



# Public Safety and Emergency Services

## Ministry Business Plan

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## Business Plan 2024-27

### Ministry Fact Sheet – Mandate and Structure

The Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services is committed to protecting Albertans and keeping our communities safe. Working alongside other ministries, law enforcement and other community and Indigenous partners, the ministry is part of the justice and public safety continuum and supports the unique needs of Albertans, while ensuring the sustainability and resilience of the system. The ministry leads the coordination, collaboration, and cooperation of organizations involved in the prevention of, response to, and recovery from emergencies in the province. This collaboration ensures the province is prepared for and resilient to the impacts of disasters.

With eight provincial adult correctional centres, two provincial youth correctional centres, and over 40 probation offices across the province, the ministry is responsible for the custody and supervision of adults and young persons under correctional authority, as well as the facilitation of rehabilitation opportunities. Provincial custody is for adults who are remanded or serving a sentence of less than two years and for young persons who are remanded or sentenced. Community corrections includes programs such as pre-trial supervision, probation, and alternative measures or sanctions for adults and young persons. The ministry strives to support, guide, and inspire its correctional services clients to make positive, sustainable, and lawful choices. This includes the development and expansion of therapeutic living units within correctional facilities to ensure addiction and mental health programs are available to individuals in custody.

The ministry provides provincial policing services through an agreement with the federal government that establishes the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) as the provincial police service and supports municipal policing through policing grants. The ministry also continues to support communities experiencing unique and challenging crime situations, including enhanced efforts to prevent, disrupt, and increase awareness of gun and gang violence and ensuring Alberta's fish and wildlife resources are conserved and protected through education, prevention and enforcement of relevant legislation. The ministry supports specialized policing programs, as well as provides grant funding for crime prevention and restorative justice programs and ensures the delivery of programs and services to support victims of crime, including those affected by domestic violence, and human trafficking.

Working with policing partners, the ministry is developing strategies to address urban crime rates, including adding patrol officers in Edmonton, Calgary, and other communities to assist policing partners with street-level law enforcement. This includes continuing work on enhancing the monitoring of high-risk offenders by implementing electronic monitoring technology to further support a safer Alberta.

Action has been taken to reduce police response times, deter crime, and reinforce property rights by granting Alberta sheriffs the authority to investigate a wider range of offences, including impaired driving. This is making our highways safer and freeing up the RCMP to answer other urgent calls. Action has been taken to modernize policing legislation and standards to improve public trust and ensure policing agencies are responsive to the needs of the communities they serve.

To help municipalities and communities strengthen their resiliency to emergencies and disasters, the ministry provides a range of supports through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA). The AEMA coordinates large-scale emergency and disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery programs and initiatives. The Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre includes a 24/7 watch station which continuously monitors and reports on events across Alberta, and a ready-to-use space for coordination during emergencies and disasters to protect communities at risk of natural disasters. The ministry is dedicated to protecting Albertans by issuing emergency alerts that provide critical information about emerging situations, immediate disaster, and recommended precautions and actions to stay safe. AEMA provides in-community emergency management services to municipalities, First Nation communities and Métis Settlements; including comprehensive emergency management training, support for emergency plan development, emergency social services planning, and key real-

time response services during emergencies and disasters. This helps save lives and protect Albertans everywhere in the province.

The ministry is working to improve public safety throughout Alberta, including in Indigenous communities. The Public Security Indigenous Advisory Committee is advising government on public safety initiatives, including victim services, restorative justice, and crime prevention, to help ensure government policies, programs and processes align with the needs of Indigenous communities. It will continue to work with Indigenous communities to develop effective crime reduction strategies, modernize Indigenous policing programs and ensure quality services are available for all Albertans.

In partnership with the Ministry of Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Services is developing alternatives to traditional processes, including diversion and restorative justice programs, and specialized courts that provide a therapeutic and culturally appropriate approach to justice. It continues to work with the Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction (MHA) and other partners to support a recovery-oriented system of care that provides access to a full continuum of services, including services that support mental health and addictions recovery.



A more detailed description of Public Safety and Emergency Services and its programs and initiatives can be found at: <https://www.alberta.ca/public-safety-and-emergency-services.aspx>

The Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services remains committed to regulatory approaches and program delivery that reduce unnecessary government oversight and emphasizes outcomes, in order to improve access to government services, attract investment, support innovation and competitiveness, and grow Alberta businesses.

Ministry business plans should be considered in conjunction with all budget documents - including the Fiscal Plan, Government Strategic Plan, and Estimates - which work together to provide a complete overview of government's commitment to responsible fiscal management.

# 2024-27 Business Plan

## Outcome 1

### Albertans are safe and secure

The ministry is committed to ensuring all Albertans are safe and secure in their communities. This includes advancing initiatives that achieve the vision of contemporary and responsive policing that prioritizes the best interests of Alberta’s diverse populations. Focused work to address family and sexual violence, organized crime, hate-motivated crime and human trafficking, further protects those vulnerable to victimization. The ministry will continue to implement measures across multiple fronts to enhance safety for Alberta’s cities, communities, and families.

### Key Objectives

- 1.1 In partnership with police services, municipalities, and Indigenous communities, implement strategies to address crime and social disorder, particularly in urban centres and transit systems.
- 1.2 Continue to work with public safety stakeholders to address serious and organized crime by implementing risk reduction strategies, such as increased border support to keep crime out of Alberta. This includes work to establish the Alberta Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons (AOCTIP) and focused work on rural crime, hate-motivated crime, firearms violence, drug and human trafficking and proceeds of crime.
- 1.3 Continue to improve the delivery of policing services in the province to ensure Albertans are safe and police are accountable to the communities they serve, including working with the Alberta Sheriffs and further investment in Indigenous policing programs.
- 1.4 Support municipalities and Indigenous communities interested in exploring different models of policing and public safety.
- 1.5 Implement a modern ankle bracelet electronic monitoring program to enhance the supervision of individuals under correctional jurisdiction.

### Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives

- In 2024-25, \$10.0 million is allocated to support Edmonton and Calgary to assist policing partners with street-level law enforcement in high crime areas, such as downtown cores and public transit, to address urban crime rates in the province.
- In 2024-25, an investment of \$8.2 million to combat human trafficking, including the establishment of the Alberta Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which has a mandate to support victims and survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation cases.
- In 2024-25, \$55.7 million is allocated to the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) to address organized crime, child pornography, gun violence, drug trafficking, and prolific offenders.
- In 2024-25, provide \$3 million in grant funding for municipalities and Indigenous communities seeking to explore alternative policing models.
- In 2024-25, through funding to the Provincial Security and Intelligence Office, dedicate up to \$2 million to enhance the safety, security and prosperity of Albertans.

## Performance Metrics

### 1.a Performance Measure: Median time from intake to resolution of Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) complaints

This measure monitors the timeliness and overall efficiency of the Alberta Sheriffs’ SCAN unit in keeping Albertan communities safe by dealing with problem properties used for illegal activities such as drug trafficking, prostitution, child exploitation, and gang-related crime. In 2022-23, the median time to resolution was 92 days.

|                |                |         |                |         |                |         |
|----------------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| <b>Targets</b> | <b>2024-25</b> | 89 days | <b>2025-26</b> | 87 days | <b>2026-27</b> | 84 days |
|----------------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|

### 1.a Performance Indicator: Violent and property crime rates per 100,000 populations

This indicator measures the volume of crime, including all *Criminal Code* violations (except traffic) relative to population size and is shown as urban and rural results.

|                             | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Alberta Violent Crime Rate  | 1,338 | 1,460 | 1,452 | 1,515 | 1,532 |
| Rural                       | 1,942 | 2,270 | 2,437 | 2,495 | 2,519 |
| Urban                       | 1,209 | 1,292 | 1,248 | 1,314 | 1,332 |
| Alberta Property Crime Rate | 5,470 | 5,885 | 5,060 | 4,587 | 5,004 |
| Rural                       | 6,847 | 7,474 | 6,854 | 6,423 | 6,677 |
| Urban                       | 5,167 | 5,544 | 4,680 | 4,203 | 4,659 |

## Outcome 2

### Albertans are supported in their interactions with the justice system

Exploring opportunities to modernize the delivery of correctional services, including the implementation of a recovery-oriented system of care that provides a network of community-based services that support those with or at risk of alcohol, drug, or mental health issues continues to be an important priority for the ministry. The ministry will continue to deliver a new victims assistance program with greater emphasis on supporting individuals at risk of domestic violence and will continue to implement a new victim services delivery model for external partners.

