What is the difference between Suicide and Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) in Canada?

Suicide

people thinking about suicide do not actually want to die, they want the pain of living to end

often carried out alone and in secrecy, leaving loved ones with devastating grief

often violent and carried out by people who do not enter or are misunderstood by the medical system

with appropriate support and care, recovery is possible

MAID*

hastens death for people in irremediable circumstances whose death is reasonably foreseeable

involves decision-making by medical personnel and the option to involve loved ones

non-violent medical intervention

increased palliative care can help ease the suffering of dying, though death remains reasonably foreseeable


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