

# **Community Profile**

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#### **About your community**

What specific sectors are you most competitive for and why? (Please provide examples)

- 1. Agriculture and Agri-Food Processing- being centrally located in the heart of irrigated farmland, the specialty and heritage crops that are processed in the town are vast. Known for potatoes, corn, and sugar beets, this town has ample opportunity to grow and expand.
- -Potential expansion opportunities include Ag Research facilities and larger retail like a Canadian Tire.
- 2. Oil and Gas- with a solid natural gas economy in the area, there is still need for development of future potential.
- 3. Transportation- with a strong farming and gas sector, logistics for moving raw products as well as finished remains a cornerstone of the community.
- 4. Non-profits- with a vast array of non-profits focused on the agriculture sector, there are a lot of visitors to town from the neighbouring rural areas.
- 5. Tourism- this is growing, especially Agri-tourism. There is a need for some expansion into this sector including the development of a larger hotel and conference center to host events, especially those for the non-profit and industry sectors.

Who are the major employers in your region? (Top 3-5 major companies/employers)

Lantic (Rogers Sugar) Lamb Weston PepsiCo Town of Taber

Are there major transport access (road, rail, air) in and around your area?

With major highways of #3 running East/West plus 36 running North and South, and the CPR main line running through the town, and a small municipal airport, there are many ways to get your product to market.

#### **Speed of Doing Business**

What are the permitting & zoning timelines?

Permitted use – 2 days Discretionary: 8 weeks. Subdivision: 2 months. Zoning: 3 months

How often are zoning laws or permitting regulations updated, and how would we stay informed about any changes?

Land Use Bylaw is amended at times for particular situations, this would not affect anything outside these requests. Overall it would be every few years that the bylaw is reviewed

Who is the best person to contact for updates on pending permits?



#### Celina Newberry

Are there any special permits or variances available for projects that don't fully comply with zoning regulations?

Yes, we are open to special permits and variances on a case by case basis.

Are there any restrictions on the type or size of the project based on zoning laws? (i.e, building height, power, water, etc.)

Building Height varies by zoning, M-3 zoning being the highest at 20m tall. But we do make exceptions for this.

#### **Talent**

What does your talent pipeline look like? How do you attract and retain talent? (in your community or from within the region/neighbouring municipalities etc.)

With access to labour from the surrounding rural towns and hamlets plus the City of Lethbridge, there are many opportunities for recruitment. Families are attracted to the town due to the price of housing, schools, facilities, and amenities. There is a migration of well of temporary foreign workers and Taber hosts the Rural Renewal Program to recruit more permanent residents.

Is there access to post-secondary or training programs offered? (either in or around your region?)

Medicine Hat and Lethbridge are the main sources for post-secondary. A micro-credentials college is being set up for the agriculture sector in 2024.

What are some notable stats about the local/regional workforce?

62% of the population is between 15-64 and the average is 38 (2021 Stats Can Census) 7% unemployment rate and 65% participation rate (Alberta Regional Dashboard) Apprenticeship is high with a 48.6% increase in 2022 (Alberta Regional Dashboard) Enrolment in schools remains steady. All Families income is at \$98,000 (Alberta Regional Dashboard)

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?

Participating in the "Clean Energy Program" as well as they have EV Chargers. Wetland management utilizing the trout pond and river bottom are priorities for the town as well.



## What are the DEI initiatives in your community?

Rural Renewal Program encouraging permanent residency for immigrant workers. 11% of the population is a visible minatory and is growing annually (Alberta Regional Dashboard). 43% of the Council is female and has been growing over the past several elections.

### Investment Opportunities and Other

Are there any other aspects that make your community unique?

As you explore Taber, you will discover a community that values its people, celebrates hard work, and takes pride in being part of the premier food corridor. Whether you are drawn to the entrepreneurial opportunities, the industrious spirit, or the culinary prospects, Taber invites you to experience the vibrant tapestry of a town where innovation, hard work, and a love for quality come together in perfect harmony.

Are there any investment opportunities in your region? Projects, Sites etc. (Include any maps or attachment of files, or links to websites etc.)

Brownfield Development Opportunities- Old Lucerne Factory New Development Opportunities- Eureka Business Park



Fomer food processing and distribution centre. This facility features generous office and warehouse space situated on 9.88 acres.

