

It's Time To Talk

Facts about Palliative Care, Conscience Rights,
and Faith-based Health Care Facilities

Palliative Care

END-OF-LIFE CARE



Palliative care:

- Can be offered in the home or in a hospice setting.
- Offers a supportive environment for loved ones caring for a sick relative.
- Affirms life and views dying as a normal process. It **neither** hastens nor prolongs death.

Studies have shown that those close to death often fear pain and loneliness. Palliative care helps control pain and provides patients with a loving, caring environment.

Only **30%** of Canadians have access to quality palliative care



There is **great concern** that euthanasia proponents are now advocating that palliative care facilities should offer euthanasia/assisted suicide on their premises.

Conscience Rights



June 2016: Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide legalized in Canada

- **Federal** government passed legislation
- **Provinces** oversee local conditions

Ontario remains one of the few jurisdictions worldwide that forces a doctor or nurse to provide a referral for assisted death.



For health care professionals opposed to euthanasia/assisted suicide, performing the procedure or referring for it is **equally** problematic.



The Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms identifies freedom of conscience and religion as **fundamental freedoms**.



Health care professionals will **never** abandon patients – there are clear paths forward to balance the rights of both patients and doctors/nurses.

Faith-based Facilities



Many faith-based facilities **do not** wish to participate in euthanasia/assisted suicide. These facilities were founded on the principle of **saving** patient lives, not ending them.



Faith-based hospitals will **not** abandon patients who seek assisted death. They can arrange for a transfer of care to another appropriate facility.



Euthanasia advocates are pressing government to **force** these facilities to participate in ending the lives of their patients.



No hospital or facility offers every procedure. Why should they be forced to offer euthanasia/assisted suicide?

Learn more at www.archtoronto.org/euthanasia