

Alberta Liberal Party

Policy Proposals for the 2018 Policy Convention
as Amended and Approved
April 7, 2018

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Affordable Daycare

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports a means-tested system for affordable daycare.

Alberta Needs A Fair and Proportional Voting System

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports offering each municipal jurisdiction in Alberta, by choice, the implementation of a form of Proportional Representation for municipal elections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports a voting system of a form of Proportional Representation for provincial elections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party encourages the Government of Alberta and municipal governments to begin educating Albertans on Proportional Representation.

Continuing Education

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party strongly supports a community hub model, which includes housing, educational facilities, health services, childcare, and career training facilities to assist vulnerable persons to be able to have advanced and continuing educational opportunities.

Corporate Income Tax

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberals support entering into discussions with the federal government over the possibility of amending the tax collection agreement between Alberta and Canada to have the Canada Revenue Agency collect Alberta's corporate income tax.

Diversify Economy

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Alberta prepare for a 'post-carbon age' by focusing on economic diversification and innovative technologies to secure Alberta's resilience to the volatility of oil prices over the longer term.

Early Childhood Education

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Alberta Liberal Party supports the availability of junior and full-day senior kindergarten programming in all jurisdictions.

Ecological Goods and Services Provided by Private Landowners

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Government provide incentives and recognition to landowners or farmers for ecological goods and services they provide to the people of Alberta and others.

These services may be:

- areas developed or maintained for the benefit of wildlife, or to maintain or improve the quality of subterranean or surface water bodies;
- carbon storage developed through management practices;
- alteration of infrastructure for the benefit of wildlife or the natural environment;
- maintenance of unfragmented land, and;
- such other activities or practices as shall be determined.

Economic Development

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports discontinuing all subsidies granted with the sole intention of increasing economic “diversification,” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports re-evaluating all subsidies against the market failure they are intended to correct.

Ensuring Access to Lifesaving Medication in Schools

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports mandating that each school create a medical response plan for every child with a chronic condition which may require emergency medication, including but not limited to asthma, diabetes, and anaphylaxis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all school employees be trained in emergency medical response; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports allowing age appropriate students to have the required medication on their person and not subject to confiscation without cause.

Ensuring Safe Working Conditions for Adult Entertainers

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the throwing of tips be banned and a safe method of collecting tips be implemented that aligns with the Alberta Employment Standards Code for safe working conditions.

Food for Health and Wellbeing

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party request that the Ministries of Health and Education and all health professionals recognize and strongly promote the benefits of good nutrition, healthy eating including whole foods, and active living.

Moving Towards a Digital Government Which Works Better for All

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports the full exploration of issuing digital identification and authentication to the people, to allow for greater verification, faster access to government services, and easier access to the information the government has about them.

Pay Equity

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Government develop mandatory Pay Equity Plus (including Indigenous and people of colour) legislation that includes both public and private sectors and is based on international best practices.

Preservation and Enhancement of Alberta's Freshwater Resources

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Government will manage entire watersheds on lands under Crown jurisdiction with the health and natural functioning of the ecosystems (ie, the entire watershed) and encourage private landowners to follow that lead; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party will use bio-engineering and other land use practices to use or simulate natural systems to mitigate floods, preserve and enhance biodiversity, wildlife habitat and healthy ecosystems and consider water quality and quantity as the highest priorities when considering any activities in the Eastern Slopes areas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Government will fund all watershed councils at a level that allows all 13 to consult stakeholders and develop land use planning documents within the next 10 years and, following review of their recommendations, develop land use plans along with rationale for any deviations from the advice of stakeholders, or from the long-term health of the waterways.

Protecting Alberta's Bio Diversity

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports a comprehensive strategy to protect wildlife and promote bio-diversity that includes but is not limited to:

- Habitat centric, science-based conservation strategy for caribou and wolves.
- Assessment of large predator populations (cougars, wolves, wolverines) for the development of research based management plans.
- The valuation of wilderness areas, using long term, natural capital based valuations to make policy decisions, based on the multiple benefits these areas intrinsically provide, including water conservation, ecotourism, wildlife habitat, air quality, and other benefits.
- Investments in infrastructure that promotes habitat connectivity through more wildlife overpasses and tunnels.

Protecting Single-Tier Public Health Care

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party call on the Government of Alberta to protect equity and access to care, including enforcement of the Canada Health Act's prohibitions on user fees and extra billing of patients.

School Systems

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an Alberta Liberal government will move to combine the separate school districts into a unified, public school system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Alberta Liberal government will commit to re-investing all of the savings from such unification back into our public school system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Alberta Liberal government will consult with stakeholders in the current separate system and design a model of delivery whereby Catholic education may be offered as an alternative program in the public stream.

Tax Reform

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports introducing a provincial sales tax including appropriate tax credits and exemptions to make the tax progressive in its effects on low-income Albertans.

Timely Payment for Alberta Workers

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Alberta Liberals support shortening the ten (10) day pay delay period to five (5) through amendments to the Employment Standards Code.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Alberta Liberals support amending the Employment Standards Code to prevent employers from abusing the five (5) day pay delay period through frequent late payments that are less than five (5) days late.

Transparency and Accountability in Contracts with Private Long-Term Care Providers

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports regulations be added to grants and contracts that specify that funding assigned specifically for care staff must be shown to go towards that staff, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports requiring the Ministry to disclose details of all grants and contracts with private providers online.

Universal Dental Care for All

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Alberta Liberal Party support providing universal essential Dental Care to all.

Waste Reduction and Recycling - Extended Producer Responsibility

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports instituting EPR for all products and recover the costs of recycling and/or landfill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberals support the AUMA Resolution 2013:

THAT the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association urge the Province of Alberta to:

1. *Expand and refine the existing Extended Producer Responsibility programs to include more items (e.g., electronics) and not download costs to municipalities (e.g., paint).*
2. *Develop additional Extended Producer Responsibility programs for items such as construction and demolition waste, leaf and yard waste and packaging waste.*
3. *Create a means to stabilize and develop predictable markets for recyclable materials including plastics, glass, paper, cardboard and other materials.*

Welfare Reform

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports introducing a Guaranteed Annual (aka “Basic” or “Minimum”) Income; for example, through a Negative Income Tax; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alberta Liberal Party supports using a Guaranteed Annual Income to replace all existing welfare programs, thereby eliminating the administrative complexity, distortion, paternalism and cost of the current welfare system.