

# Study I

## A Contemporary Economic Profile of the Athabasca River Basin

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## Contents

|                                                                                                            |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>ATHABASCA RIVER BASIN .....</b>                                                                         | <b>1</b>  |
| LOCATION .....                                                                                             | 1         |
| ECONOMY AND LABOUR TRENDS, 2008-2013.....                                                                  | 1         |
| MUNICIPALITIES, DEMOGRAPHICS, AND LOCAL LABOUR TRENDS .....                                                | 5         |
| <i>Athabasca County</i> .....                                                                              | 5         |
| <i>County of Barrhead No. 11</i> .....                                                                     | 6         |
| <i>Improvement District No. 12 Jasper Park</i> .....                                                       | 7         |
| <i>Lac La Biche County</i> .....                                                                           | 8         |
| <i>Lac Ste. Anne County</i> .....                                                                          | 9         |
| <i>Municipal District of Big Lakes</i> .....                                                               | 10        |
| <i>Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124</i> .....                                              | 11        |
| <i>Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17</i> .....                                                      | 12        |
| <i>Municipality of Jasper</i> .....                                                                        | 13        |
| <i>Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo</i> .....                                                         | 14        |
| <i>Westlock County</i> .....                                                                               | 15        |
| <i>Woodlands County</i> .....                                                                              | 16        |
| <i>Yellowhead County</i> .....                                                                             | 17        |
| <b>INDUSTRIES AND COMPANY PROFILES .....</b>                                                               | <b>18</b> |
| OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION, ENERGY SERVICES, AND<br>VALUE ADDED ENERGY - REFINED PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS ..... | 19        |
| INDUSTRIAL MANUFACTURING AND PLASTIC PRODUCT INDUSTRIES.....                                               | 23        |
| PRIMARY AGRICULTURE, AND AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRIES - PROCESSED FOOD AND BEVERAGES.....                          | 24        |
| FOREST PRODUCTS .....                                                                                      | 24        |
| CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING.....                                                                          | 26        |
| TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS .....                                                                         | 26        |
| FINANCIAL SERVICES INDUSTRY .....                                                                          | 27        |
| TOURISM .....                                                                                              | 27        |
| ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES .....                                                                  | 28        |
| CULTURE.....                                                                                               | 28        |
| UTILITIES.....                                                                                             | 29        |
| EDUCATION SERVICES .....                                                                                   | 29        |
| HEALTH CARE SERVICES.....                                                                                  | 31        |
| GOVERNMENT SERVICES .....                                                                                  | 32        |
| RETAIL AND HOSPITALITY .....                                                                               | 33        |
| <b>ENDNOTES .....</b>                                                                                      | <b>35</b> |

# Athabasca River Basin

## Location

The Athabasca River Basin (ARB) is located in the northern part of Alberta, stretching from the western Rocky Mountains, north upwards to Lake Athabasca. As shown, the River Basin cuts diagonally across Alberta, following along the Athabasca River.<sup>1</sup> It includes a number of municipalities and, importantly, much of Canada's oil sands.

The following overview provides information on Alberta's economy through the 2008 recession, its future outlook, as well as labour force information on communities in the Athabasca River Basin, as taken from Statistics Canada's 2006 Census data, specifically its Community Profiles, and available data from the Government of Alberta's Monthly Labour Force Statistics<sup>2</sup>.

## Economy and Labour Trends, 2008-2013

The Province of Alberta is often referred to as one of the economic engines of Canada. In particular, natural gas and oil extraction have buoyed Alberta's economy most notably during boom periods within the last few decades. The economy has been strong, employment has been high, and positive spillover effects have strengthened other sectors, including construction, real estate, and post-secondary education, for example.



Over the period of October 2008 to October 2009, however, Canadians saw a net loss of 400,000 jobs, with the unemployment rate rising from 6.3 per cent to 8.6 per cent. While Alberta has had among the highest employment rates in the country for the past 30 years, the 2008 downturn affected industrial sectors in particular, including manufacturing, construction, natural resources, transportation and warehousing, and retail and wholesale trade, causing Alberta to see the greatest proportion of job losses nationally (2,035,200 to 2,257,200, a loss of 3.3 per cent - Table 1)<sup>3</sup>.

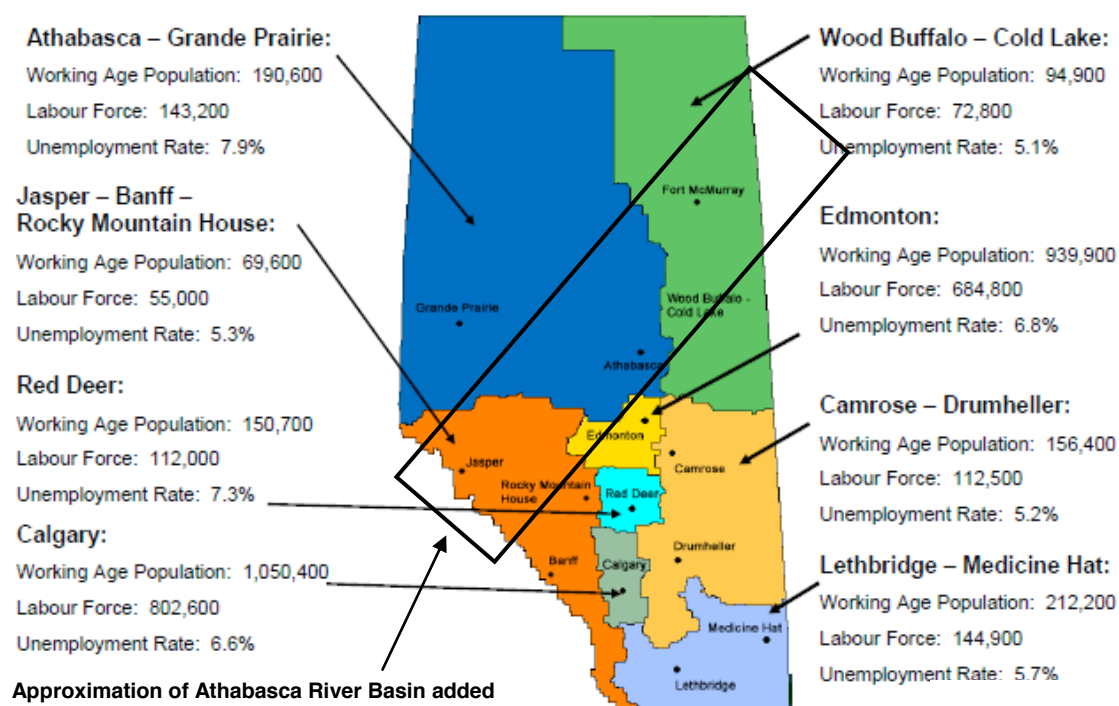
Table 1. Employment Changes Across Regions

More recently, the number of people employed in Alberta is increasing (1,995,300 in 2009 to 2,016,400 in 2010) with the unemployment rate decreasing from 6.6 per cent in 2009 to 5.6 per cent in 2010<sup>4</sup>.

|                              | October<br>2008 | October<br>2009 | Change        |             |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
|                              |                 | '000            |               | %           |
| <b>Canada</b>                | <b>17,194.7</b> | <b>16,794.8</b> | <b>-399.9</b> | <b>-2.3</b> |
| Atlantic                     | 1,114.7         | 1,105.9         | -8.8          | -0.8        |
| Quebec                       | 3,890.2         | 3,828.1         | -62.1         | -1.6        |
| Ontario                      | 6,719.0         | 6,513.1         | -205.9        | -3.1        |
| Manitoba and<br>Saskatchewan | 1,126.6         | 1,123.2         | -3.4          | -0.3        |
| Alberta                      | 2,035.2         | 1,967.2         | -68.0         | -3.3        |
| British Columbia             | 2,309.0         | 2,257.2         | -51.8         | -2.2        |

Figure 1 shows the number of people of working age in each of Alberta's regions, as of 2009, as well as corresponding figures on those in the labour force and those unemployed. The area of the Athabasca River Basin is highlighted. While the Athabasca-Grande Prairie region has had a higher than average unemployment rate (7.9 per cent), Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake (5.1 per cent) and Jasper-Banff-Rocky Mountain House (5.3 per cent) maintain lower than average unemployment rates. Edmonton's unemployment rate is slightly higher (6.8 per cent) although its labour force is greater.

Figure 1. Labour Force Statistics by Economic Region, 2009



The Government of Alberta's Economic Outlook 2010-2013 provides a more promising view on Alberta's economy, with forecasts over the medium term expected to trend upwards based on strengthened investment in the unconventional oil sector (Figures 2 and 3), boosting employment and incomes, gradually declining the unemployment rate to 4.9 per cent by 2013 (Figure 4)<sup>5</sup>.

