

# Alliances

## REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCES IN ALBERTA

### What is Regional Economic Development?

“A collaborative approach by communities and supportive partners to achieve prosperity in a defined geographical area based on a shared economic vision for the future”

### How is this done in Alberta?

Regional Economic Development Alliances (REDAs)

### Current REDA Status in Alberta

- 13 existing REDAs throughout the province
- 242 member communities
  - 157 towns and villages
  - 62 counties, municipal districts, special areas
  - 13 Aboriginal communities
  - 11 cities
- 9 communities belong to more than 1 REDA

### Developmental History

- Provincial Government seeks to ensure Alberta's communities remain economically viable 1997-98
- Regional gatherings to test idea of communities working together as an alliance 1998-99
- Visioning sessions and central Alberta pilot project
- The first REDA was established in 1999 while the most recent was established in **2007**



### **What is a REDA?**

- Autonomous not for profit regional organizations
- Self-determined membership built from the grassroots
- Membership primarily comprised of municipalities
- Boards of Directors primarily made up of local elected leaders

### **Who Supports REDAs?**

- Funded by province, regional stakeholders, and members
- Receive funding, communications and management advisory services from Alberta Finance and Enterprise
- Include a variety of stakeholders; post-secondary institutions, Chambers of Commerce, Community Futures, School Boards, federal and provincial programs/agencies

### **Why a Regional Alliance Approach?**

- Coordinated effort reduces duplication
- Provides focus on regional priorities and solutions
- Improved local capacity to undertake projects individual communities could not do on their own
- Develops an attitude of collaboration and cooperation
- Establishes a respected regional voice on economic issues, priorities and policies

### **To Learn More About REDAs:**

- Visit: [www.albertacanada.com/regionaldev](http://www.albertacanada.com/regionaldev)
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