



PUBLIC INTEREST ALBERTA

PRIORITIES FOR CHANGE

K-12 EDUCATION

As Albertans gear up for a pivotal provincial election, we must work together to demand better for our public K-12 education system in order to ensure every child in Alberta – regardless of their family's income – has access to a world-class education.

Public Interest Alberta worked alongside our vast network of advocates, activists, front-line workers, and experts to develop the following priorities for change.

The Provincial Government must:

1. Commit to **systematically increasing funding to reduce class sizes**, and to **improve learning and teaching conditions** over the next four years. The provincial government also needs to **embed class size and composition into negotiated collective agreements** with teachers and others who work in education.
2. **Phase out all funding to private schools and homeschooling**, and **absorb charter schools** into the existing public system.
3. **Abandon the government's current program of curriculum revision**, and begin anew with a curriculum development process based on widespread and inclusive consultation, clear understandings of how students learn, systematic and informed decisions about current and future learning needs, and an implementation plan that has the support of those who will be engaged in its delivery.
4. **Commit to identify, provide and fully fund all appropriate supports for the learning needs of all students** in the form of teacher assistants and other specialized personnel, as well as resources at the classroom, school and system levels over the four-year period of the government's mandate.
5. **Expand Alberta's kindergarten program** to include fully funded, full-day kindergarten accessible to all students.
6. **Commit to building, implementing and funding a comprehensive, high quality early childhood education and care** system accessible to all families, regardless of their ability to pay.
7. **Reinstate and expand the PUF funding.**
8. **Systematically address the needs of children living in poverty** through a comprehensive framework to prevent, reduce and ultimately, eliminate poverty.