

Supporting continuous improvement

Recent legislative changes across government focus on removing barriers to economic growth, speeding up approvals and supporting digital solutions that save Albertans and businesses time and money.

Electricity innovation

Improvements to Alberta's electricity sector are focusing on diverse ways that electricity producers and consumers interact with and use Alberta's power grid.

The government has made significant changes to the *Electricity Statutes (Modernizing Alberta's Electricity Grid) Amendment Act, 2022*. Some of these initiatives include:

- Allowing companies to generate power on site for their own use, and the ability to sell excess power back to the grid for Albertan's use;
- Improving the distribution system plan for electric vehicles, renewable power sources and other distributed energy resources.

These improvements will help boost competition amongst electricity producers and bring long-term savings to the system which benefit consumers.



Financial services regulatory sandbox

A regulatory sandbox is a safe space for companies to test innovative products or services, without immediately meeting all regulatory requirements.

Alberta is the first province in Canada to establish a regulatory sandbox for the finance and fintech sectors. This regulatory sandbox will give applicants time-limited exemptions to certain legislative and regulatory requirements.

This signals the province's support for innovation and cutting-edge products in the expanding world, and attracts investments from fintech and financial companies abroad.

Companies will have a two-year participation period and information about participating companies will be posted on alberta.ca.

Alberta's regulatory sandbox framework was developed based on jurisdictions with established sandboxes including the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, and Australia.

Justice initiatives

Work is ongoing to improve the justice system. Recent changes in the *Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2022* include reducing red tape for appointing justices of the peace and keeping legislation in line with the Criminal Code.

Changes to legislation will also help police find missing people more effectively by allowing them to apply for legal orders remotely and clarifying what information can be requested.



Bundling red tape reduction

The *Red Tape Reduction Statutes Amendment Act, 2022* is the Alberta government's single largest red tape reduction effort to date.

Changes included in the legislation support economic growth and job creation, reduce unnecessary regulation and improve the way the government delivers services to Albertans.

The amendments modernize the means through which Albertans can submit and exchange information. For example, contemporary methods of reporting diseases are now allowed in the *Animal Health Act*.

Similarly, landlords and tenants can now use digital means of exchanging security deposits and other documentation, in the *Residential Tenancies Act*.

Other amendments support economic development and businesses in Alberta. For example, rural electrification associations can now explore and pursue other lines of business, such as the construction of fibre optic infrastructure and the provision of related services.

Municipalities can collaborate with their neighbours to establish an intermunicipal business licensing program, ensuring seamless business mobility across municipal boundaries.

These are just some of more than a dozen amendments that make life easier for Albertans and Alberta businesses emerging from what's been an immensely difficult past couple of years. Details on all of the amendments can be found at www.alberta.ca/cutredtape.

Let's keep going

Alberta's government will continue working to remove regulatory barriers that may be hindering economic growth or interfering with everyday activities. Visit Alberta.ca/CutRedTape to learn more about our ongoing success in reducing red tape and to provide your ideas on where there should be less red tape.

