

Société Alzheimer Society

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Newsletter

October 2026

2026 World Alzheimer's Report

A new era in dementia clinical trials.

On September 21st, [Alzheimer's Disease International](#) released the **2026 World Alzheimer Report**. This year's report explores the critical and timely topic of **dementia clinical trials** - from recruitment, to ethics, to current opportunities and challenges, and how they have the unique ability to push forward dementia research around the globe.

The report goes beyond the science to reveal the human perspectives at the heart of each and every clinical trial. By bringing together evidence and lived experiences, the report shines a light on recommendations to ensure the next generation of dementia clinical trials are fit to deliver global innovation for future treatments.

Learn more and download the report for free here:

<https://www.alzint.org/resource/world-alzheimer-report-2026/>

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Alzheimer's Awareness Conference - Thank You!



On behalf of our whole team at the Alzheimer Society of PEI, we want to thank everyone who joined us last month for our **15th annual Alzheimer's Awareness Conference!**

If you attended (either in-person or virtually) don't forget to complete our **post-conference survey** that was emailed to you after the event. Your feedback is important to us, and helps us to continually improve the conference! Please also keep an eye on your inbox as **we will soon be sending out a full recording of the event to all registered participants** for you to re-watch any time.

This event would not have been so successful without the support of our speakers and our sponsors. **Thank you to our Title Sponsors** Eisai, PEI Provincial Home Based Care, Murphy's Pharmacies, and PEI Hearing Consultants; **our Partner Sponsors** Gillis Lodge and Harding Medical; **and our Table Sponsor**, Chesapeake Suites & Townhomes.

We are grateful to everyone who presented or spoke at the event, including **Hon. Barb Ramsay, Sylvain Baril, Zelda Freitas (RSW), DivineAsia Miller, Karen Truter (RN(EC) retired, MN, CHPCN, GNC), Richard Jamieson, Sandy Baker, Karen Nabuurs (OT), Leeanne Yeo (RD), Giselle MacKinnon, Jaime Constable, and Sarah Visser.**

Finally, we are incredibly grateful to **all of the staff at the Credit Union Place** who helped the conference run smoothly from start to finish. Thank you all once again for supporting us and supporting each other as we continue to grow Alzheimer's and dementia awareness across PEI!

Programs & Services



No one should have to navigate the challenges of dementia alone. If you're experiencing changes in thinking and memory or caring for someone who is, we're here to walk beside you on this journey.

The Alzheimer Society of PEI provides confidential and personalized support, resources, and programs and services designed to help you through every step. Find support in PEI:

- Individual and family counselling
- Education
- Support groups for caregivers and for persons living with dementia
- Caregiver therapy
- Social activities & walking groups
- **Behavioural Support Program***

*The **Behavioural Support Program** launched this fall to help families better understand and respond to behavioural changes associated with dementia. This new approach to care is supported by the province of Prince Edward Island's 2025 *Health Innovation Fund*. You can **learn more [here!](#)**

Reach out for support today. Call **(902) 628-2257** or email **society@alzpei.ca** to be connected to a Support Services Coordinator.

[Click here to learn more and find support in PEI.](#)

Upcoming Webinars & Workshops

FREE EDUCATION SESSIONS



First Link Learning Series:

First Steps

This series is to help individuals with early stage dementia and their caregivers understand their diagnosis and the changes they experience. This series will also offer participants an opportunity to share and connect with others embarking on a similar journey. They will learn about topics including what is dementia, memory loss, strategies for living well, medications, treatments, research, planning for the future, and community resources and support.

Summerside Rotary Library - ADL Room | Nov 12th, 19th, 26th and December 3rd | 10:00- 11:00am

[Register now!](#)

First Link Learning Series:

Next Steps

This series will offer family members and friends caring for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias an overview of the disease. The topics discussed in this series will be much the same as in First Steps.

