

FACT SHEET

Child Care Licensing Regulation

Community Care and Assisted Living Act

LICENSING OFFICER

A licensing officer is mandated to ensure the health, safety and well-being of children in care by monitoring licensees' compliance with the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* and the Child Care Licensing Regulation.

What is the role of the Director of Licensing?

The Director of Licensing is appointed by the minister and is responsible for overseeing community care licensing in BC. The *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* provides the Director of Licensing with specific powers, as well as with the ability to specify policies and standards for practice for community care facilities.

What is the role of a medical health officer?

Medical health officers are appointed under the *Health Act* and have specific powers and duties under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*. These duties include issuing licenses, inspecting licensed facilities, and investigating complaints that a facility does not meet the requirements of the Act or Regulations or that an unlicensed facility is being operated. Medical health officers delegate many of their duties to licensing officers.



What is the role of a licensing officer?

Licensing officers work with care facility operators to provide education and guidance, assist with the start-up a facility, assess manager suitability, and conduct facility

inspections. Licensing officers must also respond quickly and effectively with situations that pose a risk to children in care.

How does a licensing officer assess compliance with the Child Care Licensing Regulation?

Each facility is unique and is monitored and assessed on an individual basis. Licensing officers know that there may be several ways to achieve the outcomes required by the Regulation. Through discussion and analysis of a licensee's plans and programs, a licensing officer can assess whether the needs of the children in care and standards are being met. The Regulation creates an opportunity for collaboration and for building working relationships between licensing officers and licensees based on identifying the best way to reach their shared goals.



For more information

Contact the local health authority community care licensing program and speak with a licensing officer.