for the right purpose.

Join with parents and concerned citizens at Queen's Park in Toronto at the 'Stop Radical Sex-Ed' rally and stand for better sex-ed. Date and time: September 21 from 12:00 – 2:00 pm. Make plans to be there, or organize a carpool with friends. Contact our Grassroots Manager (Colin@ARPACanada.ca) for more information or for help with getting there.

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 the addition of two new staff who recently joined the ARPA team: Harry Moes and John Sikkema!
- For the many active ARPA school clubs (and their volunteer leaders) that encourage political action among our young people.

PRAYER:

- For safety for Members of Parliament and provincial representatives who are returning to their offices this month, and that they may be responsive to our concerns.
- For wisdom for the volunteer Board that oversees the staff and work of ARPA Canada.
- For safety for the staff and their families who will be traveling during the upcoming fall tour.

For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice; the upright will see his face.

~ Psalm 11:7 ~

Contact Us: 1-866-691-2772 | info@arpcanada.ca

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