



Community Profile

Municipal/County Name	MD of Ranchlands 66	Contact Name	Robert Strauss
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Date	December 2023	Phone Number	403-646-3131
Give an overview of your region (150-200 words)			
<p>Welcome to the MD of Ranchlands 66, where a rich agricultural heritage thrives against the breathtaking backdrop of the Rocky Mountains and foothills. Nestled between these majestic peaks, Ranchlands 66 stands as a testament to the enduring spirit of the finest ranching country in Canada. Stretching North to the picturesque Kananaskis, extending West to the verdant landscapes of British Columbia, and reaching South to the historic Crowsnest Pass, this expansive region has sustained a quintessentially Western lifestyle for over a century. With its strong agricultural roots, the MD of Ranchlands 66 offers not only scenic vistas but also numerous protected areas and parks, creating a harmonious blend of tradition and natural beauty that has shaped the identity of this remarkable community. Welcome to a place where the land tells a story, and the Western way of life has found a home for over a century.</p>			
Sectors			
What sectors are you most competitive for and why?			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture- due to the prime land designed to graze livestock, the MD is a natural support for this sector. Tourism- with a myriad of protected areas and parks that call to people in the city to play outdoors, this natural setting is strong and growing. Oil and Gas- with a strong sense of responsible development while preserving agriculture land, this sector has established roots in the area. 			
What is your value proposition?			
<p>Our commitment to preserving the Western lifestyle is deeply ingrained in the very fabric of this community, creating a haven where tradition meets untouched beauty. We pride ourselves on responsible growth, carefully cultivating opportunities for tourism and the energy sector while safeguarding the natural splendor that defines us. What sets us apart is our unique distinction as a municipality without villages, towns, or hamlets within its borders, allowing residents and visitors alike to immerse themselves in an unspoiled landscape that remains a testament to the undisturbed beauty of the West.</p>			
Costs of Doing Business			
Tax rates			
Residential: 4.33% Non-Residential/M&E: 9.8348 Farmland: 4.9572			
Land Costs per acre (average)			
None available at this time			
Real estate costs per sq. ft (average)			
None available at this time			
Incentives or cost advantages (if any)			
No formal programs.			
Other			
Ease of Doing Business			
What supports do you bring for new businesses (try to be specific)?			
Collaborating with a team at the Oldman River Regional Services Commission and Alberta Southwest, businesses will be led through development and provided access to any applicable resources and supports.			
Are there major transport access (road, rail, air)			
Road: Highways 22 (major highway connecting Calgary to area), Highway 20, and highways 533 connect the municipality to major highways 2 and 3.			
Describe the business culture in the community			
There are no villages, towns, or hamlets located within the municipality, so the businesses are made up of farms/ranches in the area and a small seasonal eating establishment at Chain Lakes.			
How do you make new businesses feel welcomed? Feel supported?			

No formal programs are in place.
Who is the point of contact for inquiries?
Robert Strauss
Speed of Doing Business
What are the permitting & zoning timelines?
Comply with the Municipal Government Act
Is the point of contact for inquiries familiar with land use planning, development approvals and the building process?
Yes, and will also work with Alberta Southwest.
Talent
What does your talent pipeline look like? How do you attract talent? What is the affordability look like (e.g., Average housing costs)
With a small population of year-round residents of just over one hundred, labour needs to be recruited from adjacent municipalities and is largely focused on the agriculture sector.
Is there access to post-secondary or training programs offered?
Nearest post-secondary is in Calgary and Lethbridge.
What are the stats about the local workforce?
Stats Canada 2021 Census: 50% of the population is between the ages of 15-64 and have a participation rate of 69% and average age of forty-eight with 0% unemployment.
How do you retain talent? What is the quality of life like in your community? (schools, recreation etc.) How do you ensure new residents feel welcome?
People choose to live and work in this area because they have a deep connection to the Western lifestyle and connection with nature. People rely on their neighbors and new neighbors are welcomed and embraced into the community when they come to work on the area ranches.
ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) + DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) ESG compliance and disclosure are top drivers of investor trust as there is a growing awareness that communities, companies, government etc. have the responsibility and resources to accomplish positive climate action and build a more sustainable and resilient future.
What are the environmental, sustainability or emission reduction initiatives in your community?
A focus and deep commitment to environmental sustainability through the preservation of grasslands and land is inherent in this municipality. The understanding and adherence to best management practices like rotational grazing is just one of the examples in which this community is committed to helping mitigate climate change.
What are the DEI initiatives in your community?
Workers from all over the globe come to work on the ranches in this area as it is well known for the lifestyle. Treating these newcomers and neighbors like family is a tradition that is over one hundred years old in this municipality leading to inclusion and diversity in a natural organic way.
Other
Are there any other aspects that make your community unique?
Join us in Ranchlands, where a commitment to preservation, responsible growth, and the inherent uniqueness of our landscape converge to create a haven like no other.
Include any relevant maps or photos of investment ready sites
None at this time.

