

## Canadian Documentary features Three BCPI Board Members By Angela Lanfranchi MD

A Canadian production company, Mighty Motion Pictures, has begun the release of a documentary filmed over the last several years. The initial time frame for the production was nine months but as information developed, more time was needed. The picture was an official selection of three 2015 film festivals, LA Femme in Los Angeles, the Malibu festival in California and the Russian International Film Festival. It was also a Golden Award winner of the 2015 World Documentary Awards. It was recently previewed at a Houston medical meeting of OB-Gyns where it was very well received.



Mighty Motion Pictures presents HUSH

The writer and producer of the film, Punam Gill, is a self described pro-choice Canadian of Indian descent. She got involved in the project when she heard that vital health information needed by women was subject to politics.

She wanted to take an “honest and comprehensive look at this controversial subject,” no matter where the truth led her. She delved into the connections of abortion with breast cancer, premature birth and psychological problems. She interviewed physicians and psychologists on all sides of the issue and post abortive women. She confirmed everything that was told to her by reviewing all of the pertinent literature herself. Ironically, during the course of the filming of the documentary, Punam learned that she herself had an elevated risk of breast cancer although she had never had an abortion herself. She had suffered the preterm birth of her son, before 32 weeks, and yet no one had informed her that this was a risk for breast cancer. The subject of the documentary then became very personal to her. She was angered that anyone would politicize medical information that a woman needed for her own health. Women need to know their risks so that they can undergo appropriate future care whether they are screenings for breast cancer or cervical monitoring during pregnancy to prevent the premature birth of their child. I believe

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## BCPI 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing Honors Karen Malec

This year’s Golf Outing honoree is the late Mrs. Karen Malec. Karen was the president of the Abortion Breast Cancer Coalition from 1999 until she passed away in 2015. Karen was tireless in her efforts to make the public aware of the abortion-breast cancer link. She was a better fighter for the truth than I. She was fearless.



Karen Malec

One episode illustrates how effective an adversary Karen was to those who would prevaricate on subjects concerning women’s health. At the end of 2009, Karen became incensed that Louise Brinton, an NCI leader, Chief of the Hormonal and Epidemiology Branch, was the author of a paper concerning oral contraceptives increasing breast cancer risk. This paper stated clearly in the discussion section that induced abortion raised breast cancer risk in young women by 40%, a statistically significant increase.

Karen called me angry and energized that Louise, who had a leadership role in the 2003 NCI Workshop which concluded that induced abortion wasn’t a risk for breast cancer, would 6 years later say declaratively that it was a risk. Had Louise lied at the workshop or just changed her mind? Karen called me because she wanted to *do something!!!* I told her there was nothing new here to do anything about as we had always found evidence that the NCI was lying about the ABC Link. More of the same. Nothing new here that I could see.

With no support from me, she issued a lengthy press release from her coalition declaring Dr. Louise Brinton now acknowledged the ABC Link as evidenced by her authorship on a paper that stated it as fact. Maurice Vellacott, a Canadian M.P., read her press release. The very next day he issued his own press release as a Canadian Member of Parliament that he himself had been vindicated! You see, in 2007, Mr. Vellacott had invited me to Ottawa to give a talk in a governmental building on the abortion breast cancer link. We were both widely ridiculed in the popular press for promoting junk science. Now, in his press release, he declared he had been vindicated because an NCI leader in a medical journal acknowledged the ABC Link as being true. The next day, Gloria Galloway, a columnist for the Globe and Mail, who had been particularly derisive of both M.P. Vellacott and myself in print after my 2007 visit (even though she did not hear my talk) wrote a column in response to Vellacott’s release. She had a markedly different tone. Gloria had been refused an interview by Louise Briton to clear up the matter of whether she changed her mind or not. This refusal had changed Gloria. While she said it was wrong to try to scare women from abortion by reporting an ABC Link, it was worse to withhold the truth from women. Gloria still had her

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## The 6th Annual BCPI Golf Outing is scheduled for Friday, June 3, 2016



If you would like to participate as a golfer, a sponsor, or a dinner guest, please visit our website to download a copy of the brochure and a sponsorship/donor form.

**Mark your calendars!**

[www.bcpinstitute.org/golf.htm](http://www.bcpinstitute.org/golf.htm)

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Punam and her team actually became experts on their subject. Once when I unthinkingly answered a medical question from them in an off the cuff way, they immediately informed me of my error regarding breast physiology. I was really impressed with their depth of their knowledge. Punam not only read a paper I had given her to make a point, but she then interviewed its author, a Canadian medical oncologist. Nothing was glossed over. No one, no matter their credentials, was taken at their word.

