

# Advocating for the Sector

Our consistent communications, engagement, research, and advocacy over the past 5 years have led to significant outcomes for the Community Disability Services (CDS) sector. For example, we:



## Developed a comprehensive, sector-led, and data-driven workforce strategy

ACDS led the sector-driven development of a comprehensive strategy for the CDS workforce, engaging with 86 organizations across the province to develop [Project Blueprint CDS](#). We continue to collaborate with multiple Alberta ministries to advance and implement the recommended strategies to understand, recruit, retain, and develop the workforce.



## Addressed chronic and pressing issues affecting the CDS sector

Our research has allowed ACDS to successfully advocate on priority issues in the sector. Informed by our [ongoing research on the sector's workforce](#), including [The Perfect Storm](#) report on rising administrative costs, as well as an evidence-based briefing document with funding estimates produced as part of Project Blueprint, the Government of Alberta provided a temporary wage infusion followed by a financial commitment of [\\$330 million over three years towards CDS wages and administrative costs](#) and \$125 million over three years to address the PDD and FSCD waitlists.

ACDS continues to use an impact and sustainability framework to guide and inform our collaboration with the Alberta Government, as outlined in our [CDS Sector Priorities document](#).



## Established a formal mechanism to facilitate communication between Alberta Government and ACDS member organizations

Our evidence-based advocacy has solidified us as a credible and valued partner with the Government of Alberta. In 2019, we established the [Service Provider Partnership Committee](#) (SPPC), a formal partnership with the Ministry of Seniors, Community and Social Services, which is addressing emerging and chronic issues in the CDS sector.



## Advocated for and guided the sector during the COVID-19 pandemic

Through the SPPC, we were able to advance on major concerns impacting the sector such as eligibility for the [Critical Worker Benefit](#), [COVID-19 vaccination](#), and PCR testing, while facilitating increased communication between government and service providers.

In addition, ACDS continues to inform and influence on other issues impacting the CDS sector such as continuing care, housing legislation, inflationary impacts, and other sector challenges.

A full list of our advocacy resources can be found at [acds.ca/resources/advocacy-resources](https://acds.ca/resources/advocacy-resources).



Influence



Strengthen



Connect