

"Why become a member of ACWS?"

Raise Awareness & Shift Attitudes:

- Province-wide messaging and the strength of a unified voice
- Amplify your messages through our social media network
- Access to the ACWS Members Hub, an online information database and community
- Receive our quarterly e-newsletter, The ACWS Lift
- 18,996 individuals accessed online information about our members on the 'Find A Shelter Page' in 2021
- 100 calls relayed to member shelters every month through the 1-866 Helpline
- Be a key delivery group for Leading Change™ training in your community
- Access to media releases and communication tools that can be adapted for use in your community
- Alberta men's attitude survey with regional breakdowns to assist in your community messaging

Access to Information and Expertise:

- Shelter workforce survey (released every 2 years) allows you to benchmark salaries
- An Ethical and Moral Framework for all members
- The ACWS Annual Data Count: counts what's important to abused women, children and seniors, i.e., without ACWS the number of turnaways would not be released publicly.
- Aggregate quarterly data
- Promising practices available online, opportunity for you to showcase your practices
- Advocacy with different levels of government – Hill Day and Day at the Leg to introduce shelter members to new government members/cabinet ministers and critics with briefing binders.
- Conferences: in previous years we hosted an Outcomes Conference and the Leading Change Summit
- ACWS website features a "Find a Shelter" page listing member shelter names and contact information along with programs offered (child minding, accept pets, etc.)
- Development of the Acuity Scale and participation in ground breaking action-based research
- Receive timely and effective responses to database development, questions, and challenges.
- Each shelter receives customized care from ACWS
- Support and online professional development training for board and staff.

"What are the financial benefits of membership?"

CanTalk Translation Services. ACWS covers [CanTalk](#) subscription costs for all members, with individual members responsible for covering their actual usage.

Danger Assessment Training. Training sessions for ACWS members are announced several times a year. The Danger Assessment (DA) is a validated method of assessing a woman's risk of being killed by a current or former partner. It has become a standard practice for many ACWS member shelters in their intake procedures, empowering women at risk with information. The data collected also provides barometric insight into the state of domestic violence across the province.

St. Johns Ambulance Courses. ACWS Members save on courses and on first aid kits.

Metrix Group. ACWS Members have the option to use auditors with ACWS negotiated rates.

Chateau Lacombe Hotel (Edmonton). ACWS Members receive reduced room rates.

Women's Shelters Canada. ACWS members receive a reduced membership fee with [Women's Shelters Canada](#).

Outcome Tracker. Outcome Tracker is a shared ACWS and member database. Through ACWS, members receive a discounted rate and support from the ACWS Help Desk. In addition, ACWS has developed a Sharepoint data collection app that is available to members at no cost.

ATB - Group Banking Rates - "[Community Spirit Account](#)". ATB offers banking to non-profit organizations. ATB also extends a banking offer to shelter clients.

Alberta Municipalities Employee Benefit Plans. ACWS members have access to Alberta Municipalities employee benefits, as well as their pension plan for not-for-profits. Alberta Municipalities hosts an annual convention and trade show and has a job postings service. Benefits clients have free access to [e2r Solutions](#) Human Resource services, with a discount on **online courses** through the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety.