

PARENTAL CONSENT ALBERTA

Ensuring the Parents' Voice in Their
Children's Sexuality and Gender Development

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Pertinent Parental Rights, Roles, Responsibilities and Powers, Set Out in Alberta Family Law Act, Now Compromised in Areas of Sexuality and Gender Childrearing

[Alberta Family Law Act s.21 \(5 and 6\)](#)

Except where otherwise limited by law, including a parenting order, each guardian has the following powers and responsibilities in respect of the child and shall exercise them in a manner consistent with the evolving capacity of the child:

- (a) to nurture the child's physical, psychological and emotional development and to guide the child towards independent adulthood;
- (b) to ensure the child has the necessities of life, including medical care, food, clothing and shelter;
- (c) to make day to day decisions affecting the child, including having the day to day care and control of the child and supervising the child's daily activities;
- (d) to decide the child's place of residence and to change the child's place of residence;
- (e) to make decisions about the child's education, including the nature, extent and place of education and any participation in extracurricular school activities;
- (f) to make decisions regarding the child's cultural, linguistic, religious and spiritual upbringing and heritage;
- (g) to decide with whom the child is to live and with whom the child is to associate;
- (h) to decide whether the child should work and, if so, the nature and extent of the work, for whom the work is to be done and related matters;
- (i) to consent to medical, dental and other health-related treatment for the child;
- (j) to grant or refuse consent where consent of a parent or guardian is required by law in any application, approval, action, proceeding or other matter;
- (k) to receive and respond to any notice that a parent or guardian is entitled or required by law to receive;

- (l) subject to the [Minors' Property Act](#) and the [Public Trustee Act](#), to commence, defend, compromise or settle any legal proceedings relating to the child and to compromise or settle any proceedings taken against the child;
- (m) to appoint a person to act on behalf of the guardian in an emergency situation or where the guardian is temporarily absent because of illness or other reason;
- (n) to receive from third parties health, education and other information that may significantly affect the child;
- (o) to exercise any other powers reasonably necessary to carry out the responsibilities of guardianship.