



## **Virtual Hospice Applauds \$27M Federal Investments in Elder and Palliative Care**

WINNIPEG - June 13, 2012 - Canadian seniors, people at end of life and their families received a major boost this week with substantial investments that are expected to offer significant improvements to quality of life. The [Canadian Virtual Hospice](#) commends the federal government on forward-looking new investments of \$26.9 million targeted at improving care of the seriously ill elderly and all Canadians at the end of life and their families.

“This has been an unparalleled seven days for elder and palliative care in Canada,” said Shelly Cory, Executive Director of the Canadian Virtual Hospice. “The Harper Government’s investment, and the improvements to community-based care and research these funds are expected to generate, have the potential to advance elder and palliative care by a quantum leap.”

The federal government committed \$23.9 million on June 6, 2012 for [Tech Value Net](#) led by Dr. Daren Heyland at Queens University, to create new knowledge and best practices to improve care for the seriously ill elderly and their families.

On June 12, Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq confirmed \$3 million for the [Quality End-of-Life Care Coalition of Canada](#) to develop new community-integrated palliative care models to improve access to quality palliative care for the dying and their families in Canadian communities.

“As a member of the Quality End-of-Life Care Coalition of Canada, we are pleased that the [community integration initiative](#) is moving ahead under the leadership of the [Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association](#) (CHPCA),” Cory continued. “We are committed to working with CHPCA and Tech Value Net and leveraging our capacity to advance these important initiatives for the benefit of all Canadians.”

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*The **Canadian Virtual Hospice** ([www.virtualhospice.ca](http://www.virtualhospice.ca) and [www.portailpalliatif.ca](http://www.portailpalliatif.ca)) is Canada’s leading online source for trusted, reliable and current information on life-limiting illness, palliative and end-of-life care, loss and grief. Recognized by the Canadian Health Libraries Association as one of the best health websites in Canada, Virtual Hospice is staffed by an award-winning multidisciplinary team of clinical experts who respond to questions on the site’s unique “**Ask a Professional**” feature.*

For information:

Shelly Cory, Executive Director

[shelly@virtualhospice.ca](mailto:shelly@virtualhospice.ca) cell: 204.223.5596