

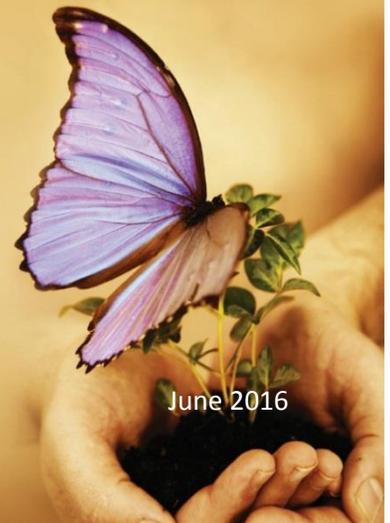


RPCI

GREYSTONE

Bereavement Centre

Serving the people of Saskatchewan



June 2016

Bill C-14 & Medical Assistance in Dying

The Supreme Court gave the Federal Government until June 6, 2016 to implement the amendments to Bill C-14, which would make Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) or what is more commonly known as Physician Assisted Suicide available to Canadians. Once implemented the amendments would allow Canadians two types of medical assistance in dying:

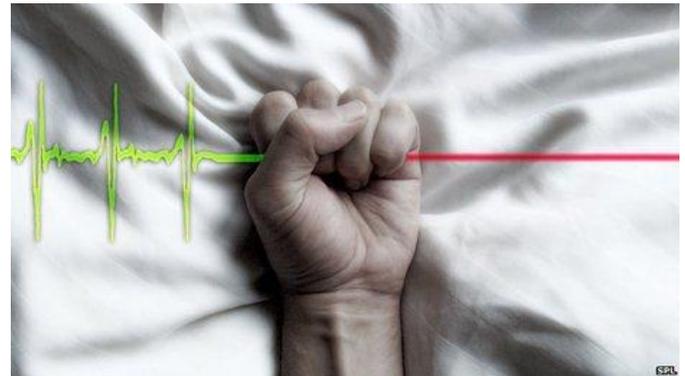
1. Voluntary euthanasia where a physician or nurse practitioner directly administers a substance causing death of a person who has requested it.
2. Physician (medically) assisted suicide where a physician or nurse practitioner prescribes or gives a person a substance they self-administer causing their own death.

Canadians eligible to access MAID include persons who have an incurable illness or disability, are in an advanced state of irreversible decline, are experiencing intolerable suffering and their natural death is reasonable foreseeable.

Equality In Choice

If all eligible Canadians are able to receive medical assistance in dying, shouldn't all Canadians also be able to receive assistance in living their last days as

pain-free and with as much dignity as possible? According to the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association, only 16% - 30% of Canadians have access to quality palliative care services, depending on where they live in Canada.



In Saskatchewan, we have one hospice in Regina with 10 beds. There are 9 palliative care beds in Regina and 14 palliative care beds in Saskatoon for a total of 33 palliative care beds -and that's for a population of approximately 1.1 million people.

When it comes to health care in Canada, palliative and end of life care should be available to everyone.

If you're interested in learning more or continuing this important conversation, connect with us on Facebook and Twitter to share your thoughts.

Caring Hearts Camp

It's hard to believe the spring session of camp has already come and gone and we couldn't be more happy to share the success of this year's event! This year camp took on new direction under the leadership of RPCI's Counselor and Camp Director and the feedback from volunteers, parents, and children alike agree camp was a hit for spring 2016.



Spring camp helped 60 children express their grief through a variety of activities including journaling, creating vision boards, and even music therapy. Of course, camp also includes fun activities, too. As part of grief camp we want each child to remember that it's okay to enjoy life, make new memories, and build friendships that will surely last a lifetime. And that means horseback riding, canoeing and campfire sing-a-longs. Even better than this? Each child sees they are not alone and that others have felt the same kind of pain they are experiencing.

We also created Comfort & Care Packages for each and every one of our kids. This year packages included a personalized tote bag, fleece blanket, water bottle, flashlight, meditation colouring book and markers, personal journal, stuffed animal and a hoodie to take home and stay warm on cool summer nights.



