

The word "Alberta" is written in a white, cursive script font, positioned in the upper left corner of a decorative banner. The banner features a background of overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in various shades of green and grey, creating a sense of movement and depth. A solid green horizontal bar runs along the bottom edge of the banner.

Alberta

2016–19 Government of Alberta

STRATEGIC PLAN

The Alberta
JOBS PLAN **BUDGET**
2016

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The Government of Alberta (GoA) Strategic Plan identifies key priorities for government over the next three-year period. The GoA Strategic Plan, in addition to ministry three-year business plans, is updated annually as part of the government's budget process.

The 2016-19 GoA Strategic Plan includes a Message from the Premier and five strategic priorities which are the key areas of focus for the government over the next three-year period. Each strategic priority outlines initiatives and strategies that are currently underway and initiatives and strategies going forward. The initiatives and strategies going forward are drawn directly from ministry 2016-19 business plans.

Each strategic priority also outlines key performance measures and performance indicators that assist in assessing the government's progress in achieving the outcomes associated with each strategic priority and the outcomes further identified and explained in ministry business plans. Almost all performance measures and indicators identified in the GoA Strategic Plan are also identified in ministry business plans.

A NEW WAY FORWARD



From an early collection of farms, small towns, and Indigenous communities, Alberta has developed into a modern, dynamic province, with stunning landscapes, world-class universities, vibrant communities, innovative companies, and an inventive, entrepreneurial and resilient people. Our strength is matched only by our compassion, by an unyielding commitment to community. We have an abiding faith in ourselves and our future, understanding that the old must sometimes give way to the new, that change is the foundation of innovation and progress. Alberta is a place I am proud to call home, one that is special not by chance, but because succeeding generations of Albertans overcame obstacles and embraced opportunities.

Today, as in the past, Albertans face a number of challenges whose solutions will shape the province's future direction. With an increasingly large, diverse and ageing population, Alberta has growing and evolving needs for education, health care, housing, infrastructure, transportation, justice, protective services, recreation and social services. These are important concerns, and your government has developed a range of policies and programs that will promote inclusion and fairness, that protect the environment and which strengthen education and health care.

At the same time, your government is especially mindful of today's economic conditions.

Job losses, reduced working hours and declining incomes brought on by the collapse in oil prices is causing worry and strain for many Alberta families and businesses. We understand that Albertans are hurting, and that government must act by making a simple choice: to cut back on public services and make a bad situation worse; or to take action to promote economic recovery and diversification.

Your government is choosing the latter. Through implementation of the Alberta Jobs Plan, your government will support families and communities, invest in infrastructure, diversify our energy markets and support Alberta business. Taken together, the Plan will accomplish two fundamental objectives that Albertans have said are most important: first, to control spending and ensure that tax dollars are spent wisely; and second, to create jobs and foster economic diversification.

While recognizing the central role that private enterprise plays in generating economic growth, we believe government can support the private sector by stimulating demand during economic downturns, and by establishing a policy and regulatory environment that encourages investment, market diversification and value-added production.

Thus, in addition to advancing competitive tax regimes and stable and transparent regulatory environments, this government will put the province on the path to economic recovery by making targeted investments in education, health care, social services and public infrastructure that promote equality of opportunity, improve quality of life, strengthen business competitiveness and create good paying jobs for Albertans.

MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

We will work with industry to diversify the economy while promoting Alberta's energy interests by supporting sector expansion, making investments in value-added processing and refining, accessing new markets and creating a stable, open and welcoming investment environment that promotes development of the province's energy resources in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner.

We will leverage the Canadian Energy Strategy to build on provincial and territorial commitments to allow the movement of energy products throughout the country, creating jobs and positioning Alberta as a global supplier of secure, environmentally sustainable energy.

We will implement a Climate Leadership Plan which will promote a cleaner, healthier environment, strengthen Alberta's social license for its energy products, facilitate research and investment opportunities in low-carbon technologies and improve energy efficiency, reducing a key expenditure for businesses and consumers.

