

## In the News

[Relaxing restrictions on continuing care visits](#) (GOA)

[New rent support for Albertans between jobs](#) (GOA)

['Breaking Point': Inside AgeCare's For-Profit Care Homes](#) (Sprawl Calgary)

[Critics concerned Bill 70 reduces accountability in long-term care](#) (Lethbridge Herald)

[Varcoe: From Dome Petroleum HQ to affordable housing 'a cool transformation' for downtown Calgary](#) (Calgary Herald)

[City of Calgary announces plans distribute \\$73M in non-emergency funding to support citizens, businesses](#) (CTV)

[Elise Stolte: The tragedy lives on. If we value our oldest, we'll put in effort to actually fix continuing care](#) (Edmonton Journal)

[City proposes \\$200M investment to transform Calgary's ailing downtown](#) (Calgary Herald)

[3 Edmonton care facilities had outbreaks for six months or more: 10 longest outbreaks identified](#) (Edmonton Journal)

[Councillors vote against proposed daytime shelter for downtown Edmonton](#) (CBC)

[Edmonton adopts strategy to manage homeless camps](#) (CBC)

## Executive Director Tidbits

I am ecstatic that May has finally arrived, along with the hope of warm sunny days and vibrant colours. We are working with Alberta Health (AH) to clarify the impact of the relaxed restrictions in CMOH Order 16-2021, as licensed supportive living has not had the same vaccination rollout as long-term care and designated supportive living. We hope to host a meeting with AH next week so that our licensed supportive living members can share their realities, and we can co-create some solutions. Please share any specific details and insights with us as this really helps us in serving you.



## PRIORITY DRIVEN PROGRESS

### Advocacy & Public Relations

#### COVID-19 Provincial Stakeholders Coordination Meeting

This group met on Apr. 27 for discussion on COVID-19 related concerns and updates. The attendees were given an update on the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Order 16-2021 to be released that day and the relaxed social visitor rules. The Critical Workers Benefit is in the process of being validated, and payments will be made on Tue. and Thu. every week. There is a growing body of evidence that once you are vaccinated, you are unable to transmit the virus - which is great news for providers. Designated Family Support Persons will soon be able to book for vaccinations and should have a form of identification tying them to the site. ASCHA took the opportunity to once again reiterate that Licensed Supportive Living, although they are bound by the Orders, do not receive the same prioritization as Long-Term Care and Designated Supportive Living for vaccinations, and that the relaxed visitor rules could have severe implications on Licensed Supportive Living.

#### Roundtable with Adam Vaughan, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development (Housing)

ASCHA participated in a roundtable discussion with MP Adam Vaughan, the federal government's primary spokesperson and advocate on issues of affordable housing and homelessness. ASCHA raised the concern that so many housing providers in Alberta have been denied Rapid Housing Investment (RHI) Projects Stream funding. MP Vaughan shared the following about RHI:

- A decision has not yet been made as to how the \$1.5 billion in new RHI funding will be divided between the Major Cities Stream and the Projects Stream, nor has a decision been made as to how money in the Major Cities Stream will be divided between cities.
- Some of the most cost-effective RHI projects have been small, for instance subdividing a home into 10 units rather than converting a 150-unit hotel where security costs would be great.

Applications to the Projects Stream that have yet not been awarded funding will be considered for funding now that RHI has received new funding. Applicants should reach out to CMHC to find out how to edit their applications to increase their score.

#### Affordable Housing Review Task Force

This ASCHA Task Force met on Apr. 26 and discussed priorities for our sector that ASCHA can advocate be addressed by the provincial affordable housing strategy. At their next meeting on May 10, the Task Force will provide input to Alberta Seniors and Housing and the consultant who is developing the provincial strategy.

[GoC to Create 30 000 Affordable Housing Units Through Innovation Fund \(CMHC\)](#)

[Recognizing the human right to housing for people living in encampments \(Maytree\)](#)

[Eviction bans stop COVID-19 spread & should be in force Canada-wide, advocates say \(CTV\)](#)

[CHRA Becomes National Coordinator for Chartered Institute of Housing Canada \(CHRA\)](#)

## [Upcoming Events](#)

**May 3-7**

[CMHA Mental Health Week lunchtime conversations](#)

**May 4**

[Together in Isolation Panel Presentation on Severe Loneliness & Isolation for Seniors](#)

**May 4**

[Seniors & COVID-19: Live Q&A with the Edmonton Journal & Caregivers Alberta](#)

**May 5**

[Implications of COVID-19: Providing Affordable Housing in a Post-Pandemic World](#)

**May 6**

[Building Healthier Communities Webinar](#)

**May 6**

[Connecting People and Communities for Aging Well Conference](#)

## Bold Leadership & Sector Reformation

### Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) Congress

ASCHA participated in CHRA's annual congress on Apr. 27-29. ASCHA is proud of our member organizations who offered their expertise on this national stage to benefit other housing providers. Civida offered a session on using research to strengthen the housing sector and Horizon Housing offered a session on strengthening housing outcomes for Indigenous tenants. We gained understanding of innovations and opportunities in many areas including Northern, Rural and Remote Housing Needs, and Partnerships for Housing Solutions & Economic Recovery in a Time of COVID-19.

