



Technology and Innovation

Ministry Business Plan

Technology and Innovation

Business Plan 2024-27

Ministry Fact Sheet – Mandate and Structure

The Ministry of Technology and Innovation plays a strategic role within government to drive technology and innovation policy and strategy, and to create programs and tools that help grow Alberta's economy, modernize government and provide better, faster and smarter government programs, services, and information. The ministry's focus is to:

- support the growth of Alberta's technology and the innovation sector to make Alberta a destination of choice for entrepreneurs, innovators and investors;
- develop and deploy modern, accessible, secure, and sustainable government digital and data services that allow Albertans to more easily access services, and government to operate more efficiently; and
- ensure Albertans have strong privacy protection measures, and privacy is considered in all aspects of design, operation and management of digital services and projects.

The ministry consists of the Department of Technology and Innovation, as well as its agencies: Alberta Innovates and Alberta Enterprise Corporation. Under the direction of the Minister, these agencies play a vital role in supporting the department to deliver on its outcomes, objectives and initiatives.

Alberta Innovates supports and accelerates Alberta's research, innovation and technology commercialization to drive provincial economic growth and diversity. This work extends to not only existing industries but also new industries where Alberta can excel. These include applied research, smart agriculture and food innovation, artificial intelligence, clean energy, and other emerging technologies such as quantum technologies.

Alberta Enterprise Corporation plays a vital role in accelerating growth in the technology sector by ensuring venture capital is supporting the development of early-stage technology companies in Alberta. These companies create jobs, add to the province's economic diversity, and help maintain Alberta's position as the economic engine of Canada.

The ministry increases government productivity, efficiency, and effectiveness through, modernizing business processes, managing data and information as a key resource, and adopting user-focused service design methods.

Technology and Innovation collaborates with innovative technology companies to deliver services in a faster and more secure and efficient way. Developing advances in technologies like artificial intelligence, machine learning, and robotic process automation will help the province become one of the most innovative public sector jurisdictions in the world.

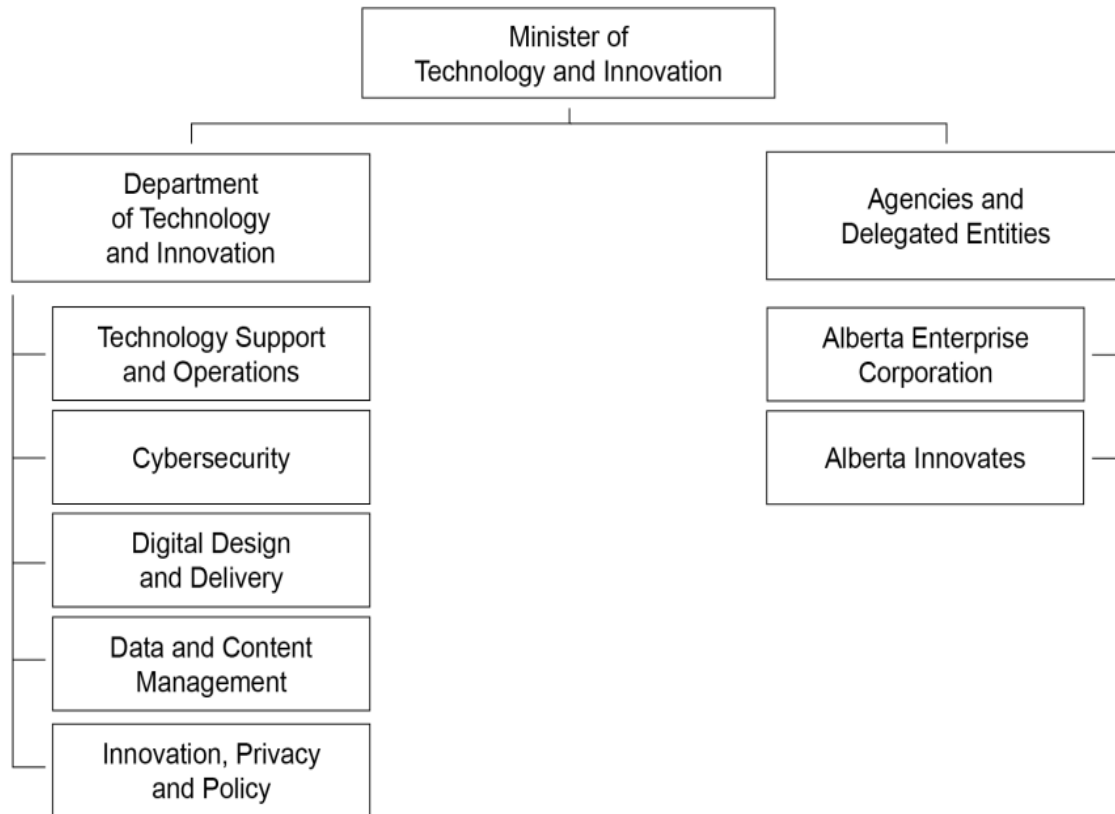
Technology and Innovation collaborates with ministries across government to deliver, or to support the delivery of, programs and services to Albertans such as helping to strengthen Alberta's health-care system with the use of technology and assisting in the design of a job-attraction strategy to raise the awareness of young Albertans (aged 16 to 24) and adults changing careers, regarding skilled trades and professions available in each economic sector.

