

Community Profile

Municipal/County Name	Lethbridge County	Contact Name	Mattie Watson
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About your community

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

1. Agriculture and Agri-food processing- a myriad of primary products including crops and livestock provide a steady input for processing. Whether it is McCains processing potatoes or Green Prairie exporting hay, these are just examples of the innovation that is occurring in the region.
2. Renewables- with biofuels/industrials and solar projects being developed in the area, there is potential for additional support services and innovation in this area.
3. Transportation- due to the large volume of agriculture products and the central location of Lethbridge, the logistics and transportation sector has a strong presence in the area.
4. Manufacturing- with the large processing plants and equipment being utilized, manufacturing has become a cornerstone of the County.
5. Tourism- with expanding Agri-tourism offerings and the movement of local food consumption, this is an emerging market for the area. Especially as Highway 3, Canada's Premier Food Corridor, intersects the municipality.

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

McCain Foods, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, Van Raay Paskal feedlot, Agropur

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

Lethbridge County is part of "Canada's Western Gateway" with access to the United States, British Columbia, and Central/Northern Alberta.
 Road- highway 3 running East/West, Highway 4 (Canamex)
 Rail- CPR Mainline runs through as well as Transmark facility
 Air- Municipal airport that includes passenger and freight options.

Speed of Doing Business

What are the permitting & zoning timelines?

Permitted use: 1.5 – 2 weeks Discretionary Use: 2- 3 weeks Subdivision: 45 – 60 days
 Zoning: 3 – 4 months

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

Our Land Use Bylaw undergoes a thorough review every 10 years. Minor amendments are made as needed in between to provide clarification or address deficiencies. To stay informed of LUB changes, subscribe to our Public Hearing e-news group: <https://lethcounty.ca/p/sign-up-for-e-news>

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

Nathan Hill, Development Planner (403-328-5525, nhill@lethcounty.ca)

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

Waivers may be granted or zoning may be changed to Direct Control, depending on the project. These may require Council approval and a Public Hearing process.

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

Yes - we have several different zonings which allow for a wide range of uses. The restrictions would be dependent on the zoning.

Talent

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

With access to the “Rural Renewal Stream Program” under the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program, recruitment can happen internationally. In addition, talent can come from the surrounding hamlets and rural areas as well as the City of Lethbridge. A benefit for people moving to the County is that their family can find employment in Lethbridge as well to help with the retention of the family.

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

Lethbridge has the University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge College, and various micro-credential training offerings.

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

Alberta Regional Dashboard- 71% participation rate and 5% unemployment rate, increase in apprenticeship over the years and \$122,000 is the couple's family income.
2021 Stats Canada Census- 60.5% of population is in working age group between 15-64, Average age is 34.7 years of age.

ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) + DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) ESG compliance and disclosure are top drivers of investor trust as there is a growing awareness that communities, companies, government etc. have the responsibility and resources to accomplish positive climate action and build a more sustainable and resilient future.

What are the environmental, sustainability or emission reduction initiatives in your community?

Lethbridge County has a priority in helping regional farmers develop their Environmental Farm Plans and has made this a priority with providing resources.

What are the DEI initiatives in your community?

“Rural Renewal Stream Program” encourages diversity within the community. The community has seen an increase in visible minorities of over 29.5% in the past five years. The County is adjacent to one of Canada's largest Indigenous reserves, and the Agricultural Services department has been working with Blood Tribe Land Management to learn about traditional land management practices for a healthy ecosystem

