

MOVING ALBERTA  
*forward* 



**ENVIRONMENT**

**WILDROSE**  
OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

# ENVIRONMENT

Albertans love the stunning and diverse beauty of our landscape, and have always demanded responsible stewardship of our natural environment.

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*The government has a fundamental responsibility to set clear environmental standards, strictly monitor them, and punish violators.*

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It is important in a resource-rich province like Alberta that our government work co-operatively with industry to generate solutions and strategies that develop resources responsibly while keeping our air, water, and land clean.

Given the importance of our hydrocarbon industry, we are cognizant of the overall

greenhouse emissions emitted in extraction and refinement, and our markets demand meaningful action on this front. While insisting that industry make progress, we also must clearly communicate with the world that the energy industry in Alberta is the most forward-looking, innovative, transparent, and ethical anyone can choose for their energy needs.

The government has a fundamental responsibility to set clear environmental standards, strictly monitor them, and punish violators. Letting industry develop the technological innovations needed to flourish within stable environmental standards is generally the most effective approach for taxpayers, the economy, and the environment.

# POLICIES

## CLEAN AIR

- » Tighten and strictly enforce the rules and approval mechanisms regulating air quality particularly in and around heavy industrial zones. New projects should only be approved when a rigorous cumulative effects assessment shows that air quality will remain at acceptable levels for human health and the environment
- » ***Ensure Alberta's standards for CO2 emissions and pollutants are in line with national and international standards***
- » Expand the use of clean burning Alberta natural gas and propane for industrial and residential electricity production and transportation.
- » ***Improve the regulatory and business environment for hydroelectric and renewable energy projects***
- » Cancel the PC Government's wasteful and expensive \$2 billion Carbon Capture and Storage initiative
- » Promote industry investment in environmental research, development, equipment, and upgrades through tax incentives (i.e. accelerated capital cost allowance) made available to all businesses instead of grants to government insiders

## CLEAN WATER

- » *Implement independently conducted water quality testing for all industrial projects to ensure downstream water quality is unaffected*
- » *Insist industry accelerate development of the technology necessary to reduce all industrial tailings ponds*
- » *Ensure all groundwater connected to fracking and other drilling is independently tested before and after to ensure landowners are not adversely affected*
- » Develop a comprehensive on and off-stream fresh water plan to ensure Alberta's agricultural producers, developers and residents have access to the clean water needed for quality of life and economic growth
- » Promote improved water conservation by eliminating regulations that make it impossible for developers to implement new conservation technologies such as grey water recycling for residential or commercial use
- » Design and implement a "Water Use Strategy" that ensures adequate supplies of water for food production and enables our small urban and rural communities to develop and grow as they see fit
- » Ensure that all Alberta municipalities are able to provide safe and reliable drinking water to their population and that proper sewage treatment practices are followed



## CLEAN LAND

- » Ensure all oil and gas development conducted on privately owned land is done in an environmentally responsible fashion, and that property is returned to landowners in essentially the same condition and value as it was previous to development
- » *Develop an “Agricultural Land Preservation Strategy” to avoid the premature fragmentation or conversion of agricultural lands to other uses*
- » Work with local residents and stakeholders to preserve and protect critical provincial landscapes such as the eastern slopes
- » Recognize our national and provincial parks as vital provincial ecosystems and strictly protect these areas from development and other environmentally intrusive activities while enabling safe recreational use of them by the public



