

BUSINESS Strengths

- ▶ Robust GDP growth of 3% or over in four of the past five years. Projected GDP growth of 5.5% in 2004 and 2.6% in 2005.
- ▶ A highly attractive business environment ranked number one in the North American midwest for cost competitiveness. (Source: KPMG 2004)
- ▶ A smart, reliable labour pool of 550,000-plus emerging from the region's 10 universities and colleges.
- ▶ Manufacturing and processing centre for Alberta's oilsands.
- ▶ Competitively priced commercial and industrial land and lease rates give businesses a wide selection of business locations.
- ▶ An enticing portfolio of "people" advantages including:
 - ▶ Diverse, affordable quality of life
 - ▶ Top-rated health care
 - ▶ Fantastic recreational opportunities
 - ▶ Major cultural amenities

INDUSTRY Clusters and Sectors

- ▶ Advanced Manufacturing
- ▶ Agrifood Products & Agriculture
- ▶ Biomedicine & Biotechnology
- ▶ Engineering & Technical Services
- ▶ Financial Services
- ▶ Forest Products
- ▶ Info & Communications Technologies
- ▶ Medical Services
- ▶ Nanotechnology & Microsystems
- ▶ Oil, Gas & Chemicals
- ▶ Retail
- ▶ Tourism
- ▶ Transportation & Logistics

EDUCATION and Research

- ▶ The University of Alberta – the province's flagship educational and research institution – attracts more than \$300 million in external research funding each year. Its world-class researchers were instrumental in the development of the oilsands and have helped make Edmonton the biotech capital of Alberta.
- ▶ The state-of-the-art National Institute for Nanotechnology will make Edmonton an international centre for excellence in this emerging industry cluster with untold downstream commercial potential.
- ▶ The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and Grant MacEwan College offer career-oriented training to more than 90,000 students in Greater Edmonton.

OVERVIEW

One million people live in Greater Edmonton, a major metropolitan centre and economic powerhouse.

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An educated, entrepreneurial workforce drives a \$40-plus billion annual economy.

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Over \$80.6 billion in regional investment is planned over the next decade.

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Greater Edmonton is the service and supply hub of Alberta's oil and gas industry.

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Edmonton is a primary service point for Canada's western provinces, and the gateway to Canada's North and Jasper National Park.

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Over 84% of Alberta's biotechnology companies are located in Greater Edmonton.

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Edmonton is Canada's Festival City, with more than 20 major annual festivals celebrating Edmonton's rich cultural diversity and community spirit.

Contact

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