

# Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future

## **Final Report** **Bill 201, *Employment Standards*** ***(Firefighter Leave) Amendment Act,*** **2018**

Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
Fourth Session  
October 2018



Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ALBERTA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE**

October 2018

**To the Honourable Robert Wanner  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
of the Province of Alberta**

I have the honour of submitting, on behalf of the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future, its final report containing recommendations on Bill 201, *Employment Standards (Firefighter Leave) Amending Act, 2018*, for consideration by the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

I would like to thank all Albertans who participated in the review process.

Sincerely,

*[original signed by]*

Graham Sucha, MLA  
Chair, Standing Committee  
on Alberta's Economic Future



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## MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ALBERTA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE

### 29th Legislature, Fourth Session

Graham Sucha, MLA  
Chair  
Calgary-Shaw (NDP)

Glenn van Dijken, MLA  
Deputy Chair  
Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock (UCP)

Jonathon Carson, MLA  
Edmonton-Meadowlark (NDP)

Trevor A.R. Horne, MLA<sup>†</sup>  
Spruce Grove-St. Albert (NDP)

Greg Clark, MLA<sup>\*</sup>  
Calgary-Elbow (AP)

Jessica Littlewood, MLA  
Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville (NDP)

Michael R.D. Connolly, MLA  
Calgary-Hawkwood (NDP)

Karen M. McPherson, MLA<sup>‡</sup>  
Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill (AP)

Craig Coolahan, MLA  
Calgary-Klein (NDP)

Colin Piquette, MLA  
Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater (NDP)

Lorne Dach, MLA  
Edmonton-McClung (NDP)

David A. Schneider, MLA  
Little Bow (UCP)

Maria M. Fitzpatrick, MLA  
Lethbridge-East (NDP)

Kim Schreiner, MLA<sup>§</sup>  
Red Deer-North (NDP)

Richard Gotfried, MLA  
Calgary-Fish Creek (UCP)

Dr. Richard Starke, MLA  
Vermilion-Lloydminster (PC)

Wes Taylor, MLA  
Battle River-Wainwright (UCP)

### Substitutions Pursuant to Standing Order 56(2.1-2.4)

Annie McKittrick, MLA<sup>\*\*</sup>  
Sherwood Park (NDP)

Rod Loyola, MLA<sup>§§</sup>  
Edmonton-Ellerslie (NDP)

Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA<sup>††</sup>  
Calgary-Northern Hills (NDP)

Brandy Payne, MLA<sup>\*\*\*</sup>  
Calgary-Acadia (NDP)

Drew Barnes, MLA<sup>‡‡</sup>  
Cypress-Medicine Hat (UCP)

Heather Sweet, MLA<sup>†††</sup>  
Edmonton-Manning (NDP)

Tany Yao, MLA<sup>‡‡‡</sup>  
Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (UCP)

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<sup>\*</sup> Committee Member until April 19, 2018

<sup>†</sup> Committee Member after April 19, 2018

<sup>‡</sup> Committee Member after April 19, 2018

<sup>§</sup> Committee Member until April 19, 2018

<sup>\*\*</sup> Substitute for Maria Fitzpatrick on March 29, 2018

<sup>††</sup> Substitute for Craig Coolahan on May 3, 2018

<sup>‡‡</sup> Substitute for Richard Gotfried on June 22, 2018

<sup>§§</sup> Substitute for Lorne Dach on June 22, 2018, and for Craig Coolahan on October 11, 2018

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Substitute for Jonathon Carson on September 6, 2018

<sup>†††</sup> Substitute for Trevor Horne on September 6, 2018

<sup>‡‡‡</sup> Substitute for Richard Gotfried on September 6, 2018

**Members also in Attendance on May 3, 2018, and June 22, 2018:**

Wayne Anderson, MLA\*  
Highwood (UCP)

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\* Substitute for David Schneider on September 6, 2018



## 1.0 Introduction

Bill 201, *Employment Standards (Firefighter Leave) Amendment Act, 2018*, was introduced and received first reading on March 14, 2018. On March 19, 2018, the Bill was referred during second reading to the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future for review.

## 2.0 Order of Reference

Excerpt from the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, Monday, March 19, 2018:

On the motion that the following Bill be now read a Second time:

Bill 201 Employment Standards (Firefighter Leave) Amendment Act, 2018 — Mr. W. Anderson

A debate followed.

Mrs. Littlewood moved that the motion for second reading be amended by deleting all the words after "that" and substituting the following:

Bill 201, Employment Standards (Firefighter Leave) Amendment Act, 2018, be not now read a Second time but that the subject matter of the Bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future in accordance with Standing Order 74.2.

A debate followed on the amendment.

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

## 3.0 Committee Activities

As part of the Committee's review of Bill 201 Committee meetings were held on March 29, May 3, June 22, September 6, and October 11, 2018. The sponsor of Bill 201, Wayne Anderson, Member for Highwood, gave a presentation on the Bill to the Committee on May 3, 2018. At that meeting the Committee also received a technical briefing on the *Employment Standards Code*, R.S.A. 2000, c. E-9 from the Ministry of Labour. Written submissions were solicited from members of the public and identified stakeholders. The Committee received a total of 40 written submissions: 34 from members of the public, including 21 volunteer firefighters, and six from stakeholders. Four stakeholders made oral presentations to the Committee on September 6, 2018.

## 4.0 Recommendations

Pursuant to Standing Order 74.2(1)

When a Bill is referred to a standing or special committee after first reading, the committee may conduct public hearings on the subject matter of the Bill and report its observations, opinions and recommendations with respect to the Bill to the Assembly.

The Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future recommends that Bill 201, *Employment Standards Firefighter Leave Amendment Act, 2018*, not proceed.

The Committee further recommends:

That the Government of Alberta continue to consult with stakeholders to investigate the feasibility of developing comprehensive fire protection and prevention legislation in Alberta that is similar to other Canadian jurisdictions.

## Appendix A: Written Submissions from Stakeholders

Organization	Name
City of Fort Saskatchewan	Shawn McKerry, Fire Chief
Lacombe County Fire Service	Drayton Bussiere, Fire Chief
Alberta Fire Chiefs Association	Peter Krich, Fire Chief/President
Rural Municipalities of Alberta	Al Kemmere, President
PetroChina Canada	Murray Casault, Vice-president
Barrhead Fire Services	John Whittaker, Fire Chief

## Appendix B: Written Submissions from Members of the Public

First Name	Last Name
Colette	Belanger
Norman	Corbett
Donna	Gingera
Patrick	McLaughlin
Jeremy	Williamson
Claire	Stitsen
Brandy	Burdeniuk
Andrew	Koning
Dallas	Kiezik
Meghan	Vesey
Shelby	MacLeod
Nicole	Thomson
Jason	Power
Carson	Sargent
Lyle	Birnie
Brayden	Willard
Tyler	Bacon
Delaney	Bugiera
Nancy	Weigel
Keane	Martin
Brad	Jones
Ray	Gradwell
Jordan	Storey
Colton	Renschler
Rebecca	Laramee
Nick	Frank
Henry	Thomson
Jason	Albert
Chris	MacLennan
Rosanne	Horrocks
Marco	Vanderburg
Justin	Graham
Jason	Curry
Dean	Dumbeck

### Appendix C: List of Oral Presenters

Organization	Name
Lacombe County Fire Service	Drayton Bussiere, Fire Chief
Alberta Fire Chiefs Association	Peter Krich, Fire Chief/President
Rural Municipalities of Alberta	Al Kemmere, President
St. Paul Fire Department	Henry Thomson, Deputy Chief, Training and Operations



