

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

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# Annual Report

## Executive Council

### 2020-2021

Executive Council, Government of Alberta | Executive Council 2020–2021 Annual Report

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## Preface

The Public Accounts of Alberta are prepared in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and the *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act*. The Public Accounts consist of the annual report of the Government of Alberta and the annual reports of each of the 20 ministries.

The annual report of the Government of Alberta contains ministers' accountability statements, the consolidated financial statements of the province and a comparison of actual performance results to desired results set out in the government's strategic plan, previously published in one volume entitled Measuring Up report.

This annual report of the Ministry of Executive Council contains the minister's accountability statement, the financial information of the ministry and a comparison of actual performance results to desired results set out in the ministry business plan.

This ministry annual report also includes other financial information as required by the *Financial Administration Act* and *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act*, as separate reports, to the extent that the ministry has anything to report.

**Each Ministry Annual Report should be considered along with the Government of Alberta Annual Report to provide a complete overview of government's commitment to openness, accountability and fiscal transparency.**

## Premier's Accountability Statement

The ministry's annual report for the year ended March 31, 2021, was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act* and the government's accounting policies. All of the government's policy decisions as at June 8, 2021 with material economic or fiscal implications of which I am aware have been considered in the preparation of this report.

[Original signed by]

Jason Kenney  
Premier and Minister of Intergovernmental Relations

## Message from the Premier



I am pleased to present Executive Council's Annual Report for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Executive Council is responsible for the strategic co-ordination of the government's legislative agenda. This includes Alberta's Recovery Plan, which takes bold action to get people back to work now, build our provinces infrastructure and diversify our economy. We are building on our economic strengths to attract investment and position Alberta for prosperity.

The past year has been one of the toughest in our history, as Alberta dealt with the global COVID-19 global pandemic, the biggest global economic contraction since the Great Depression and the biggest collapse in energy prices ever.

Executive Council worked closely with all ministries at every stage of the pandemic response, supporting decisions on policy, initiatives and legislation.

This helped to protect lives and livelihoods, including providing relief to workers and families, and employers. We accelerated the Job Creation Tax Cut, giving Alberta by far the lowest taxes on job-creators in Canada, and lower than those of 44 U.S. states.

Alberta is also leading Canada by removing red tape and unilaterally ending internal trade barriers. Our province has the lowest number of exceptions of any province in the Canadian Free Trade Agreement, which creates a more open, transparent and competitive marketplace, one we hope to see emulated by our neighbours.

I am proud of the work done by Executive Council staff, as well as the entire public service, who have all served Albertans under these extraordinary circumstances.

The past year demonstrated the importance of continuing our efforts to diversify Alberta's economy, expand market access, and secure a fair deal in Confederation.

I am confident that through Executive Council's continuing support, Alberta will emerge stronger than ever.

[Original signed by]

Jason Kenney  
Premier

## Management's Responsibility for Reporting

The executives of the ministry have the primary responsibility and accountability for the ministry. Collectively, the executives ensure the ministry complies with all relevant legislation, regulations and policies.

Ministry business plans, annual reports, performance results and the supporting management information are integral to the government's fiscal and strategic plan, annual report, quarterly reports and other financial and performance reporting.

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the accompanying ministry financial information and performance results for the ministry rests with the Premier, President of Executive Council. Under the direction of the Premier, I oversee the preparation of the ministry's annual report, which includes the financial information, performance results on all objectives and initiatives identified in the Ministry Business Plan, and performance results for all ministry-supported commitments that were included in the 2020-23 Government of Alberta Strategic Plan. The financial information and performance results, out of necessity, include amounts that are based on estimates and judgments. The financial information is prepared using the government's stated accounting policies, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards. The performance measures are prepared in accordance with the following criteria:

- Reliability – Information used in applying performance measure methodologies agrees with the underlying source data for the current and prior years' results.
- Understandability – the performance measure methodologies and results are presented clearly.
- Comparability – the methodologies for performance measure preparation are applied consistently for the current and prior years' results.
- Completeness – outcomes, performance measures and related targets match those included in the ministry's *Budget 2020*.

