Calendar of Events

admin@edaalberta.ca

November 17, 2025 - November 20, 2025 Rural Municipalities Alberta (RMA) 2025 Fall Convention Edmonton Convention Centre 9797 Jasper Avenue Edmonton, AB T5J 1N9

The RMA hosts two conventions per year, one in spring and one in fall, at the Edmonton Convention Centre in Edmonton, Alberta. Each convention sees a variety of plenary addresses and workshops, as well as the ministerial forum and resolutions session. In addition to these events, the fall convention hosts the opposition party leader panel, as well as our RMA Board elections and partners program. The RMA and Canoe Tradeshow is held during the fall convention to better serve our members as they go through the budget process within their municipalities.

The RMA 2025 Fall Convention and Tradeshow is scheduled to take place November 17-20, at the Edmonton Convention Centre.

November 20, 2025

Rural Economic Development (RED) - In-Person Course (Closed Event) G.R. Davis Administrative Building (Fort Macleod Town Office) 410 20th Street Fort Macleod, AB T0L 0Z0

Fort Macleod, AB T0L 0Z0 09:30 AM - 03:30 PM MST This Event is invite-only.

12:00 PM - 04:30 PM MST

November 25, 2025

Rural Economic Development (RED) - Virtual Course (Closed Event) Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7642778686

09:00 AM - 04:30 PM MST Janice Grant, janice@edaalberta.ca This event is by invitation only. After taking this course you will;

Understand the significance of rural economic development, its distinctions in rural versus urban settings, and common challenges faced by rural communities.

Acquire skills to assess rural community needs and assets using tools like Community Needs Assessment (CNA), Asset Mapping, and Gap Analysis, facilitating the identification of strengths, challenges, and opportunities for capacity building.

Gain insight into strategic planning and implementation, distinguishing between project and strategic planning, developing Rural Economic Development Plans based on CNAs, and integrating the Logic Model to illustrate connections between resources, activities, and outcomes.

Understand rural economic development strategies, receive guidance on selecting the most suitable strategy, and learn creative approaches to connecting strategies with resources

Create inclusive community engagement, fostering participation and community ownership, leveraging partnerships, and addressing conflict within rural communities. Empower local leadership, establish collaborative governance structures, identify rural economic development models, and define the roles of economic development officers, organizations, or committees in fostering economic growth.

Hosted by Jacqueline Buchanan (REDS Team) Trainer - Holly Sorgen

November 27, 2025

Performance Measurement (PM)- Virtual Course (Closed Event)

09:00 AM - 02:00 PM MST

Performance measurement is crucial for economic development as it provides a systematic way to assess, manage, and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of economic policies and initiatives. Quantifying progress and outcomes helps economic developers ensure that their strategies are on track and delivering the intended benefits to communities, businesses, and stakeholders.

This course aims to provide participants with a robust understanding of performance measurement in the context of economic development, preparing them to effectively evaluate and enhance the impact of economic development initiatives.

This is an optional Community Economic Development Training Program (CEDTP) course.

Hosted by PrairiesCan.

January 14, 2026

Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E)- In-Person (Closed Event) Leduc County Business & Entrepreneur Centre 608 18th Ave

Nisku, AB T9E 7V8

09:00 AM - 03:30 PM MST

Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E)

Core Course - EDA Institute

In this course, you'll gain a practical understanding of how to support and strengthen your local business community through effective BR&E strategies.

You will:

Explore BR&E as a key driver of economic growth and sustainability.

Learn how research, data analysis, and Business Visitation Programs (BVPs) help inform meaningful strategies.

Examine different types of BR&E initiatives — including Import Replacement Programs (IRPs), Home-Based Business (HBB) initiatives, and downtown revitalization efforts.

Understand how to create a supportive environment that encourages business retention, growth, and innovation.

Build your ability to measure economic development success using both qualitative and quantitative Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

Discover how BR&E activities contribute to community resilience, including preparation for and recovery from economic disruptions or disasters.

