

2026 Referendum Minutes for Mission

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These minutes for the referendum are meant to help folks consider the questions before their vote on October 19, 2026. First, the question is read aloud. It would be helpful to also include it in writing, either on a screen or bulletin. Next, there is a reframing of the question in plain language. While stories are more persuasive than facts, there is one included for each question, to help provide context. There is question and grounding scripture for folks to consider as they make their decisions. This is all intended to help folks base their deliberations in faith and facts as they vote.

Other Resources: [Alberta Referendum 2026: A Guide for CACG Members](#)

[Referendum Questions Decoder | Alberta October 19, 2026](#)

[Education for All — AWARE](#)

[A Nonprofit's Guide to Alberta's October Referendum — Blog 1](#)

BALLOT QUESTION 1

BALLOT QUESTION 1 (*Read aloud*)

Do you support the Government of Alberta taking increased control over immigration for the purposes of decreasing immigration to more sustainable levels, prioritizing economic migration and giving Albertans first priority on new employment opportunities?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE (*This is about provincial control over immigration*)

Should Alberta seek greater control over the immigration decisions that Ottawa currently makes, with a goal of fewer newcomers? AND Should Alberta receive greater authority to prioritize Albertans when filling employment opportunities?

A RELEVANT FACT TO CONSIDER:

Alberta grew from 4.42 Million to 5.04 M between 2020 and 2025.

In the third quarter of 2025, the net international migration to Alberta was 197, while the interprovincial migration was 5652.

Source: Statistics Canada [Population estimates, quarterly](#)

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

Does this proposal solve a real issue, and does it address the root cause of that issue?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE: Leviticus 19:33-34 (Inclusive)

Do not mistreat the foreigners who reside in your land. The foreigner who lives among you must be treated like one of your own. Love them as you love yourself, for you too were a foreigner in the land of Egypt. I am your God

Hebrews 13:1-2 (NRSV)

Continue to love each other as sisters and brothers. Don't neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some people have entertained angels without knowing it.

BALLOT QUESTION 2

BALLOT QUESTION 2 *(Read aloud)*

Do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law mandating that only Canadian citizens, permanent residents and individuals with an Alberta-approved immigration status will be eligible for provincially-funded programs, such as health care, education and other social services?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE *(This is about eligibility for and access to provincially funded services)* Should the province cut off health care, schooling, and social services for people living in Alberta on temporary permits (like students, temporary foreign workers, asylum seekers) unless the province separately approves their status?

RELEVANT FACTS TO CONSIDER:

In Calgary, 2361 children attending public school are at risk of losing access to education. This includes current K-11 students who have not yet been able to provide immigration papers, and those whose study permits will expire in September.

Source: CBC News Edmonton June 30, 2026

United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26.1

Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

Does this proposal strengthen our community?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 10:17-19 (Inclusive)

For God is the God of gods, the Sovereign of sovereigns,
the great God, powerful and awe-inspiring, who has no favorites and cannot be bribed;
who brings justice to the orphan and the widowed,
and who befriends the foreigner among you with food and clothing.

In the same way, you too must befriend the foreigner,
for you were once foreigners yourselves in the land of Egypt.

BALLOT QUESTION 3

BALLOT QUESTION 3 (*Read aloud*)

Assuming that all Canadian citizens and permanent residents continue to qualify for social support programs as they do now, do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law requiring all individuals with a non-permanent legal immigration status to reside in Alberta for at least 12 months before qualifying for any provincially-funded social support programs?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE (*This is about eligibility for and access to provincially funded services*) Should the province make people on temporary permits wait a full year in Alberta before they can access any provincial social support program?

A RELEVANT FACT TO CONSIDER:

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice.

Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability. *Source: The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Sections 7 and 15 (1)*

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

Does this proposal ensure fairness and dignity for all?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:34-40 (Inclusive)

The ruler will say to those on the right, “Come, you blessed of my Abba God! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world! For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me; naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me; in prison and you came to visit me.”