Figure 2. Improvement in Oil Sands Investment

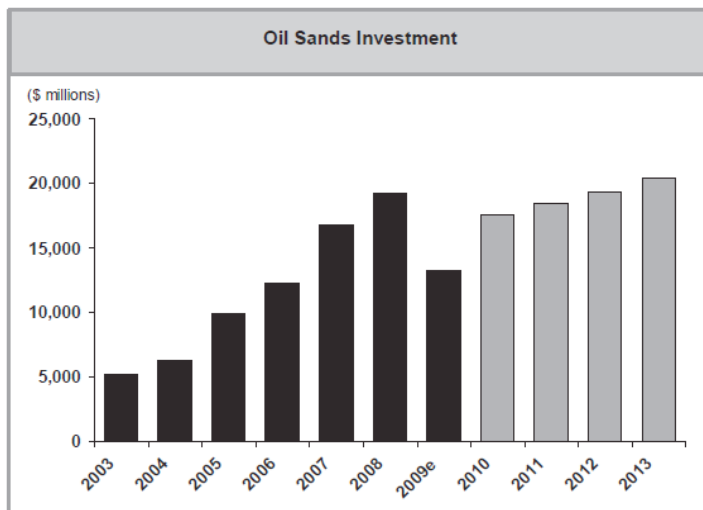


Figure 3. Rising Oil Exports

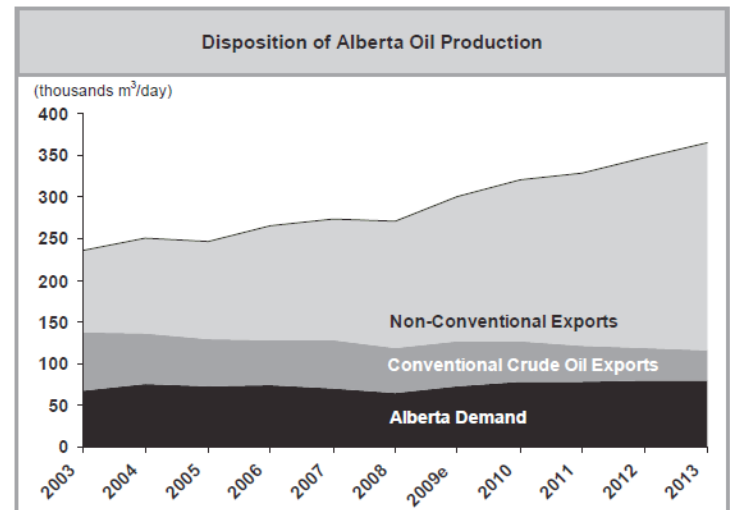
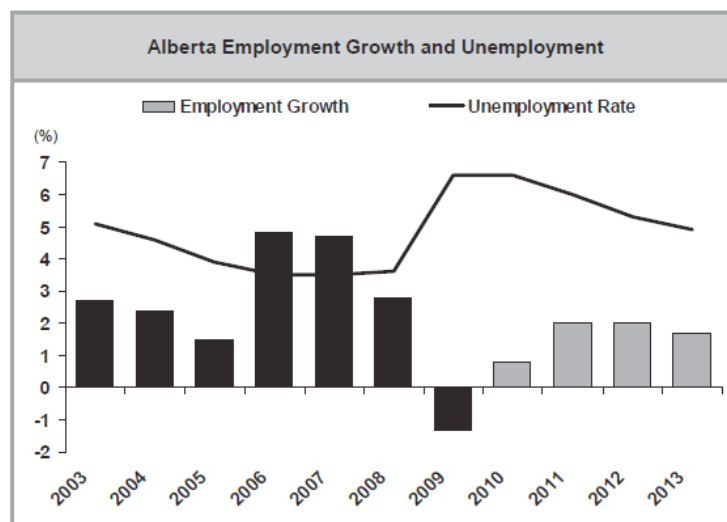
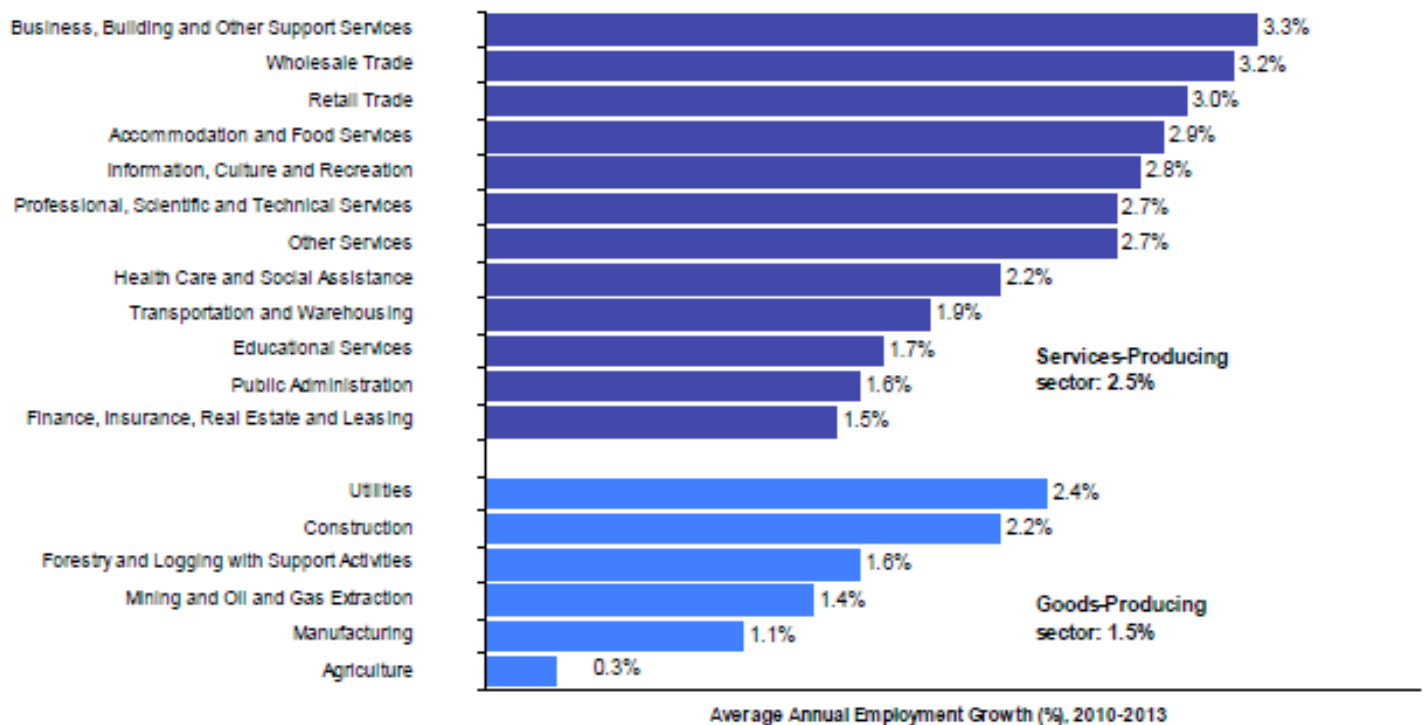


Figure 4. Employment Growth and Unemployment



In March 2010, the Government of Alberta released a Labour Market Outlook for 2010-2013. Figure 5 shows trends by occupation type<sup>6</sup> and indicates that the average expected growth of employment in specific industries in both the goods and services-producing sectors will increase over the next three years.

Figure 5. Average Employment Growth by Industry, 2010-2013, Alberta



## Municipalities, Demographics, and Local Labour Trends

This section highlights overall demographics and employment in specific industries in each of the 13 municipalities<sup>7</sup> in the Athabasca River Basin. The overall population of the ARB is approximately 160,383<sup>8</sup> as of September 2010.

### Athabasca County

Type: Municipal District

Population: 7,592

Includes:

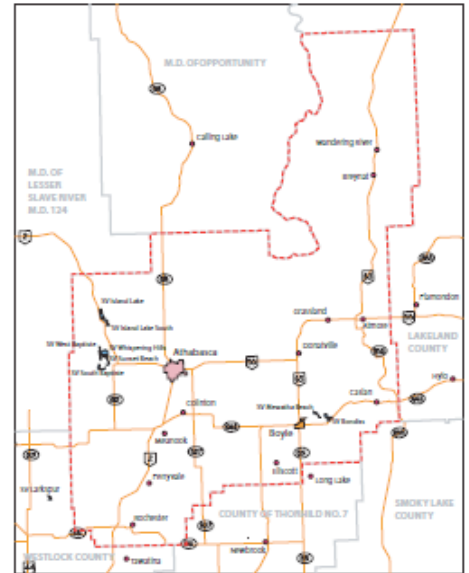
**Town** of Athabasca

**Village** of Boyle

**Summer Villages** of Bondiss, Island Lake, South Mewatha Beach, South Baptiste, Sunset Beach; West Baptiste, Whispering Hills

**Hamlets** of Atmore, Breynat, Caslan, Colinton,

Donatville, Ellscott, Grassland, Meanook, Perryvale, Rochestor, Wandering River



|                                                               | Total (2006) | Alberta (2006) <sup>9</sup> | Alberta (2009) <sup>10</sup> | Alberta (2010) <sup>11</sup> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |              |                             |                              |                              |
| 2010                                                          | 7592         |                             |                              | 3,543,797 <sup>12</sup>      |
| 2009                                                          | 7592         |                             | 3,520,268 <sup>13</sup>      |                              |
| 2006                                                          | 7587         | 3,290,350                   |                              |                              |
| 2001                                                          | 7521         | 2,974,807                   |                              |                              |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |              |                             |                              |                              |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 6095         | 2,625,140                   |                              |                              |
| In the labour force                                           | 4520         | 1,942,820                   | 2,135,900                    | 2,135,100                    |
| Employed                                                      | 4395         | 1,859,965                   | 1,995,300                    | 2,016,400                    |
| Unemployed                                                    | 120          | 82,860                      | 140,600                      | 118,700                      |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 1580         | 682,320                     |                              |                              |
| Participation rate                                            | 74.2         | 74.0                        |                              |                              |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 72.1         | 70.9                        | 68.9                         | 68.3                         |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 2.7          | 4.3                         | 6.6                          | 5.6                          |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |              |                             |                              |                              |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 4510         | 1,928,635                   |                              |                              |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 320          | 187,240                     |                              |                              |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 620          | 340,430                     |                              |                              |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 150          | 144,240                     |                              |                              |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 165          | 103,620                     |                              |                              |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 290          | 136,610                     |                              |                              |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 45           | 45,160                      |                              |                              |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 710          | 438,105                     |                              |                              |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 1135         | 350,360                     |                              |                              |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 835          | 117,500                     |                              |                              |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 245          | 65,365                      |                              |                              |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |              |                             |                              |                              |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 4515         | 1,928,635                   |                              |                              |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 1350         | 228,520                     |                              |                              |
| Construction                                                  | 400          | 169,420                     |                              |                              |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 340          | 138,365                     |                              |                              |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 100          | 85,515                      |                              |                              |
| Retail trade                                                  | 310          | 206,655                     |                              |                              |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 90           | 97,465                      |                              |                              |
| Health care and social services                               | 295          | 175,200                     |                              |                              |
| Educational services                                          | 430          | 120,460                     |                              |                              |
| Business services                                             | 565          | 354,265                     |                              |                              |
| Other services                                                | 635          | 352,760                     |                              |                              |

## County of Barrhead No. 11

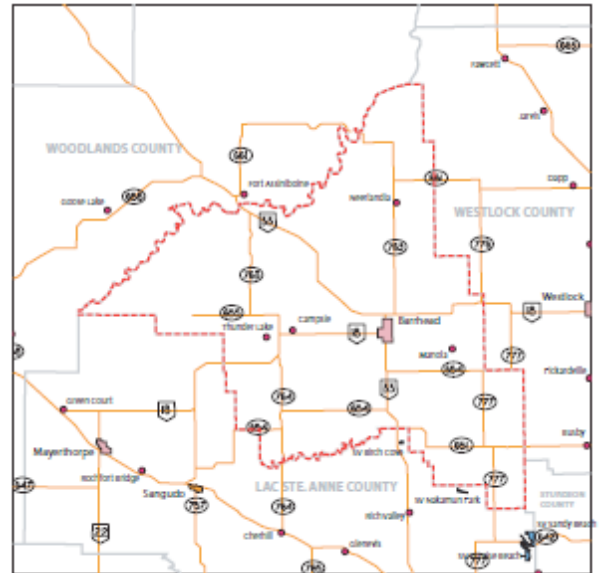
Type: Municipal District

Population: 5,845

Includes:

**Town of Barrhead**

**Hamlets of Campsie, Manola, Neerlandia,  
Thunder Lake**



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>14</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 5845                       |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 5845                       |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 5845                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 5768                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 4565                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 3390                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 3265                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 125                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 1175                       | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 74.3                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 71.5                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 3.7                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 3380                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 230                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 445                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 75                         | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 200                        | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 190                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 35                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 405                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 800                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 875                        | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 120                        | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 3380                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 1075                       | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 340                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 230                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 110                        | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 200                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 85                         | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 310                        | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 265                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 320                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 430                        | 352,760        |                |                |

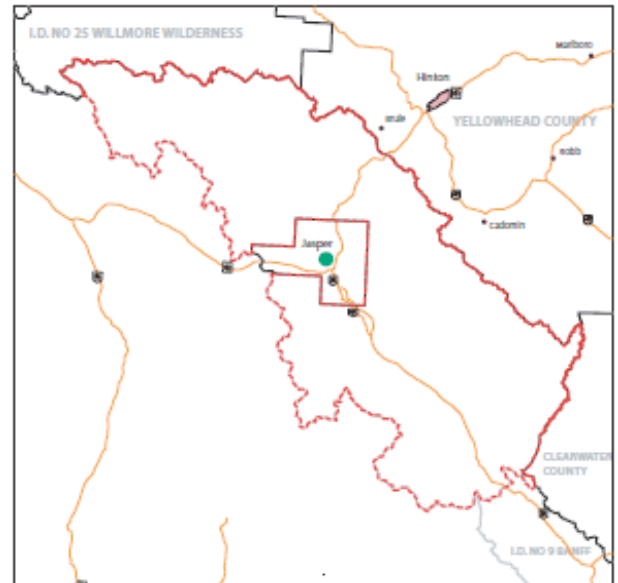
## Improvement District No. 12 Jasper Park

