



## **THE VISION**

“A vibrant and prosperous province where Albertans enjoy a superior quality of life and are confident about the future for themselves and their children.”

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# Government of Alberta Business Plan 2001-04

## The Future...

## Meeting Priorities, Sharing Benefits

### **A PLAN FOR A NEW AGE**

Alberta stands on the doorstep of a new age. An age where economic globalization and technology are linking our province and its people to a worldwide neighbourhood. An age where freedom from debt – once only a tiny pinpoint of light far in the distance – is now firmly in view. An age where knowledge and innovation are rapidly increasing the pace of change.

Alberta is well prepared for the new age. The province's economy leads the nation by nearly all measures, and growth is predicted to remain strong well into the future. This robust economy sustains a high quality of life and creates wealth to pay for things that are important to Albertans: an excellent education system, a solid infrastructure, a world-class health care system, and support for children, seniors, and others who need it.

### **OUR VALUES**

The province's success has been based on the strong values Albertans hold. The job of government is to ensure that those values continue to be reflected in its programs and services.

Albertans value independence – making our own choices and finding our own paths, free of discrimination and unnecessary impediments.

Albertans value innovation – trying new ideas and finding new ways of doing things.

Albertans value people – ensuring that all members of society, especially the most vulnerable, can participate in the life of the province.

Albertans value fiscal responsibility – living within our means, and making wise choices that reflect our needs and priorities.

These values are reflected in the Government Business Plan 2001-04.

### **NEW OPPORTUNITIES**

Alberta could soon become the only province in Canada to be debt-free. Burning our mortgage creates a new fiscal environment. The global environment is changing too. Technology is opening doors that weren't there before.

These changes create opportunities to address some of the challenges Albertans now face. They offer possible answers to questions like: what can be done to enhance health care? Is our education system the best it can be? Can our taxes be lower? How can we take better care of our children and provide more support to seniors and families? Can we improve the province's infrastructure?

Addressing these challenges is the priority of the government's 2001-04 business plan. The government's efforts will focus on:

- improving health care;
- striving for excellence in education;
- continuing the tradition of wise fiscal management and low taxes;
- caring for children and supporting seniors and families; and
- investing in infrastructure.

## **IMPROVING HEALTH CARE**

Alberta will strive to protect and improve the publicly funded health care system by continuing to implement the Six-Point Plan for Health. Actions to be undertaken in the course of this business plan include:

- ensuring Albertans get the care they need through accessible, high quality health services;
- preparing for future health needs through ongoing innovation, integration, and coordination in health service delivery;
- providing more services to people where they need them – in their communities and in their homes; and
- focusing on long-term health gains through increased emphasis on programs to prevent illness and injury, and protect and promote good health, as well as healthy active lifestyles.

## **STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION**

A well-educated population drives economic growth, innovation and increases in standards of living. The Government of Alberta will support lifelong learning over the next three years by:

- meeting diverse learner needs by building capacity for a range of learning opportunities;
- building a solid foundation for learning by focusing on the early grades;
- ensuring that students' financial needs are not a barrier to learning;
- expanding opportunities for youth to develop career preparation and employability skills; and
- expanding training opportunities in information technology, communications, education and health.

## **CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF WISE FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND LOW TAXES**

Wise fiscal management ensures that Alberta can afford to invest in priority areas and maintain a competitive tax regime. Together, these enhance the quality of life in Alberta, spur job creation and leave more money in peoples' pockets. The next three years will see Alberta's tax advantage grow even more by:

- maintaining a globally competitive tax regime, and
- implementing the business tax reduction plans beginning on April 1, 2001, on an affordable basis.

## **CARING FOR CHILDREN AND SUPPORTING SENIORS AND FAMILIES**

Alberta's children deserve the best care we can give them. The 2001-04 business plan includes several initiatives to take care of children, including:

- addressing the recommendations of the Task Force on Children at Risk and Children's Forums;
- introducing strategies to address priority health issues like low birth weight babies; and
- supporting Child and Family Services Authorities and other partners in the delivery of community-based, integrated services to children, youth and families, with emphasis on early intervention, meeting the needs of Aboriginal children, and providing transitions for youth.

The business plan also identifies several initiatives to support seniors, families, and other Albertans, including:

- shielding Albertans from unexpected spikes in natural gas prices; and
- continuing to plan for the needs of an aging population by ensuring that Alberta seniors, particularly those most in need, have the programs and services they need to live in comfort and dignity.

## **INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE**

Having a modern, reliable infrastructure is a key to sustaining economic growth and maintaining a high quality of life. Among the highlights of Alberta's investment in infrastructure are:

- developing a high speed, provincial technology network that will ensure high speed Internet and wide-area network availability so that all Albertans can access government services;
- strengthening Alberta's multi-billion investment in physical infrastructure for educational institutions, health care, seniors' and social housing, irrigation, water management and other government programs through appropriate maintenance and upgrading;
- facilitating trade by improving key highway routes, including the North-South Trade Corridor; and
- completing the restructuring of Alberta's electric industry and managing the transition to a deregulated market.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The Government of Alberta's 2001-04 Business Plan has two parts. The first section comprises the goals and strategies undertaken by individual ministries in the government's three core businesses of *People, Prosperity and Preservation*.

However, many issues are not isolated to a single ministry, so the second part of the business plan includes cross-ministry initiatives that involve cooperation across government.

There are four priority cross-ministry initiatives for this business plan:

1. the Aboriginal Policy Initiative;
2. the Economic Development Strategy;
3. the Seniors Policy Initiative; and
4. the Children and Youth Services Initiative.

Work is also continuing on four key government administrative priorities:

1. the Alberta Corporate Service Centre Initiative;
2. the Corporate Human Resource Development Strategy;
3. the Corporate Information Management/Information Technology Strategy; and
4. the Alberta One-Window Initiative.

Together, the two parts form the plan that will guide Alberta's way into a new age.

# 2001-04 Government Business Plan

## GOALS, STRATEGIES, MEASURES AND TARGETS

The government's activities are focused on three core businesses: *People, Prosperity and Preservation*. The goals chosen for each of the core businesses reflect the government's priorities for protecting the quality of life in Alberta, while maintaining a commitment to fiscal responsibility. Key strategies have been set out for achieving these goals along with performance targets and measures for tracking progress.

### **PEOPLE...**

The goals for the *People* core business are directed at improving the quality of life in Alberta for individuals and their families through the government's priorities for health, education, our children, those in need, and Aboriginal Albertans.

### **PROSPERITY...**

The goals for the *Prosperity* core business focus on protecting the quality of life in Alberta through the government's priorities for our economy, work force and work places, infrastructure, value-added industries, export trade, and financial and fiscal position.

### **PRESERVATION ...**

The goals for the *Preservation* core business reflect the government's priorities for community safety, our renewable resources, the environment, our natural, historical and cultural resources, and Alberta's relations with other levels of government.

This section of the government business plan outlines the goals, and key strategies for each of the three core businesses. Reference to the lead ministries responsible for the service or program delivery is provided in parentheses. Performance measures and targets are also described. More detail about how the government intends to achieve these goals is included in the business plans of individual ministries.

A summary table of the goals, measures and targets for the *2001-04 Government Business Plan* is presented on the next page.

## GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PLAN 2001-04

### Goals, Performance Measures, and Targets

#### People

Goals	Measures	Targets
1. Albertans will be healthy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life Expectancy at Birth</li> <li>Health Status</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain or improve current life expectancy at birth and be among the top 10 countries in the world.</li> <li>By 2003, 70% of Albertans aged 18-64 rate their health as 'very good' or 'excellent', and 80% of Albertans aged 65 and over rate their health as 'good' or better.</li> </ul>
2. Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well Being of Children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined once baseline is established.</li> </ul>
3. Alberta students will excel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educational Attainment</li> <li>Literacy and Numeracy Levels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2003, 90% of Albertans aged 25-34 will have completed high school, and 60% will have completed post-secondary education. Maintain or improve inter-provincial ranking.</li> <li>85% of Grade 9 students meet acceptable standards on provincial achievement tests in math and language arts.</li> </ul>
4. Albertans will be independent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Status of Albertans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined once baseline is established.</li> </ul>
5. Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Status of Albertans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined once baseline is established.</li> </ul>
6. The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aboriginal Well-Being</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2010: the difference in employment rates of Aboriginal Albertans and other Albertans will be less than 10%; the percentage of Aboriginal learners 15 years of age or older with high school completion will be 60% and 30% with post-secondary completion; the difference in life expectancy of Registered Indians in Alberta and all Albertans will be reduced by one year.</li> </ul>

#### Prosperity

Goals	Measures	Targets
7. Alberta will have a prosperous economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gross Domestic Product</li> <li>Job Growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 year annual average GDP growth rate of 4 to 6%.</li> <li>295,000 new jobs in the 6 years ending December 2005.</li> </ul>
8. Our workforce will be skilled and productive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skill Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90% of employers satisfied with recent post-secondary graduates' skills.</li> </ul>
9. Alberta businesses will be increasingly innovative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business Innovation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alberta business use of the Internet will account for an increasing percentage of economic activity.</li> </ul>
10. Alberta's value-added industries will lead economic growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value-Added Industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alberta's value-added industries will account for an increasing percentage of Provincial GDP.</li> </ul>
11. Alberta will have effective and efficient infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure Capacity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>95% of rural sections of the National Highway System at level of service B or better upon completion of the North-South Trade Corridor; export gas pipeline capacity will exceed demand; continue to increase industry and non-profit sponsored research.</li> </ul>
12. Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taxation Load</li> <li>Provincial Credit Rating</li> <li>Accumulated Debt</li> <li>Cost of Government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain the lowest tax load on persons and business among the provinces.</li> <li>The highest blended credit rating for domestic debt among the provinces.</li> <li>Reduce the March 31, 2000 accumulated debt by at least 13% by 2004-05 and eliminate it no later than 2024-25.</li> <li>Remain 5% below the average per capita government expenditure of the other nine provinces.</li> </ul>
13. Alberta will have a fair and safe work environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workplace Climate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The rate of person-days lost to work stoppages, and injury and disease will be among the three lowest of all the provinces.</li> </ul>
14. Alberta businesses will increase exports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Export Trade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase international value-added exports to \$28.5 billion by the year 2004.</li> </ul>

#### Preservation

Goals	Measures	Targets
15. Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crime Rate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce Alberta's crime rates below the national rates by 2005.</li> </ul>
16. Alberta's renewable natural resources will be sustained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewable Resource Sustainability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep timber harvest at or below the annual allowable cut. Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by 2004.</li> </ul>
17. The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air Quality</li> <li>Water Quality</li> <li>Land Quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain air quality levels that are considered 'good' or 'fair' at all times.</li> <li>Bring river water quality downstream of developed areas in line with upstream conditions, while maintaining overall river water quality.</li> <li>Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by the year 2004.</li> </ul>
18. Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage Appreciation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 million visitors per year to provincially-owned historic sites, museums, and interpretive centres and 8 million visitors per year to provincial parks and recreation areas.</li> </ul>
19. Alberta will work with other governments and maintain its strong position in Canada.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intergovernmental Relations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain the Alberta government's public approval rating in federal-provincial relations equivalent to the average approval rating of the four nearest provinces.</li> </ul>



core business *People ...*

goal **1** Albertans will be healthy

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- ensure Albertans get the care they need through accessible high quality health services (HW)
- prepare for future health needs through ongoing innovation, integration and coordination in health service delivery (HW)
- provide more services to people where they need them – in their communities and in their homes (HW)
- improve accountability and results in the health care system through clear expectations and better information (HW)
- focus on long-term health gains through increased emphasis on programs to prevent illness and injury, and protect and promote good health, as well as healthy active lifestyles (CD, ENV, HRE, HW, PAO)

**CORE MEASURES:**

**LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Female and male life expectancy.

**TARGET**

Maintain or improve current life expectancy at birth and be among the top 10 countries in the world.

**HEALTH STATUS**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Self-reported status by Albertans over 18.

**TARGET**

By the year 2003, 70% of Albertans aged 18-64 will rate their health as ‘very good’ or ‘excellent’, and 80% of Albertans aged 65 or over will rate their health as ‘good’ or better.