Then these just will ask, “When did we see you hungry and feed you, or see you thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you as a stranger and invite you in, or clothe you in your nakedness? When did we see you ill or in prison and come to visit you?”

The ruler will answer them, “The truth is, every time you did this for the least of my sisters or brothers, you did it for me.”

BALLOT QUESTION 4

BALLOT QUESTION 4 (*Read aloud*)

Assuming that all Canadian citizens and permanent residents continue to qualify for public health care and education as they do now, do you support the Government of Alberta charging a reasonable fee or premium to individuals with a non-permanent immigration status living in Alberta for their and their family's use of the health care and education systems?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE (*This is about eligibility for and access to provincially funded services*) Should the province charge fees or premiums for health care and schooling to non-permanent residents?

A RELEVANT FACT TO CONSIDER:

In their first year, 90% of immigrants pay taxes. Recent immigrants contribute between \$5 and 7.8 billion annually in provincial taxes, far more than \$1.6 billion in health, education and social service costs cited by the provincial government.

Source: Calgary Herald, May 15, 2026

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

Does this proposal solve a real issue, and does it address the root cause of that issue?

Does this proposal ensure fairness and dignity for all?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 7:5-7 (Common English Bible)

If you truly reform your ways and your actions; if you treat each other justly; if you stop taking advantage of the immigrant, orphan, or widow; if you don't shed the blood of the innocent in this place, or go after other gods to your own ruin, only then will I dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave long ago to your ancestors for all time.

BALLOT QUESTION 5

BALLOT QUESTION 5 *(Read aloud)*

Do you support the Government of Alberta introducing a law requiring individuals to provide proof of citizenship, such as a passport, birth certificate or citizenship card, to vote in an Alberta provincial election?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE *(This is about election integrity and citizenship requirements)* Should Alberta voters be required to show proof of citizenship (passport, birth certificate, citizenship card) to cast a ballot?

A RELEVANT FACT TO CONSIDER:

From 2013 to 2024, Alberta recorded seven cases of voter fraud, with a total of five illegal votes being cast. More specifically, there were three people who voted twice, and two voters who weren't eligible.

Source: St. Albert Gazette May 27, 2024

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

Does this proposal solve a real issue, and does it address the root cause of that issue?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 27:19 (Inclusive)

“Cursed are those who withhold justice from foreigners, or from orphans or the widow or the widower.” Then the people will say, “Amen!”

BALLOT QUESTION 6

BALLOT QUESTION 6 *(Read aloud)*

Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to have provincial governments, and not the federal government, select the justices appointed to provincial King's Bench and Appeal courts?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE:

Should the provinces, rather than the federal government, choose the judges who sit on the provincial superior courts?

RELEVANT FACTS TO CONSIDER:

To make this change would require agreement of at least seven provinces totalling 50% + of the Canadian population, as well as both houses of Parliament. Alberta could start negotiations, but not act alone.

Source: [THE CONSTITUTION ACTS 1867 to 1982](#)

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

Does this proposal strengthen our communities, democratic relationships, and long-term stability?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 1:16-17 (NIV)

I charged your judges at that time: 'Give the members of your community a fair hearing and judge rightly between one person and another, whether kin or resident alien. You must not be partial in judging: hear out the small and the great alike; you shall not be intimidated by anyone, for the judgment is God's. Any case that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it.'

BALLOT QUESTION 7

BALLOT QUESTION 7 *(Read aloud)*

Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to abolish the unelected federal Senate?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE:

Should the provinces push to eliminate the Senate via Constitutional reform?

RELEVANT FACTS TO CONSIDER:

Abolishing the Senate requires the unanimous consent of Parliament and all 10 provinces under s.41 of the Constitution Act 1982. A single province can veto.

Source: [2014 SCC 32 \(CanLII\) | Reference re Senate Reform](#)

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

What problem is this proposal trying to solve? And does it address the root cause?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURES:

Daniel 2.21 (CEB) God is the one who changes times and eras, who dethrones one king, only to establish another, who grants wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those with insight.

