



# BETTER TOGETHER

ALBERTA'S NEW DEMOCRAT CAUCUS



## A message from Naheed

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*I was born in Canada to parents who came here for a better life for themselves and future generations. Times were often tough growing up, but my family also gave back wherever we could.*

*We were able to do this because this country took a risk on us. From great public education to great universities to public health care that was there for us when we needed it, Canada and Alberta wanted us to succeed.*

*This nation is not perfect. It's complicated and messy and big and bruised and certainly Albertans have had to struggle to be heard and fight for a better deal. But it's worth fighting for. Now more than ever.*

*At a time when Canada is under significant threat from the outside, our Premier and her UCP government court separatism...not because it will make Alberta any better or stronger, but for their own political gain.*

*Albertans are so much smarter than this UCP government thinks we are. We know exactly what they're doing, and we will not stand for it. We will fight for the Canada Pension Plan and the RCMP. We'll fight for better jobs and an affordable cost of living. And we'll fight for Canada.*

*I need your help to make sure this Premier and this government never tear us apart.*



**Naheed Nenshi**  
Leader of Alberta's New Democrats

## THE RISK OF SEPARATION

Premier Danielle Smith and the UCP government's separatist agenda risks tearing apart everything generations of Albertans have worked to build. If Alberta separates, here's what's on the line:

### **ECONOMY/INNOVATION**

- Even the idea of separation is enough to put jobs and investment at risk. Who would invest even one dollar when they don't know what country they're investing in?
- Montréal was always the business and financial capital of Canada. When Québec started entertaining the idea of separatism and talking "sovereignty," this began a decade of decline. 368 businesses moved their headquarters out of Quebec, and the economy has never recovered.
- Alberta is a growing province with a rich economy. Entertaining the idea of separatism puts sectors like Tech, Energy, Manufacturing, and Tourism and thousands of jobs at risk.
- Alberta is home to world-class universities that power our economy and attract talent from across Canada and the world. Separatism puts that at risk.

## **TRAVEL**

- Many Albertans travel, study, or work in other provinces for parts of the year. If Alberta separated, your passport and your right to move freely across Canada would no longer be guaranteed.

## **TRADE**

- At a time when we are under threat from President Trump, we need to build a stronger, more united nation, not show signs of disunity and weakness.
- All this talk of separatism has already made Alberta an unreliable trading partner. Why would other provinces even want to negotiate with us on pipelines and other infrastructure with so much uncertainty in the mix?

## **RCMP**

- Replacing the RCMP would cost more than a billion dollars, strip away federal funding, and deliver no real improvements to public safety.
- Albertans in rural areas deserve better support, not more confusion and chaos.

## **PENSION**

- Your pension belongs to you. It is the reward for a lifetime of hard work.
- The UCP government has long wanted to exit the Canada Pension Plan. They'll try this with or without separation, but this separatist action makes it easier for them, even if the majority of Albertans disagree with it.
- The UCP government has massively overestimated Alberta's share of the CPP, and that means Albertans could end up with smaller payouts and fewer benefits.
- The CPP is one of the most stable and secure pension plans in the world, in part because it's a large, national fund. A smaller, Alberta-only plan would be riskier and more volatile.

## **HEALTH CARE**

- If Alberta separates, other provinces will compete to poach our top talent, and Alberta could be left with a gutted health care system. We cannot risk this at a time when nearly one million Albertans are without a family doctor.
- Without the Canada Health Act and federal funding, universal health care as we know it would be at risk---particularly under a UCP government that has sowed chaos in the system already. Access to care could become more limited, more expensive, and less equal, especially for rural communities, seniors, and low-income families.

## **LEGAL PROTECTIONS**

- Canada's legal framework includes thousands of federal laws, none more important than the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. If Alberta separates, none of these protections would be guaranteed.
- Alberta would need to rebuild its legal system from scratch—a costly, time-consuming process that could put core rights and freedoms at risk.

## **INDIGENOUS RIGHTS**

- Indigenous leaders have been clear: separatism violates Treaty rights, which are agreements signed with the Crown, not with Alberta.
- We are all Treaty people. No government has the authority to violate Treaties.

# THE UCP GOVERNMENT IS ACTIVELY MOVING TOWARDS SEPARATION

Premier Danielle Smith and the UCP government aren't just talking about separation, they've already taken steps to pull Alberta away from Canada.

- **The UCP government has lowered the threshold for calling a referendum on separation**, making it easier to trigger a vote on leaving Canada.
- **The UCP government is pursuing withdrawing from the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) to create a provincial pension plan.** The CPP is one of the most stable and secure pension systems in the world, thanks to its size and national scope. An Alberta-only pension plan would be smaller, riskier, and more volatile, while the CPP ensures Albertans can save for retirement no matter where they live or work in Canada.
- **The UCP government wants to end Alberta's relationship with the RCMP and establish a provincial police force.** Replacing the RCMP would cost more than a billion dollars, strip away federal funding, and deliver no real improvements to public safety.

The UCP government is not interested in building a stronger Alberta or Canada – They're using separatism as a tool for political gain no matter the costs to the people they serve.





WE WANT TO HEAR **FROM YOU.**

Didn't get an opportunity to voice your concerns in person?

**Scan here** to submit your thoughts, questions, or feedback.

## **STAND UP FOR CANADA.**

- **Contact** your local MLA and tell them why you're against separatism.
- **Share** this booklet widely. You can download a free copy at [BetterTogetherSummer.ca](https://BetterTogetherSummer.ca)
- **Talk** to your friends, family, and neighbours about why you're concerned about separatism.

# **BetterTogetherSummer.ca**