

The Alberta Lighthouse Initiative

(Supplemental Guide for Innovation Solution Providers)

September 02, 2026

Chronic disease continues to rise across Alberta, placing increasing pressure on primary care, community health services, and downstream acute care. Cardiometabolic conditions including type 2 diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease, and metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis now account for a significant proportion of long-term health system demand, much of which could be mitigated through earlier intervention, stronger prevention strategies, and more integrated models of care.

In response, the Government of Alberta, Novo Nordisk Canada Inc., and Alberta Innovates have partnered to accelerate community-led innovation to improve health outcomes and reduce pressure on Alberta's healthcare system. This partnership has established the Alberta Lighthouse Initiative.

The Alberta Lighthouse initiative focuses on advancing solutions across key cardiometabolic conditions including type 2 diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease, and metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis. It does so by connecting **Health Service Delivery Partners (HSDPs)** with high-potential **Innovation Solution Providers (ISPs)** to co-develop and implement evidence-informed care models grounded in real-world needs.

The Initiative is a structured, competition-based program that enables Alberta-based HSDPs to define and share their priority needs, in the form of Opportunity Statements, in alignment with program's Innovation Challenges. In response, ISPs are invited to propose targeted, implementation-ready solutions, advancing through a multi-stage evaluation process that prioritizes alignment with system needs, scalability, and measurable impact.

Selected HSDPs will have the opportunity to collaborate with an ISP to implement and rigorously evaluate novel care models over a period of up to 24 months. These projects are designed not only to improve patient and system outcomes locally, but to generate the evidence, insights, and pathways required to support adoption and broader scale and spread across Alberta's chronic disease care ecosystem.

Definitions

Health Service Delivery Partner (HSDP):

An Alberta-based organization that delivers or enables health services (in the real world) and brings forward a specific, on-the-ground need that fits within the broader Alberta Lighthouse Initiative Innovation Challenges.

Innovation Solution Provider (ISP):

An organization (often industry, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)/startups, innovators, etc.) that can offer a targeted solution to address the specific need identified by an HSDP.

HSDP-Specific Opportunity Statements

HSDP #1: Siksika Health Services

Opportunity Statement
How might we improve cardiometabolic health outcomes among First Nations community members by integrating Indigenous knowledge, traditional food systems, cultural connectedness, land-based wellness, youth engagement, and clinical prevention into a measurable and scalable model of care?
Organization Details
Primary Care Service(s) Provided: Integrated Primary Healthcare Services Geographic Serviced Area: Siksika # of Patients/Clients Serviced Annually: 9000

HSDP #2: Calgary Weight Management Centre

Opportunity Statement
How might we leverage routinely collected clinical health data and existing provincial guidance to create a scalable, community-based program that enables earlier and more equitable detection and risk stratification of MASLD/MASH, reduces pressure on specialist services, and connects Albertans to the right care and supports within the community?
Organization Details
Primary Care Service(s) Provided: Obesity Medicine Geographic Serviced Area: Calgary and Surrounding # of Patients/Clients Serviced Annually: 3000

HSDP #3: University of Alberta and Alberta Kidney Care-North

Opportunity Statement
How might we transform the prevention and management of cardiometabolic disease by enabling equitable, community-based early detection, precision risk stratification and coordinated evidence-based care through scalable, technology enabled solutions that prevent kidney failure, cardiovascular events and other serious complications while improving health outcomes and reducing healthcare costs across Alberta?

Organization Details

Primary Care Service(s) Provided: Chronic Disease and Risk Factor Care and Prevention

Geographic Serviced Area: Northern Alberta

of Patients/Clients Serviced Annually: 5500

HSDP #4: StrongHER Hearts Women's Cardiovascular Wellness Foundation

Opportunity Statement

How might we reach women of reproductive age who are overlooked by the health system, enable earlier identification of cardiovascular and cardiometabolic risk and disease while it is still silent, and support them to understand and act on what they learn?

