



# **MUNICIPAL HOSPITALS**

## **HOSPITALIZATION THROUGH CO-OPERATION**

No. 13 in a series  
of pamphlets on  
Alberta Government  
Services.

**Government of the  
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA**

## HOSPITALIZATION THROUGH CO-OPERATION

Low-cost hospitalization is made available to approximately 75 percent of Alberta's people through the services of your Government in co-operation with the municipalities.

### Hospitalization:

Under authority of the Hospitals Act, the Government is authorized to:

- (a) Refund 50 percent of the ward rate over and above \$1 a day to any municipality which agrees to hospitalize its ratepayers and their dependents at a direct cost to the patient of not more than \$1 a day for standard ward care.
- (b) Refund the same amount to any municipality which sells contracts to its non-ratepayers and agrees to provide standard ward rate hospitalization at \$1 a day to these non-ratepayers and their dependents.

At December 31, 1951, a total of 650,000 Albertans, or 73 percent

of the population, was protected by the benefits of this plan.

In addition, your Government pays 70 cents a day to all approved hospitals for every day a resident of the Province is in hospital.

### Municipal Hospital Districts:

Alberta has the highest hospital bed capacity rate of any Province in Canada. This has been made possible through your Government's Municipal Hospital Plan.

Any area may be organized as a municipal hospital district on application to the Minister of Health. The application may come as a resolution from the municipal councils concerned, or may be by petition on the official forms signed by at least 25 percent of the resident ratepayers. When a district is established, a provisional board is appointed, which, with the help of the government, drafts a hospital scheme for its area.

The plan may include the building of a hospital or arrangements for using the services of an established hospital. After two-thirds of the voters are in favor of the scheme, it is put into effect.

The Municipal Hospital District owns and controls its own hospital while administration and opera-

tion are in the hands of its own elected board. Patients pay a minimum per diem rate—usually \$1 a day plus extras—while the balance of the operating cost is obtained through municipal taxation.

In estimating this cost, allowance is made for the assistance provided by the Alberta Government such as the regular patient grant of 70 cents a day, the maternity hospitalization grant, the special provincial payment for old age pensioners and the special provincial payment of 50 percent of standard ward costs.

There are 61 municipal hospital districts now organized in Alberta with a total capacity of 1,786 beds and bassinets. Municipal hospital accommodation is provided for approximately 320,000 of our people. The assessable acreage covered by the municipal hospital plan is 22,685,590 and the average mill rate is 6.19.

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#### Municipal Hospital Districts

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These areas may be organized as a municipal hospital district in application to the Minister of Health. The application may come as a resolution from the municipal council or as a petition signed by at least 25 percent of the ratepayers. When a district is established, a provisional board is appointed, which, with the aid of the government, develops a plan for its own hospital.

The plan may include the building of a hospital or arrangement for using the services of an existing hospital. After two-thirds of the voters are in favor of the scheme, it is put into effect.

#### The Municipal Hospital District

The Municipal Hospital District owns and controls its own hospital while administering and operating