

# AlbertaSW Manufacturing, Energy, Construction, Ag Processing (MECAP)

**Empowering Innovation and Excellence:**  
**Unlocking resources, training, workforce insight and partnerships for industry growth!**



❖ **Wednesday, October 4, 2023 - Industry Innovators Round Table #1 - Fort Macleod**  
Industry leaders identified key barriers and possible opportunities!

❖ **Wednesday, November 1, 2023 - Industry Innovators Think Tank #2 - Zoom**

Our region is implementing innovative programs that connect students to our industries and provide an opportunity to explore exciting career options right in our own communities!

Thank you to partners and presenters from local manufacturing, energy, construction and agriculture businesses, Livingstone Range School Division, Jobs Economy and Trade, Lethbridge Family Services, National Research Council-IRAP, Chambers of Commerce, Community Futures, elected officials and municipal staff.

❖ **Monday, January 29, 2024 - Industry Innovators Think Tank #3 - Fort Macleod**

Further discussion identified priorities of workforce training, logistics, permitting, regulations, and energy usage. Next steps will be a "Speaker Series" to connect businesses and agencies with resources available.

❖ **Wednesday, June 5, 2024 - project presentation at AlbertaSW AGM**

## ~ ~ ~ MECAP Speaker Series ~ ~ ~

❖ **Wednesday, September 18, 2024 - Topic: Manufacturing - Zoom**

- **David Munro**, Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium (EMC) &
- **David Rist**, Manufacturing, Export Enhancement Cluster (MEE) provided an overview of key programs, resources, and services to manufacturers across all sectors, including food and beverage, aerospace, tool, equipment and product manufacturing and skilled labour
- **Joseph Henke**, Program Specialist, Emissions Neutral Building Information Exchange (ENBIX)

❖ **Wednesday, October 16, 2024 - Topic: Workforce - Claresholm-in person and Zoom**

- **Mackenzie Hengerer**, Founder & Workforce Consultant, HR Advantage Services - "Employee Retention/ Mentorship"-
- **Gary Jackson**, Workforce and Economic Development Director, Hot Springs Metro Partnership, Garland County, Arkansas "Workforce Exploration-Collaborating to Succeed" – Gary provided an "international" perspective and ideas on student-industry engagement
- **Judy Stolk-Ingram**, Executive Director, Career Transitions - "Bridging Opportunities for Students and Businesses"
- **Darryl Seguin**, Superintendent, Livingstone Range School Division - dual credit program offers students advanced accreditation
- **Brandy Fehr**, Community Economic Development Coordinator, Community Futures Crowsnest Pass New Employment and HR Toolkit templates <https://crowsnest.albertacf.com/resources/employment-hr-resources>
- **Josh Bourelle**, Jobs, Economy and Trade (JET) Employer Supports. Coming Soon: New program to replace Canada Jobs Grant and an Employer Workforce Training program Labour Market Partnerships <https://www.alberta.ca/workforce-partnerships-grants>
- **Eliza Grose**, Off Campus Coordinator, Livingstone Range School Division. Looking for companies to support youth development/placement <https://www.lrsd.ca/services/lrsd-pursuit/off-campus>
- **Cal Koskovich & Nicole Daub**, Industrial Technology Advisors, National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation/about-nrc-industrial-research-assistance-program>
- **Marie Everts**, Regional Economic Development Specialist (REDS), Jobs, Economy, and Trade (JET). Northern and Regional Economic Development Grant (NRED) [www.alberta.ca/northern-and-regional-economic-development-program](http://www.alberta.ca/northern-and-regional-economic-development-program) Small Community Opportunity Program (SCOP) grant includes workforce projects <https://www.alberta.ca/small-community-opportunity-program>

❖ **Wednesday, November 20, 2024 – Topic: Supply Chain and Logistics - Zoom**

- **Derek Cutler**: Chief Economist at EBP, delivering expert strategies for creating flexible options and partnering for logistics optimization.
- **Trevor Lewington**: CEO, Economic Development Lethbridge: insights and examples of "reverse logistics" for efficiencies in supply and transport.
- **Laura Linnell & Colin Schmidt**, Alberta Chamber of Commerce new on-line platform to find suppliers and distributors that fit your business needs.

❖ **September-December 2024** – fall semester University of Lethbridge Geography 3700 student project team created the prototype of a mapping tool for MECAP businesses in the region!

Thank you to Professor Derek and the student team of Kashif and Ryan!



And, with that, we have reached the end of this phase of the project. So much more to do! This work and research is a great foundation to build upon. Thank you to all who have contributed time and ideas over the last year and a half. Special appreciation to InnoVisions and Associates [nataliegibson@shaw.ca](mailto:nataliegibson@shaw.ca) for research and project leadership!

**ALL THE BEST FOR 2025!**

Thank you to the speaker series experts who shared great ideas and information!  
**Project materials are on file!**  
E-mail [bev@albertasouthwest.com](mailto:bev@albertasouthwest.com) for a link to the recordings, presentation slides, resource materials and contact information for the presenters.