

2019 Campaign Platform

Alberta  Party

Authorized by the Alberta Party
www.albertaparty.ca

Leader's Message

Albertans are tired of the divisive partisanship that has enveloped our province from the left and the right.

While the other parties have spent this election yelling about which one of them is worse, the Alberta Party has talked about how we'll build a better Alberta.

We can build a great economy and have a kind society.

We don't have to choose between one and the other.

Our platform demonstrates that truth.

It outlines how an Alberta Party government would bring Alberta's economy back to life, while investing in health, education and other key services that are vital for ensuring a high quality of life for Alberta families.

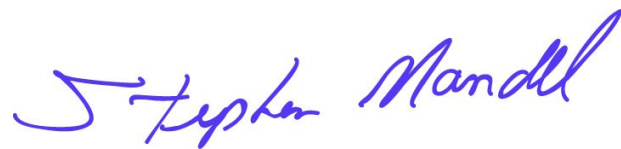
And it illustrates our commitment to vigorously advance our province's interests. Now more than ever, Albertans need someone in their corner who can cut through partisanship, solve problems, and deliver government with fiscal sense and common sense.

With no federal masters, the Alberta Party is only loyal to Albertans. We're the only party that can say that.

Like most Albertans, when I think about our province's future, I think about our children. We want them to grow up in an Alberta with plenty of opportunity, and one that's kind and inclusive, where they can chase their dreams.

With your support, we can provide a government that offers them, and all Albertans, a brighter future.

Let's build the next Alberta. Together.



Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader



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Supporting Alberta's Families

CHILDREN FIRST PLAN: The Most Ambitious Child Care Plan in Alberta History

An Alberta Party government will pursue the most ambitious plan for early learning and child care in the history of Alberta.



The Children First plan includes a major expansion of direct financial support to lower and middle-income families to cover the costs of licensed daycare and out-of-school care programs, a caregiver tax credit, and the creation of more affordable, high-quality child care spaces throughout the province.

"Building a stronger future for Alberta begins with investing in our children. Under our Children First plan, middle class families across Alberta will now receive support for child care, no matter where they live and no matter what option they choose.

Our plan will also power the creation of more safe, high-quality, affordable child care spaces throughout Alberta, and ensure the government places a new focus on our children's early years.

This represents the biggest expansion of child care in the history of Alberta, which will support participation in the workforce and position Alberta for a prosperous future."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

HELPING FAR MORE FAMILIES AFFORD CHILD CARE

Far more lower and middle-income families will receive financial support to cover the costs of licensed child care through a new voucher program. The voucher can be used at any licensed child care and will provide a subsidy of up to 100% of the costs of a child care cost (up to established regional maximums)

The NDP's \$25/day child care proposal covers only 7,276 spaces. Our Children First plan applies to all licensed child care spaces in the province. There are over 260,000 Albertan children and more than 100,000 Albertan families to whom our program would apply.

The voucher will "follow the child", putting decision-making in the hands of families rather than the government. This accommodates differences in childcare costs between care providers. Children up to age 6 will be covered.

The subsidy will be income-tested using a sliding scale calculation. For general reference, approximate maximum amounts that families would pay out-of-pocket for child care under this plan (i.e., after subsidy) are as follows:

Approximate Combined Family Income	Estimated Maximum Cost Per Day to Families Per Child
\$0 - \$29,999	\$0 per day max
\$30,000 - \$49,999	\$5 per day max
\$50,000 - \$69,999	\$10 per day max
\$70,000 - \$89,999	\$20 per day max
\$90,000 - \$110,000	\$30 per day max

It is expected parents attending post-secondary education and those earning minimum wage will receive a 100% subsidy of their childcare costs.

This represents a massive expansion of the current child care subsidy program, in a way that supports the creation of more licensed child care options based on local demand. Far more families will qualify for a subsidy than under the present system, and families who currently qualify for a subsidy will receive far more financial support.

ALBERTA CAREGIVER TAX CREDIT

For families with children who do not use a licensed child care option, or do not make use of the voucher program, a new income-tested Alberta Caregiver Tax Credit will be created to help recognize the costs involved in raising children.

CREATING MORE AFFORDABLE, SAFE, HIGH-QUALITY CHILD CARE SPACES

A comprehensive review of Alberta's child care legislation will be undertaken, with a view to making it easier to create more licensed, safe, affordable, high-quality child care spaces.

A new investment credit will be established to encourage employers to create licensed child care spaces for children of employees.

CREATION OF A NEW MINISTRY OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

A new ministry will place a focus on early learning and early childhood in Alberta. It will work proactively, and in collaboration with other ministries, to encourage the healthy development of children during their early years. It is well established that preventative efforts during a child's early years help bring about better outcomes as they move into adulthood.

MANDATORY VACCINATIONS for children attending publicly-funded schools

An Alberta Party government will require children to have up-to-date immunizations in order to attend a publicly-funded school.



"This is a public health issue, plain and simple. Parents should be able to send their kids to school without fear they'll contract serious illnesses such as measles, mumps, whooping cough and polio. Under an Alberta Party government, children will need to have up-to-date immunizations in order to attend a publicly-funded school. At a time when measles outbreaks are rising throughout the world, and even occurring in Canada, it's more important than ever that our children and communities are protected. We send our kids to school to learn, not to get sick."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

In order to register a child to attend a publicly-funded school, parents will need to provide proof that the child's immunizations are up-to-date under Alberta Health Services' Routine Immunization Schedule.

The requirement will apply to all schools that receive public funding, including schools falling under the jurisdictions of public and separate school boards and Charter schools. It will cover all publicly-funded elementary, junior high and senior high schools.

All immunizations included in Alberta's Routine Childhood Immunization Schedule will continue to be offered to children in Alberta free of charge, as per Alberta Health Services' existing approach.

As noted by Alberta Health Services, childhood immunizations not only arm children against disease but are also important in helping protect vulnerable people in the community and the community as a whole.

Alberta Health Services provides information about the benefits and importance of immunizing children at www.immunizealberta.ca

Details around the implementation of the requirement (such as medical exemptions and the list of required immunizations) will be developed in consultation with Alberta's medical community and with a view to models used in other jurisdictions.

SUPPORTING SENIORS INDEPENDENCE and aging in place

An Alberta Party government would help seniors age with respect and dignity by building 3,500 long term care beds, and adopt a new program to help seniors continue to live independently.



"More and more families are facing the realities of aging parents and relatives, and they're finding our province unprepared for a situation that's been anticipated for decades. They are sandwiched and stressed, and it's completely unacceptable. The hard work of Alberta's seniors built this province, and they deserve to age with respect and dignity. We're going help them maintain their independence, support the family members who care for them, and plan ahead so that we're ready for an aging population."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government will take immediate actions to help seniors continue to live in their communities, and support families who are caring for aging relatives. The plan includes the following:

- Creation of 3,500 long term care beds with community partners, similar to the Alberta Supportive Living Initiative. Each bed is estimated to cost around \$65,000 to establish, and \$75,000 per year to operate, for a \$230 million capital cost, and \$260 million annual operating cost.
- Creation of a pilot similar to The "Better At Home" will help seniors and families with costs of home supports such as snow shoveling, meal preparation, grocery delivery, and lawn maintenance. This enables seniors to continue to live independently (or with family members), rather than be forced out of their homes prematurely. The pilot will be launched in mid-sized cities, such as Grande Prairie & Medicine Hat . Estimated cost of the pilot is \$1.75 million per year.
- New Alberta Caregiver Tax Credit to support caregivers. The credit will mirror the Canada Caregiver Credit, ranging from \$2,182 to \$6,986 per year for each caregiver.

- Keeping spouses together. By implementing a more effective wait list management policy partners will stay together. Up to 10% of seniors live apart for and separating partners places great strain on seniors and their families.
- Enact a single application to support programming by seniors facilities. The single application will consolidate access to 10 different provincial programs currently providing funding to organizations that support seniors. Reducing administrative means seniors will get services quicker.
- Support Indigenous seniors. We will work with Indigenous leaders and organizations to improve programs and facilities to support cultural, spiritual, language, dietary, and inter-generational caregiving practices, and support training to caregivers to help ensure culturally appropriate care-giving.
- Establish a separate and new Ministry of Seniors. This ministry will assume the budget and authority of the current Ministry of Seniors and Housing, along with grants to seniors. A new Ministry of Housing will be established.

MOBILE HOME TENANCY PLAN to protect vulnerable renters

An Alberta Party government would allow mobile homes and condominium owners to address their issues through the Residential Tenancy Dispute Resolution Service (RTDRS), rather than through the costly and time-consuming court system.



"Mobile home residents are among the most vulnerable renters in Alberta. Seniors on fixed incomes, newcomers with limited knowledge of our legal system, and young people struggling to make ends meet lack the financial resources and time to fight for their rights in court. These changes will help ensure residents aren't forced out of their homes by the few landlords who abuse tenants and their rights.

Residents of mobile homes and condos should have access to the same services and rights as other residential tenants. We will ensure these renters are no longer second-class citizens in our housing or justice systems."

- Winston Leung, Alberta Party candidate for Edmonton-West Henday

Moving one case from a judge and several court clerks to RTDRS arbiters is expected to save a resident and the justice system \$5,000 or more. An Alberta Party government would also protect mobile home renters from drastic rent increases.

RESOLVE RESIDENTIAL TENANCY DISPUTES FASTER

Expand the purview of Residential Tenancy Dispute Resolution Service (RTDRS) to bring all housing disputes (mobile home tenants and landlords, condo owners and condo boards, and those housed through housing cooperatives) under a single system to reduce duplication and costs.

Consult on modernization of the Mobile Home Sites Tenancies Act to better protect those who rent mobile homes, and mobile home owners who rent sites from landlords.

Diverting a single tenancy dispute from a court to RTDRS is estimated to save at least 10 hours of time for a judge, courtroom staff, court clerks, and over \$4,000 in taxpayer costs. Tenants and landlords also avoid costs hire legal counsel or file documents, and have their disputes resolved in a few weeks, compared to months to years through the court system.

- Alberta courts do not track the number of cases concerning tenancies.
- Diverting 100 cases a year to informal resolutions or hearings through RTDRS would free up 1,000 hours of court time and \$400,000 in court costs.

We would fund a modest increase to RTDRS to accommodate a modest increase in demand. Mobile homes make up 3% of all private dwellings in Alberta, while fewer than 10% of all private dwellings in Alberta are condos.

Contraventions of provincial acts would still be handled through Service Alberta and our legal system.

"The residents of mobile homes pay as much for rent and mortgage as those who live in downtown condos or suburban homes. They should have the same rights to timely and effective dispute resolution services about their concerns as those renting somewhere else. RTDRS can resolve disputes in a couple weeks for \$75, rather than the months or years required to hire lawyers and litigate through the court system."

*- **Gar Gar**, Alberta Party candidate Calgary-East*

CAP RENT INCREASES ON MOBILE HOMES

Rent on mobile home sites will be limited to once per year, instead of once every 180 days.

For renters on fixed incomes, the maximum rent charged for the mobile home site, combined with rent or mortgage, shall not exceed 30% of adjusted income.

For market renters, the maximum annual increase will be limited to the annual rate of inflation, up to a maximum of \$250 over five years. Increases above this amount will require approval from the Minister of Housing after the landowner submits a social impact assessment.

“Over 100,000 Albertans who live in over 48,000 mobile homes will receive better protection against unreasonable rent increases that are already available to tenants of single family homes and apartment suites. Capping rent increases means keeping seniors and low-income renters in homes and off the streets, and avoids the personal, social, and financial costs to support and re-home individuals and families.”

*- **Diane Ly**, Alberta Party candidate Edmonton-Goldbar*

Supporting Albertans' Health

HEALTHCARE PLAN: Sustaining public health care for all Albertans

An Alberta Party government plans to build and modernize hospitals, shorten wait times and provide predictable funding to ensure Albertans get the care they need.



"Nothing makes me more proud to be Albertan than our healthcare system. When you need the system the most, it's there for you. But we also need to watch our costs. Healthcare is a huge cost and important as we have an aging and increasingly complex society. We need to plan and be strategic now, so that every dollar we put into the system goes where it's needed, helping Albertans get better, stay healthy and have quality of life."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government will take significant action to modernize and invest in Alberta's publicly-funded health system, to provide better services to all Albertans.

We deeply believe in the public health care system and will work with healthcare professionals.

We will direct Alberta Health Services to put a plan in place to reduce silos and better integrate emergency rooms, acute, transition, long term and home care.

BUILDING HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

An Alberta Party government will complete the:

- Edmonton South Hospital,
- Grande Prairie Regional Hospital,
- Calgary Cancer Centre, and
- Red Deer Hospital expansion.

We will undertake a full review of all existing health infrastructure and put in place a long term plan to address the significant maintenance under-funding and the need for modernization.

We will build more non-acute care beds outside hospitals and improve home care options to help recovering patients transition from emergency rooms to appropriate settings.

We will build new non-acute care clinics in areas where emergency rooms are used excessively to meet primary care needs.

We will expand the use of technology to improve services on routine matters such as prescription refills.

