

## **Dying With Dignity Canada British Columbia Resources (Many listed on our website – [click here](#))**

[DWDC website](#) contains many resources, including:

- [Fact sheet: What is MAID?](#)
- [MAID assessment guide](#)
- [ACP toolkit](#)
- [Patient Rights Guide](#)
- [What to Expect at a MAID Death](#)
- [Fact sheet on dementia and MAID](#)

### **Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID)**

#### **BC Ministry of Health**

Website describes how the MAID process works in the province, with links to each health authority.

#### **BC MAID Forms**

Links provided to Form 1632 (*Request for Medical Assistance in Dying*), Form 1645 (*Waiver of Final Consent*) and forms used by MAID assessors.

#### **Government of Canada MAID Legislation**

Provides an overview of the federal legislation.

#### **Sixth Annual Report on MAID**

Health Canada report with MAID statistics across Canada up to the end of 2024.

#### **MAiD in Canada Substack**

Led by two Lower Mainland nurses, regular topical dispatches delivering accurate and compassionate insights on MAID.

#### **Virtual Hospice**

Offers guidance on how to have difficult discussions with friends and family about MAID.

IT'S YOUR LIFE. IT'S YOUR CHOICE.



**Dying With Dignity Canada**

500 - 1835 Yonge Street

Toronto, ON M4S 1X8

Tel: 1-800-495-6156

info@dyingwithdignity.ca

## **Bereavement Services**

### **BC Bereavement Helpline**

A non-profit, free, and confidential service that connects the public to comprehensive local and provincial grief support services within BC. It is the only free, grief-specific helpline in Canada and is a valuable resource, no matter the cause of death. As well as information and referrals, volunteers provide compassionate listening by phone, Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm

**Phone:** 604-738-9950 or **toll free** at 1-877-779-2223. **Email** [contact@bcbh.ca](mailto:contact@bcbh.ca).

### **Canadian Grief Alliance (CGA)**

A group of leading grief specialists and more than 150 national and provincial organizations that are encouraging the government to adopt a proposal to address national gaps in grief services that are leaving hurting Canadians unsupported in their grief. *The Helpline covers post-death grief but, for many, grief begins while watching a loved one suffer during their last days.*

### **MAID Family Support Services** (formerly **Bridge 4 You**)

Provides compassionate, lived experience one-on-one support and connection to people helping a loved one who is considering or planning for MAID or those who are grieving a loss due to MAID.

### **Lower Mainland Grief Recovery Society (LMGRS)**

A non-profit organization that has been organizing grief support groups in the Vancouver area since 1990. Trained and experienced facilitators walk with participants on a journey through healing by offering coping tools, support and the chance to share feelings and stories.

**Email:** [lmgr@lmgr.ca](mailto:lmgr@lmgr.ca)

**Phone:** 604-696-1060

## **Support Groups**

### **Dying With Dignity Canada**

[support@dyingwithdignity.ca](mailto:support@dyingwithdignity.ca)

Offers general information and guidance on end-of-life issues and MAID.

Phone: (416)-486-3998

Toll Free: 1-800-495-6156



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### Bridge C-14

Founded on the need for access to peer-to-peer group support for those with lived MAiD experience, as well as to provide information about MAID and support to individuals considering it as an option.

### bc211

A non-profit organization that specializes in providing information and referral regarding community, government and social services in BC. bc211 will monitor calls and online applications for the Safe Seniors, Strong Communities Program, both from seniors wanting help and from volunteers willing to step up.

### Family Caregivers of BC

A registered non-profit dedicated 100% to supporting family caregivers.

**Support line:** 1-877-520-3267    **Phone:** 250-384-040

### Dignity Seniors Society

Provides culturally appropriate services for 2SLLGBTQIA+ seniors across BC that engage in ways that are meaningful to them.

### Seniors First BC

Charitable, non-profit society providing information, advocacy and support to older adults across BC with issues affecting their well-being, as well as those who care for them.

## Disability support services

### British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society (BCANDS)

National Indigenous not for profit, Society serving the unique and diverse disability needs of Indigenous peoples across Canada. IDC/BCANDS provides a vast array of services to eligible individuals, families and organizations, both within Indigenous communities and urban and rural centres. If you are an Indigenous person with a disability, or a community or organization requiring disability information and support services, IDC/BCANDS may be able to assist.



## Health Care

### HealthLink BC

24/7 Health Advice You Can Trust

This site includes medically-approved information on over 5000 health topics, symptoms, medical tests, medications, and tips for healthy eating and lifestyle choices. For information on Medical Assistance in Dying on this website, go to the alphabetical list of health topics and look under "M".

Call 8-1-1 toll-free in B.C., or for the deaf and hard of hearing, call 7-1-1 or for Video Relay Service, call 604-215-5101

### BC Cancer

BC Cancer's mandate covers the full spectrum of cancer care from prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment, to research and education, to supportive and palliative care. BC Cancer suggests websites that they have assessed to be useful for patients and families.

### NO CPR

The No CPR Form provides you with a legal option to request that no CPR be provided by a health care provider or first responder. For information call 8-1-1 toll-free in B.C., or for the deaf and hard of hearing, call 7-1-1 or for Video Relay Service, call 604-215-5101

### Patient Care Quality Offices

Patient Care Quality offices exist in each BC Health Authority. Each Health Authority Website (see links under Regional Contacts) has a link to its Patient Care Quality office.

### BC Association of Community Response Networks

List of BC resources focused on stopping adult abuse and neglect.

### The Patient Care Quality Review Board

The Health Authority Patient Care Quality Office (PCQO) is the first step for an investigation into concerns about health authority services. The Patient Care Quality Review Board can review any concerns still outstanding after the PCQO response, including concerns about the PCQO response itself. 1 866 952 2488

### Pharmacare BC

PharmaCare helps B.C. residents pay for eligible prescription drugs, certain medical supplies, and pharmacy services.

From the Lower Mainland, call 604 683-7151. Elsewhere in BC, call 1 800 663-7100.

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## Other end-of-life groups

### [Expected/planned home deaths](#)

BC government website that provides clarification on the process and procedures involved in managing anticipated natural home deaths in the context of a terminal illness and outlines the roles and responsibilities of health professionals and agencies involved in a home death.

### [End of Life Doula Association](#)

National organization that provides a registry of doulas who have been trained to their ethical standards and have undergone criminal records checks.

### [Death & Dying Network International](#)

You can find a list of doulas and others who want to be discovered. Lots of information for anyone wanting to become a doula.

### [LGBT End of Life Resource Inventory](#)

Lists organization that provide understanding services to this community. (Note that this document has not been updated since 2015)

### [BC Memorial Society](#)

Provides independent information about reasonably priced funeral services and arranges, in advance of death, for members and their families such lawful disposition of their remains as they desire.

## Palliative Care

### [BC Government page on end-of-life care](#)

Information on end-of-life care in BC including care co-ordination and consultation, pain and symptom management, community nursing services, community rehabilitation services, home support, respite for the caregiver and hospice care and eligibility, costs, and options

You can also contact the home and community care office of your Regional Health Authority (see information under Regional Contacts)

### [BC Government palliative care benefits](#)

Description of palliative care benefits available to BC residents and how to apply for them.



### [BC Centre for Palliative care](#)

This is a provincial non-profit organization established by the Ministry of Health to accelerate improvement in palliative care in British Columbia. **Phone:** 604-553-4866

### [Palliative Care for Children](#)

Support for children and families who are living with progressive, life-threatening diseases.

**Canuck Place Intake coordinator:**

**Phone:** 604-731-4847

**Email:** [intake@canuckplace.org](mailto:intake@canuckplace.org)

### [BC Cancer's Palliative Care and Hospice Website resources](#)

This website has information on what end of life will feel like and how to prepare for end of life.

### [Providence Hospice and Palliative care information](#)

The Palliative Care Team at Providence Health Care provides care to patients at St. Paul's Hospital in the Palliative Care Unit. They support hospice care at May's Place and St. John's Hospice as well as provides outreach and consultation services across Providence. This includes support at Mount St. Joseph Hospital and our 6 long-term care homes.

### [First Nations Health Authority \(palliative care\)](#)

Includes information about collaborative services that provide a more responsive, culturally-safe and supportive health system for those in palliative care.

**Phone:** 604-693-6500

**Toll-free:** 1-866-913-0033

### [Vancouver Hospice Society](#)

Host of services for Vancouver residents including one-on-one counselling for adults. Family and adult grief group and a bereavement walking group. Operates an 8-bed palliative care residential hospice.

### [Victoria Hospice](#) (Victoria and area residents only)

People in Greater Victoria facing advanced stages of any progressive illness may register for Victoria Hospice care, provided that patients, family members and physicians all understand and agree that the focus of care should now be on comfort instead of cure. Typically, patients have a prognosis of 6-12 months. They can register with Victoria Hospice even before any of the services are actually required. Victoria Hospice's Bereavement Services are available to registered patients and families and to the general public who are struggling with loss.

**Phone:** 250-519-3040 **Email:** [Hospice.Bereavement@viha.ca](mailto:Hospice.Bereavement@viha.ca)

### TheraPsil

Promotes therapeutic psilocybin to those in palliative care. TheraPsil connects approved patients with qualified health professionals for this therapy.

### **REGIONAL CONTACTS (from DWDC website)**

#### **Fraser Health**

Home Health Service Line: 1-855-412-2121 (Trained staff are available to take your call seven days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pacific time. Translation services are also available.)

More information:

[Fraser Health's webpage on hospice palliative care](#)

#### **Interior Health**

[Interior Health's directory of facilities that offer palliative care](#)

[Interior Health's webpage on palliative and end-of-life care](#)

[Palliative Journey Resource Guide \(PDF\)](#)

#### **Island Health**

**Phone:** 250-370-8699 or 1-877-370-8699 (toll-free) **Email:** [info@viha.ca](mailto:info@viha.ca)

[Island Health's webpage on end-of-life, hospice, and palliative services](#)

[Island Health's webpage on end-of-life care and hospice](#)

[Victoria Hospice](#) **Phone:** 250-370-8715

#### **Northern Health**

[Northern Health's webpage on end-of-life care/palliative care](#)

#### **Vancouver Coastal Health**

Access lines for home and community care services:

**North Shore:** 604-986-7111 **Richmond:** 604-278-3361 **Vancouver:** 604-263-7377

Access lines for hospice palliative care:

**North Shore:** 604-984-3131 **Richmond:** 604-278-3361 **Vancouver:** 604-263-7255

[Vancouver Coastal Health's webpage on hospice palliative care](#)

#### **First Nations Health Authority**

<https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do>

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### **Provincial Health Services Authority**

[BC Cancer's Pain & Symptom Management/Palliative Care service](#)

[BC Children's Hospital Palliative Care](#)

To use this service, contact the Canuck Place intake coordinator by calling 604-731-4847 or emailing [intake@canuckplace.org](mailto:intake@canuckplace.org)

### **Advance Care Planning Resources**

- My Voice
  - [Advance Care Planning Guide published by BC Ministry of Health](#)
  - Includes all relevant BC government documents
  - Can order hard copy by [clicking here](#)
  - [Fraser Health ACP process](#)
  
- [Dying With Dignity Canada – Education and Resources](#)
  - [Advance Care Planning kit](#)
  - Advance Directive
  - Representation Agreement (RA9)
  - Educational webinars
  - [Patient Rights Guide](#)
  
- [Nidus](#)
  - Copies of forms
  - Can register all completed documents with them electronically
  
- [Advance Care Planning Canada](#)
  - Alternate ACP toolkit, which can be downloaded



### Individual Forms

- Representation Agreement (RA9) may be found [HERE](#) OR [HERE](#)
- “NO CPR” document may be found [HERE](#)
- [MOST \(Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment\)](#)
  - Completed by doctor or NP prior to being admitted to hospital
  - Identifies your wishes using 5 levels of care
  - [Supporting documentation](#) (AD, Rep agreement, No CPR) should be included with patient’s chart
- ICE (In Case of Emergency) form may be found in [My Voice](#)
  - Complete form and have it easily accessible to paramedics with other relevant documents. A sticky on your fridge could indicate where all relevant documents may be found.
  - More detailed version can be found [here!](#)
- [Fridge form In Case of Medical Emergency \(ICE\)](#)

### Organ Donation (if you want to include in your ACP)

- [BC Organ Donor Registry](#)

### Body Donation

- [Body Donation to UBC for medical research](#)

### How to Set Up Emergency Contacts on your Cell Phone

In an emergency, responders are able to access your emergency contacts from your cell phone if they are appropriately set up so that they can bypass your password.

Instructions are contained in the following links:

- [iPhone](#)
- [Android](#)

## Contacts (DWDC Metro Vancouver Chapter)

Susan Jobs ACP Co-ordinator [susanmjobs@gmail.com](mailto:susanmjobs@gmail.com)  
Alex Muir Chair [vancouver@dyingwithdignity.ca](mailto:vancouver@dyingwithdignity.ca)

## Readings

Kent McNeil and Wayne Sumner. *Deciding on Death: Rodriguez, Carter and Medically Assisted Dying in Canada*, UBC Press, 2025

Sammy Winemaker and Hsien Seow. *Hope for the Best Plan for the Rest 7 Keys for Navigating a Life-Changing Diagnosis*, Page Two Books, 2023

Connie Jorsvik. *Navigating the BC Healthcare System*, Self-Counsel Press, 2023

Blair Bingham. *Death Interrupted How Modern Medicine is Complicating the Way We Die*, House of Anansi Press/The Walrus Books 2022

Stefanie Green. *This is Assisted Dying A Doctor's Story of empowering Patients at the End of Life*, Scribner, 2022

Jean Marmoreo and Johanna Schneller. *The Last Doctor Lessons in Living from the Front Lines of Medical Assistance in Dying*, Penguin Random House Canada, 2022

Connie Jorsvik. *Advance Care Planning: Prepare for Serious Illness by Sharing Your Wishes for Future Health and Personal Care*, Self-Counsel Press, 2020

Phyllis Schacter. *Choosing to Die: A Personal Story: Elective Death by Voluntarily Stopping Eating and Drinking (VSED) in the Face of Degenerative Disease*, 2017

Sandra Martin. *A Good Death Making the Most of Our Final Choices*, Harper Perennial, 2016.

Atul Gawande. *Being Mortal Medicine and What Matters in the End*, Doubleday Canada, 2014

Maggie Callanan and Patricia Kelley. *Final Gifts: Understanding the Special Awareness, Needs, and Communications of the Dying*, 1997

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Last updated: April 2026