



May 9, 2023

Thank you for engaging in this critical election. It was Rachel Notley's pleasure to speak with partners in the Nonprofit Vote partners campaign on April 24th in downtown Calgary, and we appreciate you reaching out.

Time and time again, when Albertans experience family emergencies, economic downturns, and emergencies like the fires we are seeing across the province, community organizations step up. You do essential work to support Albertans and meet their needs - everything from shelter, to food, to mental health counselling and settlement and senior support. You also make families and communities brighter every day with sports programs and access to arts and culture.

The Alberta NDP has announced that, if elected, an Alberta NDP government would make an immediate 50 per cent increase in both Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) and Family and Community Safety (FCS) programs, increasing the combined budget from \$160 million to \$240 million.

These grants support non-profits and volunteer organizations that provide community support services, encourage employment, and prevent crisis situations. These funds also support Albertans experiencing crisis situations including family violence, sexual violence and abuse.

In addition, today we announced Hometown Alberta. This includes a 50 per cent increase to the Community Facility Enhancement Program in crucial support. Not-for profits will still be eligible and this will allow more funding for facilities and projects.

We appreciate the opportunity to reiterate our commitment to support the nonprofit sector. We know you have been under extreme pressure to deliver more services to more people. Despite the sharp increase in both demand and operating costs, there has been no additional support from the UCP for your sector's core services.

We have heard your requests outlined in your advocacy letters from the Non Profit Vote campaign. We commit to:

- 1.) Provide appropriate funding in a stable and predictable manner to address the impacts of the pandemic and inflation and lack of support.
- 2.) Implement better data collection in collaboration with not-for-profits.

- 3.) Support a sector-led workforce strategy and assistance for the sector with recruitment and retention issues by addressing wage gaps and mental health support for workers. As part of this strategy, we will create an option for not-for-profits that are interested in delivering a workplace pension and we will assist with admin and operations.
- 4.) Create a door-to-government.
- 5.) Building trust and a better relationship with the government will ensure an empowered sector.

We value your feedback and our relationship with the sector. Please do not hesitate to contact our team with any concerns or questions at policy@albertandp.ca

The Alberta NDP