



# Advisory Council Fast Facts

## Background and Types of Councils

Council members volunteer their time to provide feedback based on lived experience or community input, listen to the people in their communities, and commit to giving feedback and advice to AHS on healthcare services and programs and community priorities.

Members represent a variety of backgrounds, cultures, and age groups and bring diverse perspectives to 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 four PACs in Alberta that focus on different areas of health:

- Cancer
- Addiction and Mental Health (A&MH)
- Seniors and Continuing Care (SCC)
- Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity & Expression (SOGIE)

PACs are made up of public members who represent all AHS zones, healthcare professionals, and stakeholders in their area of focus.

### 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.
- Are members of the public who may be community leaders or 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 ensure any personal or financial interests do not interfere or influence the advice provided.
- Are appointed by AHS' Board of Directors.



## Council Member Roles:

- Share their communities’ priorities with AHS.
- Provide 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 by co-hosting events with AHS or participating in a variety of engagement activities, such as focus groups, Community Conversations and information sessions to understand all aspects of community perspectives and support the Council.
- Provide 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 the scope of your role?	What is out of scope of your role?
Share community priorities with AHS.	Voice opinions on behalf of a community without consulting with them first.
Provide advice to AHS and help to inform decision making.	Give medical advice.
Engage with the community to understand all aspects of community perspectives and support the Council commitments.	Sharing patient information or personal concerns on specific cases that could disclose personal health information.
Provide feedback to AHS on public education materials, policies, or discussion topics.	Position issues or personal opinions in individual cases as system-wide feedback.
Share public information with your community.	Use Council events and activities to promote personal issues or interests.
Follow up on commitments made to your community on behalf of Council.	Promise specific changes or outcomes to your community.

\*This is a snapshot of Advisory Councils in Alberta. For more information, please visit us [here](#).