



National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week (NOTDAW) is an opportunity to honour organ and tissue donors, and their families, who have so graciously given the gift of life, and who have helped improve the health of many individuals who needed a transplant.

It's also a week to enhance awareness around the demand for organ and tissue donation and the benefits of transplantation.

2018 Alberta Organ and Tissue Donation Activity

One organ donor can often donate multiple organs suitable for transplant.

Organs donated in Alberta in 2018:

Hearts	18
Lungs	64
Livers	45
Pancreas	15
Kidneys	112
Kidneys – Living Donors	61
Livers – Living Donors	12

One tissue donor can often improve the quality of life of up to 75 individual recipients.

Number of Albertans who chose to be tissue donors in 2018, or their families who made the decision on their behalf:

Eye	298
Skin	53
Heart Valve	22
Bone	109
Tendon	24

Patient and Family Centred Care

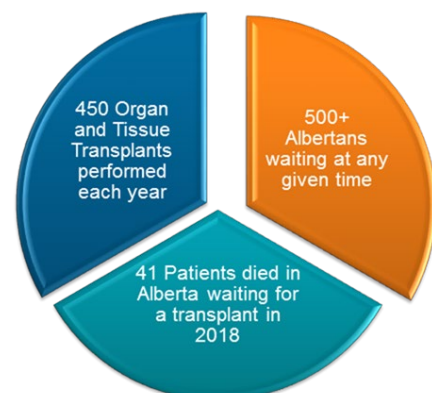
AHS policy and provincial legislation requires staff ensure all families are made aware of potential opportunities to donate.

At end-of-life, contact the Southern Alberta Organ & Tissue Donation Program (SAOTDP), the Human Organ Procurement & Exchange (HOPE) Program, or the Comprehensive Tissue Centre (CTC) for all patients less than 81 years to discuss donation opportunities.

Donation Intentions

Albertans are encouraged to discuss their wishes with their families. They may also register their intent to donate organs and tissues through myhealth.alberta.ca.

Donor Coordinators have access to the Alberta Organ and Tissue Donation Registry for potential donors who have expressed their donation intents.



Post Donation Support

Grief support is offered to families for the first year post-transplant and then as requested.

Donor families are invited to the Annual Donor Recognition Service in which each family is presented with a commemorative medal to honour their loved ones for their gifts of life.

Donor families and recipients are encouraged to have healthy and positive anonymous correspondence. There may be opportunities to meet in the future if eligibility requirements are met.

Alberta Programs

Two organ procurement organizations within Alberta collaborate to care for organ and tissue donors and their families. Donor Coordinators are available 24/7 to support the organ and tissue donation process.

Southern Alberta Organ and Tissue Donation Program (SAOTDP)

- Calgary Lion's Eye Bank
- Southern Alberta Tissue Program

403-944-8700
hope.activity@ahs.ca

Northern Alberta – Human Organ Procurement & Exchange (HOPE) Program and Comprehensive Tissue Centre (CTC)

780-407-1970

Donor Family Experience

Andy Polanski, son, brother, uncle, cousin and friend touched many lives in his short 23 years. He was always laughing, joking and helping. He was just full of life!

He believed his purpose in life was to be happy, to matter, to be useful, and to make a difference. Andy believed organ and tissue donation was a way to make a difference in a person's life. It sure did in his! Andy helped the lives of many recipients who were in need. His life lives on through them, and through the Andy Polanski Charitable Foundation.

A playground has been built in his name, and this year a student will be presented with a high school scholarship named the Andy Polanski Leadership of Tomorrow Memorial Scholarship. The Foundation also continues to carry Andy's message of the importance of organ and tissue donation.

Make things better, not just for ourselves, but for everyone around us!



- Polanski Family