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January edition

Canadian Virtual Hospice is seeking a new Executive Director

Our Executive Director, Shelly Cory, will be retiring this spring after 19 years at the helm. We are seeking a compassionate, creative leader to take CVH to the next level. Send applications (CV, cover letter and salary expectations) to Debbie@virtualhospice.ca. Application deadline is January 30, 2026.

[Learn more](#)

What's new

Indigenous Voices 3 Webinar: Supporting Healthy Ways of Living Through Grief and Loss - Walking with Our Elders: Grief and Healing in Later Life

January 21, 2026 | Location: Virtual | FREE

On January 21, join Holly Prince, PhD, Indigenous Lead at Virtual Hospice, and members of the Elders and Knowledge Carriers Circle, Diane Boots, Helen Gartner, and Naulaq LeDrew, who will share experiences and teachings on grief and healing in later life. Together, they will offer insights and wisdom to support Indigenous Peoples and communities in their healing journeys through grief and loss.

[Learn more](#)

PalliPro: Palliative Care Interprofessional Education

The Covenant Health Palliative Institute has launched its new PalliPro material. PalliPro is an educational series designed to help healthcare professionals and disciplines in Alberta strengthen their knowledge, skills and attitudes in providing palliative care. PalliPro can be used by individuals for professional development and by groups to explore the interdisciplinary nature of palliative care.

[Learn more](#)

You can find PalliPro on the Canadian Virtual Hospice Learning Hub. Check out more education modules on [CVHLearningHub.ca](https://www.cvhlearninghub.ca).

[Learn more](#)

Palliative care can improve quality of life

From Health Canada, this freshly updated web page has information about what palliative care is, starting a conversation about palliative care, grief support, myths and facts, and a collection of palliative care videos and refers you to www.VirtualHospice.ca, [MyGrief.ca](https://www.MyGrief.ca), [KidsGrief.ca](https://www.KidsGrief.ca), [AboutGrief.ca](https://www.AboutGrief.ca)!

[Learn more](#)

New MAiDHouse Executive Director

As of January 1st, Tamara MacIntyre is the new Executive Director of MAiDHouse. She brings 20+ years of healthcare leadership experience, deep death care expertise, and unwavering commitment to equity and dignity in end-of-life care. Best wishes to Tamara and outgoing ED Tekla Hendrickson on this new chapter.

[Learn more](#)

Recruiting: Research Study on Dementia Palliative Care Caregiving

Compassionate palliative care is essential for individuals with dementia and their caregivers. However, many families living in rural settings can only access palliative care virtually. This study by Dr. Kristina Kokorelias from Sinai Health (Toronto, ON) aims to address these challenges by involving caregivers and healthcare professionals to co-design virtual palliative care support, identify service gaps, and shape models that better meet the needs of rural families.

[Learn more](#)

“Meet me where I am” art installation

Over the last five years, the OUTLOUD team has led research on palliative care experiences for people with opioid use disorder. The findings were distilled into an interactive art installation titled “Meet me where I am”, that both shares knowledge and captures new ideas from healthcare providers. Visit the installation from January 26 to 30, 2026 at the MaRS Centre, Lower Concourse, 101 College St Suite 100, Toronto. CVH is honoured to be a part of the OUTLOUD Team.

Canadian Alliance for Children's Grief: Standards Launched

CAGC has developed Standards of Practice to provide a framework for community bereavement support, to help ensure that grieving children, youth, and their families have access to compassionate, informed, and equitable care. A goal is for communities and organizations to feel better equipped and more comfortable to have conversations about bring death, dying, grief and loss.

[CACG Childhood Bereavement ARCH](#)[CACG Standards of Practice](#)

Will YOU be the International Palliative Care Innovator of 2026?

Have you developed programs, services, resources, or approaches that have improved hospice or palliative care in your health facility, program, community, country, or beyond? Take 15 minutes to submit your innovation to the Canadian Virtual Hospice's 2026 Innovation Challenge at the McGill International Palliative Care Congress in Montreal for a chance to go head-to-head with other innovators in a high-energy innovation power hour. On October 8, 2026, six finalists will have only six minutes each to convince the voting audience and a panel of palliative care judges that they deserve to be named International Palliative Care Innovator of 2026. The submission deadline is midnight GMT on April 15, 2026.

[Submit your innovation](#)

Upcoming webinars

Indigenous Voices 3: Supporting Healthy Ways of Living Through Grief and Loss Walking with Our Elders - Grief and Healing in Later Life

January 21, 2026 | Location: Virtual | FREE

On January 21, join Holly Prince, PhD, and members of the Elders and Knowledge Carriers Circle, Diane Boots, Helen Gartner, and Naulaq LeDrew, who will share experiences and teachings on grief and healing in later life. Together, they will offer insights and wisdom to support Indigenous Peoples and communities in their healing journeys through grief and loss.

[Register](#)

KidsGrief Q&A February

February 10, 2026 | Location: Virtual | FREE

Join our webinar hosted by children's grief specialists Andrea Warnick, MA, RN, RP, Colleen Mousseau, M.Ed., RP, and Nicola Elbro, MA, RP, as they answer your questions. Submit questions in advance to kidsgriefqa@virtualhospice.ca by February 9.

