



**BUILDING
TOMORROW**

A PLAN to secure Alberta's future

YEAR ONE
**PROGRESS
REPORT**
to Albertans

DECEMBER 11, 2007

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Message from Premier Ed Stelmach

On December 15, 2006, I issued mandate letters to each member of my Cabinet team, outlining what I wanted them to achieve to support our collective goals for a better Alberta. On June 27, 2007, I appointed three associate ministers to Cabinet and also issued mandate letters to them.

The tasks within the mandate letters became our action plan for 2007 and served as a contract with you, the people of Alberta. I am pleased to report that all the tasks are either completed or well underway as summarized in this *Year One Progress Report to Albertans*.

Some of these tasks are marked 'complete', in that policy direction is in place and we're moving on to implementation. The remaining tasks are marked 'in progress' – the groundwork has been completed and work is well underway toward meeting the mandate.

In just one year, we have made tremendous progress on our priorities to govern with integrity and transparency, manage growth pressures, improve Albertans' quality of life, build a stronger Alberta, and provide safe and secure communities.

Albertans from all walks of life provided input that was essential to completing many of these tasks. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated. A few highlights of what we achieved together include the updated royalty framework, significant investments in affordable housing, secure municipal funding arrangements, the crime reduction strategy and the health workforce strategy.

Reflecting back on our year of progress, I believe we have achieved a great deal. Now we can move forward with an even sharper focus on meeting Albertans' needs. Our focus for the new year will be on the following three areas:

- **building communities** — investing in infrastructure and communities to ensure that our high quality of life is sustained and enhanced;
- **greening our growth** — taking bold action to combine development with a strong environmental ethic; and
- **creating opportunity** — capitalizing on new opportunities to grow our economy, build strong communities and secure long-term prosperity for all Albertans.

I look forward to the upcoming year and working on these priorities to meet Albertans' evolving needs and aspirations.

[Original signed]

ED STELMACH

MANDATE

STATUS

Build on initiatives to increase access, affordability and quality in post-secondary education.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Completed consultations with institutions and students to develop a roles and mandates framework for the post-secondary system. The framework will foster greater collaboration across the system, strengthen program quality, improve access through a shared Alberta Access Plan aligned with provincial goals, and meet regional and community learning and economic needs – with a focus on better meeting the needs of students, taxpayers and society. Implementation plans are underway.

Lead the establishment of a Value-Added and Technology Commercialization Task Force to develop a strategy for technology commercialization and economic diversification with a focus on:

- exploring ways to encourage growth and productivity in value-added sectors;
- encouraging investment and research in knowledge-based industries;
- exploring ways to encourage the growth of venture capital in Alberta;
- developing centres of excellence in commercialization; and,
- working with industry to develop new markets for value-added products.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Established task force, which delivered recommendations to enhance Alberta’s ability to create, attract, grow and sustain value-added industry sectors and globally competitive and innovative companies. In addition to other studies, this will help develop Alberta’s policy to support the next generation economy.

Increase support for community education and literacy programs.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Consulted with over 100 community learning organizations and eight provincial ministries to help develop a Vibrant Learning Communities Framework for community education and literacy, and a detailed Adult Literacy Framework and action plan to better align these learning systems with the post-secondary roles and mandates framework.

MANDATE

STATUS

Lead the establishment of a new Institute for Agriculture, Forestry and the Environment to identify market-based solutions to increase environmentally sound practices in the renewable resource sectors.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Completed policy development. The focus of the Institute will be on scanning best practices and encouraging adoption of practical industry measures and technology.

Support industry competitiveness and growth by:

- developing a new WTO Transition Assistance Program for Agriculture, and
- granting better access to capital for farmers through the Alberta Treasury Branches and Agriculture Financial Services Corporation.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Monitoring the current state of World Trade Organization negotiations in Geneva.

Through Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC), authorized about 20 per cent more farm loans and 18 per cent more dollar value, excluding disaster loans, as compared to last year.

Through AFSC, introduced a new Value-Added and Agribusiness loan program with loans totaling \$5.5 million, as of October 15.

MANDATE

STATUS

Ensure parents have access to quality, affordable child care options.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Initiatives are ongoing.

Increased child care subsidies, increased child care staff wages, provided funding for new child care spaces.

Introduced *Child Care Licensing Act* to help ensure the health and safety of children in quality licensed child care programs.

Focus on improving outcomes for children in care or in need of specialized services, including Aboriginal children and children with disabilities.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Initiatives are ongoing.