Summerside Rotary Library - ADL Room | October 15th & 22nd | 1:00pm - 4:00pm

[Register now!](#)

First Link Learning Series:

Care Essentials

This series will offer guidance throughout the caregiver journey and strategies for when a person with dementia's care needs have increased. Topics discussed include: the progression of the disease, understanding behaviour, day to day care and community resources.

Alzheimer Society of PEI | October 20th & 27th | 9:30am - 12:00pm

[Register now!](#)

First Link Learning Series:

Options for Care

This series will help family members and caregivers evaluate their current caregiving needs and explore other possible care options available, including long-term care. Topics include: Where to turn when care needs are increasing, long term care - how the system works, and adapting to changes.

Alzheimer Society of PEI | November 23rd & 30th | 2:00 to 4:00 pm
[Register now!](#)

First Link Learning Series:
Care in the Later Stages

This series is to help family members and friends of people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias understand what to expect in the later stages of the disease. Topics include: understanding the experiences of grief and loss, learning about the later stages, recognizing pain and distress, and providing care that promotes dignity, comfort and quality of life.

Summerside Rotary Library - ADL Room | Nov 19th, 26th and December 3rd | 3:00 to 4:00pm
[Register now!](#)

Pre-registration required to attend. For more information, please contact society@alzpei.ca or call 902-628-2257.

Helpful Tips for Caregivers

Talking About Your Diagnosis

Telling people about your diagnosis is a big decision that requires a lot of thought and consideration. Around 50% of Canadians do not feel comfortable talking about their diagnosis with people they know. Below are reasons why you should consider opening up about your diagnosis, regardless.

- **Overcoming the stigma of dementia.** A lot of stigma has built up around dementia, and the only way we have any chance of breaking this stigma down is by talking about dementia and normalizing it. By speaking out about your diagnosis, you are also encouraging others to speak out, as well.
- **Being open about your diagnosis may encourage people to help out.** If people know you are struggling, they will likely be more empathetic and might even offer to help out when you need it. While some may drift away, some may offer their support.

So... how, exactly, should you do it?

- **Start with the people closest to you.** The people closest to you are usually the easiest to tell. Start with your immediate family, such as your spouse or children; tell those who need to know, first.
- **Don't feel pressured to share every detail about your diagnosis.** You should only tell people as much as you feel comfortable sharing; no one else is entitled to your medical diagnoses. Tell people what you'll need, and how you'd like to be treated.
- **Encourage people to educate themselves about dementia.** Because you will be adjusting to the symptoms of dementia, it is important that those you choose

to tell can also educate themselves on the symptoms you may be struggling with so they can better support you. Ask them to do some research on the specific type of dementia you've been diagnosed with.

- **Explain how dementia affects you.** Your friends and family are not going to instantly understand how you're feeling and may be afraid to ask; it is crucial to communicate how dementia makes you feel and what symptoms you are experiencing.
- **Find a support group.** Nothing helps quite like shared experiences, which is why many people living with dementia are able to find meaning in a support group. Contact the Alzheimer Society of PEI for more information on support groups near you.

Our Helpful Tips for Caregivers section is drafted monthly by one of our volunteers, Cora van Eyk. You can learn more about this month's topic on [our website](#). Thank you, Cora!

Participate in Research

Did you know the Alzheimer Society Research Portal connects Canadians to active dementia studies and clinical trials happening across the country?

Whether you're a person living with dementia, a care partner, or a healthcare provider, your participation helps move research forward and brings us closer to better treatments, supports, and understanding.

Why get involved?

For people living with dementia:

- Connect with others who share your experience
- Gain access to new therapies and scientific expertise
- Contribute to discoveries that may improve care and quality of life

For caregivers and family members:

- Learn about new approaches and resources
- Access additional support networks
- Know your experiences are helping shape the future of dementia care

For healthcare providers:

- Collaborate with researchers and contribute to innovation in dementia care
- Give back to your community

Explore current opportunities and learn how to get involved at:

alzheimer.ca/find-studies

(902) 628-2257

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