## Membership Engagement

### 'The Art of Policy Writing' Training Series start on May 11th

Join Thought Architects and learn how to write policies that support culture. Through the use of concrete examples, the learners will be led through what, why and how of the technical aspects of policy development and the people side of making it stick. [Contact us](#) to get your 15% discount code prior to registering. [For more information](#)



### ASCHA's Energy Program Update for Members

On May 17 at 2 pm, join [Ken Klassen](#), 8760 Executive Vice President of Business Development, to learn about recent updates to Alberta's Electricity and Natural Gas Markets and Federal Carbon Tax implications as well as ask any questions you might have about managing utility expenses. [Register Now!](#)



### ASCHA/Red Deer College (RDC) Certificate Programs Update

Due to a long wait list, RDC is providing an additional offering of the **Communications and Conflict Management Online Course**. The course starts on May 4. [For more information and registration.](#)

### Groundbreaking for Muriel Ross Abdurahman Court

Our Heartfelt Congratulations to Heartland Housing for breaking the ground of [Muriel Ross Abdurahman Court](#), a vibrant and welcoming affordable housing community in Fort Saskatchewan.

### Alberta Government Seniors Community Profiles

The Government of Alberta released senior's community profiles that provide a broad range of demographic, socio-economic, and population health statistics to assist with local planning in your community. The link is included [here](#)

### The 2021 Compensation and Benefits Survey and Report are coming!

We will be sending out the survey with adequate time for it to be completed over the month of June. The analysis will take place over July and August for the report will be ready in early Fall. Please make time to complete this survey when it becomes available; discounted and free versions of the final report will be available if you decide to complete a response.

### ASCHA Connect

The main discussion topics on ASCHA Connect this week were:  
[City of Edmonton waste management policy](#)  
[Increasing Access to Alberta's Rapid Testing Program](#)  
[Building Healthier Communities Webinar – May 6](#)

## May 7

[COVID-19 Discussion for Members](#)

## May 10

[AB Community Crime Prevention Association Annual Crime Prevention Conference](#)

## May 11

[Municipal Tools to Support Affordable Housing – ASCHA South Region.](#)

## May 12

[Municipal Tools to Support Affordable Housing – ASCHA Central Region](#)

## May 12

[Housing Supply Challenge: Round 2 – Getting Started Pre-development Processes](#)

## May 13

[Municipal Tools to Support Affordable Housing – ASCHA North Region](#)

## May 20

[Webinar: How to Move from Social Research to Social Change](#)

## June 1-3

[Canadian Rural and Remote Housing and Homelessness Symposium \(Virtual\) RD](#)

## June 5

[Geriatric Medicine Virtual Conf. 2021: Addressing Old & New Challenges](#)

## June 23

[Funding Programs for Efficiency & Reduced Operating Expenses](#)

[Relaxing restrictions on continuing care visits](#)

[ASCHA/Red Deer College Certificate Programs Additional Course Offering](#)

## Other Communication

### Building Healthier Communities Webinar

This webinar will focus on how environmental factors can influence key risk and protective factors for chronic diseases and mental health. Join Dr. Karen Lee on May 6 from 1 – 4 pm to learn strategies for implementing policy and practice interventions for improving the built environment for health and wellbeing. [Register here.](#)

## Employment Opportunities

[Providence Living in Vancouver is looking for a President & Chief Executive Officer \(CEO\)](#)

Submit vacant positions [here.](#)



## Resources

[How to Support Families and Residents Through the Joy and Grief of Reopening Visits \(IASC\)](#)

[Bill 70: Alberta's COVID-19 liability protection legislation, summary by Miller Thompson LLP](#)

[Ten things to know about Canada's 2021 federal budget by Nick Falvo, PhD](#)

[Homelessness 101 course materials by Nick Falvo, PhD, offered for the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association](#)

[Creative Ideas for Marketing Senior Care Facilities During the Pandemic](#)

[Marketing Senior Care During the Pandemic, Part 1: Best Practices to Follow](#)

[How to Support Families and Residents Through the Joy and Grief of Reopening Visits](#)

[Santis Webinar - Post-Federal Budget: Wave Three's Impact on the Health Care System and the pan-Canadian Political Environment](#)

[The evictions and rent arrears landscape across Canada \(Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation\)](#)