Partnered with Alberta First Nations to gain federal support for implementing the Alberta Response Model on reserves.

Amended the *Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution Act*.

Developed Family Support for Children with Disabilities standards.

Completed the Youth Emergency Shelters review and piloted the casework practice model, a new way of delivering services that focuses on assessment, collaboration and providing the right services to children, youth and families at the right time.

Continue to implement the Prevention of Family Violence and Bullying initiative.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Initiatives are ongoing.

Implementing recommendations of the Women's Shelter Review.

Increased support to shelters and sexual assault centres.

Implemented a safe visitation program.

Awarded Community Incentive Fund grants and funding for collaborative family violence initiatives.

Completed Phase 2 of Bullying Prevention Strategy.

MANDATE**STATUS**

Explore options to provide children with access to early learning opportunities.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Exploration of options has been completed.

Beginning September 2007, government extended English as a Second Language (ESL) and Francisation programs to children as young as 3½ years old.

\$7 million was allocated to help school jurisdictions build language skills for children through Early Childhood Services (ECS) programming including Kindergarten and HeadStart.

Continuing to work collaboratively with other government departments and educational stakeholders to look at other innovative strategies to make sure our children are healthy and keen to be lifelong learners.

Develop a strategy to improve high school completion rates.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Conducted a provincial consultation to find new ways of keeping students in school.

Developed a toolkit to help communities help students complete high school.

Provided \$4.5 million to enhance and improve existing facilities and equipment used for Career and Technology Studies (CTS). CTS will help students gain job skills and explore future careers while they attend school.

Launched five new outreach programs in September, for a total of 127 programs to help students in a setting tailored to their individual needs.

Established a partnership between government and business to offer the CompTIA A+ computer international technology certificate to students in Alberta high schools and post-secondary institutions.

Released two Promising Practices reports on heightening academic achievement amongst First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students.

Held a conference to explore new insights and responsive strategies that support FNMI student success and foster high school completion.

Struck an information sharing agreement between Alberta Education and Alberta Children's Services to further support children in care who may be at risk of not completing high school.

Education, **HONOURABLE RON LIEPERT** *(continued)*

MANDATE	STATUS
Initiate negotiations on options for a reasonable long-term solution to the teachers' unfunded pension liability issue.	<p>✓ COMPLETE</p> <p>Initiated negotiations. Reached an agreement in principle with the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) to address the \$2.1-billion teachers' pre-1992 unfunded pension liability. ATA Provincial Executive Council and its Emergent Representative Assembly have ratified the agreement. The 62 school boards and ATA locals need to sign new five-year collective bargaining agreements by January 31, 2008.</p>

MANDATE

STATUS

Consolidate official statistics and other key government data to support the efficient and strategic management and dissemination of information for policy and decision making, through an Office of Statistics and Information.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Developed a business model for the Office of Statistics and Information. The office will be implemented over the next three years.

Launched the datalink prototype, an information services gateway that will allow data to be shared effectively between ministries and with stakeholders and the public.

Reconstructed physical office space to meet Statistics Canada's data security requirements.

Improve and strengthen Alberta's immigration approach by developing a 'Made-in-Alberta' immigration strategy that includes:

- improvements to the Provincial Nominee and Temporary Foreign Worker programs;
- a new immigration agreement with the federal government;
- increased settlement services; and,
- improved recruitment and attraction initiatives.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Signed a new Alberta-Canada immigration agreement.

Established the Temporary Foreign Worker Advisory Office and increased the duration of permits.

Expanded and made the Provincial Nominee Program permanent.

Committed \$740,000 to assist the Immigrant Access Fund.

Launched an immigration web portal.

Continue to implement a comprehensive labour strategy that includes:

- an Aboriginal and Métis skills, training, and labour force development initiative; and,
- sector strategies to address needs in areas such as tourism and hospitality, construction, manufacturing, health care, energy, and mining. (Note: retail has already been released.)

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Released development strategies for the tourism and hospitality, manufacturing, energy and construction sectors.

Released a Health Workforce Action Plan in October 2007.

Working on a First Nations, Métis and Inuit Workforce Action Plan.

Continue to make progress on Alberta's Rural Development Strategy by considering opportunities in bio-energy, tourism and community development.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Released Alberta's Rural Development Strategy Report on Progress on November 21 to highlight government's achievements to date on a wide variety of rural initiatives.

The Rural Alberta's Development Fund has approved \$18.4 million in funding for 21 community-based projects. The projects range from encouraging medical internships in rural Alberta, to providing barrier-free transportation and encouraging wildlife lands stewardship.

