



Palliative Care
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PCCC Member Initiatives – January 2025

(In alphabetical order)

Canadian AIDS Society

HIV Connect

We know that outcomes for people living with HIV improve when they are represented in leadership and program staffing.

The Canadian AIDS Society is holding community consultations across Canada to build an online training resource for organizations in clinical and community-based settings who intentionally want to incorporate more people living with HIV in their workforces. We hope that these organizations will include PCCC members and others in the palliative care sector.

Canadian Association for Spiritual Care

Spiritual Care Practitioners Advanced Certification in Palliative and Bereavement Care

In partnership with Atlantic School of Theology, CASC/ACSS. Three members from the Community of Practice for Palliative and Bereavement Care, have enrolled in the Graduate University Course, Pastoral Psychology: Dying, Death and Bereavement. As part of the pilot project to determine the requirements for an advanced certification in Palliative and Bereavement Care.

Spiritual Care Community of Practice

In partnership with Pallium Canada and its Palliative Care ECHO Project, the Spiritual Care Community, series 2. Continues to offer webinars facilitated by a team of four CASC/ACSS members. The response to these webinars has been positive and fosters interprofessional collaboration.

Chapter in a Book

CASC/ACSS, four members from the Community of Practice in Palliative and Bereavement Care. Have co-authored and submitted a chapter for a book, proposing an Advanced Certification in Palliative and Bereavement Care. Building on the experience of Certified members CASC/ACSS as well as other professional in the National Association of Catholic Chaplains and the Association of Professional Chaplain in the US.



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Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association

National Reflection Room

The National Reflection Room® opened December 12th, 2024, at Beechwood Cemetery, Canada's National Cemetery. The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (<https://www.chpca.ca/>) would like to thank their collaborators Saint Elizabeth Foundation, SE Research Centre (<https://research.sehc.com>) and Beechwood National Cemetery (<https://www.beechwoodottawa.ca/en>) for help bringing this space to life.

Located in Beechwood's mausoleum, this dedicated space offers a unique opportunity for quiet reflection, healing, and connection. As a participatory art installation, the Reflection Room® encourages visitors to read and write about their journeys with grief and healing, creating a shared space where stories can connect us all. This initiative is a testament to the power of remembrance and the importance of creating spaces where everyone can find peace and connection.

We invite you to visit the Reflection Room® today and experience this serene space for yourself. Whether you come to reflect, write your own thoughts, or simply find a moment of peace, this room is for you.

National Caregiving Strategy

CHPCA is proud to be a member of the Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence's Care Champions Table. This group brings together leaders across ageing, disability and illness communities to support, advise and promote policy ideas that will benefit all who care in Canada.

Caregivers in Canada are an integral role in a palliative approach to care. Their support, wisdom, and hands on care allow their loved ones to die in their place of choice, surrounded by the important people in their life. CHPCA continues to look for linkages with other organizations, including CCCE, and how we can align and amplify our respective efforts.

This group is part of a larger project at the CCCE, creating a National Caregiving Strategy (<https://canadiancaregiving.org/national-caregiving-strategy/>). This strategy will ensure that carers from across the country are heard, validated, and supported in their caregiving journey. Caregivers are not alone, and this strategy can help ensure all caregivers know this.

Advance Care Planning Canada

April 16th marks Advance Care Planning Day. Each year, ACP Canada celebrates this day to learn, share, and contribute to the knowledge, expertise, and growth in the advance care planning field.

The theme for ACP Day 2025 is: "If not you who? If not now when?" By taking the time now to plan and share your wishes, you not only take control of your future care but also relieve your loved ones of the stress and uncertainty of making difficult choices on your behalf.



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In addition to our usual campaign kit, ACP Canada will be hosting a 30-Day Check It Off Challenge! This challenge turns those important "someday" tasks into daily wins. Each day, you'll tackle a simple yet meaningful to-do, checking off items that truly matter while experiencing the relief and reward of getting things done.

Want to help spread the word? 80% of people in Canada agree planning for their future healthcare is important but only 17% have documented their wishes. Are you a gerontologist, family doctor, financial professional, or lawyer? Would your company or community organization like to help us spread the word about advance care planning?

