

# **When Staying In Assisted Living Is No Longer An Option**

**Moving from Assisted Living to a Care Home**



Image by Sabine van Erp from Pixabay.com

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 current setting. 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, Fraser Health subsidizes the cost of some beds for people with specific care needs.

Long-term care is for people who can no longer be cared for in an Assisted Living setting because:

- They have complex health needs or physical conditions (with or without dementia) that cannot be safely managed within their current setting.
- They have tried all appropriate home and community supports available and cannot manage within their current setting.
- 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 in Assisted Living, 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
- whether the Assisted Living operator is able to continue caring for you in your current setting with support from your caregiver/family

## **What is the process to move into a Care Home?**

When you qualify for subsidized care, we follow the Ministry of Health 'Long-Term 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.

If the wait for your Preferred Care Home is long and you can no longer be safely supported in Assisted Living, you have options.

One option is to move to a private pay Care Home.

Another option is that we offer you an 'Interim Care Home' in your preferred geographic area. You live in this Care Home until space is available in one of your Preferred Care Homes.

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'.

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

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

## **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 Care Home choices while I am waiting?**

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

## **What happens next?**

When your Preferred Care Home is available:

- You and your family are notified.
- You must move into the Preferred Care Home within 48 hours.

If you are not able to remain in Assisted Living safely and your Preferred Care Home is not available, we can offer you an Interim Care Home in the geographical area you choose.

When the Interim Care Home is available, you must move within 72 hours.

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

We will want to know why you are saying “no.” It is important for us to understand your concerns.

When you choose not to accept the offer, we change your waitlist date to the date you say “no” to the offered Care Home.

## **What are my options if I don't move to the offered Care Home?**

1. You can move to a private pay Care Home of your choice at your own cost.
2. You can move to a private residence (either your own or with someone) and:
  - Apply for home supports through your Home Health office, and/or
  - Pay for private care services.
3. You can remain in Assisted Living, however:
  - You will have to pay all extra care costs to safely meet your care needs until you have somewhere else to live.
  - The Assisted Living operator will start the process to evict you.



The Assisted Living Health Professionals can give you a list of possible places to live but you or your family are responsible for choosing the place and arranging the move.

**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.

If you choose not to file your taxes every year, you will have to pay the maximum monthly rate for the subsidized bed.

## My Notes

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For more information, you can also go online to read more about Long-Term Care in Fraser Health at [www.fraserhealth.ca](http://www.fraserhealth.ca)

- For more about Long-Term Care, search 'long-term care' under Locations.
- For Home Health locations and phone numbers, choose 'Home Health Offices' under Locations.

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