



Premier of Alberta

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

July 17, 2023

The Honourable Tanya Fir
Minister of Arts, Culture, and Status of Women

Dear Minister:

I want to thank you for your service to this government, and congratulate you on your new role as Minister of Arts, Culture, and Status of Women.

Our Cabinet is made up of talented, diverse, and experienced leaders and I am proud to share with you our responsibility to fulfill the mandate given to us by Albertans. We all love this beautiful province and want the best for our families and our future. Over the next four years, we will take clear and decisive action to grow and diversify our economy while ensuring our health, education and other core social programs are world class.

I have full confidence that our team will build on our solid foundation of stability, informed decision-making, and good governance to improve the lives of Albertans and help our province realize its potential.

Under your leadership as Minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women, 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 our platform commitments to support Albertans, including providing enhanced funding and support for Alberta's zoos, science centres, museums, and theatres.

In addition, I expect you to deliver on further initiatives overseen by your ministry, including:

- Supporting the participation of women in Alberta's economy, including supporting women pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.
- Developing a strategy to invest in Alberta's cultural and heritage sites.
- Ensuring the Alberta Foundation for the Arts prioritizes Alberta artists, art, and cultural materials.
- Working with First Nations throughout the province that may wish to repatriate items identified as belonging to them, I request that you direct museums to accommodate organized visits from First Nations Elders for the purpose of identifying artifacts that belong to them through a collaborative process. I also ask that you enable First Nations to exercise more autonomy over the care, display, possession, and cherishing of their sacred artifacts.
- Promoting and celebrating Alberta's unique cultural identity and heritage.



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- Developing a 10-year strategic plan to end gender-based violence and support survivors. This would include negotiating a funding agreement with the federal government to support programs that address gender-based violence and support survivors.
- As lead, working with the Minister of Jobs, Economy, and Trade to continue growing Alberta's cultural industries during the next decade, including focusing on Alberta-made productions and supporting Alberta producers and companies in developing Alberta content.
- Continuing to support and engage with members of Alberta's Francophone and LGBTQ+ communities.
- As lead, working with Infrastructure to develop a building naming policy that celebrates and exemplifies Alberta's culture.

I direct you to work closely with the public service, including your Deputy Minister and other senior officials in your ministry, to support the priorities outlined in this letter with the highest standard of professionalism, integrity, and creativity.

I also expect you to regularly and proactively reach out to all ministry-related stakeholders in order to take feedback and identify potential solutions on issues of importance to them, including finding ways our government can reduce burdensome and unnecessary red tape and barriers that are hurting their members' ability to grow the economy and improve quality of life for the Albertans they serve.

Together with you and our Caucus and Cabinet colleagues, I look forward to serving all Albertans to ensure our province remains one of the best places on earth to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danielle Smith

Premier of Alberta