

Committee of the Person

When to Use

When an adult is no longer capable of making decisions about his/her personal affairs and a significant decision must be made concerning major medical treatment, a family member or friend may apply to Court to be appointed Committee of the Person. Because of the very personal nature of these decisions, Committee of the Person duties are best performed by a close family member or friend.

Authority

When a person is appointed by the Supreme Court of British Columbia as the Committee of the Person, he/she is responsible to make decisions about personal matters on behalf of the adult.

How to Apply

The person applies to the Supreme Court of British Columbia with evidence supporting the reason for the application. Like applications for Committee of the Estate, two medical affidavits confirming the adult's incapacity are required and, where legal costs are incurred, the Court may order that they be paid from the adult's estate.

Role of the Public Guardian and Trustee

The Public Guardian and Trustee reviews all Committee of the Person applications to ensure the reasons are justified and that the individual making the application is suitable for this responsibility. The Public Guardian and Trustee makes a recommendation to the Court based on this review.

The Public Guardian and Trustee may also apply to court to be appointed Committee of the Person where there are no family members or friends willing to assume this responsibility.

For more information, contact:

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