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This document contains just a partial list of Federal and Provincial acts and legislation that may be applicable to organizations and individuals receiving services in the field of Community Disability Services

A complete list of Provincial acts, regulations and other products available through Queen's Printer is at <http://www.qp.alberta.ca/570.cfm>

Please report any broken links or errors in this document to accred@acds.ca

AB COMMUNITY DISABILITY SERVICES

Alberta's Social Policy Framework

Alberta's [Social Policy Framework](#) is meant to be a living document that provides broad, overall direction for social policy in Alberta. Part of its purpose is to be part of the ongoing dialogue between individuals, service providers, community organizations and the non-profit sector to ensure that Albertans who need help have access to it.

Building Families and Communities Act

The [Building Families and Communities Act](#) was proclaimed in December 2013 for the purpose of creating Family and Community Engagement Councils to replace the Child and Family Service Authorities and PDD boards. As part of Alberta's Social Policy Framework, the Act is meant to provide a way for communities, governments, business, non-profits and families to work together to solve social challenges.

Family and Community Support Services Act

The [Family and Community Support Services Act](#) promotes and governs the establishment, administration and operation of support services facilities and programs. The Act also promotes participation in these programs by community members and volunteers, the efficient and effective use of resources, and co-operations with allied service agencies.

Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) Foundation Act

The [PDD Foundation Act](#) provides the guidelines for the PDD Foundation to undertake, support and promote activities that will enhance the quality of life of Albertans with developmental disabilities.

Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) Services Act

The [PDD Services Act](#) supports the rights of Albertans with developmental disabilities, recognizes and supports communities responding to the needs of this population and ensures the provision of programs, resources and services. This Act includes a [Developmental Disabilities Regulation](#) that defines developmental disability in regards to intellectual capacity and adaptive skills.

Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities Act

The activities and powers of the [Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities](#) are outlined in this [Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities Act](#).

Service Dogs Act

The [Service Dogs Act](#) ensures that persons who require service dogs have access to public places without discrimination.

Social Care Facilities Review Committee Act

The [Social Care Facilities Review Committee Act](#) directs the work of a [provincial committee](#) (i.e., citizens' panel) whose members review the quality of services provided in social care facilities.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Child and Youth Advocate Act

The [Child and Youth Advocate Act](#) ensures that the rights, interests and viewpoints of the most vulnerable children and youth in provincial government systems are considered in matters affecting them.

Children First Act

The purpose of the [Children First Act](#) was to enhance supports and protection for Alberta children. The publication of the Act was accompanied by [An Introduction to Bill 25, Children First Act](#).

Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act

The [Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act](#) supports the development and well-being of Alberta's children, youth and families while keeping them safe and protected (e.g., through services to families before they reach crisis; permanent homes for children in government care; increased access to adoption information; the involvement of First Nations, Métis and other Aboriginal communities in planning for their children).

Drug-Endangered Children Act

The [Drug-Endangered Children Act](#) supports the safety, security and well-being of children who are exposed to the illegal manufacturing of drugs, indoor cannabis grow operations, trafficking and other forms of illegal drug activity. Such activities are classified as abuse.

Family and Community Support Services Act

The Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Program receives its mandate from the [Family and Community Support Services Act](#) and Regulation. The Regulation sets out the service requirements that a municipality or Settlement must meet to be eligible for funding.

Family Support for Children with Disabilities Act

The [Family Support for Children with Disabilities Act](#) ensures that family-centred support and services empower and preserve families of children with disabilities. The Act also encourages an integrated, inclusive and multi-disciplinary approach to meeting the needs of children with disabilities.

Mandatory Reporting of Child Pornography Act

The [Mandatory Reporting of Child Pornography Act](#) requires any person who has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that a representation or material is child pornography to immediately report the matter.

Protection Against Family Violence Act

The [Protection Against Family Violence Act](#) protects victims of family violence from further violence, holds violent family members accountable for their actions and the consequences of their actions and seeks action to break the cycle of family violence.

Protection of Children Abusing Drugs Act

The [Protection of Children Abusing Drugs Act](#) is directed towards families and communities that are attempting to help children overcome drug and alcohol abuse.

Protection of Sexually Exploited Children Act

The [Protection of Sexually Exploited Children Act](#) regulates programs and services that are in place to help children end their involvement in prostitution.