MANDATE

STATUS

Develop a comprehensive energy strategy for the development of Alberta’s renewable and non-renewable energy sources and for conservation of energy use.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Completed energy strategy framework. Developing a draft White Paper that will outline a clear, long-term road map for sustainable energy development and energy use that will enable Alberta policy makers to continue to make informed decisions.

Develop recommendations to ensure the continuing effective operation of Alberta’s electricity system to meet Alberta’s growing needs.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Passed the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act* to separate the Energy and Utilities Board into the Energy Resources Conservation Board and the Alberta Utilities Commission. The legislation will ensure that directly affected landowners and interested third parties have the opportunity to participate in the regulatory process, and that timely decisions are made in response to the best interests of all Albertans.

Amended the Transmission Regulation to clarify how new transmission will be built and provide assurance that Albertans will receive fair and increased compensation for transmission infrastructure on their land.

Removed the 900-megawatt threshold on wind power, which will encourage the development of more renewable wind energy in the province.

Develop a strategy to increase value-added opportunities from Alberta’s energy resources.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Developing the strategy, which will identify the optimum mix of products and the specific tools and options available to achieve Alberta’s value-added goals.

Introduced an incentive program for value-added production and use of ethane.

Led a joint Federal/Provincial task force examining the feasibility of a CO2 sequestration network, which is nearing the completion of its work.

Included ‘bitumen-in-kind’ principle in the New Royalty Framework to encourage more of our resources to be upgraded in Alberta. A bitumen valuation methodology will also be developed as part of the framework’s implementation.

Announced details of the new Renewable Energy Producer Credit and provided grants recognizing bio-fuels as an opportunity to maximize agricultural and biomass products in Alberta. Also provided grants to promote a sustainable and stable bio-energy industry.

MANDATE

STATUS

Update Alberta's Climate Change Plan.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

First jurisdiction in North America to legislate greenhouse gas reductions on large industrial facilities effective July 1.

Completed extensive consultations with Albertans in 10 communities, stakeholders and experts from March to June. Updating plan with feedback, current science and economic research.

Renew and resource the Water for Life Strategy.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Mandated Alberta Water Council to renew Alberta's Water for Life Strategy, North America's most comprehensive water management plan.

Completed consultations with Albertans and stakeholders, including an online survey, August 24. Alberta Water Council recommendations and *What We Heard*, a summary of the consultation, is expected to be finalized in January 2008.

Develop a new environment and resource management regulatory framework to enable sustainable development by addressing the cumulative effects of development on the environment.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Completed cumulative effects management framework policy paper and announced pilot project in the Industrial Heartland on October 2. Completed public, stakeholder and aboriginal consultations on the policy paper November 30.

Held four public information sessions in the Industrial Heartland, established airshed working group and watershed working group. Report regarding the use of the North Saskatchewan River expected in December.

Formalizing cumulative effects management in the oilsands region, east central and southern Alberta.

MANDATE

STATUS

Establish a Governance Review to provide recommendations on how the Government of Alberta can improve the transparency, accountability and governance of its agencies, boards and commissions.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Released task force report and government's response on November 1. Implementation is underway including improving recruitment processes and clarifying roles and responsibilities.

Meet with Opposition leaders to discuss the process for democratic reforms and new working relationships.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Implemented all-party legislative committees.

Implemented other democratic reforms in Spring Session such as guaranteed fall sittings with guaranteed start and end dates, constituency weeks which allow MLAs more contact with constituents, and a reformed Committee of Supply for greater public accountability.

Develop a Capital Region Integrated Growth Management Plan.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

On target to be completed by January 2008. Recommendations will include required components of a plan and a governance model to support its implementation.

MANDATE

STATUS

Consult with Albertans on and table Budget 2007.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Released Budget 2007 on April 19.

Conducted pre-budget consultation for Budget 2008 with Albertans through an online survey, with questionnaires mailed upon request. Distributed input received to Treasury Board and Cabinet Policy Committees to assist in determining the direction for Budget 2008.

Conduct a public review to ensure Albertans are receiving a fair share from energy development through royalties, taxes and fees.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Conducted public review and delivered final report on September 18 for government consideration. Government introduced the New Royalty Review Framework to give stability and predictability to the oil and gas industry, ensure Alberta will remain an internationally competitive and stable place to do business and ensure a fair return to Albertans.

Lead a Financial Investment and Planning Commission to explore options for long-term investment strategies for Alberta's non-renewable resource revenues.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Appointed Financial Investment Planning and Advisory Commission, which is expected to provide recommendations to government in December.