Host: Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration – Laura McGown, REDS Team

Trainer: Natalie Gibson

January 16, 2026

Economic Development for Elected Officials (EO)- In-Person Course

Evergreen Park

55051 Township Road 710

County of Grande Prairie, AB T8X 4A3

09:00 AM - 03:00 PM MST

Jordan Tidey,

jtidey@countygp.ab.ca

Specifically designed for elected officials and local leadership.

Provides theory, fundamental economic development applications, and examples of best practices.

This "30,000-foot view of economic development helps you align your mandate and projects with the current economic development situation.

This is a core course in our Community Economic Development Training Program (CEDTP).

Hosted by the County of Grande Prairie No. 1.

March 26, 2026

EDA 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Zoom

09:00 AM - 10:30 AM MST

All EDA members are invited to attend however, only Full members in good standing are eligible to vote at the AGM.

At the AGM we will be electing our 2026-27 Board of Directors.

All documents required in advance are available on our website, under the members-only section.

April 14, 2026

"Kick-Start in Kananaskis" Pre-Conference Mixer

Woody's Pub & Patio 1 Centennial Drive

Kananaskis, AB

06:30 PM - 08:30 PM MST

Coming to the conference early?

Kick off your conference experience at our exclusive pre-conference mixer! Connect with new and familiar faces over drinks and delicious snacks.

Our annual Kickstart in Kananaskis will be held at Woody's Pub & Patio at the conference site. To attend, you must register in advance, and conference registration is required before registering for this event.

Enjoy tasty snacks and a complimentary beverage (wine, beer, highball, or soft drinks) as you mingle.

Dress: casual

April 15, 2026 - April 17, 2026 **EDA Xperience 2026 Leaders' Summit & Conference**

Pomeroy Mountain Lodge

1 Centennial Drive

Kananaskis, AB

12:00 PM - 12:00 PM MST

EDA Xperience 2026 Leaders' Summit and Conference attracts more than 400 economic development experts and elected officials from across Alberta, Canada and around the world.

July 19, 2026 - July 23, 2026 2026 PNWER Annual Summit

JW Marriott

09:00 AM - 04:30 PM MST

info@pnwer.org

NWER's 2026 Annual Summit will be held July 19 - 23, 2026 in Edmonton, Alberta at the JW Marriott Edmonton Ice District

Legislators, business leaders, academics, and policymakers from the U.S. and Canada will gather in Edmonton, Alberta for PNWER's 35th Annual Summit from July 19 - 23 to discuss regional economic best practices and trade concerns. It will be an opportunity to engage with our region's key decision makers on both sides of the border. ? PNWER is recognized as the model for regional and bi-national cooperation, providing a platform for collaboration among public, private, academic, and non-profit stakeholders to work together as a region in pursuit of common goals. ?

The PNWER Annual Summit is the leading forum where people in the policy world and the business world come together to figure out solutions to regional challenges.

October 22, 2026

2026 EDA Ministry Dinner Coast Edmonton Plaza Hotel 10155-105 St., Edmonton AB., 05:00 PM - 09:00 PM EST SAVE THE DATE

The purpose of the Annual EDA Ministry Dinner is to bring together EDA members and stakeholders with specific Ministers and senior staff from the Government of Canada and the Government of Alberta, to network, share information about programs and explore potential partnerships.

The dynamic format of the dinner involves rotating table visitations to maximize networking during the meal.

Spaces left: 118

Registration

Non-Member – \$165.00 \$165 + GST April 14, 2027 - April 16, 2027 **EDA Xperience 2027 Leaders' Summit & Conference**

Pomeroy Mountain Lodge

1 Centennial Drive

Kananaskis, AB

12:00 PM - 12:00 PM MST

EDA Xperience 2027 Leaders' Summit and Conference attracts more than 400 economic development experts and elected officials from across Alberta, Canada and around the world.

Save the date now!

April 5, 2028 - April 7, 2028 **EDA Xperience 2028 Leaders' Summit & Conference**

Pomeroy Mountain Lodge

1 Centennial Drive

Kananaskis, AB

12:00 PM - 12:00 PM MST

EDA Xperience 2028 Leaders' Summit and Conference attracts more than 400 economic development experts and elected officials from across Alberta, Canada and around the world.

Save the date now!