

Piece of the Petroleum Pie

Government Ministries and Their Responsibilities

Reprinted from <http://Alberta.ca/home/268.cfm#infra>

Aboriginal Relations

- Responsible for Aboriginal relations
- Also responsible for
 - the Métis Settlements Appeals Tribunal
 - the Métis Settlements Ombudsman
 - the First Nations Development Fund

Advanced Education and Technology

- Apprenticeship and Industry Training:
 - Develops program standards with industry.
 - Counsels apprentices and employers.
 - Provides funding for approved programs.
 - Certifies learners.
- Adult Learning:
 - Funds education providers, including research.
 - Provides student financial assistance.
 - Approves programs of study.
 - Licenses and certifies education providers.
- Technology:
 - Provides strategic leadership for science and research in Alberta.
 - Manages and funds investments in science and research in three priority areas: energy research, information and communications technology, and life sciences.
 - Facilitates technology commercialization and development to build knowledge-intensive industries in Alberta.

Agriculture and Rural Development

- Encourages industry growth by:
 - facilitating new and diversified primary and value-added food and non-food products,
 - promoting enhanced livestock health,
 - working to increase market access for agriculture and food industry products
 - improving food industry business services, including access to capital, risk management tools, business and entrepreneurial processes, and enhanced infrastructure.
- Facilitates rural and environmental sustainability through maintaining or improving Alberta's air, water and soil through essential policy, legislation, information and services related to soil conservation, water quality, range management, climate change, and biodiversity.
- Provides risk management programs and funding (through programs such as the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization Program, Farm Income Disaster Program, Crop Insurance, Farm Fuel Distribution Allowance, drought preparedness and disaster initiatives) to allow farmers the opportunity to adopt the most viable management practices for their area.
- Promotes and/or ensures appropriate safe food production and processing practices throughout the supply chain, including using science-based surveillance programs.
- Monitors the adoption and implementation of food safety process control systems for, and in partnership with, the agriculture and food industry and other government partners.
- Responsible for rural development.

Piece of the Petroleum Pie

Children and Youth Services

- Provides supports to Alberta's children, youth and families by:
 - Helping them to be safe from abuse and neglect and focusing on improved outcomes for children in care;
 - Working to prevent family violence and bullying;
 - Continuing to work with child care professionals, parents, businesses and other stakeholders to ensure Albertans have access to quality, affordable child care options; and
 - Encouraging, involving and supporting communities to deliver services to children, youth and families.

Culture and Community Spirit

- Responsible for:
 - culture
 - community development
 - the voluntary sector
 - museums and heritage sites
- Also responsible for
 - Human Rights and Citizenship Commission
 - Human Rights Citizenship and Multiculturalism Fund
 - Foundation for the Arts
 - Alberta Historical Resources Foundation
 - Wild Rose Foundation
 - Government House Foundation

Education

- Develops curriculum and sets standards.
- Evaluates curriculum and assesses outcomes.
- Teacher development and certification.
- Supports special needs students.
- Funds and supports school boards.
- Aboriginal and francophone education.
- Management of the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AISI).
- Oversees basic education policy and regulations.

Employment and Immigration

- Helps Albertans train for as well as find and keep employment.
- Provides financial and health benefits, child support services and employment training support to Albertans in need.
- Contributes to workplaces that are safe, healthy, fair, and stable for employees and employers.
- Promotes awareness and understanding of women's issues.

Energy

- Secures Albertans' share and benefits from energy and mineral resource development.
- Ensures Alberta's energy and mineral resources remain competitive, and attractive to investment and development.
- Increases Albertans' awareness of energy and mineral resource development and related policies, and the significance of these resources to Alberta's economy.
- Ensures Alberta consumers have a choice of reliable and competitively priced energy.
- Biofuels

Piece of the Petroleum Pie

Environment

- Strives to safeguard public and environmental health.
- Helps Albertans become even better environmental stewards.
- Supports and maintains stringent environmental rules.
- Addresses cumulative environmental effects.
- Manages Alberta's water quality and quantity through Alberta's Water for Life strategy.
- Leads Alberta's response to climate change.

Executive Council

The Executive Council Office, led by the Deputy Minister of Executive Council, comprises Policy and Coordination, Protocol, Deputy Secretary to Cabinet, and the Public Affairs Bureau.

- The Executive Council Office provides:
 - support to the Premier and members of Executive Council in strategic and business planning and policy coordination leadership to the Alberta Public Service.
 - programs for senior international visitors, provincial government ceremonial events, and protocol advice through the Protocol Office.
 - procedures for decision making and administrative support to Executive Council (Cabinet), its Members and Committees, and support to the Alberta Order of Excellence Council and the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.
 - government with two-way communication with Albertans, and communications support to Government of Alberta ministries through the Public Affairs Bureau.
- Public Affairs Bureau
 - Provides communications support for government.
 - Facilitates two-way communication with Albertans about issues that are important to them.

Finance and Enterprise

- Coordinates the provincial budget process.
- Facilitates fiscal planning, economic forecasting and decision-making.
- Manages long-term tax, revenue and investment policy and programs.
- Administers the regulations affecting pension plans, insurance and financial institutions.
- Oversees financial assets and liabilities.
- Manages risk associated with liability exposure and loss of public assets.
- Regulates and supports Alberta's capital market.
- Also responsible for:
 - the Regulatory Review Secretariat
 - Alberta Economic Development Authority
 - the Northern Alberta Development Council

Health and Wellness

- Promotes health and wellness and strategies for preventing injury and illness.
- Provides support for managing addictions.
- Builds a contemporary, responsive, sustainable and flexible health system.

