

For Immediate Release
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Public Guardian and Trustee
of British Columbia

ACCESS TO PUBLIC GUARDIAN AND TRUSTEE SERVICES IMPROVED FOR INTERIOR AND NORTHERN B.C.

VANCOUVER – The opening of a new Interior-North Regional Office in Kelowna improves access to services, Public Guardian and Trustee, Jay Chalke, announced today.

“Hallmarks of good public guardianship include timeliness, personal service and holistic decision making – all of which require close working relationships between guardians and their clients,” said Chalke,

“The opening of this new office demonstrates our continued commitment to provide accessible, personalized service throughout British Columbia,” Chalke said. “With the opening of the Interior-North office, the Public Guardian and Trustee is able to improve delivery of services to 800 of our adult clients.”

Regionalizing services was one of the major initiatives arising from the provincial government’s Core Services Review of the Public Guardian and Trustee – that services be made more accessible to clients living outside of the Lower Mainland.

“This new office represents a positive step in ensuring vulnerable adults living in the Interior-North region of British Columbia have access to services they rely upon close to where they live,” said Attorney General, Geoff Plant. “People told us that they wanted services closer to their home community. We listened and I would like to commend the good work of the Public Guardian and Trustee in making today a reality.”

The new office will deliver direct client services, assessment and investigations and health care decision services. The office is located at 1345 St. Paul Street in Kelowna. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The office may be contacted by telephone at (250) 712-7576 or toll-free through Enquiry BC at 1-800-663-7867.

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The Public Guardian and Trustee operates under provincial laws to protect the legal rights and financial and personal interests of individuals who cannot protect themselves, including children, adults who require assistance in decision-making and deceased or missing persons. Visit the PGT’s website at www.trustee.bc.ca for online information and services.

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