

**PROGRAM (*subject to change*)**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON END OF LIFE LAW, ETHICS, POLICY, AND PRACTICE**  
**HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA**  
**SEPTEMBER 13 - 15, 2017**

**Wednesday, September 13, 2017**

**HALIFAX CENTRAL LIBRARY, PAUL O'REGAN HALL, 5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, NS**

7:00 pm                      **Opening Plenary - The Story of Law Reform in Canada**  
*Chair, Constance MacIntosh*  
Joe Arvay, Jim Cowan, and Mona Gupta

**Thursday, September 14, 2017** WORLD TRADE AND CONVENTION CENTRE

8:15 am                      Welcome

8:30 – 10:00 am            **Plenary 2 - Empirical Studies: What Do We Know About End of Life Decisions Making Around the World?** *Chair, Agnes van der Heide*  
Luc Deliens, Linda Ganzini, Bregje Onwuteaka-Philipsen, James Downar, and Lindy Willmott

10:00 – 10:20 am           Health Break

10:20 – 11:50 am           **Concurrent Sessions 1**

Room 301                    **MAiD Nova Scotia/PEI (Panel)**  
Gordon Gubitz, Liana Brittain, Tim Holland, Janice Chisholm, Matthew Kutcher, Liana Yoshida, and Robyn MacQuarrie

Room 302                    **End-of-Life Issues in Canadian Prisons (Panel)**  
Adelina Iftene, Crystal Dieleman, David Champagne, and Ivan Zinger

Room 303                    **Dutch GP's Views on Good Dying and Euthanasia**  
Katja ten Cate  
**Medical Aid in Dying in New York State: Physician Attitudes and Impact of Framing Bias**  
Brendan Parent  
**Physicians' Perceptions of Aid in Dying in Vermont**  
Ari Kirshenbaum

Room 304                    **The Ethics of POLST**  
Lloyd Steffen  
**The Perils of POLST**  
Jean Abbott  
**Advanced Directives and Advanced Care Planning**  
Peter Saul

Room 305                    **End of Life Regulation and Recent Evolutions in France**  
Veronique Fournier  
**To Live and Let Die. Withholding and Withdrawing Life Sustaining Treatment in Argentina: From Therapeutic to Judicial Obstinacy**  
Maria Ciruzzi  
**When and How I Shan't Live: Refusing Life-Prolonging Medical Treatment and Article 8 ECHR**  
Isra Black

Room 306	<p><b>Challenges in End-of-Life Care and Medical Assistance in Dying: Towards a Relational Ethics Approach</b> Patricia Rodney</p> <p><b>The Shift Away from Suicide Talk: Incorporating Voices of Experience</b> Phoebe Friesen</p> <p><b>Elderly Who Are Ready to Give Up On Life and the Right to Autonomy</b> Michelle Habets</p>
Room 307	<p><b>“Rock, Paper, Scissors” - Ideologies of End of Life Care for Older People in Hospital</b> Laura Green</p> <p><b>The Cultural Construction of End of Life Issues in Biomedicine: Anthropological Perspectives</b> Betty Wolder Levin</p> <p><b>Caregiver Perspectives of Palliative and End of Life Care for Individuals at End-Stage Dementia in Newfoundland and Labrador: A Qualitative Phenomenological Perspective</b> Barbara Mason</p>
11:50 – 12:50 pm	Lunch
12:50 – 1:50 pm	<p><b>Plenary 3 - Palliative Care and its Relationship with Medical Aid in Dying</b> <i>Chair, Bregje Onwuteaka-Philipsen</i> Kenneth Chambaere, James Downar, and Eric Wasylenko</p>
1:50 – 2:10 pm	Health Break
2:10 – 3:40 pm	<b>Concurrent Sessions 2</b>
Room 301	<p><b>Updating the Evidence about Physician-Assisted Dying and the Impact on Vulnerable Groups (Panel)</b> Margaret Battin, Bregje D. Onwuteaka-Philipsen, and Agnes van der Heide</p> <p><b>Twenty Years of Experience with Physician Assisted Death in Oregon</b> Linda Ganzini</p>
Room 302	<p><b>Against Advance Directives for MAiD</b> Hilary Young</p> <p><b>Advance Directives Requesting Euthanasia in the Netherlands</b> Liselotte Postma</p> <p><b>Euthanasia in Advanced Dementia: The Use of Advance Directives</b> Suzanne van de Vathorst</p>
Room 303	<p><b>A Comparative Analysis of Voluntariness in the Netherlands and Oregon Physician Assisted Dying Laws</b> Michaela Okninski</p> <p><b>Should Medical Input be Required in Completion of Advance Care Directives?</b> Deborah Lawson</p> <p><b>Should Assisted Dying Require the Consent of a High Court Judge?</b> Penney Lewis</p>
Room 304	<p><b>Not “Worth” It? Doctors’ Perceptions of the Role of Resources in Futility Determinations</b> Eliana Close</p> <p><b>Australian Doctors’ Legal Compliance in Relation to Decisions about Withholding or Withdrawing Life-Sustaining Medical Treatment</b> Ben White</p> <p><b>Withdrawing Life-Prolonging Treatment from Patients in Vegetative or Minimally Conscious States in England and Wales</b></p>

