

# Young, Educated, Growing



## TOP REASONS TO INVEST

- 1 Talent:** The Edmonton Metropolitan Region is one of the youngest regions in Canada. It is ranked as the best community in the country for youth and youth work. The Edmonton metro region is home to 1.4 million people and seven universities and colleges. There are 130,000 students enrolled in post secondary education across the region. The region is also home to more engineers per capita than any other community in Canada.
- 2 Innovation:** Active partnerships exist between business and all levels of government to fund innovation, foster the growth of companies, and support research and development. The University of Alberta is ranked in the global top 100 and has significant expertise in computer science, engineering, medicine, nanotechnology, and agriculture. The University of Alberta is also a top 5 research centre in AI, machine learning, reinforcement Learning, natural language processing, and computer vision. The region features a vibrant startup ecosystem, offering a wide range of supports for emergent companies and technologies.
- 3 Advantageous:** The Province of Alberta is the lowest corporate tax jurisdiction in Canada and by 2022 will be the second lowest in North America (a combined federal and provincial rate of 26%). The Edmonton region's high quality of life and affordability make it very attractive to young families. Housing accounts for approximately 34.8% of income compared to the Canadian average of 51.9%.

## HOME TO GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE COMPANIES



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## EDMONTON INSIGHTS

### Advanced Technology Hub

Edmonton has facilities and networks to support growth in research and commercialization of nanotechnology, microelectromechanical systems (MEMs), aerospace, advanced fabrication, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, and bio-innovation.

### Artificial Intelligence

Edmonton is a member of the pan-Canadian AI strategy and plays an important role in the research, development, and commercialization of machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI) in Canada. Edmonton is home to the Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii), which conducts leading research with global technology companies.

### Globally Connected

- The region is home to a Foreign Trade Zone and an inland port – Port Alberta.
- Edmonton is the fastest growing region in Canada. Alberta is the fastest growing jurisdiction in North America.
- Export growth rate is more than double Canada's average at 10.8% from 2010 to 2018.
- Circumpolar routes and an integrated supply chain linking air, rail, road, and pipelines, helps move products to and from Asia faster than any other major city in North America.

### EDMONTON GLOBAL

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“It was a big decision for us to open our first non-UK research lab, and the fact we’re doing so in Edmonton is a sign of the deep admiration and respect we have for the Canadian research community. In fact, we’ve had particularly strong links with the UAlberta for many years: nearly a dozen of its outstanding graduates have joined us at DeepMind, and we’ve sponsored the machine learning lab to provide additional funding for PhDs over the past few years.” –Demis Hassabis, CEO of DeepMind

## SECTOR STRENGTHS

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### Health and Life Sciences

Over 69% percent of Alberta life science companies are located in the Edmonton metro region. This includes biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices. Organizations like Applied Pharmaceutical Innovation and Edmonton Health City work directly with researchers, industry and investors to commercialize research and create soft landing pads for international companies across the region.

### Energy and Environmental Technology

Edmonton is home to the world’s first industrial-scale municipal waste-to-biofuel facility that converts approximately 100,000 tonnes of sorted municipal solid waste into 38 million litres of ethanol annually. The region has immediate access to the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest oil reserve in the world and massive gas feedstocks. More than \$40 billion in petrochemical industry capital investment is already present in the region.

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### Food and Agri-Business

The Edmonton metro region is home to the entire sector value chain, including high-quality primary products, a cluster of processing plants, globally connected logistics, applied research facilities, and a supplementary manufacturing sector. The food and beverage sector employs 22,000 people across Alberta and has \$14.4 billion in annual sales. Alberta is the third largest exporter of agri-food products in Canada. Alberta’s largest exports are wheat, beef, canola seed, and canola oil. The Edmonton metro region features centres of excellence for ag-biotechnologies, agri-inputs and technologies, and culinary innovation.

### Advanced Manufacturing

The Edmonton region is a major manufacturing hub in Western Canada. From medical devices to intelligent farming equipment, from massive earth movers in the oilsands to nano-materials, the Edmonton Metropolitan Region is home to an array of manufacturers and manufacturing capability. The region includes the nanoFB Centre, NanoCanada, the Alberta Centre for Advanced Microsystems & Nanotechnology Products (ACAMP), all of which support the development and commercialization of high-tech products. International companies, including Dow Chemical, have invested heavily in the region.

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### AI and ICT

AI and ICT are a booming industry in Edmonton, with specialties in gaming, VR, AR, and machine learning. AI and ICT are powering growth across every sector – life sciences, agriculture, energy, and manufacturing. Global companies like Deepmind and Improbable are investing to access talent and opportunities. Home grown businesses including BioWare, Intuit, and BeamDog are part of an emerging cluster of innovative companies developing talent and creating a culture of creative problem solving.