We will ensure transparent and accountable government while managing public finances in a prudent and effective manner, advancing the work of the Legislature's All-Party Committee on Ethics and Accountability, which will identify opportunities to strengthen democracy in Alberta, as well as introducing the *Reform of Agencies, Boards and Commissions Act* which will strengthen public oversight and stewardship of these important bodies.

Above all else, we will act in the best interests of all Albertans, making certain that our decisions advance the broader public good. Though the collapse in oil prices has shocked our economy, it has not shaken our spirit. We share common ambitions for a future in which we all participate as full citizens and equal partners. These are the values that will get us through these challenging economic times and lay the foundation for a more resilient, more diversified and more prosperous economy.

I entered political life with the firm belief that Alberta can do better, that a new direction is possible. Through cooperation and hard work, I know that Alberta will do better – for all Albertans.

Together, we will chart a new way forward as we focus on the following strategic priorities:

- ◆ A Diversified Economy that Creates Jobs and Opportunities for All Albertans
- ◆ Demonstrated Leadership on Climate Change
- ◆ Education and Training to Enable Albertans to Succeed in the Global Economy
- ◆ Safe and Inclusive Communities that Embrace Fairness and Equality of Opportunity
- ◆ Sustainable and Accessible Health Services and Social Supports

original signed by

Rachel Notley, Premier

A DIVERSIFIED ECONOMY THAT CREATES JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL ALBERTANS

The drop in global commodity prices has had a significant impact on Alberta's economy and the province's labour market. Layoffs, particularly in the oil and gas sector, have affected many workers and their families across the province. This current economic downturn affirms the need to diversify Alberta's economy, reduce the province's dependence on raw bitumen exports and create more jobs with more upgrading and processing in Alberta rather than in other countries.

Alberta's approach to economic development, trade and innovation must adapt to changing oil prices, including charting a course forward which is less vulnerable to commodity price fluctuations. Government will continue to focus its efforts on stabilizing and diversifying Alberta's economy and supporting economic growth by advocating for increased trade and foreign investment and establishing a globally recognized and competitive research and innovation system.

Government is committed to fostering an environment where private sector innovators and job creators can succeed. This involves government and Alberta businesses working together to ensure policies, programs and services are in place that support businesses in commercializing new products or processes, attracting investment capital and capitalizing on export opportunities. An economic growth and diversification plan for Alberta will lay the foundation for building knowledge-intensive industries in Alberta and providing opportunities for skilled workers.

Positioning workers for success through programs and training opportunities that help people participate in new and emerging sectors of the economy is also a key priority for government. Albertans have asked their government to support good local jobs and government is committed to working with businesses to pursue commercial opportunities that create jobs for Albertans.

◆ Initiatives and strategies currently underway

Since May 2015, government has undertaken the following initiatives to diversify Alberta's economy and create jobs and opportunities for all Albertans:

- ◆ An expanded infrastructure program, totaling \$34 billion in spending over the next five years.
- ◆ Promoting home-grown businesses and entrepreneurship by expanding capital available to Alberta Treasury Branches to support lending to small and medium-sized businesses.
- ◆ Increasing the amount of money available to Alberta's venture capital community through the Alberta Enterprise Corporation.
- ◆ Targeting a portion of the Alberta Investment Management Corporation's investment portfolio on latter-stage growth capital.
- ◆ Modernizing royalties to promote innovation, efficiency, transparency and accountability.

◆ Initiatives and strategies going forward

- ◆ Partner with federal-provincial and territorial governments to develop a multi-lateral framework agreement that supports growth in Canada's agriculture and food sector.
- ◆ Invest up to \$500 million in the Alberta Petrochemicals Diversification Program to encourage companies to invest in the development of new Alberta petrochemical facilities.
- ◆ Improve participation in Alberta's workforce through targeted initiatives to support and assist all Albertans, and in particular, under-represented groups, in being better prepared to fully participate in Alberta's economy.
- ◆ Continue to simplify access to financial supports by integrating income programs.

