Alberta 2030: Building Skills for Jobs

Minister Demetrios Nicolaides
Advanced Education
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Context

Key findings from the MacKinnon Report

- Compared to other provinces, Alberta spends more per student, without better results
- Alberta's post-secondary system lacks an overall direction
- Recommendation: That government consult with stakeholders to set a future direction, goals, and a governance model for the province's post-secondary system

Global trends reshaping post-secondary education

- The profile of post-secondary learners is changing
- Higher education is shifting to online and alternative delivery
- The nature and future of work are being transformed through automation and digitization
- Research funding is being outpaced by GDP growth in many jurisdictions
- Public funding remains under pressure, intensifying income challenges for institutions



Alberta 2030 – Work Completed to Date

- Initiative launched (July 2020)
- Extensive stakeholder engagement progress
 - 125+ one-on-one interviews
 - 25+ roundtables
 - Online surveys and a workbook
- Strategy development underway, including finalization of a:
 - Vision
 - Goals
 - Objectives
 - Initiatives
 - Outcomes



Alberta 2030 Vision

Alberta's world-class post-secondary system will equip Albertans with the skills, knowledge and competencies they need to succeed. It will be highly responsive to labour market needs and through innovative programming and excellence in research, contribute to the betterment of an innovative and prosperous Alberta.



Alberta 2030 Goals

1

Access and Student Experience

Lead Canada in providing world-class, affordable, and innovative post-secondary experiences and credentials **(2**]

Skills for Jobs

Ensure every student has the skills, knowledge, and competencies to enjoy fulfilling lives and careers 3

Innovation and commercialization

Unleash Alberta's innovation by supporting post-secondary research that creates new knowledge, capabilities, and companies

4

Internationalization¹

Become a leading destination for top talent to drive the growth of skills, ideas, and innovations locally and globally

Financial sustainability (enabler)

Deliver exceptional value for students, faculty, and Albertans by supporting innovative growth, efficiency, and effectiveness across the system

Governance (driver)

Drive system outcomes through enabling and effective governance



Alberta 2030 Objectives

Access and Student Experience

- 1.1 Empower learners to make informed decisions on post-secondary pathways
- 1.2 Ensure that post-secondary is inclusive and affordable
- 1.3 Foster multiple, flexible career and education pathways
- 1.4 Expand digital and distance education to reach students where they are

Skills for Jobs

- 2.1 Become the first province to offer every student access to work-integrated learning
- 2.2 Grow apprenticeships in careers and trades of the future
- 2.3 Foster the strongest employer, industry, and post-secondary partnership environment in Canada

Innovation and Commercialization

- 3.1 Attract and nurture world-class faculty and students
- 3.2 Drive Alberta's competitiveness in critical areas by aligning resources and incentives
- 3.3 Set a national standard for policies and practices that foster commercialization

Internationalization¹

- 4.1 Attract talented international students to Alberta's post-secondary institutions and communities
- 4.2 Equip learners with international skills and competencies

Financial sustainability (enabler)

- 5.1 Set a global bar for efficiency, transparency, and accountability the post-secondary system
- 5.2 Enable institutions to compete for and grow non-provincial sources of funding, while preserving access for all Albertans

Governance (driver)

6.1 Establish a world-class governance framework to improve system outcomes



Questions?

