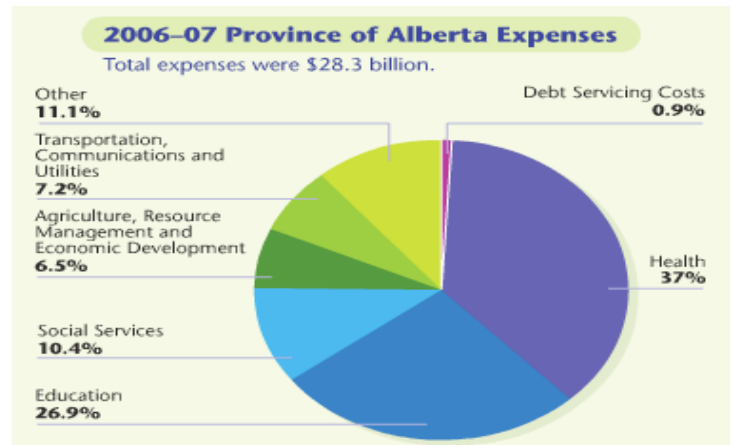


Chapter 6 Provincial Government

A. Why do we need a Provincial government?

- a. take care of Albertans and protect their interests
- b. the following is what Provincial Governments takes care of to help its Citizens. These are all the services the Provincial government gives to its citizens of Alberta
 - i. Health and Wellness
 - ii. Energy
 - iii. Education
 - iv. Seniors and community support
 - v. Tourism and parks
 - vi. Agriculture and food
 - vii. Sustainable resources
 - viii. Aboriginal relations
 - ix. Children's services



1. Provincial government provides services

- 20 departments in the Alberta government
- share responsibility for services with other levels of gov.
- ex. Alberta roads is shared with local, provincial, and federal gov.
- collect taxes to pay for services

2. Educating Albertans

- Alberta government decides (through Alberta education) what is taught and it is common throughout Alberta.
- This department gives money to school boards, support students with special needs

3. Managing Alberta's Resources

- Energy resources (oil and gas) are the Prov. Gov. Responsibility

4. Keeping Albertans Healthy

- Health services such as hospitals

5. Provincial Governments Makes Laws

- elected representatives are called MLA's (members of the legislative assembly)
- MLA's make laws that are obeyed by people of province
- How a law becomes a law:
 1. Motion (known as a **BILL**) called the 1st reading
 2. members and public study bill and give opinion, hold meetings, petitions, etc
 3. 2nd reading in the Legislative assembly – debate and vote
 4. vote passes and goes to 3rd read by the legislative assembly – discuss again
 5. vote again and if passed
 6. sent to Lieutenant Governor to be signed
 7. becomes a law

B. How is the Provincial Government Elected?

- candidates run for positions (MLA's) in the provincial government on behalf of their political party
- they run for the voting district (**constituencies**) in their area

1. Becoming a Candidate – must be:

- and eligible voter
- get a form from the Elections Alberta signed by at least 25 electors in their district

2. Making the Decision – the vote on Election Day – Voters must:

- live in the constituency where they want to vote
- be a Canadian citizen and 18 years or older
- live in Alberta for 6 months before election day.

3. How do you vote?

1. go to voting stations
2. Find the poll clerk and match my card # to the # on their ballot box
3. give them card and get a ballot
4. Go behind screen and put X beside my candidate
5. Fold and give ballot back to returning officer

C. What is the role of the Lieutenant Governor?

- Canada is a **Constitutional Monarchy**
- The Queen's Representative in the **federal government** is the **Governor General**
- The Queen's Representative in the **provincial government** is the **Lieutenant Governor**, who is appointed by the Governor General

D. How is the Alberta Government Structured?

Alberta Legislative

Lieutenant Governor	Premier	Cabinet Cabinet Ministers	Legislative Assembly
Queen's Representative - inviting the leader of the party that wins the election become premier - issuing the Royal Proclamation that calls the Legislature into session - reading the Speech from the Throne to open new session of the Legislature - dissolving or closing the Legislative Assembly so elections can be held	Leader of the Government - leader of the party that got elected and is in power - Ed Stelmach	Responsible for departments - these departments provide services to the province -examples include: Minister of Education, Minister of Environment Minister of Employment Minister of Industry - meet with premier to discuss what should be done in province -working with people in their department to create a budget - research, write and vote on bills - serve of MLA's for constituency	MLA's - serve the needs of the people in their constituency - take part in government Jobs: - bring concerns and views to ministers - help solve problems - ask opinions about programs and government -attend celebrations/events -meet with special interest groups -keep informed about issues Opposition members are members of a party not in power (NDP)

D. How can people participate at the provincial level?

- people can influence decisions by
- voting in referendums,
- expressing opinions about bills,
- becoming a candidate for the Legislature,
- contacting MLA's about concerns,
- voting in elections

chapter six **vocabulary**

A **REFERENDUM** allows eligible voters to vote on an issue proposed by the government.

SUBSIDIES are funds that the government gives to those who need help to participate in a program.

A **BILL** is a proposed law. It has to do with the province. When you want to suggest a bill you talk to your MLA (see Our MLA's).

A **CABINET MINISTER** is an elected representative who is in charge of a provincial government department.

An **ACT** is a bill that has been passed by the legislative assembly and signed by the Lieutenant Governor. It is also known as a law.

A **POLITICAL PARTY** is an organization made up of people who have similar points of view about how to govern.

Voting districts are called **CONSTITUENCIES**. Alberta is divided into different **CONSTITUENCIES** for federal elections.

A **CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY** is a system of government in which a monarchy is the head of state. In Canada the prime minister is the head of government.

The **SPEECH FROM THE THRONE** describes what the government plans to do during the upcoming session of the legislature.

CONSTITUENTS are the people living in the constituency that a member of government represents.

An **OPPOSITION MEMBER** is an elected member of the Legislative Assembly who is not a member of the party in power.