



March, 17, 2023

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Health
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Duclos,

Re: Two Years of Track Two MAiD: Final Report of the Special Joint Committee on MAiD Has it Wrong

We write to you today as the minister responsible for drafting the government’s response to the recommendations of the Special Joint Committee on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) (the AMAD committee).

As an organization of persons with disabilities advancing the human rights and full inclusion of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families, we urge you to take action on the following:

1. While the AMAD committee heard that Track Two MAiD (for persons with disabilities not at the end of life) is stigmatizing, we are seeking a full repeal of Track Two MAiD, and hope that is reflected in your response. While reducing poverty and ensuring economic security for persons with disabilities is incredibly important, no social or economic benefit will fully address the discriminatory nature of Track Two MAiD.
2. While Canada’s delay of MAiD on the sole basis of mental illness through Bill C-39 is welcome, more action is needed. Track Two MAiD is discriminatory, and must be repealed, not provided to more at-risk Canadians, including persons with mental illness as their sole underlying medical condition, and mature minors. The report’s mention of “staged access” for minors with disabilities under Track two only reinforces the need for a full repeal of Track Two MAiD.
3. MAiD by advanced requests poses serious risks to persons with intellectual disabilities, as it introduces the provision of MAiD without a person’s direct consent and upon a third-person assessment of their quality of life. These concerns reinforce the need for a repeal of Track Two MAiD and the importance of upholding existing safeguards, including those related to an

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individual's independent and informed consent to MAiD.

As a federated organization with membership across Canada including in Indigenous communities, we urge you to acknowledge the colonial violence inherent in further legalizing MAiD without proper consultation with Indigenous communities. We implore you to engage with Indigenous communities *before* proceeding with any further legislation on MAiD.

In light of the urgency and gravity of these concerns, we would be happy to meet with you to discuss these issues in more detail and offer our perspectives as a community of persons with disabilities. Please let us know if this is something you would be open to.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista Carr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Krista Carr

Executive Vice-President

Inclusion Canada

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