A DIVERSIFIED ECONOMY THAT CREATES JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL ALBERTANS

Measures

	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Value-Added Agricultural Products Number of value-added agriculture products developed and successfully introduced into market with assistance from Agriculture and Forestry	220	2014-15	222	226	228
Alberta Enterprise Corporation (AEC) Funds Number of Alberta businesses in which AEC funds have been invested	24	2014-15	30	30	30
Value of AEC Funds Invested Value of AEC (and their syndicate partners) funds investment in Alberta businesses (\$ millions)	\$232.9	2014-15	\$325.0	\$325.0	\$325.0
Tourism Expenditures Total tourism expenditures in Alberta (\$ billions)	8.0	2013	8.2	8.7	9.2
Labour Force Participation – Interprovincial Rank Interprovincial rank of Alberta's labour force participation rate (#1 is the highest)	#1	2015	#1	#1	#1

Note: Labour force participation rate represents the percentage of Albertans aged 15 to 64 who are either employed or actively seeking employment.

Indicators

	Actual				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Labour Force Participation Rate Rate of:					
• All Albertans	73.6%	73.6%	73.1%	72.7%	73.0%
• Aboriginal Albertans living off-reserve	67.5%	71.0%	71.9%	72.2%	70.7%
• Alberta's immigrant population	70.2%	70.1%	68.4%	69.9%	70.4%
• Alberta youth (age 15–24)	69.9%	68.2%	67.9%	67.4%	68.6%
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Growth Percentage of manufacturing, business and commercial services GDP growth in Alberta	7.0	3.2	2.9	3.1	
Licensing University Technology Start-ups licensing university technology per million population	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	3.5%	4.6%	5.3%	4.6%	5.2%
Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program Percentage of Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program Nominees who report that they are still residing and working in Alberta one year after obtaining permanent residency	2010	2011	2012	2013	
	87.8%	82.4%	88.5%	88.5%	

DEMONSTRATED LEADERSHIP ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Addressing climate change is a top priority for government, and for three reasons:

First, phasing out coal-fired electricity in favor of cleaner sources of energy will improve air quality, mitigating numerous health conditions associated with air pollution, including heart disease, diabetes, and respiratory illness, thereby improving Albertans' quality of life while reducing provincial health care spending.

Second, reducing greenhouse gas emissions through economy-wide carbon pricing will drive innovation that leads to employment opportunities in new and growing markets.

Third, transitioning to a lower-carbon economy – in part by producing energy products in an environmentally and socially responsible manner – will generate the social license needed to secure market access for a range of goods and services, including pipeline access to international markets.

Recognizing the advantages in addressing climate change, government convened an expert panel to inform development of a comprehensive climate strategy. The panel's report was made available in November 2015, and features four recommendations which will enhance energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, promote a cleaner and healthier environment, strengthen Alberta's social license for its energy products, encourage technological innovation, and promote economic diversification and growth in an increasingly lower-carbon economy.

Key elements of the panel's work will be implemented through the *Climate Leadership Plan Implementation Act*, and include:

- ◆ A phase-out of emissions from coal power generation, reducing pollution and the harm it causes to the health of the very young and very old.
- ◆ A carbon levy to create a market-based incentive to build a more efficient and less emission-intensive economy.
- ◆ An investment plan that will fully recycle revenues from Alberta's carbon levy into renewable energy, innovation, green infrastructure and other measures that will reduce the carbon intensity of our economy.
- ◆ An adjustment program to assist coal-dependent communities, Indigenous communities, low and middle-income families, and small business to adjust to and succeed in a diversified, lower carbon economy.

