

EXPLORING THE FUTURE



RIDGE MEADOWS

TRANSITIONS FOR YOUTH WITH SPECIAL
LEARNING NEEDS

LEAVING HIGH SCHOOL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What is transition planning?	3
When to start transition planning?	3
Who needs a transition plan?	4
Who participates in planning?	4
To and through transition timeline	5, 6
Transition Planning Guides.....	7
Government Services	8, 9
Helpful Resources	10, 11, 12
Acknowledgements	13

What is transition planning?

- Looking ahead and planning for your future after high school.
- Preparing for the opportunities and experiences of being an adult.
- Identifying your goals and deciding how you will reach them.

When to start transition planning?

- Ideally, begin planning at age 14.
- Starting early gives time to develop relationships, learn about resources and develop a realistic and achievable plan.



Who needs a transition plan?

- Youth "who require additional supports to enhance their health, development, learning, quality of life and community inclusion."
- Even if your child will have limited access to government-funded services as an adult, transition planning is equally important.

Who participates in planning?

- Youth and their family members are central to planning.
- The process should be initiated by youth and family members, but can also be initiated by a key service provider.
- The youth and their family determines who needs to be on the transition planning team, for example, school personnel, social workers, service agencies for adults, current service providers, community members, and friends; who, together, determine who will coordinate the team and facilitate meetings to develop a transition plan.

To and Through Adulthood Transition

Timeline

Age: 14-15	Age: 16
Youth/Family	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Establish a transition team and select a coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Determine if assessments are needed <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure youth has legal documentation for identification (birth certificate & SIN) <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about Registered Disability Savings Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete required assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for adult supports <input type="checkbox"/> Research post-secondary education, training, employment preparation and community inclusion supports <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about will and estate planning
School	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Establish transition goals as part of IEP <input type="checkbox"/> Determine if school assessments are required <input type="checkbox"/> Determine if other agencies or services are required and available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review IEP transition goals <input type="checkbox"/> Complete school assessment if required <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborate & provide information about youth as needed & with consent to relevant service organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Provide work experience opportunities
Children's Services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide information about transition planning process and related adult supports and services <input type="checkbox"/> Determine if assessments are needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide information about the youth as needed & with consent to adult service organizations. <input type="checkbox"/> Assist to apply for adult supports and services (for example CLBC) <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborate with school and relevant service providers <input type="checkbox"/> Assist youth/family to learn about community options
Adult Services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Begin attending Transition Planning forums to inform youth and families about services for adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> CLBC determines eligibility and communicate outcome to youth/family/MCFD <input type="checkbox"/> CLBC records requests for future support for eligible youth

Age: 17-18	Age: 19
Youth/Family	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for educational/vocational skill training <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for adult supports and services (Disability Benefits, home and Community Care, CLBC supports) <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about legal agreements (representation agreements) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from At Home Medical to PWD medical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Enrol in post-secondary program <input type="checkbox"/> Secure employment <input type="checkbox"/> Access adult supports and services
School	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review IEP transition goals <input type="checkbox"/> Complete school assessment if required <input type="checkbox"/> Provide information about post-secondary education, vocational training and community supports <input type="checkbox"/> Provide work experience opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review IEP transition goals <input type="checkbox"/> Complete school assessment if required <input type="checkbox"/> Provide information about post-secondary education, vocational training and community support <input type="checkbox"/> Provide work experience opportunities
Children's Services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Assist youth/family to learn about range of supports and assist youth to apply for adult funded services <input type="checkbox"/> Provide information and opportunities to learn employment and community participation skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Connect youth to community opportunities and adult supports and services
Adult Services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> CLBC meets with eligible youth/families to explore possible adult supports <input type="checkbox"/> Home and Community Care conduct eligibility assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for: Person with Disability benefits 6 months before turning 18 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate post-secondary education/vocational training, employment, community inclusion & home living supports

Transition Planning Guides

- **Your Future Now:** A Transition Planning and Resource Guide for Youth with Special Needs and Their Families

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/pdf/your_future_now.pdf

- **Transition Planning for Youth with Special Needs:** A Community Support Guide

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/pdf/support_guide.pdf

- **Beyond Graduation:** Workshop Outline & Facilitator Guide

www.planinstitute.ca/files/Final%20BG%20FaciliatorGuide%201.pdf

Government Services

- **Ministry of Children and Families, Children and Youth with Special Needs Branch:** services and supports for children and youth with special needs and their families.
www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/index.htm
630 – 22470 Dewdney Trunk Road, Maple Ridge
604-466-7444
- **Community Living BC:** adults who meet eligibility criteria can be assisted to develop individualized plans and become connected to generic and funded services.
www.communityliving.bc.ca
400 - 205 Newport Dr., Port Moody
604-933-2000
- **Ministry of Health Services** - home and community care for adults with acute, chronic, palliative or rehabilitative health care needs. For those who have daily personal care needs: Choices in Supports for Independent Living Program (CSIL)
www.health.gov.bc.ca/hcc/index.html
604-476-7100
- **Ministry of Social Services and Housing:** disability benefits, employment programs, bus passes and health and dental benefits for persons with disabilities.
www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/pwd.htm
22522 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge
604-466-4441

