

THE MANITOBA  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
COMMISSION



LA COMMISSION DES  
DROITS DE LA PERSONNE  
DU MANITOBA

## **News Release: The Manitoba Human Rights Commission**

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# **Highest Number of Human Rights Complaints Remains in the Area of Employment**

## **2002 Annual Report Released**

As revealed in the 2002 Manitoba Human Rights Commission's Annual Report, complaints arising in the area of employment constitute the vast majority of complaints filed with the Manitoba Human Rights Commission.

According to Executive Director Dianna Scarth, about 70% of the complaints are in employment, whereas 23% are in services and less than 5% are in housing.

"The high percentage of complaints filed in the area of employment confirms the importance of our educational seminars," she says. The Commission offers a series of human rights workshops, which address the rights and responsibilities of employers.

The annual report also reveals that complaints filed on the basis of disability were once again the most common ground among complaints in 2002. Almost 33% of the complaints filed were based on disability.

The total number of complaints filed during 2002 was consistent with the volume of complaints in previous years. The Commission however continues to be more efficient in dealing with complaints. When all options utilized to resolve a complaint were combined, and a time calculated, the average time taken by the Commission to process a complaint was 3.8 months.

"One reason for the decrease in time is the mediation process," says Ms. Scarth. "Of the 279 complaints closed during the year, a record 57% were resolved through mediation and conciliation."

By way of historical comparison, in 1996, 31% of complaints were resolved through mediation.

The full report is available on the Commission's website at [www.gov.mb.ca/hrc](http://www.gov.mb.ca/hrc)

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