

MAiD Newsletter:

March 2024



1. MAiD & Mental Health:

- New federal legislation, [Bill C-62](#), has passed that will extend the exclusion period for individuals whose sole underlying medical condition is a mental illness, from being eligible for MAiD. This exclusion is delayed until **March 2027**, allowing more time for the provinces and territories to prepare.
 - **Currently, if a mental illness is the sole underlying condition leading someone to seek MAiD, they are not eligible.**

2. MAiD Referrals:

- Please direct patients with MAiD referrals to their primary care provider, so they can ask if they will complete a MAiD assessment (non provision) or to the MAiD coordination office (MCC) so we can assist with assessment attachment. There continues to be growing waitlists for MAiD assessments, so any support from primary care providers or specialists for non-provision assessments is appreciated.
- If in doubt about the stage of the referral, please ask the patient/family to call or email the MCC – contact info is on the bottom of request forms.

3. Alternate Locations for MAiD:

- Most individuals seeking an assisted death choose to die at home, but its not a preferred option for everyone. With this in mind, the MAiD program is always on the lookout for a peaceful setting for MAiD provision, so if anyone has suggestions or space they would like to share, please contact maid@islandhealth.ca to discuss (Trillium Lodge is our latest space – see below).

4. Appreciation:

- To the Duncan Staffing Office for doing such a thorough and timely job attaching MAiD RNs to providers. Your support is appreciated.
- To Nicole Webber and Trillium Lodge staff – thank you for providing a calm and peaceful space in your facility for local individuals seeking an alternate space to have an assisted death – it is appreciated.

End of Life Conversations. Lean In.
We welcome all feedback and any questions, suggestions, or concerns
Please email maid@islandhealth.ca or
Call us at 250-727-4382