

Lutherans for Life – Canada Newsletter

Fall Edition 2010



From the President of Lutherans for Life – Canada:

We at Lutherans for Life – Canada have had a busy spring and summer. Being involved in Life issues is a full time endeavor as we tackle vital life issues at both ends of the age spectrum. Euthanasia has been very much in the news in Canada and the world. We have lobbied to defeat Bill C-384, a private members bill that would legalize Euthanasia and assisted suicide in Canada. Fortunately on April 21st, 2010, the Bill was defeated in the Canadian parliament by a vote of 228 to 59. We know that supporters of this bill will make another attempt to present this type of legislation. We thank those of you who phoned your MP's and made your will known.

In this issue we have presented a broad spectrum of life issues for you to digest. The attack on life is unrelenting and we need to keep our foot on the gas pedal if we entertain any hopes of winning the fight for the lives of the vulnerable in our Canadian society.

We have articles on the terrible effects of abortion on both men and woman. Our good friend Anita, who volunteers with SILENT NO MORE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, not only shares the horrible consequences of abortion, but also the serious after affects of abortion as she battles breast cancer. Anita has graciously provided her personal telephone number.

We have arranged an agreement with “Word of Hope,” based in St. Louis MO., in that their helpline 1-888-217-8679 now works in Canada. We give God the glory for His graciousness. Please feel free to advertise this toll free number in your Church bulletins, newsletters, etc. There are hurting people in our pews and amongst our families and friends.

We ask you to be ever vigilant in End-of-Life issues as well. See the appropriate articles dealing with euthanasia and assisted suicide and doctors who are willing to perform these requests. If you are in the “elder” category we encourage you to make a Living Will or a Durable Power of Attorney (DPO). Please check Jeffrey Kriwetz's article. Discuss with your families, your pastor, your doctor, or other loved ones about your wishes and make sure your wishes are stated clearly. You can order a Durable Power of Attorney from the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition. Go to the article on “Brampton Civic hospital imposes dehydration through pressure tactics.”

In discussing a DPO, with our personal lawyer, it was pointed out that we can request that food and water be a requirement for sustaining us in our final days. There is nothing crueler than to die of dehydration. Again, make your wishes known in writing and in discussion with your family. Be sure to read the article on refusing food and water to Joshua who collapsed in front of the ER on May 29th, 2010, and, yes it could and it did happen in Canada.

The two articles from the Lutheran Foundation and from FaithLife Financial provide you with some options in leaving a Christian legacy to Lutherans for Life – Canada. Please consider us in your estate planning, as the work we do is vital, and we do need your support.

Be sure to check out our other fine articles, such as the Jesus' ultrasound, an excellent Bible Study, and some resources available from Concordia Publishing House. Read about our National Youth Gathering, liver cells, and the Millennium cross in Saskatchewan.

God is good and He cares for us from conception to natural death and throughout eternity. Remember, Satan seeks to destroy us (cf. 1 Peter 5:8), but God came to love us and redeem us (John 3:16; John 10:10). We are loved and forgiven by God, no matter our lot in life, whether as an unborn infant, or as a disabled, dependant elderly person, or as someone affected by the tragic decision of abortion, you are still precious in God's sight.

Cliff Pyle, President
Lutherans for Life - Canada

SILENT WITNESS

By Marian Obeda



Did you ever think of what you are wearing as a witness? We wear a cross to remind us of our Saviour, Jesus. I sometimes wear a little feet pin on my lapel or collar to show that I value the life of the pre-born. I was wearing one not long ago when I went to have some blood work done. The nurse who was taking my blood that day noticed it and made the comment “Oh, what a cute little pin” I explained that they were the size of her feet when she was 12 weeks old in-uterus, and that is just how they looked, 10 tiny perfect toes. She was amazed and commented she wished her daughter had something like that a couple of weeks before. She took part in a debate at school defending the life of a baby. Needless to say, I took the pin off and gave it to her for her daughter.

Many of us wear the “feet pin,” or even the “little hands” pin, but we don’t always have the opportunity to explain what they are or why we are wearing them. However, we never know when someone will make a comment and give us that opportunity.

