



The **Catholic Bishops**
of **Alberta**

Les **évêques catholiques**
de l'**Alberta**

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October 1, 2026

Honourable Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta
Office of the Premier
307 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Premier Smith,

Ahead of the 19 October Referendum Election Day, we, the Catholic Bishops of Alberta, have written a pastoral letter to our parish communities (here attached), encouraging our faithful to participate in the referendum and to approach this civic responsibility with prayer, an informed conscience and sincere concern for their neighbours.

As bishops, we have a pastoral responsibility to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world, and to guide the formation of conscience in light of that same Gospel. The aim of our pastoral letter is to remind Catholics that the principles of Catholic social teaching are rooted in the teachings of Jesus, finding their ultimate expression in laws and systems that promote human dignity and a commitment to the common good.

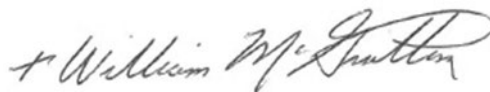
While addressing the moral questions that arise in public life, the Church remains independent of political parties and systems. We encourage all our parishioners to stay informed, involved and prayerful as they fulfil their civic duty and participate in this democratic process.

Sincerely,

Catholic Bishops of Alberta

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephen A. Hero", preceded by a small cross symbol.

Most Reverend Stephen A. Hero
Archbishop of Edmonton

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William McGrattan", preceded by a small cross symbol.

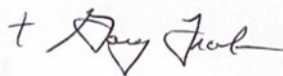
Most Reverend William McGrattan
Bishop of Calgary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David", preceded by a small cross symbol.

Most Reverend David Motiuk
Bishop of the Ukrainian Eparchy of Edmonton

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles Duval", preceded by a small cross symbol.

Most Reverend Charles Duval, CSsR
Archbishop of Grouard-McLennan

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gary Franken", preceded by a small cross symbol.

Most Reverend Gary Franken
Bishop of St. Paul

cc: Hon. Mickey Amery – Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Alberta