



Membership Advisory

Government of Alberta Budget 2025

On February 27, 2025, Finance Minister Nate Horner presented the Government of Alberta's Budget 2025. The Alberta Museums Association (AMA) would like to thank the Government of Alberta for its continued support of the museum community and other heritage organizations, recognizing the role museums play in preserving and sharing the province's diverse histories. In the face of economic uncertainty, support for heritage maintains stable, with no significant increases or decreases across most heritage sector allocations; however, there are shifts in funding structures that impact key institutions.

The Ministry of Arts, Culture and Status of Women received a budget that remains largely stable for the 2025 - 2026 fiscal year. Funding for major provincial institutions saw modest increases of approximately 1.3% to 1.8%. This includes the Royal Alberta Museum (\$200,000), Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology (\$90,000), Historic Sites and Other Museums (\$145,000), and the Provincial Archives of Alberta (\$60,000). Allocations to Historic Resources Management, the Heritage Preservation Partnership Programs, and support for provincial heritage organizations remain unchanged.

The Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) remains at \$50 million, showing continued support for local infrastructure projects. However, the Community Initiatives Program (CIP) experienced a 12.5% decrease, reducing funding from \$16 million to \$14 million. Direct support to the Glenbow has been transferred under the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA), which saw a \$4.5 million increase in its budget. Funding for Travel Alberta saw a 5.3% decrease, dropping from \$79.49 million in 2024 to \$75.25 million in 2025. This reduction may have implications for the promotion of Alberta's cultural and heritage tourism initiatives, and the AMA will monitor how this impacts the museum sector.

While the 2025 Budget reflects stability for Alberta's heritage sector, the ongoing stagnation of funding for the provincial heritage organizations will challenge the AMA's ability to provide the same level of service and support to our members in an environment of increased inflation. The AMA remains committed to advocating for Alberta's museums, ensuring they have the necessary resources to support public engagement, research, and preservation efforts. Albertans continue to support the heritage sector, with 59% of adults visiting a heritage facility or site in 2023-2024. Museums are at the heart of our communities, essential participants in creating the great quality of life that defines the "Alberta Advantage." Museums and the broader heritage sector are essential in shaping and reflecting Alberta's unique character, and investment from the Government of Alberta is crucial to ensure a sustainable future for the sector.

For more information on the role museums will play in sharing and celebrating Alberta's unique cultural identity and heritage, please see the [Minister of Culture, Arts, and Status of Women's mandate letter](#).

2025 – 2026 BUDGET				
<i>(thousands of dollars)</i>	2023 – 2024 Budget	2024 – 2025 Budget	2025 – 2026 Budget	% Change from 2024 – 2025 to 2025 – 2026
Community and Voluntary Support Services				
Community Facility Enhancement Program	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	0 %
Community Initiatives Program	\$17,525	\$16,025	\$14,025	- 12.5 %
Heritage				
Royal Alberta Museum	\$11,040	\$12,440	\$12,640	1.6 %
Royal Tyrrell Museum	\$6,770	\$6,860	\$6,950	1.3 %
Historic Sites and Other Museums	\$8,375	\$8,960	\$9,105	1.6 %
Provincial Archives	\$3,330	\$3,410	\$3,470	1.8 %
Support to Glenbow Museum*	\$2,288	\$2,288	\$0	- 100.0 %
Historic Resources Management	\$5,250	\$5,405	\$5,500	1.8 %
Heritage Preservation Partnership Programs	\$1,450	\$1,450	\$1,450	0 %
Support for Provincial Heritage Organizations	\$1,705	\$1,705	\$1,705	0 %
Arts				
Assistance to the Alberta Foundation for the Arts*	\$25,585	\$30,085	\$34,585	15.0 %
Tourism				
Travel Alberta	\$72,156	\$79,498	\$75,248	-5.3 %

* Support to Glenbow Museum was moved out of the Heritage budget line and into the Assistance to the Alberta Foundation for the Arts budget line.