



Westcoast Association of Visual Language Interpreters

P.O. Box 41542
923 - 12th Street
New Westminster, BC V3M 6L1

email: wavli@wavli.com
website: www.wavli.com

FAQs – B.C. Occupational Title Protection

B.C. has Occupational Title Protection-what is it?

Occupational Title Protection is part of the British Columbia (B.C.) Society Act, which grants title protection to different occupations in B.C. as a way of protecting consumers, assuring them the professional hired/contracted has the knowledge and ability to provide a specific service.

The Westcoast Association of Visual Language Interpreters (WAVLI) has been granted the rights to the following titles:

- Registered ASL-English Interpreter, or
- Registered Sign Language Interpreter, or
- Registered Visual Language Interpreter

Because these titles are registered with the province of B.C., an interpreter working in B.C. using one of the above titles is required to be a member of the WAVLI.

What qualifications does a registered interpreter in B.C. have?

A registered interpreter working in B.C. will be a WAVLI member, who has graduated from a recognized interpreter education program and adheres to the *AVLIC Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct*. Recognized programs include: Douglas College - B.C., Lakeland College - AB, Red River College/University of Manitoba - MB, George Brown College – ON, and Nova Scotia Community College – NS.

Does membership to another Affiliate Chapter qualify me to work in B.C.?

No. Under the provincial Society Act rules, an interpreter working in B.C. using any one of the three registered titles must be a WAVLI member. Membership in another Affiliate Chapter is not sufficient.

Does the AVLIC Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct apply to WAVLI members?

Yes

Does the AVLIC Dispute Resolution Process apply to WAVLI members?

No, oversight of professional standards under the Society Act is provincial. Disputes are handled, using the process outlined in WAVLI By-Law 5.0.

For more information, contact professionalstandards@wavli.com