Type: Improvement District

Population: 24

Includes:

### Municipality of Jasper



|                                                               | Total (2006)                           | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                                        |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | See Municipality of Jasper information |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          |                                        |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          |                                        | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          |                                        | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                                        |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   |                                        | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           |                                        | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      |                                        | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    |                                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       |                                        | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            |                                        | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           |                                        | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         |                                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                                        |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     |                                        | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     |                                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           |                                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       |                                        | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         |                                        | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    |                                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          |                                        | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              |                                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      |                                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     |                                        | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities |                                        | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                                        |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     |                                        | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               |                                        | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  |                                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 |                                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               |                                        | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  |                                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       |                                        | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               |                                        | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          |                                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             |                                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                |                                        | 352,760        |                |                |

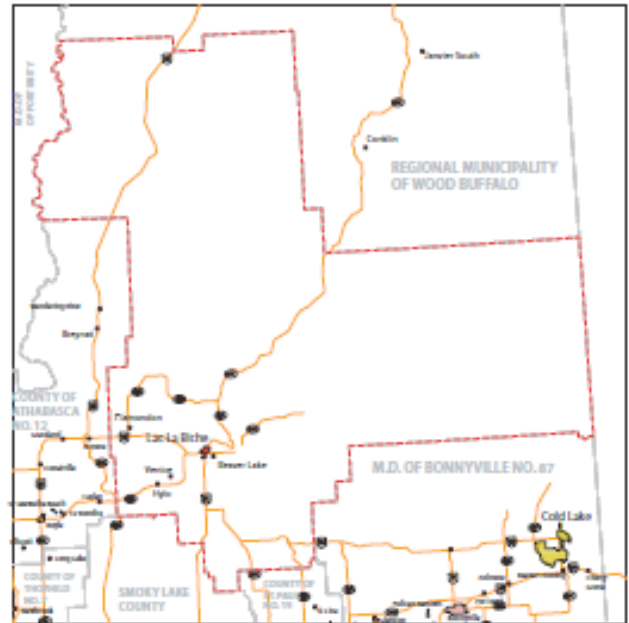
## Lac La Biche County (formerly Lakeland County)

Type: Municipal District

Population: 9,123

Includes:

**Hamlets** of Beaver Lake, Hyle, Lac La Biche, Plamondon, Venice



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>15</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 9123                       |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 9123                       |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 6365                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 5306                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 4830                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 3440                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 3275                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 165                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 1390                       | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 71.2                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 67.8                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 4.8                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 3430                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 305                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 550                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 110                        | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 115                        | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 275                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 20                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 525                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 965                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 435                        | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 125                        | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 3430                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 800                        | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 390                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 135                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 30                         | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 320                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 80                         | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 305                        | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 335                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 480                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 565                        | 352,760        |                |                |

## Lac Ste. Anne County

Type: Municipal District

Population: 10,220

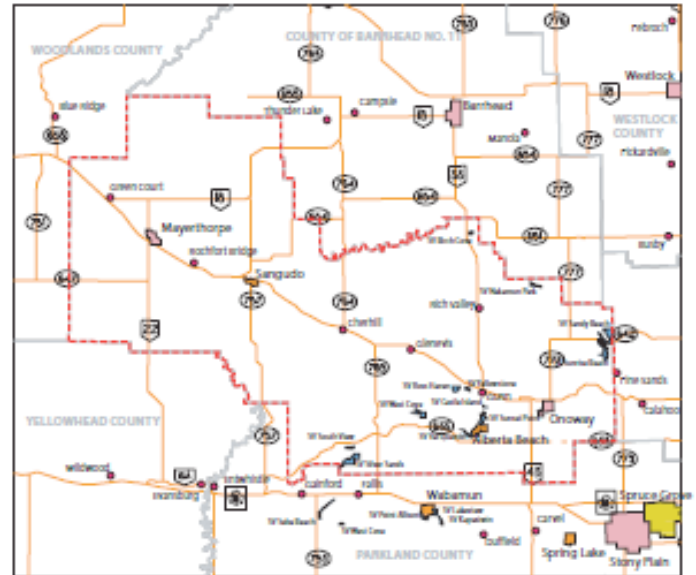
Includes:

**Towns** of Mayerthorpe, Onoway

**Village** of Alberta Beach

**Summer Villages** of Birch Cove, Castle Island, Nakamun Park, Ross Haven, Sandy Beach, Silver Sands, South View, Sunrise Beach, Sunset Point, Val Quentin, West Cove, Yellowstone

**Hamlets** of Cherhill, Glenevis, Green Court, Gunn, Rich Valley, Rochfort Bridge, Sangudo



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>16</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 10220                      |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 10220                      |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 9516                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 8948                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 7680                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 5600                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 5345                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 255                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 2075                       | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 72.9                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 69.6                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 4.6                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 5580                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 345                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 705                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 150                        | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 250                        | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 280                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 55                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 1045                       | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 1350                       | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 1225                       | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 180                        | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 5580                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 1585                       | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 650                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 330                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 175                        | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 555                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 145                        | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 360                        | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 240                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 715                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 825                        | 352,760        |                |                |

## Municipal District of Big Lakes

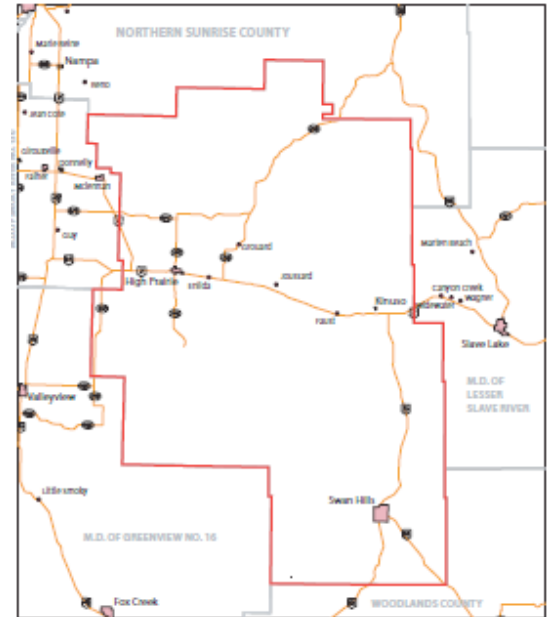
Type: Municipal District

Population: 4,030

Includes:

**Towns** of High Prairie, Swan Hills

**Hamlets** of Kinuso, Enlida, Faust, Grouard,  
Joussard



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>17</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 4030                       |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 4030                       |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 5805                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 5845                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 4240                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 3005                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 2680                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 320                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 1235                       | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 70.9                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 63.2                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 10.6                       | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 2940                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 230                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 350                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 70                         | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 80                         | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 215                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 30                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 450                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 760                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 540                        | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 205                        | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 2940                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 640                        | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 235                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 300                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 65                         | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 225                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 65                         | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 205                        | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 225                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 315                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 660                        | 352,760        |                |                |

## Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124

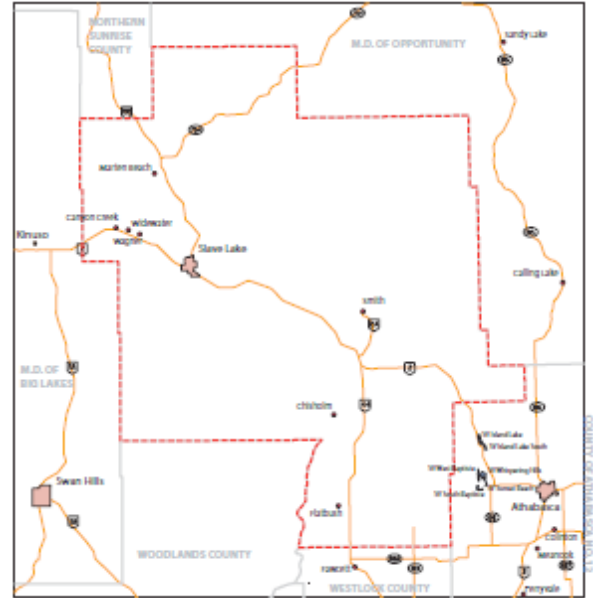
Type: Municipal District

Population: 2,820

Includes:

**Town** of Slave Lake

**Hamlets** of Canyon Creek, Chisholm, Flatbush,  
Marten Beach, Smith, Wagner, Widewater



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>18</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 2820                       |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 2820                       |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 2820                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 2820                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 2135                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 1570                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 1545                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 25                         | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 570                        | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 73.5                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 72.4                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 1.6                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 1575                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 120                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 195                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 65                         | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 55                         | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 20                         | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 10                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 345                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 390                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 290                        | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 80                         | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 1575                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 475                        | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 170                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 170                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 25                         | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 140                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 50                         | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 85                         | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 80                         | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 235                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 140                        | 352,760        |                |                |

## Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17

Type: Municipal District

Population: 3,259

Includes:

**Hamlets** of Red Earth Lake, Sandy Lake, Wabasca-Desmarais



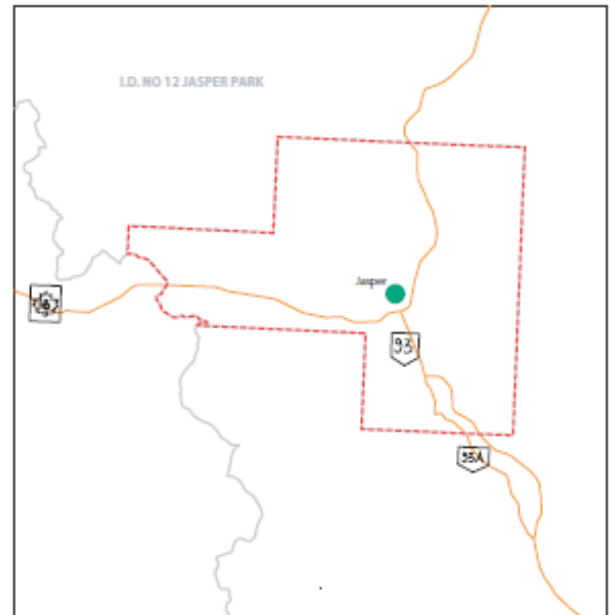
|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>19</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 3259                       |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 3259                       |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 2847                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 3037                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 1950                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 1195                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 1020                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 180                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 750                        | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 61.3                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 52.3                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 15.1                       | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 1150                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 140                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 145                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 0                          | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 30                         | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 110                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 15                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 225                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 285                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 130                        | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 50                         | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 1150                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 190                        | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 155                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 25                         | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 10                         | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 85                         | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 10                         | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 90                         | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 180                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 145                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 255                        | 352,760        |                |                |

