

Alzheimer *Society*

## Programs & services



## *Who we are*

Active in communities right 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 the 747,000 Canadians living with dementia and we 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, an estimated 1.4 million Canadians will have dementia. Yet, research shows that too many Canadians are unfamiliar with the warning signs and others wait too long before getting a diagnosis. We need to change this. You can help 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

Regardless of the type of dementia you have, the Alzheimer Society can help.

Whether you're concerned about dementia, living with the disease or caring for someone with it, the Alzheimer Society has resources to help you at every stage of the disease. These include 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 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
- a forum where you can share your experiences with the disease and learn from others
- 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 identify new diagnosis and treatment methods. 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 £43 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 into the program.

The ASRP is a critically funding body for Alzheimer's research. It supports researchers starting out on their careers and established researchers to continue their important work.

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 facilities
- ways to help and support caregivers

# Leading change for Canadians with dementia

The Alzheimer Society is the national voice for the 747,000 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.

The Society released *Rising Tide: The Impact of Dementia on Canadian Society*, highlighting the increasing number of new cases of dementia and the costs to society. The report alerts the federal, provincial and territorial governments of the looming dementia crisis, and the immediate need to:

- make dementia a national priority
- promote early diagnosis and reduce the risk of getting the disease
- increase research funding
- improve and increase community and health-care services
- ensure everyone affected by dementia, especially family caregivers, receives the support they need

To read *Rising Tide*, visit [www.alzheimer.ca](http://www.alzheimer.ca)

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

Dementia is an umbrella term for a variety of brain disorders. Alzheimer's disease is the 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/respice 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: 1-800-667-3742

Web: [www.alzheimerbc.org](http://www.alzheimerbc.org)

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

Toll-free: 1-866-950-5465

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

## **Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan**

Toll-free: 1-800-263-3367

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

## **Alzheimer Society of Manitoba**

Toll-free: 1-800-378-6699

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

## **Alzheimer Society of Ontario**

Toll-free: 1-800-879-4226

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

## **Federation of Quebec Alzheimer Societies**

Toll-free: 1-888-636-6473

Web:

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

## **Alzheimer Society of New Brunswick**

Toll-free: 1-800-664-8411

Web: [www.alzheimernb.ca](http://www.alzheimernb.ca)

## **Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia**

Toll-free: 1-800-611-6345

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

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

Toll-free: 1-866-628-2257

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

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

Toll-free: 1-877-776-0608

Web: [www.alzheimernl.org](http://www.alzheimernl.org)

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*

Alzheimer Society of Canada

20 Eglinton Avenue West, 16th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M4R 1K8

Tel: (416) 488-8772 1-800-616-8816 Fax: (416) 322-6656

Email: [info@alzheimer.ca](mailto:info@alzheimer.ca)

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

Facebook: [facebook.com/AlzheimerSociety](https://www.facebook.com/AlzheimerSociety)

Twitter: [twitter.com/AlzSociety](https://twitter.com/AlzSociety)

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