



Architecture Engineering and Construction

Industry at a Glance

Building on a long-established excellence in civil, structural, municipal and environmental disciplines, Alberta's architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) firms are skilled in the design and construction of major projects. The industry continues to grow due to Alberta's strong infrastructure and active resource development.

The sector's firms design, specify and procure equipment, materials and subcontract services that result in significant benefits to industry. AEC firms are integral to the success of Alberta's economy, providing the specialized expertise needed to design, obtain regulatory approvals, build, and maintain assets once projects are built. Finally, they also have the needed expertise to demolish and reclaim those assets at the end of their useful lives.

Fast Facts

- (AEC) firms make a significant contribution to Alberta's economy, accounting for 10% of the province's gross domestic product (GDP).
- Alberta's AEC sector comprises 25,000 firms that together generate annual revenues of more than \$57 billion.
- 310,000 Albertans employed in this sector have succeeded in developing strong and diverse world-class skills. About another 400,000 Alberta workers are dependent on this sector.
- Exports are valued at between \$500 and \$600 million, over 80% attributed to consulting engineering.
- There are more engineers and geoscience professionals in Alberta per capita than in any other Canadian province.

Areas of Expertise

- Coal extraction and processing
- Construction management
- Environmental architecture, engineering and construction
- Electric power and cogeneration projects
- Infrastructure and transportation
- Mining
- Oil and gas exploration, development and processing
- Oil sands development
- Pipeline design and construction
- Project management
- Winter construction technology and techniques
- Telecommunications

- **Architectural services** offered in Alberta include: facility management, building programming, restoration and renovation planning, and environmentally green architecture.
- **The Engineering sector**'s major strength lies in the consulting engineering and geoscience industry. Several large engineering contractors in Alberta provide engineering, procurement, and construction services (EPC), particularly to industrial process plant projects. The engineering sector supports oil and gas production facilities who work in concert with our competitive petroleum equipment packagers.
- **The Construction sector** is made up of both general and specialty contracting firms and tradespeople. Construction service providers are engaged in industrial, commercial, institutional, and residential construction and also handle infrastructure, renovation, and repair projects, as well as providing maintenance services.



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Future Opportunities

- Despite the recent global economic slowdown, the energy industry will remain one of the main driving forces of growth.
- Residential construction, commercial construction, large capital projects and a commitment by all levels of government to implement infrastructure projects will provide healthy growth for the AEC sector in the coming years.
- New housing starts will drive residential construction. The renovation market is also expected to perform well, subject to mortgage rates staying at a reasonable level.
- In the engineering field, service requirements in oil and gas, electricity, roads and bridges, pipelines, transit systems and petrochemicals are expected to be strong.

How we Can Help

The Alberta Government can provide your company with contacts, potential partnerships and investment opportunities in the architecture, engineering and construction sector in the province. We can help you:

- Gain insight into the challenges and opportunities of the AEC sector in Alberta;
- Build strategic alliances with local and international partners; and
- Connect you with local business development representatives.

Industry Resources

Visit the Architecture, Engineering and Construction homepage at www.albertacanada.com/aec to learn about:

- Industry facts and opportunities
- Policies and regulations
- Key stakeholders and industry associations
- News and events

Contact information

For further information about Alberta's Architecture, Engineering and Construction sector, please contact:

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