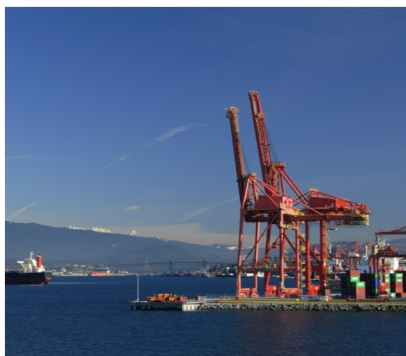




WEST AT A GLANCE – NOVEMBER

DECEMBER 2016



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PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENTS – NOVEMBER

British Columbia

- **Joint federal-provincial \$90 million investment for SFU** – The Governments of Canada and B.C. [announced](#) a \$90 million joint investment in Vancouver's Simon Fraser University (SFU). The money will fund a new building for energy systems and environmental engineering degree programs, as well as the mechatronics systems engineering program, which combines the fields of mechanical, electrical and software engineering with entrepreneurship and business. The building will allow SFU to expand its research in the energy, hydrogen, electricity and liquefied natural gas sectors. In total, the project is worth \$126 million, with investments that include: \$45 million from the federal government; \$45 million from the B.C. government; \$26 million from SFU and private donors toward a second phase of the project; and \$10 million worth of land contributed by SFU.
- **Province invests \$13 million in drug research and development** – B.C. Health Minister Terry Lake [announced](#) \$13 million in funding for the Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD) to help support drug research. This funding adds to B.C.'s previous investment of \$29 million for CDRD announced in 2012. The funding will support the translation of basic health research from academic institutions into products that improve human health. The centre is widely recognized internationally as a leader in translating research into practice, and has established innovation funds with top pharmaceutical companies including GlaxoSmithKline, Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer. Federal funding for CDRD includes \$32 million from Budget 2016 in addition to \$3.1 million in previous funding from WD.
- **B.C. tax competitiveness report recommends tax reforms, exemptions** – The B.C. government will study [recommendations](#) from the Commission on Tax Competitiveness' final report, titled *Improving BC's Tax Competitiveness*. The report makes four recommendations to encourage investment. One among these is to exempt businesses from B.C.'s seven-per-cent provincial sales tax (PST) on capital expenses for items such as machinery and equipment, which would cost the province \$640 million every year. Another is to exempt PST on energy, such as electricity, which would cost \$520 million annually. The report also suggests implementing a made-in-B.C. value added tax (VAT). The PST was identified by the report as being a "major burden" on businesses which inhibits productivity.
- **Government of B.C. commits over \$500 million towards affordable housing** – The Government of British Columbia has [announced](#) a funding commitment of \$516 million towards 2,900 new housing units across the province. The new projects will increase housing options for low-to-moderate-income renters, seniors, youth, adults with developmental disabilities, Indigenous people, women and children.

Alberta

- **Alberta government delivers fiscal update** – The Government of Alberta [presented](#) the province's second quarter fiscal update on November 28, 2016. The update forecasts a deficit of \$10.8 billion for 2016-17, \$78 million lower than the first quarter update and \$449 million higher than estimated in Budget 2016. The increase is primarily due to the impact of the Wood Buffalo wildfire, as well as other factors. Total revenue is forecast at \$42.7 billion, up \$1.3 billion from Budget 2016,



PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENTS - NOVEMBER (CONTINUED)

primarily due to increased non-renewable resource revenue, federal transfers, and investment income. Provincial expenses increased by a net total of \$1.7 billion from Budget to \$52.8 billion, attributed mainly to increased operating expenses, disaster assistance and capital grants. The Government of Alberta forecasts that the province's economy will begin to recover in 2017, with real gross domestic product (GDP) expected to grow by 2.3 percent. Recovery will be supported by wildfire reconstruction, an anticipated rebound in oil production, additional investments in public-sector infrastructure, and modest improvements in the price of oil. The Government of Alberta is forecasting oil prices of US\$45/bbl, US\$3/bbl more than in Budget 2016.

