



Q&As for CLBC-Contracted Service Providers About the Policy: *Travel Outside of BC with CLBC-Funded Services* January 2019

Does CLBC provide funded services outside of British Columbia?

- CLBC respects individuals' choice to travel outside of BC. Supported individuals may travel outside of BC with a CLBC-funded service provider for a maximum of 30 days, as long as the caregiver or provider meets all of the conditions set out in the policy. (Please note: CLBC aligns with Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction policy which states that individuals become ineligible for PWD if out of the province for more than 30 consecutive days. See more information on other government services below).
- CLBC does not contract for support services delivered outside of the province.
- CLBC has a number of legislated requirements that can only be met in BC, such as the duties and functions of a designated agency under the *Adult Guardianship Act*.
- Requirements for criminal record checks, monitoring of services, crisis response and safety considerations can only be met in BC. For example, it would not be possible to contract for emergency respite outside of BC if a provider had a health crisis.
- CLBC also needs to provide supports and services in a way that ensures other government requirements can be met. This includes such supports as home sharing providers assisting individuals to complete their PWD reporting or performing personal assistance tasks delegated to them by BC medical professionals.

How does an individual's travel outside of BC affect a service provider's contract with CLBC?

- The *Community Living Authority Act* (CLAA) states that CLBC must "provide for the delivery in British Columbia of community living support". This is a legal requirement.
- Section 5.4 of CLBC's *Service Terms and Conditions* for contractors, in compliance with the legislation, states that the "Service Provider may only deliver the Services within the Province of British Columbia." Failure by either party to comply with all terms of the contract will result in termination of the contract.
- The new policy related to travel explains that within our legal requirements, supported individuals may travel outside of BC with a CLBC-funded service provider for a maximum of 30 days, as long as they meet policy requirements.

How can service providers and direct home share providers ensure their contract is not cancelled if an individual travels outside of BC with a Service Provider?

As a CLBC contractor, you are responsible for informing your staff and caregivers about CLBC's policy on individuals' travel outside of BC, and that your contracted care providers:

- understand that CLBC only funds services in BC
- have been provided the information in this Q&A
- have provided you with a documented plan for the individual's travel outside of BC, regardless of the

- length of the trip
- have ensured that the individual is fully informed about how their travel outside of BC could impact their CLBC-funded services and has made an independent, informed decision about their travel
- observe the 30-day maximum absence allowed

What should be included in a travel plan of less than 30 days?

Travel plans must be in place in advance of any travel outside of the province. The Service Provider (or direct home sharing provider) is responsible to ensure travel plans for any travel outside the province are available to CLBC upon request in order to confirm the following:

- destination and purpose
- duration of absence from BC
- emergency contacts, including who will provide support to the individual in the event of a caregiver emergency
- basic medical coverage
- consideration and mitigation of any risks to the individual or their level of care
- reflection of how the travel is person-centered and based on the desires of the individual

What are some of the other services that individuals receive from the government of BC that must be considered when travelling outside of BC?

- [MSDPR policy](#) states that to be eligible for PWD (including extended health benefits), applicants must reside in BC. Recipients become ineligible for assistance if absent from BC for more than 30 consecutive days. Individuals must report any changes in their circumstances to the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (MSDPR) if they receive income assistance for Persons with Disabilities (PWD). Changes in circumstances, which are to be reported every month, include time spent outside of BC. In some exceptional circumstances (as outlined in MSDPR policy), an MSDPR manager may pre-authorize continued PWD assistance for recipients who leave the province for more than 30 days. Note that leisure travel and vacation are not considered exceptional circumstances.
- CLBC aligns with MSDPR in establishing a 30-day maximum for absence from BC without an effect on individuals' services. **In circumstances where MSDPR gives approval for an extended absence, CLBC cannot provide funded support services outside of British Columbia.**
- BC's Medical Services Plan (MSP) provides limited coverage during travel outside of BC and requires individuals to serve a waiting period for reinstatement of coverage if they are outside of BC longer than permitted by Ministry of Health policy (see [MSP](#)).
- The Ministry of Health supervises and monitors care providers in their provision of personal assistance and daily living tasks (see [Personal Assistance Guidelines](#)) that are delegated to caregivers by professionals regulated by and accountable to the province of BC only.