

Alberta Mentoring Partnership: Phase VII Strategic Plan (2026–2029)

Our Core Purpose and Vision

Core Purpose

We exist to enhance the capacity of Alberta’s mentorship community/network of partners to do high impact mentorship.

Vision

To be indispensable to Alberta’s mentorship ecosystem, known for tools that work, partnerships that matter, and a presence that makes the mentoring network stronger, more connected, and more effective for the youth it serves.

Core Functions: What We Do

Leadership

We lead by building relationships, connecting partners, highlighting youth-voice, and facilitating discussion to address emerging needs provincially and nationally. We advocate for mentoring in collaboration with our partners and enable ongoing discussion related to increasing the reach, quality, and sustainability of evidence-informed mentoring practices, processes, and outcomes. Through our leadership we engage with and support our partners to build capacity to enhance mentoring opportunities throughout the province.

Mentoring Growth

We equip our partners to promote the benefits and value of mentoring among agencies, schools, builders, decision-makers, and the public. Through this work we assist our partners to recruit and train mentors and mentees and connect them with local mentoring opportunities available across the province.

Knowledge Generation

We work with our partners to research, compile, synthesize, and examine evidence-informed practices to generate mentoring resources that address key challenges and emerging trends.

Knowledge Mobilization

We facilitate the reciprocal and complementary flow and uptake of knowledge and resources among our partners. We use these actions to advance the mentoring research agenda, theory, and methods, and strengthen mentoring practice overall.

Our Vision for the Future

Over the past decade, AMP has earned trust as a respected convener and knowledge hub. The continued path forward requires greater intentionality in who we serve, what we deliver, and how we strengthen Alberta's capacity to provide high-quality, accessible mentorship.

AMP's future remains in system enablement, as we do not deliver mentorship programs directly—we equip the ecosystem to do it better. Through tailored tools, practical guidance, and aligned partnerships, we help frontline organizations and system actors deliver mentorship that is consistent, scalable, and grounded in real-world need.

This strategy marks a shift in focus from reach to relevance. We will focus where mentorship can have the greatest impact — including youth and young adults, youth in transitions, and equity-seeking youth. We'll refine our offerings, strengthen internal systems, and work closely with funders to deliver results that matter.

When this strategy is realized, mentorship in Alberta will look and feel different:

Partners across Alberta will be better resourced and supported to deliver mentorship where it matters most — in classrooms, community and care-systems, especially during moments of vulnerability and transition.

High-touch support, tailored tools, and coordinated guidance will be available for frontline agencies to reduce barriers and amplify their impact.

Mentorship will function as a stronger, more coherent system — evidence-informed, aligned, and embedded in the everyday structures that shape young people's lives.

AMP will stand as the trusted systems enabler, helping Alberta move from scattered efforts to a resilient, coordinated mentorship network capable of reaching more youth effectively.

Our vision isn't growth for its own sake, it's to make our value and impact evident to Alberta's mentorship system, as a strategic partner known for producing results, with focus, discipline, purpose, and confidence.



Strategic Shifts That Will Strengthen Mentorship in Alberta

This strategy is about making intentional shifts in how we think, serve, and deliver value across the mentorship ecosystem. The table below outlines the strategic direction AMP is pursuing. While AMP has long played a role as a system enabler, this strategy clarifies and strengthens that role, moving from broad, informal support to focused, credible leadership.

From		Towards
Broad convening and general support		Focused system enablement that equips others to deliver mentorship effectively to identified groups ²
General tools and resources		Updating and enhancing specific tools that reflect real-world complexity
Emphasis on activity and presence		Emphasis on measurable outcomes and high-touch partnerships



Strategic Imperatives

With this strategy in place, AMP's goals for the next phase of implementation focus on strengthening delivery and deepening our impact across Alberta.

Be a Trusted Partner and Advocate that Strengthens the System to Deliver High-Impact Mentorship

Linking the right tools to the right practitioners, facilitating professional development for partners, and providing hands-on, practical support to partners across Alberta. It's about going beyond broad convening to direct, value-added enablement (i.e. a "concierge" approach) that helps partners succeed in real time.

