



Premier of Alberta

Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada

November 10, 2022

The Honourable Dale Nally
Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction
Government of Alberta

Dear Minister Nally,

I want to thank you for your service to Albertans, and congratulations on your new role as Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction.

Our Cabinet faces an extraordinary task: to deliver on a clear and bold mandate in a limited period of time. Albertans are counting on us, and they rightfully expect their government to address the challenges they are facing with our full attention and action.

First, I ask you to keep the inflation and affordability crisis top of mind. Affordability is the primary challenge facing Albertans today, and as a government we will ensure that Alberta families are able to manage through this storm by taking decisive action in the coming weeks and months.

Second, our Cabinet must continue to have a laser focus on job creation and strengthening Alberta's economy. No matter what the industry, we must continue the good work of diversifying our economy through job creation to ensure all Albertans and their families can prosper.

Third, the challenges facing our healthcare system mean Albertans are not getting the necessary care they need when and where they need it. We will ensure all areas of the province receive prompt and efficient ambulance service. Our government will also act quickly to bring substantive improvements to emergency room services and clear surgical backlogs.

Finally, I expect our Cabinet to remain united and determined in the face of a federal government that no longer treats its partners in Confederation as equals. We must proactively protect Albertans from continued federal government overreach, including hostile economic policies that landlock our provincial resources, that chase billions in investment and thousands of jobs from our province, and that are detrimental to the short-term and long-term prosperity of Albertans.

While we may face challenges, I nonetheless have full confidence that our government can and will address these matters to secure a province that remains a safe haven for those seeking economic opportunity, prosperity, and freedom.

Under your leadership as Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction, I expect you to work closely with your Cabinet and caucus colleagues and the public service through the committee, Cabinet, and legislative processes to deliver on commitments to support Albertans, including:

- Diagnose slow turnaround times in Land Titles. Bring forward both short-term and long-term solutions that will bring both efficiency and faster approvals that allow us to work through and eventually eliminate the backlog.
- Continue to refine and improve process improvements between the Real Estate Council of Alberta, the Canadian Condominium Institute and the Alberta Real Estate Association.
- Monitor and accelerate the implementation of Prompt Payment legislation to address the problems in the Alberta construction industry related to timeliness of payments from contractors to sub-contractors. Furthermore, develop an adjudication process to handle disputes and develop improvements for recourse in the event of a claim for non-payment.
- Work with Transportation and Economic Corridors, to explore acquiring expressions of interest from private sector investors in establishing a network of hydrogen vehicle and electric vehicle (EV) recharge stations throughout the province, with a focus on partnering with the retail and hospitality industries, and work towards adding hydrogen and EV stations to the Commercial Rest Stops expansion program.
- Refocus red tape reduction efforts to measure, benchmark and reduce wait times for permit approvals across all ministries. Report on the feasibility of adopting an “automatic yes” policy that would assume a permit is approved within a reasonable and specific amount of time after an application, unless the department in question delivers a written rationale on why it should be rejected.
- Work with the Parliamentary Secretary of Procurement, Dave Hanson, to continue to act on the MacKinnon Panel’s recommendation by forming a Procurement Council to provide a regular forum for conducting ongoing dialogue among representatives from major procurement ministries and industry organizations whose members supply goods, consulting services and construction services.
- Support Municipal Affairs with the ongoing building codes review to ensure both safety and affordability concerns are appropriately addressed and ensure authority for building code changes remain provincial jurisdiction.

Your deputy minister and other senior officials in your ministry will support these priorities with the highest standard of professionalism and integrity. Alberta’s public service will provide you with non-partisan advice and loyal implementation of your mandate. As I mentioned, our ability to support Albertans in the coming months will require you to work respectfully with your officials, and often with tight timelines.

I expect all ministers and their staff to conduct themselves in all matters with the highest standards of integrity and ethical behaviour. I expect you to be aware of, and to be fully

compliant with, Alberta's *Conflicts of Interest Act*, and that all ministers will protect the significant trust that Albertans have placed in our government.

We will come through this difficult and challenging period in Alberta's history, so let us work together to fulfill and exceed our mandate on behalf of the good people of this great province. I am honoured to be working with you to build a stronger and more prosperous Alberta.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Danielle Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "D".

Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta