



# 10 FACTS ABOUT ALS

## #1 ALS MAY ALSO BE CALLED

- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
- Sclérose Latérale Amyotrophique
- Lou Gehrig's Disease
- Motor Neuron Disease (MND)
- Maladie de Charcot

## #2 ALS IS A PROGRESSIVE NEUROMUSCULAR DISEASE

- Nerve cells continue to die
- Voluntary muscles become paralyzed
- The senses are unimpaired and the intellect may remain unaffected

## #3 ALS CAN STRIKE ANYONE

- Male or female
- Any ethnic origin
- At any age
  - Some have been diagnosed as teens
  - Usual onset is in middle age

## #4 90% DIE WITHIN THREE TO FIVE YEARS OF DIAGNOSIS

- Some will die within a few short months
- Some will live longer than five years

## #5 SOME CASES ARE HEREDITARY

- Less than 10% are familial ALS
- ALS is not contagious

## #6 APPROXIMATELY 3,000 CANADIANS CURRENTLY LIVE WITH ALS

## #7 EVERYDAY TWO OR THREE CANADIANS DIE OF ALS

- ALS is the most common cause of neurological death in Canada

## #8 ALS AFFECTS THE WHOLE FAMILY

- 90% of care is shouldered by family caregivers
- ALS is a costly disease - emotionally, physically and financially

## #9 THE ALS SOCIETY OF CANADA

- Funds research for a cure

## #10 THE ALS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

- Provides quality care and support to those affected by ALS
- Provides information and referrals
- Provides equipment
- Provides information to build awareness and advocacy

Provincial Office:  
Suite 400, 320 23rd Ave SW  
Calgary, AB. T2S 0J2  
1-888-309-1111  
www.alsab.ca

North Region Office:  
Suite 410, Jasper Centre  
11456 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton, AB.T5K 0M1  
1-866-447-0754