

Hon. Brian Comer
Minister, Mental Health and Addictions
Barrington Tower, 1894 Barrington Street
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Dear Minister Comer:

I recently became aware of the tragic story of Kiano Vafaeian, a 26-year-old Ontario man who lived with mental illness and was a type 1 diabetic, which caused partial vision loss. He was repeatedly denied MAiD by doctors in his home province of Ontario and then was approved and received it on December 30, 2025 in British Columbia. His parents are convinced that what he needed was care, not having his life ended.

Hearing stories like Kiano's makes me realize how easily this could happen to someone I love. I'm worried that after March 17, 2027, anyone will be able to get MAiD even if their sole health problem is mental illness.

Please stop MAiD for mental health from being a possibility in Nova Scotia. Please change the current rules in Nova Scotia that require doctors to offer MAiD as a treatment option even before their patients request it, and which force doctors to sign referral forms to help their patients get MAiD. When Nova Scotians go to a doctor for help with suicidal thoughts, the response should always be focused on suicide prevention, not on ending the life of the patient.

I acknowledge that your Department has added resources to deal with Nova Scotians' mental health challenges - and that's a great start. Please do more to protect the most vulnerable people, like those who are experiencing homelessness and addictions, from the expanding MAiD program. I don't want one more family to suffer the way Kiano's family is suffering right now.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,