FACILITIES: LICENSING

Companies Act

The [Companies Act](#) regulates the workings of [non-profit companies](#) and states the legal limits within which companies may do their business.

Social Care Facilities Licensing Act

The [Social Care Facilities Licensing Act](#) governs the licensing of facilities that provide social care to or accommodation for four or more persons. Facilities may apply for exemptions under specific subsections. The Act does not apply to facilities that are licensed according to other Acts (e.g., nursing homes, approved hospitals, supportive living accommodations).

Societies Act

The [Societies Act](#) regulates [societies](#) incorporated in Alberta. Any group can decide whether or not to incorporate under the *Societies Act*; however, public perception is that incorporated societies have a more permanent status. An [Application to Form a Society](#) is available online.

Supportive Living Accommodation Licensing Act

The [Supportive Living Accommodation Licensing Act](#) (*SLALA*) applies to the operation of [supportive living accommodations](#) that have four or more adults who are not related to the operator. The Act does not apply to facilities that are licensed according to other Acts (e.g., nursing homes, approved hospitals, social care facilities).

FACILITIES: PHYSICAL BUILDING

Alberta Building Codes and Standards

The [Alberta Building Codes and Standards](#) governs the structural safety of buildings, defines the legal requirements to protect the public and provides guidelines for structural, electrical, plumbing and mechanical areas of a structure.

Plumbing Codes and Standards

The [Plumbing Code Regulation](#) outlines the standards for the design, installation and inspection of building plumbing and sanitary systems.

Safety Codes Act

The [Safety Codes Act](#) applies to safety in relation to the design, manufacture, construction, installation, operation and maintenance of buildings and their various systems (e.g., electrical, gas, elevating, plumbing, private sewage disposal, pressure equipment).

FINANCIAL

Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Act

The [Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Act](#) is the guideline for providing financial and health-related assistance to eligible adults with a disability.

Charitable Fund-Raising Act

The [Charitable Fund-Raising Act](#) ensures that Albertans have sufficient information to make informed decisions when making charitable contributions; to protect them from fraudulent, misleading or confusing solicitations; and to establish standards for charitable organizations and fund-raising businesses when making solicitations.

Disability-Related Employment Supports and Services Regulation

The [Disability-Related Employment Supports and Services Regulation](#) is part of the [Income and Employment Supports Act](#) and is the guideline for providing disability-related employment supports and services.

Employment Pension Plans Act

The [Employment Pension Plans Act](#) governs pension plans in Alberta by setting minimum standards for funding and benefits. It is administered through the Government of Alberta's Finance ministry and should not be confused with federal plans, such as the [Canada Pension Plan](#), [Old Age Security](#), and the [Guaranteed Income Supplement](#). The Canadian Bar Association has published an [article](#) to explain changes to the Act, also known as Bill 10.

Results-Based Budgeting Act

The [Results-Based Budgeting Act](#) guides the Government of Alberta in reviewing and reporting on programs or services to assess whether the organizations operating these programs and services meet their intended objectives and deliver the services in an efficient and effective manner.

Seniors Benefit Act

The [Seniors Benefit Act](#) allows for benefits to be payable to seniors who are eligible under the regulations of this Act.

Trustee Act

The [Trustee Act](#) governs the actions and responsibilities of persons entrusted with the finances and corresponding decisions of another.

HEALTH, WELLNESS AND SAFETY

Alberta Health Act

The [Alberta Health Act](#) came into force on January 1, 2014. The Act sets out Alberta's commitment to the principles of the [Canada Health Act](#). The Act also calls for the adoption of a health charter and a health advocate.

Alberta Health Care Insurance Act

The [Alberta Health Care Insurance Act](#) provides the guidelines under which the province operates a publicly administered and funded health care system that guarantees Albertans receive access to medically necessary hospital and health care services.

Canada Health Act

The [Canada Health Act](#) sets the criteria and conditions for insured health care services and the national standards that provinces and territories must meet in order to get federal funding from [Canada Health and Social Transfer](#) (CHST).

Criminal Record Checks and Vulnerable Sector Checks

[Criminal Record Checks](#) and [Vulnerable Sector Checks](#) help ensure the safety and security of vulnerable Albertans by determining whether potential employees are suitable to work with these populations.

