

# Not-for-Profits: A distinct provider group

CHAA's not-for-profit (NFP) organizations were early settlers to Alberta and served as the first health providers in the province, building infrastructure and establishing health services in areas that had no government-run hospitals or nursing homes. Throughout the 1900s, faith-based NFPs grew to fill an extensive and essential role in the delivery of health and hospital services. In 1994 the provincial government signed a master agreement with CHAA to formalize our integral role in provincial health services planning and delivery.

Today, CHAA member organizations remain essential health system partners and as such, are required to meet all provincial requirements related to quality, safety, accreditation and medical staff bylaws. We operate seamlessly within the publicly funded system, which means it is often invisible to patients, residents and families that they are accessing care or housing within an independent NFP facility.

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CHAA's faith-based NFP facilities are legally recognized as separate and distinct from Alberta Health Services (AHS) facilities and private, for-profit facilities. The operators of CHAA facilities are all:

- Not-for-profit providers
- Legally recognized as independent organizations
- Entitled to be managed independently with their own board, staff and programming
- Entitled to operate in accordance with their mission, vision, values and ethical principles.

As the recognized voice for faith-based NFPs, CHAA has earned a decades-long reputation for strong collaboration with government and stakeholders. Our approach has always been non-partisan, apolitical, and in the best interests of the publicly funded, publicly delivered system. We work as true partners with the Government of Alberta, Alberta Health Services, and the labour organizations representing our workers.

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## THE EVOLUTION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN ALBERTA

1863	1891	1905	1906	1917	1929	1943	1948	1957	1994	1994	2009
First faith-based NFP health facility (St. Albert)	First non-faith-based hospital (Medicine Hat)	Alberta becomes a province	First urban municipal hospital (Strathcona)	First rural municipal hospital (Lloydminster)	First provincially owned hospital (U of A)	CHAA established	Alberta introduces public funding for health care	Canada adopts publicly funded health care system	Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) established in Alberta	CHAA operators recognized as health system partner	Alberta Health Services (AHS) formed to consolidate health service delivery