

Hon. Grant Hunter MLA Taber-Warner Update April 2026

Alberta is investing \$46 million from the industry-funded TIER fund into nine cutting-edge technologies to help reduce oil sands mine water and reclaim tailings ponds.

Key Messages:

- Like all other mines, the oil sands produce tailings. Industry continues to rise to this challenge, but we need to kick this work into overdrive.
- We need more advanced technologies to help treat and manage mine water and eventually return the land for use by future generations.
- This funding will help Alberta industries develop new and improved technologies that make cleaning up oil sands mine water safer and more effective.
- The 9 projects are led by three major oil companies, a post-secondary institution and two businesses.
- These projects will lower the amount of water stored at sites, make water cleaner, help tailings dry and settle faster, reduce cleanup costs and use less energy for water treatment.
- This funding will help reduce emissions, protect our environment and speed up land reclamation so oil sands sites can be restored sooner and more sustainably.

Key facts:

- The total value of the projects receiving funding is \$133 million.
- Investments range from \$1 million to \$15 million per project.
- The nine projects are estimated to reduce more than 23,000 tonnes of emissions by 2030.
- A complete list of projects is available on Emissions Reduction Alberta's website.
- The province's oil sands tailings ponds now contain more than 1.5 billion cubic metres of fluid tailings and more than 380 million cubic metres of water, highlighting the scale of the challenge and the need for the new technologies being funded.
- Since 2013, oil sands mine operations have reduced the amount of fresh water used per barrel by 28%. Recycled water use increased by 51% over that same period.

Transportation and Economic Corridors' (TEC) capital plan totals \$8.3 billion over three years, including \$3.3 billion in capital grants to municipalities and \$4.8 billion to build, expand and maintain Alberta's vast road and bridge network.

Key Messages:

- Our plan is focused on building for growth and maintaining what matters with strategic investments in the road and infrastructure that Albertans rely on.
- We are investing in building, expanding and maintaining Alberta's road and bridge network to reduce congestion, shorten commute times and support growth.
- We are also continuing to make significant improvements to Deerfoot Trail in Calgary, improving on our previous investments to reduce congestion.
- Our government remains focused on improving traffic flow and expanding our major economic corridors through vital projects such as the twinning of Highway 11, Highway 3 and Highway 63.
- Together, these investments reflect a clear commitment to building the modern, reliable road infrastructure Alberta families, workers, and industries rely on.

Key Facts:

- Budget 2026 invests \$8.3 billion over three years in Transportation and Economic Corridors' Capital Plan, a \$222-million decrease compared with Budget 2025, that includes:
 - \$3.3 billion for Capital Grants to Municipalities
 - \$2.8 billion in Capital Investment for planning, design and construction of roads and bridges
 - \$2 billion in Capital Maintenance and Renewal for highway and bridge rehabilitation projects, an increase of \$234 million compared to Budget 2025.
 - \$180 million for Water Management and flood mitigation
- Budget 2026 invests \$2.8 billion over three years in Highway Construction Projects across the province, providing funding for planning, design and construction of major highway and bridge projects such as:
 - Highway 1 and Range Road 33 interchange near Springbank
 - Highway 2 Balzac Interchange Replacement
 - Highway 3 twinning (Between Taber and east of Burdett)
 - Highway 3 twinning Seven Persons to Medicine Hat
 - Highway 11 twinning between Sylvan Lake and Rocky Mountain House
 - Highway 16A and Range Road 20 Intersection
 - Highway 33 Athabasca River Bridge replacement near Fort Assiniboine
 - Highway 40 grade widening between Hinton and Grande Cache
 - Highway 58 paving
 - Highway 60 capital improvements

- Highway 63 twinning, north of Fort McMurray
- Highway 604 paving west of Highway 2
- Highway 686 new alignment, Peerless Lake to Fort McMurray
- Highway 687 La Crete Bridge
- Highway 881 safety and road improvements
- Vinca Bridge replacement
- Bridge bundle
- Terwillegar Drive expansion
- Deerfoot Trail upgrades
- Alberta's government typically paves approximately 1,000 km of new and existing lanes of highway every year and rehabilitates or replaces approximately 50 bridges.

The Governments of Alberta and Canada have secured a new agreement to remove federal duplication and restore provincial approvals on projects within Alberta's jurisdiction to further unlock Alberta's economic potential.

Key Messages:

- We are committed to reducing barriers to grow our economy and increase production, as we work to unleash the full power of our resource sectors.
- This latest agreement with the federal government is about getting shovels in the ground sooner, by eliminating the bureaucratic red tape and overlap in assessing environmental impacts of projects in Alberta.
- Both governments agreed in November to streamline and remove punitive federal regulations that have held back Alberta's economy for years.
- Alberta's natural resources belong to Albertans. This agreement will also recognize Alberta's exclusive constitutional jurisdiction over our own natural resources and confirms the province's authority to assess projects through made-in-Alberta regulations.
- This is a positive first step and we look forward to delivering on the remaining commitments under the MOU.

Positive benefits of agreement for Alberta:

- This agreement:
 - Allows for made-in-Alberta processes and policies to be given priority for projects within provincial jurisdiction.
 - Reduces duplication and unnecessary red tape by clarifying roles and improving coordination between federal and provincial governments.
 - Maintains and highlights Alberta's strong environmental track record.
 - Improves clarity and predictability for investors and project proponents.

Alberta has joined partners across Canada in an interprovincial-territorial agreement to strengthen grid reliability and energy security.

Key Messages:

- Alberta's government is proud to have signed onto a first-of-its-kind Partnership Agreement on Transmission Interties aimed at building a national energy corridor.
- This agreement is designed to break down barriers between provincial and territorial power grids by exploring opportunities to modernize electricity transmission and secure a more resilient energy future.
- As electricity demand grows due to population increases, industrial expansion, and increased electrification, strong interprovincial connections will help improve power grid system flexibility, reduce risk during periods of peak demand and support investment across Canada's electricity sector.
- Through this partnership, provinces and territories have agreed to work together to advance and expand opportunities for mutually beneficial electricity trade within Canada, as well as advocate to the federal government to reduce regulator barriers and advance transmission projects.

Key Facts:

- Alberta has one of the most reliable power grids in the country.
- Alberta has three interties with neighbouring jurisdictions, including the Alberta-B.C. Intertie, Alberta-Saskatchewan Intertie, and the privately-owned Montana Alberta Tie Line.
- Alberta became a net exporter in 2024, and in 2025, averaged an export of 348 MWh on the B.C. and Montana interties.
- The Partnership Agreement on Transmission Interties will see Alberta join B.C., Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, P.E.I., Yukon and the Northwest Territories at least twice a year to advance collaborative work.

