

Phase Two: Exploring Ideas for Safety Questionnaire

Tell us about yourself:

Which group do you most identify with (choose one)

- a. Individual receiving supports from the PDD program
- b. Family member/Guardian of an individual receiving supports from the PDD program
- c. Service provider
- d. Advocacy group/professional organization member
- e. Provincial government employee
- f. Health and/or safety professional
- g. Municipal official
- h. Housing organization and/or landlord
- i. Other (please specify)

Which city or town do you live in?

Introduction

This questionnaire was developed to gather your opinions on the proposed ideas for safety in the homes of Albertans receiving PDD services. These ideas were drafted based on feedback received during Phase One of the PDD Safety Standards Consultation. Your responses will help the Consultation Team develop recommendations that will support individuals with developmental disabilities to live with dignity and opportunity in the community, while recognizing and respecting their need for safe, healthy and supported lives.

There are five sections to this questionnaire. Each section contains one or more proposed ideas for safety along with a series of questions related to those ideas. There are 10 questions. It should take you about 30 minutes to complete the questionnaire.

You do not have to answer every question.

Completed surveys must be received by July 6, 2016.

The personal information you provide in this survey is collected under the authority of section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act). It will be managed in accordance with the privacy protection provisions established in the FOIP Act. If you have any questions about the collection of your personal information, contact the PDD Safety Standards Consultation Team at HS.PDDConsult@gov.ab.ca.

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Section 1: PDD Program Review

Idea:

Undertake a review of the PDD program to enable safer lives in community for individuals with developmental disabilities

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree

Disagree

Neutral

Don't know

No Opinion

- **Develop a broader engagement model/means of open communication between PDD and the community that will build trust and support positive interactions**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree

Disagree

Neutral

Don't know

No Opinion

1. What should be included in a review?

(Things to consider when answering this question: should the review look at the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders in the system; should things like contracts and individualized planning be included; are there things that should not be included?)

- 2. What do you think a broader engagement model and open communication would do to help rebuild trust and support positive interactions between the disability community and government? What might this model look like?**

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Section 2: Training and Education

Ideas:

- **Require staff working with persons with developmental disabilities to possess post-secondary education that includes specific training in providing supports to people with disabilities.**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree *Disagree* *Neutral* *Don't know* *No Opinion*

- **Require staff working with persons with developmental disabilities to be professionally certified.**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree *Disagree* *Neutral* *Don't know* *No Opinion*

- **Staff salaries should be commensurate with position and required qualifications and experience.**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree *Disagree* *Neutral* *Don't know* *No Opinion*

- **Safety experts continue to provide information and materials to individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and service providers on how to take steps to live safely in their homes and communities.**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree *Disagree* *Neutral* *Don't know* *No Opinion*

- 3. What type of post-secondary education or ongoing training should be required for staff working with individuals with developmental disabilities?**

(Things to consider when answering this question: are you aware of any post-secondary programs that already exist; should existing disability studies post-secondary programs be retained and expanded across the province; should there be different types of education required depending on the position; should staff be professionally certified in addition to having formal education; should there be different training depending on the individual(s) they are supporting, in what circumstances are more advanced skills most important; are there other models that should be considered (i.e. Childcare, Health Care Aid).

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4. What do you think will help attract and keep qualified and competent staff?

(Things to consider when answering this question: hiring processes, benefit packages, compensation/salaries, work classification (full-time/part-time), organization culture, health and other benefits, ongoing training/education, are there strategies that are more important than others?)

5. What information would be important for safety experts to provide to individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and service providers on how to make their homes and communities safer?

Section 3: Accreditation

Idea:

- **Strengthen accreditation standards in the areas of health and safety to reflect the critical individualized safety requirements in the homes of people with developmental disabilities. This could also include increasing the frequency of monitoring for compliance with those standards.**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree

Disagree

Neutral

Don't know

No Opinion

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6. What should be included in the accreditation standards in the areas of health and safety to ensure individuals are safe?

(Things to consider when answering this question: frequency of monitoring of compliance; who should complete the accreditation process; what specific features/measures should be included; should these factors be increased or decreased depending on an individual's needs)

Section 4: Safety Code Interpretation

Ideas:

- **Withdraw the August 2015 Municipal Affairs Standata.**
- **Apply the following principles relating to the interpretation and application of safety codes:**
 - Residences occupied by individuals with developmental disabilities which lease or own are not “PDD residences” or facilities;
 - The starting point in relation to the homes of people receiving support from PDD should be that they are residential dwellings, in the same manner as any other home.
 - The source of financial or service support being received by a person living in a home should not be relevant to how the building codes are interpreted and applied to that home. That is, homes of people receiving support through PDD should be treated no differently from the homes of people not receiving public support, or receiving it from another source. Any change of use or alternative classification under the building code should be assessed as it would be for any Albertan living in similar circumstances.
 - Measures required under safety codes for all Albertans should be affordable, enforceable, and meaningful so that compliance can be achieved within the circumstances where people live.
- **Review the Safety Codes, as is normally done, and consider measures that would be of value to improving safety in the broad range of circumstances in which Albertans live consistent with the above principles. Any such measures should be implemented only after carefully consulting with all potentially impacted groups, for example seniors, people with disabilities, others with limited mobility or receiving in-home staff support.**

In more simple terms:

- The places in which people with developmental disabilities live are homes first and should not be labelled by Government as facilities (this is not intended to apply to residences approved and licensed under *Supportive Living Accommodation Licensing Act*).
- Consider that people may have different safety needs based on their circumstances.

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree

Disagree

Neutral

Don't know

No Opinion

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- **That Municipal Affairs staff and municipal inspectors be offered education from Inclusion Alberta, Alberta Council of Disability Services (ACDS), and individuals with developmental disabilities in understanding the homes and residences of individuals with developmental disabilities.**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree

Disagree

Neutral

Don't know

No Opinion

7. **What might result if the Standata is withdrawn and not replaced? If there are concerns about this, what might be done to address those concerns?**

8. **What are the different safety needs that should be considered for people with varied life circumstances (i.e., seniors, people with limited mobility, people with developmental disabilities)?**

Section 5: Other Ideas

Ideas:

- **Encourage municipalities to develop a tool similar to the voluntary Vulnerable Person Self-Registry in Calgary.**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree

Disagree

Neutral

Don't know

No Opinion

- **Consider the creation of an independent Disability Advocates Office (or Ombudsmen) or the provision of additional supports to independent self-advocacy and family advocacy efforts.**

In principle do you agree or disagree with this proposed idea? (circle one)

Agree

Disagree

Neutral

Don't know

No Opinion

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9. Calgary has a voluntary Vulnerable Person Self-Registry that provides Emergency Services personnel with information on the individual and their home and if they may need to be supported differently in the case of an emergency do you think this is something that would be useful for other municipalities to consider? Why or why not?

10. What would be the value of the provision of additional supports to independent self-advocacy and family advocacy efforts, and/or an independent Disability Advocate (or Ombudsmen)? What would this model look like?

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Thank you

Thank you for sharing your ideas.

Please email your completed form to HS.PDDConsult@gov.ab.ca or mail it to:

Attention: PDD Safety Standards Consultation Team
3rd Floor Sterling Place
9940 – 106 Street
Edmonton, AB T5K 2N2

Completed forms must be received by July 6, 2016.