Celia Kitzinger

- Room 305      **Conceivability of Performing Euthanasia in Cases of Psychiatric Disease, Dementia or Being Tired of Living**  
Kirsten Evenblij  
**What Characterises Complex Euthanasia Consultations? Experiences of SCEN-Physicians**  
Roeline Pasman  
**Euthanasia for People with Psychiatric Disorders or Dementia in Belgium: Analysis of Officially Reported Cases**  
Sigrid Dierickx
- Room 306      **Palliative Care Including Euthanasia. Responses to Fundamental Criticisms of the Flemish-Belgian Model of Integral End-of-Life Care**  
Jan L. Bernheim  
**Fine Lines and Dr. Syme: Intention, Palliation and Death Causation in Regulation and Law**  
Malcolm Parker  
**Mapping out the Implementation of Bill C-14 on Health Care Providers**  
Rafael Wainer and Jennifer Kryworuchko
- Room 307      **Ethical Issues: MAiD and its Provision in Rural and Remote Settings**  
Fiona McDonald and Christy Simpson  
**Law Reform and Improving the Last Stages of Life: Preliminary Research Findings from Ontario Consultations**  
Ryan Fristch  
**Developing and Implementing a Medical Assistance in Dying Curriculum in a Family Medicine Residency Program**  
Susan MacDonald
- 3:40 – 4:00 pm      Break
- 4:00 – 5:00 pm      **Plenary 4A - Stopping/Not Starting Potentially Life-Sustaining Treatment: The Issue of Unilateral Decision Making** *Chair, Luc Deliens*  
Jennifer Gibson and Hilary Young  
**Plenary 4B - Palliative Sedation** *Chair, Kenneth Chambaere*  
Jocelyn Downie and Agnes van der Heide
- 5:00 pm      Closing Remarks
- 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm      **Reception and Cash Bar followed by Banquet**

**Friday, September 15, 2017** WORLD TRADE AND CONVENTION CENTRE

- 8:15 am      Welcome
- 8:30 – 10:00 am      **Plenary 5 - Legal Status of Assisted Dying** *Chair, Lindy Willmott*  
Joan M. Gilmour, Emily Jackson, and Ben White
- 10:00 – 10:20 am      Health Break
- 10:20 – 11:50 am      **Concurrent Sessions 3**
- Room 301      **Medically Assisted Deaths on Vancouver Island – The First Year**  
Stefanie Green  
**Experiences of Patients and Their Support People with Medical Assistance in Dying in Canada**  
Ellen Wiebe