The government tabled Bill 17, the Fiscal Measures Statutes Amendment Act, 2026, which would authorize and implement amendments to seven pieces of legislation across government.

Key Messages:

- Alberta's government has introduced legislation to authorize key components of Budget 2026, including measures to increase provincial revenue in the province.
- If passed, the *Fiscal Measures Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*, would update several laws to improve oversight, reduce red tape and deliver government programs more effectively.
- The legislation would authorize amendments to the following acts:
 - *Tourism Levy Act*
 - *Alberta Personal Income Tax Act*
 - *Employment Pension Plans Act*
 - *Credit Union Act*
 - *Loan and Trust Corporations Act*
 - *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act*
 - *Alberta Corporate Tax Act*
- These changes put Alberta in a stronger position to keep communities growing, support families, and create conditions for people and businesses to succeed.

Tourism Levy Act:

- When visitors come to Alberta, they benefit from provincially funded infrastructure and services, such as highways, emergency health care, public safety, provincial parks, and tourism infrastructure.
 - The government is introducing targeted revenue measures to help ensure visitors pay their fair share while visiting Alberta.
- When the levy rate increases from four to six per cent on April 1, Alberta will continue to have one of the lowest tax rates on short term accommodation in the country.

Alberta Personal Income Tax Act:

- If passed, these amendments would focus our caregiver benefits on the people who most need the support most.
 - Previously, Albertans caring for their infirm spouses weren't able to access support, while those living with healthy older relatives, received tax credits.
- By consolidating the existing caregiver and infirm dependant credits in alignment with the federal government and other provinces, Alberta's government is making the caregiver tax credit easier to access for those who need it most.

Employment Pension Plans Act:

- We are modernizing pension laws to strengthen the retirement system for retirees and businesses offering pensions to their employees.
- This housekeeping change will remove red tape in Alberta's pension system and make it easier for employers to administer their workplace pension plans.
 - This will support Albertans' access to secure retirement options.

Credit Union Act:

- These amendments are strengthening financial institutions to support a stable, well-functioning financial sector.
- Amendments to the Credit Union Act are housekeeping in nature and make it easier for regulators to get the information they need and simplify processes so oversight can be done effectively.

Loan and Trust Corporations Act:

- These changes are housekeeping amendments to modernize the loan and trust corporations framework.
- With this change, we are aligning Alberta with emerging industry best practices.

Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act:

- We are amending legislation to take out reference to the Child and Youth Support Program, which was discontinued in 2025.

- The amendments to the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act* are housekeeping in nature and do not impact current government policy, as the program ended last year.

Alberta Corporate Tax Act:

- Legislative amendments to the act clarify that projects that generate their own power and do not draw from the grid will not pay the grid levy. A data centre's levy rate will be calculated based on actual power consumption.

Alberta's government is launching a new, three-year program focused on creating additional student spaces in independent schools. The first grant under this program has been issued to Renfrew Educational Services.

Key Messages:

- We fully support choice in education and the success of the independent school system and the public school system are not mutually exclusive.
- We're committed to supporting students with special education needs, expanding parental choice, and easing enrolment pressures across the education system.
- To support school choice and ensure families can access the learning environment that best meets their child's unique needs, we are starting the Independent School Capital program.
 - This is a three-year initiative, which will provide grants up to \$10 million to eligible non-profit independent school boards.
 - Backed by \$90 million over three years, this program will create up to 6,000 new student spaces, including spaces for students with severe and complex learning needs.

- The cost-matching model means project costs are shared, stretching public dollars further while maintaining strong oversight and clear reporting requirements for each project.
- This program builds upon the 161 public school projects that are currently underway across the province backed by the \$8.6-billion Schools Now initiative.

Key Facts:

- Independent schools serve over seven per cent of Alberta's students while receiving less than five per cent of education funding.
- On average, it costs the province \$5,798 less per student in the independent system than the public system.
- With a \$10 million investment to support an independent school creating 250 student spaces, the province is expected to recoup its investment in approximately 6.6 years.

Background:

- Successful applicants retain ownership of their schools, but funding agreements include safeguards such as a right of first refusal if a funded property is sold in the first ten years after project completion.
- As the first grant approved under the Independent School Capital program, Alberta's government is investing \$10 million to support Renfrew Educational Services in completing the Three Sisters Centre in the Rocky View County community of Bearspaw, just outside of Calgary.
 - The Renfrew project will create 250 new student spaces for children with disabilities (from preschool through Grade 12) helping to address urgent demand for specialized learning spaces in Calgary while easing pressure across the education system.

The February 2026 Labour Force Survey shows Alberta carrying the country's year-over-year job growth.

Key messages:

- Alberta is a leading Canada's employment growth by far with 85,000 jobs added year-over-year.
 - This is over nine times higher than the next highest-growth province, which added 9,200 jobs through the same period.
 - Without Alberta's contribution, the rest of Canada has lost 33,200 jobs year-over-year.
- Alberta's unemployment rate is below the national average and has fallen over two points in the past six months.
- Alberta is showing its resilience and maintaining its position as the best place to live, work, and raise a family.
- Our government is going to continue keeping Alberta's economy strong by cutting red tape, keeping corporate taxes the lowest in Canada, and attracting investment to create jobs for people who call our province home.

Key facts:

- Alberta leads employment growth with gains of 3.3 per cent, compared to the national gain of just 0.2 per cent.
 - Excluding Alberta, national employment is down 0.2 per cent.

Background:

- Employment change by province (Feb 2025-Feb 2026):
 - Alberta: +85,000
 - Saskatchewan: +9,200
 - New Brunswick: +7,600

- Manitoba: +7,100
- Newfoundland and Labrador: +6,400
- Prince Edward Island: +2,600
- Nova Scotia: +2,000
- British Columbia: -13,000
- Quebec: -20,600
- Ontario: -34,400

Alberta's government is committing more than \$200 million to build and upgrade seniors housing across the province.

Key messages:

- As Alberta's seniors population grows at an unprecedented pace, our government is investing record amounts to ensure the province's seniors housing stock grows along with it.
- That's why Alberta's government is committing more than \$200 million to build new seniors housing and upgrade existing housing — so Alberta seniors can age with dignity in the communities they've helped build.
- The Seniors Lodge Modernization Program brings together partners from public and non-profit organizations to provide comfortable, supportive housing for seniors in the communities where it's most needed.