Fatal Accidents Act and Fatality Inquiries Act

The [Fatal Accidents Act](#) addresses death caused by a wrongful act, neglect or default that would, if death had not ensued, have entitled the injured party to maintain action and recover damages. Also see [Fatality Inquiries Act](#).

Health Information Act

The [Health Information Act](#) protects the privacy and confidentiality of individuals' health information, enables information to be shared and accessed according to specific guidelines, governs the use of information and provides individuals with the right to access and amend health records that are held in the custody of others.

Mental Health Act

The [Mental Health Act](#) provides safeguards, supports and supervision for individuals with mental health issues.

Missing Persons Act

The [Missing Persons Act](#) grants police access to personal information about persons who have been reported as missing.

Occupational Health and Safety Act

The [Occupational Health and Safety Act](#) is enforced by Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), applies to most workers and employers in Alberta and sets standards for the protection of workers throughout the province. Also see [OHS Code Explanation Guide](#).

PDD Safety Standards

The [PDD Safety Standards Regulation](#) is the legislation behind the [PDD Safety Standards](#) that apply wherever regularly scheduled overnight staff support unrelated adults with developmental disabilities who live in a permanent residence. This Regulation does not apply to overnight staffed residences with individuals who are related, to facilities licensed under the [Supportive Living Accommodation Licensing Act](#) (SLALA), or to family-managed services or respite services. **Note:** Effective April 1, 2015, service providers must ensure residential compliance to the following codes and bylaws to meet Standard 8: *Public Health Act*, *Safety Codes Act*, Fire Safety Inspection, and Zoning Approval. Ref.: Alberta Human Services' [Information Guide](#), Section 3, Standard 8, page 1.

Protection for Persons in Care Act

The [Protection for Persons in Care Act](#) (PPCA) addresses abuse prevention, requires the reporting of abuse involving clients who are unable to protect themselves and provides for an independent review of allegations of abuse.

Public Health Act

The [Public Health Act](#) governs the provision of public health services in the province.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND EMPLOYMENT

Employment Equity Act

The [Employment Equity Act](#) was created to achieve equality in the workplace for all Canadians.

Employment Standards Code

The [Employment Standards Code](#) governs matters affecting non-unionized employees such as hours of work and rest; overtime, vacation and general holiday pay; termination; deductions; etc. Also see the [Employment Standards](#) website.

Health Professions Act

The [Health Professions Act](#) provides guidelines and has individual regulations for many professions that serve within Community Disability Services. A partial list includes Licensed Practical Nurses and Registered Nurses, Occupational and Physical Therapists, Pharmacy Technicians, Psychologists, Registered Dietitians and Nutritionists, Respiratory Therapists, Social Workers and Speech-Language Pathologists.

Income and Employment Supports Act

The [Income and Employment Supports Act](#) provides programs for Albertans unable to meet their requirements for food, shelter, personal items and medical; for other benefits essential to their health and well-being; and, in particular, for training and other measures to facilitate their movement toward independence and self-sufficiency.

Labour Relations Legislation

The [Labour Relations Code](#) governs the labour relations of unionized employees in the province and is the code for trade union bargaining rights, certification, collective bargaining and unfair labour practices.

Public Service Employee Relations Act

The [Public Service Employee Relations Act](#) provides the guidelines for trade union and bargaining units, collective bargaining, resolution of disputes, unfair practices, etc.

Workers' Compensation Legislation

The [Workers' Compensation Board](#) (WCB) reduces the impact of workplace illness and injury on Albertans. Some of the legislation that applies under WCB includes the [Workers' Compensation Act](#) and its [Regulation](#), the [Special Payment Act](#), the [Blind Workers' Compensation Act](#) and the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#).

HUMAN RIGHTS

Abuse Prevention and Response Protocol

The [Abuse Prevention and Response Protocol](#) addresses the prevention of abuse to vulnerable adults and the response to allegations of abuse towards adults in environments funded directly or indirectly by PDD. This protocol is meant to be an enhancement to existing regional processes, and is an assurance of provincial consistency in safeguarding adults with disabilities.

Age of Majority Act

The [Age of Majority Act](#) sets the age at which a child becomes an adult. A child who reaches the age of majority, which is 18 in Alberta, is able to enter into valid contracts without parental consent.

