



## Backgrounder: Recommendations to reduce costs and regulatory burden on business from the Edmonton and Calgary Chambers

### Edmonton Chamber

1. The Province must enhance the competitiveness of Alberta businesses by addressing the ever-increasing taxes, fees and regulatory costs layered onto business from all orders of government. This should include:
  - a. Undertaking a full review of the effects of labour legislation changes on both businesses and workers, including the \$15 minimum wage, the revised Employment Standards Code and changes to the Labour Relations Code.
  - b. Exploring alternatives to the current “one-size-fits-all” minimum wage, including a possible trainee wage or a minimum compensation model that would account for employee benefits not entirely captured in the wage rate (i.e. post-secondary education and training, health insurance, matching RRSP programs, etc.)
  - c. Ensuring that any programs designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions do not undermine the competitiveness of Alberta businesses, and in fact bolster their ability to succeed in the global market.
  - d. Allowing large emitters to comply with the Climate Leadership Plan, in part, by purchasing verified carbon offsets on the global market.

### Calgary Chamber

1. Implement “layered cost” economic impact assessments on provincial policy initiatives which also considers overlap, duplication and additional regulatory burden from all levels of government. As part of the regulatory review process the government should also look to reduce the overall regulatory burden by removing two regulations for every new one that is added on business.
2. Initiate a comprehensive review of Alberta’s corporate tax system within the first year of forming government. This should include:
  - a. Reducing the corporate tax rate
  - b. Broadening and streamlining the Alberta Investor Tax Credit to include all sectors and making it a permanent part of the tax code.
3. Provide reasonable time for consultation before implementing new policies, with appropriate implementation timeframes for businesses and the marketplace to adjust.
4. Ensure climate policy promotes business competitiveness while also working to support innovative technologies and helping to achieve our environmental objectives