

# New Alberta and UK Innovation Partnership



Alberta and the UK have agreed a new Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation. Signed between the British High Commissioner to Canada, Her Excellency Susan le Jeune d'Allegeershecque, and the Alberta Minister for Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, the Honourable Tanya Fir, the MOU focuses on four key areas: Artificial Intelligence; Health and Life Sciences; Agri-tech and Agri-food; and Clean Growth and Smart Cities. These have been identified as areas of existing expertise and high growth potential offering opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration, partnerships and Government exchanges on policy and regulation.

Building on already strong links between Alberta and the UK, the MOU will facilitate more innovative collaboration between industry, academia and policy-makers to help drive economic development, diversification and job creation. The document is not legally binding and does not commit to new or additional resources – it aims to leverage existing programmes in both places.

## **Susan le Jeune d'Allegeershecque, British High Commissioner:**

“As the most innovative G7 economy, the UK recognizes the value of innovation to economic growth and prosperity and the crucial importance of international collaboration. Through this MOU, the UK and Alberta will promote collaboration among innovation leaders in the new technologies of the future securing competitiveness, growth and job creation.”

## **The Honourable Tanya Fir, Minister for Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, Government of Alberta:**

“Alberta is open for business, and this agreement promotes science and innovation which will drive economic growth, attract investment, and create jobs, which benefits all Albertans. We recognize the strong two-way flow of foreign direct investment between the U.K. and Alberta and we are hearing from organizations around the globe that are looking at us as a prime location for investment, relocation and expansion.”

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