



*Celebrating 40 Years Focused on Fairness*

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## **News release**

October 16, 2007

### **Alberta Ombudsman 2006/07 Annual Report Released**

*Edmonton...* The Alberta Ombudsman's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Report was submitted to the Legislature by G.B. (Gord) Button, Alberta Ombudsman on Monday, October 15, 2007 under the authority of Section 28(1) of the *Ombudsman Act*.

2007 marks the 40th anniversary of the Alberta Ombudsman's office, the first such office in North America. Forty years and 15,000 investigations later, the Ombudsman's goal is to ensure fair administration for all Albertans. Investigation of a specific complaint may raise examples of isolated unfairness specific to an individual, but it also shines a spotlight on systemic issues which, when rectified, create better government experiences for all citizens. In 2006/07, the Ombudsman made 79 recommendations to jurisdictional authorities for changes that were necessary to address unfairness identified during our investigations. Virtually all of these recommendations were implemented.

G. B. (Gord) Button, Alberta Ombudsman invites the Media, or anyone with questions to contact our Office.

The Alberta Ombudsman is an officer of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and reports directly to the Legislative Assembly. The Alberta Ombudsman operates independently from any part of the Alberta government and individual elected officials. The authority for the Alberta Ombudsman to investigate complaints is found in the Alberta *Ombudsman Act* and includes the decisions and actions of provincial government departments, boards, agencies, commissions, designated professional organizations and the patient concerns resolution process of Regional Health Authorities.

For more information about the Alberta Ombudsman visit [www.ombudsman.ab.ca](http://www.ombudsman.ab.ca).

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