We will save \$200 million by stopping the NDP's plan to buy laundry machines for AHS by maintaining more efficient, competitive contracting for these services.

We will review the NDP's unnecessary 'Superlab' with the aim to cancel it. This will save \$640 million if canceled.

MODERNIZING HEALTH RESEARCH & IMPLEMENTING HQCA RECOMMENDATIONS

An Alberta Party government will reconstitute the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR).

We will expand the mandate and funding of the the Health Quality Council of Alberta (HQCA) to identify ways to improve patients' healthcare outcomes.

PREDICTABLE FUNDING & IMPROVING THE FOCUS OF AHS

We will maintain or increase predictable funding to our healthcare system.

An Alberta Party Government will direct Alberta Health Services (AHS) to put in place a process to develop a plan for the improved integration of emergency care, acute care, transition care, long term care, and home care.

An Alberta Party government will work with nurse practitioners, pharmacists, paramedics, and other front-line healthcare providers to expand their scopes of practice to deliver essential health services to all Albertans.

TAKING CARE OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE

An Alberta Party government will work closely with the Stollery Children's Hospital and the Alberta Children's Hospital to support critical work for Alberta's children.

We will require proof of up-to-date vaccinations for children to attend publicly-funded schools.

We will fund annual dental checkups for children up to age 12 and provide funding for municipal water fluoridation.

We will support seniors in Alberta by funding long-term care, including 3,500 new long term care and dementia beds under an Alberta Supportive Living Initiative model.

We will implement a comprehensive dementia strategy to ensure that patients with dementia and their families and caregivers across Alberta have access to a range of services appropriate for their needs.

We will enact a new Alberta Caregiver Tax Credit, and pilot voucher programs to support aging in place for seniors.

An Alberta Party government will improve access to addictions and mental health services.

EXPANDING DENTAL COVERAGE to every child in Alberta

An Alberta Party government will support children's dental health by adding new health care coverage for dental check-ups and working with municipalities to put fluoride in drinking water.



"Every child in Alberta deserves basic dental health. By covering annual dental check-ups, we'll make it easier for Alberta families to take their kids to the dentist during those crucial early years. It's another way that the Alberta Party will put Alberta's children first."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government will place a greater focus on the prevention side of health, including the fluoridation of municipal drinking water.

"It's been shown that putting fluoride in water is a safe and effective strategy for preventing tooth decay, so we want to see this done. We will work with municipalities to help them do this in a way that makes sense for their communities. Under an Alberta Party government you'll see the province putting more support into the prevention side of things."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

NEW DENTAL COVERAGE FOR ALBERTA FAMILIES

Coverage under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan will expand to include an annual dental check-up, up to and including age 12 and two dental x-rays at age 10.

To be covered the dental services must be delivered within Alberta.

The program will improve the health of 650,000 Albertan children under the age of 12. Hundreds of thousands of families will save money and the stress of paying for dental fees.

Dental benefits currently provided to lower-income families under the Alberta Child Health Benefit will continue.

The program is expected to cost approximately \$48 million per year.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER

An Alberta Party government will expect that municipalities with a population greater than 10,000 take steps to ensure fluoridated water reaches children in their jurisdictions. An Alberta Party government will work in collaboration with municipalities to implement solutions that make sense for each community.

The Alberta Party will allocate \$30 million to help support municipalities in implementing fluoridated water solutions.

Alberta Health states that “every \$1 spent on community water fluoridation can save up to \$93 per person in dental treatment costs.” Fluoridation of water ultimately saves money.

Both Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services recognize community water fluoridation effectively prevents tooth decay, especially among the vulnerable.

University of Calgary researcher, Lindsay McLaren’s 2016 study in the journal of the Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology compared grade 2 students in Calgary and Edmonton. The study found children in Calgary saw a higher level of tooth decay than those in Edmonton, after Calgary stopped putting fluoride in its municipal drinking water. The study concluded fluoridation of water has an impact on improving kids’ dental health.

DIGITAL ALBERTA ID AND APP: Modernizing access to services

An Alberta Party government will move to the 21st Century by introducing one provincial picture Identification Card for government services.



"Albertans are already using secure digital identification in their everyday lives. Why not with government identification? There's a real opportunity here in Alberta to lead the country. Jurisdictions around the world such as Iowa and Louisiana are already implementing digital identification in some form."

- Winston Leung, Candidate for Edmonton-West Henday

The new card would replace the current jumble of plastic and paper identification for health care, drivers' licenses, provincial ID and the Alberta WIN Card. The plan is to also launch a digital government identification app with a portal to allow Albertans more flexibility when presenting ID.

"My paper AHS card is a daily reminder Alberta is still using solutions from the 1970s. It's time to start living in the present by consolidating identification for government licensing and access to services. Digital identity is commonplace. If we don't develop or modernize, we'll simply be left behind."

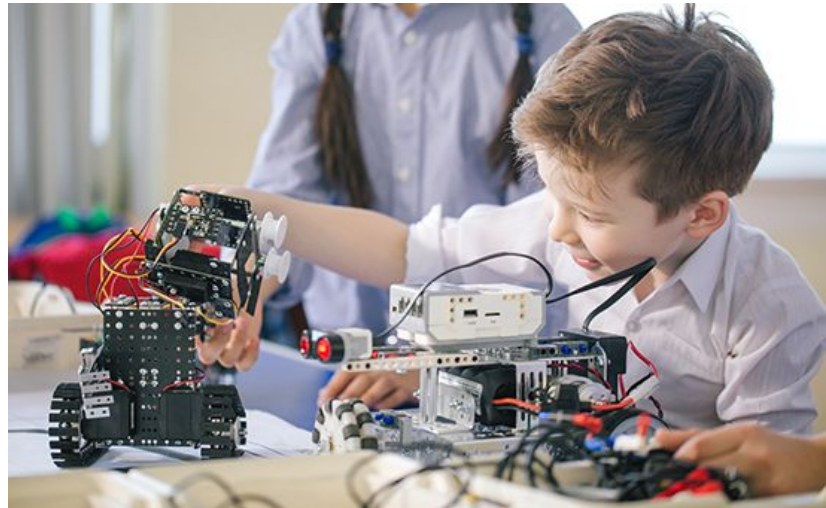
- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

The Alberta Party is committed to creating innovative environments, which operate more efficiently along with being more cost effective.

Supporting Albertans' Education

K-12 EDUCATION PLAN: investing in our children

An Alberta Party government would invest to support the province's K-12 education system and help ensure Alberta's children can have the tools they need to succeed in the 21st century economy.



"We need more teachers and schools, plain and simple. Alberta's future starts with investing in our children. They represent our future thinkers, builders and leaders. Providing them with high-quality education is a top priority. Children deserve the best possible foundation, to help them chase their dreams."

- **Stephen Mandel**, Alberta Party Leader

Alberta Party commits to creating 60,000 new spaces for K-12 students by building and modernizing schools over the next 4 years. Working with teachers is a top priority.

FUNDING FOR ENROLLMENT GROWTH

An Alberta Party government will increase funding to accommodate the 15,000 new spaces needed each year by building or modernizing 25 schools per year with the total estimated cost of \$190 million.

Work with municipalities and school boards to boost enrollment in underutilized schools (such as older schools in mature urban neighbourhoods).

Mandate school boards work together on shared busing and facilities where doing so will increase service levels to students.

We will work with post-secondary institutions to develop learning centres for returning adult learners to complete their K-12 studies while pursuing certificates and degrees.

We will increase the age cap on education funding from 19 years old to 25, to enable more adult learners to complete their high school education.

Review and relaunch the Class Size Initiative to increase the number of teachers in classrooms and require detailed reporting per the Auditor General's February 2018 report.

We will work with rural school boards to find ways to improve sustainability and funding of rural schools in light of declining enrollment

SUPPORTING OUR TEACHERS

An Alberta Party government is committed to negotiating in good faith.

We will continue to support professional development for educators.

We respect the the rights and roles of school boards.

We commit to working with the ATA as the professional association that represents teachers in Alberta.

We will work with teachers and school boards to improve teacher safety in classrooms. We look forward to seeing recommendations from the ATA's Committee on Understanding Aggression(s) in Alberta Schools and School Communities.

We will expand support for teachers in classrooms in addition to adding previously announced educational assistants.

We will work with teachers and school boards to develop and fund an inclusive education strategy that better supports teachers, students, and parents.

We will move mental health and wraparound services funding from AHS to local school boards.

We will ensure that teachers have sufficient time to prepare for changes to curriculum. These changes are important and we need to ensure our teachers feel they are prepared to support our children in their classrooms.

We support mandatory vaccination for students.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

An Alberta Party government will continue to support GSAs.

Current annual funding for inclusive education to school boards is approximately \$460 million per year. This amount will be increased to \$690 million per year.

We will increase opportunities for partnerships with Alberta's diverse communities to work within the public school system to provide culturally diverse programs of study.

Increase Program Unit Funding for Early Childhood Support programs to support young people with learning challenges.

We will review the overall rural education funding formula including the density/distance funding formula to address transportation issues in rural Alberta.

We will work with school boards, the Alberta Teachers Association and post-secondary institutions to attract and train more educators from under-represented and non-traditional backgrounds.

CURRICULUM REVIEW

An Alberta Party government will support the current curriculum review and will work with stakeholders to implement the new curriculum in an orderly fashion. We will ensure future curriculum reviews happen regularly and with more consultation.

We support the teaching of consent as an essential part of the curriculum sexual health education.

We believe the curriculum must also include competency education (critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration) to ensure our learners have the skills they need for the 21st century economy (e.g., coding, artificial intelligence).

We will strengthen Truth and Reconciliation in all aspects of the Alberta curriculum.

SCHOOL CHOICE

An Alberta Party government will retain existing school choice, and maintain the current Private and Charter school funding programs.

We will allow PUF funding to go to Charter and Private schools when appropriate.

DOUBLE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS for every learner to succeed

An Alberta Party government will double the number of educational assistants in Alberta's K-12 classrooms with a major boost in funding for inclusive education.



"Our classrooms are increasingly diverse with children from many different cultures, backgrounds and circumstances. Alberta families want to be confident their children will receive a quality education no matter how complex the classroom. While continuing efforts to reduce class sizes, we will expand funding to double the number of educational assistants to provide more support to students, more help for teachers, and ultimately make it easier for kids to learn."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government will increase investments in inclusive education in Alberta's K-12 education system, including putting twice as many educational assistants in Alberta classrooms. This means more support in the classroom so every child can have an enhanced learning experience.

Improvements will include the creation of a new independent learning assessment agency under the Ministry of Early Childhood. The agency would perform comprehensive testing of students who are identified with potential learning challenges. This will help ensure children with challenges are identified as early as possible, so that they can receive assistance as soon as possible.

Current annual funding for inclusive education to school boards is approximately \$460 million per year. This amount will be increased to \$690 million per year.

Funding for inclusive education will be earmarked to school boards so that it is only used for inclusive education.

A new three month completion timeline will be established to complete an Independent Learning Plan for K-12 student assessment upon a request from a parent/guardian, teacher or principal.

An additional funding date of January 15th will be established to provide school boards with additional funding for any students who have arrived from outside Canada after the school year has already begun. This additional funding will recognize the commitment of school boards and educators to helping new Canadians have good learning outcomes.

These measures will be in addition to ongoing efforts to reduce class sizes and build more schools.

INVESTING IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION access and affordability

An Alberta Party government will improve the affordability and accessibility of post-secondary education in Alberta by creating 45,000 new spaces and retaining a cap on tuition.



"The NDP has put our future at risk. There is no predictability and no plan for post secondary students. Alberta's young people represent a new generation of thinkers, builders and leaders. We're going to make sure they have affordable access to post-secondary education, so they can chase their dreams and help build the next Alberta."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

EXPANDING POST-SECONDARY SPACES ACROSS ALBERTA

An Alberta Party government will create 45,000 new spaces in post-secondary institutions by 2024. This includes universities, colleges and technical institutes.

It is estimated by 2026, there will be a 15% increase in the number of Albertans graduating from high school. This growth would require an estimated 40,265 spaces.

The new spaces will be developed in consultation with post-secondary institutions based in Alberta, and those seeking to expand in Alberta.

Consideration will be given to satellite campuses in underserved parts of the province, for example building a satellite campus in North East Calgary.

Non-traditional locations will be examined and considered for facilitating the new spaces.

Of these spaces, 3,000 will be dedicated to Indigenous-led programs.

New spaces will involve the establishment of learning centers available to adult learners, those who did not complete high school, or those who are upgrading.

PREDICTABLE, AFFORDABLE TUITION

An Alberta Party government will retain the current cap on tuition at Alberta post-secondary institutions, providing certainty and affordability for families.

We will provide predictable multi-year funding to post-secondary institutions.

An Alberta Party government will eliminate tuition fees for high school upgrading and English Language Learning programs, so every Albertan can acquire necessary skills.

We will work with post-secondary stakeholders to determine an optimal ratio for financial aid between targeted upfront grants and tax credits.

An Alberta Party government will be open and transparent with the recent Tuition Review.

