

ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

STATEMENT

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Archbishop hopes Motion 312 vote heralds start of new era

VANCOUVER - Vancouver Archbishop J. Michael Miller says he is disappointed in the outcome of Wednesday's vote on Motion 312 but pleased the subject of the humanity of the unborn has finally made it into the House of Commons.

He expressed appreciation for those MPs who stood up for life and said he hopes the day "marks the beginning of a period of discussion about the reality of abortion" and that politicians will in future find the courage to support life in the womb.

"Those men and women who supported Motion 312 today should be commended," Archbishop Miller said. "Their witness gives a boost to the cause of life across Canada."

The archbishop recently released a statement saying Catholics may in good conscience support incremental or so-called gestational approaches toward pro-life legislation: http://www.rcav.org/uploadedFiles/gestational%20statement.pdf

He has also put his support behind the pro-life initiative WeNeedaLaw.ca and has called on other faith leaders to support the initiative: http://weneedalaw.ca/index.php/press-kit/archive/view/listid-2-media/mailid-18-archbishopmillerendorsescampaign

"Canada does need a law, and this initiative is a helpful first step toward correcting an unacceptable legislative void that is unique among democratic nations. I encourage Canadians to support it and pray for its success."