



For immediate release
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New youth addictions residential detoxification and stabilization program opens in Grande Prairie

*Grande Prairie, Alberta...*AADAC has opened a new youth residential detoxification and stabilization program in Grande Prairie, expanding the Commission's existing range of services for young Albertans.

With this addition in Grande Prairie, which includes four beds, AADAC now operates a total of 61 residential detoxification beds for youth, including:

- 21 court-ordered detoxification and assessment beds in Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Calgary, Picture Butte and Red Deer in support of the *Protection Of Children Abusing Drugs Act* (PChAD); and,
- 40 voluntary detoxification and stabilization treatment beds in Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Grande Prairie

"With this added support by government, Alberta's young people will have more opportunities to get on track to leading healthier lives," says Janet Skinner, CEO of AADAC.

The establishment of the Safe Communities Secretariat is a priority under Premier Ed Stelmach's plan to promote strong and vibrant communities and reduce crime. The Government of Alberta is committed to working together with other levels of government, community agencies, business, police, and all citizens to fight crime and to ensure Albertans feel safe in their communities.

"This new service enhancement builds on considerable work underway as AADAC follows through on commitments to Albertans to build safe communities where we can raise healthy children," says Skinner. "This will ensure an increased level of residential detoxification and residential treatment is available to youth and support for their families who are experiencing problems associated with alcohol, other drugs and gambling."

As with existing youth treatment programs, this four-bed treatment program is provincial in scope and offers counselling services to Alberta families. Similar to the detoxification and stabilization programs in Edmonton, Calgary and Lethbridge, the Grande Prairie program is a 6-10 day, family-centered residential treatment program for youth ages 12-17.

AADAC has treatment programs for individuals of all ages, and information and prevention services are available to every Albertan. Immediate assistance for an addiction concern can be accessed 24 hours a day by calling AADAC's toll-free help line at 1-866-33-AADAC (22322). Additional information is available on AADAC's website: www.aadac.com.

AADAC is an agency of the Government of Alberta and reports to the Minister of Health and Wellness. It operates and funds services that address problems related to alcohol, other drugs and gambling, and undertakes related addictions research.