

Having a Will helps ensure that important questions are answered for those left behind:

Parents of underage children, who will raise your young children if both you and your spouse die?

Who is to receive those **special items** you want to share?

Philanthropic giving – do your family know what you wanted?

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.

Wills Registry – The Vital Statistics Agency maintains the wills registry in BC. Wills can be registered by a lawyer, notary, trustee or individual over the age of 16 and mentally capable.

To be valid – a will must be in writing, signed at its end by the will-maker in the presence of 2 or more witnesses present at the same time and signed by 2 or more of the witnesses in the presence of the will-maker.

Witnesses – should be competent adults who are not receiving anything under your Will and are not the spouses of individuals receiving anything under your Will.

At DFCL, we have found that when someone dies, families look to us for help. **One of the kindest things you can do for those who are left behind is to be organized and prepared for your death.** We want to help by offering to record the location of where your Will can be found. Let us help make the task of settling your affairs easier for your family, we will make sure your loved ones can locate your final wishes.



Reach out and let us know where you keep your Will, make sure your loved ones can locate your final wishes.

Tel: (250) 785-9603

Email: yourlife@dfcl.ca

Web: www.deanfalkenberg.com

Changes – if extensive, make a new Will that begins with a clause stating that it revokes all previous wills and codicils

Probate – if an Estate's value is over \$25,000, it must be probated before the assets can be distributed. If an Estate's value is \$25,000 or less, there are no probate fees.

The BC Government **link below** offers free planning information, reasons you should have a will, steps to register a will and more:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events/death/wills-estates/make-a-will-week>

Provincial rules differ – always research rules where you reside before writing a Will.