◆ Initiatives and strategies currently underway

Since May 2015, government has undertaken the following initiatives to demonstrate leadership on climate change:

- ◆ A newly established Climate Change Office is coordinating implementation of the Climate Leadership Plan.
- ◆ The province recently signed the UK-Alberta Low Carbon Innovation and Growth Framework. The framework will facilitate partnerships between Alberta and UK stakeholders that will drive economic development, diversification, innovation and job creation through enhanced collaboration on low carbon technology, emission reduction and water usage, smart cities, and energy regulation and environmental policy.

◆ Initiatives and strategies going forward

- ◆ An Oil Sands Advisory Group will examine issues surrounding implementation of the province's new 100 megatonne per year emissions cap on oil sands greenhouse gas emissions. The group will also address land-use issues in the region, and offer advice on how revenues from the carbon levy can be invested to reduce per-barrel emissions from the sector.
- ◆ A new agency called Energy Efficiency Alberta will be established to help families, businesses and communities reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

DEMONSTRATED LEADERSHIP ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Measures

	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Municipal Solid Waste to Landfills Kilograms of municipal solid waste per capita disposed of in public and private landfills	669	2014	657	633	620

Note: In 2014 data was corrected from 666 to 669 kilograms per capita.

	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Regulatory Compliance (Alberta Energy Regulator) Percentage of inspections that are in compliance	99%	2014	97%	98%	98%

Note: The percentage for 2014 is based on the data available since July 2014, when the AER began transitioning to a new compliance assurance framework.

	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Municipal Client Satisfaction Percentage of municipal clients satisfied with overall quality of service regarding grant programs that support environmental stewardship (biennial survey)	93%	2014-15	95%	n/a	95%

	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Energy Consumption Energy consumption in mega joules per square metre in government-owned and operated facilities	1,609	2014-15	1,595	1,590	1,585

	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Practices Average percentage of improved environmentally sustainable agriculture practices adopted by producers (biennial survey)	56%	2013-14	n/a	60%	n/a

Indicators

	Actual			
	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions Measured in million tonnes of CO ₂ equivalents (greenhouse gas) emitted from major emission source categories	243	247	258	267

Note: Measured in million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent. Emissions are measured on a calendar year and there is a reporting lag period.

	Actual				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Provincial Air Quality Index Percentage of good air quality days in urban areas based on Alberta's ambient air quality objectives for fine particulate matter, ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide	93%	95%	97%	96%	97%

Note: The Air Quality Index reflects the overall averaged annual air quality of the province based on provincial ambient air quality objectives of five major pollutants: fine particulate matter, ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide. The new Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards, focus on a three year average of the highest occurring concentration levels of two major pollutants: fine particulate matter and ozone, and the annual average of fine particulate matter for the province's six air zones, complements the Air Quality Index.

	Actual			
	2011	2012	2013	2014
Alternative and Renewable Generation Capacity in Alberta (megawatts)				
Gas Cogeneration	3,651	4,051	4,160	4,159
Wind	895	1,113	1,113	1,459
Hydro	900	900	900	900
Biomass	359	414	417	438
Total Megawatts	5,805	6,478	6,590	6,956

Note: Capacity represents the maximum electric output a generating unit can produce without exceeding the design limits and is measured in megawatts. This is not the same as the amount of electricity generated over a specific period of time.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO ENABLE ALBERTANS TO SUCCEED IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Government is committed to investing in an accessible high quality education system that provides the right skills and key competencies to help Albertans succeed in the economy and experience life-long success. Government recognizes the need for more teachers and further investment in schools to address the needs of the growing school-age population.

Additionally, higher education is vital to the province's future prosperity and ensuring that it remains affordable and accessible for families is a top priority for government as it continues to invest in Albertans. Alberta's adult learning system will ensure Albertans are able to develop the skills and competencies necessary for a workforce that continues to evolve in a world where rapidly changing technologies, innovation, entrepreneurialism and competition are becoming the norm.

Effective learning also requires a safe and respectful environment, where learners are able to actively participate and learn. Government is committed to supporting school boards as they develop policies to support welcoming, caring, respectful and safe schools. Collectively with school boards and communities, government will lead change in establishing learning environments where all Albertans can flourish. This includes ensuring that First Nations students have the instructional supports they need while receiving an education that reflects their rich culture and perspectives.

◆ Initiatives and strategies currently underway

Since May 2015, government has undertaken the following education and training initiatives to enable Albertans to succeed in the global economy:

- ◆ Implementation of the Summer Temporary Employment Program to support students in obtaining employment by helping them gain work experience and build transferable skills.
- ◆ Restoration of funding to the post-secondary education system and implementation of a two-year tuition freeze to provide stability and increase the accessibility and affordability of the adult learning system.
- ◆ Fully fund enrolment growth and other areas in the Kindergarten to Grade 12 education system including specific supports for vulnerable students including First Nations, Métis and Inuit learners.

◆ Initiatives and strategies going forward

- ◆ Introduce an optional Career and Technology Foundations Program of Studies for grade five to nine students in addition to delivering existing career programs and pathway opportunities at Alberta's high schools.
- ◆ The ministries of Advanced Education, Human Services and Labour continue to work collectively in the implementation of a major realignment of how provincial employment and training programs are delivered. The outcome of this work will be a more consistent, efficient and user-friendly experience for Albertans who access these programs.
- ◆ Modernize the delivery of student aid and apprenticeship programs and support pan-Canadian initiatives to facilitate mobility of Alberta's apprentices and improve alignment of apprenticeship training programs.
- ◆ Support the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding of First Nations Education in Alberta to eliminate the achievement gap between First Nations students and other students in Alberta.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO ENABLE ALBERTANS TO SUCCEED IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Measures

High School Completion High school completion rate of students within five years of entering grade 10	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	82.1%	2013-14	82.7%	83.0%	83.3%
Post-secondary Transition Percentage of students entering post-secondary programs (including apprenticeship) within six years of entering grade 10	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	59.8%	2013-14	60.2%	60.2%	60.2%
Literacy Percentages of students who achieved standards on Language Arts diploma examinations	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
	A E	A E	A E	A E	A E
	87.6%	2014-15	88.2%	88.4%	88.4%
	11.4%		12.0%	12.1%	12.3%
Note: A E: Acceptable Excellence – the acceptable standard results include the standard of excellence results. Performance measure targets are considered met if the result is not significantly different from the target value using statistical tests.					
Post-secondary Education Percentage of Albertans age 18-34 participating in post-secondary education	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	17%	2014	18%	19%	19%
Sponsored Research Revenue Sponsored research revenue attracted by Alberta's comprehensive academic and research institutions (\$ millions)	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	811	2013-14	811	812	812

Indicators

International Literacy (15 years old) Performance of Alberta students in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) of Reading Literacy	Actual					
	2000	2003	2006	2009	2012	
	• Alberta	550	543	535	533	525
	• Canada	534	528	527	524	523
• OECD Average	496	497	490	496	498	
Note: For comparability, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) average is based on the results of the countries included in the PISA 2000 assessment.						
Total Research and Development Total research and development investment as a percent of GDP	Actual					
	2009	2010	2011	2012		
	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%		

SAFE AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES THAT EMBRACE FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Albertans want to build a society that gives a hand up to people who need it, cares for the vulnerable and opens doors for Alberta's children and grandchildren. Children deserve to have a voice, have a good quality of life, be protected from harm and have opportunities to reach their full potential. Improving quality of life for Indigenous children, youth and families is of great importance. Government will work to ensure that all children, families and communities in Alberta have the necessary resources to be successful and that children are encouraged to learn about their culture and to learn through play.

All Albertans deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. The government supports equality for everyone in the province; this work will not be done until all Albertans enjoy the same protections and freedoms.

