



Description

This trifold is intended to provide information and guidance to enable APP Ambassadors to:

- disseminate the APP educational content via one-on-one interactions with the general public
- provide key reference information to be used as discussion points during these interactions

APP Primary Focus

A majority (>50%) on an Alberta Independence Referendum



Why we need a referendum.

Since Alberta joined confederation in 1905, we have been subjugated to the Federal Government in Ottawa and have never received a fair deal.

There are essentially only **two options** to effectively rectify Alberta's subservience to the federal government:

1. Open the Constitution and renegotiate with the other provinces and the Federal Government
2. Trigger the Clarity Act via a successful Provincial Referendum on Independence

Option1: Open the Constitution

To open and renegotiate the constitution, Alberta would have to overcome the following hurdles:

1. Agreement from 7 of the 10 provinces representing 50% of their population.
2. A majority vote in the House of Commons
3. A majority vote in the Senate
4. Supreme Court approval*
5. Quebec's de-facto veto that could be used at any time during the process

***Note:** The Supreme Court comprises the following judges:

- i. 3 from Ontario
- ii. 3 from Quebec
- iii. 1 from the Atlantic provinces
- iv. 2 from the Western Canadian provinces & Territories

Clearly, option 1 is virtually impossible to achieve and even if it is achieved, negotiations can take years, if not decades.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon all APP members to:

- ❖ assume the role of APP Ambassadors
- ❖ Commit to learning the rationale for a referendum on independence
- ❖ **Engage, Inform, Educate & Inspire ALL ALBERTANS**

Option 2: Trigger the Clarity Act

The Clarity Act states that a Province may **not** unilaterally declare Independence.

However, if a dissenting province poses a CLEAR question on a referendum, requiring a **Yes** or **No** answer, that results in a positive majority, then the Federal Government is **legally obligated** to negotiate in good faith for a specified period of time.

The preamble to the Act states that: negotiations may lead to secession; this also implies that if the dissenting province successfully negotiates all their requirements, then they would probably choose to remain in Canada, with sovereignty over the negotiated outcomes, as an independent nation within Canada - i.e., the same status as that currently enjoyed by Quebec

IT IS CRITICAL TO UNDERSTAND THAT:

- The Clarity Act is a **significant tool to avoid** the drawn-out negotiations that would result with option 1 – opening the constitution
- Independence **does not necessarily mean** secession from Canada

Reference: The Rationale For Restructuring Alberta's Relationship With Canada
<https://albertaprospersityproject.com/education-2/>

Did You Know?

Financial

- ❖ Annually Alberta
 - pays \$60 billion in federal taxes
 - receives \$27 billion in transfer payments
 - overcontributes \$3 billion to the CPP
 - overcontributes \$1 billion to EI
- ❖ Since 1965 Alberta has contributed nearly \$700 billion net without any return
- ❖ Over the past 12 years Alberta has paid \$240 billion in equalization payments
 - Approximately \$4000 to \$ 6000 for everyone in Alberta per year
- ❖ Alberta is by far the largest contributor of equalization payments in Canada.
 - 2 out of every 3 dollars of equalization payment goes to Quebec- Even when Quebec runs a surplus budget and Alberta runs a deficit

Oil & Gas

- ❖ Trudeau plans to eliminate 42+% of the oil and gas industry by 2030.
 - Will **any company remain** in Alberta with those numbers?
- ❖ **6000 + products originate from oil.**
 - Anesthetic agents, tires, cell phones, computers, clothing, skis, refrigerators, ink, shoes.....

Oil & Gas (cont'd)

- ❖ Ottawa attacks Alberta with restrictive legislation
 - Bill C69 (Impact Assessment Act) effectively blocking new pipelines
 - Bill C48 (B.C.'s Tanker Ban) based on unproven environmental concerns (**only applies to Western Canada**)
 - Federal Carbon Tax on Oil & Gas deemed illegal by the Alberta Supreme Court but overruled by the Supreme Court
- ❖ Demand for oil is not decreasing, yet we are forced to import and pay more for oil that **we could be producing within Canada**
- ❖ Canada imports oil from Saudi Arabia, Venezuela etc. who **have much poorer environmental and human rights standards than** Canadian Oil producers
- ❖ Canadian technology is contributing to reducing carbon footprint
- ❖ Fossil fuels are still the dominant global source of energy while much hyped renewables are causing skyrocketing electricity prices and increasing blackouts, poverty and hardships, not just in Canada, but around the world as well

Political

- ❖ Since 1905, Alberta has never had fair representation in confederation.
 - Alberta has ALL the resources to be the richest nation in the world with the lowest taxes BUT has ZERO negotiating leverage with abusive Ottawa without a referendum on Alberta Independence.
 - Ontario & Quebec hold 199 of 338 seats in the House of Commons. Alberta only has 38.
 - Ontario, Quebec & Maritimes have 7 justices in the supreme court while all western provinces & NWT have 2.
- ❖ AHS operates in the **highest** quartile in **cost** but the **lowest** quartile in **quality**
- ❖ “Republic” means “in everyone’s interest” where elected leaders would be governed by actual law. It protects people’s rights, freedoms, and prosperity in a way democracy does not.