

## **INVEST ALBERTA CORPORATION (IAC)**

### **INVESTMENT INCENTIVES DIRECTORY**

*Alberta has a significant number of incentive programs that may be of interest to foreign investors considering Alberta as a location for greenfield investment or business expansion. Programs include direct incentives such as grants, contributions and loan programs and tax credits and tax credit-like programs in a broad range of sectors. This list is not inclusive of all support activities post-establishment/expansion in Alberta.*

#### **MUNICIPAL FUNDS / PROGRAMS:**

1. Edmonton Industrial Infrastructure Cost Sharing Program via City of Edmonton
2. Edmonton Screen Media Fund (ESMF) via Edmonton Screen Industries Office (ESIO)
3. Opportunity Calgary Investment Fund (OCIF) via Calgary Economic Development

#### **PROVINCIAL FUNDS / PROGRAMS:**

4. Aboriginal Business Investment Fund via Alberta Indigenous Relations
5. Alberta Digital Traction via Alberta Innovates
6. Alberta Innovation Micro Vouchers via Alberta Innovates
7. Alberta Innovation Vouchers via Alberta Innovates
8. Alberta Petrochemicals Incentive Program (APIP) via Alberta Energy
9. Canada - Alberta Job Grant via Alberta Labour and Immigration
10. Commercialization Associate Program via Alberta Innovates
11. Energy Savings for Business via Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA)
12. Film and Television Tax Credit (FTTC) via Alberta Jobs, Economy and Innovation
13. Innovation Employment Grant (IEG) via Alberta Treasury Board and Finance
14. Partnership Intake Program via Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA)
15. Post-Production, Visual Effects, and Digital Animation Grant (PPG) via Alberta Media Fund
16. Product Demonstration Program via Alberta Innovates
17. Product ScaleUp Pilot Program via Alberta Innovates
18. R&D Associate Program via Alberta Innovates
19. Technology Funding via Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA)

#### **FEDERAL FUNDS / PROGRAMS:**

20. Accelerated Investment Incentive via Government of Canada
21. AgriInnovate Program via Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
22. Business Scale-up and Productivity (BSP) Program via Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD)
23. Clean Tech Fund via Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC)
24. Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) – Onshore Program via Natural Resources Canada
25. National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)
26. Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program via Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
27. Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) via Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)

#### **FEDERAL- PROVINCIAL FUNDS / PROGRAMS:**

28. BUILD Program via TECTERRA
29. Canadian Agricultural Partnership via Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada & Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
30. HIRE Program via TECTERRA

## **MUNICIPAL FUNDS / PROGRAMS:**

### **1. Edmonton Industrial Infrastructure Cost Sharing Program**

City of Edmonton

[https://www.edmonton.ca/city\\_government/urban\\_planning\\_and\\_design/revolving-industrial-servicing-fund.aspx](https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/urban_planning_and_design/revolving-industrial-servicing-fund.aspx)

When a front-end developer is required to construct oversized infrastructure, they will be entitled to recover their over expenditure costs from 50% of the City's new yearly tax revenue that directly results from the developer's construction.

### **2. Edmonton Screen Media Fund (ESMF)**

Edmonton Screen Industries Office (ESIO)

<https://edmontonscreen.com/funding/esmf/>

A flexible fund that prioritizes the needs of applicants. Offering an investment-oriented perspective, no deadlines and the potential to contribute at any stage of the project or venture. Supporting audiovisual and interactive digital media enterprises in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region, but also supporting guest (non-resident) screen media activities making an impact in the region.

### **3. Opportunity Calgary Investment Fund (OCIF)**

Calgary Economic Development

<https://calgaryeconomicdevelopment.com/about-us/initiatives/opportunity-calgary-investment-fund/>

The Opportunity Calgary Investment Fund (OCIF) offers financial support to private sector companies, non-profit organizations, and public institutions proposing investments that drive economic growth, are a catalyst for further investments, absorb office space, and create jobs for Calgarians. The emphasis for OCIF as it executes on its mandate is to attract anchor companies, versus early-stage startups, and support initiatives that expand and develop the innovation and tech ecosystems.

## **PROVINCIAL FUNDS / PROGRAMS:**

### **4. Aboriginal Business Investment Fund**

Alberta Indigenous Relations

<https://www.alberta.ca/aboriginal-business-investment-fund.aspx>

The Aboriginal Business Investment Fund (ABIF) can partially or completely fund capital costs for Indigenous community-owned economic development projects. ABIF provides between \$150,000 and \$500,000 to support an Indigenous community-owned economic development project. This could be up to 100% of eligible project costs to the ABIF maximum of \$500,000. An ABIF grant can be stacked with other government and industry funding sources.

## 5. Alberta Digital Traction

Alberta Innovates

<https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/alberta-digital-traction/>

The Alberta Digital Traction pilot program (Alberta-DT) provides funding for small- and medium-sized Alberta enterprises (SMEs) that rely on software development as core to one or more of their products and/or services and intends to rapidly scale in the global marketplace to accelerate their revenue growth. With the guidance of an Alberta-based entrepreneur program's business coach, eligible applicants can apply for up to \$50,000 paid directly to the applicant to cover eligible expenses required to complete the milestones developed to achieve traction.

## 6. Alberta Innovation Micro Vouchers

Alberta Innovates

<https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/micro-voucher/>

Micro vouchers are aimed to help Alberta's small- and medium-sized enterprises in the technology and knowledge-based sector hire a service or product provider to advance their technology closer to commercialization. Eligible applicants can apply for up to \$10,000, paid directly to the service provider, to cover eligible expenses charged by the service provider.

## 7. Alberta Innovation Vouchers

Alberta Innovates

<https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/voucher/>

Vouchers help Alberta's high potential, high growth, technology and knowledge-based small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with technologies in the mid-to-late developmental stages but may include some early developmental stages. Eligible applicants can apply for funding up to \$100,000 to help cover the costs of up to three service providers for the purpose of business and technology development.

## 8. Alberta Petrochemicals Incentive Program (APIP)

Alberta Energy

<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-petrochemicals-incentive-program.aspx>

10-year long market-based program that offers grants to petrochemical manufacturing projects in Alberta including petrochemicals, fertilizers, hydrogen and fuel plants. The projects must use natural gas, natural gas liquids, or petrochemical intermediaries such as ethylene, propylene, benzene etc. in the manufacturing of its own products. Grants worth 12% of a project's eligible capital costs will be issued to companies after projects are operational. Grants allow companies to account for the full value of the incentive provided when calculating their project's return on investment.

## 9. Canada - Alberta Job Grant

Alberta Labour and Immigration, and the Government of Canada through the Workforce Development Agreement

<https://www.alberta.ca/canada-alberta-job-grant.aspx>

The Canada-Alberta Job Grant (CAJG) is a federal-provincial partnership under which Alberta employers and government share the cost of training new and existing employees to address skill deficits, and increase their knowledge and skills to meet the needs of Alberta's changing economy. The CAJG can help fund training for new, current or potential future employees.

## **10. Commercialization Associate Program**

Alberta Innovates

<https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/commercialization-associates/>

The Commercialization Associate understands business fundamentals and practices, applying knowledge of industry, as well as market and business trends to prioritize commercialization activities. These activities include, but are not limited to, manufacturing analysis and planning, advanced product validation, exploring new market opportunities, marketing, sales, financial strategies, and business development activities. This program is designed to fund SMEs to employ a commercialization professional, for one year.

## **11. Energy Savings for Business**

Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA)

<https://eralberta.ca/energy-savings-for-business/>

Energy Savings for Business will help eligible Alberta businesses reduce emissions, decrease operating costs, grow their operations and become more competitive, while creating skilled jobs and boosting economic recovery.

## **12. Film and Television Tax Credit (FTTC)**

Alberta Jobs, Economy and Innovation

<https://www.alberta.ca/film-television-tax-credit.aspx>

The Film and Television Tax Credit (FTTC) offers a refundable Alberta tax credit certificate on eligible Alberta production and labour costs to corporations that produce films, television series and other eligible screen-based productions in the province. Applicants may apply for either a 22% or 30% tax credit rate up to a maximum of \$10 million per production.

## **13. Innovation Employment Grant (IEG)**

Alberta Treasury Board and Finance

<https://www.alberta.ca/corporate-income-tax.aspx>

The Innovation Employment Grant (IEG) is a refundable tax credit that a qualified corporation may deduct from tax otherwise payable for a taxation year. In general, the IEG is equal to 8 per cent of the lesser of the corporation's eligible expenditures in respect of scientific research and experimental development (SR&ED) carried out in Alberta after December 31, 2020, and the corporation's maximum expenditure limit for the year. The corporation will be eligible to claim an additional amount equal to 12 per cent of any such amount in excess of a base amount. A corporation's base amount is determined by calculating the corporation's average eligible expenditures for the two preceding taxation years.

## **14. Partnership Intake Program**

Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA)

<https://eralberta.ca/funding-technology/partnership-intake-program/>

Working with Trusted Partners across the Canadian innovation ecosystem creates a unified approach to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and securing Alberta's lower carbon success. The Partnership Intake Program allows ERA to evaluate proposed projects referred by Trusted Partners, organizations with rigorous, fair, and transparent processes comparable to ERA's.

**15. Post-Production, Visual Effects, and Digital Animation Grant (PPG)**

Alberta Media Fund

<https://www.alberta.ca/post-production-visual-effects-digital-animation-grant.aspx>

Labour expenses for Alberta organizations involved in the development and delivery of post-production services in Alberta.

**16. Product Demonstration Program**

Alberta Innovates

<https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/product-demonstration-program/>

This program is designed to de-risk the commercialization process by providing funds and coaching to qualified high potential, high growth, technology Alberta small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to enter into a partnership with a potential client to conduct a pilot demonstration to trial and prove the technical and business merits of their product. Qualified SMEs may be eligible for up to \$150,000 in funding over a maximum one-year term.

