

Killam Regional Economic Development Initiative Overview



The Killam Regional Economic Development Initiative is an innovative project designed to attract prospective agri-business to the Killam district. The decision making process for these organizations is complex, and competitive. Businesses require accurate, up to date, and meaningful information in order to make informed decisions on location.

The Killam Regional Economic Development Initiative will provide organizations with focused, customized information designed to help them make fully informed decisions regarding the location of their agri-business. Sponsored in part by Rural Alberta's Development Fund, whose funding is provided by the Government of Alberta, the initiative helps prospective businesses answer questions relating to the region's assets and capabilities.

The Killam Regional Economic Development Initiative Committee (KREDIC) includes a cross section of regional and provincial partners, including:

- Killam & District Business Development Association
- Killam Chamber of Commerce
- Battle River Agri-Ventures Co-op
- Town of Killam
- Flagstaff Waste Management
- Community Futures
- Flagstaff County
- Chevraux Career Consulting
- Battle River Research Group

The KREDIC committee provides outstanding regional expertise in the areas of government, education, manpower, environmental, planning and regulatory, taxation, waste management, utilities, feedstock source for standard and custom requirements, housing and services, and much more from a single source. The project has engaged Changewave Canada as lead consultant for the project.

The project kicked off in August 2007, and will run through June 2008. Ultimately the project will contribute to attracting key agri-business prospects into the region. By providing customized information and 'one stop shopping' for information specific to the region, the project will achieve this objective.

So far, the project has identified a number of prospective agri-business clients that have expressed an interest in expanding into the Western Canadian marketplace. These organizations have been contacted and surveyed to gain an indication of their requirements and intent regarding location and timing of business start up. Several organizations have provided promising and positive feedback regarding their intent to locate in the region in the near future.

The committee continues to work with these organizations and others to further define their requirements, and develop creative business solutions targeted towards successful location of one or more of these organizations in the region.