



www.nidus.ca

FAQ

■ How do I register?

Go to www.nidus.ca and complete the on-screen forms. Or get help from an Authorized Registration Agent: a Notary Public, lawyer, or designated staff at community organizations.

■ How much does Nidus charge to register?

Set-up and first registration: \$25

Subsequent registrations for the same person: \$10 each

No annual fee.

■ Who can access my information?

Hospitals can access Nidus in an emergency to locate your legal Representative for health care. Other third parties that you authorize, such as banks and government services, may also have access. You decide. The public does not have access to the registry.

document can both be accessed electronically. As well, contact information in the notice form can be updated online; for example, you can change an address if your Attorney moves. Nidus also retains all previous registrations so you have a historical and current record of your plans.

“In the past,” says McFeely, “if I wanted to revoke my Power of Attorney or Representation Agreement, I would have to consider every bank, broker, insurance office, and Land Title Office where it might have been registered. With the Nidus eRegistry™, these institutions will be able to check if the document with which they are presented may have been revoked and replaced by a new one. This new source of information for institutions and added protection offered to the consumer by Nidus is exceptional.”

From a practice point of view, the Nidus eRegistry™ offers added value to client services. It provides a way to reconnect with previous clients who may want to update their plans as well as register them. For current clients, registration becomes the final step in the preparation of personal planning documents. Promotion of the registry will also attract new clients. Notaries Public can sign up as a Nidus Registration Agent through Juricert at www.juricert.com.

Nidus, Latin for nest, is a secure 24-hour repository for your plans and wishes. Visit the Nidus eRegistry™ at www.nidus.ca. ▲

Joanne Taylor is Executive Director of the Representation Agreement Resource Centre. For more information on the Registry and on personal planning tools, contact RARC.

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Editor's

Dear Readers:

The staff and contributing authors of *The Scrivener* magazine wish you health and prosperity for the New Year. This is the time to *start fresh*. Step in—rise to the challenges of 2003 and commence new projects with vigour. Best wishes for your continued success!

Next Issue

Spring 2003

Mentoring, Coaching, and Role Modelling



The Spring issue will focus on people who coach, mentor, and serve as role models to guide others. Our Cover Story personality is Jay Chalke, BC's Public Guardian and Trustee. The course of his professional journey was cast long ago through his father's fine example and encouragement.

Display Advertising Opportunity!

Showcase *your* business to the allied professionals who read *The Scrivener*. For information, please call **604 985-9250** or email: scrivener@notaries.bc.ca.

Advertising Deadline:

February 20, 2003

Carolynne R. Maguire



The Powers that Be

Third in a series of three articles dedicated to the field of real property conveyancing, the area of law primarily concerned with the transfer of interests in real estate.

The first two articles in this series invited practitioners and land title agents to forecast the future of conveyancing with a view toward the impending Electronic Filing System (EFS) for the Land Title Office (LTO). Speculation and apprehension exist among members of both groups, due to the absence of a complete picture of the manner in which coming procedures will actually play out in everyday routines. After all, the new mechanics of and responsibilities associated with forms completion, delivery, execution, coordination, filing, examination, registration, and storage are currently known only to a select few.

Seeking clarification from the powers that be, I met with each of three gentlemen involved and influential in the design and delivery of the EFS: Darcy Hammett, Director of Operations and Systems for the Land Title Branch (LTB) of the BC Ministry of Sustainable Resources Management; Ron Usher, Law Society of BC Staff Lawyer and VP/CIO of Juricert Services Inc.; and Wayne Braid, Executive Director of The Society of Notaries Public of BC.

Given his dual role with the Law Society and Juricert, Usher has an abundant knowledge of practice opportunities and trends in the legal field. He empathizes with the general apprehension on the part of practitioners and agents as being both understandable and expected in the absence of complete information. Ultimately, however, he believes these concerns will soon be addressed, and stem mostly from a “workflow problem,” wherein areas of responsibility must yet be clarified, perhaps even re-allocated, but not necessarily deleted.

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Braid’s involvement on the Electronic Filing Committee (EFC), a brain trust of representatives from the conveyancing industry professions and government, has been relatively recent. Given the importance of conveyancing to the practices of many Notaries, however, his appreciation for the impact of the EFS is no less acute. One of the mandates of the EFC has been to maintain as much as possible the integrity of the current conveyancing process in the migration to e-filing. Braid speculates, however, “that

the responsibility of the practitioner attaching his or her digital signature to the document will likely be increased as a new role is created, being neither Applicant nor Certifying Officer.”

This issue of shifting roles and responsibilities among conveyancing industry participants still seems to be a matter for speculation. Usher volunteers that agents should be recognized for their specialized and thorough knowledge of LTO procedure, and that those willing to step up will find a place in the process. Braid similarly comments that the new system may bring increased efficiencies but should not do so at the expense of involvement by the people who add value to the process.

Usher and Braid agree that the current system of conveyancing in BC is already robust, efficient and, in comparison with most other jurisdictions, very economical for the consumer. In the face of LTO staff cutbacks, however, the EFS is inevitable as a means of “outsourcing keystrokes” and shifting government costs to the private sector. The governance of both Law and Notary Societies, therefore, supports the concept while proactively advocating for a continued role for legal professionals.

For years now, both Notaries and lawyers have participated actively with the LTB throughout the EFS design phases. With roll-out slated for Spring