As Deputy Minister, in addition to program responsibilities, I am responsible for the ministry's financial administration and reporting functions. The ministry maintains systems of financial management and internal control which give consideration to costs, benefits, and risks that are designed to:

- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized, executed in accordance with prescribed legislation and regulations, and properly recorded so as to maintain accountability of public money;
- provide information to manage and report on performance;
- safeguard the assets and properties of the province under ministry administration;
- provide Executive Council, the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance, and the Premier the information needed to fulfill their responsibilities; and
- facilitate preparation of ministry business plans and annual reports required under the *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act*.

In fulfilling my responsibilities for the ministry, I have relied, as necessary, on the executives within the ministry.

[Original signed by]

Ray Gilmour,  
Deputy Minister of Executive Council  
June 8, 2021



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# Results Analysis

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## Ministry Overview

In 2020-2021, Executive Council supported the implementation of government policy by focusing its efforts on achieving two outcomes:

- **Outcome One:** Government's agenda is implemented effectively in coordination with ministries
- **Outcome Two:** Alberta's priorities are advanced across Canada

### Organizational Structure

Executive Council supports the Premier and Cabinet with strategic planning, coordinated policy development, informed decision-making and interactions with other governments to advance the Alberta government's agenda. The ministry consists of the following divisions.

#### Office of the Premier

The Office of the Premier provides both strategic and functional support for the Premier. It includes advisors and planners, specialists in issues management and scheduling, media relations, stakeholder outreach, and legislative liaison staff. The office is led by the Chief of Staff who, attentive to the Government caucus, is a crucial link in applying the principle of responsible government to the Ministry of Executive Council.

#### Deputy Minister's Office

The Deputy Minister, as Clerk of Executive Council, oversees the ministry in the provision of strategic advice and effective operation of the cabinet decision-making process. As head of the Alberta Public Service, the Deputy Minister also provides leadership and oversight to the Deputy Minister's Council and Alberta Public Service staff. The Deputy Minister's Office supports effective implementation of government's decisions, including the delivery of strategic and operational priorities, and provides advice to departments.

#### Office of the Lieutenant Governor

The Ministry of Executive Council provides administrative and functional support to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to enable the Vice Regal to focus on duties to represent the Sovereign and ensure the smooth functioning of our parliamentary system.

#### Cabinet Coordination and Ministry Services

Cabinet Coordination and Ministry Services is responsible for the day-to-day operations of Executive Council. The division consists of the following major entities.

- Cabinet Coordination Office (CCO) is responsible for the organizational and administrative support to Cabinet and Cabinet committees. CCO provides strategic agenda-setting and development, facilitates information flow to decision-makers, records minutes and communicates meeting outcomes.
- Operations and Machinery of Government (OMG) monitors operations and identifies emerging issues across government. OMG produces situation briefings to support the Premier's Office and Deputy Minister's Office, leads corporate planning and reporting, and manages strategic projects.

- Protocol Office supports state, official, working, and private visits to Alberta. By serving as the point of introduction for diplomats and other key visitors, it enhances Alberta's profile on the global stage. The Protocol Office leads domestic ceremonies, such as the swearing-in of Cabinet, Speech from the Throne and installation of the Lieutenant Governor. The Protocol Office also manages the conference facilities at Government House in Edmonton, McDougall Centre in Calgary and the Edmonton Federal Building. Protocol provides secretariat support to the Alberta Order of Excellence – the highest honour the province can bestow on a citizen.
- Ministry Services supports the day-to-day operations of the ministry including human resources; finance and administration services; management of the ministry's accountabilities under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act; records management; and information and technology support and services.

### **Policy Coordination Office**

The Policy Coordination Office (PCO) works in partnership with CCO to support the implementation of government's policy and legislative agenda. PCO assists the Premier's Office in setting and coordinating the government's annual legislative agenda and works with all ministries to support the development of policy options that align with the government's agenda. PCO also coordinates the review and approval of government regulations.