The Alberta government is improving access to programs and services that help prevent and end the cycles of violence, abuse and bullying. Those affected by family violence need somewhere safe to rebuild their lives after leaving an abusive relationship. The government is committed to supporting survivors by providing a broader array of services, such as counselling and help accessing financial assistance as they journey toward independence.

Government is committed to building collaborative relationships with federal, provincial and territorial counterparts in justice and public safety to work on matters that are important to Albertans. Important issues include ending violence against Indigenous women and girls, countering radicalization and promoting cyber security. Addressing the harm done by offenders to victims of crime is also important. Victims and the community deserve to have a voice and programs such as restorative justice provide an innovative and meaningful way to ensure they are included in the justice process. Additionally, government recognizes that policing plays a critical role in crime prevention and intervention and is committed to enhancing accountability and public confidence in this critical service.

Keeping highways safe for all Albertans is also a vital part of public safety. This means ensuring motorists understand and follow the laws in place to prevent collisions and save lives.

◆ Initiatives and strategies currently underway

Since May 2015, government has undertaken the following initiatives to support inclusive and safe communities:

- ◆ The *Alberta Human Rights Amendment Act* was passed empowering the trans and gender variant community as they confront stereotypes and discrimination; and, guidelines were developed to address the needs of individuals with diverse sexual orientations, gender expressions and gender identities.
- ◆ \$1 million in funding to support gender-based policy research in five areas, including: women's economic security and prosperity; violence against women and girls; women's leadership and democratic participation; women's health and well-being; and women's legal and human rights.
- ◆ Family and Community Safety Program funding was increased by \$10 million to invest in community programs that support families and prevent violence.

◆ Initiatives and strategies going forward

- ◆ Work with Indigenous communities, leaders and partners to strengthen relationships and develop collaborative strategies that support Indigenous people.
- ◆ Implement the Alberta Child Benefit to support all lower-income families and enhance the Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit in support of 380,000 children.
- ◆ Enhance community preparedness by developing online tools to assist in emergency planning.

SAFE AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES THAT EMBRACE FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Measures

Family Enhancement and Child Protection Services	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Percentage of children and youth with a new intervention file who did not have a file closure in the previous 12 months	83%	2014-15	87%	87%	87%
Note: Includes children and youth that are in care and not in care. This measure shows the number of children and youth who have received child intervention services that do not return for additional services.					

Family Violence and Bullying	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Percentage of Albertans who have information to better help in situations of family violence and bullying (biennial survey):					
• Family Violence	69%	2013-14	n/a	73%	n/a
• Bullying	70%	2013-14	n/a	73%	n/a

Maintenance Enforcement Payment Rate	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Maintenance Enforcement Program's regularity of payment rate on cases enrolled, by regular monthly payments	72%	2014-15	70%	70%	72%
Note: The current economic climate is expected to negatively impact the regularity of payment rate.					

Indigenous Children in Care	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
The percentage of Indigenous children in foster care / kinship care who are placed with Indigenous families	39%	2014-15	50%	50%	53%

Indicators

Volunteerism	Actual			
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Percentage of adult Albertans who volunteered with organizations in their community	65.3%	70.4%	68.4%	60.9%

Awareness of Elder Abuse	Actual	
	2013-14	2014-15
Post-training, the percentage of community service providers who reported increased awareness of how to identify, prevent and report elder abuse	94%	85%

Crime Severity Index	Actual				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Violent Crime Severity Index:					
• Alberta	98	95	86	85	85
• Canada	89	86	82	74	70
Non-violent Crime Severity Index:					
• Alberta	98	85	85	85	86
• Canada	80	74	73	67	65

Women's Labor Force Participation	Actual				
	2009	2011	2013	2014	2015
• In Alberta	68.0%	67.1%	67.0%	66.2%	66.6%
• Aboriginal women	63.0%	59.4%	66.0%	66.7%	65.6%

SUSTAINABLE AND ACCESSIBLE HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND SOCIAL SUPPORTS

Access to a stable and effective health care system is a priority for every family in Alberta. Government is committed to reducing the rate of growth in spending while ensuring that all Albertans have access to high quality health care in a timely manner. This is achieved, in part, by ensuring an integrated service delivery approach that is person-centred, easier to navigate and that helps all Albertans receive the programs and services they need, when they need them.

