



**The United Church  
of Canada  
General Council**

# **GC45 WF16: CS01 A Call for Full Inclusion and Pastoral Support for Individuals Accessing MAID Under Track Two for Summer 2025**

True Document Date: August 11, 2025

Discussion groups were divided on this proposal.

There was not agreement to align our stance towards MAID with the government's position.

The United Church has issued two statements - one in 2017 and one in 2020 – addressing theological, ethical, and pastoral questions relating to MAID. These have already been approved by the General Council and are available on the website. These statements were created with consultation with people with disabilities and mental health advocates and the 2020 statement takes a stance that is different from the action called for in this proposal. There was no consensus amongst discussion groups to change the stances we have already taken.

In both previous statements it was emphasized that those accessing MAID should always be accompanied with respect and dignity regardless of the church's stance and that ministry personnel should refer individuals for support if they are unable to offer pastoral care due to personal beliefs

All groups recognized the need for support and resources for congregations and ministry personnel who are offering pastoral care for those who have accessed MAID.

**Therefore, the Way Forward Team proposes:**

That, in response to CS01 A Call for Full Inclusion and Pastoral Support for Individuals Accessing MAID Under Track Two, the 45th General Council, 2025, direct the General Secretary to:

1. ~~Align its stance on all legal aspects of MAID as per current laws in Canada.~~
2. ~~Develop a revised theological statement affirming the dignity and autonomy of individuals who meet the legal criteria for MAID, including those under Tract Two.~~
3. **3. Provide education and resources for clergy and congregations to support all individuals who may be discerning or seeking MAID, particularly those with mental health conditions or those making advance requests.**
4. **Continue to advocate for compassionate and inclusive pastoral care, ensuring that individuals exercising their legal rights to MAID are met with respect and inclusion within the life of the church.**
5. ~~Convene a task group to engage in further theological reflection on the implications of MAID for minors and those suffering from psychological conditions.~~

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