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## BOOK OF MEMBER-PASSED POLICY

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# Alberta Party

Dec 11, 2022

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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](http://www.albertaparty.ca).



<b>About Member-passed Policy</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Fiscal and Economy</b>	<b>5</b>
Alberta Fiscal Policy - Revenues	5
Alberta Fiscal Policy – Expenses, Debt, Savings	5
Financial Transparency and Consultation	6
Innovation and Diversification	6
Diversifying the Economy	7
Removing Barriers to Business and Entrepreneurship	7
Alberta's Defence Support Policy	7
Stable Fiscal Management	7
Saving for Future Generations	8
Investing in Infrastructure	8
Government Finance	8
<b>Education</b>	<b>9</b>
Curriculum Policy	9
Funding Our Schools	9
Education Infrastructure	10
Building a Child-Centered Society	10
Investing in quality childcare	10
Support Special Needs Students	10
Supporting our Post-Secondary Institutions and Students	11
<b>Health</b>	<b>12</b>
Ensuring Evidence-Based and Efficient Care	12
Building a Healthy Alberta	12
Improve Integrated Primary Care	12
Child Centered Health	13
EMS – Emergency Response	13
Reducing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Wait Times	14
Caring For our Seniors	14
Enhance Home Care Services	14
<b>Equality and Human Rights</b>	<b>15</b>
Upholding the Dignity and Rights of All Albertans	15
Accessibility Legislation	15
<b>Indigenous Relationships</b>	<b>16</b>
Truth and Reconciliation	16
Increase Indigenous Understanding in the Public Service	16



Protect Métis Harvesting Rights	16
<b>Energy</b>	<b>17</b>
Energy and Power	17
Energy Transition Plan	17
Alberta's Electrical Grid	17
Enabling Alberta's Micro Power Producers	18
Market Access Through Pipelines	18
<b>Environment</b>	<b>19</b>
Water for Life: preparing for the impacts of climate change	19
Land Use Planning	19
Curtailing Vehicle Emissions	19
<b>Poverty Reduction</b>	<b>20</b>
Securing Albertans Wellbeing	20
Reducing Poverty and Homelessness	20
Homelessness	20
Helping Alberta's Working Poor with a Wage Top-up	20
Integrate Financial Literacy and Poverty Awareness Into the K-12 Curriculum	21
<b>Democratic Renewal</b>	<b>22</b>
Transparent Government	22
Proportional Representation	22
Lowering Voting Age	22
Upgrading our Democracy – Ease of Voting	22
Regulating Robocalls	23
<b>Justice</b>	<b>24</b>
Improving Access to Justice	24
Access to Justice	24
<b>MLA Guidelines</b>	<b>25</b>
Guidelines for Alberta Party Members of the Legislative Assembly	25
<b>Municipal</b>	<b>26</b>
Strengthening Regional Collaboration and Economic Sustainability	26

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## Fiscal and Economy

### Alberta Fiscal Policy - Revenues

- The Alberta Party will reduce personal income taxes on low- and medium-income earners by increasing the basic personal exemption;
- The Alberta Party will increase the marginal tax rate of the highest income earners;
- The Alberta Party will support Small Businesses in Alberta by increasing the income tax deduction limit;
- The Alberta Party will keep the Corporate Tax Rate at the current %;
- The Alberta Party will investigate the introduction of a combined Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) with the federal GST. Further that any introduction of a sales tax would not happen until the current financial crisis (in regards to increased inflation and the effects on Albertans) has been rectified.
  - The HST will have a rebate for low-income individuals similar to that of the current GST.
  - The provincial part of the sales tax, a portion will be directed towards debt repayment and the remaining part will be added to general revenues to fund program expenditures
- The Alberta Party will re-introduce a made-in-Alberta, provincial carbon tax with the same emission reduction targets as the federal program. Further that this carbon tax will include a rebate for low-income Albertans, municipalities, school boards, nonprofit entities and rural, remote residents including a farm fuel exemption.

[2022 AGM]

### Alberta Fiscal Policy – Expenses, Debt, Savings

- The Alberta Party will reduce the cost of administration by attrition and by empowering employees in all departments;
- The Alberta Party will investigate other processes such as priority-based budgeting, that will identify key expenses and areas for savings;
- The Alberta Party will apply excess resource revenues (over and above budgeted amounts) as follows: 50% to the reduction of provincial debt and 50% to deferred maintenance until both are cleared, afterwhich all will be directed to the Heritage Trust Fund.

[2022 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## Financial Transparency and Consultation

- The Alberta Party would introduce legislation requiring the Minister of Finance to prepare a consultation paper each September through a Legislative Committee which consults with the public and interested parties on financial priorities.
- The Alberta Party would provide a user-friendly information source of Alberta Finances which is clear, and interactive.

