



Michener Transition

On March 11, 2013, the Government of Alberta announced that the residences on Michener Services north and south sites would close and alternate services would be established for about 125 individuals. This document provides an update of the work being done on the transition.

- ⇒ A Michener Transition Team has been established to coordinate the transition. The team includes representatives from all departments across Michener Services, Alberta Infrastructure, Alberta Health Services, Regional staff and Office of the Public Guardian.
- ⇒ The Project Lead is Blaine Gillis, CEO for the Central PDD Region (403-340-7767). The Project Manager is Lorraine Zoskey (403-340-7119).
- ⇒ Guardian updates have been continuing since the initial announcement. These include an overview of how the transitioning process will be proceeding over the next year, and options that will be available if Michener Services cannot continue to support the individuals. Over 150 guardians have made contact with the Project Manager.
- ⇒ Initial assessments on ALL individuals currently residing at Michener Services has begun to determine if they can be supported at one of the twenty three (23) group homes that Michener will continue to operate. The assessments on the individuals currently living in the group homes have been completed and assessments for the individuals residing in the other impacted homes should be completed within the next few weeks. Once this is completed, contact with the guardians will commence to discuss future options for each individual.
- ⇒ Guardian notification has begun for those individuals where it has been confirmed they meet the criteria to remain at the group homes. Over sixty guardians have been contacted of the nearly 80+ that have individuals living in these homes.
- ⇒ Discussions have occurred with staff from AISH (Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped) to begin the process to transfer individuals under 65 to AISH funding.

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- ⇒ Some guardians have contacted the transition team to request moving their loved ones to communities that are closer to them. The referrals have been forwarded to the regional transition team to commence planning for the new services.
- ⇒ Capital funding has been made available to several not for profit service providers throughout Central Region to develop a total of 45 spaces in 15 new accessible homes for the individuals who will be transitioning from Michener Services.
- ⇒ Alberta Health Services is working closely with the transition team to identify residential and other services that may be available through the health care system for the individuals that have higher medical support needs.
- ⇒ Meetings continue to be held with the Joint Consultation Committee and Employee Management Advisory Committee (JCC/EMAC) and Human Resources staff to begin the planning specific to staffing.
- ⇒ Human Resources staff is working with Management and the local union members providing information on employees' rights under the Master agreement and further information on Article 15 – Position Abolishment.
- ⇒ Several information sessions have been held with Alberta Works to introduce the employees at Michener to the various services that they offer in researching new employment opportunities.
- ⇒ An information session to review pension information will be held for staff during May. Other sessions to discuss financial matters will also be scheduled.
- ⇒ Work is under way with several educational institutions regarding delivery of the Health Care Aide certificate program for staff who may wish to seek employment in the health care system.
- ⇒ Preliminary work has started to determine the future, post-transition staffing model and organizational framework.
- ⇒ Alberta Infrastructure is completing various assessments regarding land and buildings and processes related to the changes in facility use.

