

Appendix 2

A virtual workshop was hosted by MAiDHouse for the purpose of acquiring stakeholder feedback about the initial results from the scoping review. MAiDHouse is a charitable non-profit organization dedicated to providing a supportive home-like setting for those eligible to receive MAiD, while supporting MAiD providers and assessors, patients, and their families, and the public, through education, training, and research.

A cross-section of participants was identified and recruited to participate in the workshop. Participants were invited based on i) having lived-experience (supporting someone who had MAiD); ii) were identified as researchers or academics studying end-of-life, specifically regarding MAiD and grief and bereavement and iii) were organizations that supported MAiD and by extension, family/friends. Some participants represented two to three of the criteria. Participants were also asked to suggest additional invitees through a snowball sampling where referrals were requested in the invitation email (Appendix 2a).

Participants of the workshop included MAiD widows, lawyers, professors or associate professors studying end of life, a social worker, a social service student and members from affiliated organizations (Bridge C-14, Dying with Dignity Canada; Circle Space: Empowered End of Life Planning; Be Ceremonial).

Two half-day workshops were facilitated by a member of the research team through Zoom (Appendix 2b). The initial themes of the scoping review were presented to the group with opportunities for discussion about main findings. Part of the discussion was to ensure that the literature was capturing and aligned with lived and organizational experience and not missing key aspects of the grief and bereavement experience. The workshop participants found the findings reflected their experience and expertise. A first draft of the conceptual framework (Appendix 2c) was presented to solicit verbal responses and also written feedback. Audio recordings were also taken of the workshop and transcribed. Together with field notes, the feedback was aggregated by the research team.

The main findings of the workshop indicated that the use of precise language was very important in the discussions around MAiD and the people involved. With regards to the conceptual framework, workshop participants emphasized a need to move away from linear representations of the MAiD experience despite many factors affecting grief and bereavement at different stages. The participants also thought it was critical that grief and bereavement was normalized and not pathologized as well. Furthermore, emotions experienced ought to be presented in a non-binary manner where emotions themselves were not labeled positive or negative.

Appendix 2a: Invitation Email

Subject: Invitation to a workshop on grief and bereavement as it relates to MAiD

Body:

Dear [NAME],

MAiDHouse is pleased to invite you on November 3rd from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm to a virtual workshop to solicit your feedback on the development of a conceptual framework to inform grief and bereavement resources following MAiD.

MAiDHouse is a charitable organization dedicated to providing a supportive home-like setting for those eligible to receive MAiD, while supporting MAiD providers and assessors, patients, and their families, and the public, through education, training, and research.

With funding support from the Canadian Association of MAiD Assessors and Providers (CAMAP), MAiDHouse has conducted a scoping review to explore the unique grief and bereavement needs of loved ones following a MAiD death. The purpose of our workshop is to present preliminary review findings, explore whether findings align with participants' experiences, and develop a preliminary conceptual framework for understanding grief and bereavement needs.

We would like to extend an invitation to you to participate in our workshop. Your expertise and your insights will be invaluable to better understanding how MAiD influences the grief and bereavement process and the development of a conceptual framework to inform the development of grief and bereavement resources and supports. If you have recommendations of others MAiDHouse should extend an invite to, please do let us know.

Many thanks in advance for your consideration. Please RSVP by October 15th to *****
We hope you are able to join us.

Take care,

Appendix 2b: Agenda

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions (30 mins)
- Objective of Workshop (5 mins)
- Overview of Research Project (10 mins)
- Overview of Key Findings of Project Scoping (20 mins)
- Discussion of Key Findings (30 mins)
- Break (10 mins)
- Present Conceptual Framework (15 mins)
- Feedback on Conceptual Framework (60 mins)

A Community Where Everyone Has Equal Access to a Place for MAID.

MAiDHouse

Appendix 2c: First draft of conceptual framework

