

**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council**

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Communiqué # 8

Inspired by the Spirit... Women Respond to God's Call

Date:	October 8, 2018
To:	Diocesan Chairpersons of Christian Family Life
CC:	Provincial Executive (for information) National Chairperson of Christian Family Life (for information)
From:	Carol Schlachter, Provincial Chairperson of Christian Family Life

Greetings:

The delegates assembled at the annual convention of The Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada in Okotoks, Alberta, June 2, 2018 passed a special motion to urge the Government of Alberta to revisit **Bill 9: 'Protecting Choice for Women Accessing Health Care Act'**.

Our Provincial President, June Fuller sent a letter to Rachel Notley, Premier of Alberta stating that "we believe this legislation is in contravention of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms which protects the right of Canadians to freedom of conscience and religion, freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association.*

Noteworthy is that under criminal law, harassment, intimidation, uttering threats, obstruction, and causing public disturbances are already illegal. It is our opinion that Bill 9 is really about censorship. It censors one side of the debate on an important social and moral issue, while permitting the other side to speak freely. Bill 9 is fundamentally flawed in a dangerous precedent setting way."

Our provincial president stated that we will pray for the government but pointed out that "this is an 'undemocratic' step in governing our province."

Dear members of Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council, we call on you to write your letters of concerns regarding Bill 9 to Premier Notley, and Sara Hoffman, Alberta's Minister of Health. Ask that they consider revisiting this Bill. Also, plan a visit to your MP to discuss the need to revisit Bill 9.

Let's be a loud voice feeling confident that together we can make a difference!

Be a Voice!

