

## Welcome

This issue of Nidus News is full of updates about the law, resources and Nidus activities.

## Full speed ahead for personal planning!

Nidus welcomes the news that long-awaited amendments to British Columbia's personal planning legislation will come into effect on September 1, 2011.

We've got highlights on Representation Agreements, Enduring Powers of Attorney and more! Read [What's New](#).

## Self-Help Course for a Representation Agreement with Section 7 Standard Powers



*"Easy"*  
*"Thorough"*  
*"Convenient"*  
*"Informative"*


These are some of the comments from participants after taking the [Nidus Self-Help Course](#) for making and registering a [Representation Agreement with Section 7 Standard Powers](#).

### Why are people signing up for the Self-Help Course?

- To ensure my mother (who has dementia) receives the best care and has her own voice.
- To help my son with decision making and to help prevent others from taking advantage of him.
- To help my daughter with financial matters, she was in a car accident and ICBC is involved.
- I am the legal guardian for a youth with special needs who has been in care of the Ministry since birth and will be aging out (turning 19) soon.

### Stay Connected

 Follow us on [Twitter](#)

 Watch [Nidus TV](#)

### Registry Tip

Read the Nidus fact sheet on popular registry services available in British Columbia. [What's in a Registry?](#)

### Frequently Asked Question...

Do the upcoming amendments mean I have to make a new Representation Agreement?

No. If you already have a Representation Agreement, you do not have to make a new one because of the upcoming changes. The same applies if you already have an Enduring Power of Attorney. You do not have to make a new one.

**Get more information on what is covered under a [Representation Agreement with Section 7 Standard Powers](#).**

**Read more details on the [Nidus RA7 Self-Help Course](#).**

## Personal Planning Makes a Difference

Sam's family, friends and caregivers are relieved to have a Representation Agreement in place to ensure Sam receives prompt medical care whenever it is needed. A concern arose when a diagnostic procedure was cancelled at the last minute because there was no one available who had legal authority to give consent. This meant a delay in treatment and delay in pain relief for Sam. With Nidus' help, Sam has a Representation Agreement customized to his situation. Now his supporters can be pro-active, instead of re-active! Read more of [Sam's story](#).



Marg (Sam's Home Share provider), Sam, and Chris (Sam's friend and now representative).

## Support the Nidus education campaign for personal planning

Nidus has been at the forefront of promoting and facilitating personal planning for ALL British Columbians. However public awareness of personal planning and Representation Agreements is very limited. Nidus is launching a campaign to publicize personal planning in all areas of the province. Nidus is a non-profit charitable organization and you will receive a tax receipt for your donation. If you want to help us please make a donation to Nidus through [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org)



You can also send your donation by cheque or money order to:  
Nidus Resource Centre  
411 Dunsmuir Street  
Vancouver, BC V6B 1X4

## Coming soon!

### NEW Nidus RA9 Self-Help Course

To coincide with the upcoming amendments, Nidus is developing forms and a Self-Help Course for making and registering a Representation Agreement with Section 9 Broader Powers. This Course will be available in August 2011. Watch for details in future newsletters.

### Health Promotion Workshops by COSCO

The Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of B.C. has developed many health and safety promotion workshops that are available to any seniors' group. Each workshop is about 90 minutes long and free of charge.

Workshop topics include:

- Falls Prevention
- Emergency Preparedness for Seniors
- Pension and Tax Options
- Doing It Your Way — Legal Documents you Need

For the full list and details on booking a workshop, read more on the [COSCO website](#).

Do you have  
a story or  
experience to  
share?



We'd love to hear from  
you! Write to us at  
[info@nidus.ca](mailto:info@nidus.ca)

## Thank you to Service Canada and Vancouver Centre

In 2010, Nidus was privileged to again receive funding through the Canada Summer Jobs Program to help us hire a summer student.

This federal program is designed to address priorities identified by the federal government and our local riding of Vancouver Centre.



Our 2010 summer student Leanne helped us reach out to seniors in the Lesbian Gay Transgendered Bisexual (LGTB) community, create information videos for our website and digitize Registry records.

We hope we will have the opportunity to hire a summer student in 2011!

## Notary Foundation Project Grant for Online Resources

Nidus is very grateful to the Notary Foundation for a project grant to develop resources for trained volunteers - an online forum and a video - geared to increasing public awareness of personal planning.



## Free Tax Clinic for Seniors and People with Disabilities

The 411 Seniors Centre is holding its annual tax clinic every **Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, until April 29th, 2011.**

The Seniors Centre is located in Vancouver at 411 Dunsmuir Street near Homer.

### You qualify for the 411 tax clinic if:

- You are 55 years or older or receive a disability pension;
- Your 2010 income is less than \$25,000/individual or \$35,000/couple;
- Your return is simple. No returns involving rental income, self-employment income, complex stocks, bonds or dividends. The clinic does not complete taxes for the deceased;
- Your investment income is less than \$1,000.00.

An Outreach Service is available in Vancouver for those who cannot leave their home.

For information on the 411 Seniors tax clinic call 604-684-8171.

For a list of tax clinics in other areas of the province, [click here](#)



## Gold Star Awards

Thank you to the staff and volunteers of Vancouver Community Network for providing Nidus with a quick response and their expertise during a recent technical glitch. VCN is also helping Nidus with a special project related to the Nidus Registry.

VCN is a non-profit Internet service that offers free public access to the Internet and support to community groups and non-profit organizations. Learn more at [www.vcn.bc.ca](http://www.vcn.bc.ca)



Vancouver Community Network Volunteers at the technical help desk.

### Contact Us:

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Vancouver, BC V6B 1X4

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[info@nidus.ca](mailto:info@nidus.ca) | [www.nidus.ca](http://www.nidus.ca)

- Nidus is a non-profit, charitable organization.
- Nidus is a Latin term for nest: a symbol of safety, support and self-development.
- Nidus promotes personal planning as an alternative to adult guardianship.
- Learn about Representation Agreements, Enduring Powers of Attorney and Living Wills/Advance Directives.
- Register your legal plan with Nidus so it is available when needed.

## Nidus is featured in the Scrivener Magazine

The Fall 2010 issue of the [Scrivener Magazine](#) (published by the Society of Notaries) features valuable information about personal planning, estate planning and related issues. You can read Nidus' feature article on pages 14 & 15.



## 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.