

### **Advance Care Planning Worksheet**

#### Identifying your Substitute Decision Maker

- 1. Imagine you were lost at sea. Who would you want to make the decision about how long to search for?
- 2. If you were diagnosed with a terminal illness, who would you tell first? Who would you turn to for advice? Who would you NOT turn to for advice?
- 3. If you needed help going to the bathroom today, who is the first person you would ask for help? Who would you never be able to ask?
- 4. The person you can talk to about anything is....
- 5. The person who knows you better than anyone is...
- 6. The person who you can depend on the most is...
- 7. Name the 3-person committee who should be consulted on any decisions about whether to continue life-saving care if you are mentally incapable to decide yourself. Circle the name of the head of the committee.

#### Thinking about your wishes, values and beliefs

- 1. How would you describe yourself to someone who didn't know you? (e.g., what do you like to do, who do you like to be with, etc.)
- 2. In order to provide you with the best care possible, what 3 non-medical facts should your doctor know about you?
- 3. If a nurse asked you whether you are a spiritual person, what would you say?
- 4. What activities make you lose track of time?
- 5. What habit/hobby makes your life worth living?
- 6. When you think about care at the end of your life, do you worry more about:
  - a. Not getting enough care
  - b. Getting overly aggressive care
  - c. Other:
- 7. Do you want your doctor to be focused on maximizing:
  - a. The length of your life
  - b. The quality of your life
  - c. Other
- 8. What matters most about living?

## **Ideas for starting the conversation**

- "I need your help with something"
- "I was thinking about what happened to\_\_\_\_\_ and it made me realize..."
- "I was at a workshop today and I would like to share the information I learned with you"
- "It's coming up to my \_\_\_\_\_ birthday and it has gotten me thinking about my future..."
- "I just filled out a booklet/worksheet about myself and I would like to share it with you"

## Ideas about what to talk about

- Letting SDM and other loved ones know your wishes, values and beliefs
- What do they need to know about you in order to make decisions the way you would?
- What brings quality to your life?
- What brings you pleasure and joy?
- What fears do you have about your health?
- What is a good day for you?
- What are your "ice cream and football" must-haves?

## **Advance Care Planning Checklist**

- 1. I have determined who my SDM(s) is/are Yes No
- 2. I have completed the SDM card and put it in my wallet with my health card Yes No
- 3. I have thought about my wishes, values, beliefs, what's important to me Yes No
- 4. I have shared my wishes, values, beliefs with my SDM(s) Yes No
- 5. I have shared my wishes, values, beliefs with other loved ones Yes No
- 6. I have told my doctor who my SDM is Yes No

# **Helpful Resources**

Conversations Worth Having website www.acpww.ca

Speak Up Workbook

Advocacy Centre for the Elderly www.acelaw.ca

Ontario Speak Up Website www.speakupontario.ca

# For more information, please connect with us!

www.acpww.ca