Proverbs 11.14 (NRSV) Where there is no guidance, a nation falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

BALLOT QUESTION 8

BALLOT QUESTION 8 *(Read aloud)*

Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to allow provinces to opt out of federal programs that intrude on provincial jurisdiction such as health care, education, and social services, without a province losing any of the associated federal funding for use in its social programs?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE:

Should provinces be able to leave federal programs (like federal pharmacare, dental care, or child care transfers) while still collecting the full cash that would have come with them?

RELEVANT FACTS TO CONSIDER:

To make this change would require agreement of at least seven provinces totalling 50% + of the Canadian population, as well as both houses of Parliament. Alberta could start negotiations, but not act alone.

Source: [THE CONSTITUTION ACTS 1867 to 1982](#)

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

Does this proposal strengthen our communities, democratic relationships, and long-term stability?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE:

Romans 13:8 (NIV) Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.

1 Peter 5:2 Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

BALLOT QUESTION 9

BALLOT QUESTION 9 *(Read aloud)*

Do you support the Government of Alberta working with the governments of other willing provinces to amend the Canadian Constitution to better protect provincial rights from federal interference by giving a province's laws dealing with provincial or shared areas of constitutional jurisdiction priority over federal laws when the province's laws and federal laws conflict?

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE:

When a provincial law conflicts with a federal law in a shared area (like immigration, health, or environment), should the provincial law take precedence?

RELEVANT FACTS TO CONSIDER:

In Canada, we have what is known as the “doctrine of Paramountcy” which means that when valid federal laws conflict with valid provincial laws, the federal law will apply as far as the conflict goes. *Source:* [Supreme Court of Canada | Desgagnés Transport Inc. v. Wärtsilä Canada Inc.](#)

To make this change would require agreement of at least seven provinces totalling 50% + of the Canadian population, as well as both houses of Parliament. Alberta could start negotiations, but not act alone.

Source: [THE CONSTITUTION ACTS 1867 to 1982](#)

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

What path best addresses our frustrations while protecting stability, prosperity and democratic relationships?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE: Psalm 19:7-9 (Inclusive)

Your law, O God, is perfect; it refreshes the soul.

Your rule is to be trusted; it gives wisdom to the naive

Your purposes, O God, are right; they gladden the heart.

Your command is clear; it gives light to the eyes.

Holding you in awe, O God, is purifying; it endures.

Your decrees are steadfast, and all of them just.

BALLOT QUESTION 10

BALLOT QUESTION 10 (*Read aloud*)

Should Alberta remain a province of Canada, or should the Government of Alberta commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada?

Option 1: Alberta should remain a province of Canada.

Option 2: The Government of Alberta should commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada.

IN PLAIN LANGUAGE:

Voters will be asked to mark an X next to their option of choice: Remain in Canada, OR Begin the legal process towards a provincial referendum on separation.

RELEVANT FACTS TO CONSIDER:

The results of the question are not binding, meaning the government is not legally obligated to act on the outcome. This means that even if a majority of voters choose to “remain in Canada” on the ballot, nothing legally prevents the government from pursuing separation-related steps anyway. *Source: A Non-Profits’ Guide to the Alberta October Referendum*

BEFORE YOU VOTE, ASK YOURSELF:

Does this proposal strengthen our communities, democratic relationships, and long-term stability?

REFERENCE SCRIPTURE: Galatians 3:28 (RSV)

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Jeremiah 29:4-7 (Inclusive) Thus says the Omnipotent, the God of Israel, to all the exiles I deported from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses to live in. Plant gardens and eat what they grow. Marry and raise daughters and sons. Find wives for your sons and husbands for your daughters, that they may bear daughters and sons. Multiply while you are there. Do not decrease. Rather, seek the peace and the prosperity of the city to which I exiled you. Pray to God for it, for if it prospers, you will prosper.