

April 08, 2024

To whom it may concern,

Re: Alberta Disability Services Professional Appreciation Week:

I am writing this letter in my capacity as Board President of the Alberta Disability Worker Association (ADWA) to bring awareness to a matter of significance.

The [Alberta Disability Workers Association \(ADWA\)](#) is the established professional voice and advocate for the 15,000+ professionals employed in Community Disability Services (CDS) across the Province of Alberta. ADWA was formed in 2010, and one of our important roles is to heighten Albertans' awareness of our essential and valuable workforce by publicly recognizing the positive impact the profession has on the lives of people with disabilities, their families, and the overall community. ADWA is a professional association, not a union; our members are Community Disability Service professionals who voluntarily register for membership.

The Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services, Jason Nixon, has declared the week of May 20-26, 2024, as the Alberta Disability Services Professional Appreciation Week. This declaration, which has been enacted in perpetuity (3rd Monday in May), is a testament to the unwavering dedication and invaluable contributions made by disability service professionals in our communities.

I respectfully request that where possible Alberta's communities join ADWA in acknowledging this significant occasion. By doing so, we can collectively raise awareness about the essential role that CDS professionals play in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities who live, work, and play in communities, across Alberta. One example is that various CDS organizations are hoping that their municipalities will "light up" on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, to showcase the breadth of this profession across Alberta.

Your support in this initiative would not only serve to honor the dedicated professionals working in disability services but also encourage a more inclusive and understanding societal ethos.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

All the best,



Alexander Stoye
Board President
Alberta Disability Worker Association (ADWA)