

May 18, 2011

Dear _____:

Hello, my name is Mary Anne Jablonski. I am the Minister of Alberta Seniors and Community Supports. Part of my job is making sure the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) program is run well and helps you live your best life. It is very important to me that you have a good quality of life.

In June 2010, I hired a company to look at how the PDD program could save money on things like how it is organized and how it works with the agencies it gives money to. I also wanted the company to look at new ways to ensure the PDD program continues to support individuals in the future. The company I hired is finished their work. The company wrote a report about their ideas on how the PDD program could be improved.

The report has good ideas. Here are some ideas I like and have asked the PDD program to start working on right away:

1. One website with clear information about the PDD program.
2. The same way to apply for PDD supports everywhere in Alberta.
3. More help and information for families who want to hire their own staff under Family Managed Services.
4. A new computer system so that it is easier to share and find information on how PDD supports are helping you.

I asked Genia Leskiw, who is the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Bonnyville - Cold Lake, to talk with people about the PDD program. She will talk to individuals like you about what is important for you to have from agencies that support you, and how the program gives money to agencies to support individuals. If you want to tell Mrs. Leskiw your ideas, you can write an e-mail, or ask to attend one of the meetings. Attached is a list of the meetings. Please contact Ms. Shirley Edwards by calling toll-free 310-0000 then 780-643-1156 or by e-mail at pddfocustgroups@gov.ab.ca to share your ideas or ask to attend a meeting.

I am very interested in your ideas because you know what works best for you and what makes a difference. I also want to let you know that the supports you receive from the PDD program will continue. The report is about how to improve the operation of the program, it is not about reducing the services you receive from the program.

I have attached a fact sheet on the Administrative Review and what will happen over the next couple of months. If you would like to read the news release and report, it is on my Ministry's website. There is also a video you can watch with me explaining what the administrative review is all about. You can find these things on the internet at: www.seniors.gov.ab.ca/PDD/AdminReview/.

Thank you for reading my letter. Individuals who get help from the PDD program are very important to me, and I am working hard to make the PDD program better for you.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Jablonski
Minister

Attachments