We have a license plate frame on the back of our vehicle that says “Choose Life” across the top and “LIFE IS SACRED from conception to natural death” across the bottom. This too is a silent witness. Do you realize how many people see your license plate in a year’s time? Most vehicles have a frame that advertises the company they purchased their vehicle from while others may support their favorite sports activity. Why not let people know that you support life from womb to tomb?

“SILENT NO MORE” AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

For those of you who haven’t heard about SNMAC, I will tell you what we do and why we do it. SNMAC is a campaign with very simple goals. We want to make the public aware of the effect that abortion has on the women who have them and on the fathers and other family members of aborted babies. The pro-abortion people want the world to believe that abortion is a good and necessary thing and that it is a simple procedure that very easily resolves the “problem” of unexpected pregnancy. Our goal is to counteract that rhetoric by revealing the truth about the harm that abortion causes. We do that by carrying signs in public places and by telling our stories of abortion and the pain that it caused us -- physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual pain. We hope that by doing this we will help other women make the right choice and give their babies the gift of life. For those who are suffering the consequences of abortion, we want to let them know that there is hope and that forgiveness and healing is possible through a relationship with Jesus Christ. We provide people with the necessary information that will direct them to healing programs.

The activities of SNMAC have not been as numerous in the past year as they were the previous year, mostly because I was dealing with a serious illness. That illness was breast cancer. I am telling you this simply because post abortive women are 40% more likely to get breast cancer than other women. My illness could very likely have been caused by the abortion that I had many years ago. Breast cancer is just one of the many possible consequences a woman may suffer as a result of abortion. Women need to know the risk that they place themselves in by having abortions. Abortion advocates do not acknowledge that these consequences exist and abortion providers do not make women aware of all the risks they take in having abortions. Abortion kills babies and has a lifetime effect on their mothers. See the website; <http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org> or call 1-800-395-HELP.

Anita (306)230-6017

ABORTION STATS: <http://www.webhart.net/vandee/abortstat.shtml#Therapeutic>

National Youth Gathering (NYG)

Edmonton, AB., July 2nd – 6th, 2010

2B>>2010



Close to 500 youth and leaders gathered at the University of Alberta Campus for the LCC National Youth Gathering. Participants were treated to a lot of fun, games, and singing. Many inspirational speakers encouraged the youth. Devotions were held daily, and music included groups such as Lost and Found, Jennifer Jade Kerr, and the “house band.”

The theme of the 2010 gathering was “Belong&Believe>>Believe&Belong based on 1 Peter 2:9-10, *“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”*

The Lutherans for Life – Canada’s display was next to the cafeteria. Some of the sessions were held in this area and human traffic flowed through the display room.

Besides Lutherans for Life – Canada display, there were the two Canadian seminaries, CLWR, Sperlings Bookstore, Crew Ministries, Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada and Concordia College present.

Initial reaction to the LFLC-C display was one of caution, as many participants upon seeing our display would quickly take a detour to the next booth. As time wore on, more interest was shown, and the youth were interested in our game, (*“Jeopardy” from womb to tomb*). We found that many lacked knowledge on the issue of abortion and teen sexuality and were surprised about the facts of abortion, euthanasia, stem cells and cloning. There is a great need for catecheses not only among our youth, but many adults as well. None-the-less, many good seeds were planted, and there is a new awareness of “Life” Issues.

The winner Kurt Warner Jersey: Clay Duncalfe – Red Lake, Ontario.

Welcome to Word of Hope

You are invited to contact Word of Hope if you are in a crisis situation, have had an abortion, are pregnant right now, or have been hurt by someone. Please contact us at:

