

BCHPCA COMMUNIQUÉ

October 13, 2016

KEY MESSAGES

The BC Hospice Palliative Care Association (BCHPCA) Board of Directors held its quarterly meeting on September 25/26, 2016. The following key messages are provided for circulation throughout the membership.

- 1. The revised BCHPCA Volunteer Training Materials** will be posted in modular format by November 1, 2016 on the BCHPCA website. Thank you to the Task Force (Meg Milner, Sandi Armitage and Jan Moreau) who worked tirelessly on this project, to all the Members who provided resources for inclusion in the new lesson plans and to Jeanette Lafonte and Bonnie Atwood for completing the formatting and word processing.
- 2. Karyn French, newly acclaimed Regional Director for Vancouver Island**, has stepped down from her position as Executive Director of the Nanaimo Community Hospice Society and as a Director on the BCHPCA Board. We wish Karyn the best of luck in her new position. The BCHPCA Nominations Committee is seeking to appoint an eligible Member to fill this vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting (Bylaw 6.17).
- 3. Applications are now closed for the second cycle of Seed Grant** funding made possible through BCHPCA's partnership with the BC Centre for Palliative Care (BC-CPC). BCHPCA is proud to partner with the BC-CPC on this initiative which provides project grants of <\$5,000 to BCHPCA Member hospice societies throughout BC. Decisions for Cycle 2 are expected this week. The third cycle of Seed Grants is scheduled for the spring of 2017.
- 4. Just prior to the BCHPCA Board Meeting**, we were alerted by two Members (located in different health authorities) who described a meeting or teleconference where the role of BC's hospices in the **Implementation of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD)** was announced as though all decisions had been made without consultation with the hospice societies. BCHPCA was able to quickly arrange for a meeting with Ministry of Health staff who are tasked with developing BC's MAiD policies: to discuss the status of the policy development; to share information about MAiD Implementation across Canada, and to identify numerous issues of concern. That meeting was held on Friday October 7, 2016 and a detailed memo describing the background and meeting has been sent to all BCHPCA Members.

For more information, please contact:

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