MANDATE

STATUS

Implement a comprehensive workforce strategy to secure and retain the health professionals needed over the next 10 years.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Developed and implementing a Health Workforce Action Plan. Early actions included investments in safe lifts to prevent back injuries and expanded capacity to assess qualifications of nurses trained abroad so they can be recruited to work in Alberta.

Work is underway to reduce mobility barriers and change how services are delivered to more fully utilize the scope and expertise of our health care workforce.

Implement health care productivity reforms and long-term sustainability initiatives in consultation with health care professionals and regional health authorities.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Introduced mechanisms to improve the accountability, efficiency and governance of the health system. Released new long-term care health service and accommodation standards. Developed a continuing care standards compliance framework for reporting and enforcement. Released Provincial Review of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) report. Developing province-wide IPC standards for implementation in new year.

Improved system capacity and access to services through new hospital construction and redevelopment projects.

Enhanced Clinical Telehealth Innovation Program: redesigning care paths for hip and knee surgery, cardiac and cancer care.

Expanded Primary Care Networks.

Provided multi-year funding to the Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute to develop and advance best practices.

Expanded use of the electronic health record.

Implement a new pharmaceutical strategy to improve the management of government drug expenditures to ensure that Albertans have access to sustainable government drug coverage.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Substantial work has been completed on a pharmaceutical strategy and work continues on developing detailed policy options.

MANDATE	STATUS
<p>Strengthen public health services that promote wellness and injury and disease prevention and provide preparedness for public health emergencies.</p>	<p>✓ COMPLETE</p> <p>Implemented initiatives to encourage Albertans, Alberta communities, and industry to take greater responsibility for personal and community wellness. For example: a tobacco reduction strategy, pandemic influenza plan, a 10-year immunization plan, the Create a Movement campaign promoting healthy weights and active living in youth, expanded newborn metabolic and pre-school developmental screening; launched new colorectal cancer screening program, and passed <i>Mental Health Amendment Act</i> to allow for mandatory community treatment orders.</p> <p>A province-wide smoking ban in all public places and workplaces has been approved, with a planned effective date of January 1, 2008.</p>

MANDATE

STATUS

Expand the capacity of Alberta's highway system to address growth pressures.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Undertook eight key policy initiatives, which are nearing completion. Achievements include significant enhancements to the Edmonton and Calgary ring roads, highway twinning underway on sections of the North-South Trade Corridor, Highways 63 and 21. Two major interchanges opened to traffic.

Develop a new provincial aviation strategy to explore options to ensure the viability of small airports in Alberta.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Completed consultations with stakeholders. Completed a framework for the strategy that will be submitted to government for consideration by the end of December.

Implement a provincial Traffic Safety Plan to reduce the number of collisions on Alberta roads.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Developed a three-year action plan that includes an Office of Traffic Safety.

Initiated early elements of the plan including the *Traffic Safety Amendment Act 2007*, passed in the fall sitting to complement the initiatives outlined in the Traffic Safety Plan.

Initiated the Traffic Safety Plan Community Mobilization Strategy across Alberta.

MANDATE

STATUS

Continue to implement the Aboriginal Self-sufficiency Strategy to improve Aboriginal participation in the economy and economic development in Aboriginal communities.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Working with First Nations on expanded Economic Participation Policy Framework. The First Nations Economic Partnerships initiative is under review, and an agreement in principle has been reached on the Bigstone treaty land entitlement claim.

Finalize the Aboriginal consultation strategy.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Made significant progress in working with First Nations and industry to implement and monitor consultation guidelines on land management and resource development.

First Nations are reviewing draft consultation guidelines specific to the oilsands region and a trilateral implementation mechanism is under development, establishing formal, semi-annual meetings of Chiefs and Ministers.

Finalize the long-term governance and funding arrangements with the Métis Settlements.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

A business case from the Métis Settlements General Council is under review.

Work with other departments to ensure a coordinated Alberta approach to intergovernmental relations.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Coordinated Alberta's 2007 participation in the Alberta-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting, the Western Premiers' Conference and the Council of the Federation summer meeting.

Develop an intergovernmental strategy to address Alberta's priorities with other provinces and the federal government.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Continuing to work on development of an intergovernmental strategy.

Enhance Alberta's international presence and trade relations, in particular with the United States.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Conducted relationship-building activities through the Montana-Alberta Bilateral Advisory Council, Pacific North West Economic Region annual summit, and Alberta's Washington office.

