

# About the Edmonton Metropolitan Region

## WHO WE ARE

### 1 YOUNG

- The Edmonton region is among the youngest in Canada and has been ranked the best community for youth and youth work

### 2 EDUCATED

- The region is home to eight post-secondary institutions offering 170 programs to roughly 130,000 students
- The University of Alberta is ranked in the global top 100, and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology is the largest technology and apprenticeship trainer in Canada

### 3 GROWING

- The region is home to more than 1.5 million people, is Canada's fifth largest economy, and generates 30% of Alberta's GDP
- The Edmonton region is Canada's 2nd fastest growing major metropolitan area

### 4 CONNECTED

- The Edmonton region is an international manufacturing, cargo, and global logistics hub – our northern location is a strategic advantage
- The entire region is an inland port where air, rail, pipelines, and roadways converge with favourable regulations and the benefits of a Foreign Trade Zone

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS PODCAST

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## ABOUT EDMONTON GLOBAL

Edmonton Global is a not-for-profit organization supported by 14 municipalities that make up the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Our focus is on attracting foreign investment, helping regional businesses export with the world, enhancing our region's global competitiveness, and bringing our region together with a unified voice to attract the attention and interest of investors the world over.

*The purpose of Edmonton Global is to radically transform and grow the economy of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region.*



# Focus Sectors

Edmonton Global takes a data-driven approach to identify where there are opportunities globally, where the Edmonton region has unique assets and advantages, and where we can compete to win.

## 1 FOOD & AGRICULTURE

- With ample farmland, state-of-the-art R&D facilities, and a rising advanced technology sector, the region hosts the entire sector value chain, including high-quality primary production and a cluster of processing plants.
- With an abundant supply of plant proteins, the Edmonton region has huge potential to capitalize on this global opportunity.
- The Edmonton region has the potential to be a hub for Western Canada's value-added food production.

## 2 LIFE SCIENCES

- Start-Up Genome ranked Edmonton's biotech sector as a global "one to watch" in 2021.
- World class researchers are attracting global attention.
  - Dr. Shapiro (Edmonton Protocol) has stated that he expects to solve diabetes within the next five years.
  - Dr. Michael Houghton won a Nobel prize for his work in discovering hepatitis.
- The region's expertise in AI holds massive potential for the life sciences sector.

## 3 HYDROGEN

- The region is attracting investment in production, innovation, hydrogen utilization technologies, and research because of its unique ability to produce low-cost, zero-emission hydrogen at a global scale.
- The region is home to Canada's first and largest hydrogen hub, positioning us at the centre of Canada's emerging hydrogen economy.
- The region is anticipating \$30 billion in investment in hydrogen production facilities by 2030.

## 4 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE / MACHINE LEARNING

- CBRE ranked Edmonton as the fastest growing tech market in North America in 2021.
- Edmonton is home to the Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii), one of three Canadian AI Centres of Excellence.
- The University of Alberta is ranked 3rd globally in AI research.
- The region's leadership in reinforcement learning has attracted global companies including: IBM, Google, Microsoft, Apple, and many more.

## 5 GLOBAL LOGISTICS

- The region includes Port Alberta, an inland port where air, rail, pipelines, and roadways converge within a Foreign Trade Zone with incentives to create a regional manufacturing, cargo, and logistics hub.
- The Edmonton region is strategically connected to the Port of Prince Rupert, Canada's fastest growing port, giving the region quick and reliable access to global markets.