Key facts:

- Alberta's government is investing more than \$6.6 billion to support Alberta seniors this year alone.

- Budget 2026, if passed, would allocate \$150 million over three years for the SLMP.
 - This in addition to the nearly \$54 million already allocated for six projects across the province, for a total commitment of more than \$200 million over four years.
 - Together, this funding will support more than 1,000 units for seniors.
- Six projects have been allocated funding so far:
 - \$8.8 million for Meridian Housing Foundation’s Spruce Grove Lodge Supportive Living project.
 - \$9 million for Taber and District Housing Foundation’s Clearview Lodge project.
 - Nearly \$16 million for the Municipal District of St. Paul Foundation’s St. Paul Lodge project.
 - \$5.8 million for Green Acres Foundation’s Piyami Lodge project in Picture Butte.
 - \$6 million for The Evergreens Foundation’s Wildwood Lodge project.
 - \$8.3 million for Marquis Foundation’s Peter Dawson Lodge project in Vulcan.
- The Seniors Lodge Program is unique to Alberta and is the province’s oldest social housing program.
- Alberta’s senior population is growing:
 - Currently, there are more than 865,000 seniors in Alberta.
 - By 2035, there will be more than one million seniors in Alberta.
 - In 20 years, one in 5 Albertans will be a senior.

Alberta’s government and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) established a working group to address this issue of unpaid oil and gas, which has released a report with recommendations that will be publicly released.

Key Messages:

- Unpaid oil and gas taxes put an unfair burden on Albertans who ultimately end up footing the bill through property taxes or seeing services reduced.
- While most oil and gas property taxes are paid in full every, unpaid taxes remain a real and persistent problem that we are committed to addressing.
- Our government is focused on working with our municipal and industry partners to find lasting solutions to the issue of unpaid oil and gas taxes.
- That is why we established the Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS) working group, which includes the province, the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), and rural municipal administrators.
 - The working group was also supported by representatives of the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) and the oil and gas industry.
- The working group has released a report which includes 17 recommendations aimed at recovering unpaid taxes and reducing future unpaid taxes.
- We will be reviewing the report's recommendations and evaluating the next steps to strengthen oversight and solve the issue of unpaid oil and gas taxes.

Background:

- Oil and Gas companies pay more than \$1.7 billion a year in property taxes, while supporting tens of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic support and royalties.
- Municipalities have been observing increases in unpaid oil and gas taxes since 2018.
- To date, the province has taken several actions to address the issue, including:
 - Creating the Provincial Education Requisition Credit program

- Creating a special lien for municipalities to have priority over other creditors
- Amending the AER's liability framework to consider unpaid taxes in monitoring company risk
- Issuing a ministerial order to require property tax payment mandatory when issuing new well licences or approving licence transfers
- Not all unpaid taxes are recoverable as some companies are no longer in operation.

Budget 2026, if passed, will invest \$3.7 billion to support Albertans with disabilities, the highest level of investment in the history of the province.

Key messages:

- Empowering all Albertans to reach their full potential has long been a defining value of the province, and Budget 2026 carries on this proud tradition.
- Through Budget 2026, Alberta's government is investing in what matters — and that means a historic \$3.7 billion investment into supports for Albertans with disabilities.
- No two Albertans with disabilities are the same — which is why Alberta provides a range of supports, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.
- Alberta's government remains committed to ensuring that Alberta continues to have the best disability programs in Canada.
 - Alberta is proud to provide the highest provincial disability benefit rates and most robust disability programs in Canada, and we continue to expand and improve these supports.

Key facts:

- Through Budget 2026, Alberta’s government is investing a historic \$3.7 billion to support Albertans with disabilities this year alone — a year-over-year increase of nearly \$100 million.
 - In the last 2 years, Alberta’s government has increased funding for supports for Albertans with disabilities by nearly a quarter-billion dollars.
 - Since 2019, Alberta’s government has increased investment into supports for Albertans with disabilities by more than \$1 billion – a nearly 40% increase in annual investment.
- Alberta’s government provides several supports for Albertans with disabilities, including:
 - Record funding for the province’s disability income assistance programs, Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) and the new Alberta Disability Assistance Program (ADAP).
 - Record funding for the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) program, which helps adults with developmental disabilities live as independently as possible in their communities.
 - Record funding for the Family Supports for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) program, which supports families with children with disabilities.
 - The Disability Advocates Office, which helps individuals and families navigate the programs and services available to them.
 - The Residential Access Modification Program (RAMP), which supports accessibility improvements to the homes of persons with disabilities/mobility challenges.
 - The service dog program, which supports the training of qualified service dogs and helps connect them with Albertans who need them.
 - Service delivery networks that that help Albertans with disabilities access a broad range of supports across the province, including:
 - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Initiatives
 - The Alberta Brain Injury Initiative
 - Specialized supports for individuals experiencing hearing or vision loss

If passed, Bill 18, the Safeguards for Last Resort Termination of Life Act, will introduce protections and clarify eligibility for medical assistance in dying (MAID) in Alberta.

Key Messages:

- We recognize that medical assistance in dying (MAID) is a sensitive matter for patients and their families.
- MAID should only be an option of last resort.
- There are obvious gaps in the current federal MAID system that do not protect vulnerable Albertans.
- Alberta's government is ensuring there is a consistent process and oversight that protects vulnerable Albertans.
- Our goal is to make sure vulnerable Albertans have the right supports at every stage of life so they can live healthy, fulfilling lives.
- Hope should always be easier to access than death.

Key Facts

- Canada has logged the fastest-growing rate of medical assistance in dying (MAID) deaths in the world.
- Canada passed 3% of MAID deaths as a portion of total deaths only after 5 years of legalizing MAID. In comparison, it took Belgium and the Netherlands 20 years and counting to reach the 3% mark.
- The United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has recommended that Canada repeal Track 2 MAID, for individuals with a mental illness.
- A group of researchers from the University of Alberta found that many families feel traumatized by the experience, describing rushed assessments, virtual evaluations, and sometimes only being informed of MAID after the death of their loved one.