Abbreviations for Ministries:

AAND	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development	IIR	International and Intergovernmental Relations
AEDA	Alberta Economic Development Authority	INFRA	Infrastructure
AFRD	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	IS	Innovation and Science
CD	Community Development	JUS	Justice and Attorney General
CS	Children's Services	LEARN	Learning
ED	Economic Development	MA	Municipal Affairs
ENERGY	Energy	PAB	Public Affairs Bureau
ENV	Environment	PAO	Personnel Administration Office
FINANCE	Finance	REVENUE	Revenue
GAMING	Gaming	SENIORS	Seniors
GS	Government Services	SG	Solicitor General
HRE	Human Resources and Employment	SRD	Sustainable Resource Development
HW	Health and Wellness	TRANS	Transportation

goal **2** Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**



Key strategies in italics are associated with the Children and Youth Services Cross Ministry Initiative. See page 36.

- *continue implementation of the Children and Youth Services Initiative with an emphasis on cross ministry initiatives to improve supports and resources to children, youth and families (AAND, CD, CS, HRE, HW, LEARN, SG)*
- address the recommendations of the Task Force on Children at Risk and Children’s Forum (CS, HW, LEARN, SG)
- support Child and Family Services Authorities and other partners in the delivery of community-based, integrated services to children, youth and families, with an emphasis on early intervention, meeting the needs of Aboriginal children and providing transitions for youth (AAND, CD, CS, HW, LEARN, SG)
- provide a range of integrated health and related support services to identified students with special health needs registered in school programs (CS, HW, LEARN)
- continue to promote the Alberta Child Health Benefit which provides low-income families with the prescription drugs, dental, optical, and ambulance services that their children require (HRE)
- introduce health strategies to address priority health issues, including low birth weight babies (CS, HW)
- identify strategies for integrated mental health services to children, youth and families (CS, HW, LEARN)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**WELL BEING OF CHILDREN**

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<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	Percentage of Alberta children living in families with incomes above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.
<b>TARGET</b>	To be determined once baseline is established.

goal **3** Alberta students will excel

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- enhance school-readiness opportunities for children from birth to three years of age (CS, LEARN)
- build a solid foundation for learning by focusing on early grades (LEARN)
- improve student learning by continuing to implement and evaluate the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement collaboratively with partners (LEARN)
- meet diverse learner needs by building capacity for a range of learning opportunities (HRE, INFRA, LEARN)
- ensure that students' financial needs are not a barrier to participating in learning opportunities (HRE, LEARN)
- expand opportunities for youth to develop career preparation and employability skills (HRE, LEARN)
- improve assessment and reporting of learner achievement (LEARN)

**CORE MEASURES:**

**EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

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**DESCRIPTION**

High school or post-secondary completion.

**TARGET**

By 2003, 90% of Albertans aged 25-34 will have completed high school, and 60% will have completed post-secondary education. Maintain or improve inter-provincial ranking.

**LITERACY AND NUMERACY LEVELS**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Achieving the acceptable standard in language arts and mathematics.

**TARGET**

85% of Grade 9 students are expected to achieve the acceptable standard on provincial achievement tests in language arts and mathematics.

goal **4** Albertans will be independent

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- improve transitions for youth among school, further learning and work (CS, HRE, LEARN)
- develop additional government-wide strategies through the People and Prosperity Initiative that help Albertans contribute to and share in Alberta's economic prosperity (HRE, ED, LEARN, all ministries)
- ensure up-to-date information is available to all Albertans on labour market needs, career preparation and opportunities for further learning (HRE, LEARN)
- continue efforts to get social assistance clients into the workforce by improving training programs and providing financial and health benefits (HRE)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS**

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<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	Increase the percentage of people in Alberta living above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.
<b>TARGET</b>	To be determined once baseline is established.

goal **5** Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**



Key strategies in italics are associated with the Seniors Policy Cross Ministry Initiative. See page 35.

- continue to improve income support services for Albertans who are unable to provide for their basic needs and require financial assistance (**HRE**)
- sponsor initiatives which provide effective supports to Albertans with developmental and other disabilities, and promote their inclusion in community life (**CD**)
- provide financial assistance to lower-income seniors through the *Alberta Seniors Benefit* and *Special Needs Assistance for Seniors* programs (**SENIORS**)
- facilitate the provision of appropriate seniors housing, and family and special purpose housing for Albertans most in need (**SENIORS**)
- *strengthen the coordination of provincial government programs and services for seniors, and develop a strategic framework and a 10-year action plan on the aging population through the Seniors Policy Initiative* (**HW, SENIORS, all ministries**)
- implement strategies to address homelessness in conjunction with municipal governments, local authorities, community groups and the private sector (**HRE, HW, SENIORS**)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS**

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**DESCRIPTION** Increase the percentage of people in Alberta living above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.

**TARGET** To be determined once baseline is established.

goal **6** **The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans**

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

 Key strategies in italics are associated with the Aboriginal Policy Cross Ministry Initiative. See page 33.

- *improve the health status and well-being of Aboriginal people (AAND, CD, CS, HW)*
- *improve the educational attainment of Aboriginal learners (AAND, CS, HRE, LEARN)*
- *increase the collaborative participation of Aboriginal governments, organizations and people in the design and delivery of programs and services (all ministries)*
- *promote the appreciation and preservation of Aboriginal cultures in Alberta (AAND, CD, CS, JUS)*
- *increase the participation by Aboriginal people in the Alberta economy (all ministries)*
- *clarify federal/provincial/Aboriginal roles and responsibilities (all ministries)*

**CORE MEASURE:**

**ABORIGINAL WELL-BEING**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Aboriginal well being is measured by comparing the employment rate and the high school completion rate of Alberta’s Aboriginal people to those of non-Aboriginal people, and by comparing the life expectancy of registered Indians to that of all Albertans.

**TARGET**

By 2010: the difference in employment rates of Aboriginal Albertans and other Albertans will be less than 10%; the percentage of Aboriginal learners 15 years of age or older with high school completion will be 60% and 30% with post-secondary completion (comparable 1996 percentages were 52.2 and 24.9, respectively); the difference in life expectancy of Registered Indians in Alberta and all Albertans will be reduced by one year.





core business *Prosperity ...*

# goal 7 Alberta will have a prosperous economy

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## KEY STRATEGIES:



Key strategies in italics are associated with the Economic Development Strategy Cross Ministry Initiative. See page 34.