### Key Objectives

- 2.1 Work with municipalities, police services, community-based organizations, and other ministries to improve the alignment of mental health and addictions crisis response resources in community policing and corrections.
- 2.2 Implement therapeutic living units and supports in correctional facilities in alignment with and commitment to a recovery-oriented system of care.
- 2.3 Continue to modernize corrections technology to enhance service delivery and promote system sustainability.
- 2.4 Improve awareness of Clare’s Law and other tools to assist Albertans at risk of domestic violence make informed decisions about their safety.
- 2.5 Improve access to timely and efficient services and supports for victims of crime and tragedy.

### Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives

- In 2024-25, \$12 million is allocated to the Victims of Crime Assistance Program to facilitate direct and timely supports and services to victims, including emergency expenses and recovery.
- In 2024-25, \$22 million is allocated to external partner organizations to provide supports and services to victims of crime and tragedy, including the development of a new regional model for police-based victim services.

## Performance Metrics

### 2.a Performance Measure: Average days to decision for applications to the Victims of Crime Assistance Program

This measures the effectiveness of the redesigned, recently implemented Victims of Crime Assistance Program in providing timely support to victims of crime. The actual 2022-23 result was 54 days.

| Targets | 2024-25 | 40 days | 2025-26 | 30 days | 2026-27 | 25 days |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|         |         |         |         |         |         |         |

**2.b Performance Measure: Average daily occupancy rate in Therapeutic Living Units in Provincial Correctional Centres**

This metric gauges the utilization of Therapeutic Living Units (TLUs) in provincial correctional centres. The TLUs, developed in collaboration with MHA, are designed to support individuals in custody with addiction issues, facilitating a transition out of custody with comprehensive wrap-around as needed. Overall, 87 per cent of available TLU spaces have been utilized since the first unit opened in July 2023. Given that the program is at its early stage of implementation and participation is based on inmate interest and program criteria, lower targets are set based on baseline data. These targets will be adjusted in future years as the program becomes fully operational.

|                |                |      |                |      |                |      |
|----------------|----------------|------|----------------|------|----------------|------|
| <b>Targets</b> | <b>2024-25</b> | 71 % | <b>2025-26</b> | 73 % | <b>2026-27</b> | 75 % |
|----------------|----------------|------|----------------|------|----------------|------|

## Outcome 3

**Alberta is prepared and resilient to the impacts of disasters**

The ministry is committed to working collaboratively to manage its response to, and recovery from disasters. Through the coordination of emergency planning and preparation, emergency resources, disaster financial assistance, and expert recovery advice, Albertans can be confident that our province is well equipped to respond to disasters.

**Key Objectives**

- 3.1 Support Albertans and communities to raise their awareness of disaster risk and preventative action.
- 3.2 Work with emergency management partners to enhance the coordination of disaster response and recovery across Alberta, including timely and fiscally responsible administration of disaster financial assistance.
- 3.3 Develop and implement initiatives that contribute to continuous improvement and refinement of the province’s emergency management framework.

**Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives**

- In 2024-25, \$2 million is allocated to improve the delivery model of search and rescue operations in the province.
- In 2024-25, \$1.5 million is allocated to continue to support a provincial post-incident assessment into the 2023 spring hazard season.

## Performance Metrics

**3.a Performance Measure: Percentage of local authorities visited by an AEMA field officer and had their Community Emergency Management Plan reviewed annually**

This measure ensures that local authorities are complying with Alberta Emergency Management Legislative Framework and that communities are engaging in regular emergency management planning and developing response strategies before an emergency or disaster occurs. The actual 2022-23 result was 90 per cent.

|                |                |     |                |     |                |     |
|----------------|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| <b>Targets</b> | <b>2024-25</b> | 90% | <b>2025-26</b> | 90% | <b>2026-27</b> | 90% |
|----------------|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|

**3.b Performance Measure: Percentage of Albertans who have taken at least three preparedness actions in the past year (annual survey)**

This measure is based on the result of the Be Prepared survey conducted annually by AEMA and demonstrates Albertans’ readiness and resilience in the event of a disaster. Examples of preparedness actions that individuals can take include, but are not limited to, gathering emergency supplies, purchasing adequate insurance and setting up a community support system. The actual 2023 result was 51 per cent.

|                |                |     |                |     |                |     |
|----------------|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| <b>Targets</b> | <b>2024-25</b> | 53% | <b>2025-26</b> | 55% | <b>2026-27</b> | 57% |
|----------------|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

(thousands of dollars)

|  | Comparable        |                     | 2024-25<br>Estimate | 2025-26<br>Target | 2026-27<br>Target |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | 2023-24<br>Budget | 2023-24<br>Forecast |                     |                   |                   |
| <b>REVENUE</b>                               |                   |                     |                     |                   |                   |
| Transfers from Government of Canada          | 29,416            | 142,760             | <b>38,169</b>       | 37,005            | 37,005            |
| Investment Income                            | 1,000             | 1,000               | <b>1,000</b>        | 1,000             | 1,000             |
| Other Premiums, Fees and Licences            | 45,755            | 45,755              | <b>45,755</b>       | 45,755            | 45,755            |
| Fines and Penalties                          | 53,150            | 45,500              | <b>45,500</b>       | 45,500            | 45,500            |
| Other Revenue                                | 92,316            | 136,636             | <b>93,566</b>       | 93,566            | 93,566            |
| Consolidated Total                           | 221,637           | 371,651             | <b>223,990</b>      | 222,826           | 222,826           |
| <b>EXPENSE</b>                               |                   |                     |                     |                   |                   |
| Ministry Support Services                    | 8,694             | 8,694               | <b>10,518</b>       | 10,755            | 10,897            |
| Public Security                              | 710,993           | 720,031             | <b>764,882</b>      | 825,622           | 878,694           |
| Correctional Services                        | 341,498           | 338,052             | <b>349,981</b>      | 361,274           | 380,180           |
| Alberta Emergency Management Agency          | 104,960           | 400,068             | <b>108,090</b>      | 106,460           | 106,705           |
| Strategy, Support and Integrated Initiatives | 16,455            | 16,968              | <b>20,404</b>       | 21,532            | 21,631            |
| Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund      | 39,486            | 39,786              | <b>38,827</b>       | 38,832            | 38,837            |
| Ministry Total                               | 1,222,086         | 1,523,599           | <b>1,292,702</b>    | 1,364,475         | 1,436,944         |
| Inter-Ministry Consolidation Adjustment      | (5,300)           | (13,367)            | <b>(13,538)</b>     | (13,538)          | (13,538)          |
| Consolidated Total                           | 1,216,786         | 1,510,232           | <b>1,279,164</b>    | 1,350,937         | 1,423,406         |
| Net Operating Result                         | (995,149)         | (1,138,581)         | <b>(1,055,174)</b>  | (1,128,111)       | (1,200,580)       |
| <b>CAPITAL INVESTMENT</b>                    |                   |                     |                     |                   |                   |
| Ministry Support Services                    | -                 | 1,170               | -                   | -                 | -                 |
| Public Security                              | 2,695             | 2,695               | <b>8,695</b>        | 4,295             | 1,295             |
| Correctional Services                        | 1,280             | 1,280               | <b>1,280</b>        | 1,280             | 1,280             |
| Alberta Emergency Management Agency          | 2,300             | 5,999               | <b>2,300</b>        | 2,300             | 2,300             |
| Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund      | 25                | 25                  | <b>25</b>           | 25                | 25                |
| Consolidated Total                           | 6,300             | 11,169              | <b>12,300</b>       | 7,900             | 4,900             |