

**Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
Society of British Columbia**

www.alsbc.ca



AMYOTROPIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS
SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



About Us

The ALS Society of BC was founded in 1981 by ALS patients, their family members and healthcare professionals to meet the physical and emotional needs of people living with ALS and their caregivers.

Mission Statement

The ALS Society of BC is dedicated to providing direct support to ALS patients, families and caregivers, to ensure the best quality of life possible while living with ALS. Through assisting research, we are committed to finding the cause of, and cure for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

The ALS Society of BC has three principal objectives:

- To provide direct support to patients, their families, and caregivers. This includes an equipment loan program.
- To raise funds for patient services and research, and
- To increase public awareness and understanding of ALS

Programs & Services



Equipment Loan Program

With 3,030 pieces of medical equipment, our Equipment Loan Program is designed to help people cope with the daily challenges of decreasing mobility and independence. Through obtaining basic and essential assistive devices at no charge, we hope to reduce the financial burden and to enhance the quality of life of those living with ALS.

Our [equipment catalogue](#) provides more details on the available devices.



Living with ALS Support Groups

The groups provide an open, friendly and safe environment for ALS patients, family members, friends and caregivers to discuss issues related to living with ALS. We recognize support groups aren't for everyone, but we also know that not too many people know exactly how fun support groups can be. We laugh and learn so much that it is hard to imagine why some people choose to "go it alone." Just know we're here when you need us. [Dates & locations](#)



A Day of Caring for Caregivers

Held in communities around BC, the Day of Caring is a chance for caregivers and former caregivers of ALS patients to have a day of respite. This event allows ALS caregivers to come together and share experiences. It also provides opportunities for caregivers to learn how to take better care of themselves and how to cope with grief.

Province of BC CSIL Program and other sources for caregiver support



Camp Alohi Lani

Each summer, the ALS Society of BC hosts a camp for youth who have a parent or grandparent living with ALS. Camp Alohi Lani, which means "Bright Sky" in Hawaiian, is a safe setting in which youth 8 – 17 years of age can come together to receive support for their own journey. Most importantly, the camp offers youth affected by ALS, the opportunity to meet other youth in similar circumstances, creating a circle of support.



Care Connections

The primary purpose of forming a Care Connection is to reduce caregiver responsibilities, and reduce the worry the person with ALS has about their caregiver.

Participants establish a secure, private online care calendar with the support of the ALS Society of BC patient service coordinator, where they can post requests for support – things like meals, rides to appointments or just dropping by for companionship. Friends and family who are part of the online community can quickly find ways in which to help. The program will coordinate calendars, send reminders, and help coordinate logistics automatically so nothing falls through the cracks.

Mobile Clinics

In partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and the ALS Centre at GF Strong Rehab Centre, the ALS Society of BC provides mobile clinics to outlying communities to offer follow-up appointments to patients who can no longer visit the ALS Centre. Past locations have included Abbotsford, Nanaimo, Victoria, Kelowna, Kamloops, West Kootenays and Prince George.

The ALS Centre team also provides in-service training about ALS to caregivers and healthcare professionals. Note that the locations of the clinic are determined by the ALS Centre.

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