Sign up for our letter writing campaign and we'll send you a letter/email template you can fill out and send to your patients or clients about the importance of advance care planning.

Contact info@advancecareplanning.ca to learn more about ACP Day, or to receive this year's Campaign kit.

The Making Advance Care Planning More Accessible project is entering the last quarter of its work. Over the past year and a half, ACP Canada has adapted/created resources that focus on accessibility; ensuring all people in Canada can meaningfully take part in advance care planning.

Interested in learning more about this project? CHPCA is holding an interactive webinar on February 4th. In this 1-hour session, we will introduce our new resources, discuss the latest findings from the 2024 National ACP Poll, and share lessons learned through engaging activities and discussions. This webinar is designed to foster meaningful conversations and provide practical tools to enhance accessibility in advance care planning. Register here: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qHK50QduRfyJtS4oTGvVaA

Stay tuned as new and updated resources are still being released!
<https://www.advancecareplanning.ca/>

Last Aid® Canada

Last Aid ® is an evidence-based, public education course about the fundamentals of Palliative Care, grounded in the compassionate communities movement.

It is currently offered in 20+ countries around the world. By 2020, over 27,500 individuals had participated and over 2000 instructors trained across Europe. We are pleased to announce that in Spring 2025, CHPCA will be offering this course in Canada.

The course consists of four modules: Death as a Normal Part of Life, Planning Ahead, Relieving Suffering, and Final Goodbyes. It will be offered primarily online to begin, with the goal of offering in-person and online courses in the future.

Interested in facilitating or taking a course? Visit our website:
<https://www.chpca.ca/education/last-aid/>.



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PACE for PSWs

PACE for PSWs (<https://www.chpca.ca/education/pace-for-psws/>) is an exciting, flexible 10-course online program, made possible through a collaboration between the CHPCA (<https://www.chpca.ca/>), Life and Death Matters (<https://lifeanddeathmatters.ca/>), and HPCO (<https://www.hpco.ca/>), created to provide much-requested support and education for Personal Support Workers. Content reviewed includes communication, integrating a palliative approach to care, supporting physical comfort, the importance of self-care, and providing culturally safe care.

Participants will become more comfortable and confident when providing palliative care for people with life-limiting illnesses and their families.

Palliative Approach in Long-Term Care Community of Practice

The [Palliative Approach in Long-Term Care Community of Practice \(LTC CoP\)](#) celebrated its fourth year in 2024. The group is run in collaboration with the [Strengthening a Palliative Approach in Long-Term Care \(SPA LTC\)](#), [ACP Canada](#), and the CHPCA. Meetings feature guest speakers as well as member sharing meetings to provide a space to discuss, learn, and explore different perspectives on ACP and palliative approaches in LTC. Speaker topics have included:

- Dr. Amit Arya and Dr. Kelli Stajduhar: Supporting Vulnerable and Marginalized Populations in Long-Term Care
- Reverend David Maginley: The Spiritual Nature of Grief and Bereavement - Implication for Care

Interested in joining or learning more? [Visit our website](#). The next meeting will be on February 13, 2025 and will have the presenter Sheila Killoran discussing: Remembering the Self: Music Therapy in Long Term Care.

National Hospice Palliative Care Week

"Join CHPCA in celebrating National Hospice Palliative Care Week this year on May 4 - 10, 2025! More details about the 2025 campaign will be available soon at www.chpca.ca/week

Thank you to all those who celebrated National Hospice Palliative Care Week last year on May 5-11, 2024 with us! In 2024, we celebrated with the theme "Palliative Care Is For You", recognizing that palliative care is for everyone, from those with life-limiting illnesses, to their caregivers, to grieving families after losing a loved one.

Alongside the awareness campaign, CHPCA launched 3 info sheets explaining the What, When, and Where of Palliative Care, Talking about palliative care can be hard, but it doesn't have to be complicated. These easy to read 1-page info sheets answer, in plain language, some common questions about hospice palliative care, when it can help, and where to find it.

1. [What is Palliative Care](#)
2. [When Should I think about Palliative Care?](#)
3. [Where Can I find Palliative Care](#)



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National Children's Hospice Palliative Care Day

Join CHPCA in celebrating National Children's Hospice Palliative Care Day on October 9, 2025 - honouring how children's hospice palliative care helps families enjoy each day to its fullest.

