

Connecting

Learning & Work



**Alberta's Commitment to
Career Development**

Alberta



In today's rapidly changing labour market, now more than ever, young people and adults are facing increasingly complex decisions when choosing education, training and career paths. Government's commitment to career development helps Albertans discover their talents and aspirations, explore and choose occupations and jobs and effectively pursue various pathways throughout their education and work life.

What is Connecting Learning and Work?

Connecting Learning and Work: Alberta's Commitment to Career Development creates stronger linkages between education and work and provides more coordinated access to career and employment programs and services in an ever-changing labour market.

Connecting Learning and Work demonstrates how provincial government ministries, particularly Advanced Education and Technology, Education and Employment and Immigration, are working together to support the career development of Albertans from kindergarten through grade 12, to post-secondary and in the workplace.



"Alberta's prosperity is built and sustained by individuals who are fully engaged in maximizing their potential in living, learning and working."

– Vision of Connecting Learning and Work

Why do we need Connecting Learning and Work?

A skilled workforce is an important contributor to the province's strong economy and the high quality of life Albertans enjoy. The contributions of a skilled workforce are maximized through a coordinated, integrated, intentional learning and career development system.

Results of a Government of Alberta consultation with stakeholders confirmed that many people face challenges finding career information, making career decisions, accessing education and training providers, finding employment, adapting to change or moving from one job or occupation to another. As a result, stakeholders strongly supported Connecting Learning and Work for the following reasons:

1. **Success of our youth.** A commitment to career development is a contributing factor to increasing high school completion rates, as well as achieving easier, faster, more successful youth transitions to further learning and work.
2. **Labour Market Demands.** In the midst of fluctuating labour demands, Alberta is focusing on the efficient and smooth movement of individuals between learning and work. Information and supports are needed for all, including newcomers to the province who are eager to contribute.
3. **Productivity.** Efficient transitions and individuals well-matched with their learning, work and life impacts productivity and overall quality of life. Access to strong career development services and systems enhances the productivity of the workforce.



What is Connecting Learning and Work doing?

Outcomes	Priority Actions	Impact on Performance Measures
<p>An integrated learning and career development system throughout Alberta.</p>	<p>Create new ways for learners to experience different career paths. (e.g., mobile training centres, skills centres).</p> <hr/> <p>Enable more formal and informal learning to be recognized by the learning system (e.g., dual credit opportunities, adult academic upgrading, prior learning, foreign qualification recognition).</p>	<p>High school completion rate of students within five years of entering Grade 10.</p> <p>Overall agreement of parents, teachers and the public that students are taught the attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.</p> <hr/> <p>Percentage of post-secondary graduates with prior learning who reported that they had received the transfer credit they expected.</p>
<p>Improved access throughout life for individuals to engage in career and employment programs and services so they can acquire career planning and career management skills.</p>	<p>Lead the collaborative development of community-based career development services including reviewing and strengthening existing Labour Market Information Centres.</p> <hr/> <p>Strengthen the delivery of existing and support new and innovative career programs and services for K-12 students and adults.</p>	<p>Usage of the Labour Market Information Centres.</p> <p>Percentage of participants in skills programs employed post intervention.</p> <hr/> <p>Overall student, parent, teacher, school board member and public satisfaction with the quality of basic education.</p> <p>Annual dropout rates of students aged 14-18.</p> <p>High school to post-secondary transition rate of students within six years of entering Grade 10.</p>
<p>Alberta's workforce will be strengthened through individuals who will continually develop and enhance their employability and technical skills.</p>	<p>Work with employers to increase training and learning opportunities that enable adult Albertans to upgrade their skills while working.</p>	<p>Employer satisfaction with the skills and quality of work from advanced education system graduates.</p>



Strengths we are building upon

- The Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) website is the provincial gateway to help Albertans plan and achieve educational and career success. It provides information for career planning, post-secondary education and training, educational funding, job search, labour market trends and workplace issues.
- Refocusing and redevelopment of high school Career and Technology Studies courses and the implementation of the Knowledge and Employability courses is underway.
- We continue to raise awareness among students, parents and educators of the importance of planning for post-secondary education through initiatives such as Learning Clicks, transition kits, transition guides for students with disabilities and the Alberta Centennial Savings Plan.
- Support continues for innovative cross-ministry and community-based career development projects.
- Innovative partnerships between post-secondary institutions and K-12 school authorities are enabling high school students to graduate with a dual credential.
- Industry support for the apprenticeship and industry training system is growing and access to training is increasing.
- Improving student loans, scholarships and other forms of student assistance is ongoing.
- The Campus Alberta policy framework for the publicly funded advanced education system ensures the system is responsive to learner, economic and social needs.
- Alberta's network of 40 Labour Market Information Centres throughout the province provides career and employment services to individuals, communities and employers.



What Alberta government strategies does Connecting Learning and Work support?

Building and Educating Tomorrow's Workforce is the Alberta government's labour force strategy. The strategy's goals are to: **Inform** Albertans and employers about labour market trends and training and education opportunities; **Attract** job seekers to Alberta; **Develop** the knowledge and skills of Albertans along with innovative workplaces; and **Retain** workers in Alberta's labour market.

- The Inform theme of Building and Educating Tomorrow's Workforce is being realized through the activities of Connecting Learning and Work.

A Learning Alberta ensures greater opportunities are available to Albertans to enhance their education, maximize their potential, and contribute to their communities and the continued prosperity of the province now and in the future.

- Connecting Learning and Work encourages the involvement of individuals, employers and communities in advanced education and makes post-secondary education more accessible to Albertans.

Initiatives to increase Alberta's high school completion rates.

- Connecting Learning and Work supports these initiatives by helping students, teachers, parents, employers and communities to make the connections between classroom education and future occupational choices. It also supports efforts aimed at helping students find and develop their unique passions and talents.

Government is continuing to publicly report on the progress of these strategies.

For more information on:

Connecting Learning and Work:

Advanced Education and Technology

Phone: 780-415-9743

Alberta Education

Phone: 780-427-7219

Employment and Immigration

Phone: 780-415-9285

On career development:

The Career Information Hotline

1-800-661-3753 (free from anywhere in Alberta)

780-422-4266 (in Edmonton)

Alberta Learning Information Service

alis.alberta.ca/clw

