

SOUTHWEST ALBERTA REGIONAL SKILLS STUDY

The project ran for 12 months and involved a mid-point change of direction to account for the COVID-19 crisis. Nearly 800 individuals, including both job-seekers and employers, gave feedback to inform the study. The partners employed MDB Insight Inc. to provide the professional expertise to properly tackle the project.

800
PARTICIPANTS
OVER 12 MONTHS

KEY TAKEAWAYS



Labour force is the top consideration looked at by site selectors and large companies when evaluating investments in a region.



There is a willingness from both businesses and educational institutions to work together to better **align training with opportunities**.



COVID-19 has significantly affected the economy, **accelerating labour market change**.



Health care is projected to have the highest labour increases in the region. Other top sectors include arts, entertainment, recreation and educational services.



Over half of job providers indicated that they are planning to hire new employees in the coming year.



The most in-demand occupations are service workers, general laborers and **skilled trades workers**.



Many jobseekers are considering employment **outside their usual line of work**.



Employers in the region report having trouble **finding the right people for the jobs** they are providing, while many jobseekers cannot find employment in the industry they are trained for.



There is a **growing mismatch** in the region between the skills people have and the available jobs.



The project partners have struck committees to address the **next steps** arising from this study.

NEXT STEPS

- 1 DEVELOP LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION TO SUPPORT DECISION MAKING
- 2 PURSUE PROGRAMS THAT ATTRACT TOP TALENT AND INCREASE TALENT RETENTION
- 3 INCREASE EFFORTS TO ALIGN TRAINING AND SKILLS WITH DEMAND
- 4 CREATE EXPANDED WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA IS WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

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