
BOOK OF MEMBER-PASSED POLICY



Alberta Party

Valid as of October 20th, 2018

Alberta Party

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About Member-passed Policy

The Alberta Party has a member-driven policy process that is a key part of how the party develops its positions. Article 10 of the *Constitution of the Alberta Party Political Association* requires that the Alberta Party hold a General Policy Meeting at least once every four years. The policy statements in this book have been passed by the assembled members during one of these meetings. For each statement, the year of its ratification is indicated.

This book is not the entirety of the Alberta Party's platform, nor is it an exhaustive list of Alberta Party positions. These are statements developed and approved by members to ensure that the grassroots have a voice in the party's direction.

For more information on the Alberta Party's values, positions, and platform, visit www.albertaparty.ca.

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Fiscal and Economy

[2018] - Stable Fiscal Management

An Alberta Party Government would provide stable financial management through a review of government expenditures and the implementation of a balanced and sustainable taxation model to maintain a consistent and reliable revenue stream for the public services Albertans need.

[2018] - Saving for Future Generations

An Alberta Party Government would support the legislation of a renewed savings framework which would commit a portion of resource revenue into funds for revenue stabilization and long-term savings.

[2018] – Removing Barriers to Business and Entrepreneurship

An Alberta Party government would promote economic development policies based on efficient markets, the removal of barriers for both large and small businesses, collaboration with industry, and an entrepreneurial ecosystem reflective of Alberta's strengths and natural assets.

[2018] – Investing in Infrastructure

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Support a comprehensive transportation, social, and electronic infrastructure plan which satisfies the needs of Albertans.
- 2) Use a wide range of funding methodologies.
- 3) Prioritize and execute projects in an open, consultative, and transparent manner.

[2015/2016] – Diversifying the Economy

An Alberta Party government would diversify Alberta's economy through tourism, green energy, and emerging industries.

An Alberta Party government would create strategies for implementation of value-added products and processing in forestry, agriculture, and other key industries in the province.

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[2015] – Government Finance

An Alberta Party government would implement a progressive personal income tax in Alberta.

An Alberta Party government would investigate models for alternate sources for government revenue.

An Alberta Party government would phase out, over time, Alberta's small business tax.

[2016] – Market Access Through Pipelines

An Alberta Party Government would collaborate with all levels of government to secure market access for oil and gas resources through pipelines.

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Education

[2018] - Supporting our Post-Secondary Institutions and Students

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Ensure stable and predictable operational funding to post-secondary institutions on a multi-year basis
- 2) Legislate a cap to limit tuition increases for both domestic and international students to Alberta's CPI
- 3) Advocate that the Government of Canada increase the income threshold for recent graduates to begin repaying their student loans
- 4) Commit to providing ongoing funds for student mental health supports

[2018] - Investing in quality childcare

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Invest in accessible, high quality, cost-effective child-care spaces that address early childhood education needs.
- 2) Provide funding on an income-tested basis to improve access to childcare.
- 3) Assess the increasing need for before and after school care and invest in improving access.

[2015] – Funding Our Schools

An Alberta Party government would end mandatory school fees, making schools more accessible for all Albertans, and reducing the administrative burden on school staff.

An Alberta Party government would provide sustainable, consistent, adequate funding for our schools, with annual increases that are proportionate to population growth plus inflation. Funding must be stable to allow for long-term planning.

[2015] – Education Infrastructure

An Alberta Party would ensure building decisions for new schools are not politically driven, and would fund new schools according to enrolment numbers.

An Alberta Party government would encourage the sharing of resources, such as bussing, between overlapping school districts to reduce duplication of services.

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[2015-2016] – Support Special Needs Students

[2016] An Alberta Party Government would increase supports for students with special needs with additional appropriately trained staff and funding.

[2015] An Alberta Party government would provide targeted funding for educational assistants to increase the human supports for students with special needs.

