

Hospice Wellington Communication Regarding Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD)

In response to the Federal and Provincial legislation addressing the provision of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD), Hospice Wellington embarked on a structured process to explore the following issues:

- How does the provision of MAiD and associated supports and programs align with our Hospice Wellington vision and values?
- What supports and services are needed for individuals and families and how do we work together with other health service providers to address those needs?
- What are the thoughts, concerns, and feelings of our stakeholders about MAiD, including clients and families, staff and volunteers, community supporters, other health service providers, and the broader Guelph and Wellington communities?
- How does the provision of MAiD align with positions of the health professional Regulatory Colleges, Hospice Palliative Care Ontario, and the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association?

Hospice Wellington's current policy with respect to MAiD is as follows:

Hospice Wellington is cognizant and respectful of the choice of Canadian adults who are deemed eligible under current Federal and Provincial legislation, to seek access to Medical Assistance in Dying.

Hospice Wellington is founded upon principles of Hospice Palliative Care (HPC), wherein individuals and their families suffering from life-limiting illness and loss are provided care and support incorporating physical, psycho-social, informational, and spiritual approaches. Hospice Wellington seeks to provide care and support in a way that neither hastens nor delays death and within which an individual's wishes regarding their care are respected.

Mindful of those choices, yet committed to its founding principles, Hospice Wellington does not provide either the services or the facility for individuals to receive Medical Assistance in Dying. For those individuals who access Medical Assistance in Dying in hospital or at home, Hospice Wellington is committed to partner with other health service providers to provide support within the continuum of palliative care, end-of-life, grief and bereavement services.

Hospice Wellington is committed to providing and promoting hospice palliative care for individuals and their families.

For any questions with respect to Hospice Wellington, please contact Pat Stuart, Executive Director at 519-836-3921 Ext. 225 or pat.stuart@hospicewellington.org

The Guelph Family Health Team is taking a leadership role in supporting our community's approach to providing information and access to MAiD in Guelph. For more information, please visit their website: <http://www.guelphfht.com/medical-assistance-in-dying/>