

Tax Time Pays Off

In 2004, there were 14,917 Edmonton residents who were eligible for the Alberta Child Health Benefit (ACHB), but not collecting it. This program provides, on average, \$265 per year per child for prescription drugs, dental and vision care, and emergency ambulance services – a total of nearly \$4 million in unclaimed benefits.

Investigating further, Vibrant Communities Edmonton (VCE) discovered nine other benefits, subsidies, and tax credits that often go unclaimed by eligible families. Collaborating with Canada Revenue Agency, Alberta Human Resources, and others, VCE launched *Make Tax Time Pay*, designed to help low-income residents with their tax submissions.

Beginning in January 2006, the program has been promoted throughout Edmonton. From January through April, partners are operating volunteer-staffed tax assistance centres in low-income areas. The goal is to help 500 more families receive ACHB this year – increasing their capacity to cover medical expenses by a total of \$132,500.



[Vibrant Communities Edmonton's Making Tax Time Pay Campaign](#)

Archived Updates:

- [Make Tax Time Pay February 2006](#)
- [Coaching Matters](#)
- [From Surviving to Thriving](#)
- [Activity Update 2004](#)

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