[2022 AGM]

## Innovation and Diversification

The Alberta Party will:

- Establish an Innovation Business Advisory Council comprised of multidisciplinary business leaders and academics from innovation sectors to
- Advise holistic policy development to benefit innovation across all sectors of the Alberta economy where Alberta has a competitive advantage to benefit all innovators,
- Involve local governments/communities/groups to ensure policies are inclusive and beneficial to Alberta's society
- Involve environmental academics to ensure policies will not lead to damage to the environment
- Develop fiscal policy to attract private capital into innovation sectors. Corporate R&D (Research and Development) Based-In Alberta tax incentives, SRED (Scientific Research and Experimental Development) tax credits, investor tax credits, and additional investment in indirect investment vehicles such as the Accelerate Fund and Alberta Enterprise Corporation,
- Expand access to postsecondary institutions for rural students through satellite campuses and distance learning
- Expand investment in world class research institutes housed at Alberta post secondaries through project-specific grants for projects with specific goals, timelines, and specifications for how the research will be translated into Alberta's society and economy,
- Expand investment in accelerator programs such as Creative Destruction Labs, Health City Accelerator, Alberta Innovates, and Startup TNT supported accelerator programs.

[2022 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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.

[2015-2016 AGM]

## 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 AGM]

## Alberta's Defence Support Policy

- **Strategic Energy Supply:** The Alberta Party will support Four Points Energy Corridors (ie. east-west and north-south) in order to supply strategic resources to Canada's global partners for delivery to the NATO and EU partners.
- **Defence Industrial Base:** The Alberta Party will partner with industry to increase our dual use (commercial and military) manufacturing capacity.
- **Defending Alberta's Economy:** The Alberta Party will improve Alberta's cyber-defence capabilities to mitigate the potential escalation of cyber threats as a result of our increased involvement with NATO and EU partners.

[2022 AGM]

## 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 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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 AGM]

## 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.

[2018 AGM]

## 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.

[2015 AGM]



# Alberta Party

## Education

### Curriculum Policy

The Alberta government will initiate a curriculum review and revision process for the Alberta Education curriculum on a continual basis; and develop a new Alberta education curriculum on a continual basis within ten years of the rollout of a curriculum in use; and the provincial government oversight be done by multi-partisan leadership through a standing committee of the Legislative Assembly.

- The Alberta Party would ensure that teachers, First Nations, Metis, Inuit educational partners, relevant industry leaders and future employers, and a wide sample of parental and student input is provided at every step of the process, and with ongoing evaluation of the current curriculum to identify strengths and challenges.
- Teachers and subject matter experts will be included in working groups that will review the curriculum at multiple writing stages, so the document remains true to its intended outcomes.
- When the curriculum documents are ready, a pilot will be undertaken by a sufficient sample size to accurately review it. The curriculum documents will be finalized with teachers and provide the proper front matter to guide teachers in delivery and assessment
- The curriculum development process will be protected from government overreach and focused on educational best practices.

[2022 AGM]

### 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 AGM]



## 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.

[2015 AGM]

## Building a Child-Centered Society

The Alberta Party will:

- Establish a task force with early education specialists to develop:
- An evidence-based Early Childhood Education curriculum to be followed by qualified Early Childhood Education Centres (Preschools, Playschools, Early Kindergarten, etc.)
- Criteria and standards for Early Childhood Education Centers to follow to be considered qualified.

[2022 AGM]

## 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.

[2018 AGM]

## Support Special Needs Students

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

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

[2015-2016 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



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 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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 AGM]

## 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.

[2016 AGM]

## 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.

[2016 AGM]



## Child Centered Health

In conjunction with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta, expand Primary Care Networks and Alberta Health Care coverage to ensure all children have access to required services to improve their physical, mental, and social. This will include nutrition, physiotherapy, mental health, educational, and speech pathology supports,

- Expand the role and number of Registered Nurse Case Managers within Primary Care Networks to oversee/organize/manage children's various healthcare needs and to work with the education system to ensure synchronicity of services,
- Invest in general emergency departments across the province to enhance their pediatric readiness to improve children's healthcare outcomes when presenting to general hospitals for emergent care with a goal of all emergency departments having a Weighted Pediatric Readiness Score (WPRS) of 100 within ten years
- Develop a Pediatric Readiness of Emergency Departments Team to manage the improvement of pediatric readiness in general emergency departments across the province
- Provide funding for periodic surveys (every 5 years) to ensure targets are being met.

[2022 AGM]

## EMS – Emergency Response

The Alberta Party will address the disparity of service and response times through the following:

- Address the type of assets used for non-emergent patient movement (clinics, testing, non-emergent inter-facility transfers)
- Address the floating boundaries of response areas, as well as how assets are moved within that coverage.
- Set a base mark of service response time for all Code levels and the allocation of response to each level.
- Investigate and invest into asset management technology to aid dispatch to dispense the proper level of response services, ensuring the services are met without overburdening key resources.
- Address the wellness of the valued human resources within our emergency response system.
- Ensure mental health supports for all levels of staff.
- Identification of infrastructure and training shortfalls, ensuring responders performance and minimizing attrition and leave requirements.
- Identify the shortcoming of the current cross coverage model of service boundaries and the effects of responders.

[2022 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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.

[2018 AGM]

## 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 AGM]

## 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, ensuring more efficient use of financial resources, thereby reducing the need for expensive acute care beds and public, long term care homes.
2. Ensuring adequate supports for the informal networks for those requiring home care services.

[2016 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Alberta Party

## Equality and Human Rights

### 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, gender identity **and gender expression** or sexual orientation.

[2015, **2022** AGM]

### Accessibility Legislation

The Alberta Party proposes and advocates for the Alberta government to create accessibility legislation that defines barriers to dignity, wellness and opportunities, and names relevant societal sectors.

- include guidelines and targets for minimizing the barriers within Alberta.
- Be it further resolved that the Alberta Party propose and advocate that the process through which the Alberta government creates accessibility legislation includes consultation with a wide variety of stakeholders by accessible means who will assist in identifying the applicable sectors that need to have accessibility standards and define what conditions are barriers.

[2022 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Alberta Party

## Indigenous Relationships

### 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 AGM]

### 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.

[2016 AGM]

### 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.

[2016 AGM]



Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Alberta Party

## Energy

### Energy and Power

The Alberta Party will ensure that Alberta is a recognized leader in the energy transition and that Alberta is appropriately compensated for its achievements in the Canadian Federation.

The Alberta Party stands for the incorporation of life-cycle waste reductions by considering the impacts on Alberta's land, water, and biodiversity to meet the federal 2050 net-zero emissions targets.

[2022 AGM]

### 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.

[2016 AGM]

### Alberta's Electrical Grid

The Alberta Party will:

- work with the province's electrical power distributors to establish a deadline for installing bi-directional smart meters for all connections to the power grid. Once these meters become part of Alberta's energy infrastructure all utilities will have an incentive to explore more creative pricing solutions to take advantage of opportunities for co-generation, off-line storage, and reduction of demand at times of minimum availability or peak usage, and
- Improve the interconnectedness of Alberta's power grid, which has one of the least interconnected electric networks in Canada.

[2022 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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.

[2018 AGM]

## 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 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Alberta Party

## Environment

### 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 AGM]

### 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.

[2018 AGM]

### Curtailling Vehicle Emissions

The Alberta Party will focus fiscal support for immediate development of ZEV technologies that may be appropriate for Alberta and will then encourage the development of the appropriate infrastructure to achieve meaningful and appropriate conversion to ZEV's by 2035.

ZEV = zero emission vehicle

[2022 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## Poverty Reduction

### Securing Albertans Wellbeing

The Alberta Party will explore the feasibility of a single-source income support program for Albertans that will be managed by the province and co-funded by the federal government.

[2022 AGM]

### 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.

[2018 AGM]

### Homelessness

- The Alberta Party stand for government funding to mitigate homelessness as long-term, predictable, and aligned with a community plan to end homelessness.
- The Alberta Party stand for legislation, goals and initiatives being client-centered and community-driven.
- Be it further resolved that the Alberta Party stand for the planning process of programs and services to mitigate homeless being evidence-informed and demonstrate measurable outcomes.
- Be it further resolved that the Alberta Party stand for all essential services and supports for the homeless being fully funded and maintained during the transition to permanent housing.

[2022 AGM]

### 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 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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.

[2016 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Alberta Party

## Democratic Renewal

### 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 AGM]

### Proportional Representation

An Alberta Party government would amend the Election Act to implement a fair and proportional voting system to replace our current ‘first past the post’ method for electing members of the Legislative Assembly. It would do this by consulting a Citizens’ Assembly on Electoral Reform composed of a representative group of Albertans in order to determine the details of Alberta’s new electoral system without undue partisan influence.

[2022 AGM]

### Lowering Voting Age

An Alberta Party government would amend section 16 of the Election Act and section 47(1) of the Local Authorities Election Act so that all Canadian citizens residing in Alberta at the age of sixteen and over, become entitled to vote in all provincial and municipal elections.

[2022 AGM]

### Upgrading our Democracy – Ease of Voting

The Alberta Party, in conjunction with Elections Alberta, would explore the potential of Online Voting option, by qualified voters through a secure website.

[2022 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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.

[2015 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Alberta Party

## Justice

### 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.

[2018 AGM]

### Access to Justice

An Alberta Party government would instruct the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General to undertake an initiative in consort with the Law Society of Alberta, the Provincial Court Judges Association and other interested stakeholders to examine the current state of "Access to Justice" by all, including the poor, Indigenous, immigrant and other disadvantaged segments, and provide recommendations to improve the overall situation. This may include such initiatives as "legal insurance", alternate dispute resolution, methods of restorative justice and the like.

[2022 AGM]



Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# Alberta Party

## MLA Guidelines

### 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.

[2016 AGM]

Valid as of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## 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.

[2018 AGM]