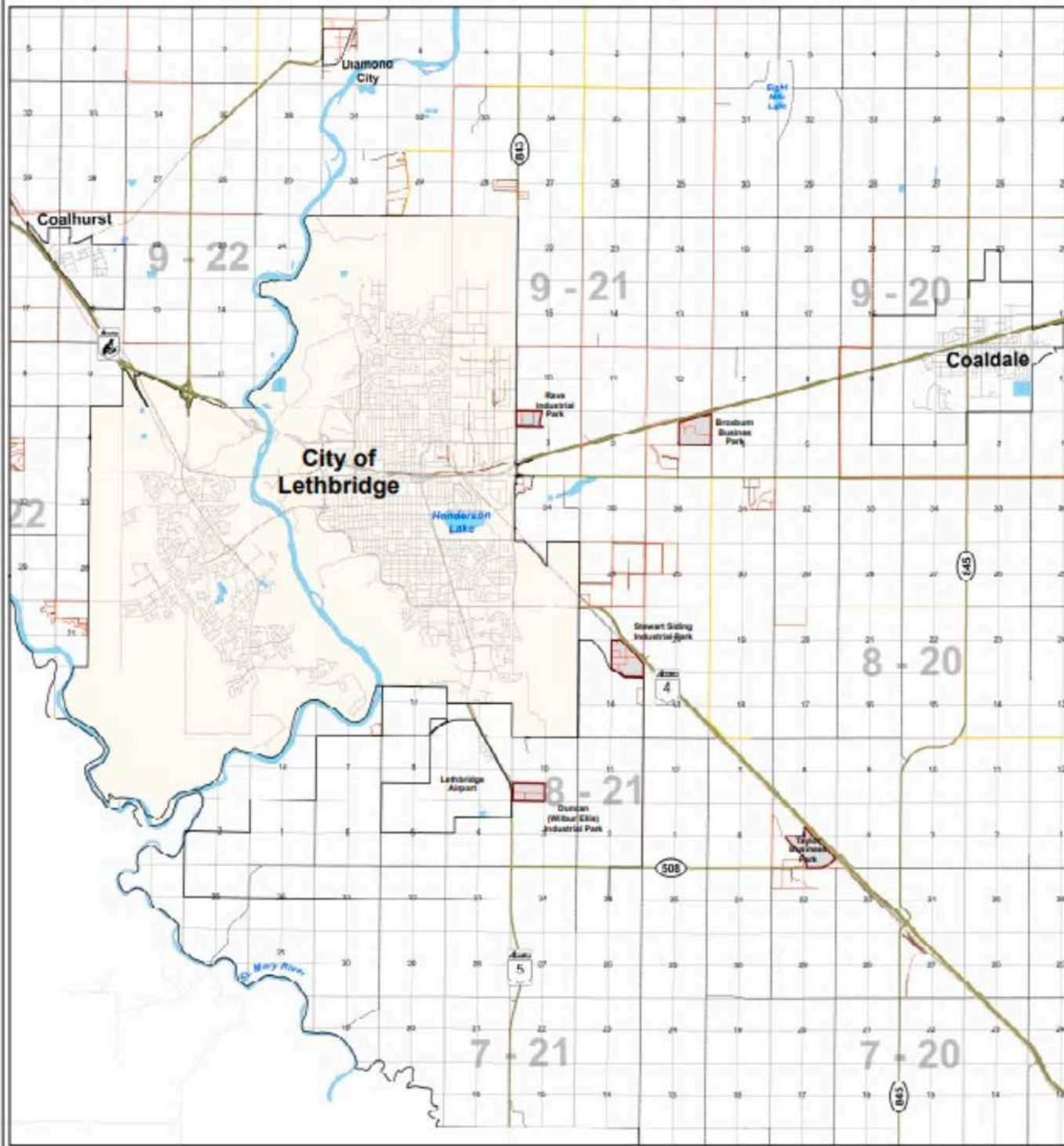
Investment Opportunities and Other

Are there any other aspects that make your community unique?

Lethbridge County's uniqueness lies in its agricultural prominence, role as an agrifood hub, dynamic workforce, strategic connectivity, forward-thinking leadership, rural affordability, diverse landscape, and rich cultural heritage. This combination makes Lethbridge County a distinctive and inviting destination within Alberta.

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

Lethbridge County Industrial and Business Parks



- Legend**
- Industrial/Business Park
 - MBP Boundary
 - Airport Protection Area
 - County Boundary
 - Subdivision
 - Hamlet/Urban Boundary
 - County Roads
 - Gravel
 - Cold Mix
 - Paved
 - Base Stabilized
 - Provincial Highway
 - Railway
 - Water
 - City Boundary
 - ATS Quarter Section



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