



UPDATE FROM THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ALBERTA

MARCH 2024 TO AUGUST 2024

MESSAGE FROM LT. GOV. LAKHANI



Her Honour meeting cadets in Grande Prairie at a gliding lesson

As I criss-crossed our beautiful province over past six months, the true spirit of what it means to be Albertan was reinforced for me. All of the communities I visited have one thing in common: resiliency. From Grande Prairie to Cold Lake, Jasper to Red Deer, the compassion and humanity I have witnessed continues to shine brightly. The people I met - both young and old - who shared their stories with me encapsulated the essence of being Albertan. When a community experiences a tragedy, we come together and support one another. When a community celebrates a milestone occasion or person, we proudly showcase our time and talent to make it a success. Our province has been hit hard with wildfires this year, so my heartfelt thanks go out to the brave first responders and firefighters who have been busy all over Alberta.

When my husband Zaheer and I moved to Canada and made Edmonton our home nearly 50 years ago, we did not know what the future would hold for us. Looking back now, coming to a province that has a pioneering spirit, strong work ethic, and sense of pride in its diverse cultural heritage was the ideal fit. As His Majesty the King's representative in Alberta for 4 years now, I am grateful to have experienced many unique opportunities that this province has to offer, and look forward to see communities contribute to our legacy of service and determination.

Shakhani

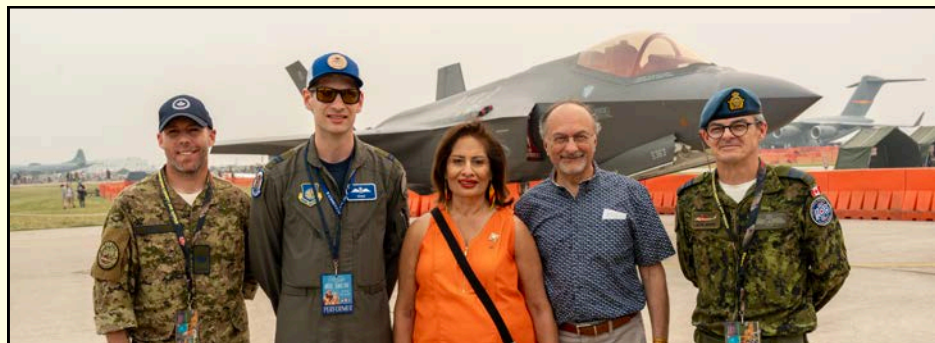
The Honourable Salma Lakhani
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta



Their Honours with the dedicated group of Aides-de-Camp who volunteer their time assisting with functions.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

April 2024 marked the centennial of the Royal Canadian Air Force. Her Honour was delighted to attend several events that celebrated this momentous occasion, starting with a flag raising ceremony in Edmonton. The annual spring tea at Government House paid tribute to the centenary (*top photos*), and the Minister of Culture hosted a garden party that celebrated service men and women. A 100th Anniversary RCAF gala was held in Edmonton, and the Cold Lake Air Show demonstrated a century of aviation history in Canada (*bottom, photo credit Ben Smith*).





One of the Lieutenant Governor's pillars for her term is education, and she is an ardent supporter of learning in all forms, for people of every age.

Her Honour participates in the School at the Legislature (SATL) program, meeting with Grade 6 students as part of their studies on the Canadian system of government. Over the last six months, students from these schools got to meet and interview Her Honour at her suite in the Legislature: Anne Fitzgerald, St. Martin, Michael Strembitsky (top), St. Elizabeth Seton, and Sister Alphonse Academy.

Virtual SATL visits are arranged for schools outside the capital region. Students from Isabel Campbell School in Grande Prairie got to meet and chat with Her Honour over video.



Her Honour was invited to stop by in person to learn from students at schools which included Grandview Heights, Sir Alexander Mackenzie (bottom left), St. Charles, Florence Hallock, Nellie Carlson, Monsignor William Irwin schools in Edmonton, Connect Charter School in Calgary, and Oilfields High School in Diamond Valley.

Teachers interested in arranging a school visit can email the Office at LtGov@gov.ab.ca

Lt. Gov. Lakhani has a role in post-secondary education as well, and recently installed the new Chancellor at the University of Alberta in June - Nizar Somji (bottom right).

FULFILLING CONSTITUTIONAL DUTIES

Vice-Regal representatives play an important role in maintaining Canada's constitutional traditions and continuity of government. As part of her ongoing constitutional duties, Her Honour continues to grant Royal Assent to bills brought forward by the Legislative Assembly and signs Orders in Council. In the spring and summer, the Lieutenant Governor attended ceremonies hosted by Speaker Cooper: La journée internationale de la Francophonie (right), Rwandan Genocide Commemoration, and Black Ribbon Day. A Citizenship Ceremony on Canada Day (middle) is a highlight of the summer, welcoming new Canadians as they take their oath. Her Honour also participated in the Alberta Girls Parliament and the Legislature Page Development Program (left), encouraging today's youth to take interest in our system of government.



