



Premier's Message

In February 1997, I announced *People and Prosperity*, a human resource strategy for Albertans. *People and Prosperity* identified a vision of skilled, knowledgeable and confident Albertans who contribute to and share in Alberta's economic prosperity. Recognizing the strong links between economic prosperity and learning, skills development, and knowledge and innovation, all government ministries are involved in *People and Prosperity's* coordinated approach to human resource development.

People and Prosperity: Accomplishments and Outlook reports to Albertans on our progress to date. And considerable progress has been made. Through collaboration with our public and private partners, we are providing expanded learning and work opportunities for all Albertans, encouraging lifelong learning, and implementing best practices in workplaces and in human resource development. These accomplishments are recorded in the following pages.

We recognize that there is more to be done. *People and Prosperity: Accomplishments and Outlook* also comments on the challenges we face. It invites Albertans to participate in developing new strategies to maintain our momentum toward the *People and Prosperity* vision. The centre of this report contains a tear-out survey and postage-paid envelope, and the survey is also on the Internet. Please take a few moments to tell us your priorities for future strategies.

"People development" is essential to the vitality of our families and communities, and an important component of the Alberta Advantage. Your input will help ensure that Albertans are well-positioned to succeed in the ever-changing global economy and share in Alberta's prosperity.

Ralph Klein



Executive Summary

PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY VISION

Introduction

All Albertans develop and apply their knowledge, skills and talents to their full potential, resulting in competent, confident, self-renewing people who contribute to and share in Alberta's economic prosperity.

This document reports to Albertans on progress over the past two years on *People and Prosperity*, Alberta's human resource development strategy. When the strategy was released in February 1997, Premier Klein noted that the development of Albertans is central to the continuing vitality of Alberta's economy and communities. Promoting the development of the province's human resource potential is crucial – to an individual's self-reliance and ability to earn income, and also to building a strong economy, and preventing future social costs such as poverty, crime, and poor nutrition and health. This view was affirmed by Albertans at the September 1997 Growth Summit.

Through *People and Prosperity*, government has collaborated with public and private sector partners in developing a comprehensive set of goals and actions to ensure that Albertans are ready to meet emerging work-

force challenges and achieve their personal and economic potential. *People and Prosperity* updates our progress toward these goals, comments on implications for the future and invites Albertans to participate in identifying new strategies to maintain progress toward the *People and Prosperity* vision.

This document is organized according to the six *People and Prosperity* goals. For each goal, there is a summary of accomplishments, a set of performance indicators that measure success in meeting the *People and Prosperity* goals, and a discussion of opportunities and challenges for the future. Information on resources available to Albertans to assist them with their human resource development needs is included in the section on Goal One.

achieving our full



Executive Summary

Conclusion

The activities identified in People and Prosperity 1997 have been initiated and their impacts are being measured. Departments monitor their progress on an ongoing basis and pursue new opportunities to move toward the People and Prosperity goals. Perhaps partly as a result of these efforts, Alberta has achieved the highest rate of job creation in the country and one of the highest rates of economic growth.

However, Alberta's competitive advantage may only be sustained through a comprehensive and progressive approach to human resource development. Responses to questions posed in this document will be carefully considered to ensure that People and Prosperity is innovative and relevant to the needs of Albertans.

Return to Index

INDEX