- continue to promote the Alberta Advantage (**all ministries**)
- *continue implementation of the Economic Development Strategy to enable Albertans to meet future economic challenges* (ED, IS, LEARN, **all ministries**)
- *develop a collaborative approach to regional economic development that builds on regional goals, priorities and strengths* (AAND, AEDA, AFRD, ED, ENV, IIR, MA, SRD)
- *ensure the sufficient supply of skilled labour to meet Alberta's economic growth* (ED, HRE, IIR, LEARN)
- encourage investment and economic activity by maintaining a globally competitive tax regime (AEDA, ED, FINANCE)
- implement the April 1, 2001 business tax plan changes; implement the 2002 tax plan step subject to affordability (FINANCE, REVENUE)
- work with industry to attract domestic and international investment (AEDA, AFRD, ED, IIR, IS, SRD)
- support the expansion of Alberta's tourism industry and promotion of Alberta as a world-renowned tourism destination (AEDA, CD, ED)
- improve the ability of start-up and early stage companies to access the capital they need to get their businesses up and running (AEDA, AFRD, ED, IS)
- remove barriers to national and international trade and investment so Alberta businesses can compete in new markets (AFRD, ED, IIR)

## CORE MEASURES:

### GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

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**DESCRIPTION** Long term growth rate of the Alberta economy as measured by the three year average growth rate of provincial Gross Domestic Product.

**TARGET** Three year annual average GDP growth rate of 4 to 6%.

### JOB GROWTH

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**DESCRIPTION** Net number of jobs created in Alberta on an annual average basis.

**TARGET** 295,000 new jobs in the 6 years ending December 2005.

goal **8** Our workforce will be skilled and productive

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- improve Albertans’ ability to enter the workforce and keep pace with changing skill needs (AEDA, AFRD, ED, HRE, LEARN, PAO)
- maintain a balanced long-term program of science and engineering research through the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Science and Engineering Research (IS)
- remove barriers that prevent people from moving easily from job to job or place to place in order to work (AAND, AEDA, ED, HRE, IIR, LEARN, PAO, TRANS)
- build a strong Alberta public service through continued implementation of the Corporate Human Resource Development Strategy (PAO, all ministries)
- improve the knowledge and skills of Alberta youth, particularly as they relate to employability and the transitions between learning and work (AFRD, CD, HRE, LEARN)
- strengthen connections between school and workplace learning (AFRD, CD, HRE, LEARN)
- expand training opportunities in information technology, communications, education and health (LEARN)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Employer satisfaction with recent post-secondary graduates’ skills.

**TARGET**

90% of employers satisfied with recent post-secondary graduates’ skills.

goal **9**

## Alberta businesses will be increasingly innovative

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### KEY STRATEGIES:

- expand Alberta’s focus on research, knowledge and technology that results in viable commercial products, processes and services (AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IS, SRD)
- encourage the innovative application of new technologies by resource-based industries to sustain future competitiveness and resource bases (AEDA, AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IS, SRD)
- encourage the development of private sector laboratories for food production and processing (AFRD, ED, IS)

### CORE MEASURE:

#### **BUSINESS INNOVATION**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Alberta business use of the Internet to sell goods and services.

**TARGET**

Alberta business use of the Internet will account for an increasing percentage of economic activity.

# goal **10** Alberta's value-added industries will lead economic growth

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## KEY STRATEGIES:

- use technology in targeted sectors to expand Alberta's value-added industries (AEDA, AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IS, SRD)
- expand Alberta's economy by defining and taking action on key science and technology priorities (ED, ENERGY, IS, SRD)
- expand in-Alberta opportunities for secondary processing of renewable and non-renewable resources (AEDA, AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IIR, SRD)
- facilitate the growth of value-added industries, especially in the agri-food, energy and forestry sectors (AAND, AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IIR, IS, SRD)

## CORE MEASURE:

### VALUE-ADDED INDUSTRIES

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#### DESCRIPTION

Percentage of provincial GDP contributed by the manufacturing and knowledge-intensive service industries as proxies for value-added industries in Alberta.

#### TARGET

Alberta's value-added industries will account for an increasing percentage of Provincial GDP.

goal **11** Alberta will have effective and efficient infrastructure

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- implement initiatives to ensure effective and innovative capital planning and funding of government supported infrastructure through the government-wide capital planning initiative (FINANCE, INFRA, TRANS, all ministries)
- promote cooperative initiatives among business and industry, government and municipalities to address the need for infrastructure development (AAND, AEDA, CD, ED, GAMING, INFRA, MA)
- facilitate trade by improving key highway routes, including the North-South Trade Corridor (IIR, TRANS)
- work with local governments to strengthen rural and urban transportation partnerships and ensure that Alberta has a safe and efficient system of roads (MA, TRANS)
- complete restructuring of Alberta’s electric industry and manage the transition to a deregulated market (ENERGY)
- protect Alberta’s multi-billion dollar investment in physical infrastructure for educational institutions, health care, seniors’ and social housing, irrigation, water management and other government programs through appropriate maintenance and upgrading (AFRD, CD, ENV, HW, INFRA, LEARN, MA, SENIORS, SRD, TRANS)
- develop a high speed, provincial technology network that will ensure high speed Internet and wide-area network availability so that all Albertans can access provincial government services (GS, LEARN, HW, IS, all ministries)
- develop and implement advanced telecommunications, infrastructure management, and information management systems for improved communications and service delivery (CD, GS, HW, INFRA, IS)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Sufficiency of Alberta’s infrastructure system as measured by the quality of Alberta’s highways, the utilization rate of our export gas pipelines and the level of sponsored research at Alberta’s universities.

**TARGET**

95% of rural sections of the National Highway System at level of service B or better upon completion of the North-South Trade Corridor; export gas pipeline capacity will exceed demand; continue to increase industry and non-profit sponsored research.

# goal 12 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government

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## KEY STRATEGIES:

- continue to implement current fiscal policies of balancing the budget, orderly paydown of debt, low taxes, targeted spending and capital planning (FINANCE)
- eliminate unnecessary regulations (all ministries)
- provide regular reports to Albertans on government goals, as well as financial and non-financial performance results (all ministries)
- provide efficient management of government resources and communications (FINANCE, INFRA, IS, PAB, PAO, all ministries)
- improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness of Alberta government administrative services through the Alberta Corporate Service Centre initiative (all ministries)
- improve Albertans' access to government information and services through the Alberta One-Window Gateway (GS, all ministries)
- meet Albertans' requested needs for more information on government programs and services, and make it easier for them to give their feedback and opinions (all ministries)

## CORE MEASURES:

### TAXATION LOAD

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**DESCRIPTION** Alberta's provincial taxation load on persons and business relative to the provincial average.

