



The VOICE of Albertans with Disabilities

December 1, 2022

Human Rights Commission

<https://albertahumanrights.ab.ca/about/Pages/about.aspx>

About the Commission

In Alberta, the Alberta Human Rights Act protects Albertans from discrimination in certain areas based on specified grounds. The purpose of the Alberta Human Rights Act is to ensure that all Albertans are offered an equal opportunity to earn a living, find a place to live, and enjoy services customarily available to the public without discrimination.

The Alberta Human Rights Act establishes the Alberta Human Rights Commission to carry out functions under the act. The Commission is an independent commission created by the Government of Alberta. The Minister of Justice and Solicitor General is responsible for the Commission.

The Commission has a two-fold mandate: to foster equality and to reduce discrimination. It fulfills this mandate through public education and community initiatives, through the resolution and settlement of complaints of discrimination, and through human rights tribunal and court hearings.

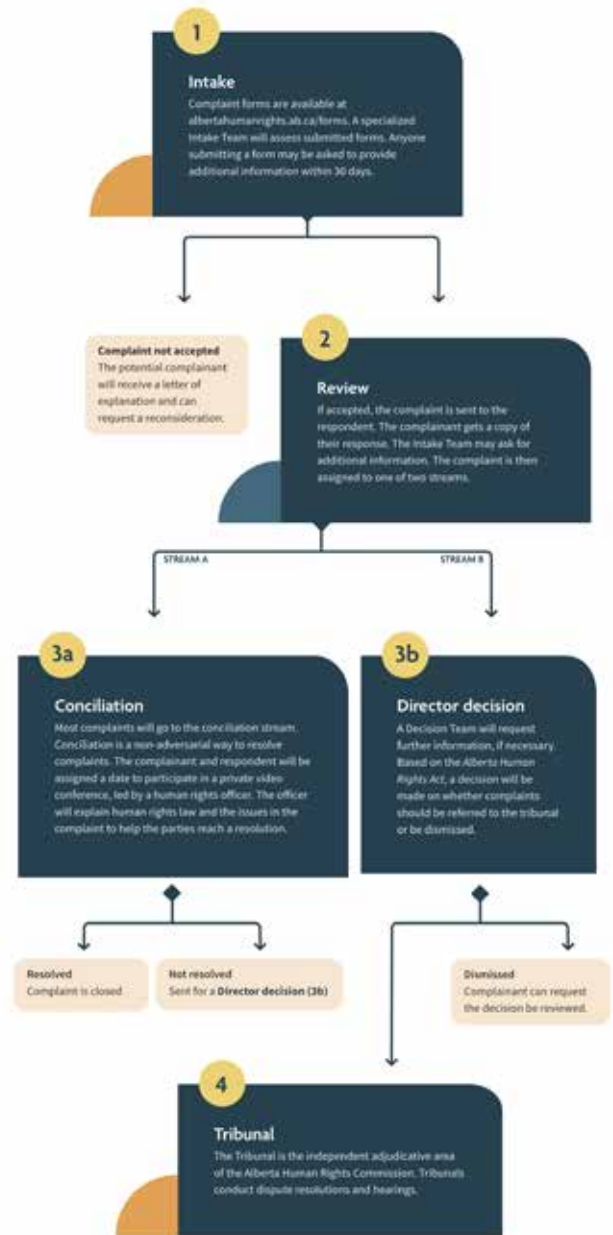
The Chief of the Commission and Tribunals and members of the Commission are appointed by Order in Council. As the head of the Commission, the Chief of the Commission and Tribunals is responsible for keeping the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General informed about human rights issues, providing the members of the Commission with guidance regarding their tribunal hearings and other functions, and providing the director with guidance regarding the overall goals and direction of the Commission. In addition, the Chief of the Commission and Tribunals undertakes other related activities.

