





**Ontario Palliative Care Association**



# Current OPCA Initiatives

- Survey to rate current issues in the provision and delivery of hospice palliative care in Ontario.
- Position Paper on the top five issues identified in the survey.
- New standard in Ontario for paramedics and firefighters to honor DNR orders.

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- A vertical strip of lit candles on the left side of the slide. The candles are of various heights and are lit, with their flames glowing. The background is dark, making the light from the candles stand out.
- Certification of Expected Death Task Force to expedite signing of Medical Certificates of Death in Ontario.
  - Media Watch, weekly members report summarizing provincial, national and international news coverage specific to hospice palliative care.




## Top 5 Issues

- Access to hospice palliative care.
- Pain and symptom management.
- Family and family caregiver support.
- Coordinated, interdisciplinary approach to care.
- Education and training.




# Membership Benefits

- Reduced registration rates for Annual Provincial Conference on Palliative & End-of-Life Care.
- Membership in the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (CPHCA)
- Subscriptions to OPCA and CHPCA newsletters.
- 67% savings on the subscription rates for the *Journal of Palliative Medicine*.
- Dorothy Ley Award of Excellence.



# How OPCA Supports Members

- Strong, proactive voice.
- Networking opportunities.
- Information resource.
- Professional development.
- Advocacy.
- Public awareness.



# OPCA Philosophy

Hospice palliative care must:

- Be accessible to all individuals and families who are faced with a life threatening, progressive illness.
- Consider the physical, spiritual, psychological, social, practical and information needs of those living with a terminal illness.
- Provide support for individuals and families facing death and bereavement.



# OPCA Mission

How we treat those who are dying reflects who we are as a society.

All Ontarians have the right to die with dignity, to have access to physical, psychosocial, and spiritual care.

As health care providers, volunteers, and family representatives of Ontario's hospice palliative care community we advocate for quality end-of-life care using an integrated and collaborative approach.




# Promoting Hospice Palliative Care in Ontario

Standards: principles and norms of practice.

Education and professional development.

Coordinating, interdisciplinary approach to care.


Policy and program development.



*Unfortunately, in end-of-life care we do not have a vocal constituency. The dead are no longer here to speak, the dying often cannot speak and the bereaved are often too overcome by their loss to speak.*

Harvey Chochinov, MD, 2000.

**Join OPCA  
Today!**



# For More information

OPCA

<http://www.ontariopalliativecare.org/>

Annual Provincial Conference

<http://www.palliativecare.humber.ca/>