



Top Reasons to Invest in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region

THE EDMONTON METROPOLITAN REGION

1 TALENT

The Edmonton Metropolitan Region is young, educated, and growing. Ranked as the best community in the country for youth and youth work and is home to 1.4 million people, seven universities and colleges, and 130,000 post-secondary students, the region:

- Generates 30% (\$105 billion) of Alberta's GDP
- Is Canada's fifth-largest economy
- Has 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 startups and established companies, and support research and development. The University of Alberta is ranked in the global top 100, and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (nait) is the largest technology and apprenticeship trainer in Canada.

Edmonton Metropolitan Regional expertise:

Computer science, engineering, medicine, nanotechnology, and agriculture, as well as artificial intelligence, machine learning, reinforcement learning, natural language processing, and computer vision.

3 LIFESTYLE

Alberta is the lowest corporate tax jurisdiction in Canada (a combined federal and provincial rate of 26%) and by 2022 will be the second-lowest in North America (a combined rate of 23%). The Edmonton Metropolitan 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%.

The Edmonton Metropolitan Region:

- Offers art, culture, fine food, nature, and family fun
- Has a welcoming, diverse population, with 23% of Edmontonians being first generation Canadians

REGIONAL INSIGHTS

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY HUB

Facilities support growth in research and commercialization of nanotechnology, microelectromechanical systems (mems), aerospace, advanced fabrication, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, and bio-innovation.

GLOBALLY CONNECTED

- Home to a Foreign Trade Zone and an inland port—Port Alberta
- Fastest-growing region in Canada. Alberta is the fastest-growing jurisdiction in North America
- Export growth rate is double Canada's average (10.8% from 2008 to 2018)
- Integrated supply chain linking air, rail, road, and pipelines to move products to and from Asia



"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 University of Alberta 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

HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES

- Over 69% of Alberta life science companies are located in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region, contributing nearly 7.5% of the region's GDP.
- Biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and research on the causes and treatment of diseases are all areas of innovation in the region.

200% growth in biotech research and development spending

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

- The Edmonton Metropolitan Region is home to the world's first industrial-scale municipal waste-to-biofuel facility that converts approximately 100,000 tonnes of waste into 38 million litres of ethanol annually.
- A leader in energy production and the reduction of greenhouse gases, its proximity to the third-largest oil reserve in the world has led to global investment and world-renowned innovation.

\$40 billion in petrochemical industry capital investment

FOOD AND AGRI-BUSINESS

- The Edmonton Metropolitan Region hosts a flourishing food and agricultural ecosystem and is the gateway to leading innovative practices and revolutionary farming.
- Here you'll find the entire value chain, from primary products to a supplementary manufacturing sector.
- The Edmonton Metropolitan Region features centres of excellence for ag-biotechnologies, agri-inputs and technologies, and culinary innovation.

22,000 people across Alberta employed in the sector

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

- The Edmonton Metropolitan Region's advanced manufacturing ecosystem is home to nearly 40% of Alberta's manufacturing output, specializing in high-value manufacturing of sophisticated customized products.
- From medical devices to intelligent farming equipment, from massive earth movers in the oilsands to nano-materials, it has an array of manufacturers and manufacturing capability.

\$540 billion in annual exports by 2030

AI AND ICT

- AI and ICT are booming in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region, with specialties in gaming, VR, AR, and machine learning. They're powering growth across every sector—life sciences, agriculture, energy, and manufacturing.
- Global companies like DeepMind and Improbable are investing to access talent, innovation, and opportunities.
- The Edmonton Metropolitan Region is home to the Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii), which conducts leading research with global technology companies.

53% increase in the number of technology businesses headquartered in Alberta