PCO provides quality assurance services to ministries so that high-quality decision documents are provided to Cabinet and its committees. PCO provides secretariat support to Cabinet committees, including setting and creating agendas, briefing committee chairs, logistics, developing decision documents and producing official meeting records.

### **Intergovernmental Relations**

Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) coordinates Alberta's leadership and participation within the Canadian federation in pursuit of a federal system that best serves the needs of Albertans and Canadians. IGR is responsible for supporting the Premier's intergovernmental agenda, missions and meetings. This means advancing Alberta's interests at intergovernmental forums, including the Council of the Federation, First Ministers' Meetings, the Western Premiers' Conference, and bilateral meetings with the Prime Minister and other Premiers.

IGR works with ministries to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to intergovernmental relations. IGR also reviews and approves all of Alberta's intergovernmental agreements to ensure they are consistent with Alberta's goals and objectives. The Internal Trade branch within IGR focuses on showing leadership and collaborating with other provinces to reduce internal trade barriers.

### **Environmental, Social, and Governance Secretariat**

Announced in *Budget 2021*, The Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Secretariat will coordinate the strategic and operational engagement activities of the government in support of Alberta's energy industry and other industries that are being assessed using Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) criteria.

## Discussion and Analysis of Results

### Red Tape Reduction

The Ministry of Executive Council is committed to the ongoing review of programs and services to ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved for Albertans. As part of this ongoing review, the ministry is committed to making life easier for hard-working Albertans and job creators by reducing regulatory requirements by one-third by 2023 and eliminating administrative burden through more efficient processes. This work will improve service delivery for Albertans; foster economic growth, innovation and competitiveness; create a strong and attractive investment climate; and make Alberta one of the freest and fastest moving economies in North America.

### Reducing Barriers to Internal Trade

Intergovernmental Relations leads collaboration with other ministries and jurisdictions to reduce barriers to internal trade. IGR's red tape reduction results and activities includes the following:

- Representing Alberta on the Regulatory Reconciliation and Cooperation Table (RCT) under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA). The RCT was created under the CFTA to reduce barriers to trade, investment, and labour mobility within Canada by reconciling regulatory differences that companies may experience when doing business across provincial and territorial borders. The RCT is also a forum for Parties to cooperate in the development of future regulatory measures. Recent examples of RCT successes include:
  - Implementation of the Reconciliation Agreement on Extra-Provincial/Territorial Corporate Registration and Reporting signed by Alberta in April 2020. This reconciliation agreement ensures more efficient extra-provincial registration and reporting for businesses registering in other provinces.
  - Finalization of the construction codes reconciliation agreement. Once fully implemented, the economic benefit to Canada attributable to the harmonization and timely adoption of construction codes is estimated to be between \$750 million to \$1 billion by 2028.
- Encouraging the federal government and other provinces and territories to follow Alberta's lead and reduce their party-specific exceptions. After removing 21 exceptions in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, Alberta has the lowest number of exceptions of any party. CFTA exceptions shelter protectionist policies that act as a barrier to trade. Removing these exceptions creates a more open, transparent and competitive marketplace.
- Continuing to lead Alberta's participation in negotiations to bring financial services and non-medical cannabis under the rules of the CFTA.
- Encouraging other provinces and territories to join the New West Partnership Trade Agreement, the most open and comprehensive trade agreement in Canada, which allows goods, services, capital and workers to move freely across provincial boundaries.

## Outcome One: Government's agenda is implemented effectively in coordination with ministries

### Key Objectives

- 1.1 Provide advice and support to ministries to align policy and legislative proposals. Assist government to implement public policies, programs and services.**
- 1.2 Provide advice and information to the Premier and Cabinet to support informed decision-making.**

Executive Council helps define and communicate the government's agenda to ministries to ensure effective implementation.

The Policy Coordination Office provided advice and support to ministries to ensure alignment of policy and legislative proposals and implementation of public policies, programs and services. Results included the following.

