Harper Grey LLP

Wills & Estates

Online Toolkit

for creating estate planning documents



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Not everyone in BC can afford to see a lawyer or notary to create a Will or other important estate planning documents. If you die without a Will, your estate may not be distributed in the way you would have wished and the costs of administering your estate may also be higher.

Thankfully, in BC there are very good resources for someone to do this on their own. Resources exist online for creation of the following documents:

- Will
- Power of Attorney
- Representation Agreement for Health Care

A free online Will may be created using a tool funded by the Law Foundation of BC.

• Access the free online Will tool here.

 This tool does not cover all situations, so a person should see a lawyer or notary when their situation is more complex. For your reference, you can find a list of more complex situations <u>here</u>.

A free Enduring Power of Attorney may be created **here**.

 Additional info about Powers of Attorney may be found <u>here</u>.



A free Representation Agreement for Health Care may be created from <u>here</u>.

 Additional info about Representation Agreements may be found <u>here</u>.

Of course, not all individuals will have the desire to study all these resources and use these documents for themselves. Further, these documents may not fit an individuals' needs; therefore, many people may choose to obtain professional legal assistance.

It is important to keep in mind that DIY documents do not contemplate strategies to reduce taxes and fees on death. Someone with significant assets, real property and corporations should seek professional tax advice. Often accountants and lawyers work together to ensure that there is a proper estate plan for clients with more sophisticated planning needs.

If you would like assistance in preparing your estate plan, please contact me.

Sandra is Associate Counsel with Harper Grey practising with our Wills & Estates and Business Law Groups. Her practice is focused on wealth management and preservation. Please contact her if you have any questions.

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