- 1-888-217-8679 (toll free) Email: help@word-of-hope.org

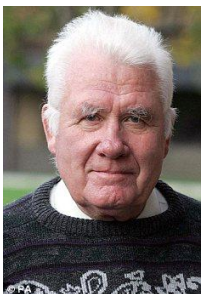
Message from the Executive Director



Grace Kern: We all have grieved the loss of someone at some point in our lives. Nothing could be more painful than the death of a child. But those who have lost a child because they had an abortion, or were part of an abortion decision, often do not allow themselves to grieve or don't know how to grieve. When a woman is faced with a crisis pregnancy she experiences a tremendous amount of fear and anxiety about her situation, and she often seeks a fast solution to her dilemma. Since abortion is socially sanctioned and Canadian law does not forbid abortion at any time during the 9 months of pregnancy, it is the choice she is likely to make, even though she may be violating her own moral code. Immediately after the procedure, she will often feel great relief that the crisis is over. But any moral struggle she felt prior to the abortion will resurface eventually. Since she cannot go back and "undo" the abortion she may experience regrets. Many will say, "It has been very painful dealing with this all on my own. I don't want anyone to know what I have done." It's an experience that goes beyond our physical and emotional being. It penetrates deep into the heart of our spiritual life. How does one grieve the death of an unborn child when the decision to abort seemed to be so right at the time? After all it is legal, it must be alright. Why would someone be unable to stop thinking about the abortion? Why the feeling of emptiness? Who can free me from this hurt and pain? Jesus Christ has forgiven you. You may struggle to believe that for many years to come. We are here to assure you that you are loved by God and also by us.

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" -- Romans 8:1

There's nothing merciful about these doctors who play God -- [Janet Street Porter](#)



Dr. Howard Martin was struck off the General Medical Council for giving vulnerable elderly people excessively high doses of morphine

When someone you love is dying in agony, who has the right to decide whether to speed things up? If a patient has given their consent, should doctors be able to administer large doses of drugs which allow them to slip away without the pain?

Dr Martin admitted he helped dozens of patients to die - in 2005 he was cleared of three murders - but he remains unrepentant, saying: *'I don't believe I killed any patients ... I believe I made them comfortable in their hour of need. On Judgment Day I will have to answer to God, and my answer will be this: that I did the best for my patients.'*

Was this man really doing his 'best' hastening a death, when the medical profession is committed to saving life? If he believes in God, then he knows that God regards all human life as sacred. Surely this doctor exploited his position when those in his care were not always capable of making rational decisions?

The medical profession is divided about euthanasia and assisted suicide, but quietly, and without any fuss, every day doctors and nurses help people die. The public has softened their attitude towards assisted suicide and so-called 'mercy killings', perhaps as a result of an ageing population.

Should Dr. Martin be tried for murder again? Some doctors think it's a waste of time as he's 75 and has retired - but relatives may think otherwise. (CREDIT – Mail Online Janet Street Porter)

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1288148/GP-Howard-Martin-Theres-merciful-doctors-play-God.html#ixzz0xm58BwQx>

Atheist doctors 'more likely to hasten death'

Study finds medics' faith affects care of terminally ill, as hospital clinicians admit 'ethically controversial' decisions

Terminally-ill patients would be well advised to find out the religious beliefs of their doctor, according to research showing the effect of faith on a doctor's willingness to make decisions that could hasten death.



Doctors who are atheist or agnostic are twice as likely to make decisions that might shorten the life of somebody who is terminally ill. Doctors who are deeply religious are less likely even to discuss such options with the patient, according to Professor Clive Seale, from the Centre for Health Sciences at Barts and the London school of medicine and dentistry.

-- **The Guardian.** Sarah Boseley, Health editor, August 26/10 See full article.
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2010/aug/26/doctors-religious-beliefs-terminally-ill>

POWERS OF ATTORNEY AND LIVING WILLS*

Have you ever worried about what will happen to you and your property if you are in a situation when, for medical reasons, you cannot make those decisions yourself? Who will decide what care and treatment you will receive? How will your bills get paid?

The time to plan for such a possibility is before it occurs and while you are able to do so. This can be done by preparing a valid power of attorney.

A power of attorney is a written document in which you designate an individual or individuals to make decisions concerning your property and personal care if you should become incapacitated and be unable to make those decisions yourself. Once a power of attorney takes effect, your attorney “steps in your shoes” and can make any decision you could otherwise make, subject to any restrictions or limitations specified in the power of attorney.

A “living will” is often included within a power of attorney for personal care in which you give specific directions to your attorney concerning the medical treatment you wish to be administered or withheld when you are in a specified medical condition.

The legislation concerning powers of attorney varies by province and one should consult a lawyer qualified to practice in your province to review your circumstances and ensure that a valid power of attorney is prepared.

Care should also be taken in choosing your attorney because he/she will have the power to make decisions you otherwise would be making. Therefore, your attorney should be a person or persons whom you trust will carry out your wishes and make decisions in your best interest. You should make sure that the person whom you wish to be your attorney is willing to take on that role; discuss with him/her what your wishes are; and ensure that he/she is prepared to carry out those wishes, even if he/she does not necessarily agree with them.

If you become incapacitated and do not have a valid power of attorney, the decisions concerning your property and personal care will likely be made by someone designated by legislation. Although such a person is to act in your best interests, he/she may not necessarily be acting as you wish. Therefore, to ensure that your wishes are respected and carried out, it is important for you to deal with the issue while you can.

Jeffrey A.L. Kriwetz

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*This article is for general information only and is not to be relied on for specific legal advice.

Jesus ultrasound picture used in campaign

An ultrasound picture of Jesus in the womb - complete with halo - is to be used for a Christmas advertising campaign.

Telegraph.co.uk

Published: 09 Jun 2010



Photo: ChurchAds.net

The ChurchAds.net image, with the words "He's on his way" is the latest in a series of Christian Christmas advertising campaigns and follows an image last year of the nativity as a bus stop.

Francis Goodwin, chairman of ChurchAds, said: "This is the kind of thing proud 'parents-to-be' show their friends and family - passing round the scan of the baby, or even pinning it up in the office.

"Our poster reflects this new way of announcing the news of a new arrival and places the birth of Christ in an ultra-contemporary context."

The Rt Rev Stephen Cottrell, the Bishop of Reading, said: "For many parents pregnancy gets real when you see the image from the ultrasound scan. It tells you something is actually kicking off.

"We've got so used to the tinsel wrapped coziness of the carefully packaged 21st century consumer-fest Christmas, that its astonishing reality - an actual pregnancy, a God come down to Earth - is easily missed.
Credit – TELEGRAPH.CO.UK

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/religion/7813181/Jesus-ultrasound-picture-used-in-campaign.html>

THE MILLENNIUM CROSS

Located 40 Kilometres North East of Saskatoon, SK. sits a 108 foot cross built with 36 inch diameter pipe and weighing 52,000 pounds. This cross was the vision of Joe Bayda, who in 1999 envisioned this cross as a millennium project and also as a memorial to the unborn.

Starting initially with a smaller version, a 33 foot wooden cross which was erected in 1999, and electricity was installed in 2001 which provided light for the wooden cross. Pilgrimages to the cross were started in 2000, where people gather to pray for the end to abortion and for all aborted babies. This pilgrimage has now become an annual event, held approximately the third week of August. Each year more facilities are added so as to allow services for the pilgrimage and for those visiting other times during the year.



“It was the Holy Spirit who inspired this project” stated Joe Bayda. As I was looking across the road from my kitchen window I had a dream to build a cross on the hill. After further prayer, Joe decided that the cross should be dedicated to the unborn victims of abortion. “We chose the unborn victims of abortion, because we think all life is precious and life begins at conception.”

So, if you ever travel highway 41, be sure to check out this Christian witness to life, which can be seen from 18 KMs away. It is listed among one of the many roadside attractions to see when visiting Saskatchewan.



Ancient Pro-Life Document Discovered!

Great new positive pro-life creed by Dr. James Lamb. Check it out at:

<http://www.lutheransforlife.org/article/ancient-pro-life-document-discovered>

Jesus, Lord of My Time?

Reflections on a Gift and its Sacred Use.

God’s Relationship to time

Not only do we have God’s names and titles to tell us Who He is (Yahweh, Lord, Creator, Saviour, King, etc.), but the Bible also gives us His “attributes” in detail. These attributes, or qualities, describe a part of the total picture so that the God Who is beyond our knowing becomes better known to us, though we will never know Him perfectly in this fallen world. *1 Corinthians 13:9, 12; Ephesians 3:18-19*. For example, Scripture says the Lord is almighty, just, faithful, merciful, and so on.