More details about the 2025 campaign will be available in coming months at

www.chpca.ca/hpcfchildren

Thank you to all who celebrated with us on National Children's Hospice Palliative Care Day 2024 on October 10, 2024! Last year, we celebrated with the theme "Make Every Day Count" to underscore how pediatric palliative care teams are there to lighten the load, to walk alongside families on this journey, and to give them the support and resources they need so they can focus on the little joys and precious moments together.

We invite you to watch the webinar recording "Moments of Magic: Play and Memory-Making in Children's Palliative Care" hosted by Child Life Specialist Alexx Friesen about the role of play in all children's lives, including those with serious illnesses and at end-of-life. Watch here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NA_5u4toq3A

National Grief and Bereavement Day

Join CHPCA in celebrating National Grief and Bereavement Day on November 18, 2025. More details about the 2025 campaign will be available in coming months at

www.chpca.ca/bereavementday

In 2024, we honoured the day with the theme: "Remember. Reflect. Connect" to call on everyone in Canada to take time to reflect and take action to create connection with those around us on their grief journey.

Watch the recording for CHPCA's free webinar, presented by the Saint Elizabeth Foundation, held in honour of National Grief and Bereavement Day on November 19th, 2024. With Heather Brown, Lead Therapist at Hospice Georgian Triangle, and Yvonne Heath, Author and Founder of Love Your Life to Death & #IJustShowedUp, we got hands on with grief, and discovered how to show up for ourselves and for others in grief. Watch here: <https://youtu.be/595oU8Z8MaU>

Virtual Ceremony in honour of 25 King Charles III Coronation Medal Recipients

The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (CHPCA) is happy to announce 25 recipients of the King Charles III Coronation Medal. These deserving individuals have made significant contributions to hospice palliative care in their communities, provinces or territories, the country, or abroad, that bring credit to Canada. As a nominating partner organization for the Coronation Medals, CHPCA is proud to recognize these champions for hospice palliative care from across Canada with this honour, including the PCCC's own Dr. Christopher A. Klinger and Dr. Christina Vadeboncoeur. See the [full list of recipients here](#).

A virtual ceremony honouring these 25 Coronation Medal recipients will be held on February 28, 2025 at 2:30PM EST. Please join us in celebrating them for their invaluable contributions to strengthening quality hospice palliative care in Canada. [Register here](#).



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CHPCA Conference 2025: Save the Date!

Save the Date!

Join CHPCA in Nanaimo, BC for our biennial conference on October 22 - 25, 2025.

This premier hospice palliative care conference brings healthcare providers of all stripes, researchers, advocates, and volunteers together from every corner of the country to learn, share, and connect with one another. Stay tuned for more details at: www.chpca.ca/conference-events

Canadian Partnership Against Cancer

Palliative Care Competencies

This initiative aims to enhance the adoption of the Canadian Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Competency Framework, expand access to educational resources and foster sustainable changes through mentoring and knowledge building among providers of home-based palliative care. Development of provider skills, knowledge and attitudes will be strengthened to ensure that Canadians affected by cancer and other life-limiting illnesses have a better quality of life.

Canadian Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Competency Framework: <https://s22457.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Palliative-Care-Competency-Framework-EN-October-2023.pdf>

Models of Care

The Models of Care funding initiative is a pan-Canadian effort that supports the design, implementation and evaluation of innovative models of care which aim to improve quality, efficiency and help to address inequities in cancer service delivery and access. This initiative also supports partner efforts to co-develop and validate proposed models of care through community engagement with equity-denied populations. The Partnership is currently supporting multiple projects focused on palliative care, with project implementation until 2027.

Equitable Palliative Care Closer to Home

The Equitable Palliative Care Closer to Home initiative supports the development and uptake of palliative and end-of-life care tools, resources and education for caregivers and health professionals providing palliative care in home and community care settings specific to the priorities and needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples. These resources will be culturally specific and designed to promote culturally safe palliative care to enable connections to communities, culture and family.



