

Labour

1. Statistics Canada reports unionized workers receive higher wages than non-unionized workers in the same line of work, as well as stronger pensions, safer working conditions, longer paid vacation time, better health and drug benefits, and more rights in the workplace. Does your party believe that unions play a positive role in our economy? If so, what policies will your party implement to create a climate that is easier for unions to organize?

We believe unions and the labour movement play a vital role in our society. We recognize they contribute to a higher standard of living for both union and non-union workers. The higher quality of life they create also contributes to a more equitable and prosperous economy.

In line with this belief, we would ban the practice of double-breasting and commit to a collaborative relationship with unions. We will always consult and listen when it comes to labour concerns.

2. Last year in Alberta, [161 people were killed](#) at work through accidents, injuries and illness. What will your party do to guarantee better health and safety conditions to reduce workplace injuries and fatalities?

We will work with stakeholders and experts to appraise the effectiveness of existing safety laws and fight for meaningful changes need to protect workers and save lives.

3. What is your party's stance on the Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act (Bill 32)? Specifically, what is your stance on the changes to picketing laws, overtime provisions, reduced holiday pay, union members opting out of "non-core" expenditures by their union, employer penalties for non-compliance, and child labour?

The Alberta Liberals opposed Bill 32. Changes to picketing laws and holiday pay were particularly egregious. We support repealing the law and working more collaboratively with Labour unions, workers, and businesses on future labour laws to strike a better balance.

The Economy

4. A recent [poll by Abacus Data](#) showed that 74% of Albertans are in favour of increasing taxes on wealthier Canadians and large, profitable corporations. Does your party agree with this policy to reduce income inequality and protect public services?

We support reversing the UCP's corporate tax cut. Alberta should have a competitive tax advantage but this tax cut was unnecessary, failed to deliver economic benefits, and compromised much-needed funding for essential services.

5. Most economies throughout the western world have been on a general five-day workweek for almost a century. Yet some governments are considering legislating a four-day workweek to protect workers, create jobs and free up time for the overworked. What is your party's view of moving the economy of Alberta to a four-day workweek?

We are open-minded to the 4-day work week. We would not commit to legislation yet. But we are open to exploring the possibility and the best role for the government to play, if any, in its creation. To do so would require extensive consultation with workers, unions and businesses and extensive research.

6. Primarily due to the low unionization rate in the province, [only about 25 percent of Albertans](#) have workplace pensions. What will your party do to protect pensions in both the private and public sectors in Alberta and ensure that retirees can enjoy their golden years in dignity?

The Alberta Liberal Party opposes any effort to opt out of the Canada Pension Plan in favour of an Alberta Pension Plan. We want to see public sector workers in Alberta given more control over their own pensions. We believe financial literacy education and resources both in schools and for adults are critical to helping Albertans save for the future. As is addressing income inequality in the province.

Health Care

7. Our publicly administered, universal health care system is cherished throughout Alberta. What policies will your party implement to ensure that health care in the province remains under public control and is accessible to everyone?

We are committed to a publicly funded and publicly delivered healthcare system. We will oppose any legislation or other efforts to privatize healthcare services.

8. After decades of cutbacks, there are thousands of people in the province on waiting lists for surgery, home care, and finding a family doctor. What will your party do to fund more doctors, nursing positions and hospital beds throughout the province to eliminate wait times?

Our party is prepared to provide more funding to expand the role of nurse practitioners in our system. Additionally, we want to improve access to family doctors by providing them with the support they need. Namely, more resources and assistance with the administrative and business side of their practices and better integrating specialists into the primary care system.

We will invest in expanding homecare and longterm to clear up space in our hospitals and acute care system. We will invest \$600 million more in mental health and addictions to bring Alberta in line with recommendations on mental health spending.

Education

9. One of the most important policies for creating a better education system is reducing class sizes. What specific policies will your party implement to hire more teachers and reduce class sizes in primary and secondary schools in Alberta?

Class size guidelines have not kept class sizes low and have been too often ignored. Alberta Liberals support the creation of class size caps and providing \$1.2 billion more for primary education to bring Alberta's spending on public education in line with other jurisdictions.

10. As a result of cutbacks to post-secondary education over the past three decades, average tuition fees in the province have increased radically during that time, adding to the already-record levels of student debt. What will your party do to lower tuition fees and reduce student debt in the province?

Our party supports rolling back the vast majority of tuition increases that took place under the UCP and restoring the PSE funding the UCP cut. We are advocating for the creation of a \$160 million-per-year "Back to Work Grant" program that would help unemployed and underemployed Albertans seek new education and job training opportunities.

The Environment and Resources

11. Albertans care deeply about our environment and believe that climate change is a major issue. What will your party do to reduce our carbon footprint and help lower greenhouse gas emissions?

Alberta Liberals would create a made-in-Alberta revenue-neutral carbon tax to help combat climate change. We would also invest in carbon capture and the renewable energy sector.

Additionally, we would put a greater emphasis not simply on prevention but adaptation to climate change. This would include more realistic budgeting for emergency and disaster preparedness and recovery, creating wildlife corridors, and planting more trees in urban centers.

Indigenous Peoples

12. Where does your party stand in relation to Indigenous rights? What plans do you have to ensure meaningful discussions about the integration of Indigenous peoples into

the economy that flow from their traditional lands? How will your party work to end the many social injustices faced by Indigenous people from across Alberta?

Alberta Liberals believe the government must commit to respecting First Nations' Treaty rights. We would negotiate resource-sharing agreements with First Nations before negotiating Treaty land entitlement agreements.

We recognize the funding gap faced by Indigenous Albertans. Alberta Liberals believe in closing this gap and ensuring First Nation and Metis communities receive adequate funding.

We support mandatory training for all civil/public servants in consultation with First Nations and Indigenous authorities.

We support funding the start-up of new regional Indigenous child protection offices, to be organized by, gifted to and run by First Nations in Alberta. This bold strategy will help ensure Indigenous children are cared for by their communities and organizations controlled by them and stay connected to their communities and way of life.

The Alberta Liberals broadly support the work being done by the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation but believe more needs to be done to help Indigenous Albertans participate in green energy initiatives in addition to natural resources, agriculture, telecommunications, and transportation projects. We support using a portion of carbon tax revenue towards this end.