

Certain people can also access the registry, in the following situations:

- **A designated government official** conducting a protection investigation may apply for access to the registry without consent of the person being investigated.
- **A peace officer may apply** for access to the registry when the information is required for the peace officer to carry out his or her duties.
- **An employer or other person may apply** for access (with the person's written consent) to check if a person is listed on the AAR.

### **What should I do if I think someone is abusing or neglecting a vulnerable adult?**

If you witness an at-risk individual being abused or neglected, you should immediately report the abuse to the police.

If you believe a participant of Community Living disABILITY Services is being abused or neglected, you must report the abuse or neglect to the nearest Manitoba Families office.

If you believe a patient is being abused or neglected, you must report your concerns to the Protection for Persons in Care Office of Manitoba Health.

### **For more Information**

Contact the Adult Abuse Registry Unit of Manitoba Families.

Phone: 204-945-6967

Toll Free: 855-844-8834

Email: [AAR@gov.mb.ca](mailto:AAR@gov.mb.ca)

Website: [manitoba.ca/fs/adult\\_abuse\\_registry.html](http://manitoba.ca/fs/adult_abuse_registry.html)

or go to **manitoba.ca** and search *adult abuse registry*

### **Note:**

*This brochure is for general information purposes only. In the event of a conflict with the legislation, it is always the legislation that will apply in each case.*

# The Adult Abuse Registry (AAR)

## What you should know about the AAR

Manitoba 

## What is the Adult Abuse Registry (AAR)?

The AAR is a database which records the identity of individuals who have been found to have abused or neglected vulnerable adults. Employers can use this tool to screen potential employees and volunteers who want to work directly with vulnerable adults.

The Adult Abuse Registry is established and maintained by the Registrar of the Adult Abuse Registry Unit, in accordance with *The Adult Abuse Registry Act*.

### Definition: Who is a vulnerable adult?

For the purposes of the AAR, a vulnerable adult means a **vulnerable person** defined in *The Vulnerable Persons Living with a Mental Disability Act* (VPA) and a **patient** defined in *The Protection for Persons in Care Act* (PPCA):

- **Vulnerable person** under the VPA means an adult living with a mental disability who is in need of assistance to meet his or her basic needs with regard to personal care or management of his or her property.
- **Patient** under the PPCA means an adult, other than a vulnerable person under the VPA, who is:
  - a resident or an in-patient in a hospital, personal care home or Selkirk Mental Health Centre, or is receiving respite care in such a facility;

- receiving services in a geriatric day hospital that is managed by a hospital designated by regulation under *The Health Services Insurance Act*; or
- receiving services in an emergency department or urgent care centre of a hospital

### How is a name placed on the registry?

There are two ways a name may be listed on the Adult Abuse Registry:

- If a person has been found or pleaded guilty to an offence involving the abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult, the person's name must be placed on the registry. As long as the person is likely to be in Manitoba, it does not matter where the offence took place.
- If the Adult Abuse Registry Committee determines, using its own process, that a person has abused or neglected a vulnerable adult and that the person's name should be placed on the AAR, the name must be placed on the registry. The committee receives cases to review for this purpose from government officials who are responsible for investigating suspected cases of abuse or neglect of vulnerable adults.

### Is there a way to object to the entry of a name on the registry?

If a person is found guilty of abusing a vulnerable adult, his or her name will be entered into the registry. There is no way to prevent this and no way to remove the name from the registry.

If the Adult Abuse Registry Committee has decided a person has abused or neglected a vulnerable adult and decides that the name be entered on the registry, the person is notified in writing and has 60 days to object to the Court of Queen's Bench. The decision of the court is final.

### How to object

The person affected may object to the entry within 60 days of receiving the notice by:

- filing with the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba a notice of application for a hearing, together with a copy of the notice received from the registrar, and
- serving a copy of the notice of application to the registrar and to the departmental staff who reported the matter to the committee

If no notice of application is filed in the court and served on the registrar within 60 days, the registrar enters the name of the person and the details of the abuse or neglect on the AAR.

### Who has access to the information on the registry?

All the names and information on the AAR are confidential. The general public does not have access to the registry.

Checks are most often requested by individuals wanting to know if they have been added to the registry. A person's name will be checked on the system and a printout will be provided, stating if their name is either on, or not on the AAR.