



Premier of Alberta

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

November 9, 2022

The Honourable Devin Dreeshen
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors
Government of Alberta

Dear Minister Dreeshen,

I want to thank you for your service to Albertans, and congratulations on your new role as Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors.

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 Transportation and Economic Corridors, 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:

- Focus on building a safer and more efficient, vehicle friendly road network in Alberta.
- Explore opportunities to work with the private sector and the City of Calgary on the construction of an LRT and rail link between Calgary International Airport, downtown Calgary and Canmore/Banff.
- Work in collaboration with the Minister of Infrastructure, to accelerate priority investments identified by Cabinet and caucus.
- Explore expansion and improvement of major highways and roadways in the greater Edmonton and Calgary areas, including the Anthony Henday Drive and Deerfoot Trail.
- Focus on the expansion of economic corridors across the province and country, such as Fort McMurray to Grande Prairie, Medicine Hat, Port of Churchill, BC and others to expand employment, economic growth, and non-renewable resource revenue for Albertans.
- Explore innovative products and methods to reduce the cost of better maintaining Alberta's highway system.
- Lead an initiative in consultation with Municipal Affairs, Indigenous Relations, Environment and Protected Areas, Agriculture and Irrigation, and Treasury Board and Finance to develop an integrated water program that facilitates water treatment and distribution for residential, industrial, and agricultural water usage across Alberta.
- Work with aviation industry partners to establish reliable, regularly scheduled service from Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat to Calgary and Edmonton so residents can more easily access travel to and from both major international airports.
- Work with Infrastructure propose a formula to provide guidance on the amount of capital funding that should be budgeted each year to ensure greater predictability for our construction industry partners.

I've also appointed a Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Corridors, Shane Getson, to your Ministry to work on these priorities in collaboration with you.

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, looped initial "D".

Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta