

Suggested Actions Before Hospitalization

BC laws for health care and personal care supports Representation Agreement Act & legislation for health care consent What can you do to be prepared?

Covid-19 is obviously very contagious and can lead to serious illness for some and even death. Along with doing their part to prevent transmission, many British Columbians are asking Nidus how best to be prepared in case of hospitalization or other health crisis.

People want to plan for themselves and some are also helping others to make a plan.

Nidus is offering webinars (online presentations) to discuss the essential legal documents for finances as well as health and personal care. A list is provided at the end of this document.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE:

1. Attend a free webinar on Planning for the Future – the legal side (see page 4).
2. Make a Representation Agreement. See below for details.
If a Representation Agreement exists, has it been registered, does everyone know their role, and is information up-to-date?
3. Register the completed Representation Agreement with the online Nidus Registry. Print wallet cards.
If registered and a copy of the Agreement is uploaded, you can give permission for Nidus staff to view and help clarify authorities to support your advocacy.
Hospitals can be authorized to access the Nidus Registry. Nanaimo General Hospital was recently added. Information and communication is vital during a health crisis and pandemic.
4. Learn about your role – your authority and duties – in the Representation Agreement.
5. Keep arrangements up-to-date. Communication is KEY! Maintain good and regular communication with those named in the Agreement and other supporters.

MAKE A REPRESENTATION AGREEMENT

There are two requirements for making a Representation Agreement, under BC's Representation Agreement Act:

1. **Age** – you must be 19 years or older (The age of adulthood in BC is 19 years.).
2. **Mental capability** – there are two definitions of mental capability.

- Traditional definition of capability – you must understand the nature and effect (or consequences) of the document at the time of making it. This understanding is required for making a Representation Agreement under section 9 (**RA9**).
- New definition of capability for a Representation Agreement under section 7 (**RA7**) - you can help someone make an RA7 even if that person's capability to 'understand' may be in question. The new definition recognizes that many variables are involved in being capable, not just a cognitive or intellectual understanding.

For those who meet the **traditional definition of capability**, click link below and open in [Adobe Reader](#):

- [Basic RA9](#)
- [Instructions for completing valid RA9](#)
- [Values & Beliefs Discussion Guide](#)

The above are also found on the Nidus website at www.nidus.ca – click on the middle photo/heading.

If helping someone with the **RA7 (new definition of capability)** click link below and open in [Adobe Reader](#):

- [Basic RA7All](#)
- [Instructions for completing valid RA7](#)
- [Expression of Preferences](#) – idea for documenting how adult communicates and their likes and dislikes....

The above are also found on the Nidus website at www.nidus.ca

- Click on the first photo/heading if helping an adult with a disability from birth or childhood that affects their capability to understand (special needs of any age, youth turning 19...)
- Click on third photo/heading if helping an adult who was capable to understand but did not make RA9 and now needs help with decisions perhaps due to serious stroke, advanced dementia....

REGISTER WITH THE ONLINE NIDUS REGISTRY

First time to register?

Click to go to <https://nidusregistry.ca/>

1. If no Registry Account, click Sign Up and create a Registry Account – in the name of the adult, not the representative.
2. At the Welcome page, after an Account is created, scroll down to Registration Options and click Representation Agreement to register the completed RA9 or RA7.

Already registered?

Click <https://nidusregistry.ca/>

- Scroll down the page and click the Log In button.
- At Access Your Account page, enter the Nidus ID (7 numbers, no spaces or dash) and enter the password.

Not sure if registered? Or have a Nidus ID with 3 or 4 numbers instead of 7?

Contact registry@nidus.ca

Print wallet cards

Once you have a Registry Account and made a registration, see the green container to the right on the Welcome page. See the link to download a wallet card.

- On the front of the card is the first and last name and Nidus ID – for the Account Holder. Before laminating, write on the back - name and phone numbers of the representative and alternate. This helps with communication.
- We recommend printing a wallet card for each purse/wallet, glove compartment, jacket, backpack, suitcase. Give one to your neighbours/support staff so they know who to call if there is an emergency.
- The wallet card is not a substitute for the RA9 or RA7. It is recommended to upload a copy of your completed document in the Registry so it is securely stored. You can share viewing access with your representative and alternate. The legal document is proof of their authority.

LEARN ABOUT ROLES IN A REPRESENTATION AGREEMENT

Nidus has fact sheets on the authority and duties of those named in a Representation Agreement

- Go to www.nidus.ca – click Information (top menu bar) > Representation Agreement
- Scroll down to read about the roles of a representative/alternate and monitor (if one is named).
- Check under Get Help > Presentations to see webinars or videos about roles and using a Representation Agreement.

KEEP INFORMATION UP-TO-DATE

Do NOT make changes on the original of the Representation Agreement – it can create concern about the validity of the Agreement.

- Changes to contact information can be made in the Registry and on new photocopies of the Representation Agreement.
- Some changes require revoking (cancelling) the existing Representation Agreement and making a new one. Making a new Agreement does NOT automatically cancel the old Agreement.

Nidus has a fact sheet about **Making Changes** – go to www.nidus.ca click Information (top menu bar) > Representation Agreement – scroll down.

Provide copies of the completed RA9 or RA7 to service providers that you know – family doctor, service or support agencies.

FREE WEBINARS

Nidus is holding free online presentations with time for Question & Answer. For June 2020 onward, new events will be listed at www.nidus.ca – see notice on Nidus website homepage

It is easy to register and attend a webinar by computer/laptop, tablet/iPad or mobile phone:

1. Register for webinar – click on link below for topic, date and time.
2. After register, get confirmation to your email (check your Junk mail folder, in case). If you have to cancel, use link at the bottom of the confirmation email.
3. On the date and a few minutes before start time, click on link in your confirmation email to join the webinar.

FOR EVERYONE – Planning for the Future – the legal side

Tuesday, April 28, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4239614987947821325>

Wednesday, April 29, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/456285636724262413>

Thursday, April 30, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2521818285059558157>

Tuesday, May 5, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1014750682215805453>

Thursday, May 7, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4435586442924616205>

Wednesday, May 13, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/689559123184852493>

Tuesday, May 19, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7297548139816278285>

Thursday, May 21, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7349733160693760269>

FOR EVERYONE – Nidus Registry Demo – how to Sign Up and Log In, What to Register?

Thursday, May 14, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6332688204244312333>

Tuesday, May 26, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8966140598558558477>

FOR THOSE NAMED IN AN RA7ALL or RA7H+P – tips on using authority for health & personal care in hospital and other settings.

Friday, May 8, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1027947021480725517>

Wednesday, May 20, 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6080677940134679309>

NEED PERSONAL HELP?

Nidus is a non-profit, charitable organization with limited funding. Therefore, the Nidus website – www.nidus.ca – is geared to self-help. Nidus is the expert in this evolving and dynamic field.

Sometimes people need a bit of help to get on the right track. Nidus tries to help by email. Other times it requires a conversation.

If you want personal help, please email the Nidus Resource Centre at info@nidus.ca and give us a bit of background on your situation. If you need to talk with someone, we will do our best to link you up with help by phone. If you know someone who does not have a computer and wants personal help by phone, let us know.