CELEBRATING AMAZING ALBERTANS

Her Honour is always thrilled to present awards to deserving citizens of all ages in a wide range of categories. Over the past six months, various award ceremonies took place across the province, including: Canadian Corps of Commissionaires annual awards (*bottom right*), Consulting Engineers of Alberta Showcase awards, Project Adult Literacy (PALS) Learner & Volunteer Recognition celebration, U of A's Canadian Business Leader Awards, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Arts Awards Emerging Artists ceremony (*bottom left*), Ingenious+ Youth Innovation Challenge awards, and the Alberta School Boards Association Lieutenant Governor Student Awards (*top*).



HONOURING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The Lieutenant Governor is dedicated to engaging with and gaining insights from the diverse First Nations communities in Alberta. She consistently holds meetings with Indigenous leaders, groups, and organizations to understand and appreciate the impactful initiatives they are involved in.

From March to August 2024, Her Honour attended these events and ceremonies: College of Alberta School Superintendents First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Education Gathering, National Red Dress Day walk, Alberta School Boards Association Honouring Spirit awards, National Indigenous Peoples Day at Bent Arrow (*right*), luncheon with residents from Oxford House at Government House (*left*), and Treaty 6 Recognition Day event at Edmonton City Hall (*centre*).



ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Spring and summer are full of events. and Her Honour has the pleasure of attending several festivals, galas, community celebrations, and conferences across Alberta.

Lt. Gov. Lakhani was invited to take part in: SkirtsAFire Festival – The Shoe Project (page 5), Junior Achievement Annual Ladies Lunch, WIN House International Women’s Day Celebration, Indo-Canadian Women’s International Day of the Woman Celebration, Children’s Cottage grand opening Child & Family Centre (Calgary), City of Edmonton Mayor’s Iftar dinner, Honourary Membership induction into Delta Kappa Gamma, Calgary Interfaith Breakfast, International Women’s Forum Annual General Meeting, Edmonton Elks 75th Anniversary gala (page 5), YMCA Calgary Annual General Meeting, Edmonton Opera’s April Amore, TEDxCalgary Flow: Connecting the Dots (page 5), Telus World of Science 40th Anniversary celebration, National Health Board meeting of Aga Khan Council for Canada, Calgary Rotary Challenger Park Annual Social & Dinner, Rotary Club 30th Integrity Awards Gala, Grande Prairie’s “Here Comes Summer” festival (top), Aga Khan Foundation’s World Partnership Walk, Plum Blossom luncheon, Canada Day at the Legislature pancake breakfast & citizenship ceremony, Calgary Stampede (President’s reception (page 5), Parade, & ‘We are YEG’ reception), K-Days reception & pancake breakfast, Taste of Edmonton president’s reception, Lifesaving Society’s World Drowning Prevention Day flag raising ceremony (centre), Heritage Festival, and the Ukrainian Day Festival at Ukrainian Village.

Her Honour hosted events at Government House and the Queen Elizabeth II Building including an Iftar Dinner, appreciation reception for Legislative Assembly Visitor Services, the annual Government House spring tea, and a luncheon for residents of Oxford House.

Her Honour got to share her story at conferences including: The Women Empowerment Network conference, United Way’s Women United Signature Event, Rotary District 5370 Conference, Canadian Energy Executive Association Mid-Year Conference, Connect and Collaborate Conference: Launch of the Association of Grantmakers in Alberta, and the World Diversity in Leadership Conference in Calgary.

Military and uniformed services events included: Regimental Parade commemorating the 106th Anniversary of the Battle of Moreuil Wood, RCAF 100th Anniversary Flag Raising, RCAF 100th Anniversary gala, 50th Anniversary of 238 RSCCC CAMPBELTOWN parade (page 5), Cadet parade and Gliding demonstration in Grande Prairie, Minister of Culture’s military appreciation garden party, Cold Lake Air Show, Spruce Meadow’s Military Family Appreciation Day, and the RCMP K Division Change of Command ceremony & parade.

Her Honour enjoys taking tours and learning about unique sites across Alberta. The past six months, she visited Red Deer Polytechnic (bottom), Ismaili Community Centre seniors drop-in in Edmonton, Grande Prairie Hospital, Grande Prairie’s Montrose Cultural Centre, U of A Protective Services & Community Assistance Team, Calgary Evacuation Centre for Jasper residents at Shouldice Arena, and the Immigrant Women and Child Centre in Edmonton.



FOSTERING INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP



Lieutenant Governor Lakhani often welcomes members of the Consular Corps for courtesy calls and also greets international dignitaries as the highest ranking position in the province of Alberta. Recent courtesy calls included meeting the Ambassadors from Turkiye (left) & Saudi Arabia, High Commissioner of India, and Consul General of the Philippines. In April, Her Honour welcomed the President of the Republic of Poland to Alberta (right). The Lieutenant Governor also hosted a dinner for the Heads of Mission in May and attended the Consular Ball (middle).