Organization Details

Primary Care Service(s) Provided: Cardiovascular care for women of reproductive age

Geographic Serviced Area: Southern Alberta

of Patients/Clients Serviced Annually: 1500

HSDP #5: Bayshore HealthCare

Opportunity Statement

How might we improve access to cardiometabolic prevention and early intervention by coordinating digital risk monitoring, personalized care pathways, and support for treatment access and adherence for populations facing barriers to traditional care in Alberta?

Organization Details

Primary Care Service(s) Provided: Home and community based clinical services

Geographic Serviced Area: Alberta

of Patients/Clients Serviced Annually: 12000

Innovation Solution Provider (ISP) Eligibility

The *Alberta Lighthouse Initiative* is open to ISPs with high potential solutions **either based in Alberta or are Canadian organizations looking to further develop their presence in Alberta**. They must:

- Have the potential to address **at least one of the relevant HSDP Opportunity Statements** (see above) through an innovative solution that can be developed into an implementation-to-adoption study, supporting the evaluation and integration of an innovative care model;
- Demonstrate that their solution is supported by strong evidence of effectiveness and end-user satisfaction;

- Ensure their technology meets a minimum Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 7, if applicable;
- Exist as a corporate person, with up-to-date corporate filings;
- Demonstrate that the relationship between the HSDP and the ISP does not present a conflict of interest;
- Comply with Canadian privacy and security requirements; and
- Meet any additional criteria that Alberta Innovates may establish from time to time.

How to Apply

- Complete and submit a [Expression of Interest \(EOI\) Form](#) for your selected HSDP opportunity(s). If applying to multiple opportunity statements, a separate form must be submitted for each opportunity.
- The EOI will be reviewed to determine program eligibility and opportunity alignment.
- High potential ISPs will be invited to pitch their solutions to approved HSDPs.
- Successful ISPs will be invited to proceed to co-create a Full Proposal with approved HSDPs.

Key Dates

EOI - ISP	Pitch Presentations	Full Proposal	Investment Agreement
Intake [Sep 02– Sep 16, 2026, at 4:00 PM MT]	November 2026 <i>virtual</i>	December 2026	March 2027
Decision Communicated: October 2026	Decision Communicated: December 2026	Decision Communicated: February 2027	

Funding

Alberta Innovates will contribute up to **\$500,000** CAD of funding to support approved Projects up to a maximum term of **24 months**. Funding will be provided to the primary applicant, the HSDP, who will serve as the funding recipient and be responsible for administering and disbursing funds to the ISP in accordance with the approved project arrangements.

Evaluation Process

All EOIs are reviewed and evaluated to determine alignment to the *Alberta Lighthouse Initiative* funding program. Alberta Innovates, the Government of Alberta's Ministry of Primary and Preventative Health Services, and Novo Nordisk Canada Inc. may leverage internal staff and external expert reviewers to evaluate EOI submissions.

ABOUT GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA, MINISTRY OF PRIMARY AND PREVENTATIVE HEALTH SERVICES

The Ministry of Primary and Preventative Health Services (PPHS) supports the health and well-being of Albertans throughout their lives by focusing on population health and promoting wellness; coordinating safe, person-centred, quality primary care health services; delivering public health inspection and prevention services; strengthening the health workforce through improving local decision-making capabilities; enabling innovative health information technologies; and funding the primary care health services sector.

ABOUT NOVO NORDISK CANADA INC.

Novo Nordisk is a leading global healthcare company founded in 1923 and headquartered in Denmark. Our purpose is to drive change to defeat serious chronic diseases, built upon our heritage in diabetes. We do so by pioneering scientific breakthroughs, expanding access to our medicines, and working to prevent and ultimately cure disease. Novo Nordisk employs about 68,800 people in 80 countries and markets its products in around 170 countries. For more information, visit novonordisk.ca, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#).

ABOUT ALBERTA INNOVATES

Alberta Innovates is the province's most comprehensive research and innovation agency. From funding to commercialization, it is Alberta's innovation engine. Alberta Innovates fosters and accelerates research and innovation to benefit citizens and drive economic growth. Alberta Innovates works across sectors to fund, partner and enable entrepreneurship throughout the province. The corporation operates in 11 locations with more than one million square feet of industrial testing and lab facilities and 600 acres of farmland. Learn more at albertainnovates.ca