## Municipality of Jasper

Type: Specialized Municipality

Population: 4,745

Includes: N/A



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>20</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 4745                       |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 4745                       |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 4265                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 4180                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 3575                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 3115                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 2965                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 150                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 460                        | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 87.1                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 82.9                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 4.8                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 3110                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 505                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 360                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 80                         | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 120                        | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 135                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 100                        | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 1195                       | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 420                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 135                        | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 60                         | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 3110                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 75                         | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 65                         | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 35                         | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 30                         | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 355                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 120                        | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 220                        | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 115                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 485                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 1605                       | 352,760        |                |                |

## Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

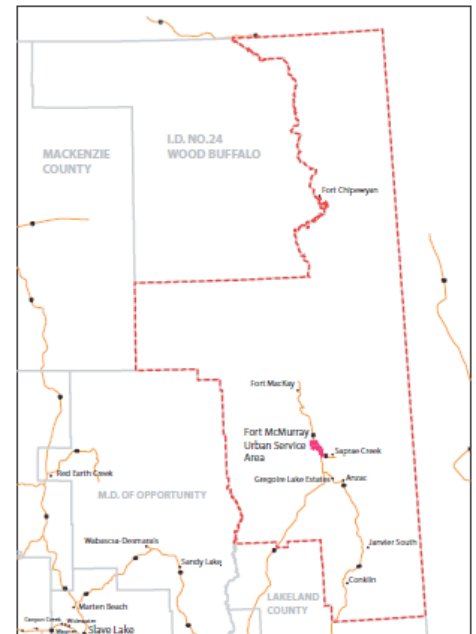
Type: Specialized Municipality

Population: 91,612

Includes:

**Urban Service Area of Fort McMurray**

**Hamlets of Fort Chipewyan, Anzac, Conklin, Fort MacKay, Gregoire Lake Estates, Janvier South, Sapree Creek**



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>21</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 91612                      |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 89950                      |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 51924 <sup>22</sup>        | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 41445                      | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 41055                      | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 33790                      | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 32440                      | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 1350                       | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 7265                       | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 82.3                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 79.0                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 4.0                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 33615                      | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 2400                       | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 4465                       | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 2930                       | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 1100                       | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 1430                       | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 380                        | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 7595                       | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 11035                      | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 1200                       | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 1075                       | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 33615                      | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 10585                      | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 3950                       | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 865                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 1135                       | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 3135                       | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 1280                       | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 1695                       | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 1645                       | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 4465                       | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 4860                       | 352,760        |                |                |

## Westlock County

Type: Municipal District

Population: 6,910

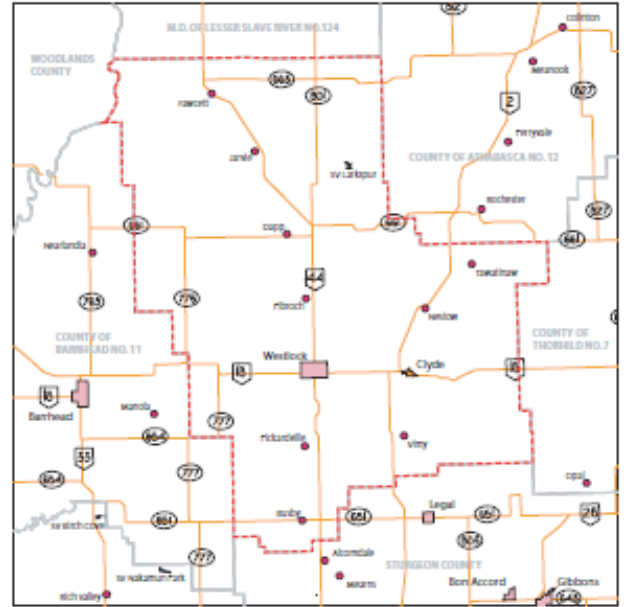
Includes:

**Town** of Westlock

**Village** of Clyde

**Summer Village** of Larkspur

**Hamlets** of Busby, Dapp, Fawcett, Jarvie,  
Nestow, Pibroch, Pickardville, Tawatinaw,  
Vimy



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>23</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 6910                       |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 6910                       |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 6910                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 6859                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 5385                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 3795                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 3650                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 145                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 1585                       | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 70.5                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 67.8                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 3.8                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 3785                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 225                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 460                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 65                         | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 170                        | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 160                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 15                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 555                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 925                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 1105                       | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 105                        | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 3785                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 1280                       | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 365                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 245                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 150                        | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 280                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 105                        | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 270                        | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 290                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 355                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 445                        | 352,760        |                |                |

## Woodlands County

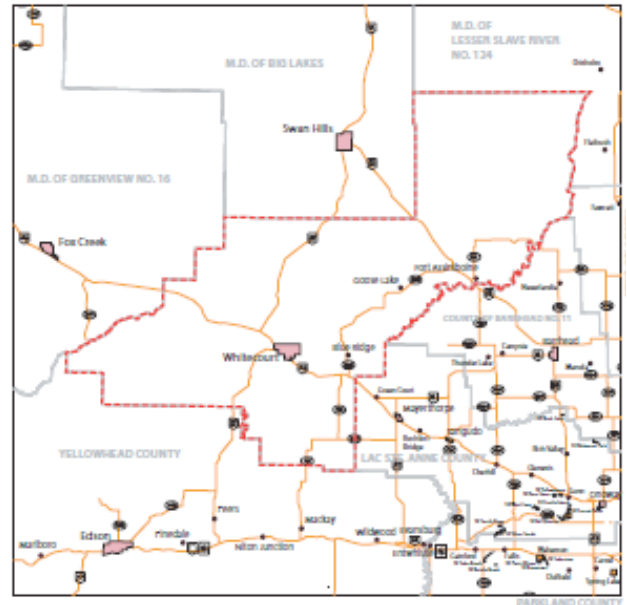
Type: Municipal District

Population: 4,158

Includes:

**Town** of Whitecourt

**Hamlets** of Blue Ridge, Fort Assiniboine,  
Goose Lake



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>24</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 4158                       |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 4158                       |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 4158                       | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 3818                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 3265                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 2520                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 2430                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 85                         | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 745                        | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 77.2                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 74.4                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 3.4                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 2505                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 255                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 365                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 90                         | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 50                         | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 80                         | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 25                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 405                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 665                        | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 365                        | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 200                        | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 2505                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 825                        | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 165                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 205                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 70                         | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 210                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 50                         | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 85                         | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 100                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 445                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 350                        | 352,760        |                |                |

## Yellowhead County

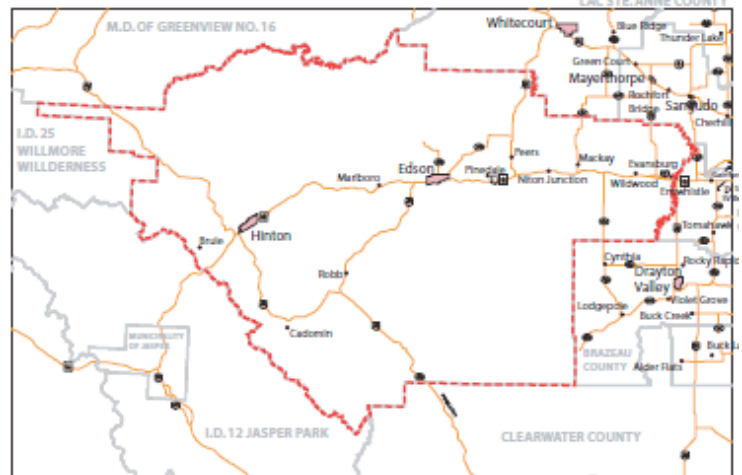
Type: Municipal District

Population: 10,045

Includes:

**Towns** of Edson, Hinton

**Hamlets** of Brule, Cadomin,  
Evansburg, MacKay, Marlboro,  
Niton Junction, Peers, Pinedale,  
Robb, Wildwood



|                                                               | Total (2006) <sup>25</sup> | Alberta (2006) | Alberta (2009) | Alberta (2010) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Population and dwelling counts</b>                         |                            |                |                |                |
| 2010                                                          | 10045                      |                |                | 3,543,797      |
| 2009                                                          | 10045                      |                | 3,520,268      |                |
| 2006                                                          | 10045                      | 3,290,350      |                |                |
| 2001                                                          | 9881                       | 2,974,807      |                |                |
| <b>Labour force activity</b>                                  |                            |                |                |                |
| Total population 15 years +                                   | 7980                       | 2,625,140      |                |                |
| In the labour force                                           | 5810                       | 1,942,820      | 2,135,900      | 2,135,100      |
| Employed                                                      | 5525                       | 1,859,965      | 1,995,300      | 2,016,400      |
| Unemployed                                                    | 285                        | 82,860         | 140,600        | 118,700        |
| Not in the Labour Force                                       | 2175                       | 682,320        |                |                |
| Participation rate                                            | 72.8                       | 74.0           |                |                |
| Employment Rate (%)                                           | 69.2                       | 70.9           | 68.9           | 68.3           |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                         | 4.9                        | 4.3            | 6.6            | 5.6            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                                             |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 5775                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| A. Management occupations                                     | 380                        | 187,240        |                |                |
| B. Business, finance and administration occupations           | 710                        | 340,430        |                |                |
| C. Natural and applied sciences and related occupations       | 165                        | 144,240        |                |                |
| D. Health occupations                                         | 175                        | 103,620        |                |                |
| E. Social science, education, government service, religion    | 210                        | 136,610        |                |                |
| F. Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport          | 65                         | 45,160         |                |                |
| G. Sales and service occupations                              | 955                        | 438,105        |                |                |
| H. Trades, transport and equipment operators and related      | 1695                       | 350,360        |                |                |
| I. Occupations unique to primary industry                     | 1115                       | 117,500        |                |                |
| J. Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing, utilities | 310                        | 65,365         |                |                |
| <b>Industry</b>                                               |                            |                |                |                |
| Total experienced labour force 15 years +                     | 5775                       | 1,928,635      |                |                |
| Agriculture and other resource-based industries               | 1900                       | 228,520        |                |                |
| Construction                                                  | 605                        | 169,420        |                |                |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 425                        | 138,365        |                |                |
| Wholesale trade                                               | 145                        | 85,515         |                |                |
| Retail trade                                                  | 535                        | 206,655        |                |                |
| Finance and real estate                                       | 140                        | 97,465         |                |                |
| Health care and social services                               | 220                        | 175,200        |                |                |
| Educational services                                          | 210                        | 120,460        |                |                |
| Business services                                             | 840                        | 354,265        |                |                |
| Other services                                                | 755                        | 352,760        |                |                |

## Industries and Company Profiles

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The Athabasca River Basin has historically been home to agriculture, mining, and forestry, with natural gas and oil more recently buoying Alberta's economy. As the natural gas and oil industry has developed, a number of companies have settled in the area, focusing on conventional and non-conventional extraction, infrastructural support, and value-added services. Much of the economic activity in the ARB derives from oil and gas, including construction, engineering, pipelines, and the refining of raw energy into usable products like petrochemicals and gasoline.

As the population continues to rise, reaching 160,383 as of September 2010, the number of businesses delivering various services is growing as well, namely those proffered through municipal and provincial funding like healthcare, education, and policing. Other localized businesses have also increased, including shopping centres, banks, and grocers. In addition, federal funding is helping to diversify the economy through the establishment of business development firms offering small loans, commercialization advice, and management training. A good mix of faith-based organizations, clubs, and other recreational businesses also contribute to the economic profile of the ARB, with the tourism industry being the largest part of recreational revenues.

