

BUDGET 2020

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA | 2020-23

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# Ministry Business Plan Indigenous Relations

# Indigenous Relations

## Business Plan 2020-23

### Ministry Mandate and Structure

The ministry consists of the Department of Indigenous Relations, Metis Settlements Appeal Tribunal, First Nations Women’s Council on Economic Security, Métis Women’s Council on Economic Security and the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation. Operating at arm’s length from the Department of Indigenous Relations, the Metis Settlements Appeal Tribunal is a quasi-judicial body that promotes self-governance, certainty and respect within the Metis Settlements through adjudication, mediation and education. The First Nations and Métis Women’s Councils on Economic Security work to improve socio-economic outcomes for Indigenous women and their families. The councils report directly to the Minister. The department provides oversight to the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation, which is a Crown Corporation that works towards Indigenous groups’ ownership in major resource projects.



A more detailed description of Indigenous Relations and its programs and initiatives can be found at:

[alberta.ca/ministry-indigenous-relations.aspx](http://alberta.ca/ministry-indigenous-relations.aspx)

The Ministry of Indigenous Relations is committed to the ongoing review of programs and services to ensure that the best possible outcomes are being achieved for Albertans. As part of this ongoing review, the ministry is committed to reducing red tape to make life easier for hard-working Albertans and businesses. This includes reducing regulatory burden and unnecessary processes to encourage economic growth and job creation; and make Alberta one of the freest and fastest moving economies in the world. The ministry is committed to working towards achieving the one-third reduction in the number of regulatory requirements in its statutes, regulations, policies and forms by 2023.

### Ministry Outcomes

- Improved economic security and prosperity of Indigenous Peoples in Alberta
- Improved Government of Alberta policies and direction that strengthen Indigenous communities and promote Alberta’s interests
- Increased opportunities for reconciliation with Indigenous leadership and organizations

# Outcome 1

## What We Want To Achieve

### Improved economic security and prosperity of Indigenous Peoples in Alberta

Indigenous Relations is responsible for leading initiatives to promote economic security and prosperity for Indigenous Peoples in Alberta. The ministry provides certainty to regulators, industry and Indigenous communities through management of Alberta's consultation processes and upholds the honour of the Crown by developing policies and initiatives to ensure Alberta fulfils its duty to consult on land and natural resource management decisions. Indigenous Relations provides opportunities for Indigenous ownership of major resource projects, advocates for responsible resource development and provides capacity support for Indigenous communities to participate in Alberta's consultation processes.

### Key Objectives

- 1.1 Provide oversight to the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation to work towards Indigenous groups' ownership in major resource projects.
- 1.2 Administer the Litigation Fund to support Indigenous Peoples' advocacy for responsible resource development that advances Alberta's interests.
- 1.3 Lead Alberta's legal duty to consult, including advocating for a streamlined federal Aboriginal consultation process to provide clear timelines and legal certainty for project proponents and Indigenous communities.
- 1.4 Lead Alberta's response to the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.
- 1.5 Work with other government ministries, the federal government and First Nations to resolve land-related negotiations.
- 1.6 Support the economic, social and community self-reliance of Indigenous communities by funding projects through the First Nations Development Fund, the Employment Partnerships Program, and the Aboriginal Business Investment Fund.

### Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives

- The Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation, a Crown Corporation, was created to address gaps in Indigenous access to capital markets by offering a range of financial instruments to support medium to large-scale Indigenous investments in natural resource projects, including pipelines. The allocation for the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation is \$10 million in 2020-21.
- In 2020-21, \$9.8 million has been allocated to the Litigation Fund. It supports Indigenous voices in legal actions that affect responsible resource development in Alberta and increase market access. The Litigation Fund will provide financial support to groups, coalitions, privately funded societies, or alliances that include Indigenous Peoples' businesses, communities and groups.
- The First Nations Development Fund was developed by First Nations and the Government of Alberta as part of the First Nations Gaming Policy. It is supported by a percentage of revenues from government-owned slot machines operating in First Nations casinos in Alberta. The First Nations Development Fund supports First Nations to improve socio-economic outcomes in their communities. In 2020-21, a projected \$135 million in government-owned slot machine revenues will support this Fund.
- The Employment Partnerships Program provides skills training and employment supports for Indigenous Peoples in Alberta. This will fund projects totaling \$3.7 million in 2020-21.

