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| **Regional health councils give Albertans a voice**July 10, 2025  Fourteen new regional advisory councils will let Albertans shape how health care is planned and delivered in their communities.Albertans want a health care system that reflects where they live and adapts to the unique needs of their communities. As part of the province’s health care refocus, Alberta’s government committed to strengthening community voices by providing more opportunities for Albertans to bring forward their local priorities and offer input on how to improve the system. The regional advisory councils, made up of 150 members from 71 communities, will advise Alberta’s four health ministries and the newly refocused health agencies: Primary Care Alberta, Acute Care Alberta, Assisted Living Alberta and Recovery Alberta. Each council will explore solutions to local challenges and identify opportunities for the health system to better support community decision-making.“By hearing first-hand community feedback directly, we can build a system that is more responsive, more inclusive and ultimately more effective for everyone*.*I am looking forward to hearing the councils’ insights, perspectives and solutions to improve health care in all corners of our province.”*Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Primary and Preventative Health Services*“Regional advisory councils will strengthen acute care by giving communities a direct voice. Their insights will help us address local needs, improve patient outcomes and ensure timely access to hospital services.”*Matt Jones, Minister of Hospital and Surgical Health Services*“A ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach does not address unique regional needs when it comes to mental health and addiction challenges. These councils will help us hear directly from communities, allowing us to tailor supports and services to meet the needs of Albertans where they are.”*Rick Wilson, Minister of Mental Health and Addiction*“Every community has unique needs, especially when it comes to seniors and vulnerable populations. These regional advisory councils will help us better understand those needs and ensure that assisted living services are shaped by the people who rely on them.”*Jason Nixon, Minister of Assisted Living and Social Services*Members include Albertans from all walks of life, health care workers, community leaders, Indigenous and municipal representatives, and others with a strong tie to their region. About one-third of members work in health care, and more than half of the council chairs are health professionals. Almost one-quarter are elected municipal officials, including 10 serving as chairs or vice-chairs. Ten councils also include a representative from a local health foundation.Council members will share local and regional perspectives on health care services, planning and priorities to help ensure decisions reflect the realities of their communities. By engaging with residents, providers and organizations, they will gather feedback, identify challenges and bring forward ideas that may not otherwise reach government.Through collaboration and community-informed solutions, members will help make the health system more responsive, accessible and better able to meet the needs of Albertans across the province.“As Primary Care Alberta works to improve access to primary health care services and programs across Alberta, we are grateful to have the opportunity to tap into a dedicated group of community leaders and representatives. These people know their communities and local needs, and we look forward to learning from their experiences and knowledge as we shape the future of primary care in Alberta.”*Kim Simmonds, CEO, Primary Care Alberta*“The regional advisory councils will help to bring forward the voices of patients, families and front-line providers from every corner of Alberta. Their insights will help us plan smarter and deliver care that’s timely, effective and truly local. We look forward to working closely with them to strengthen hospital and surgical services across the province.”*Dr. Chris Eagle, interim CEO, Acute Care Alberta*“Nobody understands the health care challenges unique to a community better than the people who live there. The regional health advisory councils are made up of those living and working on the front lines across the province, ensuring we are getting the perspective of Albertans most affected by our health care system.”*Dr. Sayeh Zielke, CEO, Assisted Living Alberta*“Alongside Recovery Alberta’s staff and physician team, these regional advisory councils will build upon the high standard of mental health, addiction and correctional health services delivered in Alberta.”*Kerry Bales, CEO, Recovery Alberta***Indigenous Advisory Council**Alberta’s government continues to work directly with Indigenous leaders across the province to establish the Indigenous Advisory Council to strengthen health care services for First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities.With up to 22 members, including Indigenous health care workers, community leaders and individuals receiving health care services, the council will represent diverse perspectives across Alberta. Members will provide community perspectives about clinical service planning, capital projects, workforce development and cultural integration in health care.**Related information*** [Advisory councils – Health](https://www.alberta.ca/advisory-councils-health)
* [Terms of Reference: Regional Advisory Councils](https://open.alberta.ca/publications/regional-advisory-councils-terms-of-reference)
* [Member Handbook](https://open.alberta.ca/publications/regional-advisory-councils-member-handbook)

**Related news*** [Ensuring a successfully refocused health system](https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=913687FDBE202-EE25-65A8-C71A63F22AB6AC12) (Nov. 18, 2024)
* [Get involved in Alberta’s health advisory councils](https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=9016711F39EDC-A456-9308-774583166D90E095) (April 16, 2024)

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