

About the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee (OPGT)

Government of Alberta

What is the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee?

The Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee (OPGT) assists people with a variety of services, information and resources in the areas of:

- adult guardianship services
- trusteeship services
- capacity assessment information
- court applications under the *Adult Guardianship and Trusteeship Act* (AGTA)
- complaints about guardians, trustees, co-decision-makers and agents
- advance planning

OPGT Services

Adult Guardianship services

- Makes personal decisions through guardianship for adults when the adult lacks capacity, there is no one else suitable to do so, and the court appoints the Public Guardian as guardian for the adult.
- Makes specific decisions related to healthcare, temporary placement to or discharge from a residential facility if the adult lacks the capacity to do so and there is no one else willing and able.
- Provides information and resources to Albertans about supported decision-making.

Trusteeship services

- Protects the assets of minors when required by law or a minor is a beneficiary but no trustee has been named.
- Makes financial decisions through trusteeship for adults when the adult lacks capacity, there is no one else suitable to do so, and the court appoints the Public Trustee as trustee for the adult.
- Administers estates if there is no one else able to do so, and there is a beneficiary who is a minor or a represented adult.
- Helps manage funds for adults who receive Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) benefits or Canada Pension Plan Disability (CPP-D) benefits through the voluntary Informal Benefits Administration Program.

Capacity assessment information

- Trains and monitors designated capacity assessors and provides them with support when they are completing capacity assessments.

Court applications

- Completes the duties of the Review Officer as per the AGTA Regulations for co-decision-making, guardianship and trusteeship court applications, including talking with the adult and completing the review officer's report for the Court.

About the OPGT

www.alberta.ca/opgt-supports.aspx

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Complaints and Investigations

- Reviews written complaints about court appointed co-decision-makers, guardians, and trustees appointed under the Adult Guardianship and Trusteeship Act and agents named in an enacted personal directive to determine if the complaint meets the criteria for investigation.
- Conducts investigations of complaints if criteria for investigation are met.

Advance Planning

- Provides information about planning for personal decision-making through the use of a personal directive, should an adult lose capacity due to injury or illness in the future.
- Maintains a registry of contact information for agents of personal directives.
- Maintains a registry for international wills.

Where can I get more information?

Visit our website:

Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee

www.alberta.ca/opgt-supports.aspx

Office locations:

The OPGT offices are open Monday to Friday between 8:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Grande Prairie 780-833-4319

St. Paul 780-645-6278

Edmonton 780-427-0017

Red Deer 403-340-5165

Calgary 403-297-3364

Lethbridge 403-381-5648

Medicine Hat 403-529-3744