

When Returning Home Is No Longer an Option

Going From Hospital to a Care Home



This information supports the conversation with your Health Professional.

What is a Care Home?

A Care Home is a place where people live when they can no longer be cared for in their own homes. Care Homes offer care and support based on the person's care needs.

There are many Care Homes in the Fraser Health Region, both public and private. Within some of these Care Homes, Fraser Health subsidizes the cost of some beds for people with specific care needs.

Subsidized care is for people who can no longer be cared for in their own home or assisted living settings because:

- They have complex health needs or physical conditions (with or without dementia) that cannot be safely managed at home.
- They have tried all appropriate home and community supports available and cannot manage at home.
- They need access to nursing care 24 hours a day.

How do I know if I qualify for subsidized care in a Care Home?

If you can no longer be safely supported at home, we consult with your healthcare team and, together, we review your situation to see if you qualify for subsidized care in a Care Home.

To qualify, you must:

- be over 19 years old
- a Canadian citizen or lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residence
- have residency in B.C.
- need access to nursing care, 24 hours a day
- agree to our assessment process including releasing your income tax information

At Fraser Health, we also consider:

- your current health, care needs, and living situation
- your family caregiver's ability to continue to care for you at home
- what community and in-home resources you have tried or are using (such as home support, day programs, assisted living, or facility respite care)

What is the process to move into a Care Home?

When you qualify for subsidized care, we follow the Ministry of Health 'Residential Care Access' policy. We give you information to help you find your 'Preferred Care Home'.

We give you a list of Care Homes that can meet your care needs. This list also includes the estimated time it might take to move into each Care Home. You can choose up to 3 Care Homes anywhere in Fraser Health or within the province.

You have 72 hours to let us know which Preferred Care Home(s) you choose. The date that you share your choices with us is called your 'waitlist date'.

If the wait for your Preferred Care Home is long and a different Care Home is available sooner in your preferred geographic area, we can offer you care in that home. We call this an Interim Care Home. You must move into the Interim Care Home within 72 hours. You live in the Interim Care Home until space is available in one of your Preferred Care Homes.

You can choose one or more of the geographic areas from the table below.

Geographic Area	Includes:
Abbotsford	Abbotsford
Burnaby/ New Westminster	Burnaby, New Westminster, Coquitlam
Chilliwack	Chilliwack, Agassiz
Delta	North Delta, South Delta, South Surrey, White Rock
Hope	Hope
Langley	Langley, Aldergrove
Mission	Mission, Abbotsford
Surrey/South Surrey	Surrey, South Surrey, White Rock
Tri-Cities	Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Maple Ridge

What happens if my care needs change while I am waiting for my Preferred Care Home?

We regularly assess your needs. If your needs change, we might give you an updated list of Care Homes that can meet your new care needs. You can choose from this list. Your waitlist date will not change.

Can I change my Preferred Care Home choices while I am waiting?

Yes. You can change your Preferred Care Home list at any time. Your waitlist date will not change.

What happens next?

When your Preferred or Interim Care Home is available:

- You and your family are notified
- For your Preferred Care Home, you must move in within 48 hours
- For the Interim Care Home, you must move in within 72 hours.

What if I don't move to the offered Care Home?

We will want to know why you are saying “no”.

If you choose not to accept the offer, it is important to understand what you are saying “no” to.

If you say “no”:

- Your care team works with you to create a plan to safely return you home or you can choose to move to a private pay Care Home.
- Starting on the day you decline the Care Home offer, you have to pay the daily cost of care (on average \$1000 a day) while you remain in the hospital or convalescent care unit.
- We change your waitlist date to the date you say “no” to the offered Care Home.

If I choose to move to a private pay Care Home, can I get a subsidized bed in that facility?

You can choose to live in a private pay Care Home at any time. If this home is on the list we gave you, you can choose this Care Home as your Preferred Care Home.

If this private pay Care Home is your only choice for your Preferred Care Home, we will only offer a subsidized bed in this home. This might mean a long wait time until a subsidized bed becomes available.

Once I qualify, how long will it take to get a subsidized Care Home?

It could happen quickly or it could take longer. It depends on the wait times of each Care Home you chose. We include the wait times on the list of Care Homes that can meet your care needs.

Will I have to pay for a subsidized Care Home?

Yes. The Ministry of Health sets the rates each year for how much people must pay for a subsidized bed. Most people pay about 80% of their income for the subsidized bed, but there is a minimum and a maximum monthly rate.

We calculate your monthly rate based on the income tax you file every year. You are notified of any yearly rate changes.

You will need to sign a consent form agreeing to allow Canada Revenue Agency to release your income information to Fraser Health. If you choose not to sign the consent form, you will have to pay the maximum monthly rate for the subsidized bed.

If I qualify for a subsidized Care Home and I am still in the hospital after 30 days, will I have to pay?

Yes. It might take longer than 30 days for a subsidized Care Home to become available. If you are still in the hospital after 30 days, the Ministry of Health requires us to charge you as if you were already receiving care in a subsidized Care Home.

You will pay \$ _____ per day.

For more information, please ask us.

Care Professional (*name*): _____

Phone number: _____

To read more about **Residential Care Services**
and **Home and Community Care Services**,
go to www.fraserhealth.ca

www.fraserhealth.ca

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Catalogue #255699 (February 2019)

To order: patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca