

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

July 26, 2023

The Honourable Muhammad Yaseen Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism

## Dear Minister:

I want to thank you for your service to this government and congratulate you on your new role as Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism.

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.

People from all over Canada and the world are flocking to Alberta to enjoy our increasingly powerful Alberta Advantage. Welcoming and integrating new Albertans into our communities has built our province into what it is today. The vast majority of new immigrants to our province are entrepreneurial, skilled, hard-working and eager to integrate into Canadian and Alberta society. Alberta is calling, and the best and brightest want to come here to help build the best place in the world to live, work and raise a family. We need to do a better job of opening opportunities for them to do so.

Under your leadership as Minister of 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 several initiatives and platform commitments to support and attract new Albertans, including:

- Working with the Minister of Advanced Education on increasing and accelerating auto-credentialing for workers from national and international jurisdictions with similar standards.
- As the lead, working with the Minister of Health to streamline immigration processes to support health care staffing challenges, particularly in rural areas.



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- Working to maximize the nomination allocations made available annually to the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program by the federal government with opportunities for all sectors of the provincial economy to retain talented newcomers through the program's worker and entrepreneur streams.
- As the lead, working with the Minister of Tourism and Sport to establish a dedicated tourism and hospitality immigration stream in Alberta.
- Ensuring enhanced funding for more effective engagement and promotion of Alberta's ethno-cultural communities.
- Ensuring newcomers have access to English as a Second Language training and settlement services.
- Working with federal agencies, continue to support settlement services for Ukrainian evacuees.
- Developing and passing anti-racism legislation to build on Alberta's culture of inclusion, respect, and celebration of our diverse cultural communities.
- Working with the Premier's Council on Multiculturalism and Premier's office, establish working councils to offer advice on addressing systemic barriers and challenges in Alberta's diverse ethnocultural communities.
- Reviewing models from other jurisdictions to develop and implement legislation that permits Alberta's cultural community members the flexibility to more easily observe major holidays without placing undue hardship or expense on Alberta businesses.
- Increasing access and enhancing funding opportunities for mentoring, labour attachment, and other related labour market integration programs for immigrants and newcomers.
- Assisting each ministry to execute on their mandate to design a ministry-specific
  job attraction strategy that includes raising awareness for new Albertans
  changing careers, along with their children of the skilled trades and professions
  available in each economic sector including pathways for education,
  apprenticeship, and training

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.



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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,

Danielle Smith

Premier of Alberta