Ensuring AMP aligns mentoring as an approach for partner agencies and schools to address priorities including³:

- Youth mentorship as an early intervention tool
- Mentorship as a foundation for inclusion, gender equity, and reconciliation
- Mentorship as an enabler for Indigenous child/youth wellbeing
- Increasing social emotional learning
- Mentoring as a protective factor to prevent mental health & addiction challenges
- Supporting educational attainment
- Mentoring to help address aggression and complexity in classrooms
- Bridging high school completion to post-secondary and work

This trusted positioning reduces funding risk, strengthens influence, and unlocks opportunities for cross-ministry collaboration.

Advance Impact Measurement to Strengthen AMP's Performance and Partner Programs

For AMP to demonstrate its relevance and accountability through effective measurement of its activity and impact. AMP will also make measurement support practical and accessible to partners. This means equipping partners with the right tools – adaptable, evidence-informed evaluation resources. AMP's role is not to simply measure its own efficacy, but to help the mentoring network strengthen their existing supports and services through building evaluative capacities.



³ Adapted from Mandate letters from Child and Family Services, Education, Advanced Education and other Government of Alberta ministries.

Solve Together What No Partner Can Solve Alone

Advancing multi-partner efforts to tackle persistent, complex challenges in youth mentorship that no single organization can address on its own. Collective collaboration could:

- Reach high-barrier youth
- Embed mentorship in care and education systems
- Strengthen mentoring in rural communities
- Provide insight into volunteerism trends and recruitment
- Develop a vibrant Canadian mentoring research landscape

These shared challenges require collective insight, coordination, research, and aligned action. AMP's role is to facilitate these efforts, helping partners co-design solutions, test new approaches, and learn together in ways that shift the system.

Activities, Outcomes and Measures

Strategic Imperative 1: Be a Trusted Partner and Advocate that Strengthens the System to Deliver High-Impact Mentorship

Key Activities

- Provide targeted, hands-on support to mentoring organizations through practical tools and real-time problem-solving.
- Strengthen and align the mentorship ecosystem by facilitating partner connections, convening critical conversations, and co-creating solutions that no single organization can solve alone.
- Promotion and awareness of partners through AMP's partner network.
- Champion mentorship through advocacy, volunteer promotion and recruitment, professional development, partner and volunteer recognition, and partner amplification.
- Develop and distribute accessible mentoring tools and resources grounded in research and designed for usability.



Measures of Success

- # of AMP partner growth and maintenance
- # of highly-engaged partners growth and maintenance.
- # of resources updated or developed per grant cycle.
- # community engagements advocating for, and promoting mentorship.
- # of collaborative partner-initiatives AMP is invited to contribute to or lead.
- # of increase and maintenance of downloads/views/engagement of resources.

Strategic Imperative 2: Advance Impact Measurement to Strengthen AMP's Performance and Partner Programs

Key Activities

- AMP will develop a robust evaluative framework for 2026-29 funding cycle.
- AMP solicits partner feedback to identify initiatives and priorities.
- Support evaluation efforts across the mentorship network.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange among partner network – creating a two-way flow of insights.
- Identify mentoring research gaps and communicate effectively to research partners to advance mentoring research applicability to practice.
- Amplify findings and best practices to strengthen mentoring quality and influence broader system change.

Measures of Success

- # of partners using AMP tools who report them as practical and relevant.
- # of new or updated evidence-informed resources published annually.
- # of events (eg: webinars) supported by or co-organized by AMP and partners.
- # of attendees at events.



Strategic Imperative 3: Solve Together What No Partner Can Solve Alone

Key Activities

- Identify and prioritize 1-2 system-level mentorship challenges that require multi-partner solutions.
- Convene diverse partners (schools, agencies, ministries, communities) to co-create responses.
- Facilitate collaborative projects that build collective insight and innovation.
- Capture and share learnings across the ecosystem to inform broader practice and policy.
- Advocacy around shared problem-solving efforts.

Measures of Success

- # of multi-partner initiatives convened or supported by AMP annually.
- % of participating partners reporting increased capacity to address shared challenges.

