



Building a culture of Care, Compassion & Life...

Founded in 1975, we are a group of Canadian physicians dedicated to the respect and ethical treatment of all members of the human family, regardless of age or infirmity.



Canadian Physicians
for *Life*

Statement of Principles

CPL seeks to *promote public awareness* of and professional adherence to the time-honoured *Hippocratic medical tradition*, which affirms the inviolability of every human life.

Our full Statement of Principles can be found on our website at WWW.PHYSICIANSFORLIFE.CA

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“I will maintain the *utmost respect* for *human life*, from the time of conception; even under threat, I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the *laws of humanity*.”

 **DECLARATION OF GENEVA (1948)**

+ We need you, your voice,
your support, and your skills.



the Annual Medical Students forum

Perhaps the most significant yearly activity that we undertake is our annual Medical Students Forum. We offer medical students a broad range of seminars and workshops designed to inform them about sensitive and emerging issues, and to equip them to 'make their case' in conversation with colleagues, and the public, who may question their stance on certain issues. *The feedback we have received is encouraging, and we share a few of the personal comments...*

“We were able to learn *valuable information* that is not presented to us in our medical education, and are *better equipped* to approach the pro-life issues we will face throughout our training.”

LAUREN BERES, UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN, CLASS OF 2007

“Before the conference, I knew that I supported... a ‘pro-life’ position, but I didn’t know about the *wealth of scientific medical evidence* that supports this view. I feel [it] will enable me to speak confidently about the pro-life perspective.... I certainly feel much *more prepared* to stick to my beliefs throughout my own career.”

MATTHEW TUCKER, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL STUDENT, CLASS OF 2011

“They [pro-life students], like I, were galvanized by the conference to act on their belief of the *intrinsic value of life*. Thank you so much for sponsoring me. *It changed the way that I will practice.*”

DAN CROMPTON, UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, CLASS OF 2008

+ Join Canadian Physicians for Life today, *along with many fellow physicians across Canada, affirming the value of human life.*

Who We Are

Our history is simple: We were founded in 1975 as a national, non-profit charitable organization, focused on education.

We are a diverse group of physicians and medical students from a wide range of beliefs, backgrounds and cultures.

What is perhaps most important, however, is what brings us together. We are united by a common belief, that:

*all human life has an inherent and irreplaceable value, regardless of age or infirmity. Human life is entitled to respect from conception to natural death**

As ethical issues constantly emerge, CPL is needed now more than ever before.

We educate, encourage and support our members in life-affirming medical practices that respect our patients. Importantly, we vigorously defend the conscience rights of physicians and medical students -rights which are now being seriously threatened.

We are vigilant in working to ensure that our members cannot be coerced and pressured to participate in abortion, or in referral for abortion, euthanasia and eugenics. *And we utterly reject any actions intended to kill the patient.*

Our mission includes presenting these life-affirming principles to the public.

*(Conception is defined as the completion of fertilization of ovum by sperm)

CPL undertakes a number of ongoing & important activities:

- › keeping abreast of ongoing research and the dissemination of information for physicians about the ethical practice of Medicine
- › hosting an Annual Medical Students Forum
- › publishing the periodic newsletter “Vital Signs”
- › providing personal contact and support to physicians and medical students facing difficult ethical situations and/or coercion to violate their reasonable conscientious objections
- › being a strong public voice on issues related to respect for human life including ethical dilemmas arising from advancing technologies and societal pressures
- › maintaining a respectful and supportive relationship with medical licensing bodies in their duty to sustain all physicians’ freedom to practice ethically

If you share these values, we ask you to consider joining CPL. You will be emboldened to realize many fellow physicians across Canada share your life values as part of Canadian Physicians for Life.

