
Appendix B: Priority Actions

Environmental stewardship

- Explore common methodologies to evaluate the economic, social, and environmental impacts of oil sands development.
- Revise the current environmental impact assessment process to support cumulative effects management.
- Create economic, social, and environmental performance measures and report progress regularly.
- Continue to commit to carbon capture and storage projects to reduce the impacts of industrial greenhouse gas emissions.
- Increase the effectiveness of multi-stakeholder groups and associations including the Cumulative Environmental Management Association.
- Develop and implement regulations to reduce the inventory of tailings and increase the pace of reclamation in the oil sands areas.
- Encourage communities to reduce their footprint through adopting standards for environmentally sustainable buildings, developing alternative transportation modes, and creating community environmental programs.

Strengthening communities

- Identify processes to better assess social and infrastructure needs related to oil sands development.
- Continue to implement the community development plan to address housing shortages in Fort McMurray.
- Investigate opportunities to regionalize municipal service delivery and financing to facilitate effective allocation of resources to high-growth areas.
- Work with industry to develop financial contribution strategies to support the development of public and community infrastructure.

Economic prosperity

- Initiate an independent review of oil sands research and innovation systems to identify gaps and develop an integrated, efficient, and coordinated approach to oil sands development.
- Establish Alberta as a world-class centre for clean-energy research and innovation through government/industry partnerships and investments in research and demonstration of technology projects.
- Leverage bitumen royalties to develop value-added oil sands products, and establish a government-led organization to promote integrated chemical cluster development in the Industrial Heartland.
- Actively support the replacement of natural gas as an oil sands input fuel with a variety of potential substitutes including synthetic gas from bitumen components.

Building relations

- Within the parameters of the *Land-use Framework*, develop a regional plan for the Lower Athabasca Region that integrates provincial policies, establishes land-use objectives, and provides the context for decision-making.
- Develop a coordinated approach to further enable the Government of Alberta to work with the federal government on matters of common jurisdiction or interest.
- Conduct a pilot project to assess the cumulative environmental impacts of oil sands development on the rights and traditional land uses of Aboriginal people.
- Work with the federal government to create a pilot project for collaboration on First Nations consultation.