



# Discussion Guide for

## FACING DEATH - PRACTICAL PLANNING & LEGAL ISSUES

### PROGRAM CONTENT

#### OUTLINE

#### WILLS

- Sources of Help in Writing a Will
- Forms
- Computer software
- Ask someone for attorney referral

#### LIVING WILLS & OTHER ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

- DNR/Do Not Resuscitate Order
- Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care

#### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

- Organ Donation
- Donating Your Body to Science
- Bills & Insurance
- The biggest issue is communication.

#### WHEN YOU WATCH THIS VIDEO...

- Please do stop the video occasionally - watch it in pieces, instead of all at once. Also, you likely will want to review many of the topics with other family members/friends.
- Make notes, that's what the attached panel is for. (This videotape is copyrighted and may not be copied. However, you are authorized and encouraged to photocopy this print insert for other family members and friends.)

### ALSO REMEMBER –

- To be certain that key loved ones know where the original will is located. (If it's in a safe deposit box, is someone else authorized to access the box which will otherwise be "sealed"?) Who is named Executor, alternate Executor(s)?
- If appropriate, who is named Guardian for your child(ren)?
- Where is a complete list of assets and credit cards locate? (Include for each: the account/insurance policy number, financial institution (branch) and primary contact name, approximate value, who has signature authority and where checkbook(s)/policies/CD's/loan agreements, stock and bond certificates and credit cards are located.)
- To tell several loved ones/close friends where you have placed your original: Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, Living Will, DNR Order or similar Advance Directive. Better yet, give them copies and talk with them about what the documents mean to you. Explain your intentions and wishes. Make sure your doctor has copies, as well (Unlike a Will which often is a confidential item, Advance Directives should be easily accessible in a short time period.)

- To ensure that personal property items, not necessarily of high monetary value, are given to the particular person you intend, you may list the items and recipients in your will. Otherwise, at least be certain to give such a signed and dated list to the various recipients.
- If you served in the military, to provide military statistics (eg. Branch, dates of service, service serial number, veteran's claim number, known funeral benefits, etc.).
- To list funeral preferences and instructions. Do you have a prepaid insurance policy? If so, with what funeral home? What individuals, organizations and insurance companies should be notified?

### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT –

- Advance Directives (including Living Will, DNR/Do Not Resuscitate Orders, Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care). Standard forms may be available from your healthcare providers, eg. Hospital, hospice, long term care facility; local MPP office; lawyer; medical associations, etc.
  - For review and/or customized documents consult your lawyer.
- Laws concerning Advance Directives may vary from province to province.

### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

- Your religious/spiritual leader.
- Local funeral home. Funeral Service Association of Canada (905) 619-0982, Funeral Directors Association for your province.
- In Ontario, the phone no. is 1-800-268-2727 or e-mail: [ofsa@interware.net](mailto:ofsa@interware.net).
- Hospice care, local providers, information, printed materials. There are many different ways in which hospice/palliative care many be offered. Each province has its own hospice/palliative care provincial office. For further information contact: The Canadian Palliative Care Association, 286-43 Bruyere Street, Ottawa, ON K1N 5C8, Tel: 1-800-668-2785; FAX: (613) 562-4226; E-mail: [llysne@scohs.on.ca](mailto:llysne@scohs.on.ca) Web site: <http://www1.sympatico.ca/healthyway> has a vast network of health associations and information. Web site: Caregiver. <http://www.caregiver.on.ca>



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- Information, printed materials & videos: Caregiver, <http://www.caregiver.on.ca> The Canadian Palliative Care Association (see above)

### **LIVING WILLS & WILLS. YOUR LAWYER.**

For referrals to a lawyer who specialize in wills, planned giving, etc., consult with your friends or call, The Law Society of Upper Canada, 1-800-668-7380.

### **LONG-TERM NURSING FACILITIES**

There are many associations and centres in Canada that can assist you in your decision on placing a loved one in a nursing facility. Contact your local nursing home, regional or county health centre, physician or hospital for further information.

### **ORGAN DONATION**

- Medical schools near the patient.
- World wide web search: "organ donation".

This program is intended to help inform and comfort you. The legal information contained in this video is for educational purposes only—it is not intended and should not be considered legal advice. If you have any questions of a legal nature, please consult your lawyer.

### **PROGRAMS DETAILS**

#### **LENGTH:**

30 minutes

#### **SUBJECT AREAS:**

Death and Dying/Law

#### **AUDIENCE LEVELS:**

Adult

#### **ORDER NUMBER:**

9-7752SG

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