



Redford announces funding plan for non-profits

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PC candidate Alison Redford speaks to media about the most current release regarding non-profit policy, federal crime bill and health care at her headquarters in Edmonton,

Widespread outcry over nearly \$7 million in disability cuts wouldn't have occurred last year if she were in the Premier's seat, said Alison Redford.

The wannabe premier announced on Monday a new plan to better fund and staff not-for-profit agencies in the province, like the ones who

manage Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD).

“When we look at (those) agencies we see a real inconsistency in terms of services provided by people that are employed by the government and people that aren't,” said Redford. “In the case of PDD, we've sometimes seen people working in agencies who could make more money at MacDonaldis than they're getting through not for profit agencies. That's just wrong.”

Redford vows to bridge the pay gap between not-for-profit employees who do the same work as some government employees.

The former justice minister said “long-term sustainable” funding is the key, and promises to set up a multi-year funding model for non-fat profits.

“(The) demand on services will continue to grow, and we can't presume that agencies like that are going to continue to provide services if we can't put in place appropriate supports,” she said.

Redford also spoke out about the federal government's new "tough on crime" bill, agreeing with their direction to curb crime across the

country.

"There's a few pieces that I'd like to see go further, not in terms of penalties, but in terms of some of the work that can be done to

support the policing authority's ability to investigate. But we can work on that," said Redford, adding that she's proud of the work government has done to make advances on things like minimum sentences for certain crimes.

Heading into Saturday's final vote to replace outgoing Premier Ed Stelmach, Redford said this week she'll continue to trumpet changes in

health care and reversing more than \$100 million in education cuts from the 2011/2012 budget.

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