EXPANDING JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

An Alberta Party government will expand the STEP program so more young people can access employment opportunities and gain work experience.

The STEP program will be expanded to a year-round program.

The program will also be expanded to include people who have recently graduated from a post-secondary program (i.e., within the past 12 months). This will help new graduates join the workforce and secure employment experience soon after graduation.

BRINGING IN A “CREATOR-OWNED” MODEL FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

An Alberta Party Government will work with post-secondary institutions to make it easier for innovators to spin-off their discoveries into new companies.

Ideas from our research institutions need to be easily turned into new products and companies. Alberta is lacking in this regard, partly due to how post-secondary institutions currently treat intellectual property from researchers and innovators.

University Technology Transfer Offices need to move away from patent collection and short-term cost recovery and towards lowering barriers for industry participation with a “creator-owned” model similar to the University of Waterloo.

The “creator-owned” model is an entrepreneurial-oriented intellectual property policy that grants ownership to the inventor. Ownership is the best motivator to commercialize, and will attract entrepreneurial faculty and students.

By significantly increasing commercialization and entrepreneurial activity, the “creator-owned” model will help drive job growth and diversify Alberta’s economy.

WORK IN ALBERTA PROGRAM

An Alberta Party government will establish a program to encourage Alberta post-secondary graduates to use their education and skills in Alberta.

The program will offer forgiveness of provincial student loans for post-secondary graduates who, after graduation, remain and work in Alberta for a certain amount of time in their area of study.

Additional forgiveness will be available for those who choose to work in rural and remote areas of the province where particular skills are in short supply.

Each year, Alberta taxpayers subsidize the costs of educating post-secondary students. This makes sense, since our economy and society benefit from having a skilled workforce.

The Work in Alberta program will help retain skilled talent in the province, enabling Albertans to benefit from the investments that have been made in the post-secondary education system.

Supporting Alberta's Diversity and Culture

DIVERSITY PLAN: Supporting newcomers and all Albertans

An Alberta Party government commits to creating a new Ministry of Diversity, Inclusion and Consultation, to create and enhance accessibility for all Albertans to thrive in our diverse province.



"It's time for Alberta to recognize a new and improved province that exists in 2019. It's one that is diverse, vibrant and evolving with rich culture. It's time the government reflects our society and puts in place support to help all Albertans thrive."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government would create a Ministry of Diversity, Inclusion and Consultation (MDIC). The key goal is to raise accessibility of our government, especially for groups -- such as new Canadians, and ethnic minorities -- who traditionally have not had full access to government services and benefits.

LEADING CHANGE WITHIN GOVERNMENT

The new MDIC will lead Government of Alberta departments, public sector institutions, and supporting Agencies, Boards and Commissions on internal institutional change, and external outreach, engagement, and consultation efforts.

We will make government systems easier for newcomers and those with language, cognitive, distance, technology or other barriers, to navigate.

We will protect language interpretation in Health Link.

We will mandate improved measurement of outputs, outcomes, and impacts of programs and policies on under-represented Alberta communities.

We will develop a cross-ministry plan to address ageism inside and outside the Government of Alberta and its impacts

We will remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against individuals who wear turbans or carry other articles of faith

We will create dialog with ethno-cultural community organizations and the Premier, and Cabinet similar to AUMA/RMA.

EXPANDED MANDATE INCLUDING THE STATUS OF WOMEN MINISTRY

MDIC will assume responsibility for the Ministry of Status of Women's current mandate for gender minorities, but add reporting requirements about effectiveness.

We will conduct an external audit of Service Alberta, Advocates, and other public service providers to ensure policies and programs result in equitable service and outcomes to language and other minorities.

We will implement a strategy to increase diversity and representation in public service and ABCs, but in a transparent way, unlike the NDP and previous governments.

We will support improved capacity of RCMP, Sheriffs and local police departments to constructively work with diverse communities.

We will establish a Premier's Commission on Domestic Violence and improve data collection about domestic abuse and human trafficking.

ENHANCE PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY

MDIC will address inclusion of cultural, religious, persons with disabilities, and other protected groups to increase participation in democratic government and society.

We will take a whole-of-government approach to mandate diversity and inclusion. That includes initiatives involving Culture and Tourism, Education, Labour, the Human Rights Commission, and other entities to reduce overlap and increase ease of access to protections, interventions, and engagement by individuals and community groups

We will make internal changes to grievance, dispute resolution, crime/abuse reporting, and appeal mechanisms under GoA and SUCH sectors, and external outreach to improve access by racialised and other minorities (Human Rights Commission, public service commissioner, residential tenancy dispute resolution service, ombudspersons and boards, etc).

We will develop a strategy to support integrated efforts to de-radicalize hate groups.

BUILDING CAPACITY TO ADDRESS SYSTEMIC EXCLUSION

We will work with law enforcement, educators, employers, and professional associations to address structural inequalities embedded in policies and practices.

This includes a community-driven province-wide police carding review.

We will also support an Indigenous-led review of over-representation of Indigenous peoples in the justice system, and under-representation in education, advanced education, employment, and community funding.

We will build the capacity of law enforcement, community leaders, educators, etc. to identify and address factors that foster violence and abuse online and offline.

We will continue the work of the Anti-Racism Advisory Council, but give it an ongoing mandate and authorities to investigate and issue reports of its choosing, in addition to reports requested by government.

SUPPORTING ETHNO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

We will identify ways to stop tokenism in policies, practices, and announcements, especially those driven by political vote-courting of minorities.

We will support funding for cultural, ethnic, linguistic arts and community organizations to increase sustainability, reach, and impact.

We will undertake an independent review of provincially-funded grants and programs such as the Community Initiatives Program (CIP), the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP), AGLC charitable gaming funding, post-secondary institutions, AFA, etc., for diversity and inclusion policies.

SUPPORTING DIVERSE SENIORS

We will work with the Ministry of Seniors to combat elder abuse and fraud of ethnic seniors to protect seniors' interests, and modernize the role of the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee.

With community partners, we will establish a seniors help, abuse, and information line.

We will adopt guidelines for communicating with seniors that are mindful of unconscious ageism.

PROVINCIAL NEWCOMERS STRATEGY

We will establish an immigration plan to welcome newcomers, plan services, and address barriers to integration and success.

We will advocate for family reunification as a priority for immigration to Alberta.

We will support professional and industry training to expedite recognition of foreign credentials, offer supplemental training, and develop Alberta work experience to put skilled labour to work.

We will provide agricultural training for new immigrants from agricultural regions.

STRENGTHENING NON-PROFITS to enhance communities

An Alberta Party government will strengthen Alberta's 25,000 non-profit organizations by reducing bureaucracy and providing sustainable funding.



"Not for profit agencies improve the lives of Albertans everyday. With more resources and innovative thinking they can do even more to build stronger communities. It's time to take concrete steps to improve their ability to deliver critical programming to Albertans."

- **Lana Bentley**, Alberta Party candidate for Calgary-Acadia

The Alberta Party is committed to proposing innovative and practical solutions that improve the lives of Albertans.

"Alberta's non-profit sector is critical to the overall health of our province. Non-profits should not live in fear of reliving the decade-long cuts to funding for community and cultural organizations that characterized the federal Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism."

- **Stephen Mandel**, Alberta Party Leader

We will improve the ability of Alberta's non-profit organizations to collaboratively develop and sustain programs to respond to the needs of Alberta's communities by:

- Doubling the maximum program funding periods from 30 months to five years under the Community Initiatives Program (CIP). This will give non-profit organizations greater certainty of funding over longer time periods, which will better enable them to plan and deliver services. Where non-profits are partners in the delivery of public services, contracts will be structured to prevent politically-motivated changes to the funding of multi-year programs.
- Creating a single window for applications under various funding streams. This will reduce the administrative burden on non-profits. Discussions will be

opened with the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and community funders such as Edmonton Community Foundation and Calgary Foundation, to also participate. As part of this, we would:

- Change the intake of applications from three times per year to a continuous intake allowing organizations to develop and submit funding applications when they are ready to do so instead of an arbitrary deadline.
 - Explore new models to enable rural organizations to apply for the same kinds of funding that are available to urban organizations.
 - Review funding formulas to allow for allocations towards travel and administration costs.
- Removing administrative barriers at Culture and Tourism, and at AGLC, that currently discourage or prevent collaboration amongst non-profit organizations to pursue common objectives.
- Introducing a requirement for Alberta's non-profit organizations to complete training on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and assist in this program delivery.
- Enabling increased opportunities for non-profit organizations to complete Gender-Based Analysis+ (GBA+) training for their staff.
- Providing non-profit cultural groups more latitude to offer scholarships toward educating young people in ways that strengthen international languages and international relations.
- Allowing communities to apply for Community Initiatives Program (CIP) and Community Facilities Enhancement Program (CFEP) funds to build broadband Internet infrastructure, lease dark fibre, and pay for upstream connectivity services.
- Increasing funding to Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), allowing for greater municipal participation in provision of community supports.
- Increasing capacity development funding so that non-profits can write better annual reports and business plans, demonstrate strong and sustainable governance structures, and measure and evaluate outcomes to be more competitive for national funding. As part of this we would:
 - Require and support all non-profits seeking public funds to develop and implement diversity and inclusion policies and training for their teams.
 - Reduce wait times for board development training from 6-12 months to 3 months.

- Incentivize collaboration amongst organizations providing related services.
- Extending the Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP) for non-profits so students can gain experience at any time of year, not just summer or agriculture season.

SUPPORTING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES through new protections

An Alberta Party-led government would work with persons with disabilities to develop an *Alberta Accessibility Act*, appoint an Accessibility Advisory Council, revise the Alberta Building Code, and backfill AISH payments to improve quality of life of 370,000 Albertans living with disabilities.



"A growing number of Albertans are living with disabilities which impact their ability to access critical services. Rather than forcing people to make do, Government must take leadership in improving the lives of its most vulnerable citizens."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

CREATING AN ALBERTA ACCESSIBILITY ACT

An Alberta Party government will introduce an Alberta Accessibility Act analogous to the Federal bill C-81, An Act to ensure a barrier-free Canada and similar provincial legislation to require provincially-regulated public and private sectors to identify and remove barriers that hinder the full and equal participation in society of persons with disabilities.

APPOINTING AN ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Approximately 370,000 people in Alberta experience disabilities. An Alberta Party government will appoint an Accessibility Advisory Council to collaboratively develop a strategy, set standards, and support implementation of recommended changes.

The Council would have guiding principles such as Access, Equality, Universal Design, and Systemic Responsibility to achieve accessibility.

UPDATE ALBERTA BUILDING CODE TO REQUIRE HEARING LOOPS

One in four Albertans have some form of hearing loss. One in ten Albertans identify as deaf or hard of hearing. An Alberta Party government will add hearing loop requirements to the Alberta Building Code for buildings offering important government services, health services, and provincially regulated services

Grants will be made for community organizations to obtain and install hearing loops to serve demonstrated needs of their respective clients and members

BACKFILL AISH BENEFITS

In 2012, the maximum monthly core benefit rate for a single person under the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) program was raised to \$1,588 per month. Between 2012 and 2019, inflation was 11.7%. In 2019, the benefit rate was raised by only 6.1% (\$97) to \$1,685.

An Alberta Party government will backfill the increase to match inflation from 2012 to a rate of \$1779 per month.

CONCLUDE AND IMPLEMENT PDD REVIEW RESULTS

In Fall 2018, the government initiated a Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) program review. The panel met with community members and stakeholders but did not report back to Albertans prior to the 2019 General Election being called.

Release of the PDD program review report is overdue and very important to members of the PDD community

Persons with Developmental Disabilities currently experience a patchwork of services which need to be streamlined to better meet client needs. Programs need to be more focused on clients and their families, rather than attempting to fit all clients into a single model and size of service. We will provide clients with more flexible programming, and simplify access for clients and their families.

Commitment to Alberta's First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples

PURSuing RECONCILIATION: Developing new and ongoing partnerships with Indigenous and Métis communities

An Alberta Party government will take a nation-to-nation approach to working with First Nations communities to build long term, sustainable prosperity.



"It's vitally important to work with Indigenous communities to create economic and academic opportunities. By creating a thriving environment, all children can see and realize success in the future."
- **Stephen Mandel**, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government commits to full First Nation participation in economic development, implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's *Calls to Action*, and to transforming every part of our public service to integrate and express those commitments.

We will develop new and ongoing partnerships with Indigenous and Métis communities to acknowledge and redress long-standing injustices perpetrated by colonial powers upon generations of FNMI communities and peoples.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

We will implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action.

We will open Alberta's justice system to critical examination and reform to eliminate embedded racism that leads to over-representation of Indigenous people in our courts and prisons.

We will take responsibility for funding federal commitments to Alberta's Indigenous peoples under Jordan's Principle, until Ottawa lives up to its financial fiduciary responsibilities.

We will provide financial support to Indigenous communities and municipal governments to build capacity to implement TRC *Calls to Action*.

We will honour commitments made by previous Alberta governments to Alberta's FNMI peoples and communities to address health, education, social, employment and other priorities.

We will follow and support Indigenous-led programs in communities that have and continue to experience long-term impacts of intergenerational trauma from residential schools, colonialism, '60s scoop, and other injustices, including those that have not yet been identified.

We will require all Ministries and ABCs to develop and report annually on progress on meeting TRC, UNDRIP, and MMIW outcomes.

We will continue to work with Indigenous communities to revise deficient policies, practices, and systems identified through the Ministerial Panel on Child Intervention.

EDUCATION

We will financially support First Nations, Metis and municipal governments and school boards to develop innovative educational partnerships to improve outcomes for every FNMI youth, regardless of where they live in Alberta.

We will raise per-student funding of FNMI learners to match the provincial average until the Federal government acknowledges its constitutional responsibility to educate FNMI children. We will bill the Federal government for such monies until a sustainable funding agreement is reached.

We will fully fund 3,000 new post-secondary spaces for Alberta's Indigenous learners at existing post-secondary institutions and at potentially new institutions as determined by a consensus of FNMI communities. We will also fund expansion and accreditation of Indigenous-lead post-secondary institutions and programs that focus on Indigenous learners.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

An Alberta Party government will require proponents of major projects to prioritize social and financial sustainability of Alberta's FNMI communities.

An Alberta Party government will meaningfully consult with FNMI communities, agricultural stakeholders, and municipalities prior to the sale of Crown lands. We will inform our decisions by considering how changes will enhance long term social, cultural, economic sustainability of First Nations and Métis communities.

POSITION STATEMENT: INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

The Alberta Party has extensively consulted with residents of Alberta from all walks of life to develop policy ideas which can benefit everyone. Many of these have included Alberta's Indigenous peoples. It is estimated that there are 258,640 Indigenous peoples in Alberta with an average age of 26.9. In our discussions with First Nations, Metis and Inuit people several themes were consistently raised:

The Alberta Party recognizes the spirit and the intent of the Treaties entered into between the Crown and First Nations.

The Alberta Party acknowledges and supports the inherent right to Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples and commits to supporting them in building their Nations.

The Alberta Party commits to work with Indigenous communities at every stage to develop a path forward to fulfill and realize the intent of UNDRIP. (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)

The Alberta Party will enter into a mutually agreed upon process with First Nations, Metis and Inuit to address issues and the 94 recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The Alberta Party will enter into a mutually agreed upon process with First Nations, Metis and Inuit to address issues and recommendations from the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women Inquiry.

The Alberta Party, recognizes that chronic under-funding of First Nations, Metis and Inuit, communities has affected educational outcomes of students. The Alberta Party will enter into a mutually agreed upon process to address the on-reserve and on-settlement Education funding gap. This can be accomplished by ensuring that Jordan's Principle is also applied to Education.

The Alberta Party recognizes the importance of traditional languages and culture for First Nations, Metis and Inuit. An Alberta Party-led government would reinforce these by entering into a mutually agreed upon process to strengthen these important pillars within the communities.

The Alberta Party will work with First Nations, Metis and Inuit to improve access to healthcare. An Alberta Party-led government recognizes that our society faces increasing medical and social challenges which have long-term consequences and must be addressed in a way that is holistic and culturally appropriate.

The Alberta Party will work with First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities to develop a culturally appropriate strategy for senior care.

The Alberta Party commits to work with First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities to transition jurisdiction of Children and Family Services from the Province to local indigenous authorities.

The Alberta Party, in collaboration with First Nations, Metis, Inuit and the Federal Government, will work to find solutions to Alberta's First Nations, Metis and Inuit challenges in housing and community infrastructure.

The Alberta Party recognizes that economic development provides the foundation for long term sustainability of all First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities. An Alberta Party-led Government will work with First Nations, Metis and Inuit to reduce barriers to business, facilitate economic growth, explore equity ownership in projects/pipelines and revenue sharing.

The Alberta Party will honour and respect traditional hunting, fishing and harvesting rights, as a Section 35 right all Indigenous peoples will be treated equally.

This is about partnerships and we look forward to receiving your continued advice and direction in further developing policies which are relevant to First Nations, Metis and Inuit for the coming decades within the spirit and intent of this position paper.

Supporting Albertans' Prosperity

WELCOME TO ALBERTA PROGRAM to return jobs and head offices to Alberta

An Alberta Party government will aggressively bring jobs and head offices back to Alberta.



"British Columbia has been a poor partner in Confederation, hijacking access to the coast while bleeding jobs and wealth away from Alberta. The NDP has done nothing to stop this. When I'm Premier, we're going to stop giving our lunch money away to the bully, and aggressively bring jobs and head offices back to Alberta."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

The Welcome to Alberta Program will aggressively work to bring corporate head offices to Alberta. A corporation relocating its head office from another jurisdiction to Alberta will receive a corporate tax holiday for two years. A corporation that relocates its head office from British Columbia to Alberta will receive a corporate tax holiday for three years.

To be eligible, the corporation must relocate its corporate head office to an Alberta address, and employ 250 or more individuals, who are residents and paying taxes in Alberta. When conditions are met, the corporate tax holiday period will commence.

The corporation must maintain 250 or more employees in Alberta throughout the corporate tax holiday period to remain eligible. A corporation that fails to maintain this requirement will forfeit the corporate tax holiday and be required to pay the applicable corporate tax with interest.

The corporation must commit to keeping its head office in Alberta for a minimum of five years from the start of the corporate tax holiday period. A corporation that leaves before the end of the five-year commitment period will forfeit the corporate tax holiday and be required to pay the applicable corporate tax with interest.

Corporate head offices are significant boosters of the economy. In addition to directly employing large numbers of skilled individuals, they also stimulate the growth of small businesses, help establish clusters of industrial activity, generate spin-off activity (such as restaurants and hotel rooms), and contribute to local communities through charitable donations, partnerships with nonprofits, and other corporate social responsibility efforts.

JOBS FIRST PLAN: Enabling Albertans to provide for their families again

An Alberta Party government will enact the Jobs First plan to attract investment and create jobs for Alberta families to expand the provincial economy by \$16 billion and foster the creation of 65,000 jobs.



"With our Jobs First plan, we're going to put Alberta back in its rightful place as the number one place to invest and create great jobs. We're going to make it easier for Albertans to provide for their families again."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

RESTORING ALBERTA AS A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY

Alberta's fiscal framework will be adjusted in order to attract investment and stimulate job creation.

This package will have a short-term budget impact in the first year of approximately \$400 million. The package will pay for itself by its third year and by full implementation in 2023 it will generate an estimated \$1.5 billion in additional annual revenue.

ALBERTA CORPORATE TAX

The Alberta general corporate tax rate will be reduced from 12% to 10%. This will restore Alberta's place as the most competitive jurisdiction in Canada on corporate tax rates. The rate will be rolled out in 0.5% increments.

On its own, this change is expected to expand Alberta's economy by \$7 billion. When combined with the other elements of the Jobs First plan, the impact is anticipated to be much higher.

ALBERTA SMALL BUSINESS DEDUCTION

The Alberta Small Business Deduction will be doubled from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. All other aspects of the Small Business Deduction will remain the same, including the existing small business tax rate of 2%.

This change will respect the Alberta Party's belief that every corporation in Alberta should be required to pay tax, while also encouraging the growth of small businesses in Alberta.

Small businesses are a huge part of Alberta's economy and, as such, represent significant opportunities for growth, expansion, and job creation.

As of December 2018, there were 167,443 small business in Alberta, comprising 96% of all businesses with employees.

In 2017, small businesses in Alberta made up 28% of the province's economy and 36% of all private sector employment (excluding public administration, health and education sectors).

Doubling the Small Business Deduction will help incentivize small business growth and expansion, leading to more economic activity and hiring. This move also makes sense in 2019. In an age where there are more companies worth hundreds of millions or billions of dollars, the definition of a "small business" needs to be adjusted in relative terms.

CAPITAL COST ALLOWANCE

The capital cost allowance in Alberta will be adjusted to 100% for all new investment. This will supercharge private investment.

Rather than be forced to depreciate capital assets over antiquated time scales of between one and 25 years, Alberta's tax system will enable investors to accelerate the depreciation of capital investments on an immediate (100%) basis.

This change will make investing in Alberta extremely attractive, because investors will be able to get returns on their investments more quickly than under the old scheme. This will, in turn, stimulate substantial job growth in the province.

BUSINESS CERTAINTY GUARANTEE

One of the major reasons Alberta is finding it difficult to attract private investment and realize job creation is because the NDP has damaged Alberta's reputation as a stable place to invest.

Unexpected lurches in public policy -- such as the NDP's poorly-structured carbon tax, their oil and gas royalty review, their changes to the electricity market, and their failure to respect contractual agreements with electricity providers -- have created massive uncertainty. Potential investors are now shying away from Alberta out of fear and uncertainty about what sudden policy lurch might occur and what impact that lurch might have on the costs of doing business.

The Alberta Party understands that one of the most important things for attracting private investment and encouraging job creation is providing certainty for businesses and investors. Businesses and investors are adaptable and will structure their operations in the ways that make sense for them, based on clear and certain rules and predictable costs.

An Alberta Party government will establish the Business Certainty Guarantee on day one of taking office. Under this Guarantee, businesses and investors can have confidence that the overall costs of doing business in Alberta will either stay the same or go down during the four-year term of the government.

- Legislative and policy development processes in the government will incorporate a “costs of business” analysis. This analysis will need to happen in the course of considering any changes to, or creation or repeals of, a statute, regulation or policy. The information will need to be put before decision makers.
- The analysis will not only assess how proposed changes will impact the direct financial costs to business sectors, but also the indirect and ameliorative effects that might be brought about by the proposed change. (For example, a requirement that businesses install solar panels may introduce direct costs to businesses for purchase, installation, etc., but may lower those businesses' overall operating costs from energy savings.)
- With the exception of emergency situations, an Alberta Party government will ensure that its decisions on legislative and policy changes are informed by the “costs of business” analysis. Under the Business Certainty Guarantee, business costs will need to stay the same or go down as a result of proposed changes.

The Business Certainty Guarantee will serve an important signal to the rest of the world about the direction of Alberta's business climate. It will help restore Alberta's reputation as a stable place to invest and will aid in the attraction of private investment and private sector job creation.

ALBERTA ALASKA RAIL CORRIDOR: Create coastal access to global markets

An Alberta Party government would secure long-term coastal access for Alberta products by bypassing BC coastlines, and securing the right-of-way and approvals for an Alberta-to- Alaska railway and pipeline corridor.



"We are proud of what we make. We know the world wants to buy it and therefore tidewater access is essential for the long term growth of the Oilsands. TransMountain, even if it gets built, will only provide for a few years of growth. We need to secure greater access for our resources and start that process today. We've tried going East, West, and South only to find opponents blocking our efforts. It's time to go North where we have willing partners and the opportunity to achieve a truly nation building project."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

In 2013, the Government of Alberta provided funding to the Van Horne Institute to explore the possibility of an Alberta-to-Alaska railway . Since that time, groups in the private sector have started work towards bringing life to the project.

An Alberta Party Government would make the project a reality by taking the lead on establishing an Indigenous-led, Alberta Government supported consortium to secure the right-of-way and take the lead on securing necessary permits and approvals.

A total of \$10 million would be allocated to the efforts required to bring the consortium together and perform stakeholder consultations. The private sector will be responsible for the capital costs of the project.

The rail line would connect Fort McMurray with the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System at Delta Junction, where it would take oil to the established tidewater Port of Valdez.

Construction would be for a conventional double-tracked railway and would provide one million barrels per day of capacity , equivalent to the proposed Energy East pipeline.

Construction of the rail line would boost the economy, improve life for people along the route, open up valuable new sources of forestry and mining resources, and alleviate rail capacity issues for Alberta's agricultural sector.

Alberta requires long-term coastal access in order to move its products to global markets and obtain better prices for those products. A lack of pipeline capacity is one of the major factors causing a discount in the price Alberta receives for its oil.

Global oil demand continues to grow, driven by growth in East Asia and India. Global demand for agriculture and agri-food products also continues to grow, as the world's population increases.

Recent history has shown that British Columbia is hostile to coastal access. Even in the face of an approval by Canada's national energy regulator, the Government of British Columbia has taken steps to obstruct the TransMountain expansion.

Even if the TransMountain and Keystone XL pipelines are constructed, Alberta stands to face pipeline capacity issues in the late 2020s. It makes sense to plan now and establish additional routes to the coast.

Total construction cost of the Alberta-to-Alaska rail project is estimated at between \$15 billion and \$27 billion.

FILM IN ALBERTA PROGRAM: Attract and grow every screen industry

An Alberta Party government will position Alberta as the most attractive location for film and motion pictures to attract thousands of jobs away from British Columbia.



"Alberta has the beauty and talent to be the preferred location for film and television production in Canada, but the NDP has completely ignored this opportunity. The Alberta Party will put incentives in place to massively expand our screen industries, which will generate spin-off benefits for every city, town and village across our province."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

FILM IN ALBERTA PROGRAM

The Film in Alberta Program will be the most attractive program of its kind in Canada. Corporations will receive a tax credit of up to 65% of eligible salaries or a tax credit of 35% on all eligible expenditures within Alberta.

- The corporation must have a permanent establishment in Alberta.
- Some genres will be excluded from the credit including, but not limited to, pornography, talk shows, live sports events, game shows, reality television, and advertising.
- There will be no limit on production or video length. This will make Alberta the first jurisdiction in Canada to encourage YouTube and online creators to produce content here in Alberta. It will also attract e-sports broadcasting to Alberta.
- Reduce red tape to film in locations under provincial jurisdiction.

- The program is based on Manitoba's model, which includes incentives for rural productions to achieve the full credit.

Hollywood has been coming to Alberta to make films since 1917. Productions made in Alberta have won more Emmys, Golden Globes and Oscars than any other region in the country. Alberta has an incredibly rich and diverse setting for film and television production -- including mountains, foothills, plains, farmland, boreal forest, and urban locations. This competitive advantage can't be offshored.

In 2017, the total volume of film and television production in Alberta was \$308 million, while British Columbia and Ontario were close to \$3 billion each. This program is expected to increase the economic impact of screen industries in Alberta to approximately \$1.5 billion with benefits seen within the first few years. Spin-off economic activity across the province will boost hotels, the food industry and other support services.

The industry employs a variety of highly skilled workers such as programmers, electricians, and carpenters. Stimulating a huge expansion in this industry will create thousands of high-skilled, well-paying jobs and retain post-secondary graduates in Alberta.

REFINING AND PETROCHEMICAL DEVELOPMENT to create jobs and exports

An Alberta Party government will energize the development of refining and petrochemical processing, creating more value within the province and thousands of good jobs for Albertans.



"As Wayne Gretzky once said, you have to skate to where the puck is going. Passively sitting around and hoping the market works is yesterday's approach. We need to aggressively get in the game and make big moves to generate more refining and petrochemical processing here in Alberta."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF CANAPUX

Commonly referred to as bitumen pucks, CanaPux are developed by CN and Wapahki Energy, owned by Heart Lake First Nation (approximately 300 km northeast of Edmonton).

The technology converts bitumen into a solid puck product that is capable of being exported by rail or other methods (rather than pipeline).

This is a potential revolution for Alberta's oil sands industry -- one that enables Albertans to realize the full value of their resources by avoiding pipeline politics.

An Alberta Party government will expedite approvals for the pilot facility and contribute financial support for one-third of the pilot (\$16.7 million).

RESTORE ALBERTA INNOVATES FUNDS AND FOCUS ON MATERIAL SCIENCES

Alberta Innovates contributes to the creation of new industries in Alberta and strengthens existing ones. It diversifies the economy and creates jobs and increases exports.

Alberta Innovates currently funds research that focuses on turning bitumen into products other than gas, diesel and other fuels such as asphalt, vanadium batteries, plastics and carbon fibre.

The development of these alternatives is a long term approach that will help to increase demand for our resources, create jobs, lower our exposure to global oil prices, and help diversify our economy.

The NDP have cut the Alberta Innovates budget, from \$288 million in 2018-19 to \$244 million in 2020-21.

An Alberta Party government will not only reverse those cuts but increase the total Alberta Innovates budget by 30% to \$375 million by 2020-21, and direct the additional funds to a rapid expansion of research into new uses for our resources.

EXPANDING REFINING IN ALBERTA

Once Phase 1 is proven out, an Alberta Party government will support construction of Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the Sturgeon Refinery.

This will help Alberta expand its refining capacity, creating more value here in the province and creating thousands of skilled jobs for Albertans.

An Alberta Party government will expedite the review of necessary approvals and expand its Bitumen Royalty in Kind (BRIK) program.

Construction of both Phase 2 and 3 have a combined total construction expenditure of an estimated \$18.0 billion which will result in an increase in GDP of \$16.0 billion, and create 140,000 person-years of employment.

Once construction is complete, the additional the two phases will increase GDP by an average of \$5 billion per year, and result in an estimated 13,000 additional jobs per year.

ENERGIZING PETROCHEMICAL PROCESSING

To stimulate petrochemical processing in the province, an Alberta Party government will establish a Gas Royalty in Kind program that takes a similar approach to the Bitumen Royalty in Kind program.

This will have the Government of Alberta take a portion of its natural gas royalties “in kind” rather than in cash. This will enable the government to market the natural gas in ways that stimulate gas processing and petrochemical plant expansions in the province.

An Alberta Party government will also establish Alberta’s petrochemical diversification program as a 10 year program , rather than the NDP’s unpredictable annual program. This would provide stability and certainty to the market, helping attract more investment.

The petrochemical diversification program will also be adjusted to move from a royalty credit to a more efficient subsidy program.

ORPHAN WELL CLEANUP and renewable reuse

An Alberta Party government will make a massive push to deal with orphan and end-of-life energy infrastructure, to improve Alberta's environment while creating new jobs and opportunities for Albertans.



"Albertans are beginning to recognize that ignoring the environmental liabilities of our orphan wells is not something we can continue. Yet at the same time, these same wells provide an opportunity to address employment and electricity generation requirements across our province. Our current reclamation model encourages companies to kick the can down the road on land reclamation. By developing the technology to repurpose these wells into another energy source for our future. It's time to get creative and grab these opportunities."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government would deal with orphan and end-of-life energy infrastructure, and kickstart Alberta's geothermal industry.

Planning for End-of-life Energy Infrastructure

There is a great deal of energy infrastructure that is currently abandoned. Nearly 72,000 wells have not been used for at least five years. The full scope of this infrastructure and the cost of cleaning it up is shrouded in uncertainty.

An Alberta Party government will commit \$10 million to the AER to conduct a full and thorough assessment of all abandoned energy infrastructure in Alberta and the associated clean up liability.

This data will be provided to Albertans in a transparent manner and be open to independent verification.

An Alberta Party government would work with industry and the Alberta Energy Regulator to overhaul the liability management framework to reduce cleanup liability risk to taxpayers while continuing to attract new investments.

Expand the mandate of the Orphan Well Association

An Alberta Party government would do a program review and provide additional funding to the Orphan Well association to expand, valued at \$200 million over four years.

The renewed purpose of the fund would be to support the safe abandonment and reclamation of wells that have been both designated as orphans by the Alberta Energy Regulator and ones with a legally or financially responsible party. The association would look to:

- Provide financial support for innovative projects that seek to repurpose well (such as electricity production through direct heating, geo-exchange or geo-hydro power generation);
- Develop programs that encourage energy companies to repurpose abandoned wells, providing new job opportunities in rural Alberta
- Engage in partnerships with governments, private sector companies and non-profit organizations that have the effect of matching or multiplying funds, so that more financial support can go to orphan repurposing and clean-up.

Unlocking Alberta's vast geothermal resources

An Alberta Party government will create legal structures for owning geothermal heat, turning abandoned wells into productive assets that attract investment and jobs to rural Alberta.

We will develop a geothermal regulatory framework to encourage producers to transfer end-of-life wells to geothermal producers, along with a framework to transfer environmental liability from oil and gas producers to geothermal producers.

INVESTING IN HIGHWAYS and leadership in cold climate self-driving vehicles

An Alberta Party government will build new lanes on the QE2 highway, upgrade our existing highway network, create Canada's first corridor for self-driving vehicles, and position Alberta as a world leader in self-driving vehicles for cold-weather climates.



"Self-driving vehicles are already in use and more are on the way. We can either get ready for this or get left behind. An Alberta Party government will get us ready by building new lanes on the QE2, and positioning Alberta as a world leader in self-driving vehicles for colder climates -- cars, trucks, and even farm equipment. This will make us more competitive, and be an entirely new source of jobs and growth -- fueled by the incredible minds and assets we have in artificial intelligence"

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

NEW LANES ON THE QE2 HIGHWAY

Traffic along QE2 is high at 170,000 vehicles per day in total, with 60,000 to 70,000 vehicles per day between Calgary and Red Deer, and between Red Deer and Edmonton. Over two-thirds of Albertans live and work along the corridor.

Currently the QE2 is over-capacity, putting Albertan drivers at risk and adding costs to business by impeding trade in the Calgary Red Deer-Edmonton corridor.

The expanded QE2 will support over 300 direct service jobs and, from fuel and time savings, will enable over 20,000 businesses relying on the QE2 to expand their workforces.

15% of traffic on QE2 between Calgary and Edmonton is commercial traffic, or over 5,000 vehicles per day in each direction, carrying millions of dollars in cargo.

An Alberta Party government will build additional lanes on the Calgary to Edmonton section of the QE2 (northbound and southbound), a length of 261 km, at an estimated cost of \$1.6 billion. The project will create an estimated 5,000 construction jobs and 3,500 indirect jobs per year of construction.

In addition, an Alberta Party government will increase the posted speed limit on the QE2 highway (including Deerfoot Trail) to 120 km/h, in areas where it is deemed safe to do so.

ENDING THE NEGLECT OF ALBERTA HIGHWAYS

It is estimated 15.6 per cent of Alberta highways are in 'very poor' condition. This is the highest rate in Canada.

Neglecting timely road maintenance means having to do significant repairs and upgrades, and a much higher overall cost. Addressing repairs and upgrades sooner will result in lower costs for taxpayers.

An Alberta Party government will increase the provincial highway rehabilitation budget by 40% from \$360 million per year to \$504 million per year, creating 1,200 direct jobs, and 700 indirect jobs.

We will also invest \$50 million to improve roads, eliminating road bans on areas of strategically important growth.

WORLD LEADERSHIP IN AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES FOR COLDER CLIMATES

Alberta provides ideal testing grounds for autonomous vehicles, including Canada's largest highway network, relatively low population density, and existing leadership in artificial intelligence research.

Alberta companies are already testing autonomous vehicles in several industries.

Colder climates introduce unique issues for autonomous vehicles (e.g., driving conditions, performance in low temperatures, etc.). Alberta serves as an excellent location for demonstrating autonomous vehicle success in these conditions; if it will work in Alberta, then it can work anywhere.

The economic impact of fully adopting autonomous vehicles in Alberta is estimated to be \$10 billion, including \$6 billion from collision avoidance, \$3 billion in time saved, and \$500 million in fuel savings. That's a positive impact of over 100,000 jobs.

AI and autonomous vehicles have the potential to expand Canada's economy by 1.6% (\$26 billion).

- As an example, in the transportation industry, self-driving trucks could operate for close to 24 hours per day rather than a human driver's maximum of 13 hours. Currently, trucks in Alberta move about \$9 billion of the province's non-pipeline exports. This lynchpin of the economy could almost double its running time with self-driving technology, enabling more economic activity.
- By 2035, the global market for autonomous vehicles will be \$77 billion.
- Autonomous vehicle technology in farming has huge potential for Alberta. Increasing the amount of produced food that reaches people by one third would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the value of agriculture and agri-food exports by \$ 5-6 billion.

An Alberta Party government will establish a Cold-Weather Autonomous Vehicle Centre of Excellence at the University of Alberta. In partnership with industries, this will create 100 direct and 230 indirect jobs to support next generation cold weather autonomous vehicles.

REVAMPED AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE RULES

The most forward-thinking autonomous vehicle rules in Canada will be established.

Automated vehicles equipped with 'SAE Level 3' technology that are available for public purchase in Canada will be allowed to be driven on all roads without a permit.

In consultation with industry partners, a streamlined application process and designated testing areas will be established for 'SAE Level 4 & 5' autonomous vehicles.

The QE2 will be established as Canada's first autonomous vehicle corridor. An Alberta Party government will allocate \$20 million and work with industry partners to provide additional sensors, mapping, and other services.

CARBON PRICING to reduce emissions, not punish families

An Alberta Party government would cancel the NDP carbon tax for families, small business, farms, non-profit organizations and municipal governments.



"Carbon pricing should be focused on actually reducing emissions. The NDP's carbon tax is nothing more than a cash cow designed to fund their pet projects, and it unfairly penalizes families for living in Alberta. We don't have a choice on whether to heat their homes in winter. It's unfair to punish Albertans for driving their cars when we are geographically spread out. Our system stops punishing moms and dads for living their lives and raising their families, and instead rewards industries that make concrete efforts to actually reduce carbon emissions."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

Our comprehensive environmental plan includes a more effective carbon pricing regime requiring large emitters to take responsibility. It cancels the tax to families and small businesses. Large industrial emitters would still be required to reduce their emissions annually under a properly structured carbon price.

STOP PENALIZING FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

Alberta families would no longer pay the carbon tax on home heating. This recognizes the climate realities in Alberta.

The existing NDP carbon tax would be eliminated for businesses that emit less than 100,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases. The existing NDP carbon tax would be eliminated on gasoline and propane used in vehicles and heating.

Businesses emitting less than 100,000 tonnes of GHGs would have the ability to opt-in to the system to generate carbon credits they can sell to large emitters for profit on open carbon markets.

The Alberta Party's carbon price would apply to aviation fuel, locomotive fuel, fuel used in resource extraction, and large scale industrial emissions.

PROPERLY STRUCTURED CARBON PRICE

An Alberta Party government would encourage the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The carbon price will be focused on large industrial emitters (those who emit more than 100,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases).

Revenues from large emitters would continue to flow to Energy Efficiency Alberta, to support individuals and small businesses to make positive changes in energy efficiency and reduce their carbon footprints.

STOP PENALIZING NON-PROFITS & MUNICIPALITIES

The existing NDP carbon tax would be eliminated for non-profits and municipal governments.

This recognizes non-profits undertake social and charitable objectives, often with limited resources. This elimination enables them to maximize resources for front-line services in Alberta communities.

Non-profits that have the capacity to address their carbon footprints could participate in the carbon market by generating and selling carbon credits.

Municipalities deliver essential services to Albertans and are funded largely from tax revenues from residents. It makes no sense divert those funds away from municipal services to an NDP slush fund.

FAIRNESS FOR RURAL ALBERTANS

An Alberta Party government will eliminate the requirement for a farm to have minimum annual farm commodity production incomes in order to purchase marked fuel.

This will remove an administrative burden from farmers, removing the existing NDP carbon tax on fuel for most rural Albertans. It will also encourage the pursuit of new kinds of agriculture, and hobby farms.

Currently, marked fuel is only available to farms producing at least \$10,000 per year, or \$5,000 to \$9,999 if the only other significant sources of income are Canada Pension Plan or Old Age Security.

STANDING UP FOR ALBERTA and securing fair treatment from Ottawa

An Alberta Party government would immediately move to keep more of Albertans' money within the province, to help fund schools, hospitals and other provincial services, and to reduce the power imbalance between Alberta and Ottawa.



"Every year Albertans send billions of dollars to Ottawa that aren't spent on Albertans, but instead given away to other provinces. In return, we receive rejection, scorn and attacks on our industries and our way of life. We see that with a hijacked coastline, and an unfair equalization program, and refusals to consider pipelines like Energy East."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government will fight to ensure Albertans receive the same treatment from the federal government as Quebec.

As the only provincial party not beholden to federal counterparts, the Alberta Party will stand up to Ottawa where the NDP and Jason Kenney have failed and continue to fail.

"Albertans are tired of being taken for granted by Ottawa and others. The NDP have been in cahoots with the Trudeau government and failed us. Jason Kenney failed us when he was in Ottawa for nearly 20 years. The Alberta Party is going to take decisive action to keep more of Albertans' money here in Alberta, so it can be used for schools, hospitals, and other key services for our province."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government would take a series of actions to move key finances back under direct provincial control, and help to build leverage that will help to secure fairer treatment for Albertans from Ottawa.

COLLECT ALBERTA PERSONAL INCOME TAXES IN ALBERTA

An Alberta Party government will immediately stop collecting provincial income taxes through Ottawa by terminating the current Tax Collection Agreement with the Government of Canada. This arrangement creates a power imbalance between the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada.

ESTABLISH THE ALBERTA PENSION PLAN

An Alberta Party government will bring Alberta's portion of the Canada Pension Plan under provincial control, creating an Alberta Pension Plan. We will immediately give notice under section 3 of the Canada Pension Plan that Alberta intends to be a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan."

This will bring billions of dollars of Albertans' pension contributions under direct Alberta control. Establishment of the Alberta Pension Plan would move over \$30 billion in assets to AIMCo. These additional funds will create an estimated 300 high quality jobs here in Alberta and further establish Alberta as a leader in investment management.

The Alberta Pension Plan will provide Albertans with higher benefits for lower premiums. With the youngest population in Canada, Albertans would see greater benefits from the Alberta Pension Plan as they would not be subject to CPP premium increases for the large numbers of retirees in Ontario, Quebec, and the rest of Canada.

Alberta will essentially follow the approach of Quebec in taking provincial control. Instead of participating in the Canada Pension Plan, Quebecers contribute to the Quebec Pension Plan.

FAIR TREATMENT OF PROVINCES: ALBERTA GETS WHAT QUEBEC GETS

In relations with the federal government, an Alberta Party government will expect and exercise the same authorities as the Province of Quebec. "Whatever Quebec gets, Alberta also gets." This position is consistent with the principle that all provinces are equal and deserve equal treatment by the federal government.

Quebec is attempting to obtain an arrangement to collect all federal personal and corporate income taxes, and remit them to the federal government. (The reverse of what happens now.) This proposal is supported by Andrew Scheer's federal Conservative Party and the federal NDP. An Alberta Party government will expect and exercise the same authority if Quebec is successful.

Alberta does not have a single CRA Tax Centre. Moving the collection of all taxes Albertans pay to the control of the Alberta government would mean those taxes are collected by Albertans rather than employees in the rest of Canada. This will create approximately 4,000 new positions into Alberta.

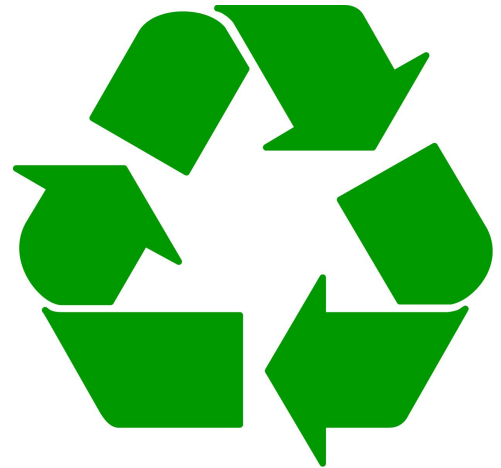
SECURING FAIR TREATMENT FOR ALBERTANS AND ALBERTA INDUSTRIES

An Alberta Party government will create clear expectations for the Government of Canada in regards to the fair treatment of Albertans. This includes the following:

- The TransMountain pipeline must be approved by the federal Cabinet.
- If necessary, the federal government shall invoke the “declaratory power” over the TransMountain pipeline, to provide legal certainty and end the ability of the Government of British Columbia and BC municipal governments to interfere with a federally-approved project of national interest.
- In their current form, Bill C-48 and Bill C-69 shall die on the Order Paper and not proceed. Similar versions of those pieces of legislation shall not be entertained. If these laws are passed, an Alberta Party Government will proceed with the necessary constitutional challenges to have them struck down.
- A process shall be started for amending the equalization formula so that it is more fair for Albertans and other net-contributing provinces in Confederation.
- Additional pipelines that are required for Alberta’s energy industry shall be supported, recognizing that these projects are nation-building and essential for advancing not only Alberta’s economy but the prosperity of the entire country.

Extended Producer Responsibility: Ending double dipping for recycling

Alberta Party government will implement an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program to support environmental and financial responsibility.



"The NDP Government's lack of action on recycling has left taxpayers paying twice. We will work with stakeholders to ensure funds for product recycling are used for recycling. Alberta is the only province that still has not moved to a modern EPR framework. This is hurting every Alberta family and business."

Albertans pay twice for the cost of their recycling. Once when they purchase an item, where the costs of EPR have already been included in the price of goods, and a second time in their municipal taxes.

Alberta is currently the only province in the country that does not have a regulated EPR program. This means we are paying twice for recycling - first at the till - and later again in municipal taxes.

In 2016, industry provided \$367 million to fund Provincial recycling programs, yet Alberta received \$0. With EPR the costs of the end of life of the product are the responsibility of the producers of the materials, instead of taxpayers. These costs are already built into the prices many of the materials and goods Albertans purchase.

An Alberta Party government will take a multi-staged approach working with affected stakeholders. This includes:

- Designing and implementing an EPR program
- Updating regulations to respond to current recycling market conditions
- Working with municipalities and other stakeholders to improve recycling and waste diversion rates in the province

- Ensure Alberta Recycling Management Authority can adjust fees on items such as tires, electronics and oil to ensure users pay to recycle these goods instead of taxpayers

Statistics Canada data shows, Alberta is the most wasteful province in Canada with under 20% of waste being diverted from landfills in 2014. The national rate is 36%.

Many recycling regulations are out of date with the Alberta Recycling Management Authority not having the ability to set rates for items such as paint, used oil, electronics and tires. Costs of processing these materials have increased over the years. These costs are being subsidized by municipal taxpayers instead of being covered by those that are using these materials.

Municipalities such as Medicine Hat, Edson, Devon, Airdrie and the City of Calgary along with organizations such as the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and the Recycling Council of Alberta have all advocated for the development of an EPR framework.

An Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Action Plan was accepted by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment in 2009 that Alberta has failed to implement.

Supporting Rural Alberta

PROTECTING FAMILY FARMS and the communities they support

An Alberta Party-led government will take steps to ensure that Alberta's farming families have the opportunity to continue their part in feeding a global market.



"For generations many of Alberta's family farms have been land stewards of leased Crown Lands. When the Province sells this Crown Land they are being squeezed out by big business interests. This hurts our communities and does not recognize the generations worth of sweat equity our families have put into the land."

- Casey Douglass, Candidate for the Alberta Party for Cardston-Siksika

The face of agriculture is changing in Alberta. Increasingly agricultural farm land is being purchased and traded as a commodity instead of its historic role as the breadbasket of Canada.

The Alberta Party is committed to proposing innovative and practical solutions that improve the lives of Albertans.

"The family farm is increasingly being replaced by big, often foreign-owned, agribusiness. We need to recognize the importance of our farming families and the communities they support. In future, if there is a decision to dispose of Crown Lands currently under lease for agricultural purposes, an Alberta Party-led government will take steps to ensure that the little guy doesn't get pushed around by the big players in the industry."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

SITUATION

Alberta's agriculture industry has long relied on Crown leases to supplement traditionally owned lands. These farming and ranching families, land stewards, have invested heavily in equipment and livestock which can cover several thousand acres and whose removal is very expensive when the Crown decides to dispose of surplus Crown lands by terminating leases and auctioning off the former Crown lease lands.

Similarly, with cropland Crown leases there are often have several families often under one farm or farm business umbrella supported by crown lease land. These families will have heavily invested in irrigation equipment, power transmission lines, farm machinery, water rights, buildings for grain and machinery storage, trucks, trailers.

When the Crown decides to sell these lands, the timelines are often too restrictive for land steward families to secure sufficient funding to purchase the land and instead larger corporations end up purchasing and consolidating the land as they have a greater ability to raise sufficient funding within restrictive timelines.

SOLUTION

An Alberta Party government will address this. In those cases where the Crown has decided to terminate leases and commence disposal, government will provide existing land stewards with more flexibility to purchase the land by introducing a right of first refusal option for existing land stewards to purchase the land they are currently leasing:

- 5 year option for ranchland leases; and
- 10 year option for cropland leases.

Active from the time that the Crown notifies the landowner of the intent to dispose, these windows will allow land stewards to arrange for sufficient funding to purchase the lands, or to complete a timely drawdown of their assets.

Given the direct nature of this sale, an Alberta Party government would conduct these sales to the land steward using a net-book value formula, where the savings to the Crown by doing a direct sale would be factored in to the final sale price.

BOOSTING THE FORESTRY INDUSTRY and unlocking its economic potential

An Alberta Party government will establish a technology development fund focused on forestry resources, make changes to the building code, and enhance exports.



"Our forestry industry has huge growth potential for our province and we can take advantage of it with smart government support and rule changes. We should be building more of our great towns and cities with sustainably grown and harvested Alberta lumber. And we should be using cutting-edge research to find new and creative uses for our resources."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

ENABLE HUGE NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN WOOD BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Technology and engineering advances have expanded opportunities to use wood for building construction - allowing for taller buildings. With our vast forests and engineering and construction prowess, Alberta is perfectly positioned to take advantage of these advances.

Long common in Europe, this building method is rapidly expanding in North America. In 2017, an 18-story mass timber building was constructed in British Columbia, Brock Commons.

A mass timber structure requires 80% less energy to produce and requires 85% less carbon to build, compared to a concrete and steel structure. By building Brock Commons using wood instead of concrete, there was a carbon reduction equivalent to taking 500 cars off the road.

An Alberta Party government would amend the Alberta Building Code to allow for tall wood buildings and mandate that all municipalities allow for their construction. We will work with industry to review the building code to encourage the use of wood in a wider variety of situations.

All newly built provincially-funded public buildings (provincial, school board, municipal) would be encouraged to maximize the use of advanced wood materials

The government would also work in conjunction with post-secondary institutions to establish new training programs. These new programs will train installers and drafts-persons to build tall wood buildings, explore the use wood in other innovative building structures, and support primary research into new uses for forest products.

"This will dramatically change how we build and support our forestry industry with the creation of a new research institute. By changing how we build we can lead the charge to reduce carbon emissions and unlock a billion dollars of economic growth for our province."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

CREATE THE ALBERTA FORESTRY TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE

An Alberta Party government will incorporate the Alberta Forestry Technology and Research Institute (AFTRI) as a new wholly-owned subsidiary of Alberta Innovates and provide funding of \$50 million beginning in 2019-20.

The mandate of the AFTRI will be to perform primary research and provide seed funding to industry led projects.

Industry partnerships will explore advances such as innovative forms of building construction, biomass, and sustainability initiatives. By partnering with industry, AFTRI will unlock R&D worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

DRIVE TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

To provide the predictability needed to ensure the forestry industry is able to make necessary long-term investments we will work towards securing long term timber rights agreements with the industry that take into account environmental and wildlife concerns.