Alberta Bill of Rights

The [Alberta Bill of Rights](#) outlines the rights and freedoms of Albertans relating to any matter that comes within the legislative authority of the Legislature of Alberta.

Alberta Human Rights Act

The [Alberta Human Rights Act](#) governs the operations of the [Alberta Human Rights Commission](#) and protects Albertans from discrimination. Its purpose is to ensure recognition of the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all Albertans.

Blind Persons' Rights Act

The [Blind Persons' Rights Act](#) recognizes the rights of Albertans who are blind, including individuals who use guide dogs. The Act permits blind Albertans accompanied by qualified guide dogs to access all public places in the province.

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* is Part I of the [Constitution Act, 1982](#) and provides protection for what are considered basic rights and freedoms of Canadians including the right to “equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination.”

Canadian Human Rights Act and Commission

The [Canadian Human Rights Commission](#) administers the [Canadian Human Rights Act](#) and ensures compliance with the [Employment Equity Act](#) (i.e., to ensure that all Canadians have equal opportunities to have lives consistent with their abilities and wishes, to have their needs accommodated and to abide by their duties and obligations as members of society).

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

The [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#) (*FOIP*) addresses the rights of individuals to access information about themselves that is in the custody or control of a public body. *FOIP* also provides public bodies with a framework within which they must conduct the collection, use and disclosure of personal information. It also coordinates the province-wide administration of Alberta's [Personal Information Protection Act](#) (*PIPA*) and assists private sector organizations that are subject to the Act.

Human Rights Program

The [Human Rights Program](#) is a part of Canadian Heritage. Its purpose is to promote the awareness, understanding, respect for and enjoyment of human rights in Canada through educational and promotional activities involving the public, educators, non-governmental organizations, government departments and others. The Human Rights Program cannot consider complaints concerning individual cases of alleged human rights violations and cannot give legal advice concerning such cases.

Personal Information Protection Act

The [Personal Information Protection Act](#) governs the collection, use and disclosure of personal information by organizations in a manner that recognizes both the right of individuals to protect their personal information and the need of organizations to obtain and use personal information to provide services.

Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act

The [Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act](#) is federal legislation that establishes rules to govern the collection, use and disclosure of personal information in any format.

LEGAL AND JUSTICE

Adult Guardianship and Trusteeship Act

The [Adult Guardianship and Trusteeship Act](#) and its [Regulations](#) provides options and safeguards to protect vulnerable adults who need assistance with or are no longer able to make all of their own decisions. It provides a range of decision making options from less intrusive options, such as supported decision making or co-decision making, to full guardianship and trusteeship.

Alberta Justice and Solicitor General

The [Alberta Justice and Solicitor General](#) website provides information about Alberta's justice system and its major participants, including the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General, and it has links to publications, programs and services, the Human Rights Commission, etc.

Canada's Criminal Code

The [Criminal Code](#) of Canada addresses conduct that causes harm to others and is considered to be serious enough to warrant a criminal record and punishment.

Enduring Powers of Attorney and Power of Attorney Act

An [Enduring Powers of Attorney](#) (POA) is legally-binding document prepared in advanced to appoint someone to make financial and legal decisions on another person's behalf should that person become mentally incapacitated. "Enduring" means the document can take effect or continue after the owner becomes mentally incapacitated. The [Powers of Attorney Act](#) provides the guidelines for Albertans to prepare a POA and/or act in the capacity of the appointed agent.

Legislative Assembly of Alberta

The [Legislative Assembly of Alberta](#)'s website has links to Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and Assembly Documents and Records (i.e., the Hansard or House Transcripts).

Office of the Public Guardian

The [Office of the Public Guardian](#) (OPG) provides decision-making mechanisms for Albertans who are unable to make personal, non-financial decisions for themselves, and administers the [Personal Directive Registry](#) and the [Adult Guardianship and Trusteeship](#) Registry.

Personal Directives and Personal Directives Act

A [Personal Directive](#) is a legally-binding document prepared in advanced to appoint someone to make personal decisions on another person's behalf should that person become mentally incapacitated. The [Personal Directives Act](#) provides the guidelines for Albertans to prepare a personal directive and outlines the service provider's specific responsibilities when a personal directive comes into effect.

Residential Tenancies Act

The [Residential Tenancies Act](#) outlines the rights and responsibilities of [landlords and tenants](#) in Alberta.

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