Canadian Virtual Hospice

Advancing Grief Literacy in Canada

- The Canadian Grief Alliance (CGA), in collaboration with Canadian Virtual Hospice, was awarded \$1 million in funding by Health Canada to develop foundational resources and learning opportunities to help Canadians understand and respond to grief. [Read the announcement here.](#)
- The CGA will also deliver the First Steps Action Plan with recommendations to government in 2025.
- Launched with Minister Mark Holland in November 2023, the announcement resulted in more than 35 media stories and a reach of over 50 million.
- 35 consultations with over 200 grief experts and key organizations were held in every province.
- In December 2023, a public, online survey was launched to capture the experiences and needs of Canadians regarding loss and grief. Over 3800 individuals responded to the survey, resulting in a massive data set on grief, which will inform the work. In addition, over 500 individuals and organizations provided contact information to be further engaged in the project as it evolves.
- An [Executive Summary](#) of the survey results was publicly released, resulting in 20 media stories with a reach of over 10 million.
- The Children’s Grief Symposium was held in November 2023 and 2024, led by the Canadian Alliance of Grieving Children.
- The “[Grief Chats](#)” monthly webinar series continues to run on the second Monday of every month, at 8:30 pm ET. Members of the public can share grief experiences and get answers to their questions about loss, hosted by Marney Thompson and Maxinne Rattner.
- In 2024, additional webinars were added, including “[Conversations sur le deuil](#)” offered in French, as well as a series aimed at professionals, and special topic webinars addressing different types of grief (e.g., pet loss, culture and grief, grief and the holidays). All the webinar recordings are available [here](#).
- A Canadian Grief Network was established for people working in grief. Quarterly meetings focus on networking, education, and resource sharing. Sign up can be found [here](#).
- A social media campaign is underway aimed at enhancing public understanding and response to grief, as well as sharing the lived experiences of people who are grieving, to spark conversations about grief and normalize the many varied ways it can look and feel.
- Two new infographics to support people’s ability to understand and respond to grief were launched:
 - [Grief is...](#)
 - [Ideas for supporting someone who is grieving](#)
- A national grief website will be launching in Spring 2025 providing information on all types of grief and loss. The website will include articles, a video library, resources, as well as a database of grief programs and services.
- To learn more or support the work, visit <https://www.canadiangriefalliance.ca/>



Innovation Challenge 2024

From an initial pool of 57 submissions from 14 countries, six finalists were chosen through a peer-review process to compete in a high-energy power hour of innovation hosted by Canadian Virtual Hospice and emceed by Dr. Cory Ingram of Mayo Clinic on Friday, October 18, 2024, between 12:30 - 2:00 pm at the International Palliative Care Congress in Montreal.

Finalists had six minutes to capture the attention of the voting audience and our panel of eminent palliative care judges in order to be named "International Palliative Care Innovator for 2024" and receive the \$1,000 CAN and a trophy from Canadian Virtual Hospice.

Sarah Scott and Terri Milton, from the Valley Hospice Foundation in Nova Scotia, were awarded the coveted title of International Palliative Care Innovator 2024, for their innovation, ***Grief Library: Sending resources of healing to rural Nova Scotians***. Sarah and Terri purchased Playaway® audio books with the prize money, which require no device and no Internet connection to listen. They also purchased compatible earbuds, so those who borrow the Playaway books don't need to own a pair (and they get to keep them).

Congrats to the other finalists!

- 1st runner up: Julia St Louis, SickKids Hospital - Reality Check: Using virtual reality social support for adolescents living with serious illness
- 2nd runner up: Dr. Andréanne Côté, Université de Montréal - Creation of the play "Si un jour je meurs" (If One Day I Die)
- Dr. David Wu, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, United States - Sharing the impact of environmental care team on patient experience through film screening and education for healthcare staff
- Erin Das, Global Treehouse Foundation, Kenya - A customizable data tool co-designed with global children's palliative care providers to enhance understanding and improve services
- Dr. Richard Leiter, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Rachel Rusch, Children's Hospital Colorado - The Palliative Story Exchange
- Sarah Scott and Terri Milton, Valley Hospice Foundation, Canada - Grief Library: Sending resources of healing to rural Nova Scotians

Thank you to the support of our judges!