The following industry classifications are taken from the Government of Alberta, Finance and Enterprise's definitions and profiles. The categories of Retail and Hospitality, Utilities, and Government Services have been added in order to reflect the economy of the ARB. The categories of Information and Communications Technology, Biotechnology and Medical Devices, and Aerospace and Defence have been removed in order for the study to remain focused on the ARB. Subsequent information will relay industry components specific to the ARB, including a sample of businesses currently operating in the area.

Oil and Gas Extraction  
Energy Services  
Value added energy - Refined Petroleum and Chemicals  
Industrial Manufacturing  
Plastic Product Industries  
Primary Agriculture  
Agri-Food Industries - Processed Food and Beverages  
Forest Products  
Construction and Engineering  
Transportation and Logistics  
Financial Services Industry  
Tourism  
Environmental Products and Services  
Retail and Hospitality  
Culture  
Utilities  
Education Services  
Health Care Services  
Government Services<sup>26</sup>

## Oil and Gas Extraction, Energy Services, and Value Added Energy - Refined Petroleum and Chemicals

The Oil and Gas Extraction industry has been “Alberta’s engine of growth since 2000,” creating immense growth for both the province and country. The industry has also strengthened other industries, including Energy Services, which provides support to oil and gas producers in construction, engineering, and pipelines, for example, and the Value-Added Energy - Refined Petroleum and Chemicals industry, which converts raw energy into usable products like petrochemicals and gasoline. Revenues were split equally “between natural gas (including liquids) at 47.5 per cent and crude oil (52.5 per cent)” in 2008, with capital spending in the oil sands increasing fourfold over the period of 2002 to 2008. Despite the economic slowdown, long-term growth is still anticipated, as the oil sands are seen as one of the world’s reliable and secure sources of energy<sup>27</sup>.

### Firm

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### Focus

Suncor’s operations include oil sands development and upgrading, conventional and offshore oil and gas production, petroleum refining, and product marketing under the Petro-Canada brand. While working to responsibly develop petroleum resources, Suncor is also developing a growing renewable energy portfolio.

The Syncrude Project is a Joint Venture undertaking among Canadian Oil Sands Limited (36.74%), Imperial Oil Resources (25%), Mocal Energy Limited (5%), Murphy Oil Company Ltd. (5%), Nexen Oil Sands Partnership (7.23%), Sinopec Oil Sands Partnership (9.03%) and Suncor Energy Oil and Gas Partnership (12%), as the project owners, and Syncrude as the project operator. The assets of the Joint Venture consist of the mining, extraction, upgrading and administrative facilities; the Aurora mining, primary extraction, co-generation and administrative facilities; all Syncrude technology; the shares of Syncrude Canada Ltd.; all equipment and materials and all freehold and leasehold interests acquired by Syncrude, on behalf of the Owners for the Syncrude Project, including oil sands leases 10, 12, 17, 22, 29, 30, 31 and 34.

Shell Canada holds approximately 30 per cent of Royal Dutch Shell’s global resource base. Shell’s operations include liquefied natural gas (LNG); gas to liquids (GTL); clean coal energy; wind; oil refining; supply and distribution; and retail of lubricants, aviation fuel, marine fuel, liquefied petroleum gas, commercial fuels, bitumen, sulphur, and future fuels.

As a transporter of energy, Enbridge operates, in Canada and the United States, the world’s longest crude oil and liquids transportation system. The Company also has a significant involvement in the natural gas transmission and midstream businesses. As a distributor of energy, Enbridge owns and operates Canada’s largest natural gas distribution company and provides distribution services in Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and New York State. The Company’s activities are carried out through four business segments, Liquids Pipelines, Natural Gas Delivery and Services, Sponsored Investments and Corporate.

BP Canada Energy Company is active in the natural gas liquids processing business, and holds three oil sands opportunities in Northern Alberta suitable for in situ development using steam-assisted gravity drainage (SAGD) technology: 1) A joint venture with Husky Energy to develop the Sunrise oil sands lease in the northeastern Athabasca region of Alberta; 2) A joint venture with Devon Energy to develop the Pike oil sands lease in the southern Alberta region of the Athabasca oil sands deposit; and 3) A partnership with Value Creation Inc. to develop the Terre de Grace oil sands lease in the northwestern Athabasca Region of Alberta.

Husky Energy Inc.’s upstream operations include the exploration, development and production of crude oil, bitumen and natural gas. Husky’s midstream assets are strategically located throughout Western Canada and connect with major North American transportation systems. Husky’s downstream or refined products activities include the refining, marketing and distribution of gasoline, diesel, aviation and specialty fuels, asphalt, ethanol and ancillary services in Canada and the United States.

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ConocoPhillips Canada (CPC) has assets in western Canada, the Arctic, Atlantic Canada and oil sands interests near Fort McMurray, Alberta. Although production from these assets is comparatively small at present, they are an area of significant future growth.

Canadian Natural Resources has a balanced mix of natural gas, light oil, heavy oil, in-situ oil sands production, oil sands mining and associated upgrading facilities. The Company continually targets cost effective alternatives to develop its portfolio of projects and to deliver a defined growth plan, thereby creating value for shareholders. It has a low-cost, diversified combination of assets in North America, the North Sea and Offshore West Africa, which enables us to generate significant value, even in challenging economic environments.

Chevron Canada Ltd. holds a 20 per cent non-operated working interest in the Athabasca Oil Sands Project (AOSP) as well as owning oil sands leases covering more than 85,000 acres and containing an estimated 7.5 billion barrels of oil in place. Chevron Canada holds a 60 per cent interest and is project operator. Other project participants include Shell Canada Limited (20 per cent) and Marathon Oil Canada Corporation (20 per cent).

Marathon Oil Corporation is an integrated international energy company engaged in exploration and production; oil sands mining; integrated gas; and refining, marketing and transportation. Marathon owns a 20 per cent outside-operated interest in the Athabasca Oil Sands Project (AOSP), which includes the Muskeg River Mine, the Scotford Upgrader, and over 215,000 acres of potentially mineable land in Alberta, Canada.

In the Athabasca River Basin, Teck has mining operations near Hinton. The Fort Hills oil sands project is located approximately 90 kilometres north of Fort McMurray in Northern Alberta. Teck holds a 20 per cent interest in the Fort Hills oil sands project, with 39.2 per cent being held by Total E&P Canada and the remaining 40.8 per cent held by Suncor Energy. In addition, Teck and SilverBirch Energy are advancing development of two oil sands mine projects on their jointly owned oil sands leases west of the Athabasca River: the Equinox oil sands project, located immediately west of the Fort Hills project; and the Frontier oil sands project, approximately 10 kilometres north of the Equinox project. The Equinox project consists of approximately 2,890 hectares of oil sands leases and the Frontier project consists of approximately 26,112 hectares of oil sands leases.

Cenovus Energy's operations include oil sands projects in northern Alberta, which use specialized methods to drill and pump the oil to the surface, as well as natural gas and oil production across Alberta and southern Saskatchewan. Cenovus also has 50 per cent ownership in two U.S. refineries.

Total E&P Canada Ltd. engages in all aspects of the petroleum industry, including Upstream operations (oil and gas exploration, development and production, LNG) and Downstream operations (refining, marketing and the trading and shipping of crude oil and petroleum products). Total E&P Canada is a Calgary-based energy company focused on oil and gas exploration and production, and upgrading in the Athabasca oil sands region of Alberta. Total E&P Canada's goal is to build a strong, sustainable position in the Athabasca region through the expansion of its current joint venture Surmont project, through its interest in the Fort Hills oil sands project, and through production of Total-operated Joslyn and Northern Lights leases. Over the next decade, Total E&P Canada will make a \$15 billion to \$20 billion capital investment into Alberta's economy.

Japan Canada Oil Sands Limited (JACOS) is owned by Japanese interests. The major owner is JAPEX (Japan Petroleum Exploration Co., Ltd.) with an 86 per cent share. As one of the companies in the forefront of SAGD (Steam Assisted Gravity Drainage) JACOS operates the 10,000 barrels per day Hangingstone project, 50km south of Fort McMurray. JACOS holds the rights to leases covering approximately 46,000 ha in the Athabasca region for future development. These leases include the Hangingstone, Chard, Corner and Thornbury areas which are expected to contain approximately 1.7 billion barrels of recoverable bitumen resource.

Nexen is a Canadian-based energy company with operations in strategic locations around the world including the North Sea, the Gulf of Mexico, offshore West Africa, Canada, Yemen and Colombia. With Phase 1 of Long Lake on stream, Nexen has produced more than six million barrels of the highest-quality synthetic crude in North America. Phase 1 is designed to produce 60,000 bbls/d (39,000 bbls/d net) of premium synthetic crude. Nexen also has a 7.23 per cent investment in the Syncrude oil sands mining operation.

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OPTI Canada Inc. is a Calgary, Alberta-based company, established in 1999 to develop major integrated bitumen and heavy oil projects in Canada using its proprietary, next-generation OrCrude™ process. OPTI is focused on developing the fourth major integrated oil sands project in Canada, Phase 1 of the Long Lake Project (the Project), in a joint venture with Nexen Inc. in which OPTI has a 35 per cent working interest, with Nexen owning the other 65 percent: Long Lake, Kinosis, Leismer and Cottonwood.

The scope of Sinopec Corp.'s business mainly covers oil and gas exploration and production, extraction, pipeline transmission and marketing; oil refining; production, marketing, storage and transportation of petrochemicals, chemical fibers, chemical fertilizers and other chemical products; import, export and import/export agency business of crude oil, natural gas, refined oil products, petrochemicals, chemicals, and other commodities and technologies; research, development and application of technology and information. The Company is China's largest producer and supplier of refined oil products (including gasoline, diesel and jet fuel, etc.) and major petrochemical products (including synthetic resin, synthetic fiber monomers and polymers, synthetic fiber, synthetic rubber, chemical fertilizer and petrochemical intermediates). It is also China's second largest crude oil producer. Sinopec has bought 9.03 per cent shares into the Syncrude Project in the Athabasca River Basin (\$4.65 billion CAD), 10 per cent shares in Total's Northern Lights project<sup>28</sup>, and \$5.5 billion CAD in Enbridge's proposed Northern Gateway pipeline project<sup>29</sup>.

PetroChina Company Ltd. engages in wide range of activities related to oil and natural gas, including: exploration, development, production and marketing of crude oil and natural gas; refining, transportation, storage and marketing of crude oil and oil products; the production and marketing of primary petrochemical products, derivative chemicals and other chemicals; transportation of natural gas, crude oil and refined oil. In 2009, PetroChina invested in the Athabasca Oil Sands Corp.

Athabasca Oil Sands Corp (AOSC) is a publicly held oil company focused on the sustainable development of oilsands resources in the Athabasca region of northern Alberta, Canada. AOSC is one of the largest bitumen lease holders in the Athabasca region, with the majority of the clastic/sands resource base located within the McMurray formation, the most prolific and highly exploitable portion of the oil sands. There is also large carbonate potential in the Grosmont, Nisku and Leduc formations within its leases. In 2009, PetroChina invested in AOSC by providing \$1.9 billion towards its MacKay River Joint Venture.