- A National Institute of Health study in 2024 concluded that the majority of Canadians support medical assistance in dying but followed up with examples of cases what is currently legal under the federal framework – such as MAID for mental illness – most Canadians do not support these cases.
- The federal Criminal Code sets out the criminal law standards for MAID, while provincial and territorial health systems deliver MAID as part of end-of-life care.
- Alberta’s government conducted an engagement in fall 2024 with external organizations and individuals, including academics, health-care professionals, regulatory bodies and others with expertise or involvement in MAID, health care, disability and mental health.
- An online public survey, available from November to December 2024, allowed Albertans to share their views on MAID oversight and processes in Alberta.

Alberta Statistics:

- Total MAID deaths in Alberta have increased by 109% from 2021-2025.
- Since Track 2 MAID was introduced in 2021, Track 2 MAID deaths in Alberta have increased by 136% from 2021-2025.

Canada-wide Statistics:

- Total MAID deaths in Canada have increased by 63% from 2021-2024.
- Since Track 2 MAID was introduced in 2021, Track 2 MAID deaths in Canada have increased by 226% from 2021-2024.
- Since 2021 when Track 2 MAID was introduced, total MAID deaths in Canada have increased by 63% from 2021-2024.
- Canada passed 3% of MAID deaths as a portion of total deaths only after 5 years of legalizing MAID. In comparison, it took Belgium and the Netherlands 20 years and counting to reach the 3% mark.

Resources for Albertans:

- Tools like Health Link 811, Virtual MD, and InformAlberta provide 24/7 access to health advice, navigation support, and connections to services including food, housing, newcomer, and community resources.
- Albertans who need help finding mental health supports for themselves or their loved ones can contact 211 Alberta to be connected with a range of options.
- This includes accessing Counselling Alberta for affordable, same-day counselling options which are available throughout the province.
- Crisis support is also available 24/7 through the 9-8-8 Suicide Hotline.

Budget 2026, if passed, will invest an unprecedented nearly quarter-billion dollars to help Albertans gain and retain meaningful employment.

Key messages:

- Employment services are more than a link to the job market — they are a lifeline for people navigating unemployment, career changes, or new training needs.
- Through Budget 2026, Alberta's government is investing an unprecedented nearly quarter-billion to help Albertans find and retain meaningful employment — an increase of more than \$60 million from Budget 2025's record investment.
- Last year, Alberta's government launched WorkFirst Alberta: the most ambitious step our province has ever taken to connect Albertans to jobs and employers to job seekers, including those facing barriers.
- Ensuring all Albertans have the opportunity to succeed in the workforce is a key priority for our government.

Key facts:

- Through Budget 2026, Alberta's government is investing an unprecedented nearly quarter-billion to help Albertans find and retain meaningful employment.

- Budget 2026 invests a record \$247 million into career and employment services — an increase of more than \$60 million from Budget 2025’s record investment.
- Budget 2025’s \$185 million investment into career and employment services was nearly double Budget 2024’s investment.
- Through partnerships with more than 160 service providers, Alberta’s government is helping people access training and connect to jobs across high-demand sectors like health care, skilled trades, food service, information and technology, and transportation.
- Employment services may include, but are not limited to, digital tools, career planning, resume assistance, workshops, assistive technology, simulated worksites, supported job placements and supports for employers to help remove accessibility barriers in the workplace.
- Last year, Alberta’s government launched WorkFirst Alberta: the most ambitious step the province has ever taken to connect Albertans to jobs and employers to job seekers, including those facing barriers to employment.

Alberta’s government is increasing youth employment supports by \$20 million over three years with an initial \$4 million going to the employment incentive in 2026-27.

Key Messages:

- Budget 2026 focuses on what matters, which is why we are continuing to help youth gain the skills, training, and opportunities needed to enter Alberta’s workforce.
- Last year, we introduced the Alberta Youth Employment Incentive, which has already created job opportunities for young Albertans and reduced our youth unemployment rate.
- Through Budget 2026, we are investing a total of \$20 million over three years to support youth employment and skills training, with an initial \$4 million this year going toward the Alberta Youth Employment Incentive.

- Helping young Albertans gain their first job is essential to their long-term success in the workforce.
- Since its creation in late 2025, the Alberta Youth Employment Incentive has helped about 860 young Albertans gain jobs.
- Approximately 95 per cent of those participating in the incentive are small- and medium-sized businesses.

Key Facts:

- \$20 million over three years in new funding will help youth build new skills and enter the workforce.
 - The funding allocation is \$4 million in 2026-27 and \$8 million in 2027-28 and 2028-29.
- These funds will allow for youth hiring programs, which could provide funding to employers to offset the costs associated with hiring, training and employing young people.
- This new investment builds on the \$8 million invested in 2025-26 for the Alberta Youth Employment Incentive, run by CAREERS, which supports qualified employers with up to \$7,500 available per employer based on youth hired.
 - The Alberta Youth Employment Incentive is already helping employers offset the cost of hiring, training and employing youth aged 15 to 24.
 - As of Feb. 28, 2026, 1,658 applications from businesses have been received with 438 approved so far.
 - 859 youth are approved to be hired through the incentive in both part-time and full-time jobs.
 - Including the funding announced last year, this is expected to help about 3,500 employers hire up to 8,750 youth across the province.

Alberta and Canada have reached an agreement to cut methane emissions by 75% below 2014 levels by 2035, using a made-in-Alberta approach. This keeps control here at home while protecting jobs and investment.

Key messages:

- Alberta is cutting methane emissions by 75% below 2014 levels by 2035 while growing our energy sector. We are proving you do not have to choose between the environment and the economy.
- This agreement keeps decisions in Alberta, not Ottawa. It avoids duplicate rules and gives industry one clear, workable system.
- Alberta has already reduced methane emissions by over 50%, and this agreement builds on that progress to reach the 75% target.
- This is the 2 of 4 agreements under the Alberta-Canada memorandum, showing real progress on building a stronger partnership that supports investment and major projects.
- This is about certainty. Companies can invest, hire, and build here knowing the rules are stable and built for Alberta.
- We expect to have more positive news to share soon.

