

Alberta Party

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Mandel: “We’re going to stop giving our lunch money away to the bully.” Alberta Party sets out aggressive plan to bring jobs and head offices back to Alberta.

March 25, 2019 -Edmonton, AB- Alberta Party Leader Stephen Mandel announced this morning how an Alberta Party government will aggressively bring jobs and head offices back to Alberta. This includes an ambitious plan to position Alberta as the most attractive location for film and motion pictures to attract thousands of jobs away from British Columbia.

“British Columbia has been a poor partner in Confederation, hijacking access to the coast while bleeding jobs and wealth away from Alberta. The NDP has done nothing to stop this. When I’m Premier, we’re going to stop giving our lunch money away to the bully, and aggressively bring jobs and head offices back to Alberta.”

Mandel noted that a huge area of opportunity is in Alberta’s screen industries:

“Alberta has the beauty and talent to be the preferred location for film and television production in Canada, but the NDP has completely ignored this opportunity. The Alberta Party will put incentives in place to massively expand our screen industries, which will generate spin-off benefits for every city, town and village across our province.”

For more information or to arrange an interview:

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Backgrounder

An Alberta Party government will make aggressive moves to expand Alberta's screen industries and bring jobs and head offices back to Alberta -- especially from British Columbia.

Film in Alberta Program

- The Film in Alberta Program will be the most attractive program of its kind in Canada. Corporations will receive a tax credit of up to 65% of eligible salaries or a tax credit of 35% on all eligible expenditures within Alberta.
 - The corporation must have a permanent establishment in Alberta.
 - Some genres will be excluded from the credit including, but not limited to, pornography, talk shows, live sports events, game shows, reality television, and advertising.
 - There will be no limit on production or video length. This will make Alberta the first jurisdiction in Canada to encourage YouTube and online creators to produce content here in Alberta. It will also attract e-sports broadcasting to Alberta.
 - Reduce red tape to film in locations under provincial jurisdiction.
 - The program is based on Manitoba's model, which includes incentives for rural productions to achieve the full credit.
- Hollywood has been coming to Alberta to make films since 1917. Productions made in Alberta have won more Emmys, Golden Globes and Oscars than any other region in the country. Alberta has an incredibly rich and diverse setting for film and television production -- including mountains, foothills, plains, farmland, boreal forest, and urban locations. This competitive advantage can't be offshored.
- In 2017, the total volume of film and television production in Alberta was \$308 million, while British Columbia and Ontario were close to \$3 billion each. This program is expected to increase the economic impact of screen industries in Alberta to approximately \$1.5 billion with benefits seen within the first few years. Spin-off economic activity across the province will boost hotels, the food industry and other support services.
- The industry employs a variety of highly skilled workers such as programmers, electricians, and carpenters. Stimulating a huge expansion in this industry will create thousands of high-skilled, well-paying jobs and retain post-secondary graduates in Alberta.

Welcome to Alberta Program

- The Welcome to Alberta Program will aggressively work to bring corporate head offices to Alberta. A corporation relocating its head office from another jurisdiction to Alberta will receive a corporate tax holiday for two years. A corporation that relocates its head office from British Columbia to Alberta will receive a corporate tax holiday for three years.
- To be eligible, the corporation must relocate its corporate head office to an Alberta address, and employ 250 or more individuals, who are residents and paying taxes in Alberta. When conditions are met, the corporate tax holiday period will commence.
 - The corporation must maintain 250 or more employees in Alberta throughout the corporate tax holiday period to remain eligible. A corporation that fails to maintain this requirement will forfeit the corporate tax holiday and be required to pay the applicable corporate tax with interest.
 - The corporation must commit to keep its head office in Alberta for a minimum of five years from the start of the corporate tax holiday period. A corporation that leaves before the end of the five-year commitment period will forfeit the corporate tax holiday and be required to pay the applicable corporate tax with interest.
- Corporate head offices are significant boosters of the economy. In addition to directly employing large numbers of skilled individuals, they also stimulate the growth of small businesses, help establish clusters of industrial activity, generate spin-off activity (such as restaurants and hotel rooms), and contribute to local communities through charitable donations, partnerships with nonprofits, and other corporate social responsibility efforts.

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