



## Understanding Canadian-Made Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 10am – 12:30pm

**MONTREAL, April 13, 2026** — Quebec leads the world in the practice of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) — yet how much does the general public really understand about the practice? To address this question, [Seniors Action Quebec](#) in collaboration with the [McGill Community for Lifelong Learning \(MCLL\)](#) present **Understanding Medical Assistance in Dying**, a public-facing half-day conference examining the legal, ethical, and personal dimensions of MAiD in Canada and Quebec. The event takes place Wednesday, **April 15, 2026**, from **10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at **Ruby Foo's Hotel**.

Since Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) came into effect in Quebec in December 2015, this end-of-life care has grown dramatically, accounting for 7.9% of all deaths in the province in 2024–2025.

The conference will be moderated by **Ruth Pelletier**, a longtime advocate for seniors' rights. Presenting *Canadian-Made MAiD: Past, Present & Future*, **Maître Allan Gold**, B.A., B.C.L. — a lawyer with over 50 years of expertise in civil and elder law — will offer a clear-eyed look at Canada's legally sanctioned, federally regulated end-of-life framework. From criminal act to constitutional right, Me Gold will trace MAiD's legal journey, outline the law as it stands today, and explore where Canada may be headed. Attendees will leave better informed and better prepared to make their own decisions.

**Annabel Soutar**, co-Artistic Director and co-founder of Porte Parole Productions, will discuss how her company came to explore MAiD through documentary theatre — in French and rooted in the Quebec experience. Porte Parole's *Club Sandwich Mayonnaise*, currently running until April 18, 2026 at Usine C is sold-out! The play weaves personal narrative, social investigation, humour, and existential inquiry to examine how Quebecers are navigating a profound shift in their relationship with death. Ms. Soutar will also reflect on how audiences have responded to this production.

“We need to bring conversations about Medical Assistance in Dying out of the shadows — before crisis makes the choice for us. We owe it to ourselves and our loved ones to understand the legal, ethical, and emotional dimensions of this deeply human issue.”  
— **Paulina Abarca-Cantin, Executive Director, Seniors Action Quebec**

The conference will be conducted in English-only; the Q&A period will be bilingual.

🇨🇦 A draw for two free tickets to the closing matinee of *Club Sandwich Mayonnaise* on **Saturday, April 18 at 2 PM** will take place at the close of the event.

**Understanding Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD)**

**Wednesday, April 15, 2026**

10:00am – 12:30pm; doors open at 9:30am

[Ruby Foo's Hotel | Singapore Room](#)

7655 Décarie Boulevard, Montréal, Quebec H4P 2H2

Free parking | Namur Metro

**About [Seniors Action Quebec](#)**

Founded in 2012, Seniors Action Quebec is a not-for-profit provincial organization whose mission is to identify, advance, and address the needs of English-speaking seniors and to support organizations who work with and on behalf of English-speaking seniors, throughout Québec.

**About the [McGill Community for Lifelong Learning \(MCLL\)](#)**

MCLL is a McGill University program offering lifelong learning opportunities for adults, fostering intellectual engagement and community connection.

**To schedule an interview with Me Allan Gold, Annabel Soutar  
or Seniors Action Quebec Founder and conference moderator Ruth Pelletier,**

please contact: Paulina Abarca-Cantin, (438) 393-5504

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