The ministry is committed to the ongoing implementation of the Alberta Broadband Strategy to ensure every Albertan has access to reliable, high-speed internet by the end of fiscal year 2026-27. Making connectivity a foundational part of the province will encourage investment, job creation, and economic diversification. In addition, the ministry will explore options to address gaps in cell phone coverage across Alberta's major highways.

The amount of personal information managed by governments and private sector organizations, and public concerns around the collection, use and disclosure of that information is increasing. The ministry will continue to provide services and develop tools to ensure government meets its obligations under Part 2 of the *Freedom of*

Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act and the *Personal Information Protection Act*. Technology and Innovation will also enhance the management of data and information which supports more informed decision making.

As cyberattacks continue to increase in quantity, variety, and sophistication worldwide, the ministry will continue to address these threats with a focus on ensuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the government’s information and systems. The CyberAlberta Community of Interest, a committee led by Technology and Innovation and formed with the cybersecurity leads of Alberta public and private organizations with a goal of strengthening Alberta’s overall cybersecurity posture, continues to grow. This community works collaboratively to establish a common understanding of the cyber threat impacting Alberta, and the cybersecurity controls, resources, and best practices that will counter this threat.



A more detailed description of Technology and Innovation and its programs and initiatives can be found at: www.alberta.ca/technology-and-innovation

The Ministry of Technology and Innovation remains committed to regulatory approaches and program delivery that reduce unnecessary government oversight and emphasizes outcomes, in order to improve access to government services, attract investment, support innovation and competitiveness, and grow Alberta businesses.

Ministry business plans should be considered in conjunction with all budget documents - including the Fiscal Plan, Government Strategic Plan, and Estimates - which work together to provide a complete overview of government’s commitment to responsible fiscal management.

2024-27 Business Plan

Outcome 1

Alberta’s digital government services are easier to access and are better, faster, and smarter

Create improved and more accessible service experiences for Albertans by increasing availability of digital government services, accessible anywhere, anytime.

Key Objectives

- 1.1 Based on best practices of global digital leaders, continue the implementation of a digital strategy to accelerate the adoption of technology and innovation in government operations.
- 1.2 Explore and evaluate legislative options to establish roles and accountabilities for integrated direction and leadership on content management, cybersecurity, information technology, and digital services.
- 1.3 Build capability and modernize infrastructure and service delivery approaches to create a stronger, more efficient government that delivers better, faster, and smarter services that are accessible to more Albertans.
- 1.4 Modernize the way government’s content (including records, data and information) is created, collected, managed and used by introducing common and consistent ways of classification, organization, and access.

Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives

- In 2024-25, \$98.3 million is allocated as a part of the ongoing Broadband Strategy to connect every community across the province to broadband services by the end of fiscal year 2026-27 and ensure that rural, remote, and Indigenous communities are included in the province’s economic growth.
- In 2024-25, \$7.5 million is allocated to continue the implementation of the Data Strategy; the Government of Alberta’s vision of realizing the full potential of Alberta’s data for the benefit of Albertans, while respecting privacy.
- In 2024-25, \$45 million is allocated to the Digital Accelerator program to modernize government service delivery and provide better online digital services for Albertans.
- In 2024-25, \$10 million is allocated to focus on tackling data constraints and other foundational components in support of future programs such as health spending accounts.

Performance Metrics

1.a Performance Measure: Number of modern digital government services released online

As of 2023-24, 140 modern digital government services have been made available online, improving accessibility of government services to Albertans.

Targets	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
	150	160	170

1.b Performance Indicator: Total number of active basic and verified Alberta.ca accounts

In 2023-24, there were 2.5 million active basic and 1.3 million verified Alberta.ca accounts allowing Albertans to access government services and programs online.

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Basic Accounts	1.2 million	1.7 million	2.0 million
Verified Accounts	729,366	1.1 million	1.3 million

1.c Performance Measure: Progress towards province wide broadband connectivity (under development)

Outcome 2

Digital government services for Albertans are safe to use, secure and their privacy is protected

Continue to grow and maintain a secure and trusted interface to government services for Albertans and businesses.

Key Objectives

- 2.1 Modernize and optimize security and privacy controls for digital government services to detect and prevent cybersecurity and privacy incidents.
- 2.2 Develop and implement a comprehensive Privacy Management Framework and a Data Ethics Framework to guide strategic direction, subsequent policy instruments, and training, and processes to ensure ethical creation, collection, management, and use of data throughout its lifecycle.
- 2.3 Develop new cybersecurity talent across the province in collaboration with post-secondary institutions and other Alberta stakeholders and partners to support job diversification and to create new employment opportunities.
- 2.4 Leverage existing internal and external sources of threat intelligence and evaluate emerging trends to improve government’s digital assets protection and provide advice to Alberta stakeholders.

Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives

- In 2024-25, \$1.7 million is allocated to implement user-behavior-based fraud detection systems to minimize the potential for fraudulent activities on Government of Alberta digital services.
- In 2024-25, \$45 million is allocated to maintain applications with software upgrades and security patching to reduce cybersecurity vulnerabilities and mitigate technical debt.
- In 2024-25, \$1.5 million will be spent to improve the security of sensitive information, continue modernization of the security toolset, and enable improved communication and collaboration with Albertans.

Performance Metrics

2.a Performance Measure: Percentage of Government of Alberta critical business systems’ disaster recovery plans tested annually

The ratio of Critical Systems participating in the annual disaster recovery test in 2023-24 was 95 percent.

Targets	2024-25	100%	2025-26	100%	2026-27	100%

2.b Performance Indicator: Number of connection attempts blocked by security controls

In 2023-24, an average of 126.3 million attempts to connect to government network were blocked per day by cybersecurity controls.

	2022-23
Connection attempts blocked	81.2 million

Outcome 3

Alberta is the most attractive jurisdiction for innovators in Canada

Supporting a vibrant innovation system will lead to technology commercialization, talent creation, highly skilled jobs, company growth as well as economic growth and diversification.