Another vital attribute of God is that he is eternal, *1 Timothy 1:17*. “Eternal does not simply mean that the Lord has a longer life span than you do, in other words, that He’s been around more years than any of us and will linger longer than you. “Eternal” means He has no end, *Psalms 90:1-2*. From this you understand that God

Himself is above time and even outside time. You cannot call Him “old” or “young” the way we do with human beings. Those words are linked to one’s age or how much time one has spent in the world. You cannot criticize Him for being “late” or “slow” as if He were some annoying human being. Those descriptions, too, are linked to clocks, calendars, and our measurements to time, **2 Peter 3:8-9**

There’s another attribute closely related to God being eternal: He *unchangeable*, (“immutable” is another way of saying it), **Psalm 102:25-28**. Time tends to change people profoundly. If a close friend moves far away and spends decades there without staying in touch with you, your friendship may change to the point where that friend feels like a stranger. A grandmother who once loved cooking and hosting big holiday dinners for the whole clan may age to the point where she can no longer take physical or emotional strain of this hosting; she simply cannot do for you what she once did. She changes because *time* has taken its toll!

Reflect briefly on these questions about God, the eternal and unchangeable One:

- *How is the fact of God being “eternal” and “unchangeable” a word of Law; in other words, how are these qualities of His a threat to anyone who attempts to ignore or avoid Him? What’s the problem with religious people who seek to soft-pedal the Lord’s revealed standards by saying, “Well, we have to adjust to the times” or “You can’t still believe that in this day and age”?*
- *On the other hand, how is God’s eternal, unchangeable nature a word of Gospel? To put it another way, where’s the comfort in these qualities of His? Reading **Malachi 3:6-7**, what good will it do wayward people to know the Lord is still there and does not change? How are His gifts better than those of human beings precisely because He is eternal and immutable, **James 1:17**?*
- *Is your spiritual eye sharpened to catch how the eternal, immutable nature of God shows up in Christian devotion? Take, for example, the hymns, “Abide With Me” and “Amazing Grace”:*

Change and decay in all around I see. O Thou Who changest not, abide with me!” (Lutheran Service Book 878. Vs, 4)

“His Grace has brought me safe thus far; His grace will lead me home” (Lutheran Service Book 744 vs. 3)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.” (Responsive Prayer 2 in Lutheran Service Book 285)

Excerpt taken from Bible Study given by Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee, President Lutheran Church – Canada
(June 12, 2010 LWMLC convention Moose Jaw, SK.)

Life Insurance and Charitable Giving

Charitable Giving + Life Insurance = Good Cents!

It’s affordable & Flexible. Modest premium payments today guarantee a substantial gift for your church/Lutherans for Life – Canada tomorrow. Choose from a variety of coverage’s and payment plans. For just a few dollars each month, using FaithLife Financials pre-authorized debit plan, you can leave a sizable gift. Or, you can make a single lump sum yearly payment.

It’s easy to set up. You can either name your church/LFL-C as owner and beneficiary of an existing insurance policy you no longer require, or purchase a new policy naming your church/ charity as owner and beneficiary.

It saves you tax. Giving your money away is one of the few ways to beat the tax man. Your premium payments are tax deductible (depending on how you’ve structured your gift), and your entire life insurance gift goes tax-free to the church/LFL-C, and can go a long way to minimize the final tax payable upon your death.

It preserves your estate. While your church/charity receives the proceeds from your policy (ies), your other beneficiaries receive the full value of your estate. In most instances, your gift of life insurance cannot be contested, nor will any probate or administrative expenses apply.

It's guaranteed. Through life insurance, you choose to provide a guaranteed gift for the church/charity of your choice.

Which life insurance policies are best for charitable giving?

Permanent insurance such as whole life or universal life offer life-long protection and will ensure that your gift will still be there when you die – whether it be for the same value as you originally chose, or a greater value.

Our Essential Life insurance is a simple solution that helps you leave a charitable gift – and no medical tests are required!

Your FaithLife Financial representative can share details on charitable giving and which life insurance option would work best for you.



