## National Hospice Palliative Care week – a time to talk about Hospice Palliative Care

May 2, 2016: Home Care Ontario members join with all health system providers this week in honour of National Hospice Palliative Care Week in Canada

As MP John Fraser said in his 2016 Palliative and End-Of-Life Care Provincial Roundtable Report (insert link), Ontario is fortunate to have a strong group of dedicated individuals — practitioners, volunteers, administrators and community leaders — who deliver the palliative and end-of-life care that patients and their families need. However, we need to do more to prepare and support people through this phase of life.

National Hospice Palliative Care week reminds us all to raise awareness about palliative care and the options that are available at end-of-life. It prompts dialogue between family and friends so that they are informed and can plan for their needs..

Home Care Ontario members note more Ontarians would choose to receive care at home at end-of-life if confident that the health care team can truly support them. Read our recommendations to enabling palliative care at home (insert link)

Home Care Ontario will continue to support improved health care at home where appropriate and in the best interests of patients and their families. The Association will continue to work with all health system partners to ensure that Ontarians have access to high quality hospice palliative care across the continuum.

- 30 -

## **About Home Care Ontario**

Home Care Ontario, the voice of home care in Ontario™, is a member-based organization with a mandate to promote growth and development of the home care sector through advocacy, knowledge transfer, and member service. Home Care Ontario members include those engaged in and/or supportive of home-based health care. In Ontario, Home Care Providers are responsible for delivering nursing care, home support services, personal care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, dietetics, speech language therapy and medical equipment and supplies in the home to individuals of all ages. An estimated 58 million hours of publicly and privately purchased home care service is provided annually across the province.

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