2025 Alberta Government changes affecting people with disabilities

1. Offers no response to surveys showing how families are **waiting three years to access FSCD supports**, and how both FSCD and PDD are failing individuals and families
2. Introduces a Ministerial Order that **permits the exclusion of students with disabilities** and only these students from in-person learning **during support staff strikes** in four school divisions.
3. Cuts funding to Inclusion Alberta, Voice of Albertans with Disabilities **and eliminates funding** to three self-advocacy organizations in Edmonton, Calgary and South region.
4. **Fails to consult** with individuals and families (while claiming to have consulted with individuals) about the planned Alberta Disability Assistance Program (ADAP) which will replace AISH for most adults in 2026.
5. Decides to **claw back Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) of $200/month** from individuals on AISH (**unlike all other provinces and territories**)
6. Forces individuals on AISH to apply for CDB, incur **medical form costs** for Disability Tax Credit application if needed, or to be **penalized by having their AISH reduced by $200/month** starting Oct 2025 if they do not apply for the CDB or inform AISH.
7. **Increases rent** **by $220/month**, or 63%, for Community Housing tenants with disabilities who receive support from AISH.
8. **Removes the cap** that limited the Government of Alberta to **garnishing no more than 10% of an individual's monthly AISH benefit** for debt repayment.
9. Announces details of ADAP plan which will **force all 77,000+ AISH recipients onto ADAP** (with those in palliative care and continuing care (nursing home) manually returned to AISH), **reduce benefits by $200/month** after a transitional period and **reduce earnable amount before clawbacks from $1072/month to $350/month**. Clawback amounts on AISH rise from 50% to 100% on AISH with sliding scale above $350 on ADAP. Those wanting to remain on AISH will have to **re-apply and pay for medical re-assessment** with **no right of appeal**. ADAP offers employment counselling support, but services unlikely to be able to support influx of 70,000 people in July 2026.
10. AISH system moved from assigned caseworker model to calls handled by first available AISH worker because there are **not enough AISH workers** to manage caseloads. Results: different answers to questions depending on who answers, lengthier contacts because have to explain one's situation each time one calls.

A few more numbers…

Current AISH/month = $1,901/month
Current poverty line in Calgary = $2,478 and in rural areas = $2,324
Current % of people on AISH with **no additional** earned income = 84%