

## EMBRACING TRADITION AND INNOVATION

Lethbridge's economy benefits from the healthy mix of businesses that are anchored to our community. The industry diversity in our city fosters a healthy business environment and also creates potential for future enhancement and development opportunities. The momentum that is built by key organizations within our identified core industries, contributes to the continued success of many of our businesses. While existing sectors continue to thrive and grow, new and emerging sectors add strength and vitality to business success in the future.

Forty-five of the businesses in Lethbridge employ more than 100 people. Combined, these businesses and organizations employ more than 20,000 people in Lethbridge, which is approximately 32% of the Lethbridge employed workforce. The top 10 major employers in Lethbridge contribute 13,473 jobs to the local economy and these employers increased their employee total workforce by 7% between 2013 and 2015. Manufacturing and logistics jobs among major employers have increased by 20% over the course of the last decade while agri-food major employers in the city have increased their job totals by 20%.

Public sector employment in Lethbridge remains strong with nine of the top 10 major employers in health care, education, and government services. These nine public sector organizations employ over 12,000 people, which accounts for almost 20% of the employed workforce in Lethbridge. Rounding out our top 10 major employers is a freight transportation company.

The region's largest employers also represent many other sectors.

- 11 are in the manufacturing or logistics sector
- 12 are in the retail or hospitality sector
- Five are in agri-food
- Three are in the financial sector

### Supply Chain & Logistics

In Lethbridge, supply chain and logistics companies perform an essential role in transporting agriculture products, machinery, and livestock and deal with warehousing and freight transportation services, parts, or sales across Canada and North America.

### Agriculture/Agri-Food

Agriculture and agri-food are core wealth-generating industries for southern Alberta with more than 1,200 related businesses in the Lethbridge area. The strength of this sector is a major contributor to the economic stability that sets Lethbridge apart from other resource-dependent parts of the province.

### Technology

With tremendous industry and institutional support within the community, Lethbridge is fostering an environment where companies in the knowledge economy can take root and thrive. In fact, local entrepreneurs are leading the way in industries including geospatial imaging, cloud-based accounting, automotive industry software, biotechnologies and the health industries along with new media and VR.

## Manufacturing

A competitive tax structure, excellent proximity to markets and a highly dependable workforce has allowed a diversified manufacturing base to thrive and grow in Lethbridge. From specialized trailers to aircraft engines, oil and gas equipment to prefab homes, Lethbridge is home to a range of small to medium sized manufacturers.