**TARGET** Maintain the lowest tax load on persons and business among the provinces.

### PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING

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**DESCRIPTION** Alberta's blended credit rating for domestic debt relative to the other provinces.

**TARGET** The highest blended credit rating for domestic debt among the provinces.

### ACCUMULATED DEBT

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**DESCRIPTION** Alberta's accumulated debt, which is the sum of the outstanding consolidated debt of the General Revenue Fund, the debt of the Alberta Social Housing Corporation and the government's liability for school construction.

**TARGET** Reduce the March 31, 2000 accumulated debt by at least 13% by 2004-05 and eliminate it no later than 2024-25.

### COST OF GOVERNMENT

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**DESCRIPTION** Alberta government expenditures per capita as a percentage of the other nine provinces.

**TARGET** Remain 5% below the average per capita government expenditure of the other nine provinces.

# goal 13 Alberta will have a fair and safe work environment

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## KEY STRATEGIES:

- promote high standards in the workplace for labour relations and workplace health and safety (HRE, PAO)
- support community organizations undertaking educational initiatives that promote fairness and access, and that increase understanding and appreciation of the benefits of Alberta's growing diversity (CD)

## CORE MEASURE:

### WORKPLACE CLIMATE

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#### DESCRIPTION

Alberta's provincial ranking of the number of person-days lost due to work stoppages and due to injury and disease, per 10,000 person-days worked.

#### TARGET

The rate of person-days lost to work stoppages, and injury and disease will be among the three lowest of all the provinces.



goal **14** Alberta businesses will increase exports

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- implement Alberta's International Marketing Strategy to focus trade and investment efforts in targeted regions and industries (AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IIR, IS, LEARN, SRD)
- improve Alberta's ability to compete and do business in global markets by expanding Albertans' understanding of world languages and cultures (AEDA, ED, IIR, LEARN)
- provide Alberta businesses with information/intelligence to identify emerging opportunities and enhance market access (AFRD, ED)
- coordinate Alberta's participation in strategic international relationships and agreements with key trading partners (ED, IIR)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**EXPORT TRADE**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Alberta's international value-added exports, measured in current dollars.

**TARGET**

Increase international value-added exports to \$28.5 billion by the year 2004.



core business *Preservation ...*

goal **15** Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- protect human rights for all Albertans through the resolution of complaints made under the *Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act (CD)*
- augment crime prevention initiatives and review all aspects of policing (SG)
- enhance services for victims of crime (SG)
- expand youth justice initiatives including the *Alternative Measures Program* and *Intensive Support and Supervision Program* as alternatives to traditional justice sanctions (SG)
- build capacity in schools and communities to provide safe and caring environments (CS, HW, LEARN)
- improve support for families through family law reform (CS, HRE, JUS)
- investigate marketplace practices and take appropriate enforcement actions to ensure compliance with the *Fair Trading Act (GS)*
- partner with government, consumer groups, business associations and the media to increase marketplace awareness and education (GS)
- improve traffic safety through driver education, road safety awareness and motor carrier compliance (TRANS)
- assist municipalities in preparing for emergencies and responding to major disasters (ENV, MA, SRD)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**CRIME RATE**

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<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	Alberta's violent and property crime rates expressed as a percentage of the national rate.
<b>TARGET</b>	Reduce Alberta's crime rates below the national rates by 2005.

# goal 16 Alberta's renewable natural resources will be sustained

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## KEY STRATEGIES:

- provide clear, effective direction and guidelines for the use, management, regulation and development of Alberta's renewable resources (AFRD, ENERGY, ENV, SRD)
- reduce the impact of natural hazards such as fire, pests, drought and floods on property, people, and resources (AFRD, ENV, SRD)
- implement a long-term, environmentally-sustainable approach to agriculture and forest industry development that supports stable economic growth (AFRD, SRD)

## CORE MEASURES:

### RENEWABLE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

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#### DESCRIPTION

Timber sustainability compares the annual timber harvests with the long-term sustainable annual allowable cut. Land quality measures the annual provincial crop yield per acre converted to a standard base of tonnes per acre of wheat.

#### TARGET

Keep timber harvests at or below the annual allowable cut. Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by 2004.

# goal 17 The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained

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## KEY STRATEGIES:

- ensure standards are acceptable to maintain the quality of air, land, water and ecosystems (ENV, SRD, TRANS)
- ensure public accountability for environmental management by clearly defining roles and responsibilities of federal and provincial governments, as well as industry (AEDA, ENERGY, ENV, IIR, SRD)
- provide predictable, consistent, and streamlined regulations for land use and resource management (AEDA, AFRD, ENERGY, ENV, SRD)
- maintain current levels of public safety, resources, conservation and environmental protection through effective environmental monitoring and enforcement programs (AFRD, ENERGY, ENV, MA, SRD)
- reduce Alberta's greenhouse gas emissions by developing climate change policies and programs while maintaining Alberta's economic advantage (ENV)

## CORE MEASURES:

### AIR QUALITY

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**DESCRIPTION** Index of outdoor concentrations of five major air pollutants monitored at eight stations across the province.

**TARGET** Maintain air quality levels that are considered 'good' or 'fair' at all times.

### WATER QUALITY

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**DESCRIPTION** Index of four variable components (metals, nutrients, bacteria, and pesticides) tested monthly at two locations for each of the province's six major river systems.

**TARGET** Bring river water quality downstream of developed areas in line with upstream conditions, while maintaining overall river water quality.

### LAND QUALITY

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**DESCRIPTION** Measure of the annual provincial crop yield per acre converted to a standard base of tonnes per acre of wheat.

**TARGET** Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by the year 2004.

goal **18** Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- support and encourage the development of sport and recreation, arts, libraries and culture as essential characteristics in Alberta's quality of life (CD, GAMING)
- preserve, protect and present Alberta's unique history and culture through programs, exhibits, historic sites and museums and interpretive centres (CD)
- coordinate and support a province-wide library system and continue the development and long-term sustainability of the Alberta Public Library Electronic Network (CD)
- protect and manage Alberta's parks and protected areas (CD, SRD)
- improve Albertans' understanding of their environment (CD, ENV, SRD)
- provide Albertans with opportunities to contribute to environmental protection and natural resource management (ENV, SRD)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**HERITAGE APPRECIATION**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Reports annual visitations to provincial parks and recreation areas and to provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres.

