

Alzheimer *Society*

# Programs & services



## *Who we are*

Active in communities across Canada, the Alzheimer Society provides information, support and education to people living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. We are the national voice for Canadians living with dementia and advocate on their behalf for positive change. We also fund young and established Canadian researchers working to find the causes and a cure.

The Society relies on the generosity of individuals, the community and partnerships to carry out our vital work.

## **You can make a difference**

By 2031, nearly a million Canadians will have dementia. Yet, too many Canadians are unfamiliar with the warning signs while others wait too long before getting a diagnosis. You can help us change this by:

- raising awareness
- fundraising
- becoming a regular donor
- advocating for change
- volunteering
- sharing your experience with dementia

If you have an idea, or want to get involved, please contact us.

# Supporting Canadians with information

Whether you're living with the disease, concerned about dementia or caring for someone with it, the Alzheimer Society has resources to help you at every stage of the disease. We provide information about:

- the causes and warning signs
- the progression of the disease and day-to-day care
- changes in behaviour that might occur and how to respond
- treatment options
- adjusting to long-term care
- end-of-life care

Our web portal, [www.alzheimer.ca](http://www.alzheimer.ca), offers a wide selection of information, brochures and tip sheets on these and other topics. Printed copies are also available at your local Alzheimer Society.

Our web portal also features:

- links to every Alzheimer Society across Canada
- news about dementia research and brain health
- BrainBooster – activities that may help reduce the risk of dementia
- dedicated resources for health-care providers

# Finding answers through research

The Alzheimer Society funds research to find the causes of dementia, reduce the risk and improve diagnosis and treatment. Our funded research also explores ways to improve the care and quality of life of those living with the disease.

Since 1989, the Society has invested over \$50 million in basic science (biomedical) and quality of life research through our Alzheimer Society Research Program (ASRP). Expert researchers review each application to ensure that we fund the most promising research and make the best use of every dollar that comes to the Program.

The ASRP is a critical funding body for Alzheimer's research in Canada. It supports researchers starting out in their careers and helps established researchers continue their important work.

Over the years, ASRP-funded research has shed more light on:

- potential new drugs for Alzheimer's disease
- neuroimaging techniques to distinguish different forms of dementia
- how diet may delay Alzheimer's disease
- assistive devices to help people with Alzheimer's disease remain more independent
- strategies to improve care delivery at home, in the community and in long-term care
- ways to help and support caregivers

# Leading change for Canadians with dementia

The Alzheimer Society is the national voice for over half a million Canadians living with dementia. We raise awareness about the issues and concerns that matter most to them.

We work with politicians, policy makers and other community and health-care organizations to advocate for change in legislation, policies and programs at all levels of government.

Canadians repeatedly tell us they want more integrated dementia care and support. According to a recent Nanos survey, 83% said they believe Canada needs a national dementia plan to curb the social, economic and personal costs of this disease and better prepare us for the future. We have proposed creating a Canadian Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Partnership (CADDP) to implement a national dementia plan for Canada. The CADDP would bring together dementia experts, governments, researchers, health-care providers, industry, consumer groups as well as people living with dementia and their families to develop a plan that would coordinate research, promote prevention, and improve quality of life and care.

Learn more at [www.alzheimer.ca/nationaldementiastrategy](http://www.alzheimer.ca/nationaldementiastrategy)

## Dementia and Alzheimer's disease – what's the difference?

Dementia is an umbrella term for a variety of brain disorders. Alzheimer's disease is a most common form. It is a progressive, degenerative and fatal disease that destroys brain cells.

# We are here to help

## The Alzheimer Society works right across Canada

No matter how dementia affects you or your family, your local Alzheimer Society offers support which may include:

- individual and family support
- support groups for caregivers
- MedicAlert® Safely Home® – a program that helps identify the person with dementia who is lost and assist in a safe return home
- First Link® – an early intervention program that gives people with dementia and their caregivers a direct connection to information and services in their community
- brain health activities
- education for health-care providers
- day programs for people with dementia/respite care
- art and music therapy

**Please call 1-800-616-8816 or your local Alzheimer Society to access information and support.**

# Provincial offices

## **Alzheimer Society B.C.**

Toll-free: 1-800-681-6530 (BC only)

[www.alzheimer.ca/bc](http://www.alzheimer.ca/bc)

## **Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories**

Toll-free: 1-866-950-5465

[www.alzheimer.ca/ab](http://www.alzheimer.ca/ab)

## **Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan**

Toll-free: 1-800-263-3367

[www.alzheimer.ca/sk](http://www.alzheimer.ca/sk)

## **Alzheimer Society of Manitoba**

Toll-free: 1-800-378-6699

[www.alzheimer.mb.ca](http://www.alzheimer.mb.ca)

## **Alzheimer Society of Ontario**

Toll-free: 1-800-879-4226

[www.alzheimer.ca/on](http://www.alzheimer.ca/on)

## **Federation of Quebec Alzheimer Societies**

Toll-free: 1-888-636-6473

[www.alzheimer.ca/en/federationquebecoise](http://www.alzheimer.ca/en/federationquebecoise)

## **Alzheimer Society of New Brunswick**

Toll-free: 1-800-664-8411

[www.alzheimer.ca/nb](http://www.alzheimer.ca/nb)

## **Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia**

Toll-free: 1-800-611-6345

[www.alzheimer.ca/ns](http://www.alzheimer.ca/ns)

## **Alzheimer Society of Prince Edward Island**

Toll-free: 1-866-628-2257

[www.alzheimer.ca/pei](http://www.alzheimer.ca/pei)

## **Alzheimer Society of Newfoundland and Labrador, Inc.**

Toll-free: 1-877-776-0608

[www.alzheimer.ca/nl](http://www.alzheimer.ca/nl)

The Alzheimer Society is the leading nationwide health charity for people living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Active in communities right across Canada, the Society

- offers information, support and education programs for people with dementia, their families and caregivers
- funds research to find a cure and improve the care of people with dementia
- promotes public education and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias to ensure people know where to turn for help
- influences policy and decision-making to address the needs of people with dementia and their caregivers

For more information, contact your local Alzheimer Society or visit our website at [www.alzheimer.ca](http://www.alzheimer.ca).

Help for Today. *Hope for Tomorrow...*<sup>®</sup>

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**Alzheimer** *Society*

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Charitable registration number: 11878 4925 RR0001