Agreement-in-principle highlights:

- Cuts methane emissions by 75% below 2014 levels by 2035
- Uses real data from industry instead of estimates
- Alberta's rules stay in place and are recognized by the federal government, so companies only follow one system instead of two

- Avoids overlapping federal and provincial rules that would increase red tape and costs.
- Provides a clear path forward, with updated rules coming into force in 2030 so industry has time to plan and invest

Key facts:

- The agreement-in-principle would be implemented through provincial regulations overseen by the Alberta Energy Regulator.
- New rules will take effect on Jan. 1, 2030.
- The agreement will replace the current Alberta-Canada methane equivalency agreement set to expire in October 2030.
 - A draft outcome-based equivalency agreement is expected to be released by the federal government for a 60-day public comment period later this year, with the goal of finalizing it by the end of 2026.
- The federal government will begin its formal process, including posting in Gazette I followed by final publication of the agreement in Gazette II.
 - Timing is determined by the Government of Canada.
- Alberta was the first jurisdiction in Canada to set a methane reduction target and achieved its 45 per cent reduction from 2014 levels early in 2022.
- Alberta has invested about \$172 million in methane reduction technology since 2019.
- More than 58,000 low- or no-bleed devices have been installed through Alberta's carbon offset system.

Through the Alberta Restorative Justice Grant, Alberta's government has invested \$720,000 in non-profit organizations, municipalities and Indigenous communities that deliver restorative justice services.

Key Messages:

- Alberta's government is committed to delivering a responsive justice system that holds offenders accountable, supports healing for victims and promotes appropriate community reintegration.
- Budget 2026 is investing \$1.3 million towards restorative justice initiatives, which include the Restorative Justice Grant.
- Through Alberta Restorative Justice Grants, Alberta's government is investing \$720,000 in non-profit organizations, municipalities and Indigenous communities that deliver restorative justice services.
- Grants of up to \$50,000 are being awarded for the operation of 19 community organizations, Indigenous organizations and communities, and municipalities to deliver a variety of restorative justice initiatives.
- Restorative justice provides offenders the opportunity to take accountability for their actions and work toward a plan to repair the damage caused.

Key Facts:

- The following organizations are receiving grants:

Edmonton-based organizations

- Association des Juristes d'Expression Française de l'Alberta
- Edmonton Youth Justice Committee Society
- Native Counselling Services of Alberta
- Society for the Strathcona Youth Justice Committee
- enCompass Community Safety Agency

Calgary-based organizations

- Calgary John Howard Society

- Synergy Youth and Community Development Society
- Connecting the Dots Diversity & Inclusion Council
- uTurn Project Inc.

Northern Alberta-based organizations

- Cold Lake First Nations
- Peace River Region Restorative Justice Association
- Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

Central Alberta-based organizations

- Camrose Open Doors Association
- Camrose & District Family and Community Support Services Association
- Hinton Adult Learning Society
- Innisfail Restorative Justice Society
- Town of Drayton Valley

Southern Alberta-based organizations

- Chinook Sexual Assault Centre
- Sweetgrass Youth Alliance

A new independent report outlines projected savings up to \$366 per vehicle, per year under Alberta's care-first auto insurance system.

Key messages:

- The Automobile Insurance Rate Board (AIRB) released an independent report prepared by Oliver Wyman Limited examining projected claim costs under Alberta's care-first auto insurance system.

- Rising legal costs, inflation, vehicle theft, weather-related losses and tariffs are driving insurance premiums higher.
 - The report shows that moving away from a court-based insurance system will reduce overall costs and improve stability for consumers.
- For Albertans with basic coverage, under the new-care first system, average savings are expected to reach up to \$366 per vehicle, per year.
- Premiums under the care-first system will be determined by individual risk factors rather than market pressures.
 - This means good drivers will pay less and bad drivers will pay more.
- The report also highlights the impact of Alberta's Good Driver Rate Cap, which protects good drivers from significant premium increases.
 - Without the rate cap, the average cost of full auto insurance coverage could have exceeded \$3,100 by Jan. 1, 2027.
 - When care-first is implemented in 2027, the average cost of auto insurance is expected to be around \$2,000 per policy.
- Our goal is to build a stronger auto insurance system that better protects Albertans and their wallets.
- This independent report shows that care-first auto insurance will deliver better injury benefits, meaningful savings, and greater stability for drivers over the long-term.

Quick facts:

- The AIRB is an independent agency established under the *Insurance Act* to regulate auto insurance company rating programs and educate Albertans about auto insurance.

Bill 21, the Interprovincial Trade Mutual Recognition Act, will implement the Canadian Mutual Recognition Agreement on the Sale of Goods. This agreement, which was signed by Alberta, the federal government and most other provinces and territories in November 2025, reduces unnecessary red tape and compliance costs while maintaining high standards for health, safety, and environmental protection.

Key Messages:

- Alberta has been and continues to be a leader in breaking down trade barriers within Canada, positioning our province for even greater economic growth.
- The Interprovincial Trade Mutual Recognition Act enables the implementation of the Canadian Mutual Recognition Agreement on the Sale of Goods while maintaining Alberta's high standards for health, safety and environmental protection.
 - With this legislation, we are making it easier for Alberta businesses to sell their goods across the country and opening our province up for more trade with businesses from across Canada.
- Our legislation will enable future mutual recognition, lowering compliance costs for businesses, reducing barriers to reaching customers across Canada and bringing more product choice for Albertans.
 - Alberta retains the ability to set exceptions for specific goods to protect health, safety, consumer and environmental protection and any unique Alberta interests.
- This initiative aligns Alberta with other provinces and demonstrates commitment to free trade within Canada.

Key Facts

- Internal trade contributes about a fifth of Canada's gross domestic product.
- Domestic trade exports contributed to 20 per cent of Alberta's GDP in 2024 (most recent data).
- Alberta exported \$95 billion worth of goods and services to the rest of Canada in 2021, making it the third largest domestic exporter, after Ontario (\$187 billion) and Quebec (\$101 billion) and ahead of British Columbia (\$57 billion).

Background:

- Alberta has been a leader in breaking down unnecessary trade barriers across Canada for more than 20 years.
 - We were active participants in negotiating the Agreement on Internal Trade, and in the efforts to improve it, which resulted in the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.
 - We also worked with our western neighbours to create an even more ambitious agreement: now called the *New West Partnership Trade Agreement*.
- Agreements like the Canadian Mutual Recognition Agreement and others enhance access to markets for Alberta goods, services, suppliers, workers, investors and investments across the west and Canada.
 - They also help maintain Alberta's competitiveness by supporting job creation and economic diversification.
- Alberta has also undertaken unilateral actions to promote internal trade.
 - This includes our early work to significantly reduce our exceptions under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement, starting in 2019, which resulted in an 80 per cent reduction.
 - We introduced the *Labour Mobility Act* in 2021, making it easier to recognize professional credentials in Alberta.
 - Our ongoing efforts to cut red tape and reduce unnecessary regulatory burden also contributes to a stronger internal market, benefiting both businesses and consumers.