The film was shot on location in three Canadian provinces, the United Kingdom, nine US states and the District of Columbia. She had gone to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in person to obtain an interview concerning the relationship of induced abortion and breast cancer. Instead, she and her crew were escorted off the premises. She had watched the entire filmed record of the 2003 NCI Workshop on Reproductive Events, on line “frame by frame,” in her words. She had many pointed questions she wanted to ask the NCI. (Another Canadian, journalist Gloria Galloway for the

### A Note from the President...

Since I last wrote for this report, I am pleased to say that I've had the opportunity to reach many physicians with BCPI materials and information. In October, 2015, I spoke before over 600 physicians attending the annual meeting of the Catholic Medical Association in Philadelphia. All of the physicians received copies of several of our brochures, which contain important references. Subsequently, this led to many new orders for our brochures.



Angela  
Lanfranchi, MD

In January 2016, I was invited back to Australia. I gave a talk in Brisbane that was advertised for a lay audience on the Pill and induced abortion. During the question and answer period, I became aware that there were many physicians attending as well, from various specialties including surgeons. There was a pediatrician who was very interested in using the information for her patients as there is a world-wide effort to have all teens on hormonal contraception, especially IUDs. The talk was taped professionally, so hopefully we might be able to add it to the resources on our web site. I also gave two talks and participated in a panel at a 4-day conference in Albury which lies between Sydney and Melbourne. At both events I was well received and was able to spread BCPI information even beyond Australian borders. For instance, I was interviewed for a web cast by a leader of a Singapore organization.

This past March, Dr Brind and I continued our yearly participation in the annual United Nations' meeting in New York City, the 60<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women and Children. We were asked by Australian and Canadian NGOs to speak at 4 events, including a screening of Hush. We represent BCPI and are able to give our materials literally to women from all over the world.



I regret to inform you that BCPI is losing a highly valued member of our organization, Helen. She is retiring after 16 years of dedicated service. She is the voice that answers the phone, sends out your orders, makes “my” beautiful slides and keeps me focused. I will miss her greatly. I ask your patience until I get up to speed as I take on her duties.

Globe and Mail, had also been refused an interview on the subject in 2010.)

During the course of filming three BCPI board members were interviewed. Myself, Dr Joel Brind, and Jeanette Joyce spent the day with Punam's crew, answering probing questions concerning the ABC Link. Others interviewed on this aspect were Dr Chris Kahlenborn, Eve Silver, Dr. Ian Gentiles, Patrick Carroll and Dr Patrick Fagan. The prematurity risk and psychological risks were also explored by experts in those fields.

The only criticism of preview audiences has been its length, 103 minutes. It is fast paced, visually pleasing and crammed with information. I urge you to go to the picture's web site [www.hushfilm.com](http://www.hushfilm.com) to view the trailer. Also consider giving them a donation so that Mighty Motion Pictures can do a wide theatrical release. All donations are fully tax deductible for US citizens.

Imagine what good a wide release would do toward informing the public of this vital information. We know that the NCI, which has a duty to do this, will not be doing it any time soon. You can make a difference. By getting HUSH in theaters, you will be furthering the mission of BCPI.



### BCPI 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing Honors Karen Malec

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doubts, but she was no longer so sure about what was the truth.

Karen wasn't a physician, but she knew the ABC literature as well as anyone and she had a depth of knowledge of breast physiology and development that most of my physician colleagues lack. She had a great writing style and developed a web site [www.abortionbreastcancer.com](http://www.abortionbreastcancer.com) that can serve as a library. How many executive directors write letters to their donors that include many references and citations as footnotes? I don't know of any except Karen.

Karen was relentless in her advocacy for women. She always was searching for a way to get the information out. She never stopped. In the last year of her life, while taking chemotherapy and suffering its many side effects, Karen kept writing and talking and trying to get the message out to the public not only about the ABC Link but the role of hormonal contraceptives in the breast cancer epidemic.

Karen is survived by her daughter, a nurse, her son and husband Rich. I hope many of you will be able to join us for a round of golf or dinner at a beautiful country club. Or just put a small ad in our journal to acknowledge Karen's untiring life's work and support for BCPI. We'd also love to have an opportunity to meet you in person.

#### **REMINDER!**

Don't forget to check out our website for new additions and updates.  
[www.bcpinstitute.org](http://www.bcpinstitute.org)

If you move or change your mailing or email address, if you receive multiple copies of the BCPI Report, or if you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please send us an email to let us know. It helps us save on postage costs for our mailing when we have up-to-date information.

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