

Interior Association of Family Councils

Who We Are

Interior Association of Family Councils is an independent, non-profit, registered charity, formed in 2022. This association promotes and advocates for the effective inclusion of Family Councils within all Long-term Care homes, within the Interior Region of British Columbia.

Our Mission and Goals

To increase awareness of the role of Family Councils in Long-term Care (LTC) homes, and

To provide a forum that allows Family Councils to:

- Network with one another,
- Share ideas and information,
- Collectively advocate to improving the quality of life and quality of care for Residents in LTC.

What Our Regional Association Does

Our volunteer members, with lived experience, offer mentorship and support to both new and existing Resident Councils, Resident and Family Councils and/or Family Councils.

We focus on education and knowledge sharing to strengthen the knowledge base of all LTC Family Councils. We support our members to gain a better understanding of:

- The Resident Bill of Rights,
- Policies and Regulations,
- How the government-funded Long-term Care sector operates, and
- Emerging best practices

Interior Association of Family Councils

Proud Member of Independent Long-Term Care Councils Association of BC (ILTCCABC)

Interior Association of Family Councils is one of five member regional associations who comprise ILTCCABC, a provincial association of Family Councils.

Join Us in Our Work

Interior Association of Family Councils and ILTCCABC are always looking for people to join us in this important work.

We welcome independent Long-term Care (LTC) Council members, as well as individuals with a desire to advocate for residents in LTC.

Members help support and mentor LTC Councils, and serve on various committees towards fulfilling our purpose and goals.

Another Way to Help

Small grants and personal donations help us grow and support our member local Family Councils.

For more information about how your donation can help, or to join us in our work, please reach out.



Interior Family Councils

Email interiorfamilycouncils@gmail.com

Web www.interiorfamilycouncils.ca

**Registered Charity
Account Number** **722287 9707 RR0001**



Interior Health

Connecting and Supporting Independent Long-Term Care (LTC) Councils



Together, we strive to
enhance the quality of life of all
residents in Long-Term Care



Interior Family Councils

What Are Long-term Care (LTC) Councils?

Long-term Care (LTC) Councils are organized groups of residents, or residents and their family members and/or representatives.

Councils meet on a regular basis to maintain and enhance the quality of life of residents through peer support and education. They provide a platform for residents and families to improve the experiences of all residents.

Different types of Councils are found in Long-term Care homes:

- **Family Councils**
- **Resident Councils**
- **Resident and Family Councils**

Some LTC homes have combined resident and family councils, others will have only a resident council or a family council and some will have both a resident council and a family council.

The management team at the LTC home you or your loved-one is moving to, or resides in, will be able to tell you what types of Councils exist there.

A resident/their family member may be part of the resident and/or the resident and family council where they reside.

The term family refers to any person related in any way (biologically, legally or emotionally) including immediate relatives and other individuals in the person's support network. Family can include a person's family, partner, friends, advocates, guardians and other individuals.

Need Help Connecting with or Starting a Council?

Every person living in a licensed Long-term Care (LTC) home, along with their family and/or the person's representative, has the right to participate in a Council.

The **Provincial Residential Care Regulation** requires the operator to offer support and assistance to help residents and families set up and operate a Council.

If there is no Council at the home you have moved to, or where your loved-one resides, and you are interested in establishing a Council, we invite you to reach out to the **Interior Association of Family Councils**.

The Ministry of Health has compiled a booklet ***“Developing, Supporting and Maintaining Resident Councils and Resident & Family Councils in Long-term Care Homes”***.

This booklet can be downloaded directly from the BC Ministry of Health's (MOH) website, or you can visit: **Interior Association of Family Council's** website, where you can download the MOH booklet, and find many other resources for Family Councils.

 **Interior Family Councils**
www.interiorfamilycouncils.ca

LTC Council Voices Elevated

In 2022, the BC Ministry of Health created two new categories of Councils to promote and facilitate communication between local councils, health authorities and the Ministry of Health to enhance the quality of life for residents in care homes.

Regional Resident & Family Council Networks (RRFCN “Regional Councils”)

Regional Resident and Family Council Networks (Regional Councils) are Health Authority-led regional meetings of local council representatives where participants meet to discuss successes, common issues of concern, share experiences, problem solve and develop and implement broad regional solutions.

Provincial Resident and Family Councils B.C. (RFCBC)

The Resident and Family Councils BC (RFCBC) is a provincial group, accountable to the BC Ministry of Health, at which the Regional Council co-chairs, Health Authority Long-term Care leadership and Ministry of Health Licensing leadership meet to discuss systemic issues and proposed system change.

Interior Association of Family Councils encourages local LTC Councils to proactively participate in these two new, and very important, Councils that elevate voices from local and regional councils to the BC's Minister of Health.