

## We're celebrating!

September 1st, 2011 is proclamation day for amendments to British Columbia's personal planning legislation. This marks the beginning of a new chapter for Representation Agreements and Personal Planning!



### Message from Christine Gordon, Chairperson

Proclamation day means that Personal Planning is alive and well in British Columbia! Nidus has been a pioneer in developing the most inclusive tools for personal planning anywhere in the world. Nidus intends to keep on leading by example. Nidus provides British Columbians with a one stop source of information, expertise and, through its unique registry, secure storage and controlled access for their personal planning documents. We look forward to working with our

government and community partners to ensure that B.C. represents the "gold standard" for personal planning.

## You are invited!

To mark this momentous occasion, we are holding a **virtual party** and inviting you to help us make September 'Personal Planning Month' in B.C.! For the month of September you can visit [www.niduspersonalplanning.tumblr.com](http://www.niduspersonalplanning.tumblr.com) to view photos, stories and videos that show the rich history of personal planning in B.C.



## Bring your own story...

The Nidus celebration is about sharing real life stories and experiences, and spreading the word about making and using Representation Agreements. The Representation Agreement Act was the first law in B.C. specifically designed for personal planning.


- Did you make a Representation Agreement?
- How did it help you?
- Are you a representative or a monitor named in an Agreement?
- What did you find remarkable about the process?
- Do you have a message to share with others?


We would love to see photographs and/or videos of Agreements being signed and used. Did the Representation Agreement help make a difference in your life? Sometimes, simply making a Representation Agreement can have a real impact — by providing peace of mind!


Sharing your experience will encourage other individuals and families to make Representation Agreements. It can also support law reform efforts in other provinces and countries that look to B.C. as a model. Representation Agreements are unique in the world.

If you are interested in participating, please send your stories, photos and videos to [info@nidus.ca](mailto:info@nidus.ca).

## Stay Connected

 Follow us on [Twitter](#)

 Like us on [Facebook](#)

 Watch [Nidus TV](#)

## Registry tip

The legislative amendments bring new attention to issues of communication and the role of the Nidus Registry. Keeping track of documents and plans is challenging — for those who make them and, even more importantly, for those who have to use them.

What personal planning documents do you have in place? Have you reviewed them with those you appointed? Are they registered?

The Nidus Registry can register these types of planning documents:

- Representation Agreement
- Advance Directive
- Enduring Power of Attorney
- Power of Attorney
- Advance Care Plan
- Nomination of Committee
- Revocations
- Resignations
- Living Will

## Challenge of the month

Tell 3 people how personal planning is different from estate planning.

(See Nidus definition at bottom of page 2 of the newsletter.)

## Message from Joanne Taylor, Executive Director



Personal planning will soon become as well known as estate planning — and I predict, more popular! Why? Personal planning is about maintaining your identity in the face of injury, illness or disability, when you are unable to speak up for yourself. It is about quality-of-life to the end-of-life. Successful implementation — especially in these economic times — requires new ways of working together. It is important that government, legal professionals and the community collaborate. The Nidus Resource Centre and Registry continues to provide a hub to support all our efforts.

## What's new on the website

In preparation for the amendments, Nidus has updated and created over 15 fact sheets. These factsheets will help you use your existing documents and will be invaluable in the making of new documents.

Do you have a Representation Agreement and/or Enduring Power of Attorney in place? Suggested reading:

- [Amendments and Representation Agreement made before September 1, 2011](#)
- [Amendments and Enduring Power of Attorney made before September 1, 2011](#)

Are you interested in making a legal document? Suggested reading:

- [Representation Agreement Overview Fact Sheet](#)
- [Role of a Representative](#)
- [Enduring Power of Attorney Fact Sheet](#)
- [Role of an Attorney](#)

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- Nidus is a non-profit, charitable organization.
- Nidus is a Latin term for nest: a symbol of safety, support and self-development.

Do you have a story  
to share?

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



## Nidus in the news

- Nidus is featured in this month's issue of *The Citizen* published by [Community Living B.C.](#) Thank you to CLBC for their support!
- The B.C. Representation Agreement Act has been selected by the [World Future Council](#) as a good policy and may be presented at their 2012 conference on 'just policies' in favour of persons with disabilities.
- Have you visited Nidus on [facebook](#)? We will be updating our fan page often with details on happenings at Nidus.

## 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.