Patient Voice on a Provincial Level

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Recent Polls

- Polls in Canada over the last four years have showed Canadians are increasingly concerned about their health care
- A 2010 recommendation in the Minister's Advisory Committee on Health report, *Putting People First*, was to introduce a Health Advocate and a Health Charter
- Another was to engage the public in future development of legislation, regulations and policies.

Office of the Health Advocates

- Health Advocate
- Seniors Advocate
- Mental Health Patient Advocate
- co-located in one office with central triage for concerns
- Report directly to the Minister of Health of the Province

Role of the Health Advocate

- Build awareness of the Health Charter
- Provide support for Albertans raising concerns or complaints by referring them to the appropriate complaint mechanism
- Provide a forum for complaints related to the Charter that have no other means to be addressed
- Assist Albertans in navigating the health system

Health Charter

- Sets out what Albertans can expect from their health system and their responsibilities when interacting with the system
- Sets out the process to further engage Albertans in discussion on the content of the Charter

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"Putting people and their families at the centre of their health care.."

- Patient/family centred care initiatives
- Charter reflects the core concepts of patient/family centred care approach:
 - Information
 - Respect and Dignity
 - Participation
 - Collaboration
- Supports education of Albertans about the Charter
- Be a safe place to raise concerns and get assistance

Other initiatives

- Alberta Health Services
- Health Quality Council of Alberta
- Covenant Health
- Other organizations
- All have initiatives of their own that support the patient voice remaining a strong component of health care in Alberta

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