Alberta's government will be introducing a motion calling for constitutional amendments to superior court appointments.

Key Messages:

- Alberta's government will introduce a motion calling for constitutional amendments that give the province a say in superior court appointments.
 - The motion states that appointments to Alberta's superior courts would be made from candidates recommended and approved by Alberta, giving the province a direct role in the selection process.
- Canada is an outlier among federal systems, where comparable countries give state or provincial governments a direct role in judicial appointments.
- The current process does not give provincial governments a meaningful say in appointing justices.
- This initiative builds on feedback from the Alberta Next Panel, where Albertans called for a stronger provincial role in judicial appointments to ensure the courts respond to the distinct needs of Alberta's communities.

Key Facts:

- The Governor General has the power to appoint judges to the superior courts of Alberta, under Section 96 of the Constitution Act, 1867.
- If passed, the motion would request a constitutional amendment. Any such amendment would require approval by the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and Parliament before being proclaimed into law.
- On March 24, the premiers of Alberta, Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan sent a letter calling on the federal government to reform judicial appointments and give provinces a formal, meaningful role.
- Currently judicial appointments are made through judicial advisory committees, which assess and screen applicants and provide non-binding recommendations to the federal government.

If passed, Bill 23, the Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2026 will increase transparency in public sector compensation reporting, enhance openness and trust in Alberta's democratic processes, and prohibit deepfakes of electoral candidates.

Key Messages:

- Albertans should have confidence in our democracy.
- Alberta's government is increasing transparency in public sector compensation disclosures by lowering the threshold to \$130,000.
- Other amendments will allow scrutineers to be appointed for citizen initiative and recall petitions to enhance transparency and accountability in these processes.
- To protect public trust, Bill 23 will also prohibit the creation and distribution of deepfakes that are likely to mislead voters about the conduct or statements of a candidate.
- Together, these changes will refine our election, referendum, recall and citizen initiative processes and enhance trust.

Key Facts:

- Deepfakes are seemingly realistic media, appearing to depict a real person, that are digitally created or manipulated.
- Deepfakes would be prohibited if they are likely to mislead electors about the conduct or statements of:
 - a party leader
 - a leadership or nomination contestant
 - a candidate
 - a minister
 - an MLA
 - the Chief Electoral Officer
 - the Election Commissioner

- Elections Alberta employees
- election officers
- The *Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2026* amends the following legislation:
 - *Public Sector Compensation Transparency Act*
 - *Citizen Initiative Act*
 - *Recall Act*
 - *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*

If passed Bill 22, the Animal Protection Act will be updated for the first time in 20 years. Amendments will improve outcomes for animals in distress or at risk of distress, update definitions, increase fines for offenses, and improve court orders to protect animals from repeat offenses.

Key messages:

- Alberta's government is updating and modernizing the act to protect animals in Alberta to maintain a strong animal protection system.
- Bill 22 is an important step for Alberta, underscoring the province's commitment to animal welfare.
- Beyond updating the legislation, it sends a clear message that protecting animals is a top priority.
- Alberta is dedicated to ensuring all animals are treated with respect and protected by these safeguards.
- After listening to the concerns of Albertans and engaging with key stakeholders, including animal protection agencies, municipalities, veterinarians, and livestock organizations, the government is making significant changes to the Animal Protection Act.

Key facts:

- The Act's intent is to ensure basic care of all animals and to enable appointed peace officers and police to respond to animals that are abandoned, in distress or lacking care.
- The last amendments were passed in 2005 and came into force together with the current regulation in 2006.
 - The expiry date in the regulation was extended by two years to July 31, 2026.
- Changes to the act will provide peace officers and enforcement agencies better tools to ensure animals receive appropriate care and are protected from distress, including expanded inspection and compliance measures.
- Updates will also make Alberta a leader in addressing repeat offences by improving when and how court orders are issued, how they are enforced, and becoming the first province to enable the enforcement of orders issued in other provinces and territories.

If passed, the Act to Remove Politics and Ideology from Classrooms would strengthen accountability in the education system, reinforce safe and respectful environments and clarify expectations for neutrality and impartiality in classrooms.

Key Messages:

General

- Schools must be safe, respectful spaces where students and teachers can learn and work free from bias, ideology, and intimidation, and where diverse viewpoints are respected.
- That is why we are introducing legislation to strengthen accountability and reinforce safe, caring school environments that promote respectful and responsible behaviour.

- If passed, this legislation would create a more transparent, responsive and efficient education system that puts student safety first and upholds respect for diverse perspectives.

Supporting safe and respectful schools

- We have heard far too many reports of violence and aggression in classrooms, and we are taking action to ensure teachers are safe, supported, and respected at work.
- Our proposed changes would strengthen the Education Act by reinforcing the requirement for safe, caring school environments that promote respectful and responsible behaviour.
- We will also require school boards to ensure student codes of conduct clearly prohibit all forms of violence.

Focusing on core education priorities

- We need to ensure students are learning the fundamentals like reading, math, science, financial literacy and more, and we need to ensure classrooms remain focused on those core subjects.
- Amendments would allow us to set strategic priorities to guide school boards in delivering these critical subjects and ensure classrooms remain focused on what matters.
- Additional changes would require school boards to create and apply methods that meaningfully involve parents in student learning and decisions regarding non instructional school activities.

Ensuring neutrality, impartiality and diverse viewpoints

- We are also putting forward changes that ensure classrooms encourage diverse student perspectives and that any education programming not approved under the *Education Act* is impartial, fair and free of personal bias.
 - Changes would clarify expectations in the code conduct for teachers and principals to ensure they remain objective, present balanced perspectives and support students in expressing different viewpoints.
 - A new rule will also be brought in to ensure that freedom of speech is respected and that there are clear expectations set out for elected school boards.
 - Another rule will be brought into force that will require school board trustees running in federal elections to take unpaid leave and would strengthen oversight of superintendent contracts to prevent conflicts of interest and improve accountability; and
 - prevent school boards from issuing statements or taking positions on political, social or ideological matters that are not relevant to their education obligations.

If the legislation is passed, other changes would include:

- New rules and regulations will also be put into place that ensures that only the Canadian and Alberta flags are displayed at schools to help ensure schools remain a neutral space for all students.
- Diploma Exams and Provincial Achievement Tests are very expensive to deliver in their current paper format, to help save taxpayer money and more efficiently roll out these exams, we are moving to digital platform to deliver these tests rather than paper exams.
- To help ensure every child has a school close to home we are changing the rules around how underused schools are used around the province.