Government is also committed to strengthening services and supports for those who experience mental illness and addictions and for those who have complex needs. Through the work of the Alberta Mental Health Review Committee, government will implement a series of recommendations that respond to the needs of a wide range of stakeholders. Government recognizes the importance of addressing the lack of awareness and understanding of mental health as an important step in reducing the stigma around mental illness. In doing so, government and stakeholders can collaborate more effectively to better deliver integrated services that meet the needs of those suffering from mental illness and addictions.

Government is also committed to ensuring that long-term care and dementia care spaces are available to communities with the greatest need. Part of this effort includes working with social workers, medical professionals, seniors groups and police to address elder abuse. Alberta seniors need to feel safe in their own homes and in their communities.

◆ **Initiatives and strategies currently underway**

Since May 2015, government has undertaken the following initiatives to achieve sustainable and accessible health care services and social supports:

- ◆ Restored funding to enable Alberta Human Services to improve child intervention services, women's shelters and housing for families affected by violence.
- ◆ Restored funding to the health budget, preventing the loss of 1,500 front-line health care workers.
- ◆ Introduction of a Child Benefit Plan to provide \$340 million for up to 235,000 children in low-income families.
- ◆ Commencement of formal negotiations with the Alberta Medical Association to address the rate of growth of the physician services budget and improve the effective provision of health care to Albertans.

◆ **Initiatives and strategies going forward**

- ◆ Introduction of legislation to end predatory lending.
- ◆ Implementation of the recommendations of the Alberta Mental Health Review Committee, including expanded access to addiction treatment through the opening of new social detoxification beds for children and youth, medical detox beds for adults and development of an opiate addiction action plan.

SUSTAINABLE AND ACCESSIBLE HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND SOCIAL SUPPORTS

Measures

Unplanned Readmissions of Mental Health Patients Percentage of patients readmitted within 30 days of leaving hospital	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	8.8%	2014-15	8.8%	8.8%	8.7%

Access to Primary Care through Primary Care Networks Percentage of Albertans enrolled in a Primary Care Network	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	77%	2014-15	79%	79%	80%

Access to Continuing Care Spaces Percentage of clients placed in continuing care within 30 days of being assessed	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	60%	2014-15	62%	65%	68%

Influenza Immunization Percentage of Albertans who have received the recommended annual influenza immunization <ul style="list-style-type: none">Seniors aged 65 and overChildren aged 6 to 23 monthsResidents of long-term care facilities	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	61%	2014-15	80%	80%	80%
	34%		80%	80%	80%
	90%		95%	95%	95%

Note: These are the national targets. This is the level required to prevent disease outbreaks and to protect vulnerable populations (e.g., those who are not eligible for certain vaccines such as infants, pregnant women or immune compromised individuals).

Family Support for Children and Disabilities Program Percentage of families who indicate the services provided had a positive impact on their family (biennial survey)	Last Actual		Target		
	Results	Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	90%	2014-15	91%	n/a	91%

Indicators

Health Expenditures Per capita provincial government health expenditures (actual dollars)	Actual			
	2012	2013	2014	2015
	4,588	4,619	4,862	4,862

Note: Forecasted results for 2014 and 2015.

Child Intervention Services as a Percentage of the Child Population <ul style="list-style-type: none">PercentageNumber of children receiving Child Intervention ServicesChildren in Alberta	Actual				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2.2%	2.2%	2.0%	1.7%	1.6%
	18,186	18,438	17,264	15,577	14,578
	840,411	855,969	874,784	893,686	913,390

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