



The Honourable Jason Kenney
Premier of Alberta
Office of the Premier
307 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

Dear Premier Kenney,

Alberta's nonprofit and charitable sector is prepared to support the Government of Alberta in this time of crisis to ensure support for communities and individuals. We are a vital aspect of the wider support system and, in many cases, we are at the front-line of caring for this province's most vulnerable.

To ensure continued delivery of essential services in this time of need, the Alberta Nonprofit Network (ABNN)—advocating on behalf of Alberta's nonprofit and charitable organizations—urges the Government of Alberta to ensure additional funding is available to front-line organizations and provide assurance and flexibility regarding ongoing funding agreements. We are eager to establish clear lines of communication with the Government of Alberta and continue discussions on the impacts of COVID-19 on service delivery and the expectations of the sector.

We were pleased to see the province provide emergency funding of \$60 million to support select COVID-19-related social services. It was a clear confirmation of the critical role civil society organizations will play in managing this pandemic. However, it is crucial to recognize that many other front-line nonprofits will see increased demand for their services, including care facilities, food banks, and mental health organizations.

Beyond front-line COVID-19-related services, many more organizations are considering the short- and long-term impacts of COVID-19 on operations. Now that organizations have taken the necessary precautions to protect staff and stakeholders from the spread of the virus, their attention has turned to the impacts that social isolation measures will have on operations, staffing, service delivery, and funding, including lost casino and event revenue.

We urge the Government of Alberta to consider the following recommendations to address these crucial concerns:

1. Provide clarity on the Government of Alberta's commitment to current funding agreements and provide emergency grants to other front-line services.
2. Provide flexibility on expectations within current funding agreements and maintain long-term eligibility to account for the limited ability of organizations to deliver regular programs and services at this time. Specific recommendations include allowing nonprofits to allocate funding to new priorities, delaying reporting deadlines and providing flexibility with meeting expected outcomes.
3. Provide details surrounding the 14-day paid leave entitlement, specifically the necessary administrative processes and procedures within the Employment Standards Code.



It is imperative that the Government of Alberta provide clarity on these fundamental elements, as they significantly impact the operational capacity and long-term sustainability of thousands of organizations provincewide. As a sector, we are eager to partner with Ministers and representatives to ensure nonprofits can take informed and decisive action through this difficult time with as much clarity and confidence as possible.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to meeting to discuss these recommendations and how the nonprofit sector can continue to support the Alberta Government and Albertans in this time of crisis.

Sincerely,

The Alberta Nonprofit Network (ABNN)

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Cc:

The Honourable Demetrios Nicolaidis, Minister of Advanced Education
The Honourable Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Children's Services
The Honourable Rajan Sawhney, Minister of Community and Social Services
The Honourable Leela Aheer, Minister of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
The Honourable Tanya Fir, Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism
The Honourable Jason Nixon, Minister of Environment and Parks
The Honourable Tyler Shandro, Minister of Health
The Honourable Rick Wilson, Minister of Indigenous Relations
The Honourable Jason Copping, Minister of Labour and Immigration
The Honourable Kaycee Madu, Minister of Municipal Affairs
The Honourable Josephine Pon, Minister of Seniors and Housing
The Honourable Nate Glubish, Minister of Service Alberta
The Honourable Travis Toews, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance
The Honourable Grant Hunter, Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction



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About ABNN:

The Alberta Nonprofit Network (ABNN) is an independent network of organizations seeking to advance the cohesive, proactive and resilient nonprofit sector in Alberta. Our network brings together organizations of all sizes and scopes to collectively define and respond to systemic issues impacting the nonprofit sector in Alberta. More information can be found at www.albertanonprofits.ca.