



# Health Care Action Plan

Update to Albertans

Jason Copping, Minister of Health  
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Alberta

# Four Goals



Decrease Emergency  
Department wait times



Reduce surgery  
wait times



Improve EMS  
response times



Develop  
long-term reforms

# Emergency department access



- More Albertans were able to get emergency care sooner when they called an ambulance or visited the ED
  - Wait time to see a doctor in ER went down by about 10% since November
  - In January, the number of assessed patients waiting in the Alberta's top 14 hospitals for a continuing care space was 179, lower than the 253 patients waiting in November 2022

# Reduced wait times for surgeries



- The number of patients waiting longer for surgery than clinically recommended has dropped by 9.4% since November
- As of November, over 39,200 people were waiting too long for the surgeries they need
- Now, that number has been reduced to about 35,500

# Improved EMS response times



- Putting more ambulances on the road and adding more frontline staff where we can
- The number of Red Alerts in Edmonton and Calgary has dropped significantly over the last three months
  - Edmonton has seen a 92% reduction when comparing January 2023 to 2022.
  - Calgary has seen a 59% reduction over the same period

# Increases in workforce



- AHS added nearly 400 frontline and support workers since November – including doctors, allied health professionals, registered nurses and EMS staff.
- AHS is planning to hire:
  - another 420 frontline and support workers
  - dedicated ED teams to improve patient flow and streamline transfers from paramedics to ED care



# Next Steps

# Looking forward



- Increase focus on rural and remote communities with the greatest needs
- Put supports in place to act on immediate reforms
- Plan for long-term shifts to ease system constraints