

Savvy. Smart. Stable. Hospitable.

Town of Bow Island

Bow Island is the place to be for agri-processing.

Surrounded by 110,000 acres of highly developed irrigation land. We have the greatest number of frost-free days and the longest growing season in Alberta. Irrigated and dry land farming provide a healthy business environment for growing beans, potatoes, sugar beets, dill and spearmint.

Economic facts

Entrepreneurs excel in sunny southeast Alberta. One local processing plant receives, cleans, packages and markets area-grown beans to international markets. Another local company processes and markets sunflower seeds throughout Canada and the United States. Other successful businesses include processing wheat, oats and sunflower seeds into snack food items.

The dry edible bean industry injects about \$10M/year to the economy. There's opportunity here for industry; hydroponic greenhouses, agri-pulp and agri-board production and waste recycling.

Key business partners

- St. Mary River Irrigation District** (water supply)
- P & H Grain Elevator Agriculture**
- Viferra Bow Island Bean Plant** (dry edible beans)
- SPITZ Sunflower Processing Plant**
- DTSC & LTAC** (essential oil processing plants)
- Corraini Essential Oils**
- Imperial Oil Fuel & Fertilizer**
- UFA Card Lock**
- Polycore Tubular Linings**

Total building permit values 2008

Commercial	\$188,000
Residential	\$476,000

Transportation

Bow Island is located on provincial Highway 3 (the southern route to the west coast) with a load limit of 72,000 pounds and is never banned. Located on the main rail line of CP Rail, spur trackage is available.

A local airport provides use of a 3,000 foot paved, illuminated airstrip. Regional airlines are available in Medicine Hat (30 minutes east) or Lethbridge (60 minutes west).

Local trucking firms provide local, provincial, national and international intermodal freight services.

Labour force by industry 2006

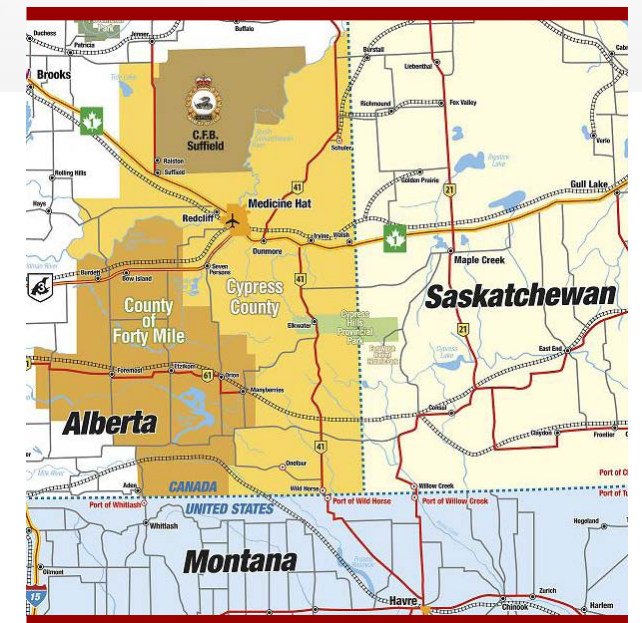
Agriculture	13.0%
Mining & manufacturing	4.7%
Construction	7.8%
Transportation & utilities	7.3%
Retail & wholesale	18.1%
Business & community services	10.9%
Public administration	3.6%
Health care & social assistance	16.1%
Education, recreation & cultural	18.7%

www.bowisland.com

- great climate
- low taxes
- diverse & trained workforce
- business ready

Utilities

Bow Island is fully serviced through local natural gas, telephone, and electrical companies and the water supply is owned and operated by the Town of Bow Island. The raw water supply is from the St. Mary River Irrigation District and the town has on-site raw water storage in excess of 150 million gallons.



Key Contacts

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The Economic Development Alliance (EDA) of Southeast Alberta represents the economic development interests of the City of Medicine Hat, Town of Redcliff, Town of Bow Island, County of Forty Mile and Cypress Country. Its role is to encourage economic investment and work with existing businesses in the region to expand or access new markets.

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Climate

The longest summers in Alberta with an average of 2500 hours of sunlight and sandy loam soil are well suited for irrigation and vegetable production. It all ensures ideal growing conditions for Bow Island industry.

Taxation 2009 mill rates

Residential	8.8555%
Non-residential	12.8410%

Community lifestyle

The residents of Bow Island are proud of their value-driven health care facilities, varied community organizations and substantial recreational amenities.

Health care

Bow Island is home to a 30-bed fully accredited Acute/Continuing Care hospital, medical clinics and mental health services and addictions counseling.

Housing

Over 75% of the residents live in single-detached homes but apartments and semi-detached houses are also available. Value of 2007 development permits for new houses was \$14.8M.

Income

Average after tax family income was \$59,314 in 2006.

Recreational highlights

- 3 local parks
- golf course & club house
- arena & curling rink
- ball diamond complex
- swimming pool
- popular events like the annual Blues Fest



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