



AN ALBERTA SOCIETY FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

"CHANGE, GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY"
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Important Notice Regarding PDD Funding Cutbacks:

This is the time of year when one generally sends out Holiday Greetings and Best Wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. However as you may or may not know, we have been involved in some very detailed discussions with PDD regarding funding for the current fiscal year of April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010. New developments have been delivered to us exactly 9 days prior to Christmas by our funders at PDD which we would like to pass along to you.

In October, PDD had provided \$14.4 million to the agencies in the sector which was divided into a one-time bonus for recruitment and retention of front line staff. Though all agencies within the sector complied with this bonus payout, the total of \$14.4 million that was made available was \$10 million less than the \$24.4 million which government had promised in April, 2009.

After these bonuses were prepared for front line staff prior to November 30th as directed by PDD, agencies received their first alert on December 2nd to expect a significant clawback to their current 2009/2010 PDD contract. This, it was explained, was due to a deficit in each of the six PDD regions throughout Alberta. Interestingly, the deficit declared in Calgary and Edmonton almost equaled the amount of the one-time bonuses provided less than two months earlier.

On December 9th, a written request was received from the CEO of PDD Calgary advising of their deficit and detailing the conditions to be considered for reduction of funds from the last quarter of an agency's budget. On December 11th, a further memo was received from PDD Calgary confirming the "in-year adjustment", or clawback, of 2.3 %, and from Edmonton on December 15th.

Chrysalis and other sector representatives from both Edmonton and Calgary met on December 14th with the provincial association Alberta Community Disabilities Services (ACDS) CEO Ann Nichols and legal advisor Ken Chapman to review options and strategies to address this situation. Further discussion regarding this issue will occur at the Chrysalis Society Board's Strategic Planning External Relations (SPER) committee meeting to be held on December 17th.

Another agency within the sector, the Alberta Association for Community Living, has made this issue public, and there is a very good chance this topic will be covered in the media over the next several days. Many agencies will now be taking part in a very strategic campaign over the next few weeks to ensure that our issues and concerns are being voiced. AACL has released a very well put together backgrounder and media alert which we have provided for you as part of this message to inform you of the situation and the details surrounding it.



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At this stage, we encourage you to [contact your local MLA](#) to voice your own questions and concerns that this clawback will generate. There is a chance that your son or daughter will be affected if these clawback's take place. As such, we urge you to call, write or email your MLA and inform them how detrimental these funding issues will be not only to your sons and daughters, but to all adults with disabilities throughout the province.

In the meantime, should you have any questions about this situation or if you would like more information about the clawbacks, please direct them to me and I will be to provide you with as much information as I can. I know the timing of these details is not the greatest with the Holiday Season upon us, but I do want to wish all of you and your families a very Happy Holiday and blessings for a Happy, Healthy 2010.

Lynn Groves Hautmann
CEO, Chrysalis



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