



Advisory Council Fast Facts

Background and Types of Councils

Councils provide feedback to Alberta Health Services (AHS) on healthcare services and programs and community priorities. They see the provincial system through a community or local lens. Councils represent a variety of backgrounds, cultures and age groups and are able to bring and listen to diverse points of view in healthcare discussions. Councils work to build relationships and open lines of communication between the public and AHS.

Health Advisory Councils (HACs)

There are 12 HACs in Alberta, made up of people that live within certain geographic areas.

Provincial Advisory Councils (PACs)

There are three PACs in Alberta that focus on different areas of health:

- Cancer
- Addiction and Mental Health (AMH)
- Seniors and Continuing Care

PACs are made up of public members who represent all health zones, healthcare professionals, and stakeholders in their area of focus. In the future, more PACs may be created.

Wisdom Council

The Wisdom Council is a provincial council that focuses on Indigenous health priorities, services, and resources. This council is made up of public members from across treaty areas and Alberta's health zones.

Advisory Council Members

- Are volunteers who represent their community.
- Share information on health services with the community and provide feedback and input to AHS.
- May be members of the general public, community leaders, as well as those with a health profession background.
- Are asked to identify any real or perceived conflicts of interest through a Conflict of Interest declaration form. This process helps to make sure that any personal or financial interests do not interfere with the decision-making processes.
- Are appointed by AHS' Board of Directors.



Council Member Roles:

- Share their communities’ priorities with AHS.
- Give advice and help to inform the decision-making process.
- Participate in all public and other advisory council meetings.
- Promote and participate in activities, including activities outside of regularly scheduled meetings, that enhance Albertans’ health.
- Engage with the community using engagement tools, such as focus groups or information sessions, to understand all aspects of community perspectives and support the council work plan.
- Give feedback on public education materials, policies, or discussion topics.
- Communicate regularly through e-mail, phone, or online.
- Follow-up on commitments made to your community on behalf of the council.
- Share public information with your community.
- Act as a partner to AHS and have an open, constructive relationship that contributes to shared goals.

The Scope of Advisory Councils:

What is in the scope of your role?	What is out of the scope of your role?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share community priorities with AHS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voice opinions on behalf of a community without consulting them first
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give advice and help to inform decision making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give medical advice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with the community to understand all aspects of community perspectives and support the council work plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific patient or personal concerns or cases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give feedback on public education materials, policies or discussion topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present issues in individual cases as system-wide feedback
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share public information with your community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use council events and activities to promote personal issues or interests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up on commitments made to your community on behalf of council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promise specific changes or outcomes to your community

*This is a snapshot of Advisory Councils in Alberta. For more information, please see the [Advisory Council Membership Handbook](#).