[Register](#)

Reading list

Relationship Between Palliative Care and Location of Death Among People With Opioid Use Disorder: A Retrospective Cohort Study

People with opioid use disorder are at high risk of serious comorbidities, more likely to die from all major diseases, and their end-of-life needs remain poorly understood. In this study, Lisa M. Boucher, MA, PhD, Jenny Lau, MD, MSc, and Sarina R. Isenberg, MA, PhD, examined the relationship between receipt of palliative care across settings and the location of death among individuals with opioid use disorder.

[Learn more](#)

Watch or listen

[KidsGrief Q&A Webinar recording December, 2025](#)

[KidsGrief Q&A Webinar recording January, 2026](#)

Dr. Balfour Mount Memorial Service Video



Working Together in Palliative Care

Dr. Hsien Seow and Dr. Samantha Winemaker—co-hosts of the Waiting Room Revolution podcast and authors of Hope for the Best, Plan for the Rest—joined Compassionate Ottawa volunteer Monica Patten to share real-life stories, the seven keys for navigating a serious illness, and how patients and caregivers can stay both hopeful and prepared.



Good Grief: Supporting the Grief of Young Children

Canadian Child Care Foundation partnered with Virtual Hospice to present this important webinar with grief specialist Andrea Warnick.



Events

Gilda's Club Toronto Children and Youth Support Groups

Date: Various | Location: Virtual

Various sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays are available to Gilda's Club Toronto members free of charge.

- Kids Talk Out (4:30-5:30pm): For children ages 4-12 who currently have someone in their life who has cancer.
- Teen Talk: Family & Cancer (7:00-8:15pm): For teens ages 13 to 17 who have a significant person living with cancer.
- Teen Talk: Grief & Cancer (7:00-8:15pm): For teens ages 13 to 17 who have a significant person that has died from cancer.
- Kids Grieve Too (4:30-5:30pm): For children ages 4-12 who are remembering someone who has died of cancer.

[Learn more](#)

Lumara Grief and Bereavement Care Society Support Groups

Date: Various | Location: Virtual

Lumara Grief and Bereavement Care Society are launching a series of virtual support groups.

- Adult Grief Support Group (starts January 21)
- Writing Our Grief Adult Support Group (starts January 27)
- Writing the Love Story: Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group (starts January 13)
- Minecraft Groups (ages 7-12) (starts January 24)

[Learn more](#)

McGill Palliative Care National Grand Rounds

January 21, 2023 | Location: Virtual and Research Institute (MUHC), 1001 Decarie Blvd, Montreal, QC

The next in the series, occurring at 1200-1:00 EST, Dr. Linda Watson, Faculty of Nursing, University of Calgary delivers the Balfour Mount Lecture: "Harnessing the power of routinely collected patient outcomes (PROs) to improve early access to palliative care: One provincial cancer jurisdiction's experience"

[Register](#)

Talking to Children and Teens About Cancer

January 21, 2026 | Location: Virtual

Hosted by Gilda's Club Toronto, this session is designed for parents, guardians, professionals, and community members who want to communicate openly and compassionately with children about cancer.

[Register](#)

Veteran Family Summit 2026

January 22 - 23, 2026 | Location: Virtual

Join the Atlas Institute for a two-day free virtual event dedicated to sharing information, resources and inspiration about Veteran Family mental health and well-being.

[Learn more](#)

Grief Alliance Educational Offerings: Queer Grief

January 27, 2026 | Location: Virtual

This education session reflects on experiences of loss in 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, shaped by rich histories, current themes of grief, and perseverance. It presents grief as a shared, evolving process rooted in legacy, community, and education.

[Learn more](#)

ABSTRACT DEADLINE: McGill International Palliative Care Congress

Deadline: January 31, 2026

Abstract submissions for the 2026 McGill International Palliative Care Congress is now open!

[Submit](#)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: IJWPC Special Issue on Community & Trainee Writing Award

Deadline: February 8, 2026

The International Journal of Whole Person Care (IJWPC) is seeking submissions for their special issue exploring community in whole person care. First-person narratives from clinicians, educators, researchers, and healthcare professionals at all stages of their careers are welcome. Students in health-related clinical and research programs are also invited to submit to this issue's Trainee Writing Award.

[Submit](#)

McGill Palliative Care National Grand Rounds

February 18, 2026 | Teresa Dellar Palliative Care Residence, 265 Rue André-Brunet, Kirkland, QC

The next in the series, occurring at 1200-1:00 EST, Nadia Collette delivers the Teresa Dellar Lecture: “Art Therapy at the end of life: when the tangible becomes intangible”

[Register](#)

SAVE THE DATE: CAMP WIDOW

Camp Widow is a beacon of hope, healing, and community for widowed people across Canada and beyond.

Upcoming camps:

Camp Widow Toronto – May 2026

Camp Widow Calgary – September 2026

[Learn more](#)

We'd love to hear from you!

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