



Dear members and friends,

As you know, since October 30, 2024, Quebec law allows for “advance requests” for medical aid in dying, which would be implemented when the person is no longer able to consent to his or her death. Instead of challenging this law, which is contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada, the Canadian government has launched a “national conversation” on the advisability of extending this measure to the whole country.

One element of this “conversation” is an [online consultation](#), open to all Canadians. It's a clearly biased consultation, seeking a predetermined conclusion, and asking questions accordingly.

Nonetheless, we feel it is important that the voices opposing MAID by advance request be heard as part of the consultation.

**We urge you to act quickly. The deadline is February 14, 2025.**

The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (EPC) has created a guide to responding to the online consultation. You may read it [here](#). We encourage you to read it before completing the questionnaire.

Questions 6 and 9 provide space for text responses of up to 250 words. Here are some examples of points you might wish to raise. Please use your own words.

**Question 6:**

- The law authorizing MAID was explicitly about people freely consenting to their death; it would never have been accepted by the public had it involved ending the lives of people incapable of consenting to it.
- Advance consent is not comparable to genuine free and informed consent; a person dying in this way would receive euthanasia without consent.
- Advance consent is a fiction that will mislead vulnerable people.
- With an advance request, a third party will make the decision to end a person's life; this third party may have motivations other than the good of the sick person.
- Such a law is ableist, as it promotes the idea that death is preferable to living with a cognitive disability.
- Advance requests for MAID are often motivated by fear, particularly in the context of inadequate care for the elderly and disabled; instead of offering MAID, Canada should offer adequate supports to those who need them.

**Question 9:** There are no conditions or safeguards that would make MAID by advance request safe. It is about causing the death without consent of a vulnerable person who is incapable of making decisions.

Thank you for your support,

Dr. Catherine Ferrier, President