

Important notice on beneficiary designations in Quebec – minor beneficiaries and beneficiaries who lack legal capacity

A Quebec Superior Court ruling has clarified the law about beneficiary designations in Quebec. **This ruling affects you if you live in Quebec and your beneficiary is either a minor or a person who lacks legal capacity.**

You may have used an insurance form to designate a trustee, administrator or other third party to receive any group life insurance benefit that becomes payable to your minor beneficiary or to your beneficiary who lacks legal capacity. In light of this court ruling, your designation on the insurance form is not sufficient for Great-West Life to pay the benefit to the trustee, administrator or other third party. **Instead, Great-West will pay any valid group life insurance benefit to your beneficiary's legal tutor(s) or curator as determined under Quebec law.** For a minor, legal tutor(s) are typically the minor's parents, or where a parent has died, the surviving parent.

If this is not in accordance with your wishes and you want a person other than the legal tutor(s) or curator to receive and administer any benefit payable to the minor beneficiary or beneficiary who lacks legal capacity, you should seek legal advice. You may wish to discuss the following options with your legal counsel:

- You may wish to designate your estate as beneficiary for the group life insurance coverage and have your will provide for the extended administration of your liquidator(s) to administer the amount payable under the group life insurance coverage.
- You may wish to properly create a testamentary trust or a trust under a separate contract; the trustee will then be responsible for administering the group life insurance benefit for the minor or person who lacks legal capacity. After creating a valid trust, you would designate the trust as beneficiary on the insurance form.

If you would like to designate a beneficiary or change your beneficiary designation, please ask your plan administrator for the appropriate form, complete and submit it.

This notice is for general information only and should not be considered legal advice. Each person's situation is different, and if your beneficiary is a minor or a person who lacks legal capacity, you should review your options with your legal counsel.