- Supported 93 Cabinet committee meetings. The committees reviewed 721 strategic, policy, regulatory and legislative initiatives. This included coordination of agendas and decisions documents, briefing committee chairs, and working with the Cabinet Coordination Office to produce meeting records.
- Supported the development and introduction of 41 government bills in the Legislature.
- Provided policy advice and support to all government ministries throughout the policy development process.

The Cabinet Coordination Office (CCO) supported government's agenda by facilitating timely and effective decision-making at Cabinet and Cabinet committees. CCO also provided advice on Cabinet agenda-setting and the efficient operation of Cabinet and Cabinet committees. Key results included the following.

- Coordinated and supported 40 Cabinet meetings, four Cabinet retreats and four Cabinet electronic polls. CCO also supported 54 meetings of the Priorities Implementation Cabinet Committee and 19 meetings of the Emergency Management Cabinet Committee. These services included briefing the Premier, logistics, developing agendas and decision documents, producing official meeting records and 366 appointments to public agencies, boards, commissions and the courts.
- Worked with ministries, Legislative Counsel Office and the Lieutenant Governor's Office to coordinate the signing of 428 Orders in Council.

### Actions that Support the Priorities of the Government of Alberta Strategic Plan

#### Key Priority:

Supporting Job Creation

#### Objective:

Reducing Red Tape by Reducing Interprovincial Barriers to Free Trade.

- Alberta is now the province with the fewest exceptions to the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA). Executive Council continued to encourage the federal government and other provinces and territories to follow Alberta's lead in reducing CFTA exceptions.
- Executive Council represented Alberta on the Regulatory Reconciliation and Cooperation Table under the CFTA where it continued to advocate for the further reduction of barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility.
- Executive Council encouraged other provinces and territories to join the New West Partnership Trade Agreement, the most open and comprehensive trade agreement in Canada.
- Removing barriers to trade creates a more open, transparent and competitive marketplace for Alberta businesses.

Operations and Machinery of Government monitored program and project implementation across government to identify and report on emerging operational issues, and provided planning, tracking and project management support to the ministry.

**Performance Measure 1.a:**

**Satisfaction of ministries with the services they receive from Executive Council**

Prior Years' Results				2020-21	2020-21
2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Target	Actual
82%	79%	77%	82%	85%	87%

**Performance Measure 1.b:**

**Average monthly unique visits by policy professionals to government's internal policy development and coordination resource website**

Prior Years' Results				2020-21	2020-21
2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Target	Actual
N/A	1,030 visits	754 visits	308 visits	1,000 visits	255 visits <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Visits to the policy development and coordination website are lower than the target because PCO moved to a more client-oriented delivery model which includes presentations and in-person meetings between PCO staff and ministry policy staff. The ministry is removing this measure from its performance measure framework.

**Performance Measure 1.c:**

**Satisfaction of ministries that the advice and support from Executive Council assists the ministries in advancing the policy and operational mandates of the government**

Prior Years' Results				2020-21	2020-21
2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Target	Actual
82%	82%	76%	72%	85%	77%

## Outcome Two: Alberta's priorities are advanced across Canada

### Key Objectives

- 2.1 **Build and maintain strong relationships with federal, provincial and territorial governments, advocating for Alberta's interests on issues of importance to Albertans**
- 2.2 **Collaborate with other ministries to define intergovernmental strategies that ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to policies as they relate to other jurisdictions within Canada**
- 2.3 **Collaborate with other ministries on timely and consistent reviews and approvals of intergovernmental agreements**
- 2.4 **Collaborate with other ministries and jurisdictions to reduce red tape and barriers to internal trade. This includes reducing Alberta's exceptions in the Canadian Free Trade Agreement, and working with other governments through the Regulatory Reconciliation and Cooperation Table to reconcile existing regulatory measures that act as a barrier to trade, and cooperate to align new regulatory measures**
- 2.5 **Promote the free flow of goods, services and labour mobility across Canada**
- 2.6 **Lead the planning of key visits by heads of state or government, ambassadors and high commissioners, and national ministers to Alberta, providing an opportunity to develop new markets while showcasing the province to those visitors**

