

Helping coal communities diversify

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The Alberta government is supporting locally led projects that will create new jobs and increase regional economic development in coal communities.

The Coal Community Transition Fund will support 12 projects in 17 communities across the province. Total funding for the communities is about \$5 million.

Projects include:

- work to expand economic hubs, including agribusiness, transportation and high-tech industries
- tourism development
- strategic planning
- feasibility studies to help communities diversify and expand their local economies

“Coal communities have a proud history of helping power a prosperous and industrious province, and we want them to continue to be places where people can build a good life for themselves and their families. That’s why we are supporting these projects, brought forward by local leaders, that will help grow and diversify their regional economies.”

Deron Bilous, Minister of Economic Development and Trade

“The transition away from coal creates a lot of uncertainty for families in our community, and we want to create a plan that works for us. With support from this fund, we will work together to build a diversified economy for the future.”

Charlene Smylie, mayor, Village of Wabamun

The government encouraged coal communities to apply to the Coal Community Transition Fund and worked individually with each proponent during the application and review process.

The Coal Community Transition Fund is one of a number of measures the Government of Alberta is taking to support coal communities and workers. Last fall, government announced the

Related information

[Coal Workforce Transition Program](#)

[Coal Community Transition Fund](#)

[Advisory Panel on Coal Communities](#)

Media inquiries

Jean-Marc Prevost

jean-marc.prevost@gov.ab.ca

780-644-8554

Press Secretary

Office of the Minister

Economic Development and Trade

Coal Workforce Transition Program for workers affected by the coal phase-out. The program includes a \$40-million fund to provide income support to workers transitioning from working in Alberta's thermal coal mines and coal-fired power plants to new jobs or retirement. In addition, the program provides employment and retraining supports, such as tuition vouchers, third-party retraining programs that offer employment placement, job matching and options for work exposure, as well as a variety of professional certification courses.

Both initiatives are in response to the Advisory Panel on Coal Communities. The province continues to work with the federal government to ensure it does its part to support coal communities and workers.

Background

Applicant	Total Funding
Battle River Region (includes Village of Halkirk, Village of Forestburg, Town of Castor, Town of Coronation, Flagstaff County, County of Paintearth No. 18)	\$1,750,000
Leduc County	\$250,000
Paul First Nation	\$250,000
Special Areas No. 2	\$290,000
Spruce Grove	\$255,000
Stony Plain	\$250,000
Town of Grande Cache	\$325,000
Town of Hanna	\$455,775
Town of Thorsby	\$245,000
Village of Wabamun	\$347,000
Village of Warburg	\$375,000
Village of Youngstown	\$76,800
Total	\$4,869,575