Holly Prince, HBSW, MSW, PhD(c) & Division Lead - Indigenous Peoples' Health & Aging Division, Centre for Education & Research on Aging & Health, Lakehead University, Canada.

- Bridget Johnston, FRCN, Clinical Professor of Nursing & Palliative Care Director of Research School of Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing, University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK.
- Erica G. Srinivasan, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychology, & Lead Instructor, Grief Support Specialist Certificate Program, University of Wisconsin, USA.

Interview series with Louise Penny

- A video series with acclaimed author, Louise Penny, is planned for release in early 2025. In an October 2024 interview with Canadian Virtual Hospice, Louise Penny shares her experience caring for her late husband, Michael, who was diagnosed with dementia in his seventies.



- She reflects on the significant challenges they faced, related to lack of resources and support and the overwhelming responsibility of caregiving, learning to adapt by embracing patience and seeking help from friends and community. Penny found comfort in her writing and in honouring his love for life - her character Chief Inspector Gamache is partially inspired by Michael. She found that hope shifts over time, and her final hope was to ensure his dignity and comfort in his last days.

Free Resources for Professionals - Canadian Virtual Hospice Learning Hub

- The Learning Hub aggregates free, evidence-informed learning modules to support practice.
- Developed by leaders in palliative care and grief, the modules help build capacity and confidence in delivering palliative care and grief support.
 - Indigenous Cultural Safety Training: Advancing illness, palliative care, and grief
 - Healthcare Provider Grief: Recognizing and Responding
 - Grief Training: Building Healthcare Provider Capacity
 - Long-Term Care: Understanding and Responding to Grief
 - Building Capacity to Support Grieving Families in the ICU: Online Training for ICU Clinicians
 - Social Workers and Counsellors: Building your Grief Support Skills
 - Methadone for Analgesia in Palliative Care
- Includes a repository of more than 50 webinar recordings.
- Certificate of completion available. Available in English and French. Free. Funded by Health Canada.
- Available at www.virtualhospice.ca/learninghub and www.portailpalliatif.ca/apprendre/
- Many of the modules are approved for CPD by various professions. The Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists recently approved the modules for CPD for their members.

New Mother's Day/Father's Day KidsGrief Resource

- A new [KidsGrief resource](#) was developed and launched to help adults support children who are grieving the death of a parent in the time surrounding Mother's Day and Father's Day.
- The development was led by child life specialist Ceilidh Eaton Russell and the release promotions coincided with these dates.

Refresh of KidsGrief.ca

- [KidsGrief.ca](#) is being refreshed with updated content and a shift from a module-based format to a more easy-to-digest, concise format for parents and adults supporting children who are living with grief. Content update is in its final stages, and web redesign is beginning.



My Life, My Grief - Workbook to support children

- A new engaging workbook focused on helping kids think about how someone's death is affecting their life was developed and launched in 2023 to support children ages 6-12.
- Available at www.kidsgrief.ca/ and www.deuildesenfants.ca/
- This new resource compliments 3 other workbooks previously developed for children:
 - "Me and my illness" - a workbook for children living with life-limiting illness, available at <https://caringtogether.life/> and <https://www.soignonsensemble.ca/fr/>
 - "My life, their illness" - workbook for kids about grief, and how someone's illness is affecting their life, available at www.kidsgrief.ca/ and www.deuildesenfants.ca/
 - "Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) Activity Book" - a workbook to help kids think about how someone choosing MAiD is affecting them, available at www.kidsgrief.ca/, www.deuildesenfants.ca/, www.virtualhospice.ca/maid and www.portailpalliatif.ca/amm/
- All workbooks are available in English and French. Free to download.
- Funded by Health Canada and authored by Ceilidh Eaton Russell.

