

Value-added Agriculture in Southeast Alberta

*Working and living
in the tropics of
Alberta gives
businesses and
investors the
opportunity to
excel in a
value-driven and
well-established
sector.*

Established

For over a century entrepreneurs have excelled in sunny southeast Alberta and the prospects are good for the future.

- Alberta agri-food exports reached a record high of \$8.1B, an increase of 25.3% over 2007; 40% of Alberta's total agri-food exports.
- Alberta's food and beverage industry is export oriented and has a worldwide reputation for quality products.
- The U.S. remains the largest export market for Alberta's processed foods, feed and beverage products.
- Alberta represented over 20% of Canada's total agri-food exports of \$39B in 2008 concentrated in two segments - meat products and grain and oilseed milling.
- Between 2001 and 2006, the greenhouse industry has increased by 15%.
- Centrally located within the province and to the U.S. border southeast Alberta has full access to air, highway and rail transportation.
- Here there's a strong infrastructure system, from transportation to water to utilities to health care. It's all here.

Opportunity

The growth potential for this region is estimated to climb substantially due to export demand. Here are a few opportunities for businesses and investors:

- pulse processing
- receiving
- storage
- cleaning
- splitting
- milling and grinding
- bagging and bulk load out
- manure processing
- electricity generation
- agritourism
- year-round green house operations

Value Driven

Today's businesses and investors are also looking to value-driven communities and cost-effective environments.

- S.E. Alberta has a strong innovation system, resulting in commercialization and use of science and technology; next generation, integrated and innovative systems.
- The region is justifiably proud of its strong and trained workforce. A significant employer, agri-food employment in the region accounts for 15% of the total employment compared to 4.3% for Canada.
- S.E. Alberta is an agriculturally rich region that offers some of the most vital irrigation and dry-land farming and livestock operations in Canada.
- Stable and cost-effective utility rates.

Alberta offers

- competitive corporate taxes
- no provincial sales, general capital or payroll taxes
- no machinery and equipment tax
- research and development tax credits
- lowest tax rate in Canada
- lowest unemployment rates in the country

For more information, please contact:

Caroline Grover
Executive Director, EDA
403.488.7015
info@edalliance.com
www.edalliance.ca



Economic Development Alliance
of Southeast Alberta