Key Facts:

- Amendments related to naming of school buildings would apply only to school buildings owned by a public school division.
- Proposed changes related to displaying flags would require boards to display only the Canadian flag and the Alberta flag at a school, unless permitted in regulation, and play the Canadian national anthem weekly.
 - Exemptions may be considered within the regulation to allow the display of flags that reflect Alberta's heritage and history, as well as flags that reflect school culture or are displayed temporarily for school activities or ceremonies.

In 2020, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) cancelled the registration of two per cent liquid strychnine concentrate in Canada for control of Richardson's ground squirrels, commonly known as gophers, across the prairies. Sales ended March 4, 2022, and it was fully banned for use on March 4, 2023. In fall 2025, Alberta and Saskatchewan applied for an Emergency Use Registration (EUR) request, but it was denied. They re-submitted the EUR March 25, 2026, and PMAR approved it shortly after.

Key Messages:

- I'm glad to hear the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has accepted our joint re-submission for an emergency use registration for two per cent liquid strychnine for gopher control.
 - The department is working rapidly to procure supply as fast as possible, and we will have updates in the days to come.
 - We are still ironing out details about additional training and other measures to ensure risks are minimised, including rules around storage, timing of use, monitoring and disposal.
 - This decision means that many prairie farmers will have one of the more effective tools back in their toolbox for gopher control this growing season.
 - As part of the registration, producers looking to use strychnine will also be required to take training on the safe strychnine handling and use.

- We heard from farmers and ranchers across the prairies about the devastating impact the strychnine ban was having and successfully advocated for the federal government to re-consider its decision.
- We listened to concerns about the risk to non-target species and geographic scope and proposed thoughtful and meaningful measures to reduce risks while ensuring landowners in areas with high gopher infestations could still protect their crops, livestock and livelihoods.
- Alberta’s farmers and livestock producers are proud stewards of the land and know responsible pesticide use is crucial to reducing environmental impact.

Key Facts:

- Richardson’s ground squirrel (RGS), commonly known as gophers, are a destructive nuisance that threatens cereal, oilseed, forage and horticultural crops.
- RGS squirrel is a declared nuisance under Alberta’s Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation.
- In fall 2025, Alberta and Saskatchewan submitted an emergency use registration for two per cent liquid strychnine to the PMRA. It was denied in early 2026.
- On March 25, 2026, the two provinces submitted a revised Emergency Use Registration (EUR) to the PMRA.
- The new submission includes measures to protect species at risk, including a reduced geographic scope, increased monitoring and carcass collection and disposal requirements, and mandatory enhanced training.
- The application was approved March 30, 2026.

As part of Budget 2026, proposed legislation will help the government move forward on key initiatives while ensuring every tax dollar is spent where it matters most.

Key Messages:

- Alberta is growing quickly, our economy is evolving, and the pressures on families and businesses are growing.
 - That's exactly why we need to make targeted changes now - so our laws keep pace, our supports reach the right people, and our economy stays strong and competitive.
- The legislation would focus supports on those who need them most, create the conditions for investment, and lay the groundwork for the care-first auto insurance system, being implemented in 2027.
- These changes help support communities and families, while creating the right conditions for businesses and workers to succeed.
- Budget 2026 stays focused on what matters most, makes disciplined choices, and takes action where it counts.

Automobile Insurance Act & Insurance Act (TBF)

- We are implementing a care-first auto insurance system to ensure Albertans receive better, faster, and more reliable insurance coverage.
- We're making the changes needed to move to a care-first system and have it up and running by January 1, 2027.
- If passed, these updates will make Alberta's insurance system easier to operate within, more transparent, and better for consumers.
- This made-in-Alberta approach will reduce the time and money spent on litigation, helping deliver more stable and predictable auto insurance rates for drivers.

Alberta Enterprise Corporation Act & Alberta Research and Innovation Act (TI)

- As part of Budget 2026, Alberta's government is introducing amendments to the *Alberta Enterprise Corporation Act* and the *Alberta Research and Innovation Act* to enable Alberta Innovates and Alberta Enterprise Corporation to co-invest as a minority partner in Alberta-based knowledge-based industry companies.
- If passed, these amendments give Alberta Innovates and Alberta Enterprise Corporation a new tool to help Alberta technology companies access the growth capital they need to scale, create jobs and compete globally, while ensuring government investments are market-validated and generate returns for Albertans.

Seniors Benefit Act (ALSS)

- Alberta continues to have the highest low-income threshold for seniors in Canada and offers amongst the highest benefit rates in the country.
- Alberta's government is supporting Alberta's most vulnerable citizens while ensuring the long-term sustainability of critical social programs.
- If passed, amendments to the *Seniors Benefit Act* would enact the nine per cent threshold adjustment announced in Budget 2026 for non-deductible income under the seniors low-income threshold.
- Low-income seniors will continue to receive robust support through multiple programs, including monthly income supplements, accommodation supports, and assistance for health expenses, home repairs and property taxes.
- This adjustment balances fiscal responsibility while protecting the long-term sustainability of programs seniors rely on.

Alberta has introduced Bill 26, the Immigration Oversight Act, which will strengthen control over the immigration system by registering employers and licensing international recruiters and immigration consultants involved in recruiting, advising and employing foreign nationals.

Key Messages:

- The federal government's loss of control over immigration has led to unsustainable population growth, pressure on public services and cases of abuse by bad actors.
- Immigration has always been and will continue to be a part of Alberta's success, which is why we are introducing Bill 26, the *Immigration Oversight Act*.
- Bill 26, the *Immigration Oversight Act*, strengthens provincial oversight of employers, foreign worker recruiters and immigration consultants.
- If passed, the *Immigration Oversight Act* will require employers to register with the province before accessing federal temporary foreign worker programs.
- It will also establish a licensing system for immigration consultants and foreign worker recruiters, strengthening oversight, reducing fraud and ensuring only legitimate, qualified businesses and consultants are operating in Alberta.
 - A new employer registry and licensing for recruiters and consultants will:

- Crack down on fraud and exploitation, including fake job offers, illegal fees and misrepresentation.
 - Enable faster enforcement through stronger penalties and compliance tools.
 - Increase transparency in hiring and better align immigration with Alberta's labour needs.
- We are restoring trust in an immigration system that has put unsustainable pressure on population growth and public services and led to bad actors taking advantage of newcomers.

