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## Keeping Albertans and communities safe

Alberta's government is focused on positioning Alberta as a role model for safe and secure communities across the country and North America. Budget 2023 secures the safety and wellbeing of all Albertans, including vulnerable populations who struggle with mental health and addiction and may become involved with the police and justice systems.

### Investments in Public Safety

- \$1.2 billion annually in operating expense for Public Safety and Emergency Services, an increase from the forecast of \$1.1 billion
- \$709 million for public security in 2023–24, an increase of \$84 million from the 2022–23 forecast, to fund contract policing and the sheriff's branch, help municipalities, and fight organized and serious crime
- An additional \$34 million in 2023–24, \$37 million in 2024–25 and \$40 million in 2025–26 for correctional services, which includes support for the continuing creation and expansion of therapeutic living units at corrections facilities. These units help inmates access mental health and addiction treatment and recovery programs while in jail or prison.
- \$20 million over three years will better protect and assist survivors and victims of human trafficking, increase their access to the specialized services they need to start their healing journey and reduce the risk of re-exploitation
- This money will support the establishment of an Alberta Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons and a Centre of Excellence for research and data collection
- \$3 million over three years to expand the Rural Sexual Assault Support project, so that sexual assault survivors can receive essential health care services in both rural and urban communities from health-care providers specifically trained to administer sexual assault evidence kit exams



## Safety in Indigenous communities

- \$65 million over three years to strengthen First Nations policing, improve community and officer safety and enhance policing services for Lakeshore Regional Police Service, Blood Tribe Police Service and Tsuut'ina Nation Police Service
- This will also help fund a new First Nation police service for Siksika Nation
- Up to 35 new policing positions will be added across the province
- \$2 million for continued policing on the eight Metis Settlements in Alberta
- \$5 million in 2023–24 in new funding will support an Indigenous-led response to the ongoing crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two spirit people

## Justice investments

- \$15 million over two years to operate the newly created Chief Provincial Firearms Office. This office will help preserve Alberta's firearms heritage and protect public safety through timely investigations of licence eligibility for Alberta firearms owners, including rigorous background checks and continuous eligibility assessments.
- This includes more than \$7 million so the firearms office can hire 40 new positions to reduce wait times on applications and transfers of legal firearms
- The office will also provide outreach and education to communities, focus on special investigations and target firearms trafficking and 3D printing of firearms
- \$83 million over two years towards the new Red Deer Justice Centre
- \$5 million in 2023–24 for planning for the Edmonton Law Courts and the Sherwood Park Courthouse facilities