

Celebrating ACCD's Programs and Services!

For 40 years, the Alberta Committee of Citizens with Disabilities has been Alberta's only provincial, cross-disability organization of and for people with disabilities.

ACCD serves its members and the disability community through five core program and service areas:

Consumer Support and Referral

Everyday ACCD staff respond to a number of emails, letters, faxes, telephone calls and office visits from people with disabilities and their families seeking assistance with a diverse range of issues. Support involves helping complete AISH, CPPD, or other applications and appeals. ACCD also helps people with disabilities by providing information, listening to individuals, helping to access disability services and programs and assisting with the Registered Disability Savings Plan.



Last year, ACCD met with over 100 Albertans with disabilities and responded to 325 inquiries that included telephone calls, letters, emails and faxes.

Collaborations and Partnerships

ACCD strongly believes in the power of collaboration. Our slogan "Together, We Hold the Power!" conveys our commitment to developing effective partnerships. Together, we can provide a strong voice when advocating for full participation in society for Albertans with disabilities. We offer an experienced, responsible and effective voice of the disability community in our collaborations. Our closest partnership is with the Alberta Disabilities Forum which consists of 45 member organizations.

Last year, ACCD participated in 90 meetings with its partner organizations and had 40 meetings with elected officials.

Education and Awareness

One of ACCD's most significant services is to educate individuals, organizations, legislators, students, decision-makers and employers about disability related issues. Each year, ACCD provides our disability awareness presentations and cross-disability consultations to schools, businesses, organizations and ministries. We publish three editions of the Action News and seven editions of Action Notes yearly. Our website contains all of ACCD's projects, publications and information.



To promote equal access to the built environment for Albertans with disabilities, ACCD's performs accessibility audits using barrier-free building code requirements to measure accessibility at new and renovated public facilities.

Last year, ACCD provided 30 disability awareness presentations to individuals and organizations, 50 school presentations with 1,900 students participating and we conducted 73 accessibility audits.

Projects and Research

ACCD is committed to a consumer-driven philosophy that recognizes that people with disabilities know their situations best. Interviews, focus groups and consultations with the disability community guide our projects and research. Through these undertakings, we impact legislation, influence government and educate the public on issues that are important to people with disabilities.

Some of our most recent projects and research include:

- *Programs and Services for Students with Disabilities from Kindergarten to Junior High in Edmonton and Area (2011);*
- *Barrier-Free Health and Medical Services in Alberta (2011); and*
- *Safe Haven: Enhancing Accessibility in Alberta's Women's Shelters (2009).*

Bursaries and Awards

Each year, ACCD presents a number of individuals with the Education for Life Bursary, the Council of Canadians with Disability Award and the Certificate of Recognition for Academic Effort and Achievement.

The Education for Life Bursary helps students with disabilities with the cost of attending post-secondary educational institutions. All full- and part-time post-secondary students are eligible for the bursary.

Since its inception in 1999, the Education for Life Bursary has awarded \$46,790 to 98 students with disabilities.

The CCD award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated *"dedication and integrity in the continuing pursuit of full participation in society by people with disabilities in Alberta."* The most recent recipient of the CCD award is Architect Ron Wickman.

The Certificate of Recognition for Academic Effort and Achievement is given to celebrate the hard work and dedication of students with disabilities. Full- and part-time students with disabilities at any of Alberta's post-secondary institutions are eligible.



Last year 52 students received the Certificate of Recognition for Academic Effort and Achievement.

ACCD is proud of our long history of supporting people with disabilities on a cross-disability basis and being the voice of people with disabilities in Alberta. To learn more about ACCD and our programs and services, please visit www.accd.net or www.barrierfreehealth.ca.



ACCD's Annual Meeting

Please join us at our Annual Meeting to find out more about ACCD's programs and services. The meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on May 31, 2013, at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 2440 Calgary Trail NW, Edmonton. If you have questions about the Annual General Meeting, please contact the ACCD office. We hope to see you there.

Apply Now!

Education for Life Bursary!

July 15, 2013, is the application deadline for ACCD's 2013-2014 Education for Life Bursary. Individuals with disabilities seeking to continue their education as post-secondary students are eligible to receive bursaries ranging from \$300 to \$800. Details and an application form can be found on our web site at www.accd.net, or contact the ACCD office.



ACCD is Looking for Board Members!

We are looking for volunteers to put their names forward for positions on the ACCD board.

- Do you have a disability and would like to make a difference in your community?
- Are you 18 years of age or older and can commit to a 2-year term?
- Do you have ready access to email?
- Are you available for monthly conference calls and face-to-face meetings twice a year?
- Are you familiar with the activities of non-profit organizations, including projects, programs and resource development?

Why not put your name forward as a potential member to serve on the board of directors of ACCD, a consumer-directed, grassroots organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of Albertans with disabilities?

For more information, please send enquires to the ACCD offices.



Together, We Hold The Power!

Full Participation - Accessibility - Equity