The ministry coordinates Alberta's leadership and participation within the Canadian federation and welcomes heads of state or representatives from other governments. Key results for 2020-2021 included the following (note that the annual Western Premiers' Conference was not held due to COVID-19): Western Premiers' Conference

### Council of the Federation

The Council of the Federation is comprised of all 13 provincial and territorial governments in Canada. Its objectives are to promote interprovincial-territorial cooperation, foster meaningful relationships among governments, and demonstrate leadership on issues important to all Canadians. The 2020 Summer Meeting was held on September 24, 2020 by video-conference due to COVID-19. Premiers had productive discussions about rebalancing health care funding, improving the fiscal stabilization program, and increasing federal support to Provinces and Territories for infrastructure funding.

Premiers met virtually on a regular basis to address the ongoing response to COVID-19. Alberta attended 33 meetings in 2020-2021 in addition to the Summer Meeting.

### **First Ministers' Meeting**

A First Ministers' Meeting dedicated to discussions on the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) was held virtually on December 10, 2020. Premiers called upon the Prime Minister to provide an immediate and unconditional injection to the CHT to bring the federal share from 22% to 35%, a ratio to be maintained over time with an appropriate increase to the annual escalator. While no long-term commitment from the federal government was provided during this meeting, Premiers have continued to call for an ongoing discussion on the CHT with the Prime Minister until a new deal on the CHT is reached. Alberta attended a total of 24 First Ministers' Meetings in 2020-2021, in addition to the dedicated meeting on the CHT.

### **Multilateral and Bilateral Meetings**

Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) supported the Premier, Ministers and Deputy Ministers at 411 multilateral and bilateral meetings and conferences. These meetings advanced Alberta's interests on a range of issues, including energy infrastructure, climate change, health care, Indigenous issues, internal trade and economic growth.

### **Intergovernmental Agreements**

Under Section 11 of the Government Organization Act, the Minister of Executive Council is responsible for approving all of Alberta's intergovernmental agreements. IGR reviewed 181 agreements between the Government of Alberta and other governments that proceeded to signature.

### **Internal Trade**

IGR led collaboration with other ministries and jurisdictions to reduce red tape and barriers to internal trade. IGR's results and activities on internal trade are itemized in the Red Tape Reduction section of this report.

### **Alberta Protocol Office**

The pandemic necessitated the cancellation of the large number of official visits by ambassadors, high commissioners, and consuls general as well as protocol events scheduled or anticipated in 2020. Some of these cancellations were re-cast as virtual courtesy calls with Premier, including with the Ambassador of Japan, High Commissioner of the United Kingdom and the High Commissioner of India, allowing them to each meet and have an in-depth conversation with Premier.

Four Consular Corps Communiqués focused on providing information to the Consular Corps on relevant information related to the pandemic, restrictions within Alberta and access to vaccinations.

A proposed in person Heads of Mission joint visit became a highly successful virtual Economic Mission for heads of Mission held on December 1, 2020, January 26, 2021 and March 16, 2021. These sessions included insight on the current state of Alberta's economy, the newly developed Invest Alberta Corporation and Alberta's energy sector and commitment to environmental conservation. At each session more than 90 embassies were represented with over 125 participants. These briefings set the foundation for a rescheduled in person Heads of Mission visit when pandemic protocols allow.



The Protocol Office coordinated the installation of Alberta's 19th Lieutenant Governor and continued its booking and support service for meetings and events for elected and senior officials within government. The pandemic restrictions in place in Alberta affected the overall number of government and stakeholder meetings and events throughout 2020-2021. The Protocol Office continued to support high level meetings of Cabinet, Caucus and emergency meetings related to the pandemic and economic recovery both in person and virtually. These included

- 2,309 meetings with 25,497 attendees in the Edmonton Federal Building;
- 108 meetings with 913 attendees at Government House in Edmonton; and
- 741 meetings with 3,011 attendees at McDougall Centre in Calgary.