Indigenous Voices 3: Supporting Healthy Ways of Living Through Grief and Loss

- Canadian Virtual Hospice (CVH) is partnering with Indigenous Peoples on an initiative to enhance support for Indigenous Peoples experiencing grief. A team led by Holly Prince, Anishinaabekwe from Opwaaganisiniing, alongside Elders and Knowledge Carriers from across Canada, will work to address critical gaps in available support by developing Indigenous-led, trauma-informed grief resources and education, including a new webinar series. The project aims to:
 - Amplify Indigenous voices: Ensure Indigenous Peoples' voices, experiences, and knowledge are central to all grief resources and education developed.
 - Address historical and systemic gaps: Create culturally safer, Indigenous-led resources that address the impacts of colonization, intergenerational trauma, and systemic inequities.
 - Promote healing: Support wholistic healing for Indigenous Peoples through education and culturally grounded grief practices. ○Enhance cultural safety in healthcare: Provide tools to health and social care providers to deliver culturally safe and trauma-informed grief care.
- The project will run from 2025-27 and the first session of the webinar series will be February 5, 2025.

Canadian Healing Quilt

- Inspired by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the vision of Elder Albert McLeod, the Virtual Healing Quilt is an online platform to help families come together virtually to grieve, to memorialize and honour their loved-one(s) and begin to heal together.
- Families can create a digital quilt panel that depicts the life story or other special remembrances of their loved one.
- The completed panel will become part of a virtual mosaic of quilt squares from across Canada that visitors can scroll through to honour those who have died.
- Funded by the Winnipeg Foundation, the Virtual Healing Quilt will launch in spring 2025.



- Those interested in getting a sneak peek of this new platform can connect with cheryl@virtualhospice.ca

Veterans Transition, Loss, and Grief Project

- Canadian Virtual Hospice has been engaged by Veterans Affairs Canada to develop a suite of online resources to provide psychosocial support tailored to the specific needs of grieving Veterans and their families, including traumatic loss, managing intense emotions, multiple losses, ambiguous loss, managing difficult situations, managing family dynamics, maladaptive coping strategies, and the grief and loss of identity associated with transitioning back to civilian life.
- Extensive engagement with Veterans, families and organizations has driven the development of a set of online modules, which includes over 600 video clips of the lived experience of Veterans and their families.
- Funded by Veterans Affairs Canada, the modules will launch in the spring of 2025.

Online Peer Grief Support Group for Veterans

- As one component of a larger project funded by Veterans Affairs, Canadian Virtual Hospice piloted an online peer grief support group for Veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces and Royal Canadian Mounted Police in the fall of 2024.
- Co-facilitated by a grief expert and military Veteran, this group provided weekly peer support to 8 Veterans of the CAF and RCMP from across Canada.
- The pilot group was considered a success, with participants and facilitators describing the creation of a psychologically safe environment that encouraged sharing among members.
- A robust evaluation was completed, which identified the strengths and value of the online peer facilitation model and identified opportunities for refinement for future groups.

Saluting Service - Honouring the Contributions and Service of Veterans

- Leveraging the Canadian Healing Quilt, *Saluting Service* is a platform where families can honour the service of Canadian Armed Forces and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans.
- The online platform will allow families to come together to create a digital quilt panel to honour the service of a Veteran (living or deceased).
- The completed panel will become part of a virtual mosaic of quilt squares from across Canada, acknowledging and honouring the service and contributions of CAF and RCMP Veterans.
- Funded by Veterans Affairs Canada, *Saluting Service* will launch in 2025.



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Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists

The Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists continues to look for opportunities to provide education on palliative care to its members. We recently hosted a webinar on palliative care competencies for respiratory therapists developed by Covenant Health, and hosted speakers on palliative care at our annual conference. We also promote external palliative care education opportunities and supports provided through PCCC member organizations. The CSRT also included a recommendation relative to palliative care in its [Choosing Wisely Recommendations for Respiratory Therapy](#).

National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly

National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly (NICE)

The National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly (NICE - <https://www.nicenet.ca/>) is a network of researchers, practitioners, students, and seniors dedicated to improving the care of older adults. NICE Information Tools generated by NICE research are augmented by reports from national research entities, e.g., the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and/or the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the United States.

End-of-Life Issues Theme Team Activities

Activities of the End-of-Life Issues Theme Team (EOLITT) focus on the further distribution of the network's evidence-based Information Tools, including Capacity and Consent and When Someone Close to You is Dying. These are available for free download here (<https://www.nicenet.ca/nice-tools>).

