July 10, 2023

The Honourable Nate Glubish
Minister of Technology and Innovation

Dear Minister:

I want to thank you for your service to this government and for your continued service as Minister of Technology and Innovation.

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 Technology and Innovation, 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 commitment to attract more venture capital to the province by investing an additional $100 million into the Alberta Enterprise Corporation.

In addition, I expect you to undertake the following initiatives to grow our technology sector and make the province and our government a leader in innovation:

- Leading government implementation of the Alberta Technology and Innovation Strategy to ensure Alberta is the destination of choice for innovators, entrepreneurs and investors, and to encourage the commercialization of new technologies in Alberta, with the goal of creating more technology jobs, attracting more technology investment and diversifying Alberta's economy.
- Working with the Minister of Health, who will be the lead, to perform an independent review of the effectiveness of the IT systems used throughout Alberta's health system and to provide recommendations on how to strengthen Alberta's health-care system with the use of technology.
- Exploring the feasibility of creating Alberta health spending accounts to improve health outcomes for Albertans, with the support from the ministries of Health and Treasury Board and Finance.
- Continuing to develop and implement a government-wide digital strategy that respects and places the security and privacy needs of Albertans at its core while accelerating the adoption of technology and innovation to deliver better, faster and smarter services,
provides them with more control over their personal information and data, saves them money, makes government more efficient, and makes Alberta the most modern and innovative jurisdiction in Canada.

• Exploring options to address poor cellphone coverage on major highways across Alberta.

• Continuing to implement the Alberta Broadband Strategy and working with the Federal Government to each invest $390 million to ensure all Albertans have access to reliable, high-speed internet.

• Exploring options to ensure Alberta is competitive in attracting investment in the video game/interactive digital media industry.

• Working with the Minister of Advanced Education, who is the lead, to ensure appropriate governance of software engineers that will not hamper the efforts of tech companies to attract these needed-professionals from competing jurisdictions.

• Working with the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade, assist in designing a ministry-specific job-attraction strategy to raise the awareness of young Albertans (aged 16 to 24), and adults changing careers, 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.

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 on of the best places on earth to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely,

Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta