

Dear Sandy,

If you are reading this letter now it means that Heli has been offered and has accepted the opportunity to exercise her rights and that she is currently in a place of Refuge where she will be afforded the information and help she requires, without pressure or fear of any repercussions, to indicate her wishes for now and for her future. In the knowledge that she is suffering from AD / dementia, she has been given a note in the style of Dr. Chisbolm with just two very brief items written on it to assist her in making a meaningful choice.

Heli has not been 'kidnapped', is not being held against her will, she is safe in competent hands and has voluntarily consented to the action taken. According to the Police there is no law to say that a woman cannot be away from her home in the company of 'friends' whatever her husband might think. On the contrary, a Canadian citizen is free to choose where they go and who they see and Heli's condition has in no way excluded her from such freedoms.

Heli's whereabouts is known to a number of people who are now au fait not only with your point of view but also with that of the family in the UK. Whatever the outcome of today's events, we as a family have agreed to respect Heli's wishes as we always have done and we trust you and Carol will do the same.

Over the last 18 months, we have become very concerned about Heli's health, happiness and well being and to that end considerable professional effort, time and money has been put in to investigate your affairs over the last few years in so far as these have impacted on Heli's welfare - that is to say, we are not interested in the way you choose to live your life but we have had to be concerned at the effect these choices have had on Heli. As a result of these inquiries, we now have sufficient evidence in our possession to enable us to pursue our paramount aim of safeguarding Heli's rights and interests. It has been suggested by a professional formally involved in Heli's care that the correct course of action would be to make use of the Adult Protection Act of 1986, and this recommendation, following receipt of certain documentation, has been repeated to us very recently and independently by someone actively, and fairly regularly, involved with you. We had to explain yet again, why after thorough examination of the APA, we were previously unable to make use of this admirable piece of legislation and how, due to a major flaw in its drafting, vulnerable adults in Heli's situation are allowed to slip through the net. Once the loophole became apparent, we had to temporarily accept that to pursue action along these lines would no doubt make Heli's position worse rather than

better due to the fact that any investigation under the terms of the Act, has to be preceded by at least four days notice of a home visit being made.

Following extensive enquiries and citing Heli's case as an example, we were made aware of another avenue open to vulnerable adults which allows for the allegedly abused person to make their own complaint but which route presupposes the allegedly abused person knowing not only their rights as enshrined in the Canadian Citizens' Charter but also how to exercise them. Assuming they have this knowledge they then require the opportunity and the ability to make contact on their own behalf with the appropriate authority.

Heli is now being given the opportunity to make important decisions for herself. And now I suggest you do what I am doing and sit back and wait for Heli to tell all of us who are concerned for her welfare what she wants., following which I think you and I have some very serious talking to do. I trust that, for Heli's sake, this will be conducted in a civilised and adult manner.

Marek.