Housing and Urban Affairs

- Responsible for housing services, including:
 - the Alberta Social Housing Corporation
 - Homelessness Secretariat

Infrastructure

Piece of the Petroleum Pie

- Responsible for infrastructure planning, and building and managing government-owned infrastructure
- Also responsible for:
 - the administration of water/wastewater and other municipal infrastructure grants
 - the Natural Gas Rebate Program

International and Intergovernmental Relations

- Promotes the interests of and secures benefits for Alberta:
 - as an equal partner in a revitalized, united Canada
 - from strengthened international relations
 - from greater trade and investment liberalization, domestically and internationally
- Markets the province internationally, encourages export and trade development in targeted industry sectors and provides direction and support to ten of Alberta's international offices. Services include:
 - strategic market intelligence
 - creating partnerships, networks and alliances
 - identifying opportunities for Alberta businesses in targeted foreign markets
 - showcasing Alberta nationally and internationally
- Responsible for investment attraction

Justice and Attorney General

- Prosecutes criminal and other offences.
- Provides access to the courts and other dispute-resolution processes.
- Provides corporate advice and legal services to government ministries.
- Supports and protects vulnerable Albertans, such as those who depend on court-ordered maintenance payments, who are unable to protect their financial interests, or who cannot afford legal counsel.

Municipal Affairs

- Assists municipalities in providing accountable and effective local government to Albertans.
- Administers a safety system that strives to ensure appropriate safety standards for the construction and maintenance of buildings and equipment.
- Co-ordinates a comprehensive, cross-government all-hazards approach to managing emergencies in the province through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency.
- Conducts hearings, renders decisions and/or provides recommendations to Cabinet on matters defined under the Municipal Government Act through the independent, quasi-judicial Municipal Government Board.
- Manages 2.8 million acres of public land in the Special Areas and provides municipal services to the dryland region in eastern Alberta through the Special Areas Board.

Seniors and Community Supports

- Offers financial benefits, housing and other programs for senior citizens.
- Administers the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped program (AISH).
- Provides community-based supports for Albertans with developmental disabilities.
- Fosters the inclusion and independence of seniors and Albertans with disabilities through policy development and programs like Alberta Aids to Daily Living.

Piece of the Petroleum Pie

Service Alberta

- Provides licensing and registry services for consumer, business, and property transactions.
- Delivers shared services to ministries such as mail delivery, printing and copying documents, technical support for computers, telephones and faxes.
- Supports, regulates, and enforces high standards of consumer protection and business practices in the Alberta marketplace.
- Works with ministries to achieve cost savings in information technology and business processes, and reduced duplication of services across ministries.
- Provides information management and privacy support to public bodies in administering Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation.
- Streamlines processes and promotes innovation in providing seamless, secure, and accessible services to Albertans.
- Ensures computers systems across government operate in the same way, protecting Albertans' personal information, providing online security and saving money through efficient procurement practices.
- Manages government vehicles and air transportation.
- Leverages Alberta SuperNet, a province-wide, high-speed network to connect Albertans with government, learning and health services, enable rural development across Alberta.

Solicitor General and Public Security

- Ensures safe communities through policing and promotion of crime-prevention activities.
- Supports victims of crime during police investigations and criminal court proceedings.
- Maintains correctional and rehabilitation programs.

Sustainable Resource Development

- Ensuring Alberta's public lands, including rangelands, are healthy, productive and sustainable.
- Protecting Alberta's forests and forest communities from wildfires.
- Supporting healthy ecosystems and communities in Alberta's forests and forest communities.
- Managing Alberta's forests to support a competitive and sustainable forest sector.
- Ensuring Alberta's fish and wildlife resources and their habitats are healthy, productive and sustainable.
- Overseeing resource development and confined operations to meet the public interest.

Tourism, Parks and Recreation

- Facilitates tourism marketing, development and film investment.
- Manages provincial parks and protected areas.
- Promotes recreational and sports opportunities.

Transportation

- Responsible for planning, building and managing the provincial highway network, including the administration of municipal transportation grants.
- Also responsible for the Transportation Safety Board.

Piece of the Petroleum Pie

Treasury Board

- A Secretariat, separate from Finance, will support the Minister as Chair of Treasury Board.
 - the Office of the Controller
 - capital planning
 - internal audit
 - expenditure management
- Corporate Human Resources
 - Corporate Human Resources provides advice on human resource administration to other provincial government departments:
- Coordinates provincial government job postings.
- Develops human resource strategies and provides expert consulting to departments on pay, benefits, classification, labour relations, workplace health and staffing.
- Supports human resource planning, employee attraction and retention, and corporate employee development.
- Helps build productive workplaces by advancing employee engagement, performance management, and capacity building strategies.
- Delivers a corporate executive search program to attract and recruit executive managers and senior officials to the provincial government, and offers search consulting services to significant provincial government agencies, boards, and commissions.
- Develops and delivers valuable and high-quality learning opportunities on a wide range of topics to provincial government employees, and offers consultation and research services to ministries in the areas of learning needs assessment, course and program design, and evaluation through the Government of Alberta Learning Centre.