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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS RE WILLS



How much does it cost?

- ✓ One will starts at \$200 plus HST
- ✓ Two wills (husband/wife/spouse reciprocal wills) start at \$350 plus HST for both.
(rarely do our wills cost more)

How and When to pay for your Will(s)

- ✓ Our account is due and payable when you come back for the second visit to sign your will.
- ✓ We accept debit, cash or cheque for payment.

What do I need to Bring for the first Appointment?

- ✓ Most of what we ask you will know without bringing extra paperwork.
- ✓ We will ask about your assets and how they are held (who is on title to the home, whose names are on the bank accounts or title to assets such as cars and boats). **We can and will do a land title search (\$7.40) to confirm how the title to your home is registered or you can bring in a copy of your title (a State of Title Certificate). You must know approximately how much you have in investments, bank accounts and RRSP accounts, etc. and we will ask for this information.**
- ✓ We will also ask about life insurance policies and RSPs and who the beneficiaries are.

What do I need to Think About for the first Appointment?

- ✓ Who will be your Executor and alternate Executor.
- ✓ Who will be your beneficiary or beneficiaries (and alternates if any of them predecease you).
- ✓ Who will be Guardian of your children while they are under the age of 19.
- ✓ Who will inherit your estate in the event of a family tragedy (that is, you, your spouse and your children all die in a common disaster).
- ✓ If you wish to do a specific list of items to give away – written memorandum.
- ✓ Where you intend to keep your original will (safety deposit box, at home).

Can't I just Prepare my own Will with a Will Kit?

- ✓ Yes, but the problem is you may be missing out on valuable estate planning information that may affect how your will should be prepared.

- ✓ If you prepare your own will you must ensure that it is signed properly in accordance with the laws of the Province of British Columbia or it will be invalid and therefore completely useless. We do not witness wills that we don't prepare.
- ✓ Many self-made wills do not include or give away all the assets leaving a partial intestacy (that the Government will therefore dictate).
- ✓ For the cost of our straightforward wills, it's worth the money for us to do it for you and bring you peace of mind knowing that it has been done properly.

When/Why Should I have a Lawyer prepare my Will?

- ✓ If you have very young children and a sizeable estate, you may wish to set up a more specialized trust will with a lawyer that would hold your estate in trust until the children are much older than age 19. With the Wills we prepare, the estate will be held in trust by your Executor/Trustee until your children, or the youngest of them, turn 19.
- ✓ If you have a beneficiary who receives government assistance for certain disabilities you should have a specialized trust will done so that any inheritance does not interfere with the government assistance.
- ✓ If you have a beneficiary that would not be able to handle a sizeable estate due to an addiction or due to undue influences, then a carefully crafted trust will should be drawn.
- ✓ If you have substantial and complicated assets.

Most people in BC only require a very straightforward Will which we are able to do for you quickly and at a reasonable cost.

We look forward to helping you with this incredibly important document.

Thank you!