#### Performance Measure 2.a:

**Satisfaction of ministries with the services they receive from Executive Council to advance Alberta's interests within Canada**

Prior Years' Results				2020-21	2020-21
2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Target	Actual
88%	88%	88%	92%	90%	97%

#### Performance Measure 2.b:

**Percentage of intergovernmental agreements reviewed within the designated two-week timeframe<sup>1</sup>**

Prior Years' Results				2020-21	2020-21
2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Target	Actual
N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>1</sup> Measure 2.b data was first collected in 2018-19

#### Performance Indicator 2.c:

**Number of intergovernmental meetings (multilateral and bilateral) supported**

Prior Years' Results				2020-21
2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Actual
187	183	110	194	411 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> The increase in the number of meetings was due to the frequency of meetings dedicated to management of COVID-19.

## Performance Measure and Indicator Methodology

### **Performance Measure 1.a:**

#### **Satisfaction of ministries with the services they receive from Executive Council**

Source: Executive Council Client Survey – Last administered from January 14 to February 25, 2021

This measure shows the satisfaction level of Government of Alberta staff who receive services from the Policy Coordination Office (PCO) and/or the Cabinet Coordination Office (CCO) in Executive Council. It does not include the satisfaction of staff who receive services from Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) in Executive Council (covered in Performance Measure 2.a). Satisfaction feedback is gathered through an internal survey distributed to clients of Executive Council across government departments once a year. Based on a 4-point Likert scale, this measure combines the “satisfied” and “very satisfied” results of the questions for a total satisfaction score. Information gathered from ministries about the level of satisfaction with services helps to identify current strengths and areas where services can be improved.

### **Performance Measure 1.b:**

#### **Average monthly unique visits by policy professionals to government’s internal policy development and coordination resource website**

Source: Internal website

This measure shows the average number of monthly unique visits by Government of Alberta staff to the website for a given year. This measure is calculated by adding the monthly unique visits to the site for the period of April to March and dividing by the number of months in the reporting period. This measure is being discontinued because it no longer reflects the way the Policy Coordination Office supports ministries.

### **Performance Measure 1.c:**

#### **Satisfaction of ministries that the advice and support from Executive Council assists the ministries in advancing the policy and operational mandates of the government**

Source: Executive Council Client Survey – Last administered from January 14 to February 25, 2021

This measure shows the satisfaction level of Government of Alberta staff who receive services from PCO and/or CCO in Executive Council specific to support in advancing the policy and operational mandates of the government. It does not include the satisfaction of staff who receive services from IGR in Executive Council. Satisfaction feedback is gathered through an internal survey distributed to clients of Executive Council across government departments once a year. Based on a 4-point Likert scale, this measure combines the “satisfied” and “very satisfied” results of the questions for a total satisfaction score.

### **Performance Measure 2.a:**

#### **Satisfaction of ministries with the services they receive from Executive Council to advance Alberta’s interests within Canada**

Source: Executive Council Client Survey – Last administered from January 14 to February 25, 2021

This measure shows the satisfaction level of Government of Alberta staff who receive services from Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) in Executive Council. It does not include the satisfaction of staff who receive services from the Policy Coordination Office or the Cabinet Coordination Office in Executive Council. Feedback is gathered through an internal survey distributed to clients of Executive Council across government departments once a year. Based on a 4-point Likert scale, this measure combines the “satisfied” and “very satisfied” results of the questions for a total satisfaction score.

**Performance Measure 2.b:****Percentage of intergovernmental agreements reviewed within the designated two-week timeframe**

Source: Internal database

This measure shows the extent to which new or proposed intergovernmental agreements submitted to IGR by other Government of Alberta ministries are reviewed within the designated two-week service standard.