An Alberta Party government will ensure a portion of the Renewable Energy auctions are allocated to biomass-based projects.

GROWING THE INDUSTRY

An Alberta Party government will launch a province-wide educational campaign among engineers, architects, designers, building trades, and contractors to increase awareness of the opportunities for wood construction.

We will partner with industry to develop a new export program with a mandate to sell more raw forest products, and advanced forestry products abroad. By becoming a global leader in wood construction, we can increase exports of Alberta's raw forestry products and produce forestry products further up the value chain.

This multi-pronged approach will result in a substantial increase in the size of Alberta's forestry industry. It is estimated annual economic contribution of the industry would rise from \$7 billion to \$8 billion, creating 6,000 new jobs, and generating over \$100 million in new revenues for the provincial government and municipal governments.

GROWING AGRICULTURE to help feed the world and create 6,000 new jobs

An Alberta Party government will boost the province's agriculture and agri-food industry by creating a new innovation institute focused on investing in export markets, and modernizing the Agriculture Financial Services Corporation.



"Albertans are deeply proud of what we grow and make in our province. The agriculture sector has huge growth potential for our province. We must support farmers with smart government support. Changing the way, we grow, raise, process and sell our agricultural products will create a healthier environment, and a stronger economy."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government will grow Alberta's agriculture and agri-food industry by \$1 billion dollars from \$14 billion to \$15 billion per year in farm cash receipts and create 6,000 new jobs and generate over \$100 million in new revenues for the provincial and municipal governments.

ALBERTA AGRICULTURE INNOVATION FUND (AAIF)

An Alberta Party government will establish a new fund, as part of Alberta Innovates, with annual funding of \$100 million beginning in 2019-20.

AAIF will support research and provide seed funding to industry-led projects.

Industry partnerships will explore advances, such as innovative forms of processing, support for increased upgrading of plant-based proteins, biofuels, and sustainability initiatives.

MOVING UP THE VALUE CHAIN

An Alberta Party government will provide \$2 million in support of an agri-tourism development fund. The strong, positive brand of Made in Canada and Made in Alberta products can be leveraged to increase agri-tourism opportunities.

We will allocate \$2 million to create an office of certification support that will assist Alberta farmers and ranchers in obtaining value-add certifications.

We will partner with industry to develop a new export program with a mandate to sell more raw and value-added agriculture products abroad.

INDUSTRY SUSTAINABILITY

An Alberta Party government will ensure a portion of the renewable energy auctions are allocated to biofuel-based projects. Increased biofuel production would help diversify the energy market and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

We will appoint a Bee Protection Task Force to provide recommendations to government on how to support healthy and productive bee populations in Alberta.

ENHANCE THE AGRICULTURE FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION

An Alberta Party government will undertake a review of the AFSC to provide better service to farmers including developing succession planning programs to transition enterprises to a new generation of farmers entering the industry.

The review will also explore the potential of expanding service offerings to include agricultural innovations, such as new and non-traditional crops and livestock, and to help producers enter new markets.

WORKING BETTER TOGETHER

In consultation with Albertan farmers we will make a measured update to Bill 6 (Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act.) to make changes such as providing special rules and exemptions for small farms.

Any sales of Crown land for agricultural use will be subject to careful consultation with the agricultural industry, First Nations communities, and stakeholders.

INTERNET PLAN: Bring fibre-optic and 5G to every underserved community

An Alberta Party government will ensure high-quality, reliable and affordable gigabit level broadband services are in every community in Alberta within three years.



"It is critically important for the economies of rural Alberta that they have access to the next generation of internet. Fully connecting our rural places to the global community will help ensure long-term economic sustainability. We cannot allow our two-tier society to continue. Advances in health care and industry require that all Albertans have the ability to have affordable and accessible broadband internet. Failing in this objective will only result in marginalizing a large part of our community. We must invest now to ensure that every Albertan has the opportunity to participate in global opportunities tomorrow."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government would partner with major telecoms providers to bring a combination of fibre-optic & 5G internet to every underserved community in Alberta.

Only 12.7% per cent of communities in Alberta have service that meets target speeds set by the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission. An Alberta Party government will commit to ensuring every community in Alberta meets the CRTC target speeds.

An Alberta Party government will expedite work on the Provincial Broadband Strategy and provide additional funding of \$250 million over three years to ensure the completion of this project.

Supporting Albertans' Safety

ADDRESSING CRIME by expanding Alberta Sheriffs and improving justice

An Alberta Party government commits to expanding the roles of sheriffs to provide RCMP with more help so they can keep Albertans safe.



"One of my biggest concerns is the rise in crime across Alberta. It's clear people are victimized and the government is letting them down. This is serious and we need to look at practical and real solutions to make Albertans feel safe. We need to be creative in how we deal with crime. We must ensure communities across Alberta from Lethbridge to Red Deer, Grande Prairie and everywhere in between are safe, secure and people feel comfortable."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government will improve the criminal justice system on all levels to ensure Albertans are safe and can access justice more quickly. We will address crime by expanding the roles of Alberta Sheriffs, improve funding to municipalities and First Nations, and improve how the court system functions.

SUPPORT THE RCMP

An Alberta Party government will commit to working with and supporting RCMP to provide sufficient services to ensure safety.

We will work with the RCMP to expand the scope and funding of Alberta Sheriffs to increase patrols, deliver summons, and support local enforcement activities. This will free up the RCMP to address federal, inter-provincial and more serious crime.

SUPPORT MUNICIPALITIES & FIRST NATIONS

An Alberta Party government will expedite the review of the Police Act and commit to a reevaluation of the Municipal Police Assistance Grant Program to ensure both are fair, equitable, and support local decision making.

We will increase the share of cannabis revenues to be shared with municipalities for enforcement and treatment.

We will support municipalities that want to work with their neighbours to expand its policing services.

We will increase support to First Nations partners to address policing concerns.

IMPROVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

To improve the operation of Alberta's justice system and improve Albertans' access to justice,, an Alberta Party government will:

- Allocate \$10 million to lift the prosecutor wage freeze for prosecutors outside of Edmonton and Calgary, and hire 25 additional crown prosecutors.
- Work with the federal government to increase the pace of Court of Queen's Bench justice appointments to alleviate wait times.
- Advocate for more Court of Queen's Bench justice appointments to Grande Prairie.
- Conduct a review of courthouse security to incorporate video in hearings.
- Support Indigenous-led initiatives such as traditional healing practices.
- Regulate paralegals and formalize their role in routine justice matters in order to make justice more accessible.
- Increase financial support to Legal Aid Alberta by an additional \$140 million over the next four years, doubling the current funding commitment.
- Move routine matters to Justices of the Peace and arbiters to free up limited court time and reduce overall costs.
- Introduce the Saskatchewan model of court scheduling to reduce the time front-line law enforcement officers spend in courtrooms or waiting for court proceedings and enable increased policing to deter crime.

INNOVATIONS IN POLICING

An Alberta Party government will create a Rural Crime Innovation Fund to support law enforcement, municipalities, and entrepreneurs to:

- Develop and trial new technologies to improve response times and access to crime data.
- Reduce wait times to access police service such as filing police reports.
- More effectively schedule and deploy policing resources.
- Explore northern climate autonomous monitoring and patrol technologies.
- Identify and address organized rural crime.

We will allocate an additional \$5 million to fund provincial victim services units so they can provide the staffing levels required to assist victims of crime in rural areas.

We will expedite the development of the Provincial Hate Crimes Unit.

MAKING ACCESS TO JUSTICE More Equitable

An Alberta Party-led government will work to increase access to justice for a growing number of Albertans seeking legal advice from paralegals.



"Albertans deserve to feel secure in the knowledge that their rights are protected as they maneuvering their way through the very system that holds each one of us accountable. The Justice system makes up the very fabric of our society. Laws and legislation dictate everything we can and cannot do. Having a system that is inaccessible to Albertans is unacceptable and is clearly not working."

- Ryan McDougall, candidate for Red Deer-South

Increasingly a growing number of Albertans are reaching out to paralegals, for legal advice. With no governing body, there is no organization to hold these paralegals to account and protect the public's interest.

"Our Courts are over-crowded; criminal cases are thrown out which exacerbates the issues of repeat offenders; traffic courts are being heard in hotels in communities such as Red Deer where there is insufficient room at the courthouse. Alberta Justice is spending more and more funds on providing services to fill this gap through programs such as Resolution Services when there are incredibly talented, experienced and bright paralegals able to provide legal services to Albertans."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

The Alberta Party is committed to ensuring all Albertans can have confidence in and access to justice.

Access to justice is a polarized issue itself in that accessibility depends heavily on your financial status; high earners can afford private counsel while only financially destitute qualify for subsidized legal services. The lower middle class often are left to self-represent. This is a massive contributor to our overcrowded courthouses.

Currently in Alberta paralegals are not regulated; there is no governing body ensuring proper, adequate training or experience has been obtained prior to providing legal services as a paralegal.

Ontario regulated paralegals 10 years ago; BC and Saskatchewan just completed extensive studies showing this is required in their provinces and are now working on the “how”.

Self-represented litigants are disadvantaged in the court system due to the complexity of the court process and as such, the system is failing Albertans in delivering a “just” Alberta.

REGULATE MASSAGE THERAPY to ensure appropriate and safe care

An Alberta Party government will regulate the profession of massage therapy to ensure the protection of Albertans.



"For nearly 10 years now, both the former PC government and the current NDP government have failed to act, despite an ongoing stream of sexual assault charges against predatory massage therapists."

*- **Beth Barberree**, Alberta Party candidate for Calgary-Varsity*

An Alberta Party government will establish a regulatory college of massage therapy in Alberta, consistent with that of other health professions covered under the *Health Professions Act*. This will make Alberta the sixth province in Canada to regulate massage therapy.

"This is about protecting Albertans and ensuring they receive top-in-class health care. Unregulated massage therapy exposes some of the weakest people of our province, to sexual predators, while in they are in their most vulnerable states."

*- **Stephen Mandel**, Alberta Party Leader*

This will finally implement recommendations put forward in 2009.

The Alberta Party is committed to ensuring all Albertans have access to appropriate care in a safe environment.

TACKLING OPIOIDS with front-line providers as a public health emergency

An Alberta Party government will declare a public health emergency to enable front-line agencies and workers to address the opioid crisis.



"This is a public health emergency, plain and simple. Statistics say that two Albertans per day are dying preventable deaths from this crisis. This warrants a much greater response than we've seen under the NDP."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

"Behind the statistics is the human element, the people who were loved and lost to substance use, overdose, and suicide. We hold those people in our hearts as we work with our front line providers to tackle this situation head on. We need to increase awareness as well as offer actual supports, and the funding, necessary to deal with this crisis."

- Mo Elsalhy, Alberta Party candidate for Edmonton-South West

Upon declaring the public health emergency, an Alberta Party government will increase funding for opioid response by 50%, from \$45 million to \$68 million.

We will work with the Opioid Emergency Response Commission to implement its recommendations and commit to a take a public health approach, rather than an enforcement approach.

We will maintain and fund existing Supervised Consumption Sites. New sites will need to follow Health Canada's guidelines on local consultation with the aim of achieving high levels of community buy-in. New sites will be established only in areas that have high levels of drug use in public spaces.

We will provide community-based mental health supports to individuals and families addressing addiction.

We will fund new, dedicated mental health treatment beds.

We will enhance and fully fund the Take Home Naloxone Kits program, and expand availability of kits to employees of community organizations.

We will endorse efforts from the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General to develop evidence-based, standardized approaches for drug treatment court (DTC) programs in Alberta; and explore opportunities for pre-charge and post-charge diversion for individuals with substance use issues, including support for Indigenous-led initiatives such as traditional healing practices.

We will expedite the development of legislation to strengthen the government's capacity to ensure safe, quality care and consumer protection for Alberta's addiction and mental health facilities, services and care providers.

We will support Indigenous communities and organizations who serve Indigenous peoples for initiatives both on and off reserve.

ADDRESSING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT: Access to justice for all

The Alberta Party is committed to ensuring all Albertans have access to justice and equal treatment.



Recent allegations about sexual misconduct and inappropriate behaviour by two NDP MLAs have raised concerns about how the Legislative Assembly of Alberta deals with these serious issues.

Currently, there are effectively “two sets of rules” – one for employees at the Legislature, and another for sitting MLAs and Legislature insiders. This is unfair and heightens risks for abuse of power.

"Under the current system a complaint against a sitting MLA is investigated by the Speaker. When it's a member of the government it is simply a case of the fox guarding the henhouse. We need a system that delivers justice to the victim not cover for the government."
- **Diana Ly**, Alberta Party Candidate for Edmonton-Gold Bar

An Alberta Party government will immediately implement the following changes to legislative procedures:

- Update the formal Code of Conduct for all MLAs, to bring it into the 21st century.
- Change the rules so that formal complaints made against sitting MLAs and Executive Council staff are investigated through the Office of the Legislative Assembly. Right now, sitting MLAs are investigated by the Speaker of the Alberta Legislature, who is elected by the governing party. This can introduce a conflict of interest concern when the MLA under investigation is also from the governing party.
- Under the new process, once a formal recommendation is issued by the Office of the Legislative Assembly, it will be delivered to the Speaker, who will then release it to the public in a transparent manner.