**Reasons for Requesting Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) in Canada**  
Ellen Wiebe

- Room 302      **Carter vs. Rasouli – Why Was One Supreme Court Decision Right and the Other Wrong?**  
James Downar  
**Conversations About CPR – Professional Judgement or Autonomy?**  
James East  
**Medical Futility Dispute Resolution Options in the United States: Law & Ethics Fundamentals**  
Thaddeus Pope
- Room 303      **A Grey Area Between Palliative Sedation and Euthanasia**  
Veerle van de Wetering  
**An International Perspective on Patient Preferences in the Decision-Making of Continuous Sedation Until Death**  
Agnes van der Heide  
**The Evolving Role of Palliative Sedation in the Era of MAiD**  
Blair Henry
- Room 304      **Reframing Hope: A Rehabilitation Perspective on End-of-Life Care (Panel)**  
Preya Tarsney, Debjani Mukherjee, and Gayle Spill
- Room 305      **Experiences of Psychiatrists with (Granting) Requests for Euthanasia in Patients with Psychiatric Diseases**  
Kirsten Evenblij  
**Consensus View on Assisted Dying for Dementia: A Delphi Study on Key Issues and Concerns**  
Aida Dehkhoda  
**Expert Views on Developments in the Practice of Physician-Assisted Dying in the Netherlands**  
Marianne Snijdewind
- Room 306      **Organ Donation in the Context of MAiD: Ethics, Law and Policy**  
Jennifer A. Chandler  
**Euthanasia by Organ Donation**  
Michael Shapiro  
**Organ Donation and Assisted Death: Are There Special Ethics Considerations?**  
Eric Wasylenko
- Room 307      **Advance Decisions to Refuse Treatment: Explaining Low Uptake in England and Wales**  
Sue Wilkinson  
**The Notion of Advance Directives: Headway or Hazard?**  
Jean Abbott and Megan Prescott  
**Voluntary Assisted Dying: The Proposed Framework for Victoria, Australia**  
Deborah Lawson
- 11:50 – 12:50 pm      Lunch
- 12:50 – 2:20 pm      **Concurrent Sessions 4**
- Room 301      **A Year in Review: The Who, When, Why and How of Requests for Medical Aid in Dying in Quebec**

- Lori Seller and Veronique Fraser  
**Medical Aid in Dying: An Update from Québec**  
Michelle Giroux  
**Regulating MAiD: The Medical Regulatory Perspective**  
Andréa Foti
- Room 302  
**Considering MAiD in Severe, Refractory Mental Illness**  
Justine Dembo  
**Are Concerns About Irremediableness, Vulnerability, or Competence Sufficient to Justify Excluding Psychiatric Patients from MAiD?**  
William Rooney  
**Psychiatrists Views on Physician-Assisted Suicide and Psychiatric Patients: A Qualitative Study**  
Rosalie Pronk
- Room 303  
**The Under-Examined End-of-Life Option: Hastening Death by Voluntary Stopping Eating and Drinking (VSED)**  
Thaddeus Pope  
**Medical Assistance in Dying and Incarcerated Persons – Special Considerations?**  
Eric Wasylenko  
**Medical Aid in Dying for Mature Minors: Re-interpreting the Problem of Decisional Capacity**  
Kathryn Morrison
- Room 304  
**Patients with Parkinson’s Disease, Caregivers’, and Healthcare Providers’ Perspectives of Advance Care Planning for End-of-Life Care**  
Kim Jameson  
**‘You’re Going to Die. How Would You Like to?’ Timing Discussions of End-of-Life Treatment Preferences**  
Jaklin Elliott  
**Advance Care Planning in Australia: Aspirational or Practical?**  
Bernadette Richards
- Room 305  
**The Influence of Doctors in the Australian Assisted Dying Debate**  
Jodhi Rutherford  
**The Politics Behind the Law on Assisted Dying**  
Adam McCann  
**Attitudes of Doctors on the Role of Law in End-of-Life Medical Practice: Empirical Findings from Australia**  
Lindy Willmott
- Room 306  
**A New American Threat to Open Discussion of End-of-Life Issues**  
Robert Rivas  
**Demedicalised Assistance in Suicide**  
Martijn Hagens  
**The Human Rights Implications of the Blanket Ban on Assisted Suicide in England and Wales**  
Stevie Martin
- Room 307  
**Trying and Dying: Are Some Wishes Better?**  
Oliver Kim  
**End-of-Life Care at the Beginning of Life**  
Kimberly Mutcherson  
**The Research Protocol of a Post-Mortem Survey on End-of-Life Decisions**

2:20 – 2:40 pm      Laure Dombrecht  
Health Break

2:40-4:40 pm      **Plenary 6 - Pressure Points for Eligibility for Medical Assistance in  
Dying (Mature Minors, Mental illness as Sole Underlying Condition,  
Advance Requests)** *Chair, Ben White*  
Christine Chambers, Jennifer Chandler, Justine Dembo, Jennifer Gibson, Joan  
M. Gilmour, and Kenneth Rockwood

4:40 pm              Closing Remarks