# WHAT IS ALS?

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a rapid, always fatal neurodegenerative disease. It attacks the nerves of the body that would normally send messages from the brain to the muscle, resulting in weakness and wasting. In time, the individual with ALS is left completely immobilized, with loss of speech and an inability to swallow or breathe. There is no known cause or cure for this devastating disease - yet.

- ALS can strike anyone, at any time, regardless of age, sex or ethnic origin.
- The usual age of onset is 55-65, but people under 20 have been diagnosed.
- Approximately 2,500 3,000 Canadians currently live with ALS.
- In at least 90 per cent of cases, it strikes people with no family history of the disease.
- Eighty per cent of people with ALS die within three to five years of diagnosis.
- The cause is unknown. There is no known cure or treatment that prolongs life significantly yet.

# A SYMBOL OF HOPE

The cornflower is the international symbol of ALS. It is a resilient wildflower that represents hope for the future.



# ALS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

The ALS Society of Alberta is the only provincial organization dedicated to making each day the best possible day for people living with and affected by ALS. The ALS Society achieves its mission by providing support, facilitating the provision of care, promoting awareness, helping find a cure and advocating for change.

Every donation goes toward fulfilling the Society's mission, by providing the equipment and support services to people living with ALS across Alberta. Donations also support and encourage the most promising ALS research in Canada.

# CONTACT US

#### **PROVINCIAL OFFICE**

7874 10 Street NE Calgary, AB T2E 8W1 www.alsab.ca | info@alsab.ca (403) 228-3857 | Fax (403) 228-7752 Toll Free: 1-888-309-1111

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@ALS\_AB

Charitable Registration Number 12063 0827 RR0001

www.alsab.ca





Join us in making each day the best possible day for those living with and affected by ALS.

## DIRECT DONATION

Donations can be made in-person at either the Calgary or Edmonton office or via phone. Donations can be of any amount, credit card, cash or cheque, and will be accepted at any time of day during regular office hours. If you would like your donation to go to a specific program or service, or to research, you can specify this with the ALS Society.

# ONLINE DONATION

To donate online, visit www.alsab.ca/donate.
Options will be available for a quick online
donation, a donation that is in recognition of a
special achievement, or a donation that is made
in the memory of a loved one. When donating
in recognition of a special achievement, it can
be on behalf of birthdays, graduations, research
discoveries, holidays, anniversaries or weddings.
When donating in memory of a loved one, the
ALS Society will send a card on your behalf
acknowledging your thoughtful donation.

# MONTHLY GIVING

Become a partner of the Making it Possible:
Monthly Donor program by authorizing an amount to be charged on your credit card each month, or to be withdrawn from your bank account. You determine the amount of your monthly gift, and each year you will receive an annual giving statement and receipt you can use for your income tax. You can adjust your pledge at any time by contacting the ALS Society.



# PLANNED GIVING

As part of your long-term financial planning, a planned gift can offer you substantial tax and estate planning benefits and allow you to make a larger and longer lasting gift to the ALS Society of Alberta. Donations can be made through a bequest in your will, gifts of securities, registered assets (RRSP and RRIF) and gifts of life insurance. If you would like more information about planned giving, please contact our provincial office.

# TAX RECEIPTS

Online donations will be tax-receipted immediately after your donation has been securely processed online. Please print your receipt when you have completed your donation. You will also receive an official tax receipt confirming your donation in the mail if you donate through cash or cheque. Tax receipts will automatically be issued for donations that are \$25 or more. For receipting questions about the donation of goods and services, please contact the ALS Society of Alberta.

## PLEDGE AN EVENT

Do you know someone who participates in any of the events across Alberta in support of the ALS Society of Alberta? You can directly support someone who is running, walking or participating in events by visiting our website at www.alsab.ca to find an event near you.

#### JOIN AN EVENT

Help raise funds and awareness for ALS by participating in one of the many annual fundraising events. Collect pledges on behalf of the ALS Society, create your own fundraising page online, or sign-up with a team of friends and family. More information about the ALS Society of Alberta's upcoming events can be found at alsab.ca.

## HOST AN EVENT

The ALS Society of Alberta is grateful for the volunteers who host community events each year to raise funds and awareness about ALS in Alberta. From golf tournaments to dance workshops, there is a wide array of community events held across the province. Funds raised at community events are donated to the ALS Society of Alberta for client support services. Organizing a community event is a meaningful way to honour or remember your loved ones, connect with friends and family, and channel your creativity.