Despite a request from Alberta Party MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill, Karen McPherson, to the Speaker of the Legislature for more transparency, there are still no public details on the allegations. The nature of the complaints and the names of the MLAs at the centre remain a secret. As it stands now, Albertans have no idea whether the MLAs are standing for re-election as NDP candidates.

"When complaints against sitting NDP MLAs arose Alberta Party MLA Karen McPherson pushed for an independent investigation and was ignored. This is absolutely wrong. An Alberta Party-led government will end this two-tier standard of justice that protects people in positions of power at the expense of victims. All Albertans deserves a safe workplace. We will end this double-standard where Legislature insiders can protect their own."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

FAIR CANNABIS REVENUE DISTRIBUTION to Alberta's municipalities

We will work with the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) to develop an agreement which recognizes the responsibility which municipalities have in delivering everyday services.



"Our communities are in the front line of dealing the challenges and opportunities offered by last year's cannabis legalization. Unfortunately, the current government does not recognize the importance of this role and is not planning to equitably share the revenues with the communities who must manage the issues and deal with the consequences. This needs to change."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

An Alberta Party government would develop a fair revenue split between the Province and municipalities and we would propose that a 50/50 split would recognize the role municipalities plays in providing services to your community. We would also work with AUMA and RMA to look at developing a formula for uses of the provincial share of this revenue.

"Last October I provided the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) with an improved vision based on the recognition that communities are based placed to use these funds to ensure harm reduction and care for families. The province's current revenue sharing model needs improvement and today I recommit to making this happen in an Alberta Party-led government. Our solution will bring tangible benefits to all communities."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

We intend to avoid the trap of directing cannabis funds into general revenue, but to instead focus these monies on programming which meets the needs of Alberta's communities.

We propose that this revenue is a way of addressing some of our long-standing mental health, affordable housing and policing challenges, but that ultimately an Alberta Party led Government would work with your organization to determine the best use of the Provincial share of cannabis revenue for use within your communities, while respecting that the use of municipal revenue share is best determined at the local level.

SPRINGBANK FLOOD MITIGATION: Protect Calgary after Six Years of Inaction

The Alberta Party will continue the current process for building the Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir project without any changes or delays to the current trajectory.



"Nearly six years after the most devastating natural disaster to hit southern Alberta, we can't afford any further delays. The Alberta Party has been unequivocal in our support for SR1 from the very beginning and would make building this project a top priority. We wouldn't hire outside 'experts' or conduct any further studies. The vast amount of work already completed on this project tells us it's the right solution."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

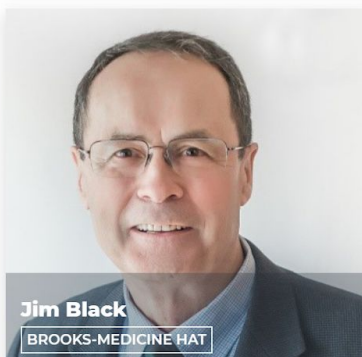
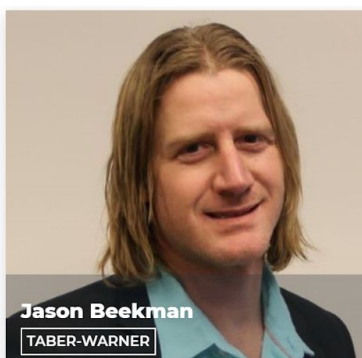
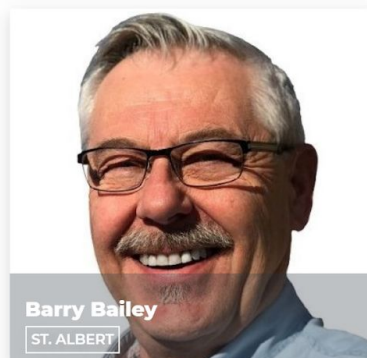
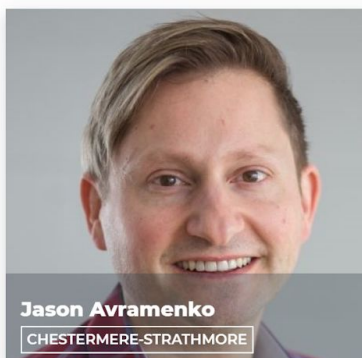
An Alberta Party government will ramp up negotiations with impacted landowners to acquire the land required for the project. Fulsome, two-way consultation with Indigenous people is a priority.

"We are confident that if we use the Trans Mountain ruling to guide us, the regulator will approve this project."

- Greg Clark, Alberta Party candidate for Calgary-Elbow

The Alberta Party is committed to SR1, and under an Alberta Party government it will be built.

Our Candidates





Andrew Bradley
CALGARY-NORTH WEST



Chase Brown
OLDS-DIDSBURY-THREE HILLS



Myles Chykerda
LACOMBE-PONOKA



Greg Clark
CALGARY-ELBOW



Robb Connelly
LEDUC-BEAUMONT



Jonathan Dai
EDMONTON-WHITEMUD

"Our party makes room for everybody. That's what truly lies at the heart of diversity and inclusion. Making room for everybody. Valuing everybody. Enabling everyone to participate. You just have to look at our candidates to see that we're a party for everybody."

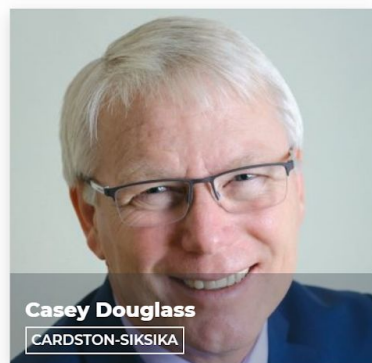
- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader



Carol-lynn Darch
CALGARY-BEDDINGTON



Jasbir Dhari
CALGARY-FALCONRIDGE



Casey Douglass
CARDSTON-SIKSIKA



Mo Elsalhy
EDMONTON SOUTH WEST



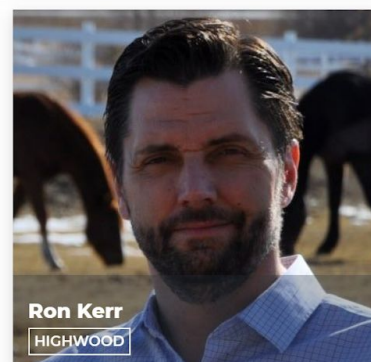
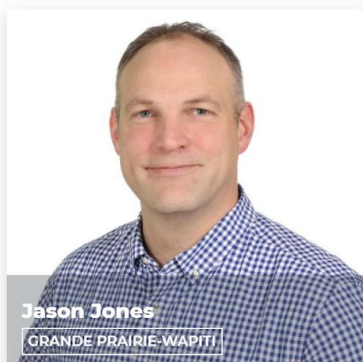
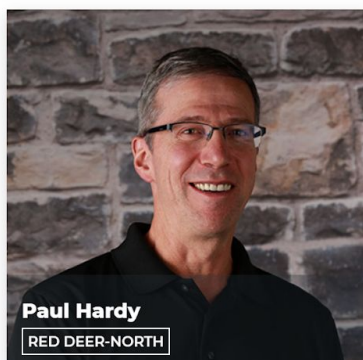
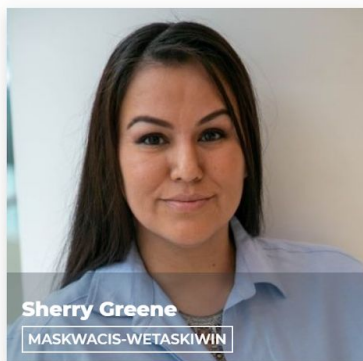
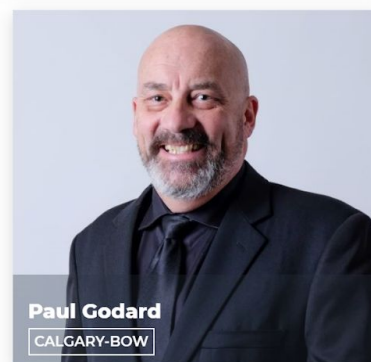
Marcus Erlandson
FORT MCMURRAY-WOOD
BUFFALO



Jeff Fafard
FORT MCMURRAY-LAC LA BICHE

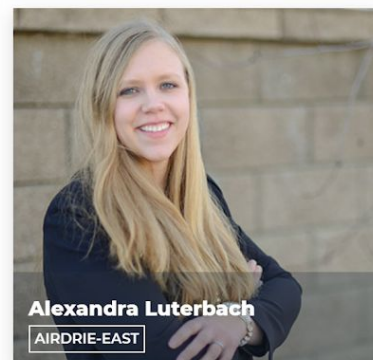
"We've got people who used to support different political parties across the spectrum. We've got people from all walks of life. Business people, educators, social workers, economists, environmentalists. We have more Indigenous candidates representing us than any other party."

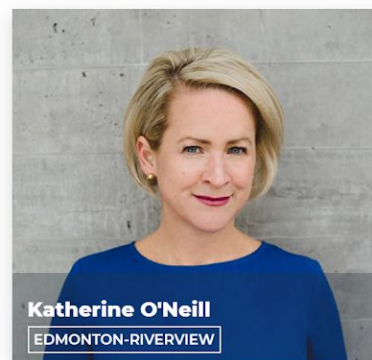
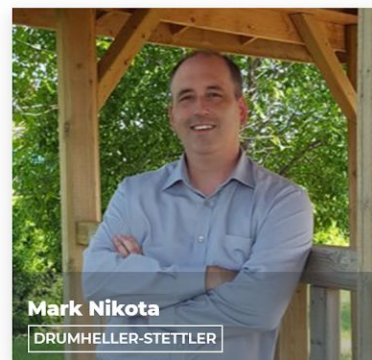
- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader

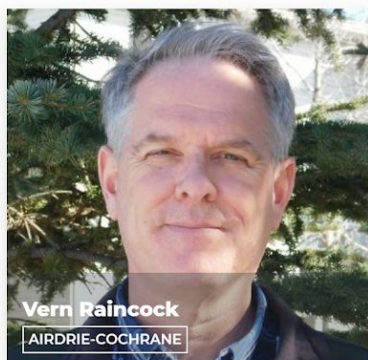


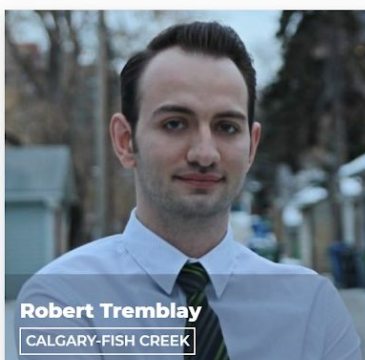
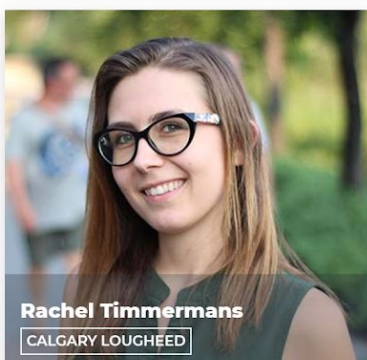
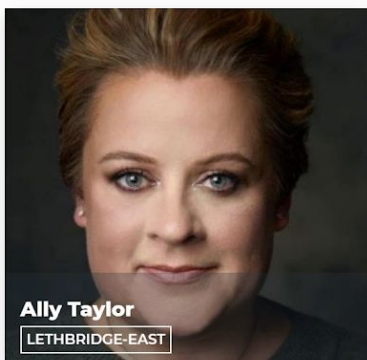
"People have come out of the woodwork from all corners of the province to join the Alberta Party. Because they feel welcome and included. Because there's space for all voices. Because we make room for everyone."

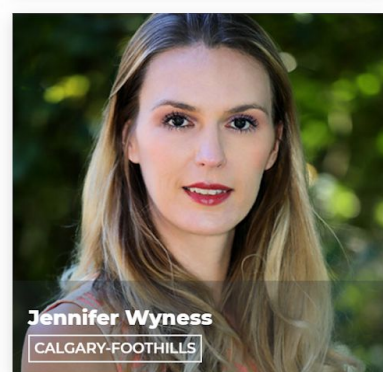
- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader











"If you're tired of the polarization. If you're tired of being yelled at feeling forced to pick a side between bad and worse. If you reject being told you have to choose between jobs and growth, or equality and inclusion.

Then stand with us.

Stand with us and vote FOR something better. Stand with us and vote for a more hopeful Alberta.

Don't throw your vote away on a disappointing choice between bad and worse.

Stand with us and vote FOR building a great economy and having a kind society, at the same time.

Stand with us. With the Alberta Party.

We have candidates in all 87 ridings. We have more people joining us every day. We have better ideas than the other guys. We are ready to govern.

Let's build the next Alberta. Together."

- Stephen Mandel, Alberta Party Leader



Alberta Party