

Kenney's corporate welfare

Since the provincial election in 2019, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation has been keeping track of corporate welfare announcements made by the United Conservative government.

The CTF identified 14 corporate welfare announcements, through government news releases, which total about \$5 billion or \$1,125 per Albertan.

Corporate welfare refers to direct subsidies, grants, loans, loan-guarantees, niche tax credits, taxpayers covering expenses and programs where the government picks specific business or industry winners and losers, but does not include COVID-19 or lockdown relief that the broader business community is eligible for. Corporate welfare also doesn't include broad-based tax reductions which is letting businesses keep more of their own money.

Corporate welfare announcements since 2019 election

Corporate Welfare	Cost	Date Announced
Indigenous Opportunities Corporation	\$1,000,000,000	08-Oct-19
Petrochemicals Diversification Program	\$950,000,000	23-Oct-19
Alberta Export Expansion Program	\$1,200,000	02-Dec-19
Film and Television Tax Credit	\$98,000,000	29-Jan-20
Orphan well clean up	\$100,000,000	02-Mar-20
Funding Alberta Energy Regulator levy	\$113,000,000	20-Mar-20
Keystone XL	\$1,500,000,000	31-Mar-20
Agri-food business subsidy	\$27,800,000	30-Jun-20
Alberta Petrochemicals Incentive Program	\$1,000,000,000	09-Jul-20
Innovation Employment Grant	Program cost not disclosed	22-Jul-20
Alberta Enterprise Corporation	\$175,000,000	22-Jul-20
Energy Efficiency Construction Subsidy	\$2,800,000	04-Sep-20
Artificial intelligence sector Subsidy	\$4,000,000	18-Sep-20
Tourism promotion subsidy	\$8,000,000	04-Dec-20
Total cost	\$4,979,800,000	
Total cost per Albertan	\$1,125	

The CTF has identified four additional announcements where the Alberta government is picking winners and loser through its industrial carbon tax:

- [Cement plant carbon capture feasibility study](#) = \$1,400,000
- [Emissions Reduction Alberta agriculture sector subsidy](#) = \$40,000,000
- [Natural gas subsidy through ERA](#) = \$58,000,000
- [Industrial carbon tax funding](#) = \$750,000,000

The Alberta government does deserve credit for ending some corporate welfare spending, such as:

- Petrochemicals Feedstock Infrastructure Program
- Partial Upgrading Program

- Alberta Investor Tax Credit
- Community Economic Development Corporation Tax Credit
- Capital Investment Tax Credit
- Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit
- Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Credit

While the government deserves credit for eliminating these corporate welfare programs, the cost of the United Conservative government's corporate welfare is still nearly \$5 billion, or \$1,125 per Albertan.