Background:

- In recent years, Alberta has experienced rapid population growth driven in part by a significant increase in temporary residents since 2022.
- Alberta lacks a single, comprehensive regulatory framework to oversee key immigration actors, with no provincial legislation for employers and immigration consultants who participate in the recruitment and hiring of foreign nationals and provision of immigration services.
- In Canada, immigration is an area of concurrent jurisdiction among federal and provincial/territorial governments; however, federal laws take precedence over provincial/territorial legislation, as established under Section 95 of the *Constitution Act*, 1867.
 - Other jurisdictions have immigration-specific legislation that enables them to provide robust oversight of immigration actors, including Ontario, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Quebec, through similar measures as are introduced in this bill.
 - For example, both Saskatchewan and British Columbia require consultants to become licensed provincially and employers of temporary foreign workers must register with the province to access temporary workers.
- Additional details on the scope of the fees and penalties, and their financial implications for revenue, will be determined as part of the development of regulations.

Key messages:

- We have officially finalized the federal-provincial agreement on major project reviews. This is a one-project, one-review approach which improves clarity and provides more predictable timelines while maintaining strong review standards
- This new agreement will also put Alberta back in the driver's seat for projects within our borders. It means less duplication, fewer delays and stronger investor confidence, while growing our economy and protecting the environment for years to come.
- This is 2 of 4 agreements under the Alberta-Canada memorandum, showing real progress on building a stronger partnership that supports investment and major projects.

Key facts:

- The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada posted the draft agreement for public comment for 21 days before it was finalized.
- The signed agreement acknowledges that Alberta's government continues to challenge the constitutionality of various aspects of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) as improperly interfering with provincial jurisdiction.

Alberta's government is tabling Bill 28, the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026, a comprehensive package to get homes built faster, hold local officials accountable, keep property taxes fair, and protect kids from explicit materials in public libraries.

Key messages:

- With this legislation, we are updating local systems so communities can grow, councils can lead with clarity, and Albertans can trust how their local decisions are made.

- We're cutting red tape, so homes get built faster and at a lower cost.
- o Bill 28 will streamline development approvals, enable "Automatic Yes" for low risk permits, and require municipalities to publicly report on permitting timelines.
- Our government is keeping property taxes fair for Albertans by prohibiting vacancy-style taxes that penalize homeowners based on how often they use their own property.
- We're establishing a province-wide councilor accountability framework so that elected officials are held to clear standards, strengthening trust in local decision-making.
- We're protecting kids by ensuring sexually explicit visual materials in public libraries are kept separate, with access only for those 16 and older or with parental consent.

Key facts:

- Bill 28 amends three pieces of legislation: the Municipal Government Act, the Libraries Act, and the Alberta Housing Act.
- The legislation is organized around five themes: Growth and Housing, Assessment and Property Tax, Governance and Accountability, Municipal Transparency, and Public Institutions.

o **Growth & Housing:**

- Enables "Automatic Yes" frameworks to fast-track low-risk development permits.
- Municipalities over 15,000 must publicly report permitting timelines starting in 2027.
- Off-site levies are clarified to prohibit operational costs and exclude items like retail facilities, vehicles, and building beyond provincial code standards.
- Charter schools gain access to municipal and school reserve land, aligning them with public, separate, and francophone schools.
- Automated permitting tools are explicitly enabled in the MGA.

o **Assessment & Property Tax:**

- Prohibits municipalities from creating residential property tax sub-classes based on occupancy status (vacancy-style taxes).
- Modernizes regulated property assessment rules, largely unchanged since 2005, for properties including pipelines, wells, railways, and telecommunications. Changes take effect January 1, 2027, and apply prospectively only, existing assessments for major facilities remain unchanged.

o **Governance & Accountability:**

- Establishes a province-wide councilor accountability framework covering pecuniary interest, unauthorized use of municipal assets, disclosure of confidential information, egregious and threatening behavior, and improper use of influence.
- Complaints investigated by independent third parties from a provincial roster, not by councils investigating their own members. A regulation is expected in fall 2026. Municipal viability votes change to non-binding plebiscites, with final decisions remaining with Cabinet.

o **Municipal Transparency:**

- Requires public disclosure of municipal staff salaries above a threshold, aligning with provincial standards.
- Eligible municipalities under the provincial RCMP contract can show policing costs as a separate line on property tax notices.
- CAOs must report to council in writing within 14 days when natural person powers are used outside existing bylaws or resolutions.
- BIA governance modernized with interim appointments, electronic notifications, and in-year budget changes.

o **Public Institutions:**

- Amends the Libraries Act to allow the Minister to initiate reviews or respond to complaints.
- Materials with explicit visual depictions of sexual acts must be physically separated and accessible to those 16+ through library staff; those 15 and under require parental permission.

- Parental consent required for all independent borrowing privileges for children 15 and under.
- Library boards have until January 1, 2027, to comply.
- Enables Cabinet to make regulations for governance of municipal public utilities such as water and wastewater.

Background:

- Most provisions take effect upon Royal Assent. Regulated property assessment changes take effect January 1, 2027.
- Library compliance deadline is January 1, 2027.
- Several elements (councilor accountability framework, community design codes, public utility governance) will be supported by future regulations.

Alberta's government announced another round of funding under the Drought and Flood Protection Program.

Key Messages:

- Alberta families and communities will be better protected from the impacts of floods and drought, with more than \$28 million invested to strengthen local infrastructure and water systems.
- Albertans will also benefit from \$3.5 million invested in 12 new projects that strengthen water security and restore vital wetlands and riverbank areas our communities depend on.
- These projects will help ensure Albertans have a reliable water supply, strong water storage, and improved drainage in communities that regularly face flooding during spring melt and severe storms.

Key Facts:

- Six municipalities, three First Nations communities and two regional service commissions will receive Drought and Flood Protection Program funding for new projects. Funds will be paid out in 2026-27.
 - Program eligibility was expanded in the fall to include regional service commissions and tribal councils. Program eligibility was expanded in the fall to include regional service commissions and tribal councils.
 - The next round of funding applications will open in October, with \$25 million available to protect businesses, families and communities.
- Five municipalities, two First Nations and five environmental non-government organizations received grants through the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program in 2026.
 - More than 90 different organizations have received over \$55 million to support more than 200 projects over the program's history. More than 90 different organizations have received over \$55 million to support more than 200 projects over the program's history.
 - The program has helped support the restoration and conservation of 5,400 hectares of wetlands as well as more than 2,300 hectares of riparian areas covering more than 320 kilometres of streambank.