**17. Product ScaleUp Pilot Program**

Alberta Innovates

<https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/product-scaleup-pilot-program/>

The program is a grant of up to \$100,000 for one year for qualified SMEs to hire a product associate with expertise in developing, commercializing, and scaling digital technology using a product management model.

**18. R&D Associates Program**

Alberta Innovates

<https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/rd-associates/>

Alberta's high potential, high growth, technology and knowledge-based small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) may be eligible for up to \$67,500 per year for one year to enable them to employ in-house professional research and development capability, to advance the Technology Readiness Level and accelerate new product commercialization.

**19. Technology Funding**

Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA)

<https://eralberta.ca/funding-technology/>

ERA is investing in a diverse portfolio of transformative, sustainable technologies that reduce GHG emissions and position Alberta for success in a lower emissions economy.

**FEDERAL FUNDS / PROGRAMS:**

**20. Accelerated Investment Incentive**

Government of Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/businesses/topics/sole-proprietorships-partnerships/report-business-income-expenses/claiming-capital-cost-allowance/accelerated-investment-incentive.html#FullExpMP>

A 50% increase in the available Capital cost allowance deduction for property acquired after November 20, 2018 that becomes available for use before 2024.

## **21. AgrilInnovate Program**

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

<https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/agriinnovate-program>

The AgrilInnovate program provides repayable contributions for projects that aim to accelerate the commercialization, adoption and/or demonstration of innovative products, technologies, processes or services that increase agri-sector competitiveness and sustainability.

## **22. Business Scale-up and Productivity (BSP) Program**

Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD)

<https://www.wd-deo.gc.ca/eng/19762.asp>

The Business Scale-up and Productivity (BSP) Program supports high-growth businesses that are scaling up and producing innovative goods, services or technologies. It offers interest free repayable funding to incorporated businesses. A high growth business can be defined as any for-profit company that has notable and/or consistent revenue increases year over year. Typically, this means an increase of at least 20% year over year.

## **23. Clean Tech Fund**

Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC)

<https://www.sdte.ca/en/cleantech-fund/>

SDTC provides funding to promising clean technology development and demonstration projects that are start-ups or scale-ups. The technology must demonstrate the potential for GHG emissions reductions, reductions in water consumption and/or the reduction of water, soil or air contamination. The project must include some further development of the technology, mitigate existing technology risk and include validation of the economic viability of the technology.

## **24. Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) – Onshore Program**

Natural Resources Canada

<https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/science-and-data/funding-partnerships/funding-opportunities/current-funding-opportunities/emissions-reduction-fund/onshore-program-emissions-reduction-fund/23050>

The new \$675 million ERF – Onshore Program is helping Canadian onshore oil and gas companies invest in green solutions to continue their progress toward reducing methane emissions while facing the current economic crisis and COVID-19 pandemic.

## **25. National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)**

National Research Council of Canada

<https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation>

The National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP) provides advice, connections, and funding to help Canadian small and medium-sized businesses increase their innovation capacity and take ideas to market.

## **26. Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program**

Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/scientific-research-experimental-development-tax-incentive-program/overview.html>

The Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program uses tax incentives to encourage Canadian businesses of all sizes and in all sectors to conduct research and development (R&D) in Canada. These tax incentives come in three forms: an income tax deduction, an investment tax credit and, in certain circumstances, a refund. Eligible SR&ED work, will result in your investment tax credit being at least 15% and can be as much as 35% of qualified SR&ED expenditures. Any unused investment tax credits, can be carried back 3 years or forward 20 years and apply them against tax payable for other years.

## **27. Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF)**

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/125.nsf/eng/home>

The Strategic Innovation Fund's (SIF) objective is to spur innovation for a better Canada by providing funding for large projects (over \$10 million in requested contribution).

### **FEDERAL- PROVINCIAL FUNDS / PROGRAMS:**

## **28. BUILD Program**

TECTERRA

<https://tecterra.com/programs/build/>

The BUILD Program provides funding for projects with budgets greater than \$300,000 with TECTERRA providing funding of up to 50% of development and commercialization costs, to a maximum of \$500,000 per project. If you are an Alberta start up, small or medium sized company working on innovative geospatial technology products, you may qualify for a non-dilutive, 0% interest loan, repayable only after your product generates revenue.

## **29. Canadian Agricultural Partnership**

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada & Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

<https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/>

In Alberta, the Canadian Agricultural Partnership commits to the same level of investment from federal and provincial governments as Growing Forward 2 which is \$406 million towards strategic initiative programs over five years. This investment is cost shared between federal-provincial (60:40) governments and will be invested in programs and initiatives for Alberta's agriculture agri-food and agri-products based industry.

## **30. HIRE Program**

TECTERRA

<https://tecterra.com/programs/hire/>

Alberta start-ups or small companies needing to hire highly-qualified business or technical personnel may qualify for a non-repayable grant equivalent to 50% of the position salary for the first year of employment, up to \$50,000.