Have you considered leaving a planned gift within your estate to support the work of Lutherans for Life - Canada? Are you passionate about the work they do? Have you considered how even a small percentage of your estate would allow this vital work to continue? Lutheran Foundation Canada, an organization of LCC, assists individuals who are considering a planned gift, but are unsure of how best to create the gift. Coupled with other gifts you might leave to your home congregation or others, these combined gifts can generate significant tax savings. Call Lutheran Foundation Canada to find out how, at 877-711-4438 or visit our web site at www.lutheranfoundation.ca. Plan. Make a difference, for your loved ones, and the ministries you value.

UPCOMING EVENT

Are you suffering from the consequences of abortion?

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries provides an opportunity for healing from the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. It is a weekend retreat with a very specific process designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. It is also an opportunity to surface and release repressed feelings of anger, shame, guilt and grief. Rachel's Vineyard provides a non-judgmental, safe environment. The weekend will help your soul find a voice and transform the pain of the past into hope and love. Check the website for dates & location in your area – www.rachelsvineyard.org.

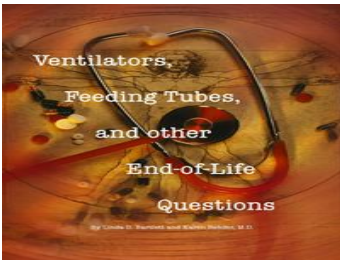
Check out these resources at Concordia Publishing house.

<http://www.cph.org/c-1006-sanctity-of-life.aspx?REName=Shop by Category>

End-of-Life

“Life is not ours to give nor is it ours to take ... Indeed the cross of Jesus Christ makes the difference in facing and living through our end-of-life issues. Thanks be to God!”

Rev. Dr. Eugene Boe, Lutheran Brethren Seminary



Ventilators, Feeding Tubes, and other End-Of-Life Questions Item Number:LFL800BWEB

By Linda Bartlett, Karen Rehder, M.D.

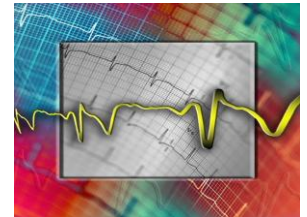
Category: End of Life

This article answers tough questions for individuals, families, and pastors such as: What about extraordinary treatment? But what if I'm a burden? Are food and water extraordinary care? What about unconscious patients? When is enough enough?

The Basics on Advance Directives: Thy Will Be Done. Item Number:LFL807BWEB

By James Lamb

Category: End of Life



Is it proper for a Christian to have a Living Will? This article has basic information about Living Wills and other advance directives that will help a Christian answer that question.

A Christian Guide to End of Life Decisions. Item Number: LFL801RWEB

Euthanasia and the Christian - Item Number: LFL800TWEB

Make the Connection ... Join Lutherans for Life – Canada!

Please consider assisting LFL-C by making a financial contribution. We place you on our mailing list and send you a quarterly newsletter.

Unfortunately, you are not able to receive a charitable receipt for your donation since LFL-C does not have charitable status with Revenue Canada.



You can send your donation to: Pastor Richard Juritsch,

1 Jefferson Drive, St. Catharines, ON., L2N 3T8

NAME _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONGREGATION: _____

MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00 _____

DONATION: _____

If you have not already done so, to be a member of Lutherans for Life – Canada you must subscribe to our objects by signing and sending the following along with your membership cost.

I support the objects of Lutherans for Life – Canada, namely:

(a) to provide an organization through which Lutheran Christians can unite to share dialog and give common witness within the Church and society to their concern for the value and dignity of all human life;

(b) to strengthen the existing bond of concern by bringing Lutherans of like mind into contact with one another;

(c) to gather and share pertinent information with its membership and develop strategies for witness and response;

(d) to develop and distribute educational materials based on the Word of God;

(e) to identify resource people who can write and speak on behalf of the organization;

(f) to monitor public and private action in order to enhance the right to life;

(g) to respond to and cooperate with other groups in society which share similar concerns;

(h) to examine and correct popular but misleading stereotypes regarding pro-life advocacy;

(i) to operate exclusively for Charitable and educational purposes. It will not participate in political campaign for or against any candidate for public office or devote a substantial part of its activities to influence legislation.

Name: _____ (Please print)

Signature: _____

Date: _____