

The Epilepsy Association of Calgary is a local, charitable, social service agency, dedicated to providing programs in support of those with and affected by epilepsy. The Epilepsy Association is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, and implemented by professional staff. We have provided services in Calgary and area since 1955. In 2000, we opened an office in Red Deer, Alberta to serve the Central Alberta region.

- Approximately 20,000 Calgarians have epilepsy. This is three times the combined total of those living with muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis and cerebral palsy.
- Epilepsy is a disorder of the Central Nervous System, characterized by recurrent seizures.
- A seizure is a symptom of a temporary generation of excess electrochemical energy inside the brain's cells.
- Epilepsy is episodic. For most people, seizures are brief and infrequent. Between seizures a person with epilepsy can lead a healthy, productive life.
- There are over 30 different types of seizures, ranging from convulsions to brief periods where the person appears to daydream.
- The impact of a seizure disorder varies widely among those affected.
- Skills and knowledge are important for the person with epilepsy as well as family, friends, and peers.
- Institutional response and community values and attitudes significantly affect those coping with epilepsy.

Epilepsy is more than a medical condition, it is a lived personal experience. It affects all aspects of an individual's life and, therefore, all aspects need to be considered during intervention. Each person has a role or responsibility:

The person with epilepsy has the responsibility to inform him/herself about his/her condition and adopt a sensible lifestyle that includes regular consultations with his/her physician.

Family and friends have the responsibility to inform themselves of the condition and support the individual in his/her decision-making.

Family physicians and neurologists have the responsibility as professional allies to provide support, information, and expertise. They are partners with the patient in maintaining an open and honest relationship.

Epilepsy associations/counselors have the responsibility to provide a safe environment for individuals to deal with issues related to epilepsy. They can also advocate, provide referrals, and educate the community to increase understanding and acceptance for those with epilepsy.

Tear off for mailing.

Please make cheques payable to:
**Epilepsy Association
of Calgary**

Annual Membership \$ 20.00
 Life Membership \$200.00
 Donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Method of payment: Cheque Money Order VISA Mastercard

Credit Card No. _____ **Expiry Date** _____ **Signature** _____

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Please send me information on volunteer opportunities.

Yes, I want to participate!



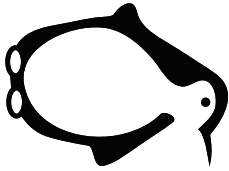
Services provided by the Epilepsy Association of Calgary:

Support Program

- Support and Information Counseling
- Advocacy and Referral
- Support Groups for All Ages
- Courses and Seminars
- Taking Control Skills Development

Community Education

- Presentations
- Literature/Video Production & Distribution
- Courses and Seminars
- Resource Library
- Website
- Volunteer Training



Please return this portion to:
Epilepsy Association of Calgary
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Epilepsy Association of Calgary

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Central Alberta Office

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Toll Free: 1-866-EPILEPSY

A Social Service Agency Providing:

Support
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