

## The BC Care Aide & Community Health Worker Registry

You may have heard of the BC Care Aide & Community Health Worker Registry. This is a new initiative to register all care aides and community health workers in BC. The registry is a result of an agreement between the Ministry of Health Services and the Health Employers Assoc. of BC (HEABC) and is part of the contractual agreements between health authorities and service providers.

The intent of the registry is to:

- To protect vulnerable patients, residents and clients.
- To establish and improve standards of care in the Care Aide and Community Health Worker occupations.
- To promote professional development for Care Aides and Community Health Workers and to assist these workers in identifying career opportunities.

Agencies that receive public funds are now required to hire only credentialed, or "registered", care aides and community health workers. These employers must log into the registry and confirm that their employees are registered.

Paula Grant, Director, Quality Assurance, Community Living BC (CLBC) says the registry is **NOT** part of CLBC's contractual agreements with service providers.

According to Bruce Bell, the Project Manager for the registry, Microboards are **NOT** required to hire only credentialed or registered care aides and community health workers, even if the Microboard receives funding from the Ministry of Health.