Your choice.
Your plan.
Your future.

Volume 17 | August 2012

## **Presentation on Personal Planning**

If you are an older adult, work with older adults, or are helping a parent or friend who wants to get their affairs in order before a health crisis occurs, you will want to attend our upcoming presentation on personal planning.

Personal planning is different from estate planning. It involves making arrangements in case you need help managing your affairs during your lifetime, due to an illness, injury, or disability.

Join Nidus for a free information session: Stay In Charge of Your Life! This session is funded by the United Way of the Lower Mainland. Pre-registration is not required.

### **Presentation details**

Friday, September 28th at 1:00–3:00 pm South Granville Seniors Centre 1420 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver BC

**Download a poster** to help promote this event.

## Make & Register Workshops in Vancouver

Nidus has Representation Agreement forms on its website that people can download and use to make and register their own Agreement. However, if you know someone who is unable to access a computer and wants to make a Representation Agreement, they can do this at a Nidus Workshop. Please note that the Workshop is **not** an information session.

Workshops are held on the third Friday of every month. If you wish to attend a Workshop, or would like to learn more, please click to read the **Workshop Package**.



Busy filling in a Representation Agreement at the Make & Register Workshop

### **Stay Connected**

Follow us on Twitter

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## **Registry Tip**

DO NOT SEND YOUR ORIGINAL documents to the Registry. You need to keep the original as proof of authority.

When you register, send a COPY of your legal document to Nidus, along with the consent and document information forms.

When you register your documents, Nidus will send you a wallet card with the Nidus Registration Number. The wallet card does not take the place of your legal document, but it can help third parties access information stored in the Registry and the copy of your document.

Go to www.nidus.ca - Registry.

### **Change of Mailing Address**

Our apologies, arrangements made with Canada Post to redirect mail sent to 411 Dunsmuir went off track. Please note our new mailing address:

### 1440 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Vancouver, BC V6H 1M8

Please do not drop off materials in person as there is no reception service.

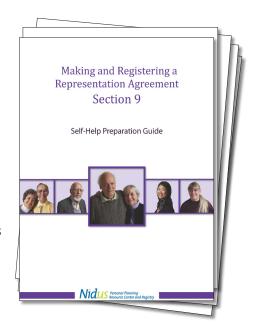
Our phone and fax numbers remain the same:

tel 604.408.7414 t.free 1.877.267.5552 fax 604.801.5506

# Nidus Guide to Making and Registering Your Representation Agreement

A Representation Agreement Section 9 is for adults who make their own health care decisions now, but might not be able to do so in the future. Don't wait for a crisis to make your Agreement. Do it now while you can discuss it with others.

What roles can you appoint in a Representation Agreement Section 9? What are the duties of a representative? What is covered and not covered? Where do I get the forms? Who gets copies? When is it used? Can I cancel it?



These questions and more are answered in the RA9 Preparation Guide. It can be read directly on the website and is also available in PDF format so you can print your own copy. Go to www.nidus.ca—Self-Help—Making RA9—RA9 Preparation Guide.

## **Northern Hospitality**

Joanne Taylor, Executive Director of Nidus, spent the week of June 25 in the communities of Fort St. John and Dawson Creek to provide education and one-to-one assistance with Representation Agreements. Funding for the tour was provided by the Professional Resource Program.

In Fort St. John, Joanne made presentations to the families and staff of the Fort St. John Association for Community Living. She also squeezed in an evening presentation to the Save Our Northern Seniors group.

The Fort St. John Association arranged for Joanne to meet with staff of TD Canada Trust and the Royal Bank as well as Sun Life Financial. "I was very impressed with the knowledge and support for Representation Agreements among professionals in the financial sector," says Joanne. "The Association is very connected to their community."

In Dawson Creek, Joanne conducted a 4-hour session with the Dawson Creek Society for Community Living, which is also responsible for Assisted Living. "We discussed lots of practical issues," recounts Joanne. "The Society is committed to ensuring the people they support have every opportunity and wanted to hear how Representation Agreements can be a tool for creating personal networks for people who have no one except for paid staff."

# Collaborating on Burnaby Family Caregivers' Handbook

The Burnaby Family Caregivers project, a program of Burnaby Seniors Outreach Services Society (BSOSS), approached Nidus for assistance with including information on Representation Agreements in their 2012-2013 Burnaby Family Caregivers' Handbook. BSOSS asked to use material from the Nidus Guide to Personal Planning.

Nidus was pleased to provide this information and review the Representation Agreement section of the Handbook.

If you are caring (unpaid) for an elderly family member or friend in Burnaby, contact the Burnaby Family Caregivers project coordinator, Katherine Willett, at 604.241.0485 to learn more about education and support programs in Burnaby.

### **Call for Volunteers**

Nidus is looking for volunteers to help at our Make & Register Workshops (see story page 1).

The Workshops are held on the third Friday of each month in Vancouver at 12th Avenue and Hemlock (South Granville Seniors Centre). They are scheduled from 10 am to 12 pm. Volunteers will need to arrive by 9:30 am to help with set-up.

A brief training session will be provided to volunteers prior to the first Workshop at a mutually convenient time.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email **info@nidus.ca**.

Joanne did presentations in the evening and afternoon for families. Thanks to facilitation provided by Marie Webb, family member and long time community volunteer, Joanne met one-to-one with individuals and their supporters to help them make and register Representation Agreements.

Joanne also had the opportunity to meet with Community Living B.C. staff and the northern representative for the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee of B.C.

"It was a whirlwind trip," reports Joanne "yes the weather was windy, but I also told them to keep me busy and they did. I felt it was very productive - I know I learned lots! Thanks to everyone for their warm hospitality."



The best food, fabulous setting, and a talented cast – at the potluck picnic Joanne attended, which was organized to say farewell and thanks to the director of the FSJACL Drama Club.

#### ContactUs:

### Mailing address

1440 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver BC, V6H 1M8

tel 604.408.7414 | t.free 1.877.267.5552 | fax 604.801.5506 info@nidus.ca | www.nidus.ca

# Thank you to our 2012 Funders!







### **Nidus Calendar**

As part of the United Way of the Lower Mainland project, Nidus will be holding presentations in collaboration with other community groups.

For upcoming presentations and more, see our online calendar of events. Go to www.nidus.ca—Our News—**Events**.

### Did you know?

The Power of Attorney Act has been in existence in B.C. since 1875, so it is no surprise that the term 'power of attorney' is familiar to the public.

By contrast, the Representation Agreement Act only became law in 2000, which makes it relatively new. This offers one explanation to the often asked question "How come I've never heard of Representation Agreements before?"

# Personal Planning:

## [Pur-suh-nl plan-ing]

verb – the act of making one or more legal documents that authorize your personal supporters to help you manage your affairs or make decisions on your behalf if you need assistance due to illness, injury or disability: Carla is gathering information about personal planning because she is aging and concerned about maintaining her independence.

Personal planning is different from estate planning in that personal planning is about making arrangements for while you are alive, whereas estate planning is about making arrangements for when you die.