

Low Taxes and
Balanced
Budgets

Patient
Centred-
Health Care

World-Class
Education

Democracy
and
Accountability

Rural Alberta

Standing Up For Rural Alberta



Standing Up For Rural Alberta

Outside Alberta's cities are an abundance of natural resources upon which our entire economy relies.

While the cities may now contain more people, it is still the case that rural Alberta provides the lifeblood of our province's economy and character. When it comes to fairly allocating resources and determining priorities, too often our government loses sight of this or ignores the unique challenges our rural communities face.

Recent land use and energy bills pushed through by the PC government have been an affront to rural property owners

and municipalities, and to the rule of law in general. Bills like 2, 19, 24, 36, and 50 gave the PC Cabinet unprecedented powers to rule by decree, usurping not just property rights, but the role of the courts, municipal autonomy, and the ability of those directly affected to protect their economic rights.

Bill 24, for example, blatantly confiscated all pore space from landowners so government could implement its carbon storage scheme without dissent. The Land Stewardship Act (Bill 36) is now being used to centrally plan all activities and development

across the province. It gives Cabinet the power to make binding decisions over people, businesses, and municipalities without established criteria, without legislative oversight, and without recourse to the courts.

Wildrose understands the unique challenges faced by our rural communities. Whether it is our Municipal Infrastructure, Agriculture, or Property Rights policies, we recognize that the long-term health of Alberta depends on ensuring our rural industries and communities have the support they deserve.

Standing Up for Rural Alberta's Interests

- Improve rural ambulance response times by decentralizing service delivery, and using non-emergency vehicles for transferring patients
- Implement the Wildrose 10/10 MSI plan so rural municipalities are immune from the threats, promises, politics, and unpredictability of provincial politicians
- Within the Wildrose 10/10 MSI plan, commit to doubling water and waste water funding for the next 5 years
- Assemble and publish an online "Alberta Infrastructure Priority List" outlining the rationale and ranking of all capital projects across the province to ensure no parts of Alberta are being ignored for political reasons
- Ensure that all road maintenance is done according to objective prioritization and that contractors are meeting all performance measures
- Ensure that viability evaluations for hospitals and schools take into consideration the role of these institutions in rural communities

Protecting Property Rights

- Pass a motion to entrench the property rights of Albertans in the Canadian Constitution, guaranteeing all Albertans recourse to the courts against the government
- Repeal Bill 24, the Carbon Capture and Storage Act
- Amend Bill 36, the Land Stewardship Act, to protect individual property rights, provide checks on Cabinet's central planning, and include more decision-making power for local authorities
- Provide more fairness and clarity to farmers and ranchers regarding their access to and use of land, water, and other private property
- Amend the Alberta Energy Regulator's legislation (Bill 2) to ensure Albertans' rights to notification, hearing, and independent appeal are respected
- Ensure that all energy extraction leaves the environment and individual property just as healthy and clean as it was before the activity