Key Objectives:

- 3.1 Lead the government’s implementation of the Alberta Technology and Innovation Strategy to ensure that Alberta is the destination of choice for innovators, entrepreneurs and investors, resulting in more jobs, investment and companies in the technology sector supporting Alberta’s economic diversification.
- 3.2 Develop a life sciences framework to accelerate growth of the sector as well as continue work on an intellectual property commercialization initiative framework in collaboration with ministry partners.
- 3.3 Incentivize investment in research and commercialization to build the province’s innovation capacity.
- 3.4 Provide innovation and commercialization programming through Alberta Innovates.
- 3.5 Increase venture capital investments in Alberta’s technology companies through the work of the Alberta Enterprise Corporation.

Initiatives Supporting Key Objectives

- Continue the implementation of the Alberta Technology and Innovation Strategy with \$22.5 million in 2024-25 for key initiatives including support for emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and quantum science, entrepreneurship training and development of recent graduates (Master’s or PhD) in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics disciplines.
- In 2024-25, \$5 million is allocated to support Alberta companies to scale-up and help grow Alberta’s technology sector through ongoing education, network building, and investment support.
- In 2024-25, \$190 million will be allocated to Alberta Innovates to continue to drive high-tech innovation, to develop new technology that will improve industry competitiveness and to support small-medium businesses in commercializing their technology.

Performance Metrics

3.a Performance Measure: Sponsored research revenue attracted by Alberta’s comprehensive academic and research universities (\$ millions)

In 2022-23, Alberta’s comprehensive academic and research universities attracted \$1.19 billion in sponsored research revenue.

Targets	2024-25	\$1,227	2025-26	\$1,264	2026-27	\$1,302
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3.b Performance Measure: Cumulative value of Alberta Enterprise Corporation attracted venture capital funds (and their syndicate partners) invested in Alberta businesses (\$ millions)

In 2022-23, the cumulative value of funds invested in Alberta businesses was \$1.13 billion which was higher than the target of \$856 million.

Targets	2024-25	\$1,277	2025-26	\$1,340	2026-27	\$1,403
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STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

(thousands of dollars)

	Comparable		2024-25 Estimate	2025-26 Target	2026-27 Target
	2023-24 Budget	2023-24 Forecast			
REVENUE					
Internal Government Transfers	88,790	88,790	90,030	90,030	90,030
Transfers from Government of Canada	4,200	6,289	4,600	4,600	2,000
Investment Income	500	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,000
Other Revenue	85,376	106,476	85,376	85,376	85,376
Ministry Total	178,866	203,055	181,506	181,006	178,406
Inter-Ministry Consolidation Adjustment	(129,346)	(150,446)	(130,586)	(130,586)	(130,586)
Consolidated Total	49,520	52,609	50,920	50,420	47,820
EXPENSE					
Ministry Support Services	4,448	4,448	5,141	5,141	5,141
Innovation, Privacy and Policy	169,005	175,739	151,695	151,695	125,195
Technology Support and Operations	603,375	463,524	500,287	497,129	615,184
Digital Design and Delivery	118,113	108,278	128,530	139,720	142,220
Cybersecurity	12,748	12,748	15,439	15,439	15,439
Alberta Innovates Corporation	253,206	250,964	254,731	258,333	269,426
Alberta Enterprise Corporation	3,837	3,837	3,837	3,837	3,837
Data and Content Management	-	-	31,752	31,752	31,752
Ministry Total	1,164,732	1,019,538	1,091,412	1,103,046	1,208,194
Inter-Ministry Consolidation Adjustment	(152,077)	(171,377)	(153,627)	(153,877)	(128,317)
Consolidated Total	1,012,655	848,161	937,785	949,169	1,079,877
Net Operating Result	(963,135)	(795,552)	(886,865)	(898,749)	(1,032,057)
CAPITAL INVESTMENT					
Technology Support and Operations	28,105	29,769	30,869	25,855	24,355
Digital Design and Delivery	84,280	62,019	84,780	86,780	74,280
Alberta Innovates Corporation	20,107	29,883	18,936	15,444	15,500
Ministry Total	132,492	121,671	134,585	128,079	114,135
Consolidated Total	132,492	121,671	134,585	128,079	114,135