The Chamber is a member-driven, volunteer-led organization, proud representing the interests of businesses in our region, and working diligently to stimulate a strengthened and vibrant economy through our connections, support and influence. For more than 115 years, the Chamber has stood for promoting business, monitoring government and championing managed growth in the local economy. The Chamber represents over 800 businesses in our region and is aligned with both the Alberta Chambers of Commerce (ACC), which represents over 25,000 businesses and the Canadian Chambers of Commerce (CCC), which represents over 200,000 businesses. With the largest and most influential business organizations locally, provincially and federally, the Chamber is the most united, valued and influential business network in Canada and works together to shape policy and programs that will make a difference to businesses in our region.

Alberta’s Open for Summer Plan (Stage 3):
Alberta’s open for summer plan is a three-stage roadmap to lifting health restrictions and safely getting back to business as some targets are met. The province is planning to enter Stage 3 on July 1st. Two weeks after 70% of Albertans 12+ have received at least one dose, the province will enter the Stage 3 summer plan include:

- All restrictions will be lifted, including ban on indoor social gatherings
- Isolation requirements for confirmed cases of COVID-19 and some protective measures in continuing order settings remain
- The general provincial indoor mask will be lifted, but mask will still be required in limited and specific settings.
- More information will be shared prior to the start of Stage 3.

For a list of all changes please visit: https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=7934477F07AEA-A035-C928-08F2CE679254D785

New Canada Recovery Hiring Program:
The Canada Recovery Hiring Program would help hard-hit businesses in Alberta with up to $50 per eligible employee, with a focus on new hires. The plan is designed to interact with the Wage Subsidy and the Wage Subsidy Job Creation Tax Credit, in a way that allows employers to claim both at the same time. The proposed大自然里德 with the Hiring Program is the hiring of any worker who have multiple years of work experience. There will also be a proposed extension of the hiring program in the next stage. The program would run for 12 months through the pandemic. The Wage Subsidy and the Wage Subsidy Job Creation Tax Credit. These programs will be expiring in a month however this proposal extended the support date to May 2021. Both the Hiring Program and proposed extension of the Hiring Program are set to expire on June 30th, 2021. This will provide businesses with the liquidity support they need to invest in recovery.

New Prairie-focused regional development Agency
Budget 2021 is the Government of Canada’s plan to finish the job against COVID-19 and ensure a robust economic recovery that is inclusive for all Canadians. Budget 2021 is an investment to address the impacts of he COVID-19 recession, put people first, create jobs, provide middle class, set businesses on track for long-term growth and ensure that Canada’s future will be healthier, more equitable, greener and more prosperous.

Budget 2021 will establish a new agency for the Prairie provinces to play an even richer role as convenor, pathfinder, partner, investor, and advisor to support economic development in more communities. Growing Western Economic Diversification Canada into two new separate agencies is crucial for the provinces of British Columbia is recognized that economic recovery programs are different in each of the two regions. To support innovative, institutions, and communities have their roots linked to where they are located. Budget 2021 is a plan to flip the switch between Canadians and Canadian businesses through the crisis and to a prosperous recovery and put Canada on track to make it a commitment to create a million jobs by the end of the year.

MONTHLY NEWS TUNE UP:
Apply for the UFA Rural Community Commercial & Economic Development Community Grant Program:
Groups who are eligible to apply include Indigenous organizations, the Canada Revenue Agency, tax-exempt organizations who are registered with either the federal or municipal government and community service organizations. The deadline is August 31, 2021 (ADD MORE)

Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program:
The Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program (SRP) provides up to $25 million over four years for smart renewables and electrification modernization programs. This program will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions by electrifying industrial processes and providing another essential grid services while supporting Canada’s equitable transition to an electrified economy.

The SRP’s direct financial support to eligible renewable energy and grid modernization projects during the construction phase.
Projects are required to use market technologies and apply modernization solutions that will provide workplaces diversity, equity and inclusion. The projects that are eligible for this funding include Established Renewables, Emerging Technologies, and Grid Modernization. A quantity of this funding will be reserved for Indigenous projects. Further projects may qualify for increased funding.

Black Entrepreneurship Program:
The Black Entrepreneurship Program (BEP) is a partnership between the Government of Canada, Black-led business organizations, and financial institutions. With investments of up to $350.8 million over four years, it will support Black entrepreneurs and business owners and entrepreneurs across Canada to start, grow, and scale their businesses and achieve their full potential in the future. It provides loans, grants and other forms of support that help Black entrepreneurs on their road to success.

To learn more visit: www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/150.nsf/eng/h_x00000.html

BECOME A SPONSOR OR PARTNER! GIVE BACK AWARDS: CELEBRATING HEROES WITHIN:
You can help us recognize the unsung heroes in communities that have been called to duty in the pandemic—our essential workers, and volunteers. We will be recognizing the exemplary heroes within our community business and community to be celebrated. Reach out to events@medicinehatchamber.com to discuss sponsorship.

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