**TARGET**

1.1 million visitors per year to provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres, and 8 million visitors per year to provincial parks and recreation areas.

goal **19** Alberta will work with other governments and maintain its strong position in Canada

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**KEY STRATEGIES:**

- improve fiscal arrangements to ensure that federal revenues are shared fairly among the provinces (FINANCE, IIR)
- ensure Alberta's interests are represented and protected in key federal programs and initiatives, and interprovincial and international negotiations (IIR)
- work in partnership with local governments to promote healthy and sustainable communities throughout Alberta (CD, ED, MA, GAMING)
- continue to promote a strong and united Canada (all ministries)

**CORE MEASURE:**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

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**DESCRIPTION**

Results of national opinion poll surveying the views of Canadians regarding the performance of their provincial and federal governments in various areas of governance.

**TARGET**

Maintain the Alberta government's public approval rating in federal-provincial relations equivalent to the average approval rating of the four nearest provinces.

The next four pages present the four priority cross ministry initiatives the government has chosen to highlight in the 2001-04 Government Business Plan.

These types of initiatives require a corporate focus in order to be addressed effectively.



## 2001-02 CROSS MINISTRY INITIATIVE

### Aboriginal Policy Initiative (API)

**Purpose:** Work with Aboriginal people, federal and municipal governments, industry and other interested parties to improve the well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people and clarify federal, provincial and Aboriginal roles and responsibilities.

**Related Government Business Plan Goal:**

Goal 6 – The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.

**Ministry Champions:**

Alberta Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and Alberta Justice

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**Objective:** Improve the health status and well-being of Aboriginal people.

- Strategies:**
- Increase the number of community-based primary health and addictions service programs in Metis Settlements and other under-served (e.g., remote) Aboriginal communities.
  - Increase the percentage of Aboriginal children in care residing in stable long-term arrangements.
  - Implement standards for adequate and effective policing services as per the approved implementation plan.
  - Increase the number of Aboriginal communities that are served by community initiatives in partnership with Alberta Justice.
  - Maintain the number of Aboriginal communities involved in partnerships related to the administration of the Safety Codes Act.
  - Increase the number of Aboriginal learners receiving the Aboriginal health careers bursaries.
  - Increase the percentage of Aboriginal staff in each Child & Family Service Authority (CFSA) towards the percentage of Aboriginal people in the CFSA population.
- Targets:**
- Increase the percentage of Aboriginal children and families receiving culturally appropriate services through their CFSA.
  - By 2010, reduce by one year, the difference in life expectancy of Registered Indians in Alberta and all Albertans.
  - Decrease the number of tuberculosis cases among Registered Indians in Alberta.
  - Decrease infant mortality among Registered Indians in Alberta.
  - Decrease the percentage of both low birth weight and high birth weight babies born to Registered Indian parents in Alberta.
  - Improve the identification of diabetes among Registered Indians in Alberta and decrease the complications arising from the disease (blindness, amputation and renal failure).
  - Increase by 10% the number of new Child Welfare agreements or formal innovative arrangements with First Nations.
  - 75% of all new CFSA Boards will have Aboriginal Board representation proportional to or greater than the regional Aboriginal population.
  - Provide Aboriginal cultural awareness training to 370 Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General staff by March 31, 2002.

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**Objective:** Improve the educational attainment of Aboriginal learners.

- Strategies:**
- Increase the level of educational attainment of Aboriginal students attending provincially supported primary, secondary and post-secondary institutions in Alberta.
  - Increase the academic performance of Aboriginal students attending provincially supported primary, secondary and post-secondary educational institutions in Alberta.
  - Add to the number and community scope of regulations drafted pursuant to the First Nations Sacred Ceremonial Objects Repatriation Act.
  - Increase First Nations access to ethnology collections containing sacred ceremonial objects and other artifacts through improved artifact storage systems, more comprehensive cataloguing, and use of appropriate data base records for collection.
- Targets:**
- By 2010, the percentage of Aboriginal learners 15 years of age or older with high school completion will be 60% and 30% with post-secondary completion (comparable 1996 percentages were 52.2 and 24.9, respectively).
  - Increase the percentage of Aboriginal students (students with Registered Indian Status attending Alberta school jurisdictions under tuition agreements) achieving the Acceptable Standard on Grade 3, 6 and 9 Achievements Tests by 1% above the last three-year average.
  - Complete consultations with Aboriginal communities, school jurisdictions and post-secondary institutions and have agreements for implementing a unique Aboriginal student identifier in place by March 31, 2002.
  - The number of Aboriginal students attending post-secondary institutions (Northern Lakes and Keyano colleges and the Universities of Alberta and Lethbridge). Data for 2001-02 forms the baseline.
  - The number of eligible Aboriginal students applying for awards and bursaries for post-secondary studies (Aboriginal Health Care Bursaries, Alberta Blue Cross Scholarships for Aboriginal Students, Theodore R. Campbell Scholarship, and Robert C. Carson Memorial Bursary). Data for 2001-02 forms the baseline.

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**Objective:** Increase the participation by Aboriginal people in the Alberta economy.

- Strategies:**
- Work with Aboriginal clients in Alberta Human Resources and Employment (AHRE) employment/training programs to help them achieve the same levels of skill improvement as other Albertans.
  - Work with Aboriginal clients in AHRE employment/training programs to help them achieve employment outcomes comparable to other Albertans.
  - Maintain the number and dollar value of existing Aboriginal fire fighting contracts, and actively work with Aboriginal groups to increase their capacity for additional contracts.
  - Increase the per cent of Transportation contracts on Aboriginal lands that include an Aboriginal content clause for the supply of labour, equipment, or material resource supply.
  - Initiate new Natural Resource Initiative pilot projects.
  - Evaluate at least three (3) pilot projects with Aboriginal organizations and industry to develop consultation strategies with respect to development on Crown land.
  - Minimize the number of non-routine wellsite approvals within pilot consultation area.
  - Work with Aboriginal communities, industry and other parties to develop an Aboriginal Capacity Building Strategy as outlined in the Aboriginal Policy Framework.
- Targets:**
- By 2010, the difference in employment rates of Aboriginal Albertans and other Albertans will be less than 10 percentage points.
  - 80% of Aboriginal participants in Alberta Human Resources and Employment employment/training programs will obtain an improved skill level.
  - Alberta Finance will work with Statistics Canada to develop baseline data for 2001 and Aboriginal-specific Labour Force Survey data for 2002.

