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Meeting With the Pro-Family Legislative Network

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I've just returned from an exciting two-week journey. On Friday, November 6, I had the pleasure and privilege of meeting with the U.S. Ambassador to Canada, the Honourable Pete Hoekstra, in Ottawa. Later that afternoon, I made a presentation at the Parliamentary Press Gallery on the topic of why Canada should not seek 'associate membership' in the European Union. The next day, after meeting with local CHP members in the afternoon, I was able to present the 3rd Annual Ron Gray Moral Courage Award to Detective Helen Grus, an Ottawa police officer who demonstrated great courage and integrity in seeking to investigate the increase in infant mortality after the roll-out of the COVID mRNA vaccines in Ottawa.

The last event took place at the Capital City Bikers Church, where pastors Rob and Melissa McKee have gone out of their way to honour Det. Grus and to bring life-changing gospel truths to the citizens of Ottawa. It was a fantastic evening and we really appreciate the opportunity to hold the event at the Bikers Church. Here are links to the Press Release[1] and the Helen Grus Award Ceremony.[2]

Following the Ottawa events, I was able to attend a campaign rally for our CHP candidate, Dirk Byers, who is running in the federal by-election in Brantford—Brant South. A nice gathering of friends and supporters were there to kick off his campaign.

The next day, I had the opportunity to meet with a couple of gentlemen who expressed an interest in the platform of the Christian Heritage Party and who want to help us increase our impact in Canadian politics. On Remembrance Day, I attended the service at Wyoming, Ontario, where one of our CHP members, Curtis Bryce, is a member of the Colour Guard. After the ceremony, I made my way to Sarnia where I met with long-time member and supporter, Ed Banninga, and about 20 other people who came together for a lunch meeting to discuss Canadian politics and especially the work and vision of the Christian Heritage Party of Canada. I then travelled to Windsor to meet with some of our EDA directors in Windsor for a very pleasant dinner. It really encouraged me to see the vision and enthusiasm of these folks who are rolling up their sleeves and doing the work required to establish the CHP as a legitimate political alternative in Windsor.

From there, I made it back to the Toronto airport and caught an early morning flight to Fort Worth, Texas, where I attended a three-day conference hosted by the Pro-Family Legislative Network.[3] The vision and direction of that annual conference flows largely from the Wallbuilders organization,[4] the life work of Mr. David Barton and his son, Tim Barton. I have been listening to David's Christ-centred lectures since the 1980s, when my wife, Elaine, was carrying his books and tapes in her Christian bookstore in Smithers. It was a real thrill and privilege to meet David and Tim in person and to see how their work was inspiring the 500+ attendees at the conference. A great many who were there were elected state representatives and senators, seeking to bring a Christian worldview into their state legislatures.

Much of the material presented was a reminder of the deep Christian faith held by many of the Founding Fathers of the United States, the signers of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and the drafters of the US Constitution. The tales of battlefield courage, combined with the documented expressions of faith that

came from the lips and pens of these early American heroes were truly inspiring. As a Canadian, I believe that many similarities can be drawn between the faith and character of the early American patriots and the men who helped forge the nation of Canada. I know that we also have heroes of the faith who worked hard to build Christian values into our own foundations. It may be that the faith of some of our founders is not as well documented as that of their American counterparts. It certainly is less discussed here than it is on the other side of the border. We need to stir up that discussion and educate ourselves and especially our young people on the critical role Christian faith has played in the founding of our country.

In that room full of modern American politicians, it was refreshing to see the bold faith, the reverent devotion and the clear articulation of biblical principles in regard to life, family and freedom. Because this conference took place in the wake of the disastrous US Midterm Elections, there were some attendees who had just lost their positions in the government. There were a few others who were newly elected and just embarking on their journey as elected representatives. There were many others who were re-elected and already had some years of service behind them. In every case, there were wonderful testimonies of God's goodness to them; the representatives of each state were able to report some positive accomplishments in the areas of pro-life, pro-family and pro-freedom legislation. Of course, many also reported on disappointments and setbacks. The overwhelming sense of the room was one of faith and confidence in the goodness and purposes of God, in spite of the challenges they now face.

I was privileged to meet a number of very committed men and women who are working hard to enact God-honouring legislation in their states…or in some cases, to roll back and reverse laws that restrict expressions of faith, freedom of speech and conscience or laws that promote ungodly lifestyles. In this group (most, if not all, were Republicans), protection of innocent human life was a universally-shared commitment. So different from the lukewarm compromise we so often see in Canada's House of Commons!

It was a reminder to me how important it is that the Christian Heritage Party of Canada continues to speak the truth on these issues without compromise. We owe it to our ancestors and we owe it to future generations. More importantly, we owe it to God who has entrusted us with His Truth and calls us to share it at every opportunity, even in Canada's compromised political venues.

What role can you play in speaking the truth to our nation? If you're not already a member, we invite you to join and support the work of CHP Canada[5] today and—in doing so—answer the call to serve a nation that sorely needs to be reminded of who we are.

Footnotes

[1] www.chp.ca/news/why-canada-should-not-seek-eu-associate-status

[2] www.chp.ca/media/post/ron-gray-moral-courage-award-presented-to-detective-helen-grus

[3] thelegislatorsnetwork.com/conference/

[4] wallbuilders.com

[5] www.chp.ca