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Health

[2018] - Ensuring Evidence-Based and Efficient Care

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Improve quality and affordability of health care by partnering with physicians, healthcare providers, professional associations, and patients to raise awareness of evidence based best practices.
- 2) Ensure that patients receive tests, treatments, and procedures that are necessary and add value to their care

[2018] - Caring For our Seniors

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Support seniors in Alberta by ensuring there are appropriate numbers of care facilities, including sufficient public facilities.
- 2) 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.

[2018] - Reducing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Wait Times

An Alberta Party Government would empower Alberta Health Services and emergency departments to ensure that ambulance paramedics would not be required to wait with patients for longer than 30 minutes.

[2016] – Building a Healthy Alberta

An Alberta Party Government would establish a Wellness Foundation for Alberta to promote health and prevent disease and disability using a comprehensive approach. The Foundation would focus on evidence-based, primary prevention initiatives.

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[2016] – Enhance Home Care Services

An Alberta Party Government would enhance home care services for seniors and persons with disabilities by:

- 1) Increasing funding to improve the availability and quality of home care services.
- 2) Ensuring more efficient use of financial resources, thereby reducing the need for expensive acute care beds and public, long term care homes.
- 3) Ensuring adequate supports for the informal networks for those requiring home care services.

[2016] – Improve Integrated Primary Care

An Alberta Party Government would expand the use of Integrated Primary Care teams to ensure; improved patient outcomes, better quality of life, longer life expectancy, improved patient experience, lower overall costs.

Equality and Human Rights

[2015] – Upholding the Dignity and Rights of All Albertans

The Alberta Party will defend the rights of all Albertans regardless of race, religious belief, colour, sex, gender identity, physical disability, mental disability, age, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status or sexual orientation.

Indigenous Issues

[2016] – Truth and Reconciliation

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Implement recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report that fall within Provincial scope.
- 2) Advocate to the Federal Government to consider the specific and unique needs of Alberta's Indigenous people when implementing all federal TRC recommendations.
- 3) Support municipal Governments in implementing TRC recommendations.
- 4) Implement social programs to support healing and success for intergenerational residential school survivors, including those that have not yet been identified.

[2016] – Increase Indigenous Understanding in the Public Service

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Provide education to public servants on the history of Indigenous peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the UNDRIP, Treaties and Indigenous rights, Indigenous law, and Indigenous-Crown relations.
- 2) Seek the guidance and participation of Indigenous Albertans in educating the public service, as a pillar of reconciliation and a precursor for action.

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[2016] – Protect Métis Harvesting Rights

An Alberta Party Government would work with the Métis Nation of Alberta and the Métis Settlements General Council to develop legislation that will protect the harvesting rights of the Métis as Indigenous peoples, in alignment with their rights under s. 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

Energy

[2018] - Enabling Alberta's Micro Power Producers

An Alberta Party government would:

- 1) Support and encourage the development of micro-generation in the province
- 2) Undertake a review of existing micro-generation legislation with the goal of simplifying the application and permitting process
- 3) Create a fiscal environment to promote a Smart Grid by encouraging grid modernization, security, and reliability
- 4) Would conduct full and detailed stakeholder engagements to ensure Smart Grid policy is acceptable to Albertans and meets the residential and industrial requirements of the province

[2016] – Market Access Through Pipelines

An Alberta Party Government would collaborate with all levels of government to secure market access for oil and gas resources through pipelines.

[2016] – Energy Transition Plan

An Alberta Party Government Would:

- 1) Encourage the transition to an increasingly decarbonized energy system, where generation is shifted from centralized fossil fuel based sources to a localized renewable energy sources.
- 2) Employ a revenue-neutral carbon levy to incentivize the expansion of energy generation from renewable sources
- 3) Ensure that all future transmission projects are approved based on demonstration of need, expert consultation, and a robust regulatory review.