Over the last 125 years ExxonMobil has evolved from a regional marketer of kerosene in the U.S. to the largest publicly traded petroleum and petrochemical enterprise in the world. Today, ExxonMobile operates in most of the world's countries and is best known by its familiar brand names: Exxon, Esso and Mobil. It make the products that drive modern transportation, power cities, lubricate industry and provide petrochemical building blocks that lead to thousands of consumer goods.

Oxy engages in oil and gas exploration and production through its subsidiaries in three core regions of the world: the United States, Middle East/North Africa and Latin America. Oxy's Midstream, Marketing and Other segment gathers, treats, processes, transports, stores, purchases and markets crude oil (including NGLs and condensate), natural gas, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and power. It also trades around its assets, including pipelines and storage capacity, and trades commodities and securities. Oxy Energy Canada, Inc. (OEC) is a subsidiary of Occidental Petroleum Corporation (Oxy). OEC's primary business is to market natural gas in Canada, and in conjunction with OEMI, to provide secure Canadian-sourced supplies to service U.S. markets through main transportation corridors.

In November 2007, INPEX acquired a 10 per cent interest in the Joslyn Oil Sands Upstream Project in Alberta, Canada. The Joslyn project plans to conduct a multi-phase mine development which is expected to produce 100,000 barrels of bitumen per day as Phase-1 development in Joslyn North Mine. The development framework is under investigation and the project start-up is expected to be in the next decade. Along with acquiring an interest in the Oil Sands Upstream Project, INPEX acquired the right to participate in the Upgrader project planned by TOTAL in Edmonton, Alberta. This project plans to construct a new upgrader that anticipates a capacity of 130,000 barrels of synthetic crude oil as Phase-1 development.

Oil sands represent a long-term investment for StatOil, Norwegian-based company. In 2007, we acquired 100% of the shares in North American Oil Sands Corporation (NAOSC) and operatorship of the Kai Kos Dehseh leases. StatOil currently owns interests in 1129 square kilometres (279,053 net acres) of oil sands' leases located in the Athabasca region of Alberta that are being produced using the steamassisted gravity drainage (SAGD) method.

Korea National Oil Corporation (KNOC) was founded by the Korean government in 1979 to explore for and develop international petroleum resources. The BlackGold Project represents KNOC's first venture in to the oilsands resource in Alberta. KNOC acquired BlackGold Oil sands Lease, which is located 140km southeast of Fort McMurray within the Athabasca Oil Sands region of northern Alberta, from Newmont Mining Corporation in August, 2006. Its recoverable bitumen reserves are expected to be approximately 259 million barrels.

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Sunshine Oilsands Ltd. is a Calgary based company focused on the development of its significant holdings of oil sands leases in the Athabasca oil sands region. The company owns and controls 100 per cent of 1,147,200 acres of oil sands leases, representing over 4,588 sq. km. of land. This represents 4.93 per cent of the Athabasca Oil Sands Area. Sunshine also has 7,680 acres or 12 sections of PN&G leases. Sunshine holds a premier land position that includes seven primary operational areas and has the expertise to extract significant value from its assets.

Air Products Canada Ltd. serves customers in technology, energy, healthcare and industrial markets worldwide with a unique portfolio of products, services and solutions, providing atmospheric gases, process and specialty gases, performance materials and chemical intermediates. AirProducts Canada is planning to build a hydrogen pipeline from existing facilities in Strathcona County that ends at the Williams Energy (Canada), Inc. facility south of Highway 643. The pipeline would serve the Alberta Industrial Heartland upgrader/refinery area and other industrial users in the region including the Sherritt metals processing facility near Fort Saskatchewan and the Shell Scotford facility.

Finning (Canada) is a division of Finning International Inc., the world's largest Caterpillar equipment dealer. Headquartered in Edmonton, Alberta Finning (Canada) sells, rents and provides customer support services for Caterpillar equipment and engines in British Columbia, Yukon, Alberta and the Northwest Territories and a portion of Nunavut. Finning serves a diverse range of industrial markets, including mining, forestry, construction, pipeline/oil field construction, agriculture, government sector, marine, transportation, fisheries, and the commercial transport industry.

Connacher Oil and Gas Ltd. is a Calgary-based integrated oil sands company. Connacher's principal asset is a 100 per cent interest in approximately 98,000 acres of oil sands leases near Fort McMurray, Alberta. The company's first notional 10,000 bbl/d steam-assisted gravity drainage ("SAGD") oil sands project at Great Divide Pod One ("Pod One") commenced commercial production in March 2008, four years from its first purchase of lands in the region. Algar, the company's second notional 10,000 bbl/d SAGD oil sands project at Great Divide, was completed in April 2010, ahead of schedule and anticipated under budget, with commerciality achieved effective October 1, 2010. Connacher also owns conventional crude oil and natural gas production and reserves in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Enerplus has a balanced portfolio of crude oil and natural gas assets in large resource play areas that provide both a stable production base and growth potential. Its oil assets are concentrated in the Bakken play in the Williston basin as well as various waterflood properties throughout Western Canada. Our natural gas assets are concentrated in the Marcellus shale gas play primarily in Pennsylvania and in Western Canada focusing on shallow gas and tight gas in the Deep Basin region.

Encana focuses on successful exploration and development of unconventional natural gas and has a diversified portfolio of assets and hold a highly competitive land and resource position in a number of North America's most promising shale and tight gas resource plays. Encana has an industry-leading land position in western Canada of approximately 9.3 million net acres, of which 5.0 million net acres are undeveloped.

CE Franklin is Canada's leading supplier to the Canadian energy industry: managing the supply of thousands of complex products needed to build and operate oilfield facilities efficiently, including custom manufacturing to logistics management of international projects. CE Franklin enables companies that produce, process, and transmit hydrocarbons and fluids, by managing the supply of thousands of complex products needed to build and operate their facilities efficiently.

Clean Harbors Canada Inc.'s Technical Services provides a broad range of hazardous material management and disposal services including hazardous and non-hazardous waste recycling, treatment and disposal, CleanPack® laboratory chemical packing, and household hazardous waste management services. Clean Harbors' Site Services provides field services, industrial services, vacuum services, emergency response and disaster recovery, transformer services, tank cleaning and decontamination.

MSI Maintenance Solutions Inc. are natural gas compression and engine specialists, offering variety of services: equipment laser alignments, troubleshooting and diagnostics, scheduled and crash maintenance, equipment optimization, failure analysis, boroscope inspections, emissions monitoring, compressor maintenance, servicing and overhauls, emissions monitoring and upgrading, pipeline pigging.

Northgate Industries Ltd.  
12345 121 street (Yellowhead Trail)  
Edmonton, Alberta T5L 4Y7  
T: 780-448-9222  
F: 780-454-7900  
[northgateindustries.com](http://northgateindustries.com)

Northgate Industries Ltd. is a manufacturer of portable structures, sales, service, leasing, camp Installation and operates full turn key camps. All products are manufactured to comply with Canadian and international building codes. Northgate manufactures an array of modular structures built to withstand the rigors of extreme climates. Beyond being durable and functional, these structures are also attractive, comfortable, safe, and highly adaptable, often serving up the same convenience as a modern hotel.

Northwest Fabricators Ltd.  
4001 Ellefson Street  
Athabasca, Alberta T9S 1T7  
T: 780-675-4900  
F: 780-675-4970  
[www.nwfltd.net](http://www.nwfltd.net)

Fabrication services to unconventional oil and gas, mining, pulp and paper, energy, forestry, industrial and utility sectors in Western Canada.

## Industrial Manufacturing and Plastic Product Industries

Alberta's Industrial Manufacturing and Plastic Product industries have both benefited by the booming energy-related industries in the province, with the Industrial Manufacturing industry "posting real GDP growth of 8.9 per cent per year from 2000 to 2007" and the Plastic Products industry growing 3.3 per cent since 2003. The Industrial Manufacturing industry produces products such as pumps, boring or sinking machinery, derricks, wellhead valves and pipes for pipelines, and the Plastic Products industry produces plastic film and sheets, builders' ware, tubes, boxes, pipes, and sacks and bags, for example. Both industries have been hit by the economic downturn, although as the recovery takes hold and energy-related industries rebound, it is anticipated that the two industries will follow<sup>30</sup>.

Below is a sampling of Industrial Manufacturing and Plastic Product industries operating in the Athabasca River Basin:

### Firm

Dow Chemical Canada ULC  
Alberta Operations  
Fort Saskatchewan Site  
P.O. Bag 16, Highway 15  
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta T8L 2P4  
T: 780-998-8000  
[www.dow.com/canada](http://www.dow.com/canada)

### Focus

Dow connects chemistry and innovation with the principles of sustainability to help address many of the world's most challenging problems such as the need for clean water, renewable energy generation and conservation, and increasing agricultural productivity. Dow's diversified industry-leading portfolio of specialty chemical, advanced materials, agrosiences and plastics businesses delivers a broad range of technology-based products and solutions to customers in approximately 160 countries and in high growth sectors such as electronics, water, energy, coatings and agriculture.

NOVA Chemicals Corporation  
1000 Seventh Avenue, S.W.  
P.O. Box 2518  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 5C6  
T: 403-750-3600  
[www.novachemicals.com](http://www.novachemicals.com)

Nova Chemicals produces plastics and chemicals that are essential to everyday life. Nova develops and manufactures materials for customers worldwide who produce consumer, industrial and packaging products.

## Primary Agriculture, and Agri-Food Industries - Processed Food and Beverages

In 2008, the Primary Agriculture industry in Alberta generated \$8.9 billion in revenues, which was split equally between crop (canola and wheat) and animal production (cattle and calves). The Agri-Food industry in Alberta is the third largest in Canada and is responsible for the processing of agriculture commodities. It registered revenues of \$11.7 billion in 2008. Growth in both industries has been challenging over the past few years, with threats such as BSE (mad cow disease), increased business costs, a shortage of workers (with 92 per cent of farms employing less than 10 people in 2007), not to mention the 2008 economic downturn, all leading to decreased gains. Surging demand in emerging economies such as China, however, does present an opportunity for the industries to grow again.<sup>31</sup>

Below is a sampling of businesses in the Primary Agriculture and Agri-Food industries in the Athabasca River Basin:

|                 |                                                     |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Poultry         | Big Coulee Farms                                    |
| Cattle / beef   | Alberta Beef Producers                              |
|                 | Lynita Farm Incorporated & Hillside Dexter Cattle   |
| Wheat and grain | Viterra                                             |
| Honey           | Clover Valley Honey                                 |
| Buffalo / Bison | F.J. Buffalo Ranch                                  |
|                 | Tawatinaw Valley Bison                              |
| Wild rice       | Lakeland Wildrice Ltd.                              |
| Alpacas         | Fibre Options - Wool & Specialty Fibres – not sure! |
|                 | Ravenwood Alpacas                                   |

## Forest Products

Alberta's Forestry industry, which is the fourth largest in the country, produces lumber, panels, and newsprint, including softwood lumber, oriented strand board (OSB), fibreboard, and wood pulp. There are roughly 20 forestry-related operations currently underway in the Athabasca River Basin, as shown in Figure 6<sup>32</sup>.

