

ALS SOCIETY OF CANADA
Advocacy initiative
MP Constituency visit – November 2001

WHAT TO DO:

All MPs are in their constituency from **November 10-17.**

Make an appointment with your MP **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

To find the contact information for each MP please go to the following website:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/common> and then go to the Members – Current

You will then have a variety of ways of finding who is your representative.

Board members and people directly affected by ALS are our best advocates – invite a fellow constituent to join you.

Please be sure to tell your colleague that it important to use the correct terminology: charitable organizations are prohibited from lobbying; however they are allowed to spend up to 10% of time advocating their cause. What we are doing is ADVOCACY for those affected by ALS.

WHAT TO SAY:

Remember:

Be brief.

Be direct.

Tell your MP about the ALS Society messages, with supporting information from those with ALS

The ALS Society key message areas are:

1. research,
2. care of those with ALS,
3. our organization's growth and development.

Talking points for each area are attached.

IN ADDITION:

There are several other messages you can share if there is time:

1. **10%er**

(A 10%er is a brochure developed by the MP which can be distributed to 10% of the riding. An MP can send out any number of 10%ers in a year. They are often looking for material for these brochures; material that might be of interest to a broad group of individuals.)

Making Hard Decisions –

This is a new video which is helpful for those facing end-of-life – more detail attached.

2. **Regional initiative to highlight –**

In consultation with Board and Staff/Volunteer leaders in your unit, name one or two key events or issues to bring to your MP's attention.

Have something in writing to leave with the MP.

If several people from your province raise similar issues, they may get discussed at caucus or regional meetings of MPs.

3. **2002 is our 25th anniversary year.**

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in Ottawa in June 2002 to celebrate this event. We will also be making visits to MP's, Senators and Public Servants to share more information and raise awareness of ALS issues.

FOLLOW-UP

Please fill in the report form ([click here](#)) so that appropriate follow-up can happen in June 2002.