So, how is this all made possible twice a year? Through great donors, awesome groups, and wonderful organizations that come together for the benefit of these special kids, of course! This year great groups like Community Initiatives Fund, Weis Advertising, RBC, the Evening in Greece event, and The Huddle Up Foundation helped make camp possible.

We know you're wondering about our next camp and we promise we're busy planning even now. If you're interested in registering for the Caring Hearts Camp email us and we'll get you on our mailing list. And don't forget—we're also looking for more volunteers and would love your help! For more information on volunteering or registration, email Connie at connie@rpci.org



Education

Did you know between September 1, 2014 and May 31, 2016 Greystone Bereavement Centre (GBC) provided over 1,200 education sessions focusing on grief, bereavement, trauma, trauma informed care and missing person's loss? This incredible number included both individuals who personally experienced grief and the professionals and volunteers who walked this difficult journey with them.

Education is a key component to the work of GBC and ensuring our services reach urban and rural centres is a top priority. To date we have been fortunate to provide education across the province to places like Yorkton, Regina, Saskatoon, Weyburn, Wynyard, Moosomin, Fort Qu'Appelle, Moose Jaw and Prince Albert. We have also provided ambiguous loss (missing persons) education to families in La Ronge, Black Lake, Wollaston and Beauval via Telehealth.



Our education sessions are open to anyone interested in learning more and we count individuals, volunteers, and professionals among those we've educated to date. Our partnerships have extended across the province and as a direct result we have been able to support First

Responders professionals, those in the social services professions, health care workers, government Ministers, and a number of First Nations agencies and organizations.

Here is a small sampling of the education we currently offer across the province:

- Grief in the Workplace: Living with Loss at Home and Work
- Understanding Trauma: How Does Trauma Affect the Body and Brain?
- First Responders – Impact of Trauma on Others: the Impact of Trauma on Self
- Missing Persons Loss for Professionals: What Do Families Need?

If you are interested in learning more about GBC's education or would like to take part in one of our sessions, please contact Dwayne at 306-523-2786.

THANK YOU!



A Better Place For You™

Special thanks to The Co-operators for their generous sponsorship of the Greystone Bereavement Centre's grief support groups and educational webinars. As a result, these programs are provided at no charge. Last year over 135 people benefited from the bereavement support groups and 81 attended educational webinars.

IMPORTANT DATES

*Loss Upon Loss
Caregivers, Dying Persons
& End of Life Webinar*
July 11 and July 14, 2016
dwayne@rpci.org

Tour de Lumsden
August 21, 2016
www.tourdelumsden.ca

Caring Hearts Camp
Sept. 30 – Oct. 1
connie@rpci.org

Evening In Greece

Over \$2 Million Raised in Support of our Community

The logo for the event, featuring the word "Opa!" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The exclamation point is significantly larger than the letters.

Year after year *An Evening in Greece* hosts well over 500 guests with major support from donors and the corporate and local business community. Guests enjoy authentic Greek cuisine, traditional entertainment and dancing, and a huge offering of live and silent auction items. As part of the evening's celebration, guests

shout "Opa!" and are provided with plates made just for breaking. "Opa!" is an expression of joy and triumph.

Over the past 22 years the event has raised funds to benefit various programs throughout Regina. Through the Evening in Greece, St Paul's Greek Orthodox Community raised \$85,000 in 2016 for RPCI, pushing their total community giving to over \$2 million in support of local organizations.

Thank you to St. Paul's Greek Community and the Evening In Greece Committee for making this event possible. Thank you to the sponsors and vendors who supported this event ensuring it's success.

Our partnership with the St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Community has brought quality of life, dignity and comfort into the lives of people in our community. Proceeds donated to RPCI have allowed us to support the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region's Palliative Care Unit through the purchase of specialized equipment, education and individual grief counselling, grief support groups and Caring Hearts Camp for grieving children and teens delivered by the Greystone Bereavement Centre.



Volunteer
and make a
difference

If you would like to make a meaningful difference in the lives of grieving children, teens and adults, please consider volunteering for the Greystone Bereavement Centre.

We need volunteers to help with our grief groups, Caring Hearts Camp as well as with our fundraising efforts.

If you're interested, please contact Connie 306-523-2781.

Our mission is to lead palliative and bereavement care for Saskatchewan through education, advocacy, counselling and support.