The Chief of the Commission and Tribunals reviews appeals of decisions made by the director to dismiss complaints. The Chief of the Commission and Tribunals also appoints members of the Commission to serve on human rights tribunals that hold public hearings into

Complaint resolution

Guiding principles for the complaint process:

- strive to close as many complaints as we receive in a year
- resolve complaints in a timely, effective, and fair manner
- address public interest issues, including systemic discrimination
- learn from past projects and processes to streamline steps, emphasize conciliation, maintain firm deadlines, and use specialized teams.





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human rights complaints. The primary purpose of the tribunals in relation to complaint resolution and settlement is adjudicative.

An appointed director and employees handle the administrative responsibilities related to the resolution and settlement of complaints made under the Alberta Human Rights Act. This work is separate and distinct from the work of the Chief of the Commission and Tribunals in reviewing appeals and the work of the members of the Commission in adjudicating human rights complaints. In keeping with the purposes of the act, the director and employees also provide public information and education and consultation services, engage in community initiatives and undertake other related activities.

Making, responding to, and resolving human rights complaints

In Alberta, if a person has a reasonable basis to believe they have experienced discrimination related to a protected ground, they can make a human rights complaint to the Alberta Human Rights Commission. Once a complaint is made, the Commission will work with the parties to resolve the complaint.

This section provides a general overview of the Commission’s human rights complaint process, including what is involved in making a complaint and how to respond if a complaint is made against you.

Making a complaint

The person who is making the human rights complaint is called the complainant.

Responding to a complaint

Once a human rights complaint is made to the Commission, the person or organization against whom the complaint is made, the respondent, is able to respond to the allegations.

Resolving a complaint

The Director of the Commission and their staff are responsible for helping to resolve

human rights complaints using the tools provided in the Alberta Human Rights Act: conciliation, investigation, and dismissal.

As part of the complaint resolution process, complainants and respondents are encouraged to find a resolution that is fair to both parties and in keeping with the Act. Parties will be asked to suggest how the matter might be resolved. Parties who would like to engage in settlement discussions to resolve the complaint are encouraged to do so at any time in the process.

The human rights complaint process allows the Commission to resolve complaints in a timely, effective, and fair manner.

IDPD

In an extraordinary provincial partnership, Cerebral Palsy Alberta, Easter Seals Alberta, Voice of Albertans with Disabilities, and countless other community organizers under the guidance of the Premier’s Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, have come together to host a virtual, province-wide, International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) event on December 3rd from 11 AM to 2 PM.



We have an exciting day planned full of showcases by crafters, gamers, singers, bakers, musicians, and more!

Registration is now open! Use the following link to REGISTER NOW to save your seat. Act fast, as there are limited tickets available.

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jB7u2KXpRs-Uhw6z-Zw7qA

The United Nations recognizes **International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD)** each year on December 3. This day increases awareness of diverse abilities and promotes inclusion for Albertans with disabilities.



Join us December 3 to increase awareness of diverse abilities and promote inclusion for Albertans with disabilities.

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“Showcasing, Celebrating, and Sharing”
 Celebrating International Day of Persons with Disabilities

 **THE PREMIER'S COUNCIL**
 ON THE STATUS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Join us on
December 3, 2022
11 am - 2 pm

Proudly supported by **Global NEWS**

Zoom: <https://bit.ly/IDPD2022>



CRA: Helping you get ready for new benefits and increased credit payments.

The Government of Canada has proposed new financial support measures to make life more affordable for Canadians.

- The proposed Canada Dental Benefit (<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/dental-benefit.html>) would provide financial support for eligible families earning less than \$90,000 per year. Parents and guardians with children under 12 years old may be eligible to receive up-front, direct payments totalling up to \$1,300 per child (up to \$650 per year) if they obtain dental care for which the parent has out of pocket costs and does not have access to a private dental insur-

ance plan.

