

# How Does a Guardian Decide about Social Activities?

## FACT SHEET #10

The Guardianship Order granted by the court will state the specific areas of authority granted to you as the guardian. As a guardian, you have been granted the authority “to make decisions about daily living activities on behalf of the adult, including decisions about the adult’s social activities.”

### What should a guardian consider when making a decision?

Decisions involving how someone else is going to occupy him/herself socially require insight into that other person’s life, interests and choices. As a guardian you need to know about how the adult likes to spend their time, including:

- Is or has the incapable adult (the “adult”) been a very social person or do they prefer to spend time alone?
- Is the adult aware of opportunities for social activities?
- Does the adult like sports, reading, movies, card games, outdoor pursuits, indoor activities, gardening, cooking, art, music, theatre, etc.?
- What supports will the adult need to participate in their chosen activities?
- Will physical or other limitations affect decisions in this area?
- How will this decision enhance the adult’s quality of life?
- What makes the adult feel good about life?

Some decisions in this area may require written consent. Written consent is rarely involved unless there is a planned trip or outing that involves some risk.

The adult must be consulted and encouraged to indicate their social likes and dislikes. The guardian should be aware of any preferences the adult may have and how the adult may respond to any opportunities for social activities.

This knowledge is what you will use to make future decisions. These decisions can bring a great deal of pleasure to an adult’s life and can help the adult participate fully in the community.

This area of authority of a guardian can be found in Section 38(1)(g)(ii) of the *Decision Making, Support and Protection to Adults Act, Schedule A, Adult Protection and Decision Making Act, Part 3*.

This fact sheet is one in a series to provide assistance and information regarding guardianship under the *Decision Making, Support and Protection to Adults Act, Schedule A, Adult Protection and Decision Making Act, Part 3*. This legislation can be found at <http://www.gov.yk.ca/legislation/acts/Aadpr.pdf>.

For more information please call your lawyer or refer to the resource list available from the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT**

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