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Poverty Reduction

[2018] – Helping Alberta’s Working Poor with a Wage Top-up

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Conduct a thorough review of existing poverty reduction programs and produce a comprehensive plan to support Alberta’s working poor.
- 2) As part of this plan, introduce a wage top-up program that will provide the working poor with targeted benefits while maintaining the incentive to work.

[2018] - Reducing Poverty and Homelessness

An Alberta Party Government would enact a provincial poverty and homelessness elimination strategy, which would seek to address the root causes of poverty.

[2016] – Integrate Financial Literacy and Poverty Awareness Into the K-12 Curriculum

An Alberta Party government would implement a policy to have financial literacy as part of the core curriculum in schools, including the lessons on the impacts of financially related social issues.

An Alberta Party government would evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of the current curriculum in teaching financial literacy.

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Democratic Renewal

[2015] – Transparent Government

An Alberta Party government would:

- 1) Make public information accessible to Albertans through an “open-data” framework.
- 2) Ensure that government departments are appropriately funded to support “open-data” processes.
- 3) Implement policy so that surveys, reports or research paid for by the Government of Alberta will be made public.
- 4) Ensure that records of meetings between Government and Lobbyists are public.

[2015] – Regulating Robocalls

An Alberta Party government would introduce legislation to regulate the use of “robocalls” or high volume or other automated calling by political parties, or agents, surrogates or volunteers.

Justice

[2018] - Improving Access to Justice

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Provide Legal Aid Alberta with a stable and predictable base of funding, while maintaining its independence from government.
- 2) Work with the Government of Canada to create and fill more judicial positions at the Court of Queen’s Bench.
- 3) Assess Alberta’s courtroom infrastructure and staffing levels to identify specific areas of need and take decisive action to remedy them.

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MLA Guidelines

[2016] – Guidelines for Alberta Party Members of the Legislative Assembly

The Alberta Party requires its MLAs to:

- 1) Engage their constituents in person through community conversations or regular citizen engagement events, such as town halls, regularly throughout their term.
- 2) Conduct themselves in a professional manner and with integrity, both within and outside the Legislature. Alberta Party MLAs shall conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful to other members of the legislature and the public.
- 3) Use technology to engage their constituents
 - a) Each MLA shall have a comprehensive website, which will be designed to facilitate communication among constituents and between constituents and the MLA;
 - b) Content of the web page will make it easier for their constituents to obtain easy access to information about public policy issues; and
 - c) Each MLA shall engage their constituents on commonly used internet platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, where appropriate.
- 4) Vote of their own free will after considering the views of their constituents, the Alberta Party Caucus, the Alberta Party Policies, the merits of the issue, and what is in the best interest of Albertans, with the exception of two scenarios:
 - a) A vote to approve a proposed Money Bill, should the Alberta Party form Government;
 - b) A vote to support a pre-communicated policy platform issue, promised to Albertans during the preceding election campaign.

The Alberta Party recommends that MLAs should publish the rationale for the manner in which they cast their vote on major issues.

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Municipal

[2018] - Strengthening Regional Collaboration and Economic Sustainability

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Support regional collaboration between urban municipalities and rural areas
- 2) Consult with municipalities to explore opportunities to improve the *Municipal Government Act* of Alberta and affiliated regulations to ensure future municipal and regional economic sustainability for all Albertans

Environment

[2018] - Water for Life: preparing for the impacts of climate change

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Renew the Water for Life Strategy with a focus on the impacts of Climate Change on Alberta's water supply.
- 2) Assess the risks posed by climate change on areas that are at risk of drought or flooding.
- 3) Create a needs-based plan for expanding, improving, and maintaining irrigation infrastructure in a manner that balances the needs of all Albertans.

[2018] - Land Use Planning

An Alberta Party Government would:

- 1) Support the complete implementation of the Land Use Framework.
- 2) Place an emphasis on completing all proposed regional plans within 5 years of the Alberta Party forming government.