ALBERTA

POLICY AREA SCORES Alberta National Median Points Possible PROGRAMS 10 40 **ENABLING POLICIES** 6 6 17 **BUILDINGS** 6 6 19 TRANSPORTATION 5 **17 INDUSTRY** 6

FALLING BACKWARDS

Alberta ranked 6th in last year's Scorecard, supported by impressive savings demonstrated from Energy Efficiency Alberta's initial programs. The current provincial government has since shut down the agency that produced those savings and cancelled the carbon levy that funded the programs. The federal carbon price is now in place, meaning Albertans will still pay for carbon pollution — but without the benefit of provincial programs that help them save energy.



Alberta falls the furthest in this year's energy efficiency policy ranking, earning 24 points out of 100.

Some energy efficiency efforts will continue through Emissions Reduction Alberta and the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre, creating the potential for energy efficiency to be part of targeted, sector-specific climate change and industrial competitiveness strategies.

To deliver broader and more impactful savings, jobs, and economic growth from energy efficiency, the province could also integrate efficiency into natural gas and electricity utility service because saving energy avoids more expensive power plants, fossil fuels, and transmission networks.

Whatever Alberta does, it should act soon to avoid losing professional capabilities and put existing resources to work, which — for now — $\underline{\text{remain in the province}}$. This year's Scorecard recorded no decrease in the number of residential energy advisors and an increase in the number of Certified Energy Managers.

STRENGTHS

Municipal financing: Alberta is one of four provinces with legislation that enables repayment of efficiency improvements through property taxes (PACE financing). This legislation gives Alberta municipalities an advantage when developing their climate and efficiency plans, and allows them to apply for federal support through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities "Community Efficiency Financing (CEF)" initiative. PACE programs could be expanded to include commercial buildings.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Program savings: Alberta went from no electricity efficiency program savings in 2015, to 0.8% of sales in 2017, and then to 0.06% in 2019 (the lowest in the country). Alberta has the second lowest per capita spending, and the third lowest natural gas savings. Fewer savings mean Albertans will pay more for fossil fuels, power plants, transmission lines, and the associated pollution.