- **Public Guardian and Trustee:** Provides consultation and services to adults who need help managing their personal, health care, legal or financial affairs
www.trustee.bc.ca
604-660-4444
- **Ministry of Education:** provides Special Education services for students with special needs.
www.bced.gov.bc.ca/my_childs_special_needs.htm
Local student support service's website:
<http://schools.sd42.ca/sss>
604-467-1101
- **Ministry of Advanced Education:** education services to adults with disabilities which provides information about post secondary education in BC
www.aved.gov.bc.ca/adultspeialed/resource/welcome.htm
- **BC Housing:** administers subsidized housing and programs that offer housing options.
www.bchousing.org
604-433-2218

Other Helpful Resources

- **Ridge Meadows Association for Community Living:** a family support worker may be able to assist you with planning and accessing resources in the community.
604-467-8700

- **BC Association for Community Living:** a provincial association promoting the participation of people with developmental disabilities in all aspects of community life
www.bcacl.org
604-777-9100
- **Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN):** long-term planning including wills, trusts, financial and estate planning.
www.plan.ca
604-439-9566
- **Registered Disability Savings Plan:** tax-free savings plan for people with disabilities.
www.rdsp.com
604-439-9566
- **Communication Assistance for Young Adults (CAYA):** serves 19 to 27 year olds who would benefit from high-tech communication devices
www.cayabc.org
604-261-9450
- **Bowman Employment Services:** Case Management services for employment and training, as well as funding for training (SBET)
www.bowmanemployment.com
604-466-1375

- **Triumph Vocational Services:** a vocational program for persons with disabilities to assist them in finding employment opportunities
www.triumphvocational.com/index.htm
 604-476-9044
- **Nidus Personal Planning Resource Centre:** helps individuals write Representation Agreements, legal documents allowing a representative to help with decision making.
www.nidus.ca/textual/home.htm
 604-575-2588
- **Vancouver Foundation:** grants to individuals with developmental disabilities to fund projects like home renovations that help them to access their homes and communities:
www.vancouverfoundation.bc.ca
 604-688-2204
- **Vela Microboard Association:** Joins with family and friends to address planning and support needs and provide education and support around employer/employee relationships
www.microboard.org
 604-575-2599
- **BC Coalition of People with Disabilities:** Advocacy and educational publications for people with disabilities / caregivers.
www.bccpd.bc.ca/default.htm
 604-875-0188

- **Special Olympics:** Various weekly sport programs to promote physical fitness and develop social skills
www.specialolympics.bc.ca
604-671-2125
- **Family Education and Support Centre:** Information, education and support programs to enable people to make healthy choices relative to their personal, community, and family lives.
<http://www.familyed.bc.ca/>
604.467-6055
- **Pathfinder Youth Centre Society:** Life and Employment Skills which encompass 24 hour mentorship program.
www.pathfinderyouthsociety.org
604-460-2856
- **School District No. 42 Trades Partnership program:**
School District No. 42 and various **post secondary** institutions have joined together to offer apprenticeship training programs to students in the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District and adult learners. Students can get first year post-secondary certification and apprenticeship training in one year and with no tuition fees! Programs include: Cooks training, Hairdressing, Carpentry, Metal Fabrication, Mechanics and Electrical .Ron Lancaster at 604-466-8409 Local 1548

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<http://www.sd42.ca/district-partnership-programs>

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This resource guide has been compiled by members of the **Life After School Transition Committee**: Deb Appleby, Dennis Lacroix, Sherri Thomas, Margaret Ickert, Gail Finnon, Roger Larmor, Devon Clayton, Gertie Goudswaard, Kristy Rogge, Amanda Levesque, Risha Golby and Gwen Champagne who together represent Parents, School District 42, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Community Services, the Chamber of Commerce, Bowman Employment Services and Triumph Employment. The committee is honoured to have the support and endorsement of Mayor Ernie Daykin of Maple Ridge, Mayor Don MacLean of Pitt Meadows and Dean Barbour, Executive Director, Ridge Meadows Chamber of Commerce.

The material in this guide has been adapted from:

- Your Future Now: A Transition Planning & Resource Guide
- The Cross-Ministry Transition Planning Protocol for Youth with Special Needs

Both these resources can be viewed at:

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/adulthood.htm

Feedback: let us know how this Resource Guide has helped you and/or what you would like to see added; or to request additional copies - please contact Dennis Lacroix.

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