MANDATE

STATUS

Establish a lobbyist and contractor registry to improve accountability and transparency in the conduct of government business.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Establishing registry – legislation passed in the Fall 2007 session of the Alberta Legislature. Work underway in conjunction with the Office of the Ethics Commissioner to set up the registry, including establishing a Registrar’s Office. Expecting to have it operational by early 2009.

Respond to the recommendations from the Oil Sands Ministerial Strategy Committee on impacts of development in oilsands communities.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Announced \$396 million over three years to address critical recommendations.

Established Oil Sands Sustainable Development Secretariat to coordinate and improve planning, communications and service delivery to the oilsands region.

Establish a Policing and Safe Community Task Force to make recommendations on reducing crime and improving public confidence in the justice system.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Planning implementation of many recommendations in the Crime Reduction and Safe Communities task force report that focus on enforcement, prevention and treatment, which will help make communities safer for all Albertans.

Partner with the federal government to support their efforts to implement minimum sentencing, reduce conditional sentencing and establish appropriate penalties for serious crimes.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Communicated Alberta’s position to the federal government through Federal and Provincial Territorial meetings and to the public through news releases and media interviews.

New federal criminal law legislation, much of which has been advocated by Alberta, has been introduced in Parliament.

Changes to conditional sentencing rules on which Alberta led the charge, came into effect December 1.

MANDATE

STATUS

Establish a Housing Task Force to develop a plan to increase the availability of affordable housing.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Established the Affordable Housing Task Force and responded to its recommendations, which are now being implemented.

Provided \$285 million to address immediate housing pressures.

Consult with municipal governments on regional planning issues and a dispute resolution mechanism.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Responded to Minister's Council on Municipal Sustainability recommendations, including those related to regional planning on July 16.

The ministry will consult with municipalities on a dispute resolution mechanism by the end of spring 2008.

Bring forward a response to recommendations from the Ministerial Council on Sustainability on roles and responsibilities and new long-term, sustainable funding arrangements with municipalities.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Established a secure long-term funding arrangement that will invest \$11.3 billion in municipalities over the next 10 years.

Accelerate the implementation of the Emergency Preparedness initiative.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Appointed a Managing Director to the new Alberta Emergency Management Agency in May and the Agency was formalized through legislation in June. In addition to the ongoing roles and responsibilities of the Emergency Management Alberta and the Fire Commissioners' Office, the Agency is also tasked with coordinating the province's system for managing routine and catastrophic emergencies. An interim Government of Alberta Emergency Coordination Centre has been established and an interim plan to coordinate all Government of Alberta emergency response resources in emergencies has been implemented.

MANDATE

STATUS

Develop options for policies, programs or approaches to address affordable housing issues including supporting the implementation of the government’s response to the Housing Task Force Report.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Developing an Alberta Secretariat for Action on Homelessness.

Consulting with the Cross-Ministry Committee as it addresses the various recommendations from the Affordable Housing Task Force Report.

Participated in community consultations, bringing several issues forward to the Cross-Ministry Committee for consideration including land use and housing matters and clarification around the subject of inclusionary zoning.

Initiated a joint study between the Province, City of Calgary and the University of Calgary Students’ Union to address student affordable housing issues.

Identify issues related to rapid urban growth and coordinate development of new policies and approaches to address them.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Work is ongoing to identify and establish innovative approaches to emerging urban development issues.

Initiated a process to develop options for the sale or transfer of a parcel of inner-city land in Calgary. The process will involve community consultations.

MANDATE

STATUS

Establish a Demographic Planning Commission to provide analysis and proposals to prepare for the needs of an aging population and ensure facilities and supports are available to seniors.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Expecting to establish commission in early 2008, which will submit a report to government in the summer of 2008.

Bring forward an updated plan to expand long-term care and improve standards of care.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Introduced new standards in adult supportive living facilities. Developing a plan for continuing care for spring 2008.

Develop and introduce measures to benchmark improvements in quality of life for all Albertans.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Working on initial research and consultation to determine how to benchmark quality-of-life improvements.

Improve supports and services to persons with disabilities through better coordination and integration of programs.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Initiatives are ongoing.

Increased monthly benefits for Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped clients by \$50 to \$1050, streamlined client reporting, and introduced employment initiatives.

Piloting initiatives to enhance outcomes and sustainability of the Persons with Developmental Disabilities program.

Developing a framework to streamline how health benefits are provided for ministry clients.

