



Premier of Alberta

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

November 9, 2022

The Honourable Rajan Sawhney
Minister of Trade, Immigration and Multiculturalism
Government of Alberta

Dear Minister Sawhney,

I want to thank you for your service to Albertans, and congratulations on your new role as Minister of Trade, Immigration and Multiculturalism.

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 Trade, Immigration and Multiculturalism, 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:

- In collaboration with other ministries, work towards enhancing Alberta's trade infrastructure, trade agreements and trade corridors.
- In cooperation with other relevant ministries, ensure Alberta is seen as a top destination for foreign investments into Canada and a primary Canadian headquarters for new market entrants.
- Work with the federal government to significantly expand the number of immigrants accepted under the Provincial Nominee Program and develop new pathways for Alberta companies to directly recruit workers with key skills in technology, agriculture, construction, healthcare and other areas of shortage.
- Seek solutions to Alberta's labour market shortages in key sectors such as tech, agriculture, construction, healthcare and others by partnering with other ministries such as Skilled Trades and Professions, Advanced Education and Health, to address labour market gaps for the benefit of Albertans and recognize out of province credentials.
- Establish a Premier's Council on Multiculturalism.
- Work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism, Devinder Toor, to ensure enhanced funding for more effective engagement with ethno-cultural communities and constructive anti-racism initiatives.
- Work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Community Outreach, Muhammad Yaseen, to ensure every new Albertan has access to English as a Second Language training and settlement services.

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

Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta