

### **Rights Restriction Review Committee (RRRC)**

We are excited to share information about a new committee – The Rights Restriction Review Committee – which will assist service provider agencies in Manitoba in their efforts to promote & protect the rights of the people they serve. This group is a consortium of service providers and community members and will be supported and coordinated by Inclusion Winnipeg.

All citizens may experience rights restrictions from time-to-time. This may occur when we fail to act responsibly while exercising our rights and we break the law. Or, it may occur when the government takes action to protect all citizens, like the restrictions that were imposed during the pandemic.

However, for a variety of reasons, Manitobans labelled with an intellectual disability are more likely to experience rights restrictions than non-disabled citizens. Sometimes rights restrictions are imposed to keep people safe from serious harm. At other times though, people may be restricted without good reason... due to historic bias, misconceptions about competency, systemic prejudice and/or fears regarding risk and liability. Examples of rights restrictions include limitations or restrictions on where people are able to go, who they see, or what they eat or drink.

Given this, it is important that agencies providing support services work diligently to promote and protect the rights of the people they serve. One of the ways they can do this is by ensuring that any rights restriction they impose is validated through an objective, due process review.

When service providers have restricted, or are contemplating restricting, a person's rights, they have a responsibility to make sure that:

- a) They have worked tirelessly to find other solutions to keep people safe and free from harm that do not impact their rights – all rights restrictions should be a last resort.
- b) There is a valid reason for doing so - confirmed via objective due process review

This document is available in alternative formats.

For assistance please contact (204) 786-1414

- c) There is a clear plan for the reduction and eventual removal of the restriction – all rights restrictions should be considered temporary

To support service provider agencies in Manitoba with the independent, objective due-process review, Inclusion Winnipeg has agreed to host the Rights Restriction Review Committee (RRRC)

Service provider agencies will be invited to voluntarily refer existing / proposed rights restrictions for review by this committee.

The primary role of the RRRC will be:

- To promote and protect the rights of people supported by service providers in Manitoba, guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Canadian Human Rights Act, the Manitoba Human Rights Code, the Adults Living with an Intellectual Disability Act and the Accessibility for Manitobans Act.
- To provide independent, objective, due process review when an agency voluntarily refers a proposed or enduring rights restriction regarding someone they support.
- To provide feedback and recommendations to the agency regarding the proposed rights restrictions.

The Committee will be comprised of at least 12 people from a variety of backgrounds, including:

- People that receive support services
- Family members of people that receive support services
- People with experience providing direct support services
- People with professional experience that would be helpful in these reviews (medical / clinical, legal, cultural / spiritual, regulatory, academic, etc)

Committee members will receive an orientation to relevant Federal & Provincial legislation, Human Rights law, guiding principles & values and the review procedures. In addition, they will sign a confidentiality pledge and receive training on the Inclusion Winnipeg policies related to the safeguarding of personal

This document is available in alternative formats.

For assistance please contact (204) 786-1414

information (based on the Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA))

The full committee will meet on a bi-monthly basis (at least initially) with in-person and virtual participation options available.

Rights restriction review panels (comprised of only 3 or 5 committee members) may be scheduled more frequently based on referral volume.