

Friends of the Society Provincial Archives of Alberta AGM 2026

Please join us for our 2026 Annual General Meeting

Members and non-members are all welcome!

- ✓ Report of the Friends' activities throughout the year.
- ✓ Latest news about programs and activities at the PAA.
- ✓ Special presentation on the Eugenics Records.

WHEN: Thursday, September 17, 2026

TIME: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

LOCATION: 8555 Roper Road NW (attend in-person) **OR** attend on-line with [Zoom link for the AGM](#)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88036024932?pwd=toXGlfF93JHvtGzzNrYkCxaR6c1ftC.1>

Presentation: An Appalling Responsibility: Eugenics Records at the Provincial Archives of Alberta

Presentation Synopsis: Alberta's controversial eugenics program ran from 1928 to 1972, during which the Eugenics Board oversaw the sexual sterilization of 2832 individuals. According to academic research, women, children, and Indigenous people were targeted at a higher rate than others. The Board's actions came under public scrutiny for various reasons, and, in the late 1990s, there were numerous lawsuits against the Alberta Government for wrongful sterilization.

A one-time schedule to transfer the board's records to the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) was approved in 1987. The case files were given a final disposition of "Specimen" at a rate of 1 in 5, meaning 80% of them were destroyed. The ones retained by the PAA are covered by access and privacy legislation, which restricts access for 75 years. The known gaps in the records, their sensitive nature, and the controversy around the program compounds the short-sighted record-keeping decision and leaves the PAA looking to provide information that no longer exists.

In our AGM presentation, we will discuss which Eugenics records the PAA acquired, theories on why the records were given a specimen disposition, how the specimen disposition has silenced the experiences of many of the patients, and how the PAA is using alternate records to uncover some of these stories. We will provide examples of extended search techniques, demonstrate how researchers are impacted by restrictions, and outline changes the PAA has made to scheduling policies.

Presenters: Angie Dilts, Access Archivist at the Provincial Archives of Alberta

Please consider attending our AGM on September 17, 2026, and becoming a member of our society. If you are interested in serving on the board, positions up for election are Treasurer, Vice-President and two Director-at-Large.

RSVP at friendspaainfo@gmail.com