

# Respecting Client Wishes: Legislative Change and Practice Opportunities

July 4, 2008

Vancouver Coastal Health  
& Providence Health Care

Are you ready for  
Climate Change?

# Shifting the norms

Paternalism → Respect client's wishes.

Medical model → Recognize decisions are an expression of personal values and beliefs.

Guardianship, legalistic approach → Emphasize advance planning and enable alternatives to guardianship.

# Creating a climate for respecting client's wishes

Principle of Law  
Reform

Role of Professional

Presumption of  
capability

Valuing and respecting  
the individual and his/her  
supporters

Principle

Role

Self-determination

Active listening and  
communicating

Honouring personal  
choices

## Principle

Support according to need

## Role

Provide resources, facilitate informal responses, encourage strengthening and creating of support networks

## Principle

Court and public guardianship as last resort

## Role

Provide information, referral and support for alternatives to guardianship

Nidus provides a climate to ensure the planning process is:

- Accessible.
- Informed.
- Personalized.

# **Nidus** *Personal Planning Resource Centre and Registry*

411 Dunsmuir Street  
Vancouver, BC V6B 1X4

Tel. 604-408-7414

Fax. 604-801-5506

[www.nidus.ca](http://www.nidus.ca)

*Nidus is a provincial, non-profit, charitable organization.*

*Nidus also operates a centralized Registry for planning documents in partnership with the Law Society of BC.*