**Performance Indicator 2.c:****Number of intergovernmental meetings (multilateral and bilateral) supported**

Source: Internal database

# Financial Information

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## Ministry Financial Highlights

### Statement of Revenues and Expenses (Unaudited)

Year Ended March 31, 2021

	2021		2020	Change from	
	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget	2020
	<i>(in thousands)</i>				
<b>Revenues</b>					
Other revenues	\$ 8	\$ 2	\$ 43	\$ (6)	\$ (41)
Ministry total	8	2	43	(6)	(41)
Inter-ministry consolidation adjustments	-	-	-	-	-
Adjusted ministry total	8	2	43	(6)	(41)
<b>Expenses - directly incurred</b>					
Programs					
Office of the Premier / Executive Council	12,943	11,895	14,360	(1,048)	(2,465)
Intergovernmental Relations	3,701	2,630	3,934	(1,071)	(1,304)
Ministry total	16,644	14,525	18,294	(2,119)	(3,769)
Inter-ministry consolidation adjustments	-	-	-	-	-
Adjusted ministry total	16,644	14,525	18,294	(2,119)	(3,769)
<b>Annual surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (16,636)</b>	<b>\$ (14,523)</b>	<b>\$ (18,251)</b>	<b>\$ 2,113</b>	<b>\$ 3,728</b>

## Revenue and Expense Highlights

### Revenues

- Revenues for Executive Council are generated primarily through events hosted at Government House.
- Revenues have decreased from budget and prior year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Expenses

#### Comparison of budget to actual expense results

(in thousands)

2020-21	2020-21
Actual	Budget
\$14,525	\$16,644

*Expenses for the ministry were \$2,119 (13 per cent) below budget.*

- Office of the Premier/Executive Council expenses were \$1,048 lower than budget primarily due to less travel in the current year due to COVID-19, savings due to staff vacancies and reduction in discretionary spending. Additional savings resulted from the 7 per cent reduction to political staff salaries that came into effect in October 2020.
- Intergovernmental Relations expenses were \$1,071 lower than budget due primarily to staff turnover and recruitment delays in backfilling vacancies.

#### Comparison of year-over-year results (actual to actual)

(in thousands)

2020-21	2019-20
Actual	Actual
\$14,525	\$18,294

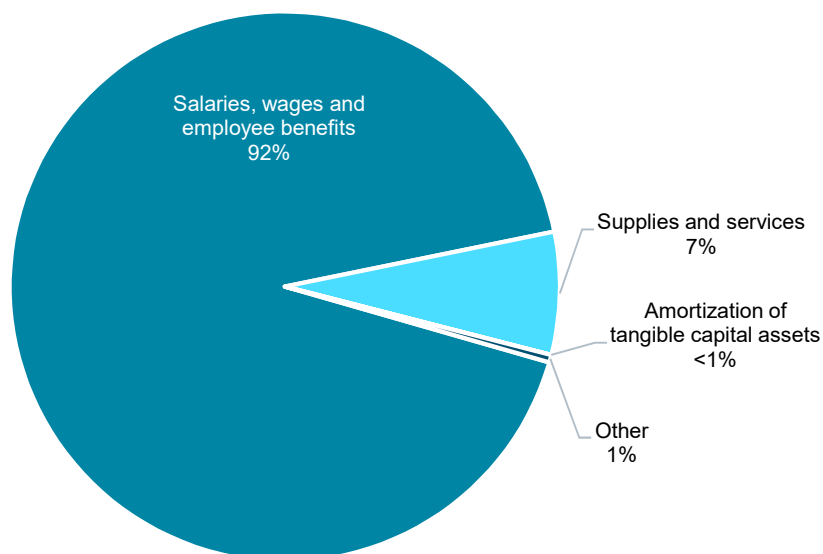
*Expenses for the ministry were \$3,769 (21 per cent) lower than in 2019-20.*

- Expenses were lower than prior year by \$3,769 primarily due to savings in current year in salaries and benefit payments due to vacant positions, reduction in travel costs in the current year due to COVID-19 and reduction in discretionary spending. Prior year expenses were higher due to holiday and severance pay, caused by the change in staff from the previous government.

## Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object (Unaudited)

(in thousands)

The following information presents the expenses of the ministry that were directly incurred by object. The total expenses in 2020-21 for Executive Council were \$14,525. This represents a decrease from budget of \$2,119 (13 per cent).



### Salaries, wages and employee benefits

(\$13,413 or 92 per cent of total expenses)

- Salaries, wages and employee benefits were lower than budget by \$1,461 (10 per cent). The decrease was predominantly due to position management, staff movement and delays in filling vacated positions helped to create overall savings of \$1,461 in the 2020-21 fiscal year. Additional savings resulted from the 7 per cent reduction to political staff salaries that came into effect in October 2020.

### Supplies and Services

(\$1,046 or 7 per cent of total expenses)

- Supplies and Services were lower than budget by \$644 (38 per cent). The reduction was a result of lower than budgeted travel and hospitality expenses due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

### Other

(\$65 or 1 per cent of total expenses)

- Overall savings of \$15 (18 per cent) occurred in other expenses due to annualized impact of the reduction in the Premier's allowance that came into effect August 9, 2019.

### Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets

(\$1 or less than 1 per cent of total expenses)

- Amortization was \$1 for the fiscal year 2020-21.

## Other Financial Information

### Lapse/Encumbrance (unaudited)

(in thousands)

Expense Vote by Program	Voted Estimate <sup>(1)</sup>	Supplementary Supply	Adjustments	Adjusted Voted Estimate	Voted Actuals <sup>(2)</sup>	(Unexpended Over Expended)
<b>Operating Expense</b>						
Office of the Premier/Executive Council						
1.1 Office of the Premier / Executive Council	\$ 12,319	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,319	\$ 11,306	\$ (1,013)
1.2 Office of the Lieutenant Governor	624	-	-	624	532	(92)
	<u>12,943</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,943</u>	<u>11,838</u>	<u>(1,105)</u>
Intergovernmental Relations						
2.1 Intergovernmental Relations	3,701	-	-	3,701	2,606	(1,095)
	<u>3,701</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,701</u>	<u>2,606</u>	<u>(1,095)</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,644</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 16,644</b>	<b>\$ 14,444</b>	<b>\$ (2,200)</b>
(Lapse)/Encumbrance						<u>\$ (2,200)</u>
<b>Capital Investment Vote by Program</b>						
Department Capital Acquisitions						
Office of the Premier/Executive Council						
1.1 Office of the Premier / Executive Council	\$ 25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25	\$ -	\$ (25)
1.2 Office of the Lieutenant Governor	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 25</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 25</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (25)</b>
(Lapse)/Encumbrance						<u>\$ (25)</u>

(1) As per "Expense Vote by Program" page 109 of 2020-21 Government Estimates.

(2) Actuals exclude non-voted amounts such as amortization and valuation adjustments.

### Payments Based on Agreements (unaudited)

(in thousands)

The ministry has entered into agreements to coordinate services that are proportionately funded by all ministries of the Government of Alberta. The ministry pays service providers for services rendered under the agreements and apportions the expenses to the ministries. Costs based under these agreements are incurred by the ministry under authority of Section 25 of the *Financial Administration Act*.

The agreements cover the Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat costs.

Amounts paid and payable based on agreements are as follows:

	2021	2020
Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat	\$ 241	\$ 259



## Annual Report Extracts and Other Statutory Reports

Section 32 of the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* requires ministries to report annually on the following parts of the Act:

- (a) the number of disclosures received by the designated officer, the number of disclosures acted on and the number of disclosures not acted on by the designated officer;
- (b) the number of investigations commenced by the designated officer as a result of disclosures;
- (c) in the case of an investigation that results in a finding of wrongdoing, a description of the wrongdoing and any recommendations made or corrective measures taken in relation to the wrongdoing or the reasons why no corrective measure was taken.

There were no disclosures of wrongdoing filed with the Public Interest Disclosure Office for the ministry between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021.

