

## Welcome

Sorry for the gap between newsletters. We have been working hard on creating resources for you! Read about the efforts of the Nidus team to make information more accessible to you.

## New Nidus Website!

Have you visited us online recently?

Check out the new look and let us know your favourite part. Go to [www.nidus.ca](http://www.nidus.ca)

Nidus was one of the first community groups to be online, thanks to volunteer **Otto LeJeune** who designed our first website. The design was very innovative and we received many compliments over the years. As our practice has evolved, we needed a new structure for sharing the variety of resources we have developed.

Thanks to funds from a project supported by the Law Foundation, the Notary Foundation and Vancouver Foundation, we were able to make this happen.

We hope you find the new site easy to use and helpful.


## Personal Planning Defined


It's in our name but what does personal planning mean? Read about it [HERE](#).

## Now Donating is Easier with CanadaHelps.org

We are excited to announce that you can now make your donation to the Nidus Resource Centre safely and securely online through CanadaHelps.org. Nidus is always happy to accept donations the regular way, by cheque or money order, but now you can add credit card or interact online to your donating options. Once you make a donation through CanadaHelps, you will receive your tax receipt instantly.

## Stay Connected

 Follow us on [Twitter](#)

 Watch [Nidus TV](#)

## Registry Tip

Information about the Nidus Registry is on our new website. You can find the forms to register your completed documents and details on how to update your record. View it yourself at [www.nidus.ca](http://www.nidus.ca)

## Frequently Asked Question...

Should I appoint a monitor in my Representation Agreement?

There are many benefits to appointing a monitor in your Representation Agreement but whether you should appoint one depends on your situation and what's right for you.

Here are some things you might want to consider when deciding if a monitor is right for you. For example, are you planning on including routine management of financial matters in your Representation Agreement? If so, an extra safeguard is required and appointing a monitor is one way to satisfy this requirement. Alternatively, you can appoint two or more representatives to act jointly but this can present problems if they do not live close to one another. A monitor gives more flexibility while offering an independent safeguard.

Even if you are not including financial authority in your Representation Agreement, the monitor has other important benefits.



CanadaHelps.org is a registered charity that allows people to safely donate online to any registered Canadian charity and provides accessible and easy to use online technology to both donors and charities.

CanadaHelps.org allows you to make a personal donation or contribute in memory of a family member or friend. You also have the option to set up automatic monthly donations.

Nidus does not receive any ongoing funding to pay for operating costs such as phone, rent, printing and the staff who provide the personalized service we are known for. Nidus depends on donors like you to help us continue to provide information and education on Representation Agreements and other personal planning related matters.

Help Nidus continue to make a difference!



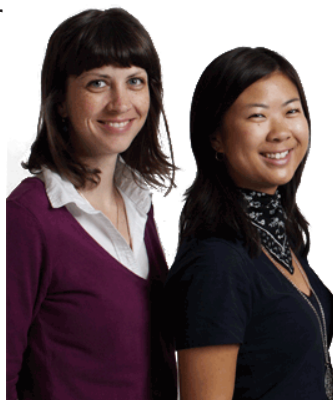
## Gold Star Awards

Thanks to the Nidus Team who helped create the new Nidus website. Of course the staff did this while managing their day-to-day tasks of helping people learn about, make and register Representation Agreements and other personal planning documents. While team members have dispersed to pursue personal goals, their contributions provide a lasting legacy for all British Columbians.



### **Charity Bengert**, Information and Communications Coordinator

Charity brought Nidus more firmly into the online communications age. She coordinated the Nidus Newsletter, signed us up on Twitter and YouTube, developed a social media plan and played a significant role in the new website, especially ideas on how to organize the content. Charity is currently visiting family in the Maritimes and then heads off to Japan with a friend and to concentrate on her writing. Hopefully she will have time to continue to write for Nidus on a contract basis.



### **Danielle Jung**, Deputy Registrar

Danielle kept the Nidus Registry running smoothly and brought her attention to detail when proofreading various Nidus materials. We are trying to live up to her standards and talent as we try to catch typos and grammar errors on the new website. Danielle set off this summer for an exciting tour of Southeast Asia with a group of friends. It was a wonderful opportunity to explore her interest in international issues.

For example, in the case of a second marriage and a blended family, it can be helpful to have a monitor to assist with communication and to reinforce your wishes and preferences. Some middle-aged adults have appointed a monitor because they wanted to name their adult children as representatives but felt the children needed the support of someone older and with more life experience in case a challenging decision had to be made.

These are just a few examples of how useful a monitor can be. If you have a story about a monitor helping out we would love to hear from you. Send your stories to [info@nidus.ca](mailto:info@nidus.ca).

## Direct Funding Fact Sheet

Direct Funding is one of the funding options offered by [Community Living British Columbia](#) (CLBC) to qualifying individuals with special needs. Direct Funding allows individuals and their families to arrange and manage the services and aids required to meet disability-related needs.

Nidus recently developed a fact sheet to help individuals and their families better understand the relationship between Direct Funding and Representation Agreements. Now you can find out when a Representation Agreement is needed for Direct Funding purposes, what is required in a Representation Agreement, as well as answers to some of our most frequently asked questions.

Find out more about Representation Agreements and Direct Funding [HERE](#).

Thank you to Community Living BC for a one-time grant to develop an education plan and resources to support individuals and families supported by CLBC.



**Laura Johnston**, Support Services Coordinator

Laura filled many roles at Nidus. Her analytical skills were invaluable in developing the structure of the new website and the resources available on the site. Laura's interest in research was instrumental in enabling Nidus to produce the research reports featured on the new website.

**Kamila Kolasa**, Graphics and Communications Coordinator

In a few short months, Kamila has created a fresh new look for Nidus. Not only has she played a key role in the design of the website but also of the various resources you can access online – from the fact sheets to the stories to the planning tools, media room information and the Newsletter! We wish Kamila and her husband Jorge the very best for the upcoming birth of their first child.



Thank you to the following funders for their support of public education on personal planning. You can read more about this in our next newsletter which will report on the seniors project they funded and which is now complete.



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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.
- Nidus promotes personal planning as an alternative to adult guardianship.
- Nidus provides information and facilitation related to British Columbia's legal tools for personal planning: Representation Agreements and Enduring Powers of Attorney.
- Nidus operates a centralized Registry for personal planning documents.

**Nidus TV**

Nidus videos are hosted on YouTube. The Nidus channel was the 11th most viewed for non-profits in Canada the week of September 13, 2010.

You can access Nidus videos through the Nidus website under the Self-Help Section. Or you can visit our channel at YouTube.



**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.