



10.0 Program

10.3 Residential Services

10.3.32 Permanent or Interim Closure of a VIHA-funded Residential Care Facility

1.0 Purpose

To ensure that permanent facility closures or temporary/interim closures due to renovations are conducted in compliance with Province of BC policy and with a consistent approach that ensures supportive and quality resident care through effective planning, communication and collaboration.

2.0 Policy

Any closure or renovations of VIHA-funded residential care facility are required to follow the [BC Government, Ministry of Health, Home and Community Care policy manual dated April 1, 2011 Chapter 6 Policy 6J](#) and the Provincial Guidelines for Closure of Residential Care Facilities, dated June 11 2009, available from the Director, Residential Services, VIHA Operated Services and/or Director, Continuing Health Services, Contracted Services.

Any permanent closure or closure for renovation purposes that would require relocation of residents in a VIHA-funded residential care facility are required to provide a minimum standard notice period of 365 days.

Exceptions to this standard notice period would be considered in situations where there was deemed to be a significant safety risk to residents that is greater than the risk presented through earlier involuntary transfer. In such cases, all legislative and regulatory requirements must be adhered to and will also require consultation, engagement and ongoing communications with all affected stakeholders, including residents, family and staff. A detailed engagement and communications strategy is required.

This policy applies to all residential care facilities funded or operated by VIHA under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act (CCALA)*, Residential Care Regulation, and *Hospital Act* within British Columbia.

3.0 Definition

Facility closure means a full or partial closure of a residential care facility (long-term care beds) resulting in the relocation of a resident to another residential care setting.

4.0 References

Provincial Acts, Statutes and Regulations

- Community Care and Assisted Living Act
- Hospital Act
- Residential Care Regulation
- <http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/hcc/policy-manual.html>
- Provincial Guidelines for Closure of Residential Care Facilities
- Health Care (Consent) and Care Facility (Admission) Act
- [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#)