

British Columbia Community Care and Assisted Living Act
Part 5, Division 2

59. Family and Resident Council (in its entirety)

(consolidation current to 2020)

A licensee must provide an opportunity, at least annually, for persons in care and their parents or representatives, family members and contact persons to

(a) establish one or more councils or similar organizations to represent the interests of the persons in care, or their parents or representatives, family members and contact persons, or both, and

(b) meet with the licensee, either as a council, or, if no council is established, as a group, for the purpose of

(i) promoting the collective and individual interests of the persons in care, and

(ii) involving the persons in care in decision making on matters that affect their day to day living.

Note: The Vancouver Island Association of Family Councils has tested the strength of the family council voice repeatedly in two health authorities: Island Health and Fraser Health. In terms of protecting or promoting the collective voice of independent voice of family councils who have been marginalized in individual long term care facilities, we have yet to have the support or even attention of licensing officers when we lodge formal complaints. This continues to be to the detriment of residents in care.

The entire regulations (as above) defining the role of family councils may be found here:

http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/96_2009#section59