MANDATE

STATUS

Ensure effective coordination of federal, provincial and municipal enforcement and public security agencies through the implementation of initiatives such as the integrated information and communications technology strategy.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Completed final design report on a \$100-million information technology initiative that will provide a shared database for all police services in Alberta and a central hub for sharing information with federal partners.

Hosted a law enforcement roundtable on greater integration and collaboration of law enforcement in Alberta.

Proceeding with design of a province-wide networked radio system for first-responders and government departments. Construction planned for 2008.

Renew the contract with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to ensure ongoing provision of policing services for the citizens of Alberta.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Ongoing preparations to better position the province once the Federal Government initiates contract negotiations.

MANDATE

STATUS

Complete the Land-use Framework to address conflicts over competing use of land and provide a vision for an integrated sustainable land use approach that balances economic, environmental and social concerns.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Gathered comprehensive input from Albertans, Aboriginal Peoples, and a broad spectrum of stakeholders on the development of a Land-use Framework for the province. Draft framework to completed in December.

Develop a Biodiversity Strategy to conserve biological diversity and enable sound management on Alberta's natural resources on a sustainable basis.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Launched a world-class biodiversity monitoring program as the foundational element of Alberta's strategy to maintain healthy ecosystems for future generations. Action plans are under development for this ongoing initiative.

Implement an aggressive strategy to protect the health of Alberta's forests.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Implemented an aggressive strategy to protect Alberta's forests from mountain pine beetle infestations through increased detection surveys and control measures, and revised forest management plans. These plans address the current infestations and will help to restore healthy pine forests.

MANDATE

STATUS

Lead the establishment of an all party MLA committee to develop recommendations on a Community Spirit Program for Charitable Giving to support increases for private charitable donations through tax credits and establish a Community Spirit Fund to provide matching grants for eligible philanthropic donations to Alberta based registered charities.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Established MLA Committee on Community Spirit and its report is being reviewed by government.

Develop a plan for provincial parks and recreation areas to accommodate population growth and improve quality of life opportunities.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Engaged stakeholders to develop the Parks Plan, which will be finalized in the next year.

Lead the establishment of a culture policy encompassing Alberta's cultural, historical and natural heritage.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Conducted consultations with affected stakeholders to develop the Culture Policy, which is being reviewed by government.

MANDATE

STATUS

Promote and develop Alberta Tourism.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Obtained tourism industry feedback and support for a new governance model for Travel Alberta. Recommendations are being reviewed by government.

Participated in the 2007 Tourism Investment Symposium that matched investors with tourism development opportunities.

Represented Alberta at the China International Travel Mart, one of the largest and most influential tourism industry events in Asia.

Coordinate Alberta's participation in the 2008 and 2010 Olympics.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Working with the Vancouver Organizing Committee to finalize an accord for Alberta's participation in the 2010 Olympics.

MANDATE

STATUS

Establish a Treasury Board Secretariat to provide a coordinated and disciplined approach to the management of government expenditures, human resources and capital planning.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Established Treasury Board Secretariat, which is providing advice on the management of government expenditures, human resources and capital planning.

Review options for identifying and managing more capital projects through the use of alternative financing models.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Announced four capital projects that will use public-private partnerships (P3s) – Anthony Henday North East, North East Stoney Trail, Anthony Henday North West, and the Alberta Schools Alternative Procurement Project. Will continue to evaluate additional opportunities under alternative financing models.

Develop a plan for innovative approaches to improve service delivery to Albertans through a variety of mechanisms (in person, by phone or through the internet.)

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Developing a new Citizen’s Service Initiative and a new Registry Agent Accountability Framework.

Continue the public service renewal initiatives including efforts to address the impacts of an aging workforce and strengthen the public service’s support to elected officials in developing policy.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Launched numerous initiatives across government to develop and engage Government of Alberta staff, and to attract new talent to the Alberta Public Service.

Accelerate the implementation of a corporate approach to information management and information technology.

✓ **COMPLETE**

Made significant progress on the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Service Coordination Initiative – developed Government of Alberta Information and Services Strategy action plan and implementing the ICT Service Coordination Initiative. Implementing a single Government of Alberta ICT domain, including all government ministries, by 2009.

Work is ongoing. Currently developing an information management and technology plan, which will provide a corporate approach to technology across government.

MANDATE

STATUS

Develop a long term capital plan that will:

- address needs related to growth;
- ensure maintenance of existing infrastructure;
- explore options to fund capital project; and,
- manage inflation in infrastructure costs.

✓ **IN PROGRESS**

Nearing completion. Provided components and rough drafts of the long-term capital plan to government for consideration.