



Alberta 2019 Election: Political Party Responses to the ACDS Survey on Community Disability Services

What would your party do to ensure that the PDD review process continues and is conducted in collaboration with community stakeholders?	What would your party do to ensure prudent investment in the sector through contracts that recognize true costs, are flexible, responsive, and ensure the delivery of quality care?	What would your party do to work collaboratively and support the provision of community-based service delivery?	What would your party do to ensure government policies, programs, and initiatives assess and address their potential impact on individuals with disabilities in the same way that governments often conduct analysis of policies, programs and processes for other frequently impacted groups?
<p data-bbox="133 808 180 1378" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">New Democratic Party Response</p> <p>Rachel Notley and the NDP have a hopeful and inclusive vision for the future. We are fighting to ensure Albertans with disabilities are included and can participate in all aspects of community life.</p> <p>Over the last four years, the NDP has protected and improved the supports Albertans with disabilities depend on. The NDP repealed the Safety Standards, which were imposed on the community without consultation, ended use of Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) and has increased funding for PDD by \$150 million to more 1,000 people get access to the PDD services they need. We also appointed a community-led panel to lead a comprehensive review of the PDD program to ensure it meets the need of the 11,000 Albertans who are supported by it.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing the results of the panel and commit to fully implement their recommendations. As we do so, we will work closely with Albertans with disabilities and their families to ensure the changes achieve the goal of improving PDD services.</p> <p>If re-elected, we will continue to work with community stakeholders including agencies, workers, self-advocates and families in order to complete the review and ensure the program serves the Albertans that rely on it.</p>	<p>Over the last four years, the NDP government has worked very openly and collaboratively with agencies, workers and the disability community. Even in tough times, we increased PDD supports by \$150 million to help 1,000 people get access the services they need. We know that these investments have provided stable funding and that has helped, but there is more work to do.</p> <p>We appreciate the hard work of the staff and agencies who dedicate their lives to supporting Albertans with disabilities. We know that these positions are demanding and often come with lower wages than other sectors and employers. That is why the PDD Review is specifically looking at issues related to the workforce, training, administrative costs and funding. We look forward to the recommendations of the PDD Review Panel and will continue to work with the PDD service providers to discuss ways we can ensure agencies and workers are well supported.</p>	<p>Rachel Notley and the NDP have appreciated the collaborative relationship we have built with you and all the PDD servicing agencies over the past four years. Our discussions on important topics like the PDD review and safety standards have not always been easy but we have appreciated the partnership as we work together to make like better for Albertans with disabilities.</p> <p>If re-elected, an NDP government would continue to invest in PDD to ensure that more people get the services they need, just as we have over the last four years. Through the PDD Review, a community-led process, we will work toward the panel's recommendations and find ways to address the sector's concerns. We are committed to look at issues of concern to the sector and to the workforce including wages, training, administrative costs and stable funding. We will not stop fighting for Albertans with disabilities and will working to build an economy that works for everyone.</p>	<p>Rachel Notley and the NDP know the value of using a disability lens. We are fighting for an inclusive future and in order to make that happen we must consider the impact of government decisions on all Albertans. If re-elected, we are committed to working with self-advocates, families and the disability community to consider how we could best conduct an analysis of policies, programs and processes that may have an impact on Albertans with disabilities.</p>



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<p>United Conservative Party Response</p> <p>A United Conservative government is committed to enacting policies that support the desires, dignity and choices of Albertans with disabilities.</p> <p>We will work with the disability community to develop an approach to personal and individualized disability-related supports by restoring the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) program to its pre-2009 eligibility criteria or by eliminating the existing division of age and access by incorporating PDD, the Brain Injury Initiative, FASD Networks funding and Family Supports for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) into comprehensive programming that is family and individual-centered.</p>	<p>If elected, a United Conservative government will seek input from all relevant stakeholders on how best to approach these important issues so PDD contracts reflect the true costs of service delivery, are flexible, responsive and ensure the delivery of quality care.</p>	<p>Albertans who have disabilities desire to live a full life with dignity. The United Conservatives believe the government should do more to help Albertans with disabilities achieve this goal.</p> <p>We have committed to restoring the Wellness Resiliency and Partnerships program (ended by the NDP government) to support children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in schools with funding of \$1 million/year. We will expand the successful Family Managed Supports (FMS) model by establishing four new family governed resource centres to serve St. Paul, Grande Prairie, Medicine Hat, and Edmonton families at \$1.5 million/year.</p>	<p>A United Conservative government is committed to an Inclusive Disability Agenda that will support Albertans with disabilities to live full lives with dignity and equal opportunities.</p> <p>We will on successful partnerships like Abilities at Work and the Rotary Employment Partnerships by providing \$5 million/year for new partnerships to create job opportunities for persons with disabilities. We will provide \$2 million for planned growth of the number of students with developmental disabilities supported to study in inclusive post-secondary education at Alberta universities, colleges, and technical institutes.</p> <p>Convene a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) Action Group with members from the financial services industry, government, and the disability community.</p> <p>Allocate \$500,000 annually to help Albertans open RDSPs and access the thousands of dollars in federal government grants and bonds available to them</p> <p>Support Albertans with disabilities to stay in their homes by reducing wait times and expanding access for Self-Managed Care and increasing funds available under the Residential Access Modification Program.</p>



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<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Alberta Liberal party Response</p> <p>We would publicly commit to ensuring the process continues. We would ensure there were adequate resources to move forward with future work scheduled. We have also committed to creating an Associate Minister of Disability. We will make sure future consultations are a top priority for them.</p>	<p>Sustainable funding is about more than keeping up with inflation. It's about accurately reflecting costs in budgeting and not cutting corners when you're trying to cut the deficit. Sustainable funding also requires a commitment to address the ways in which costs rise over time.</p> <p>We will consult with PDD stakeholders and community members to identify areas where true costs are not being reflected in contracts and then commit to addressing the funding differential.</p>	<p>We believe in decentralized models and community-based decision making. We understand the value in first-hand experience and expertise. We will expand existing community-based service delivery.</p>	<p>We see inclusion as a universal human right. The aim of inclusion is to embrace all people irrespective of race, gender, age, disability, medical or other characteristic. It is about giving equal access and opportunities and eliminating discrimination, intolerance and barriers to full participation in society. It affects all aspects of public life. Alberta Liberals will ensure policy decisions are made with an inclusive lens. We will engage with citizens, families and stakeholders on policy that affects their lives and defend and support inclusion and accessibility.</p> <p>We see persons with disabilities as one of the groups that have been most ignored in policy decisions. Our platform promise of an inclusivity lens will help address this.</p>



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