



CANADIAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
CRITICAL  
CARE  
NURSES

The **Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses** (CACCN) has been granted intervener status before the Supreme Court of Canada in the case of *Mr. Hassan Rasouli v. Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Dr. Brian Cuthbertson and Dr. Gordon Rubinfeld*. CACCN's participation in this proceeding will ensure that the perspective of Canadian critical care nurses regarding end of life decision making will be heard at the highest court in the country.

This case illustrates the difficult nature of decision making at the end of life and the need for direction in those instances where the health care providers and the family or substitute decision maker disagree on what is in the best interests of the patient. Critical Care nurses are healthcare providers who are closely engaged with families, patients and the healthcare team throughout their hospital stay including the end of life. As such, we are pleased that the Supreme Court of Canada has recognized the need to understand these complex issues from the unique perspective of critical care nurses.

The CACCN will be in attendance at the hearing of this case before the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa on December 10, 2012. CACCN's oral submissions at the hearing will be made by our legal counsel. CACCN is represented on a pro bono basis by the legal team of Rahool Agarwal, Nahla Khouri, Nicholas Saint-Martin and Saro Setrakian of Norton Rose Canada LLP.

Teddie Tanguay, President, Karen Dryden-Palmer, Vice President, and Kate Mahon, Past President of CACCN, will be available on Friday, December 7 and Monday, December 10 for interviews and comments. Legal questions regarding CACCN's oral and written submissions should be directed to Rahool Agarwal.

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