This is another industry that has faced numerous challenges in recent years; the housing crisis, strong Canadian dollar, increasing wage costs, and the effects of Mountain pine beetles, to name a few. Again, opportunities lie in expanding into emerging markets such as China, as well as advancements in bio-fuel production.<sup>33</sup>

Figure 6. Forestry Operations in Alberta



## Firm

Alberta-Pacific (AlPac) Forest Industries Inc.  
Box 8000  
Boyle, Alberta  
T0A 0M0  
T: 780-525-8000  
[www.alpac.ca](http://www.alpac.ca)

Millar Western Forest Products Ltd.  
Boyle Wood Products Div.  
Hwy 63 & Taylor Road  
P.O. Box 3030  
Boyle, Alberta  
T0A 0M0  
T: 780-689-3030  
[www.millarwestern.com](http://www.millarwestern.com)

Peper Logging Ltd.  
5800 Elm Drive  
Boyle, Alberta  
T: 780-213-5088

**West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd.**  
[www.westfraser.com](http://www.westfraser.com)

Alberta Newsprint Company  
Whitecourt Plant  
Postal Bag 9000  
10km West, Hwy 43  
Whitecourt, Alberta  
T7S 1P9  
T: 780-778-7000  
F: 780-778-7070  
[www.albertanewsprint.com](http://www.albertanewsprint.com)

Slave Lake Pulp Corp  
PO Box 1790  
Slave Lake, Alberta  
T0G 2A0  
T: 780-849-7777  
F: 780-849-7725  
[www.westfraser.com/products/pulp/bctmp.asp](http://www.westfraser.com/products/pulp/bctmp.asp)

Blue Ridge Lumber  
P.O. Box 1079  
Whitecourt, Alberta  
T7S 1P9  
T: 780-648-6200  
F: 780-648-6396

Ranger Board  
Box 2000  
Whitecourt, Alberta  
T7S 1P9  
Tel: 780-648-6333  
Fax: 780-648-6397

## Focus

Alberta-Pacific's (Alpac) millsite is located about 50 kilometres northeast of Athabasca, Alberta, Canada and 200 km northeast of Edmonton. Al-Pac is one of the most modern pulp mills in the world. Together, with 1100 team member contractors, Alpac uses environmentally sustainable practices to produce approximately 650,000 tonnes of high quality, elemental-chlorine-free bleached kraft pulp annually. Alpac is developing additional 34 megawatts of electricity-generating capacity within the existing mill to produce green power from waste wood.

Millar Western operates sawmills in Whitecourt, Boyle and Fox Creek and a bleached chemi-thermo-mechanical pulp (BCTMP) mill in Whitecourt. Millar-Western sources the majority of its timber from publicly-owned forests. It is a modern, efficient sawmill that produces up to 135 million board feet per year of high-quality softwood dimensional lumber for domestic and export markets.

Peper Logging Ltd. operates forestry/oilfield salvage, pipeline clearing, logging, low bedding, camp facilities in the Athabasca River Basin.

West Fraser is a North American wood products company. Its main product is lumber (spruce/pine/fir ("SPF") and southern yellow pine ("SYP")), and it also produces panels (plywood, MDF and LVL), pulp (NBSK and BCTMP), newsprint and wood chips. The operations located in western Canada manufacture all of the products described above except SYP lumber. Each of the companies below are owned by West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd.

Alberta Newsprint Company Ltd. manufactures and markets newsprint paper in Canada. The company was founded in 1988 and is based in Whitecourt, Canada. Alberta Newsprint Company Ltd. operates as a subsidiary of West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd.

In 1991, Slave Lake Pulp began producing high quality BCTMP for use in printing and writing papers, board and selective tissue applications. The surrounding forests provide hardwood and softwood which sustain the mills 210,000 ADMT annual capacity. Slave Lake Pulp is a significant economic contributor to the region employing 97 people directly and another 65 woodlands contract workers.

Hinton Wood Products  
99 West River Road  
Hinton, Alberta  
T7V 1V7  
T: 780-865-8900  
F: 780-865-8901

Woodlands  
760 Switzer Drive  
Hinton, Alberta  
T7V 1V7  
Tel: 780-865-8553  
Fax: 780-865-8165

Hinton Pulp  
760 Switzer Drive  
Hinton, Alberta  
T7V 1V7  
Tel: 780-865-2251  
Fax: 780-865-6666

Alberta Plywood  
Mitsue Industrial Park  
Box 517  
Slave Lake, Alberta  
T0G 2A0  
Tel: 780-849-4145  
Fax: 780-849-2426

## **Construction and Engineering**

The Construction and Engineering industries have benefitted greatly from Alberta's recent boom. The rate of growth doubled that of the overall economy and reached its peak in the period of 2004 to 2006, when it grew at annual rate of 16 per cent. This boom has created upward pressures on labour costs and an ever increasing demand for workers, although more recently, with the economic downturn, many projects have been postponed and cancelled. This has mitigated growth in the near term despite government stimulus spending that has kept some projects rolling<sup>34</sup>. The anticipated rebound in energy-related industries will trickle through and help revamp Construction and Engineering in the medium to long term.

Below is a sampling of Construction and Engineering businesses in the Athabasca River Basin:

|                             |                                             |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Allnite Trucking            | Arnett & Burgess Oilfield Construction Ltd. |
| Tri-Gen Construction Ltd.   | Aztek Engineering Inc.                      |
| West Coast Scaffolding Inc. | Carillion Canada Inc.                       |
| Nikipelo Services           | BOLD Group of Companies                     |
| JLG Enterprises             |                                             |

## **Transportation and Logistics**

Alberta's Transportation industry had a growth of 4.6 per cent per year from 2000 to 2007, and is a major employer in the province, with over 100,000 people working in transportation related jobs. In light of the economic downturn particularly, the Government of Alberta has proposed to spend \$6 billion per year towards transportation infrastructure<sup>35</sup>.

Below is a sampling of businesses in the Transportation industry operating in the Athabasca River Basin:

|                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Boyle Municipal Airport           | Beaupre Bus Services            |
| Boyle Automotive & Industrial Ltd | Brewster Transportation & Tours |
| MG's Convenience Service          | Greyhound Canada – Bus Service  |
| Boyle Registry                    | E & N Trucking                  |
| Spruce View Inspection            | J C Cats                        |
| ABC Inspection Services           | Ray Tannas Trucking             |
| Inspections Group                 | Avis Rent-A-Car                 |
| Lo & Behold                       | Budget Rent-A-Car               |
| Boyle Co-operative Association    | Hertz Rent-A-Car                |
| Superior Propane                  | National Car & Truck Rental     |
| Community Transportation          | Thrifty Car Rental              |
| R & C Mini Storage                | Visa Truck Rentals              |
| Boyle Auto & Rescue               | Hinton Transit System           |
| Atracon Towing                    | Canadian National Railway       |

## Financial Services Industry

Since 2000, Alberta's Financial Services industry has had very strong growth, averaging at 2.6 per cent per year. Much of the industry is based on transaction needs and financing within the energy sector. The economic downturn has affected the industry, particularly in the areas of commercial and investment banking, although it is anticipated to recover as the energy sector rebounds<sup>36</sup>.

Below is a sampling of businesses in the Financial Services industry in the Athabasca River Basin:

Alberta Treasury Branch  
Royal Bank of Canada  
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce  
Scotiabank  
Servus  
Co-operators Insurance - Piquette  
Agencies Ltd.  
Greg Aasen, CFP  
Investor's Group Financial Services Inc.  
Remax Results

Kevin Mroczek, Mortgage Broker  
Servus Savings & Credit Union Ltd.  
Agriculture Financial Services  
Alberta Credit Unions  
Yellowhead Credit Union  
Bookkeeping by Marilyn  
Donnelly & Company  
Sun Life Financial  
Realty Executives  
Royal LePage County Realty

## Tourism

Alberta's Tourism industry employs 100,000 workers and "generates more than \$5.6 billion in direct revenue." In recent years, however, there has been a downward trend due to decreasing numbers of American tourists, a strong Canadian dollar, and competition from the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics, for example. In addition, the global economic slowdown is expected to keep tourism numbers lower in the next few years<sup>37</sup>.

Below is a sampling of businesses in the Tourism industry operating in the Athabasca River Basin:

Mr. V's Field and Forest, Athabasca  
Reel Angling Adventures  
Grand Rapids Wilderness Adventures  
Athabasca Golf and Country Club and Fox  
Den Restaurant  
Riverbank Golf and Country Club  
Hidden Valley Golf Club  
Northern Ridge Golf & RV  
Skeleton Lake Golf & Country Club  
Village of Boyle Golf Club  
Whistlers Campsite  
Wapiti Campsite

Tawatinaw Valley Ski Hill  
Long Lake Ski Hill  
Athabasca Riverside Campground  
Blueberry Hill R.V. Park  
Forfar Park  
Hope Lake  
Island Lake  
Jackfish Lake  
Long Lake  
Ghost Lake  
Shoreline Camping & Fishing Resort  
Smallwoods Campsite  
Columbia Icefield

## Environmental Products and Services

Over the period 2000 to 2007, the Environmental Products industry has grown at a rate of 13 per cent annually, with employment increasing by 6 per cent a year and revenues of \$4.3 billion in 2007. This growth is undergirded by expansion in energy-related industries, increased public spending from both the federal and provincial governments, and private-sector investment. The economic downturn has affected this growth in the short-term, however it is expected to recover, especially due to increased demand for environmentally friendly outputs and resources.

Below is a sampling of organizations at the forefront of the Environmental Products and Services industry in Alberta:

### Firm

Energy Resources Conservation Board

Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4  
T: 403-297-8311  
[www.ercb.ca](http://www.ercb.ca)

### Focus

The ERCB regulates the safe, responsible, and efficient development of Alberta's energy resources, including oil, natural gas, oil sands, coal, and pipelines. ERCB approval is required at almost every step of an energy project's life in Alberta, including operating natural gas and oil wells, oil and gas batteries, plants and other facilities, pipelines, producing coal mines, commercial oil sands plants. As of 2006, the ERCB manages 174 billion barrels of bitumen, 1.6 billion barrels of conventional oil, 40 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, 34 billion tons of coal, and 877 billion cubic feet of recoverable coalbed methane reserves.

Environmental Services Association of Alberta

#102, 2528 Ellwood Drive SW  
Edmonton, Alberta T6X 0A9  
T: 780-429-6363  
F: 780-429-4249  
[www.esaa.org](http://www.esaa.org)

The Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA) is a not-for-profit business association dedicated to building a strong environment industry through leadership in technology, human resources, quality improvement and market development.

## Culture

The Culture industry in Alberta consists mainly of written media, broadcasting and advertising, and represents approximately 3 per cent of provincial GDP and employment expanding by approximately 5.9 per cent compounded annually between 1997 and 2005<sup>38</sup>.

