

{ WHAT CAN YOU DO? }

Elections are perhaps the best opportunity for citizens to engage with elected officials and those seeking elected public office. Leading up to Alberta's next provincial election in the spring of 2019, politicians, candidates, and political parties will be determining the direction their policy platforms will take and which issues will be their priorities.

Public Interest Alberta will be doing all we can to draw public attention to the priorities contained in this booklet. Influencing the positions of political parties requires individuals and organizations to work together and form common positions. We need you to take action in your own community to move our province closer to achieving these priorities. Choose one or more priority issues from this booklet you are passionate about, and advocate for them by:

Engage with your MLA and candidates

- Contact the MLA who represents you in the Alberta Legislature. Find their contact information at www.assembly.ab.ca, and e-mail or phone their office to request a meeting
- Give them a copy of *Priorities for Advancing the Public Interest*, and talk to them about your priority issues. Let them know you expect them to take action
- As representatives of different political parties are nominated in your constituency, communicate your views to them on these issues as well

Educating your community

- Give copies of this booklet (or the online link: www.pialberta.org/priorities) to your friends, family, neighbours, co-workers, and members of organizations you are involved in. Tell them about the specific priorities you care about, and encourage them to take action

- Spread the word on social media about the importance of your issues. Include a link to this document in your post
- Write a Letter to the Editor of your local newspaper about why it is important all elected officials commit to taking action on these issues

Supporting the work of organizations with public interest values

- Promote initiatives and campaigns of other organizations advocating for the public interest like the Alberta Federation of Labour, Friends of Medicare, and the Parkland Institute. They can provide you with additional information and ideas to use in your community or with your organization

Alberta's election in the spring of 2019 will set the provincial government's direction for the following four years. If individuals and organizations across the province work together to draw constant attention to priorities that will advance the public interest, we can make a difference. We need your help to create the expectation that every elected official take action on these priorities, to ensure that we are firmly on the path toward a more just and fair Alberta.