

# Welcome to Brazeau County

## Agriculture

### Industry is in Our Nature

The wide range of industries operating in Brazeau County – oil & gas, agriculture, forestry, bio energy and tourism – bring more opportunities for employment and business than ever before, making Brazeau County one of the most desirable places to live and work in Canada. When you add economic vitality to natural beauty and a healthy community, you get a place that thousands of people want to call home. And every year more people are calling Brazeau County home, settling in our region with big hopes for the future and for their families.

### Agriculture

#### Harvest Alberta's Cash Crops

Brazeau County's agriculture sector is primarily beef cattle production with the majority of farms operating primarily as cow/calf operations with some diversification in grains and oilseed cultivation. Oats and barley are traditionally the major grain crops grown in the area with canola being the main oilseed, cultivated similarly to many other municipalities in Central and Northern Alberta. Forage production is the most important crop in the county and is grown on the majority of productive land in use.

#### Brazeau County's Land Delivers

The agriculture industry has been the backbone of Brazeau County's local economy for generations, providing the surrounding communities and residents with ample food, work and new business opportunities. The time is ripe for outside investment to contribute to and profit from the ever-expanding business that surrounds our abundant crops, cattle and even honeybee farms populating and enriching our county and province.

Spanning over 3,000 square kilometres with close to 500 farms operating at one time, there's still plenty of room for new businesses to plant roots. On top of the vast expanses of land available for agricultural use, Brazeau County is also home to thousands of skilled workers ready to take on new employment in a growing industry.

#### Quick Stats:

Brazeau County has the second highest farm receipts for the West Yellowhead region with key crops of oats, alfalfa, and hay. Total agriculture receipts from the 2011 census of agriculture estimates \$26,140,315 with livestock and poultry valued for the county at: \$25,439,276.

#### Livestock Amounts

Cattle and Calves	29,000
Horses and Ponies	2,100
Bison	1,250

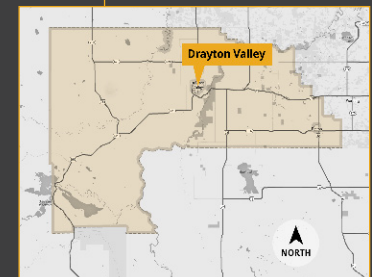
#### Farm Numbers and Size

Number of Farm Operators	745
Number of Farms	487
Area of Land in Crops (Acres)	91,345

Source: 2011 Census of Agriculture Estimates – Statistics Canada

### Location

Established in 1988, Brazeau County is located approximately 160 kilometres southwest of Edmonton and is home to the Town of Drayton Valley and the Village of Breton.



### Fast Facts:

- Youthful workforce with average age of 37
- Labour force participation rate of 75.5%
- Competitive taxations rates for commercial, residential and industrial Land (see table on other side)
- High average household income of \$80,127.00
- Well educated workforce – 42% of Brazeau County adults have post-secondary education

Discover how Brazeau County can help your business.

Call the Economic Development and Planning Department at 780-524-2667

## Demographics

	Drayton Valley	Brazeau County	Breton	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Combined</i>
Pop. in 2011	7,045	7,195	495	14,735
0 to 4 y/o	575	450	30	1,055
5 to 9 y/o	485	475	25	985
10 to 14 y/o	455	495	30	990
15 to 19 y/o	525	555	30	1,110
20 to 24 y/o	500	420	25	945
25 to 29 y/o	670	425	35	1,130
30 to 34 y/o	575	410	25	1,010
35 to 39 y/o	465	450	25	940
40 to 44 y/o	465	535	35	1,035
45 to 49 y/o	520	660	40	1,220
50 to 54 y/o	450	700	35	1,185
55 to 59 y/o	385	540	40	965
60 to 64 y/o	240	385	20	645
65 to 69 y/o	205	290	25	520
70 to 74 y/o	145	210	20	375
75 to 79 y/o	150	110	30	290
80 to 84 y/o	130	60	10	200
85+ y/o	105	25	15	145
Median age of population	32.7	39.4	41.6	
% of population age 15 and over	78.4	80.3	81.9	

*Source: Statistics Canada 2011 Census*

## Tax Rates

Drayton Valley	
Residential/Farmland	Non-residential
5.36%	11.57%

Brazeau County	
Residential/Farmland	Non-residential
2.00%	9.04%

Breton	
Residential/Farmland	Non-residential
8.73%	11.66%

*Source: Alberta Municipal Affairs*

## Education Level

Brazeau County Adults (25 & up) with Post-secondary Education	
University	7%
College	15%
Trades	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>42%</b>

*Source: Statistics Canada 2011*

## Climate

Month	High	Low	Rain	Snowfall	Sunlight
January	-7.0 °C	-16.0 °C	1.7 mm	25.2 cm	8 hours
February	-6.0 °C	-17.0 °C	1.4 mm	18.0 cm	9 hours
March	1.0 °C	-10.0 °C	1.8 mm	18.6 cm	12 hours
April	11.0 °C	-2.0 °C	14.0 mm	12.8 cm	14 hours
May	18.0 °C	4.0 °C	49.5 mm	4.7 cm	16 hours
June	21.0 °C	8.0 °C	98.0 mm	0.0 cm	17 hours
July	24.0 °C	11.0 °C	106.0 mm	0.0 cm	16 hours
August	22.0 °C	8.0 °C	73.5 mm	0.1 cm	14 hours
September	17.0 °C	4.0 °C	46.3 mm	1.6 cm	12 hours
October	11.0 °C	-1.0 °C	13.3 mm	9.5 cm	10 hours
November	1.0 °C	-9.0 °C	3.0 mm	20.2 cm	8 hours
December	-7.0 °C	-16.0 °C	1.3 mm	23.2 cm	7 hours

*Source: Environment Canada Climate Normals*