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**Objective:** Clarify federal/provincial/Aboriginal roles and responsibilities.

- Strategies:**
- Implement a federal/provincial/Aboriginal partnership forum to coordinate action on partnership projects.
  - Take coordinated action on federal/provincial/Aboriginal partnership projects.
- Target:**
- Develop baseline data respecting satisfaction with federal/provincial/Aboriginal partnership activities as measured by partnership surveys.

## 2001-02 CROSS MINISTRY INITIATIVE

### Economic Development Strategy

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**Purpose:** A future of boundless opportunity in a province that's unmatched through ministries working together with business, industry, communities, other governments and public institutions, employees and other stakeholders.

**Related Government Business Plan Goals:**

Goal 7 – Alberta will have a prosperous economy.

**Ministry Champions:**

Economic Development, Innovation and Science and Learning

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**Objective:** Continue to implement Alberta's economic strategy as outlined in "Get Ready Alberta".

**Target:** A summary report on progress to date in implementing Alberta's economic strategy.

**Priority Areas:**

**Unleashing Innovation**

- Strategies:**
- Expand leading edge research and development in the province.
  - Create an innovation and science culture, starting with Alberta's young people.
  - Develop a highly qualified workforce to support innovation and science.
  - Encourage the innovative application of new technologies to resource-based industries to sustain future competitiveness.
  - Expand the manufacture and export of value-added products and services as a proportion of Alberta's overall economy and exports.
  - Expand the knowledge-based economy including the information and communications technology industry.
  - Develop the information and telecommunications infrastructure.
  - Minimize barriers to business innovation.

- Targets01-02:**
- % of learning institutions connected to a high-speed network: Kindergarten to Grade 12 – 30%; College/University – 20%.
  - Employment growth in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector: 5000 new jobs.
  - Level of investment in Research and Development: \$1.2 billion.

**Leading in Learning**

- Strategies:**
- Provide Albertans with the best education system in Canada.
  - Ensure that pre-school children get a healthy start in life and a chance to grow learn and succeed.
  - Provide opportunities for Albertans to develop their skills, abilities and talents anytime, anywhere.
  - Attract and retain the best and brightest people.
  - Expand opportunities for people to re-enter the workforce.

- Targets01-02:**
- % of Albertans participating in post-secondary education: 33%.
  - High school completion rate: 71%.
  - % of high school and post-secondary students enrolled in a second language: 25%
  - % of participants in employment training who indicate they obtained an improved education or skill level: 80%

**Competing in a Global Market place**

- Strategies:**
- Maintain a competitive tax advantage and promote a positive business climate that stimulates and attracts investment activity.
  - Promote an integrated resource management strategy.
  - Develop and promote international trade and market opportunities.
  - Maintain and enhance Alberta's infrastructure.

- Targets01-02:**
- New jobs: 45,000
  - Reduce accumulated debt (net of cash set aside for future debt repayments) to \$6.5 billion by March 31, 2002.
  - Value-added international exports: \$22.4 billion.
  - Four-laning of North-South trade corridor (BC border west of Grande Prairie to Coutts): 73% complete.

**Making Alberta the best place to live, work and visit**

- Strategies:**
- Alberta will be a leader in innovative approaches to wildlife and parks protection.
  - Maintain strong and viable communities.
  - Sustain a quality health system.
  - Promote the diversity and excitement of Alberta's culture, arts, sports and festivals.
  - Promote and encourage volunteerism in Albertans.
  - Partner with Alberta's tourism industry to deliver marketing programs and support services.
  - Alberta will be a leader in managing climate change issues.

- Targets01-02:**
- Tourism revenues: \$4.5 billion
  - % of Albertans rating their health status as excellent or very good: continues to exceed the national average.
  - Municipalities connected to the Internet and community network: 97%.
  - Workplace safety: Person days lost due to workplace injury and illness continues to be ranked among the three lowest provinces in Canada.
  - Crime Rate - The gap between Alberta police reported crime rate and national rate per 100,000 population reduced by 3%.
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**Objective:** A broadly based, versatile economy.

**Strategy:** – Further expand Alberta's value-added sectors.

**Target01-02:** – Increase the proportion of employment in Alberta's value-added manufacturing and business services to 16% of total employment.

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**Objective:** A collaborative approach to regional economic development that builds on regional goals, priorities and strengths.

**Strategy:** – Develop a collaborative framework to assist regions to identify and pursue regional economic opportunities.

**Target:** – Under development.

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**Objective:** Sufficient supply of skilled labour to meet Alberta's economic growth.

**Strategy:** – Develop a strategy to ensure sufficient supply of skilled labour to support Alberta's economic growth.

**Target:** – Under development

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## 2001-02 CROSS MINISTRY INITIATIVE

### Seniors Policy Initiative

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**Purpose:** To strengthen the coordination of provincial government programs and services to ensure they continue to meet the needs of current and future seniors.

**Related Government Business Plan Goals:**

Goal 1 - Albertans will be healthy.

Goal 4 - Albertans will be independent.

Goal 5 - Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.

**Ministry Champions:**

Seniors and Health & Wellness

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**Objective:** Develop seniors initiative strategic framework and 10-year action plan.

