

## OPPORTUNITIES FUND OVERVIEW

- Provides employment supports and services tailored to meet the needs of the participants. Services are provided throughout Central Alberta.
- All individuals must **self-identify** as having a permanent physical or mental disability and be over the age of 15 years.
- Individuals must be unemployed for the last five years.
- Individuals must be stable and committed to securing employment. Each application is looked at based on its own merit.
- We are **unable** to work with individuals who have been;
  - on EI in the last 5 years,
  - have an **active** WCB claim,
  - are receiving disability benefits through an insurance provider,
  - or qualify for provincially funded programs or services.
- **MUST be funder of last resort.** All other funding must be exhausted first; we are able to work with other funders and service providers collaboratively. May assist participants with;
  - skills upgrading or training to obtain employment,
  - paying supplementary costs for training. i.e.: books, transportation, daycare etc.,
  - one-time costs that are directly related to employment like specialized clothing needs, initial transportation costs or initial child care costs, etc.,
  - adaptive equipment for the participant that is required for employment or training,
  - and/or a wage subsidy for employers to offset some of the costs of training participants for employment.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Opportunities Funds Program @ 403-343-6249 or 1-877-643-6249**