- The proposed one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit (<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes/child-and-family-benefits/top-up-canada-housing-benefit.html>) would provide a \$500 payment to low-income renters facing housing affordability challenges. This benefit would be available to renters who had an adjusted net income for 2021 of \$35,000 or less for families, or \$20,000 or less for individuals, and pay at least 30 per cent of their adjusted net income on rent for their own principal residence in Canada.
- The government will also double the Goods and Services Tax Credit (GST Credit) (<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2022/09/making-life-more-affordable-doubling-the-goods-and-services-tax-credit-for-sixmonths.html>) for six months for those who receive it. Payments will



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be issued starting November 4, 2022. For GST Credit recipients who have already received a payment this year, there would be no need to apply for the additional payment. The additional GST Credit amount would be issued to eligible recipients automatically.

Pending Parliamentary approval and Royal Assent, applications for the new dental and housing benefits may be available by the end of the calendar year. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) is getting ready to deliver a smooth, secure and user-friendly experience.

We encourage you to take the following steps to ensure you can quickly receive the money you need for dental care and housing when applications open. Here is how you can get ready so you can get your money faster!

Sign up for My Account: (<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/e-services/e-services-individuals/account-individuals.html>)

My Account will be the quickest, easiest and most secure way for you to apply for the new proposed benefits. It also allows you to view and manage all of your tax information in one place. Register now using one of our convenient sign-in options.

If you are registered for ESDC's My Service Canada Account, you can securely access CRA's My Account without having to sign in or revalidate your identity. The link will take you directly to their CRA My Account within a single secure session, without having to sign in or register with My Account.

Sign up for direct deposit: If you are signed up for direct deposit, you can receive your payment within 5 business days! Sign up for direct deposit today in My Account or through many financial institutions.

Make sure your personal information is up to date: To make it easier to apply when the time comes, make sure your personal information such as their address, banking, marital status, and child information are up to date. You can quickly view and manage your personal information in My Account.

File your 2021 tax return: In order to receive the new proposed dental and housing benefits, you will need to make sure you have filed your 2021 tax return. Filing taxes is easy with the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (if eligible) or using NETFILE-certified software. You can also file online through a tax preparation service provider that is certified to use our EFILE service. https://www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes/income-tax/personal-income-tax/get-ready-taxes.html?utm_campaign=not-applicable&utm_medium=vanity-



[url&utm_source=canada-ca_doing-your-taxes](https://www.canada.ca/doing-your-taxes)

Your account security is our top priority!

The CRA continues to enhance the security of its digital services to further protect Canadians from fraudulent activity. When signing in or registering for My Account, you may notice security features such as multi-factor authentication and that you are required to provide an email address. These security enhancements will help you feel confident and safe using our digital services to view and manage your tax and benefit information.

My Account

View and manage your tax and benefit information online:

- check your benefit and credit payments
- view or change your return and track your refund
- view uncashed cheques from the CRA
- change your address and set up direct deposit
- view your RRSP limit and TFSA contribution room
- automatically fill in parts of your tax return
- receive email notifications and so much more!

You can access My Account by using one of our Sign-In Partners, creating a CRA user ID and password, or by using our provincial partner sign in (AB and BC only).

Steps to register	Sign-In Partners	CRA user ID and password	Provincial partner sign-in*
Provide: SIN, date of birth, postal code or ZIP code, current or previous tax return info	✓	✓	✗
Provide SIN only	✗	✗	✓
Provide an email address and enroll in multi-factor authentication	✓	✓	✓
Enter CRA security code for full access	✓	✓	✗

*Once you provide the necessary information, you automatically get full access to My Account.

To get started, go to: canada.ca/cra-my-account

Canada Revenue Agency / Agence du revenu du Canada

Canada

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Happy

We will close on Friday
December 23rd and
return Monday
January 2, 2023

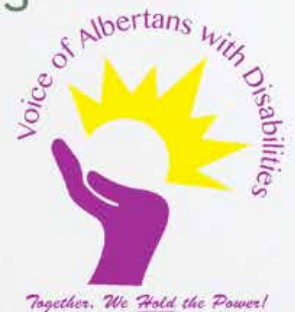
Holidays!

Voice of Albertans with Disabilities

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Mental Health Help Line

The Alberta Health Services Mental Health Help Line is a 24 hour, 7 day a week, 365 days a year, confidential service that provides support, information and referrals to Albertans experiencing mental health concerns.

The line is staffed by a multidisciplinary team comprised of nurses, psychiatric nurses, social workers, occupational therapists, and psychologists.

The service provides:

- crisis support
- mental health or addiction screening and assessment over the phone
- general information about a mental health or addiction topic
- information about local service options for addiction or mental health and how to access them
- strategies people can use at home to support their emotional well-being

Phone 1-877-303-2642 (Toll free)

24/7 CRISIS DIVERSION

Suite 901, Baker Centre, 10025 - 106 St.
Edmonton, AB T5J 1G4

Phone: 780.498.1231

Fax: 780.498.1266

Email: info@reachedmonton.ca

Open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Boyle Street Services

Community Centre Reception:

(780) 424-4106

Community Centre, 10116-105 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5H 0K2

HOPE Mission Red Deer

(587) 819-0015

we.care@hopemission.com

20 Kelloway Cres

Red Deer, AB T4P 3S1

Mailing

PO Box 603, Red Deer AB T4N 5G6

HOPE Mission Wetaskiwin

P.O. Box 6207, Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 2E9

HOPE Mission Calgary

(403) 474-3237

we.care@hopemission.com

4869 Hubalta Road SE, Calgary, AB

Mailing

Box 85082, Calgary, AB T2A 7R7

HOPE Mission Edmonton

(780) 422-2018

we.care@hopemission.com

9908 106 Ave, Edmonton, AB

Mailing

Box 953, Edmonton, AB T5J 2L8

211:

Phone, text, and chat service are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in over 170 languages.

Dial 211 for telephone service

Text 211 and type INFO for texting service

Search for services online at ab.211.ca.

If you are in crisis, such as contemplating suicide, feeling overwhelmed, or experiencing abuse, call the Distress Line at 780-482-HELP (4357).

Crisis

Call 911 if in immediate danger

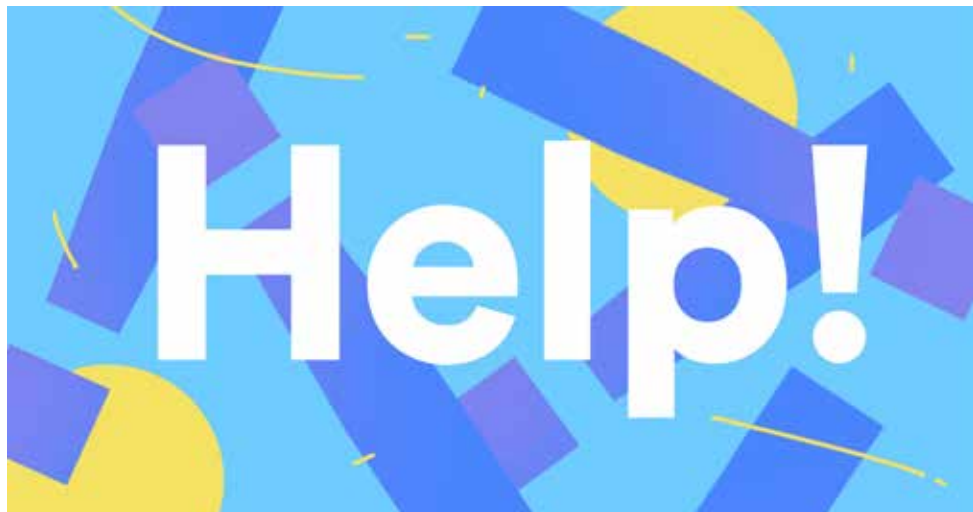
Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA)

Distress line 780-482-HELP (4357)

Access 24/7 — 780-424-2424

Children and Mental Health Crisis/Mobile Response Team — 780-407-1000

Children's Mental Health Crisis Line — 780-427-4491



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