

Modernizing Alberta's professional regulatory legislation

The Professional Governance Act would promote good governance and help certain professional regulatory organizations protect the public interest.

Bill 40: Professional Governance Act

Alberta Advanced Education is currently responsible for nine pieces of legislation and 28 supporting regulations that govern 22 professional regulatory organizations (PROs).

If passed, the Professional Governance Act would consolidate and streamline Advanced Education's professional governance legislation from nine separate acts into one. This legislation will support PROs in protecting the public interest of Albertans.

This legislation would modernize professional legislation, emphasizing good governance and consistency in the regulation of the professions it covers, while remaining responsive to the unique needs and operations of each organization.

The Professional Governance Act would fix inconsistencies or lack of information in current legislation for PROs, including:

- the purpose, authorities, powers, and functions of PROs
- distribution of provisions between various levels of legislation (act, regulation, bylaws)
- requirements for reporting, transparency, accountability, and offences and penalties
- Ombudsman access
- Information privacy and disclosure requirements

Outdated provisions would be repealed and replaced to recognize technological advancements and ensure Advanced Education's regulatory bodies' bylaws and practices reflect current realities, including the use of electronic signatures, electronic records, delivery of electronic notices, and virtual meetings.

The Professional Governance Act would consolidate:

- the *Agrology Profession Act*
- the *Architects Act*
- the *Chartered Professional Accountants Act*
- the *Consulting Engineers of Alberta Act*
- the *Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act*
- the *Land Surveyors Act*
- the *Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act*
- the *Regulated Forest Management Profession Act*
- the *Veterinary Profession Act*

Professional Regulatory Organizations

Twenty-two non-health PROs would be included in the Professional Governance Act:

- Alberta Assessors' Association
- Alberta Association of Architects
- Alberta Association of Landscape Architects

- Alberta Human Ecology and Home Economics Association
- Alberta Institute of Agrologists
- Alberta Land Surveyors' Association
- Alberta Professional Planners Institute
- Alberta Shorthand Reporters' Association
- Alberta Society of Professional Biologists
- Alberta Veterinary Medical Association
- Association of Alberta Forest Management Professionals
- Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta
- Association of School Business Officials of Alberta
- Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta
- Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta
- Canadian Information Processing Society of Alberta
- Chartered Professional Accountants Alberta
- Consulting Engineers of Alberta
- Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta
- Institute of Certified Management Consultants of Alberta
- Society of Local Government Managers of Alberta
- Supply Chain Management Association Alberta

Regulations and Implementation

If passed, the Professional Governance Act is intended to be proclaimed in June 2026, and implementation would be staggered for PROs.

Advanced Education is working directly with PROs to develop regulations that will be responsive to their unique needs and requirements. Regulations will include more information on specific requirements and details about implementation. Regulations are expected to come forward starting in Fall 2025.

Advanced Education is also developing resources to support PROs through the transition, including templates for bylaws, codes of conduct and ethics, and practice standards and guidelines.