

Alberta SouthWest Bulletin February 2025

Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) Update

❖ Manufacturing Energy Construction Ag Processing (MECAP) project completed!

This project, implemented from April 1, 2023, to November 30, 2024 (19 months), was supported by an Alberta Northern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) Grant. Thank you to InnoVisions and Associates, and to municipal staff, chambers, community organizations, provincial and federal agencies who contributed time, resources, and ideas to make this a success.

The final report is over 20 pages, and here are just some of the Project Highlights and Metrics

Media and Social Media Project Outreach

- 800 recipients of direct communications
- 13,000+ via social media and LinkedIn.
- 1,000+ instances of industry organizations, businesses, and stakeholders across the region accessing resource pages, online distributions, video replays of the Speaker Series, and newsletters

Innovators Round Table, Think Tank; information-sharing workshops and events

- 12 participants-Spring-Summer 2023-Rural Development Network (RDN) Pilot Project (READI)
- 17 attendees - Wednesday, October 4, 2023 - Industry Innovators Round Table #1 - Fort Macleod
- 25 attendees - Wednesday, November 1, 2023 - Industry Innovators Think Tank #2 - Zoom
- 15 attendees - Monday, January 29, 2024 - Industry Innovators Think Tank #3 - Fort Macleod
- 29 participants-Tuesday, January 30, 2024-Community Capacity-Building Workshop
- 87 attendees – Wednesday, June 5, 2024 – presentation at Alberta SouthWest Annual General Meeting

Industry Leaders Forum Speaker Series

- 17 attendees Wednesday, September 18, 2024 - Topic: Manufacturing - Zoom
- 27 attendees Wednesday, October 16, 2024 - Topic: Workforce in-person and Zoom
- 16 attendees Wednesday, November 20, 2024 – Topic: Supply Chain and Logistics – Zoom
- 17 expert presenters from government agencies and industry organizations over the 3 sessions

In addition to speaker presentations, over **30 resource links, programs and toolkits** shared.

- 4 resources and employer programs shared re: Manufacturing
- 11 resources and employer programs shared re: Workforce
- 15 resources and employer programs shared re: Supply Chain

Research, Interviews, and Inventory of MECAP businesses

NAICS codes were used to systematically build an inventory of MECAP companies.

- 177 MECAP businesses in AlbertaSW inventoried
- 15 Community Investment Profiles completed

Career Exploration Day Wednesday, May 8, 2024

- 600 attendees at Career Exploration Day
- 67 businesses participating

Livingstone Range School Division career and dual credit programs

- 72 work experience placements
- 10 Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) students
- 46 Green Certificate placements
- 60 International students (47 FTE)



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