

# Resource Guide for Housing in Red Deer



Produced By  
Central Alberta Women's Outreach Society  
403-347-2480 (1-866-347-2480)



## Emergency Housing

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### **49<sup>th</sup> St Youth Shelter**

Shelter for youths 12-17. Support and counseling and/or a safe place to sleep.

**Phone: 341-3190**                      **4633 49<sup>th</sup> St**

### **People's Place Shelter**

Provides temporary housing for men, women, and families. Also coordinates auxiliary shelter program Inn From The Cold in cooperation with local churches during the winter months.

**Phone: 342-4722**                      **6002-54 Ave**

### **Safe Harbour Shelter**

Provides overnight accommodation (open 8pm-7:30am) for those who are without accommodation and who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

**4712-51 Ave - enter from the alley**

### **Women's Emergency Shelter**

24 hour crisis counseling, as well as temporary safe accommodations, and referrals to other services.

**Phone: 346-5643**



## Things to Consider

- What is my monthly income? How much of my income can I spend on rent? (Best case scenario is to spend 30% of one's income on housing, 50% is not too bad but anything higher is taking a risk)
- How will I pay my damage deposit? Will the landlord negotiate with me?
- Can I afford the utilities? How much will they cost me (call the utility company to find out before moving in)? Is my credit with the utility companies good enough that I will be able to hook up the utilities I need?
- Do I need a place that will take children/pets/smokers? Am I willing to make any sacrifices in these areas?
- Who can I use as references? Do I have their current contact information?

**It is important to remember that housing costs money. You may not always be able to afford what you want so you may have to make sacrifices until you can increase your income.**



## Agencies That May Be Able To Help

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### **Canadian Mental Health.....342-2266**

Community Outreach workers are available to assist with housing and related issues. Takes applications for P&S Investments affordable housing units.  
(member of the coordinated community outreach team 358-7771)

### **Central Alberta Housing Society...342-4722**

Provides affordable, transitional housing for up to six months for single individuals who are working at least 20 hours/week.  
(member of the coordinated community outreach team 358-7771)

### **Innovative Housing Society.....314-4211**

Assists people in finding affordable, accessible housing. Works to promote the housing needs in the community.

### **Métis Housing.....341-6789**

Provides housing and support for individuals/ families.

### **Native Friendship Centre.....340-0020**

Community Outreach worker available to assist with housing and related issues.  
(member of the coordinated community outreach team 358-7771)

**Red Deer Housing Authority.....343-2177**

Provides subsidized housing units for families and a rent supplement program for persons who are unable to obtain adequate housing (because of income or disability)

**Residential Society.....309-6737**

Provides innovative, affordable housing for those in need. (evictions, mental illness, family violence etc.)

**Schizophrenia Society.....342-5760**

Works with other non profits to provide a variety of supported housing options to individuals with schizophrenia or other related severe and persistent mental illnesses.

**Shining Mountains.....346-9794**

Supported homes for individuals and families at risk of apprehension, coming out of treatment/rehab., and/or at risk of homelessness.

**Twilight Homes.....343-0680**

Provides subsidized housing for seniors. Applicants must be self-reliant and able to meet their own needs.

**Women's Outreach.....347-2480**

Outreach workers available to provide support and information regarding housing and other issues. (member of the coordinated community outreach team 358-7771)



## Questions To Ask Before Renting



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- How much is the rent? How do I pay the rent – cheque, money order, direct withdrawal etc.?
  - How much is the damage deposit? Will you let me make payments if I cannot pay it all right now?
  - What utilities am I responsible for paying?
  - Do I have to sign a lease? What happens if I need to break my lease?
  - Are pets/children/smoking allowed in the building?



Make sure that you and the landlord do a walk through of the property together before you move in. Make note of any damage that is already there. This is so that when you move out you are not held responsible and made to pay.



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If you have questions about your rights and responsibilities as a renter you can phone **Landlord and Tenant Information Services**



at 346-4636 or 343-0410

## Pointers



- Finding housing will most often come down to money - there are three ways to increase your income: earn more, spend less, or sell something.
- Pay rent first - there are lots of resources in Red Deer for food, clothing etc.
- Be careful if considering living with a roommate - are they reliable, trustworthy? If they leave can you afford to pay all of the rent/utilities on your own?
- It is your responsibility to pay your rent on time every month - every eviction you have makes it harder to find another place to live.
- Getting behind on your bills can affect your housing - you may not be able to find a place that includes utilities but may not be able to hook them up again if you owe from a previous residence.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT YOUR HOUSING IS  
YOUR RESPONSIBILITY  
IS IT A PRIORITY TO YOU?**



If your answer is YES then this may mean that you need to make sacrifices in order to find/maintain housing.

For example:

- you may have to use soup kitchens instead of grocery stores so you can pay your rent
  
  - you may have to give homemade gifts for special occasions so that you can pay your rent
  
  - you may have to go to the clothing bank instead of the mall so that you can pay your rent
  
  - you may have to walk instead of taking a cab so that you can pay your rent...
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