

PDD TALKING POINTS

Explaining the issue to a decision-maker

We have provided a loose outline with key points that you can use at your meetings. We suggest that you personalize your approach and begin with a brief version of your family's story and the positive impact PDD has had or could have on your lives.

- The Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) program has become unresponsive, with strenuous and time-consuming bureaucratic processes and a default response of turning down requests from adults with intellectual disabilities who need support to live at home, pursue employment, and participate in community.
- Province-wide, adults with intellectual disabilities and their families are struggling, feeling abandoned, and growing increasingly desperate.
- PDD's 'critical and urgent needs' criteria denies support to individuals until they are in crisis. This impacts individuals with no support, and many individuals who have minimal PDD support that fails to meet their needs. Rural families, newcomers and Indigenous families experience additional barriers.
- Alberta's unprecedented population growth has contributed to mounting pressures on these vital supports.
- It has been three years since PDD has released how many adults who are eligible for and have requested supports are waiting without support.
- In the absence of updated information, Inclusion Alberta launched a survey in response to the growing number of individuals and families who cannot secure the support they require, to hear their experiences and gather their feedback.
- 540 respondents described how PDD's systemic failures are undermining the health, well-being and financial security of adults with intellectual disabilities and their families.
- Valuable years of life are being squandered for adults who remain isolated at home, their skills unused, potential untapped, dreams fading, and health declining.
- Families need the government to remove the critical and urgent needs criteria, restore transparency and accountability, and increase PDD funding to fully account for inflation and population growth and ensure sufficient funding to appropriately serve eligible Albertans.