- The Aboriginal Business Investment Fund supports feasible Indigenous community-owned economic development projects that improve social and economic outcomes for Indigenous Peoples and their communities. Funding for the Aboriginal Business Investment Fund is \$5 million in 2020-21.

## Performance Metrics

### 1.a Performance Measure: Number of Indigenous employment initiatives

In 2018-19, 30 Indigenous employment initiatives were funded.

#### TARGETS

2020-21:	25
2021-22:	25
2022-23:	25

### 1.b Performance Measure: Percentage of weeks in a fiscal year that pre-consultation assessments are issued within established timelines, which is four days upon receipt of complete application

In 2018-19, pre-consultation assessments were issued within established timelines in 78 per cent of weeks in the fiscal year.

#### TARGETS

2020-21:	95%
2021-22:	95%
2022-23:	95%

### 1.c Performance Measure: Percentage of weeks in a fiscal year that consultation adequacy assessments are issued within established timelines, which is 10 working days upon receipt of completed consultation summary documents

In 2018-19, consultation adequacy assessments were issued within established timelines in 88 per cent of weeks in the fiscal year.

#### TARGETS

2020-21:	95%
2021-22:	95%
2022-23:	95%

## Outcome 2

### What We Want To Achieve

#### **Improved Government of Alberta policies and direction that strengthen Indigenous communities and promote Alberta's interests**

Indigenous Relations provides expert advice, guidance and specialized knowledge to other Government of Alberta ministries to enhance the inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in the development, implementation and monitoring of policies, programs and initiatives. The ministry is central to facilitating cross-government collaboration, responding and reporting on major Indigenous policies and drivers. Indigenous Relations supports government engagements with Indigenous communities across a range of priorities. The ministry will undertake a review of legislation, regulation and program delivery to reduce the regulatory burden and ensure it supports and encourages economic growth.

#### **Key Objectives**

- 2.1 Support red tape reduction efforts to reduce administrative burdens, increase regulatory efficiencies and streamline land and natural resource management.
- 2.2 Collaborate with other provincial and territorial governments and other Government of Alberta ministries to respond to federal Indigenous initiatives.
- 2.3 Work with other Government of Alberta ministries to engage the federal government to provide equitable funding for key services such as health care and education, and advocate for on-reserve services for persons with disabilities, addiction and/or mental health issues.
- 2.4 Work with other Government of Alberta ministries, the federal government and industry to provide advice, support and investment pathfinding for Indigenous communities and organizations.
- 2.5 Advise other Government of Alberta ministries on Indigenous perspectives to support the development of policies, programs and initiatives, as requested.
- 2.6 Work with First Nations, the federal government, municipalities or water commissions and other Government of Alberta ministries to improve access to safe and clean drinking water.
- 2.7 Lead the disaster response and recovery in Indigenous communities in collaboration with the Alberta Emergency Management Agency.

#### **Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives**

- Policy Innovation and Intergovernmental Relations supports and collaborates with ministries across the Government of Alberta and with our federal, provincial and territorial partners to ensure Alberta's Indigenous perspective is reflected in policies, programs and initiatives. It also co-leads cross-ministry economic, legal and policy impact assessments and analysis to ensure a coordinated whole-of-government response to federal Indigenous initiatives. The funding for Policy Innovation and Intergovernmental Relations is \$826,000 in 2020-21.

## Performance Metrics

### 2.a Performance Measure: Percentage of Indigenous communities participating in an enhanced engagement process contributing to land-use planning

In 2019, 53 per cent of Indigenous communities participated in an enhanced engagement process contributing to land-use planning.

#### TARGETS

2020-21:	53%
2021-22:	53%
2022-23:	53%

## Outcome 3

### What We Want To Achieve

#### Increased opportunities for reconciliation with Indigenous leadership and organizations

Indigenous Relations provides forums for the government to build and maintain relationships with Indigenous governments, communities, groups, industry and organizations. The ministry leads and coordinates with other government ministries to implement or renew existing Protocol Agreements and discuss the development of new Protocol Agreements with First Nations organizations. The ministry also maintains and strengthens Alberta's relationships with the Metis Settlements General Council and the Métis Nation of Alberta, through separate agreements. Indigenous Relations also supports the First Nations and Métis Women's Councils on Economic Security, which provides recommendations to government on how to improve the economic security of Indigenous women, their families and communities in Alberta.

#### Key Objectives

- 3.1 Lead the government in supporting First Nations through Protocol Agreements to improve economic, social and environmental outcomes.
- 3.2 Lead the coordination of the Annual Joint Meeting of the Premier, provincial Cabinet and the First Nation Chiefs of Alberta.
- 3.3 Work with the Métis Nation of Alberta and other Government of Alberta ministries to ensure a government-wide approach to the Alberta-Métis Nation of Alberta Framework Agreement.
- 3.4 Support the First Nations and Métis Women's Councils on Economic Security to provide advice to government on ways to improve the economic security of Indigenous women and families.
- 3.5 Work with the Metis Settlements General Council to modernize the *Metis Settlements Act*.
- 3.6 Work with the Metis Settlements General Council and the federal government on the long-term economic sustainability of Metis Settlements.

#### Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives

- Protocol Agreements provide a framework for continued collaboration between the provincial government and First Nations in Alberta. The Protocol Agreements function as broad umbrella agreements, under which meaningful discussion, information sharing, and the exploration of issues of mutual concern can occur. In 2020-21, \$1 million is allocated to Protocol Agreements.

- Funding is provided to the Metis Settlements General Council through the Long-Term Governance and Funding Arrangements Agreement to support the governance, accountability and long-term sustainability of Metis Settlements, and establish a fiscal relationship with the province comparable to that of other local governments. The funding for the Long-Term Governance and Funding Arrangements Agreement will total \$5 million in 2020-21.
- Funding is provided to the Métis Nation of Alberta through the Framework Agreement to promote and facilitate the advancement of Métis through cooperative work; build upon and enhance relationships; and develop a ‘whole-of-government’ approach to Métis issues that is culturally relevant, and enhances the socio-economic well-being of Alberta Métis. The funding provided through the Framework Agreement to the Metis Nation of Alberta will total \$1.5 million in 2020-21.

## Performance Metrics

### 3.a Performance Measure: Number of Protocol Agreements renewed or developed

In 2019-20, the Protocol Agreement between the Government of Alberta and the Blackfoot Confederacy was renewed.

#### TARGETS

2020-21:	3
2021-22:	4
2022-23:	4

### 3.b Performance Indicator: Average employment income of Alberta’s Aboriginal population aged 15 years and over who worked full-year, full time

	2006	2011	2016
Male (Actual)	\$50,131	\$63,933	\$78,079
Female (Actual)	\$34,438	\$45,236	\$53,136

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

(thousands of dollars)	Comparable			2020-21 Estimate	2021-22 Target	2022-23 Target
	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Budget	2019-20 Forecast			
<b>REVENUE</b>						
Transfers from Government of Canada	3,323	100	100	<b>11,778</b>	31,796	22,623
Labour Market Development	1,920	3,100	3,100	<b>3,664</b>	4,547	4,547
Other Revenue	144	-	-	-	-	-
Consolidated Total	5,387	3,200	3,200	<b>15,442</b>	36,343	27,170
<b>EXPENSE</b>						
Ministry Support Services	4,723	4,311	4,311	<b>4,942</b>	4,901	4,854
First Nations and Métis Relations	36,099	27,146	22,146	<b>22,155</b>	22,624	22,503
Indigenous Women's Initiatives	1,134	1,411	1,411	<b>1,355</b>	1,237	1,226
First Nations Development Fund	117,147	123,000	118,000	<b>135,000</b>	137,000	139,000
Metis Settlements Appeal Tribunal	1,140	1,177	1,177	<b>1,171</b>	1,171	1,158
Consultation, Land and Policy	25,649	28,105	32,825	<b>17,758</b>	16,080	15,862
Investing in Canada Infrastructure	-	100	100	<b>11,778</b>	31,796	22,623
Land and Legal Settlement	18,076	2,170	-	<b>7,670</b>	1,154	-
Indigenous Litigation Fund	-	5,000	250	<b>9,750</b>	-	-
Climate Change Initiatives	57,120	-	-	-	-	-
Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation	-	6,000	2,000	<b>10,000</b>	6,000	6,000
Ministry Total	261,088	198,420	182,220	<b>221,579</b>	221,963	213,226
Inter-Ministry Consolidations	(77)	-	-	-	-	-
Consolidated Total	261,011	198,420	182,220	<b>221,579</b>	221,963	213,226
Net Operating Result	(255,624)	(195,220)	(179,020)	<b>(206,137)</b>	(185,620)	(186,056)
<b>CAPITAL INVESTMENT</b>						
Ministry Support Services	-	25	25	<b>25</b>	25	25
Consolidated Total	-	25	25	<b>25</b>	25	25