

HEATHER PFEIL
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Dear Mayor Brad Schlossberger:

I am writing to you today as a constituent, to ask you to introduce a Notice of Motion to Claresholm Council advocating that the Government of Alberta immediately pause implementation of the recent changes to the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Act (AISH) and creation of the Alberta Disability Assistance Program (ADAP); and that the Government of Alberta undertake meaningful, accessible consultation with persons with disabilities, advocacy organizations, and community partners; and finally, that the province publicly report on the social and economic impacts of these changes prior to moving forward. Edmonton unanimously passed a similar Notice of Motion worded as follow, which you might copy:

“That the Mayor, on behalf of City Council, advocate to the Government of Alberta to immediately pause implementation of the recent changes to the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Act and Alberta Disability Assistance program; and further, that the Government of Alberta undertake meaningful, accessible consultation with persons with disabilities, advocacy organizations, and community partners; and finally, that the Province publicly report on the social and economic impacts of these changes prior to moving forward.”

This motion is in the interest of our community because if the changes go ahead members of our community with disabilities will be pushed deeper into poverty. The changes will both cause human suffering and put demands on community agencies providing food, housing, and other support that they may be unable to meet.

I was deeply concerned to learn of the Alberta government’s decision earlier this year to consider the Canada Disability Benefit (CBD) non-exempt income. While other provinces are allowing people with disabilities to receive the full benefit, Alberta is treating the CBD as an indirect transfer and deducting it dollar-for-dollar from AISH.

Around the same time, in February of last year I learned the Alberta government is creating a new income support program intended to move more people with disabilities in the workforce called the Alberta Disability Assistance Program (ADAP). After the ADAP discussion guide was released in August 2025, I learned that everyone on AISH, regardless of willingness or want would be moved onto ADAP, which has created a lot of fear and anxiety. ADAP benefits would be \$200 per month less than AISH All these changes were passed by the UCP government in December 2025.

These decisions are extremely harsh and have prompted many disability advocates to raise their voices against government policies that have been described as harmfully targeting Albertans with disabilities. I urge you to push for a pause to the implementation of ADAP and advocate for effective policies that reflect the reality of our community members with disabilities.

I encourage the Town of Claresholm to also bring these issues to Alberta Municipalities and the Inter-City Forum on Social Policy, to engage other municipalities in a collective response.

Sincerely,



Heather Pfeil
RMT I VLLT

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I'm happy to share that, due to Edmontonians' advocacy, the Council voted unanimously, 12 to 0, in support of a motion asking the province to pause ADAP.

Read more

here <https://www.facebook.com/thezacharyweeks/posts/pfbid033mbDKn9BAsNXrRjtac2hf8gTbqDrvezVXoVJRskkjdhZKxAPfbpJdcHpKtLXHsnl>

It would be great to see other municipal councils do the same.