**Strategies:**

- Establish several levels of cross ministry committees to develop framework and action plan (January 2001).
- Review current services and programs in relation to the aging population. Review recent government reports and studies, such as ALBERTA FOR ALL AGES: Directions for the Future. Involve seniors and other stakeholders in the development process, as appropriate. (February to October 2001).
- Focus on the following outcomes:
  - Seniors are healthier to a more advanced age (e.g., promote wellness, healthy lifestyles, and good health care, including access to integrated health care services).
  - Seniors are increasingly financially independent (e.g., promote retirement planning).
  - Seniors have more choices about work and retirement (e.g., promote supports for mature workers, such as flexible options for the transition from work to retirement).
  - Seniors have more housing choices and supports to remain living independently in their communities (e.g., support aging in place, and encourage safe and affordable supportive housing options).
  - Communities are increasingly supportive of seniors (e.g., encourage community supports in areas such as urban/rural design; transportation; personal safety; consumer protection; elder abuse; and recreational, social and cultural programming).
  - Informal caregivers and volunteers are given greater recognition and support (e.g., explore options for caregivers such as tax credits, in-home assistance, expanded respite care, and employment leaves).
  - Alberta's workforce is prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities of an aging population (e.g., ensure sufficient numbers of trained people are available to meet the needs of seniors).
  - Lifelong learning increases among all age groups (e.g., expand opportunities for education). (February to October 2001).
- Draft framework and specific initiatives for action in the short-, medium-, and long-term (October 2001). Seek appropriate approvals for framework and action plan, including Cabinet approval. (November/December 2001).
- Finalize framework and 10-year action plan (January 2002).

**Target:** Initiatives from the action plan are included in ministry business plans, beginning in 2002-05.

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**Objective:** Establish performance measures and baselines for monitoring progress in the Seniors Policy Initiative.

**Strategies:**

- Develop performance measures, including measures to assess outcomes in the focal areas of seniors' health, financial independence, workforce and employment, housing, community supports and care giving, and lifelong learning.
- Identify data sources, collect and collate data, and build databases.
- Establish baseline measures.
- Set targets (January 2002).

**Target:** Baseline measures and targets established by January 2002.

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**Objective:** Report annually to Albertans on the progress made in implementing the cross ministry Seniors Policy Initiative.

**Strategies:**

- Report progress in implementing initiatives each year in ministry annual reports (First report: July 2003).
- Prepare annually a cross ministry summary report to Albertans on the Seniors Policy Initiative, which includes a report on outcomes based on performance measures and targets.

**Target:** First Seniors Initiative performance report published on the progress made in 2001-2002 (July 2002).

## 2001-02 CROSS MINISTRY INITIATIVE

### Children and Youth Services Initiative (CYSI)

**Purpose:** Support the healthy development of Alberta's children and youth through the joint efforts of provincial government ministries, local boards and authorities, families and communities.

**Related Government Business Plan Goals:**

- Goal 2 – Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy.
- Goal 3 – Alberta students will excel.
- Goal 5 – Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.
- Goal 6 – The well being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.
- Goal 15 – Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.

**Ministry Champions:**

Alberta Children's Services and Alberta Learning

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**Objective:** Establish new initiatives and strengthen existing initiatives to improve supports and resources for children, youth and families in areas identified as priorities.

**Priority Areas:**

**Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) – Prevention and enhanced community capacity.**

- Strategies:**
- Increase number of programs available for women at high risk to give birth to a child with FAS.
  - Increase number of high risk women accessing FAS mentoring programs.
  - Increase number of professionals across sectors trained in FAS awareness and management.

**Target:** – Increase number of high risk women accessing FAS mentoring programs by 12%.

**Protection of Children Involved In Prostitution (PChIP) - Coordinated services.**

- Strategy:** – Increase the number of children apprehended under PChIP who subsequently enter into a voluntary service agreement.
- Target:** – 5% increase in the number of children apprehended under PChIP who subsequently enter into a voluntary service agreement.

**Student Health Initiative – Integrated health and related support services for students.**

- Strategies:**
- Increase number of students that receive student health services in each service category.
  - Increase teachers' satisfaction with the initiative with respect to (i) improved access, range and coordination of services, and (ii) enabling children with special health needs to participate at school to attain their potential and be successful at learning.

**Target:**

- 75% of student health partnerships meet/exceed their targets in the number of students served in each eligible service category.
- Baseline data regarding teachers' satisfaction to be developed.

**Children's Mental Health – Comprehensive system of mental health services.**

- Strategies:**
- Develop provincial integrated draft policy framework.
  - Improve stakeholders' satisfaction with improved access and coordination of mental health services to (i) children in care; (ii) children and youth with complex needs; (iii) transitional youth; and (iv) young offenders.
  - Increase range of mental health services available to children, youth and families.

**Target:** – Provincial integrated draft policy framework in place by November 2001.

**Specialized Youth Substance Abuse – Enhancements to AADAC's substance abuse system for youth at risk.**

- Strategies:**
- Increase stakeholders reported access to services for youth at risk of substance abuse.
  - Attain high level of target group members' reported awareness of services for youth at risk of substance abuse.

**Target:** – 65% of Alberta adolescents will be aware of AADAC's services for youth.

**Early Childhood Development Initiatives - Development and enhancement of early childhood development programs.**

- Strategies:**
- Develop Alberta's early childhood development strategy including policy framework, first year investments, implementation strategy and baseline.

**Target:** – Develop policy framework for early childhood development by May 2001. Identify first year early childhood development investments by May 2001. Develop implementation strategy of initiatives by June 2001. Develop baseline of current early childhood development initiatives and investments by September 2001.

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**Objective:** Establish an operational environment within government and community that supports integrated delivery of services for children and youth.

- Strategies:**
- Increase joint planning, shared vision and common goals of Children and Youth Services Initiative (CYSI) priorities.
  - Increase number of partnering ministries that include children and youth initiatives in their business plans.
  - Create partnerships linking the corporate or voluntary sectors with the CYSI.

**Targets:**

- 100% of CYSI priorities involve joint planning, shared vision and common goals.
- 100% of partnering ministries include children and youth initiatives in their business plans.
- A minimum of two partnerships with the corporate or voluntary sectors linked with CYSI.

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**Objective:** Increase accountability and strengthen government's policy framework and direction to support children, youth and families.

- Strategies:**
- Complete outcome evaluations on four key initiatives.
  - Consult with stakeholders and other jurisdictions through conferences and forums.
  - Identify linkages and processes between the CYSI and the Aboriginal Policy Initiative.
  - Develop strategic coordinated plan to guide communication strategies on services to children and youth.
- Targets:**
- Release annual status report on Alberta's children in January 2002.
  - Put in place a provincially integrated policy framework to address transitional issues facing youth, ensuring linkages with the Youth Secretariat, Persons with Developmental Disabilities Program, Get Ready Alberta, People and Prosperity Initiative, Alberta Youth Employment Strategy, Children's Mental Health Initiative, and the Aboriginal Policy Initiative by September 2001.