Below is a sampling of organizations in the Culture industry operating in the Athabasca River Basin:

### Media Outlets and Film

CBC  
CBC Radio  
Local newspapers  
Global Canwest  
CTV Canada  
850 CKBA Radio – Newcap  
Athabasca Advocate  
Eastlink  
Alberta Satellite  
Edson Leader  
The Fox Radio Group

Hinton Parklander  
Your Mountain Connection  
Jasper Booster  
The Fitzhugh  
Mayerthorpe Freelancer  
Onoway  
Lac Ste Anne Bulletin  
Sangudo Community Voice  
Whitcourt Star  
Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives  
Habitat for the Arts

XM105-FM  
West Country Extra  
Whitecourt Advisor  
96-7 The RIG

Jasper Artists Guild  
ACFA Régionale de Jasper  
Cineplex Odeon  
Famous Players

### **Libraries**

Athabasca Archives - Alice B. Donahue  
Library and Archives

Village of Boyle Public Library  
Jasper Municipal Library

### **Service and Voluntary Clubs**

Athabasca Lions Club  
Knights Of Columbus  
Rotary Club Of Athabasca  
Royal Canadian Legion  
Royal Canadian Legion Women's Auxiliary  
Athabasca Kinsmen Club  
Tawatinaw Masonic Lodge  
Athabasca Regional Multiplex Society  
Community Outreach Services  
Jasper Community Housing Corporation  
Hospital Volunteers  
Foster Parents Association

Athabasca & District Agricultural Society  
Athabasca & District Seniors Society  
Athabasca Fish & Game Association  
Fish & Wildlife Division  
Athabasca District Music Festival  
Association  
Athabasca Native Friendship Centre  
Society  
Athabasca Volunteer Fire Department  
Ducks Unlimited  
Catholic Women's League

### **Utilities**

The Utilities industry in Alberta includes “investor owned electric, gas and water utilities, and some municipally owned electric utilities.”<sup>39</sup>

Below is a sampling of Utilities operators in the Athabasca River Basin:

Fortis Alberta Inc.  
AltaGas Utilities Ltd.  
Telus Communications Inc.  
Aspen Regional Water Treatment Plant

Village of Boyle Water and Gas Public Works  
Enmax  
Epcor  
Boyle Landfill & Garbage Pickup  
Athabasca Regional Waste Management

### **Education Services**

In recent years, the Government of Alberta has made substantial investment in Alberta's Education Services industry. In 2008, approximately 1500 educational institutions benefited from investments totaling about \$3200 per Albertan, 35 per cent above the national average. More recently, government spending has been on a downward trend, although as the economy recovers, it is anticipated that the industry will again be funded thoroughly<sup>40</sup>.

Below is a sampling of educational institutions operating in the Athabasca River Basin:

## **Fort McMurray**

Keyano College

## **Town of Athabasca**

Athabasca University  
Whispering Hills Primary School  
Landing Trail Intermediate School  
Edwin Parr Composite Community School

The Learning Connection  
Blue Heron Vocational Centre  
Word Works Literacy Society  
Outreach School  
Northern Lakes College

## **Village of Boyle**

Boyle School (Kindergarten to Grade 12) –  
Aspenview School District

Boyle & District Playschool

## **Jasper**

Jasper Elementary School  
Grades K-6 and K-6 French Immersion  
Jasper Junior/Senior High School  
Grade 7 - 12 and Grade 7 French  
Immersion

École Desrochers French School  
Jasper Adult Learning Council

## **Edson**

A. H. Dakin School  
Evergreen Elementary School  
Parkland Composite High School  
Ecole Pine Grove Middle School  
Westhaven Elementary School

Grande Yellowhead Regional Division Off  
Campus Program  
Holy Redeemer Junior/Senior Catholic  
High School  
Vanier Community Catholic School  
Yellowhead Koinonia Christian School

## **Hinton**

Crescent Valley School  
Harry Collinge High School  
Ecole Mountain View School  
Saint Gregory Catholic Elementary School

Grande Yellowhead Regional Division Off  
Campus Program  
Gerard Redmond Community Catholic  
School

## **Mayerthorpe**

Elmer Elson Elementary School

Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School

## **Onoway**

Onoway Elementary School

Onoway Jr/Sr High School

## **Sangudo**

David Ovans Elementary School

Sangudo Jr/Sr High School

### **Whitecourt**

Percy Baxter Middle School  
Catholic School System  
St. Joseph School  
St. Mary School

Central Elementary School  
Hilltop Jr/Sr High School  
Pat Hardy Elementary School

### **Yellowhead County**

Evansview School  
Fulham School

Grand Trunk High School  
Niton Central School  
Wildwood School

## **Health Care Services**

With increased pressures, such as an aging population and an influx of residents, government spending on the Health Care Services industry has grown substantially in the past few years.

Below is a sampling of Health Care Services operating in the Athabasca River Basin:

### **Delivery**

Medicentres  
Dominion Health  
Athabasca Health Care Centre  
Aspen Health Services  
Athabasca Extendicare  
Athabasca Medical Centre  
Athabasca Professional Centre  
Family Health Centre  
Mental Health Services  
Roger W. Morrill Professional Corporation  
Athabasca Dental Clinic  
Athabasca Denture Clinic  
Dr. Walter Cummings, Optometrist  
Dr. Kurt Deutscher, Chiropractor  
Family & Community Support Services,  
Athabasca  
Aadac (Alberta Alcohol & Drug Abuse  
Commission), Athabasca

Alcoholics Anonymous, Athabasca  
Registered Massage Therapist, Athabasca  
Athabasca Massage Therapy, Athabasca  
Enersage, Athabasca  
Boyle Healthcare Centre  
Boyle Hospital  
Silver Birch Medical Clinic  
Scott Vanderleest-Chiropractic  
Aspen Regional Health  
Seaton General Hospital  
Cottage Medical Clinic  
Hinton Health Care Centre  
Mayerthorpe Health Care Centre  
Westview Health Center in Stony Plain  
Whitecourt Health Care Centre  
Edson and District Hospital

### **Pharmacies**

Rexall  
Shopper's Drug Mart  
London Drugs  
IGA

IDA  
Value Drug Mart, Athabasca  
Athabasca Rexall Drugs  
Extra Foods Pharmacy, Athabasca

## Government Services

Government Services includes all those services proffered through government funding, much of it municipal. Included as well are services funded by the federal and provincial governments that are helping to diversify the economy of the Athabasca River Basin.

Below is a sampling of Government Services operating in the Athabasca River Basin:

### Policing and Law

Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
Village of Boyle RCMP

Village of Boyle Provincial Court

### Fire and Rescue

Athabasca Ambulance  
Village of Boyle Ambulance

Village of Boyle Fire  
Village of Boyle Emergency Service

### Business Development Firms

Western Canada Business Service Network<sup>41</sup>  
Canada Business<sup>42</sup> (Business Link)  
Community Futures<sup>43</sup>  
Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy, and Petroleum  
Alberta Science and Research Program  
Alberta Deal Generator  
Boyle & District Employment Resource Centre

Women's Enterprise Initiative, Alberta  
Women Entrepreneurs<sup>44</sup>  
Alberta Chamber of Resources  
Alberta Inno-Centre  
Alberta Research Council  
Commercialization Associates Program  
Alberta Ingenuity Industry Programs  
Research and Development Associates Program  
Rural Alberta's Development Fund

### Churches

All Saints Anglican Church Of Canada  
Aspen Ridge Christian Fellowship  
Athabasca United Reformed Congregation  
Bahai Faith  
Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints  
Fellowship Baptist Church  
Kingdom Hall Of Jehovah's Witnesses  
Missionary Church  
Riverview Community Church  
St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic Church  
Shiloh Tabernacle  
The United Church Of Canada  
Ukrainian Catholic Church

Ukrainian Orthodox Church Of St. Peter & St. Paul  
Victory Praise United Pentecostal Church  
Anglican Church Women  
Catholic Women's League  
Bethel Gospel Church  
Golgatha Lutheran Church (Ellscott)  
Boyle Gospel Church  
Greek Orthodox Church  
Seventh Day Adventist Church  
St Alphonsus Roman Catholic Church  
St Paul's Anglican Church  
Family of Faith Worship Centre  
Athabasca Funeral Home

### Clubs and Associations

Athabasca Air Cadets  
Athabasca & District Minor Hockey

Thundering Hooves Horse Club  
Whispering Hills Country Music

Association  
 Athabasca Figure Skating Club  
 Athabasca Flips Gymnastics Club  
 Athabasca Garden Club  
 Athabasca Girl Guides  
 Athabasca Gun Club  
 Athabasca Metis Nation Of Alberta Local  
 1999  
 Athabasca Slow Pitch Association  
 Athabasca Soccer Association  
 Scouts Canada 1st Athabasca Scouts, Cubs  
 & Beavers  
 Colinton Cougars Hockey Club  
 Golden Memories Choir (Over 55)  
 Science Outreach – Athabasca  
 Junior Forest Wardens' Camp

Association  
 Wa-No-Kaze-Kai- Karate Club  
 Boyle & District Agricultural Society  
 Boyle & District Chamber of Commerce  
 Boyle 4H  
 Boyle Lions Club  
 Boyle Soccer Club  
 Boyle Minor Ball  
 Boyle Minor Hockey  
 Skeleton Lake Golf Club  
 Boyle Old Timers Hockey Club  
 Royal Canadian Legion  
 Boyle Recreation Board  
 Boyle Seniors Drop In Centre  
 Twilight Twirlers Square Dance Club  
 Green Dragon Kung Fu (Tai Chi)

## **Retail and Hospitality**

Below is a sampling of the Retail and Hospitality industries in the Athabasca River Basin:

### **Retail**

Cheap Seats Sporting Goods  
 Teri's Beauty Salon & Boutique  
 Hair I Am  
 Nails By Bev  
 New Trends Hair Salon  
 Northern Health Experience  
 Absolute Solutions Esthetics by Sarah  
 Kathryn Martin – RMT  
 Magic Blend Massage  
 Body Image Laser Therapy  
 Boyle Value Drug Mart  
 Pure Skin Clinic Ltd.  
 Tanorama  
 Jewels- hair/tanning

MG's Convenience  
 Real Canadian Superstore  
 Safeway  
 Waysave  
 Athabasca Health Foods  
 Buy Low Foods  
 Lakeview Bison  
 Whispering Hills Fabrics & Crafts  
 Boyle Farmer's Market  
 Boyle Home Hardware  
 Pure Water Oasis  
 Aspen AG Foods  
 C F Reclamation & Water Service  
 Lech's Jewelry

### **Hospitality**

Boyle Burger Bar  
 Boyle Motor Lodge Restaurant  
 Boyle Pizza House  
 Athabasca Hillside Motel  
 Athabasca Lodge Motel  
 Athabasca Open Camp Ltd.  
 Colinton Hotel  
 Colinton Corner Motel  
 Days Inn - Athabasca

Serenity Bed & Breakfast  
 Donatberry Inn Bed & Breakfast  
 Kostyk Kozy Korner  
 Cabins By The River  
 Petty's Homecroft  
 Amisk Wilderness Retreat  
 Island Lake Cabins  
 Lobstick Lodge  
 The Athabasca Hotel

Grand Union Hotel  
Little Lodge On The Lake  
New Western - Athabasca Inn  
Red Roof Gallery & Guest House  
Coast Pyramid Lake Resort  
Sunwapta Falls Resort  
Pocahontas Cabins  
Patricia Lake Bungalows  
Tekarra Lodge  
Bear Hill Lodge

Astoria Hotel  
Best Western Jasper Inn & Suites  
Maligne Lodge  
Sawridge Inn and Conference Centre  
Park Place Inn  
Marmot Lodge  
Mount Robson Inn  
Tonquin Inn  
The Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge  
Athabasca Train Station

## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup> Athabasca River Basin Institute (ARBRI). <http://arbri.athabasca.ca/basin/> <accessed November 15, 2010>
- <sup>2</sup> NOTE: Persons living on Aboriginal reserves and settlements, full time members of the Canadian Armed Forces, and institutionalized persons are excluded from Labour Force Surveys.
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