

How to contact government about CDB clawbacks

Contact List					
Alberta	Premier Danielle Smith premier@gov.ab.ca	Minister Jason Nixon (Ministry of Seniors, Community and Social Services) Rimbey.RockyMountainhouse.Sundre@assembly.ab.ca	Minister Nate Horner (Ministry of Finance & President of Treasury Board) Drumheller.Stettler@assembly.ab.ca	Deputy Minister Cynthia Farmer (Ministry of Seniors, Community and Social Services) Cynthia.Farmer@gov.ab.ca	Deputy Minister Kate White (Treasury Board and Finance) Kate.White@gov.ab.ca

Getting a Meeting

We recommend that you send correspondence out individually to each contact and request a meeting. [You can find your local Member of the Legislative Assembly \(MLA\) by searching your postal code here.](#)

Meeting directly provides you with the opportunity to establish a relationship with the Minister or MLA and to situate the issue of CDB clawbacks within the context of your story. If persons with disabilities and their families and allies were to meet with every MLA in the province, this would send a strong message. If your MLA does not respond by offering you a meeting, phone their office, stating that you are a local constituent and need to discuss how the provincial government can reduce poverty for people with disabilities without any new spending. Be courteous and non-partisan.

At the Meeting

If you secure a meeting, it will likely last no more than 20 minutes so it's important to prepare what you will say and to coordinate with any others attending the meeting with you.

Begin by thanking the MLA for meeting with you. Introduce yourself, mentioning your multiple roles in community. It's important for MLAs to understand that you have many roles as a contributing Albertan (e.g., employee, business owner, parent, volunteer, etc.), in addition to being someone with a disability, a family member, or an ally. This demonstrates the range of your community connections and engagement. As part of your introduction if you are comfortable, show the MLA a photo of the person(s) with a disability you care about, if they are not accompanying you in the meeting.

Any of the facts referenced are drawn from publicly available materials, so if challenged, simply remind the MLA the facts or figures you may be referencing are publicly available and they're more than welcome to have their staff confirm the accuracy. Do expect the MLA to listen respectfully to the information you have to share. Do not expect the MLA commit to making immediate changes. MLAs often respond with talking points about other things their party is promising. Even if you are unsure whether your message got through, your raising the issues

will impact the government or opposition party's actions because the same conversations are happening with MLAs across Alberta's 87 ridings.

Ask the MLA to share your concerns with the Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services, and the Minister of Finance.

After the Meeting

Post about your MLA meeting on your own social media, too, using the hashtags **#canadadisabilitybenefit #socialassistance #disabilityrights #clawbacks #poverty #incomesecurity**.

Make sure to send a thank you letter or email to each MLA or Minister you've met with. In your thank you message you can remind them of the key requests you made in the meeting.