Digital End-of-Life Planning Tool

A digital End-of-Life Planning Tool, including making decisions about medical care, financial matters, funeral arrangements, and the distribution of assets, is now available on the network's website at <https://www.nicenet.ca/articles/end-of-life-planning>. Pre-planning spares family and friends from the emotional strain of figuring out what someone close would have wanted.

Pallium Canada

Building palliative care capacity through education

There is growing recognition across the Canadian health care system that introducing palliative care earlier, alongside treatments for life-limiting illnesses, significantly improves quality of life for patients and families.



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To address this need, Pallium launched [LEAP Renal \(online\)](#), tailored for health care professionals in renal care, and introduced our first non-LEAP course, the [Canadian Serious Illness Conversations \(CSIC\)](#) course. This online or hybrid course equips health care professionals with the tools and knowledge needed to have compassionate and effective conversations with patients and their families dealing with serious illnesses.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to roll out new and updated LEAP courses, as well as specialized offerings, including our Psychosocial Spiritual Care Modules and Indigenous Palliative Care Modules, to further support health care professionals in delivering holistic, culturally sensitive care.

Five years of continuous learning with the Palliative Care ECHO Project

Pallium Canada continued to spread and scale the Palliative Care ECHO Project. Together with our partners, we have built a unique, national platform that fosters continuous professional development and empowers health care professionals with practical knowledge that they can use to improve palliative care for patients.

Over the past year, we have continued creating high-quality programs and communities of practice, including the [Lung Health Community of Practice](#), in collaboration with the Lung Health Foundation, and the [French Paediatric Palliative Care Community of Practice](#), in collaboration with Le Phare, Enfants et Familles.

We are looking forward to continuing to work with our Hub Partners over the next year: BC Centre for Palliative Care, Canadian Association for Long-Term Care, Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association, Canadian Home Care Association, Canadian Indigenous Nurses Association, Canadian Society of Palliative Medicine, Covenant Health, l'Institut de soins palliatifs et de fin de vie Maison Michel-Sarrazin - Université Laval, Médecins Francophones du Canada, Montreal Institute for Palliative Care, North Simcoe Muskoka Hospice Palliative Care Network, North West Regional Palliative Care Program, and Nova Scotia Health.

Canadian Palliative Care Atlas

Over the past year, the Dr. Joshua Shadd-Pallium Canada Research Hub has made major advancements in understanding the status of palliative care service availability in Canada with our ongoing work to develop the Canadian Palliative Care Atlas, the first of its kind in Canada.

We look forward to sharing the first three provincial editions of the Canadian Palliative Care Atlas, including Ontario, British Columbia, and Alberta, with you in 2025.

The World's Largest Palliative Care ECHO Session

On October 18, 2024, the Palliative Care ECHO Project, led by Pallium Canada and its partners, hosted the World's Largest Palliative Care ECHO Session, simultaneously online and in-person at the McGill International Palliative Care Congress in Montreal, Quebec.



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We brought thousands of health care professionals together from 94 countries around the world and offered live interpretation in multiple languages. Participants learned from internationally acclaimed experts, shared experiences and best practices, and contributed to raising awareness and advancing accessible palliative care globally.

[Learn more about this exciting event.](#)

Pan-Canadian Palliative Care Research Collaborative

Seed Fund Competition

The PCPCRC Seed Funding Competition (<https://pcpcrc.ca/seed-funding/>) is designed to support early-career investigators and trainees facing a highly competitive and challenging funding environment. To support equitable palliative care research, it prioritizes funding for high-priority populations that typically experience poorer outcomes, where gaps in palliative care research and service delivery exist. In March 2024, we announced the two awardees for the 2024 PCPCRC Seed Fund Competition. Applications for the 2025 Seed Fund Competition were open from December 2, 2024, to January 24, 2025, with the awardees set to be announced in March 2025.

Training on Running a Palliative Care Study 101

With support from the Health Canada Health Care Policy and Strategies Program, we will host on March 25-27th, 2025, our inaugural training session titled "Running a Palliative Care Study 101." This training is specifically designed for research staff and early-career investigators but is open to anyone with a research interest, including clinicians, patients, caregivers, trainees, and policymakers.

KT dissemination

New KT resources derived from our members' studies have been added to our website (<https://pcpcrc.ca/resources/>).