



Premier of Alberta

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

November 9, 2022

The Honourable Tyler Shandro  
Minister of Justice  
Government of Alberta

Dear Minister Shandro,

I want to thank you for your service to Albertans, and for your continued service as Minister of Justice.

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 Justice, 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:

- Work with the Premier to develop and enact the Sovereignty Act to establish a legislative framework through which measures can be taken in response to unconstitutional federal encroachments on provincial jurisdiction.
- Take any necessary legislative or regulatory steps to prohibit discrimination on the basis of COVID-19 vaccination and/or booster status.
- As the lead, work with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services to finalize a decision on establishing an Alberta Police Service.
- Continue to challenge the *Federal Impact Assessment Act* or Bill C-69, the “No more Pipelines” act by working with all other Canadian provinces and territories to defend the division of powers and provincial jurisdiction in the Supreme Court of Canada.
- Introduce amendments to the *Legislative Assembly Act* to designate the Legislative Assembly Security Service as peace officers within the legislative precinct, enabling them to carry firearms.
- Follow through on the recommendations outlined in the Final Report of the Select Special Committee on Real Property Rights by introducing legislation to abolish adverse possession, and further advance work to constitutionally entrench the protection of property rights.
- Ensure that Alberta fully participates in the Public Order Emergency Commission to challenge the federal government’s use of the *Emergencies Act* and take part in developing policy recommendations to ensure that any future use of the *Emergencies Act* does not violate provincial jurisdiction and violate Albertans’ Charter Rights.
- Ensure that Alberta continues to participate in legal challenges initiated by the Canadian Constitution Foundation and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association challenging the federal government’s use of the *Emergencies Act*.
- Continue Alberta’s intervention in legal challenges that oppose federal firearms legislation seeking to ban over 1,500 models of firearms.
- Using all available legal means, seek to prevent the federal government from taking police officers off the street in order to enforce the federal firearms confiscation program.
- Defend Alberta’s growing petrochemical industry by continuing the constitutional challenge against the federal government’s decision to label plastics as “toxic substances.”
- As the lead, work with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services to address the need for funding increases to strengthen Alberta’s Justice system.
- Conduct a strategic review of provincial resourcing to the courts and advance recommendations to ensure that enough funding is in place to ensure that Albertans have a fair and accessible justice system, including without limitation, modernizing court services and increasing the availability of remote hearings for lawyers and their clients.

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, 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 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, flowing style with a large initial 'D'.

Danielle Smith  
Premier of Alberta