

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a small pine seedling. The seedling has a thick, dark brown root ball covered in moss and small white perlite granules. The person's hands are visible, with one hand supporting the base and the other holding the sides. The background is a soft-focus forest with green foliage.

Help Alberta's Forest Industry Thrive

This election, help forestry take root as a central issue.





What You Need to Know About Alberta's Forest Sector

Forestry is one of the most important sectors of the Alberta economy. Today, forestry contributes over **\$7 billion** annually to the economy, **employs 40,000 Albertans** and generates over **\$750 million in provincial and municipal taxes**. When the industry thrives, our economy thrives... as do our forests.



Our Forest Industry Requires

- A stable and predictable regulatory regime
- A competitive taxation environment
- A stable wood supply

What Forestry Means to Albertans

- Healthy forests
- Stable, well-paying jobs
- Investment in people, communities, and capital

A Cornerstone of Our Economy

A stable wood supply is central to the Alberta economy, to the success of the forestry sector, and to the communities in this province that depend on forestry for their prosperity.



3 Keys to a Secure Wood Supply:

Certainty Reductions in wood supply mean we make fewer products and employ fewer people.

Commitment Protecting our forests from fire and pine beetle takes commitment from both industry and government.

Consistency Policy and regulatory changes can have a real impact on how we operate. A collaborative approach to forest policy, that takes cumulative effects into account, is essential.

Staying Competitive

Our forest industry competes with producers from all over the world. Our competitors pay lower wages and are closer to major markets. We invest in our people and facilities to stay competitive, but it's a challenge. *Here is what government can do to help:*

- **Streamline Regulations** Governments must carefully evaluate the impact of regulations on the economy and forestry jobs.
- **Invest in Better Transportation** Our rail and port facilities are strained. Without better infrastructure that allows us to reliably get our products to market, we risk losing market share and jobs to competitors outside of Alberta.
- **Fight for a Fair Deal** We are being treated unfairly by the United States. Help us fight for a fair deal for Alberta producers in the Softwood Lumber Dispute.

Seizing the Opportunity

With the right leadership from industry and government, there are opportunities for diversification and growth. Here are three ways government can help:



Build Public Projects with Wood

Choosing wood should be a priority in public projects. Building codes must be updated to encourage the use of wood products where feasible.

Image Courtesy of Tom Arban Photography Inc.



Help Us Develop New Products

Wood-derived biofuels have a low carbon footprint and make use of a renewable, sustainably harvested resource. Engineered wood products are replacing traditional construction materials. With increased investment in *R&D*, Alberta can be a world leader in the use of wood and pulp products.



Encourage the Development of New Markets

Like Alberta's energy sector, forestry is very dependent on the US market. Government and industry partnerships can help open doors in other markets and grow our sector.

BEFORE THE UPCOMING ELECTION, CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ISSUES AFFECTING ALBERTA'S FORESTRY SECTOR AND THE COMMUNITIES THAT DEPEND ON IT.



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