

## Did You Know?

- ◆ Only 16% to 30% of Canadians who die currently have access to or receive hospice palliative and end-of-life care services – depending on where they live in Canada.<sup>1</sup>
- ◆ Canadian families frequently shoulder 25% of the total cost of palliative care due to costs associated with home based services.<sup>2</sup>
- ◆ Most people have indicated that they would prefer to die at home in the presence of loved ones<sup>3</sup>, yet almost 70% of Canadian deaths occur in a hospital.
- ◆ Approximately 15% of Canadians who require hospice palliative care services have access to these specialized services.<sup>4</sup>
- ◆ Canadians living in remote and rural areas, or those living with disabilities, have severely limited access to formal hospice palliative care services. (CHPCA)
- ◆ Canadians estimate that 54 hours per week would be needed to take care of a dying loved one in their homes.<sup>5</sup>
- ◆ A 2000 research study discovered that 75% of deaths today still take place in hospitals and long-term care facilities.<sup>6</sup>
- ◆ Hospice palliative care programs allow patients to gain more control over their lives, manage pain and symptoms more effectively, and provides support to family caregivers.<sup>7</sup>
- ◆ Hospice palliative care programs are still at least 50% funded by charitable donations, and families must bear part of the cost of dying at home, in longer-term care – almost anywhere outside a hospital.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Canadian Institute for Health Information, Health Care Use at the End of Life in Western Canada (Ottawa: CIHI, 2007).

<sup>2</sup>Costs associated with resource utilization during the palliative phase of care: a Canadian perspective, Palliative Medicine, Dec 2009.

<sup>3</sup>Canadian Institute for Health Information, Health Care Use at the End of Life in Western Canada (Ottawa: CIHI, 2007), p. 22.

<sup>4</sup>Website: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/36/2/parlbus/commbus/senate/Com-e/upda-e/rep-e/repfinjun00-e.htm>

<sup>5</sup>Ipsos-Reid Survey. Hospice Palliative Care Study: Final Report, The GlaxoSmithKline Foundation and the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association, January 2004, p.30.

<sup>6</sup>Quality End-of-Life Care: The Right of Every Canadian, Subcommittee to Update "Of Life and Death" of the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology, FINAL REPORT, June 2000. <http://www.parl.gc.ca/36/2/parlbus/commbus/senate/Come/upda-e/rep-e/repfinjun00-e.htm>

<sup>7</sup>Informal Caregivers are family members, loved ones, or friends and neighbours who provide support or care for the dying family member, loved one, or friend. A Model to Guide Hospice Palliative Care: Based on National Principles and Norms of Practice (CHPCA, 2002) defines Informal Caregivers as, "not members of an organization. They have no formal training, and are not accountable to standards of conduct or practice. They may be family members or friends."

<sup>8</sup>Quality End-of-Life Care Coalition of Canada. Blueprint for Action 2010 to 2020. Ottawa, ON. January 2010, p.9.