

Taking



Care

NOVA SCOTIA Hospice Palliative Care

ASSOCIATION

"Palliative care matters... because everyone deserves a good death."

A good death is when a terminally ill patient is able to live well as long as possible and then die where they want, as free from pain as possible and surrounded by the people they love. A good death is caring, dignified and peaceful. This may not be an issue that we like to talk about – but it's one that matters to each and every Nova Scotian. We will all die someday and even right now, unfortunately, you probably know someone who is dying of a terminal illness and needs the support of Palliative Care. This issue touches us all.

We are looking for your support as we move forward with our **"Campaign for Care"**

The NSHPCA has embarked on such a rigorous advocacy campaign for change.

What is the problem...

Palliative Care is only available in certain communities at certain times of the day. Where someone lives and when they die determines the level of care they do or don't receive. Nova Scotians have their medications covered if they die in hospital, but not if they die at home.

What is the solution...

The provincial government should keep its promise and provide funding for a province-wide, comprehensive palliative care program that they have been promising for almost two years.

A comprehensive program means making palliative care available across the province, in institutional settings, hospices and at home, with trained, specialized multi-disciplinary teams of staff working together to provide the care people need, when they need it and with the proper equipment, resources and programs to support their work.

How can you help...

Add in your voice to the "Campaign for Care". Check out our website at www.nshpca.ca and add your voice and

comments to our Campaign for Care on line or paper petition. (the back of this paper.) Sign the petition and get others to sign. Forward it by mail to the address listed.

Palliative Care clients across the province NEED your help!! We are only advocating for what every Nova Scotian deserves – palliative care available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week regardless of where you live.

We are asking everyone to make this a political and community issue. We need to work together to demand change. Write to your elected representatives in the provincial government and to the Editor.

Every voice counts!!

The NDP and Liberal Parties currently have 2 bills on the floor of the legislature. The bills must be picked up by the governing Conservatives or they will never be passed by the government! Now is the time to leverage that foundation to create political change.— Help Us Today!

"Hospice Palliative Care Aims to Relieve Suffering and Improve the Quality of Living and Dying."

You have to pay
to die at home.

It's free
to die at the hospital.



"Dying is a very emotionally and physically demanding ordeal for the whole family. All of our dying citizens and their families need this support service available every day. I've been there and I know when you need help you often need it quickly; Monday maybe too late. Providing palliative care at home is much cheaper than in hospital. Providing needed medications at home makes more economic sense than having the dying occupy hospital beds in order to get the cost of said drugs covered. Please take the necessary steps to implement a province-wide palliative care program". ~ Lynn from Truro

Death
doesn't happen 9 to 5,
but most Palliative Care
in Nova Scotia does.



80% of us
want to die at home.

70% of us
are forced to die in hospital.



"This is something that is easy to ignore until you are faced with it yourself or through a loved one". ~Kelly from New Victoria



NSHPCA Petition

Add your voice to the Campaign for Care and Sign this petition

Dying Patients and Their Families are Suffering

We the undersigned are asking the Nova Scotia government to keep its promises and provide funding for the province-wide comprehensive palliative care program that they have been promising for almost two years.

Name	Address	Comments
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____

Privacy Policy

The Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association respects your privacy and treats all personal information collected with care and respect. We do not rent, sell or trade our lists. We will be using your information to share with government your support for a provincial palliative care program. We will also use your personal information to keep you informed on future NSHPCA activities.

Please mail completed petitions to:

Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association (NSHPCA)
207 Willow Street, Truro, NS B2N 5A1
Phone: (902) 893-7171 Fax: (902) 893-7172

An electronic petition is also on our web site, visit: www.nshpca.ca

Let's face it... no one wants to talk about death. But when you are trying to get palliative care on the public and political agenda you not only have to talk about it... you have to find creative ways to get people to listen. In order to respond to this challenge the Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association (NSHPCA) has created a campaign, the goal being to engage people by challenging their perceptions about all death being bad and helping them to realize that death with the proper supports can be much different..

The advocacy campaign was designed to call attention to gaping holes in the system that were causing Nova Scotians to have to settle for "bad deaths" and the call to action was to encourage members of the public to write to their elected representatives and demand change.

The campaign, with the goal of building grassroots momentum and using the media to translate that momentum into political pressure to solve the problems in palliative care.