



# The VOICE of Albertans with Disabilities

September 2017

## Why Voting is Important

Voting in an election is your democratic right and your choice. Our city and our lives are shaped by the outcome of the 2017 Municipal Elections.



Casting your ballot for a mayor, city councillor and school board trustee means you are participating in choosing the leaders that will make decisions about policies and programs that impact your daily life.

Did you drive, bus, walk or bike today? Your city/town council is responsible for roads, bike routes, transit, LRT, and sidewalks. Do you have children or grandchildren who attend a school? The Public and Catholic School Districts oversee the operation of schools across the city and the implementation of programming and curriculum for students. Will you go to a recreation centre to swim, workout or play a team sport? Will you take a walk in a park or off-leash area? City council makes decisions about where and when recreation and attractions will be built, and how parks and open spaces are managed. They also oversee the price for these amenities.

If you said "Yes" to any of these things, then you should vote!

Voting for a candidate that best represents your views is the single most important action you can take to create a city and school board that stands for your beliefs. This fall, make it happen - vote!

## Who Can Vote in the 2017 Election

You may vote in the 2017 Municipal Election if you:

- are at least 18 years old,
- are a Canadian citizen,
- have lived in Alberta since April 16, 2017,
- you live in the ward where you vote on election day.

To vote, you must present a piece of authorized (acceptable) identification with your name and current residential address. Examples of authorized identification:

- Alberta Driver's Licence or vehicle insurance certificate
- Alberta Identification Card
- bank statement, credit card statement, personal cheque or utility bill

- pension statement
  - lease or mortgage statement
  - tax assessment notice
  - correspondence from a post-secondary school
- NOTE: Passports, work, and student ID are not accepted as authorized identification.

The full list of authorized identification is available on the Elections website.

[www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/mc\\_elections](http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/mc_elections)

Search your city/town website for more information on candidates and where to vote.

## Education for Life Bursaries!

Voice of Albertans is proud to present the Education for Life Bursaries to 6 qualified post secondary students, all entering their first year of studies. We had a hard time choosing from the over 50 applications we received. It is with great pleasure we wish these students the best on their educational journey!

**LLDSE**  
Literacy and Learning Day Society of Edmonton

**NORTHLANDS**  
Expo Centre  
"Hall F"

**Save The Date**  
**15<sup>TH</sup>**  
Anniversary  
**Literacy & Learning Day 2017**  
**Saturday, October 28, 2017**

**FREE FREE FREE**

**Featuring 2 Keynote Speakers:**  
**Renowned Bestselling Author & Parenting Consultant**  
**Barbara Coloroso**  
"Just because it's not wrong, doesn't make it right!"  
**&**  
**Bestselling Author & Canadian Parenting Expert**  
**Alyson Schafer**  
"Honey, I wrecked the kids!"

For more information watch our site  
**www.literacyday.ca**

*Empowered adults inspiring children's life long learning.*

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Website: [www.vadsociety.ca](http://www.vadsociety.ca); Email: [vad@vadsociety.ca](mailto:vad@vadsociety.ca)  
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @VADisabilities

## ADF Forum - October 5, 2017

You are invited to attend the Alberta Disabilities Forum, October 5th, 2017, from 9:30-2:30 at the Chateau Nova, 13920 Yellowhead Trail, Edmonton.



The forum is an opportunity to network with other organizations that are connected to the disability sector, with discussions and consultations on the future direction of Voice of Albertans with Disabilities,

presentations on the National Consultation on Accessibility Legislation and the Hotel Accessibility Project and updates on the work being undertaken by ADF Working Groups re Accessible and Affordable housing and Accessibility.

Confirm your attendance through Eventbrite, follow the link to reserve your tickets today - <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/fall-forum-meeting-opportunity-to-network-tickets-37699317674>

## #GivingTuesdayCa

Most people know about Black Friday and Cyber Monday ...now GivingTuesday is coming to Canada - a new day for giving on November 28, 2017.

We are proud to be a #GivingTuesdayCa partner. [www.GivingTuesday.ca](http://www.GivingTuesday.ca)



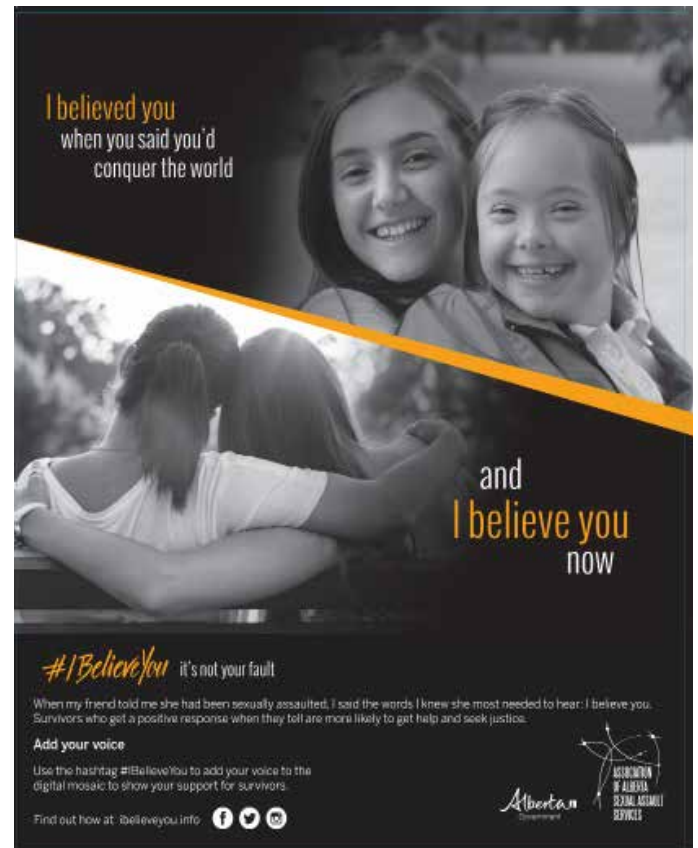
## #IBelieveYou

September 11, 2017, was the official kick off of the #IBelieveYou campaign. Meloney Patterson, Executive Director of Voice of Albertans with Disabilities, gave a speech in support of the campaign launch and we are pleased to showcase the newest poster in the #IBelieveYou campaign that features an individual with a disability.



Together, We Hold the Power!

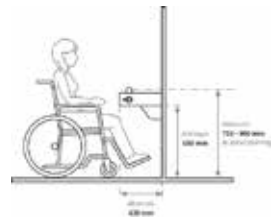
Full Participation - Accessibility - Equity



## Project Updates

Voice of Albertans with Disabilities has completed the *Creating Accessible Hotels in Alberta* project which includes sections on Current Practice, Accessibility Tools and Recommendations for Action. Our website lists three tools developed as part of the project *Creating Accessible Hotels in Alberta*.

1. Templates of Accessible Hotel Rooms and Bathrooms
2. VAD Checklist for Guests
3. The Hotel Accessibility Self-Assessment Guide



To review these tools, follow the link: <http://vadsociety.ca/what-we-do/projects-and-research> We look forward to your feedback about this great project.

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The Voice of Albertans with Disabilities' Annual Report is available for review: <http://vadsociety.ca/blog/category/annual-reports>