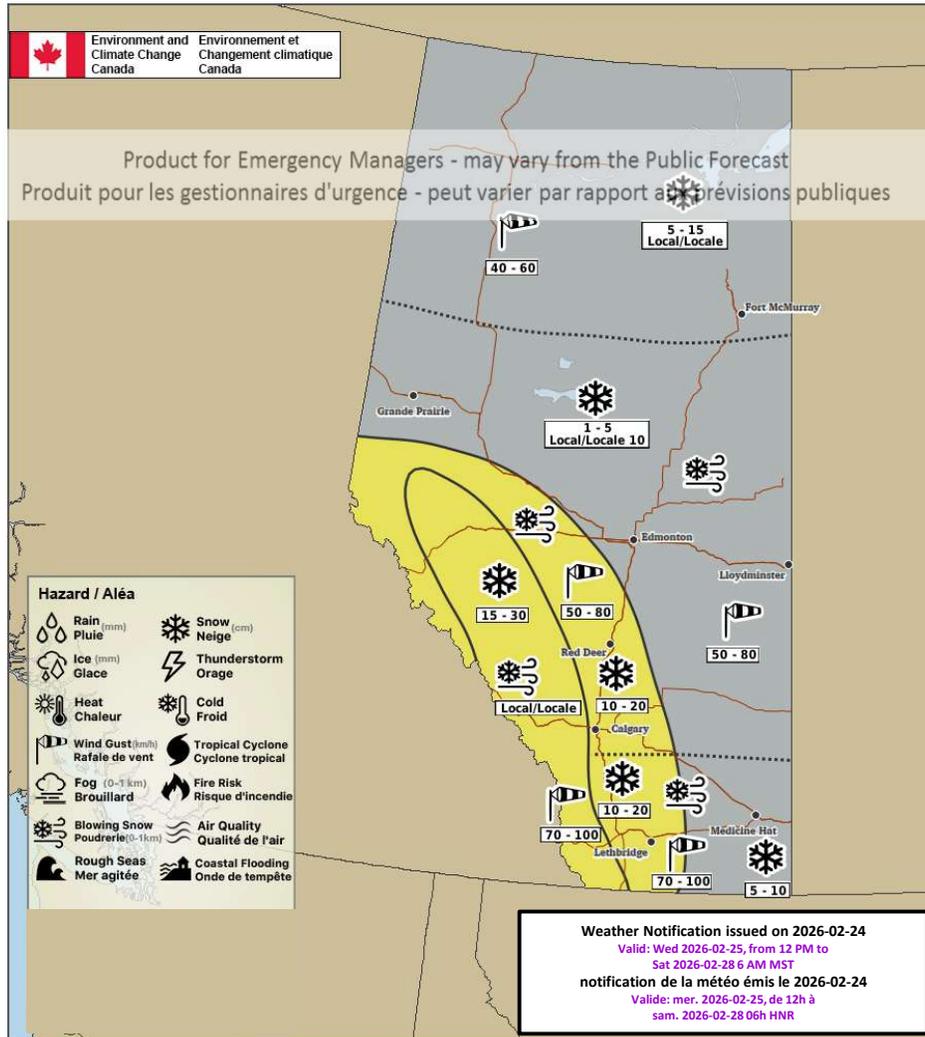




Heavy snow, strong winds, and local blowing snow in AB

Event Duration: Wednesday February 25 to Friday February 27, 2026



		Risk			
Confidence	Very High				
	High	✓	✓		
	Moderate				
	Low				
		Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
		Impact (Known Vulnerability & Exposure)			

Impacts

- Travel in central and southern Alberta will be impacted by reduced visibility in locally heavy falling and blowing snow
- Rush Hour Thursday from Edmonton towards Calgary may be impacted by very low visibility in locally intense snow and blowing snow
- Strong winds may loft loose or unsecured objects causing damage. High profile vehicles will be in danger of overturning in wind-prone areas of the southwest



Certainty

- **Snowfall:**
 - **Moderate to high** confidence in total snowfall amounts
 - 15 – 30 cm expected over mountain parks and higher terrain
 - 10 – 20 cm over the Foothills and far southern regions
 - **High** confidence around where the snow will fall
 - Highest confidence for mountain parks and Foothills regions
 - Lower confidence in areas near and southeast of Calgary and Hwy 1
- **Wind: High** confidence in gusts of 80-100 km/h in wind-prone areas along the Foothills.
 - **Moderate** for gusts up to 130 km/h in Pincher Creek region and up to 80 km/h along the cold front as it moves through central/southern AB
- **Blowing Snow: Moderate to high** confidence on Thursday with falling snow

Key Points

- **Snow and Blowing Snow:** Ahead of the system, some locally heavy snow will occur across northern AB. As the system develops on Thursday, heavy snow moves into the northern Foothills in the afternoon and moves south overnight and into Friday.
- Highest snowfall totals by Friday will be west of Red Deer and Calgary, and locally in Kananaskis and Waterton regions with general amounts of 15 – 30 cm. The higher terrain could see upwards of 35 – 40 cm.
- Flurries and northwest wind gusts up to 80 km/h along a cold front will sweep south reaching central AB, incl. Edmonton area, by Thursday afternoon producing sudden reduced visibility in falling and blowing snow, along with localized flash freeze conditions.
 - Precipitation may start as light showers or wet snow before quickly transitioning to snow
- The cold front will impact the Calgary area by Thursday evening with heavy bands of snow persisting into Friday morning. Lower confidence in storm totals for the Calgary region, most likely 12 – 18 cm
- **Wind:** Strong westerly winds first develop Wednesday over the Foothills region, and then over south and southwest regions on Thursday
 - Gusts up to 100 km/h will cause local blowing snow, up to 130 km/h in Pincher Creek region on Thursday
- The system exits the province late Friday night with conditions improving by Saturday morning.

Next Update

- Updates to this notification are not expected. Please see the Significant Weather Outlooks at: <https://hpx.collab.science.gc.ca/~rum001/eccc/swo/>

Long Range Forecast – For Alberta

Saturday February 28	Sunday March 1	Monday March 2
Cold		North: Cold



Additional Information

- Please monitor current weather forecasts and alerts:
<https://weather.gc.ca/>
- Please consult the following websites for further information:
<http://511.alberta.ca>
Alberta Emergency preparedness - <https://www.alberta.ca/emergency-preparedness.aspx>
Alberta Hazard preparedness - <https://www.alberta.ca/hazard-preparedness.aspx>
Significant Weather Outlook - <https://hpfx.collab.science.gc.ca/~rum001/eccc/swo/>

Impact Categories

The expected impact of weather events is described using the following categories:

Impact	General Description
Low	Day to day activities not affected "Business as usual" for the public Minor, highly localized impacts possible
Moderate	Limited disruption to daily life anticipated Some damage/impacts Relatively quick recovery
High	Disruption to society expected Significant damage/impacts A few days for recovery (1-3 days)
Extreme	Major, prolonged disruption to society Widespread, extensive damage/impacts Long duration recovery (4+ days)

Confidence Categories

The confidence in the occurrence of expected weather events and generalized impacts are described by the following categories:

Confidence	General Description
Low	≤ 40%* Unlikely
Moderate	40-60%* Possible
High	60-80%* Probable
Very High	80-100%* Highly Likely

*Note that these percentages do not represent model likelihood or probability values. They represent confidence based on a number of sources including model output, trends, historical model performance, antecedent conditions, vulnerability, exposure, etc.