- **Alberta begins coal transition plan** – The Government of Alberta has [announced](#) agreements with TransAlta, Capital Power, and ATCO to end coal-fired emissions by December 31, 2030. The agreements will see the companies provided with transition payments for investments that have been reduced in value by the transition away from coal-fired generation. The electricity companies will receive annual payments until 2030, totalling \$1.1 billion in 2016 dollars. The payments will be fully funded by Alberta's price on industrial carbon emissions.
- **Government of Alberta announces new energy market plans** – The Government of Alberta is [creating](#) a "capacity market" for electricity, where private power generators are paid through a mix of a competitively auctioned payment of their fixed costs and prices from the spot market. The market will be developed in consultation with stakeholders and will be in place by 2021. The Government of Alberta will also [implement](#) a rate ceiling on electricity prices. Between June 2017 and June 2021, the province's rate ceiling will ensure that Albertans pay no more than 6.8 cents per kilowatt hour.
- **New program to benefit Indigenous post-secondary students** – The Government of Alberta is [providing](#) \$7 million in scholarships to First Nations, Métis and Inuit students for post-secondary programs in high-demand fields. Eligible undergraduate students may receive up to \$4,000 per year, while graduate students may receive up to \$15,000 per year. The Government of Alberta anticipates that up to 1,500 students will benefit from the awards annually. The 2015-16 pilot of this program provided 940 students with more than \$4.3 million in grants.
- **Alberta signs MOU with Port of Vancouver** – The Government of Alberta and Vancouver Fraser Port Authority have [signed](#) a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to identify ways to improve access to world markets for Alberta products. The MOU outlines several steps to achieve this goal, including conducting annual meetings between senior executives on best practices and policies, while coordinating and supporting Alberta industry to be export-ready. It also coordinates engagement of trade and investment attraction activities, seeking opportunities to increase investment at the port in order to bring Alberta exports to market, and designating officers to carry out ongoing engagement with Alberta firms. The Port of Vancouver is Alberta's largest marine export point in Canada.
- **Alberta introduces new Renewable Electricity Program** – The Government of Alberta has [introduced](#) its Renewable Electricity Program, which will be administered by the Alberta Electric System Operator. The program is expected to add 5,000 megawatts of renewable electricity capacity by 2030, and help the province achieve its target of 30 percent renewable electricity by that time. The Government of Alberta will launch an initial procurement competition for up to 400 megawatts of renewable energy in 2017. Successful projects will be privately funded and supported by the province through reinvesting a portion of carbon revenues collected from large industrial emitters. The province estimates these projects could result in \$10.5 billion in new investment in Alberta by 2030, and will create 7,200 jobs. The *Renewable Electricity Act*, which will provide a legislative framework for the program, will be introduced at a later date.
- **Legislation to cap oil sands emissions** – The Government of Alberta has [introduced](#) legislation to cap oil sands greenhouse gas emissions at 100 megatonnes per year, with allowances for new upgrading and co-generation. Oil sands operations currently emit 70 megatonnes per year, without limit, and are charged a Specified Gas Emitter Regulation levy based on individual facilities' historical emissions. Under the province's Climate Leadership Plan, an oil sands specific emission performance standard will be introduced, with a \$30/tonne carbon price applied to comparatively low-performance oil sands facilities. The Government of Alberta expects that these changes will create a more innovative and competitive oil sands sector as producers are incentivized to lower emissions and increase efficiency.
- **New funding for methane emissions management** – Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA), formerly Alberta's Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation (CCEMC), will [receive](#) an additional \$33 million to help reduce methane emissions in the province, bringing total funding for ERA to \$40 million. The ERA will provide successful applicants with up to \$5 million for projects that reduce methane emissions in the oil and gas, agriculture and landfill sectors as well as those that improve methane detection and quantification. The funding is part of the Government of Alberta's Climate Leadership Plan, which aims to reduce methane emissions by 45 percent by 2025. Since 2009, the ERA/CCEMC has committed approximately \$300 million to more than 100 [projects](#) related to clean energy production, carbon capture and storage, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.



PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENTS - NOVEMBER (CONTINUED)

Saskatchewan

- **Saskatchewan Government delivers mid-year financial report** – The Government of Saskatchewan [released](#) its mid-year financial report on November 22, 2016. Continued low oil and potash prices are having a greater impact on revenue than forecasted, pushing the current deficit to \$1.04 billion at mid-year 2016-17. To move towards fiscal balance, the provincial government has cut spending by \$217 million across government, imposed a hiring freeze, and pledged further cost-cutting in the next budget.
- **Government of Saskatchewan announces changes to senior public service** – Deputy Minister to the Premier, Alanna Koch, [announced](#) several changes to the leadership of the province's public service on December 1, 2016. Lin Gallagher, previously the Deputy Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, has been appointed Deputy Minister of Environment, while the previous Deputy Minister of Environment, Cam Swan, has been appointed Special Advisor to the Deputy Minister to the Premier with responsibility for transformational change priorities. Tammy Kirkland has been appointed Deputy Minister of Government Relations and First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs, to replace Al Hilton, who is leaving the Government of Saskatchewan. Previously, Kirkland served as Assistant Deputy Minister of Social Services. Koch also announced that Glen Gardner will assume the position of Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General on January 16, 2017, pending retirement of Deputy Minister Kevin Fenwick.
- **Canada and Saskatchewan reach equivalency agreement on coal-fired electricity** – The Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan have reached a deal in principle on an [Equivalency Agreement](#) for Canada's coal-fired electricity regulation. Once finalized, the agreement will allow Saskatchewan to meet or exceed federal emission requirements across its electricity sector. As a result, the province may continue to use coal-fired electricity beyond 2030 provided equivalent emission reductions are achieved elsewhere, giving Saskatchewan more flexibility in transitioning out from coal-fired electricity generation. The agreement also recognizes Saskatchewan's investment in carbon capture and storage technology.
- **Canada and Saskatchewan offer joint funding for water infrastructure upgrades** – The Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan partnered on [joint funding](#) towards a project in Weyburn, Saskatchewan that includes the construction of a new reservoir, upgrades to existing water infrastructure and improved treatments to the city's drinking water. The federal and provincial governments will invest up to \$5.3 million each for this project through the Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component, and Weyburn will be responsible for all remaining costs, up to a total of \$15.9 million.
- **New Analytics Centre of Excellence in Saskatchewan** – The Government of Saskatchewan and ISM Canada announced the creation of a new [Analytics Centre of Excellence](#) at Innovation Place Research Park at the University of Regina campus. The facility will allow the government and ISM's partners to better analyze large amounts of information, leading to programs and services that are responsive to the needs of clients. It will have three major functions: acting as a social innovation hub, an analytics ecosystem, and a tele-presence facility—allowing the Centre to host speakers and experts from around the world without the added travel expense.

Manitoba

- **Northern Co-Chairs named** – Christian Sinclair, Chief of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, and Chuck Davidson, President and CEO of the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce, [have been named](#) as co-chairs of Manitoba's Northern Economic Development Strategy. In addition, a request for proposals has been issued to identify a partner organization that will work with the Manitoba government and the co-chairs on the final development and implementation of the strategy.
- **Governments invest in food research** – A new \$1-million nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) imager [has been installed](#) at the Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine (CCARM). It is used to detect different chemical compounds in food, making it possible to isolate those with health benefits. Another \$340,000 will create a new position for a health economist at the University of Winnipeg, in partnership with CCARM, to determine the economic impact of research on functional foods and nutraceuticals.
- **Manitoba joins the New West Partnership** – [On November 17](#), Manitoba formally joined the New West Partnership alongside British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Partnership brings the four western provinces together in an open market of more than 11 million people with a combined GDP of over \$750 billion. The agreement commits each jurisdiction to enhance trade, investment and labour mobility, and to remove barriers to movement of goods, services, investment and people within and between the provinces.
- **Manitoba Throne Speech** – The Honourable Janice C. Filmon, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, delivered the [Speech from the Throne](#) to open the second session of the 41st Legislature. The speech focused on fiscal balance, reviewing and improving services to citizens, and building the provincial economy, with a commitment to make Manitoba the country's most improved province by 2020.








NEWS AND OPINIONS HIGHLIGHTS - NOVEMBER

- **Government of Canada announces pipeline decisions** – The Government of Canada has announced decisions on four proposed pipelines in Western Canada. On October 31, the Government [approved](#) TransCanada's NOVA Gas Transmission Project. On November 29, Ottawa [conditionally approved](#) Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain expansion and Enbridge's Line 3 Replacement projects, but rejected Enbridge's Northern Gateway Pipeline. The approvals were applauded by many in Alberta and Saskatchewan, who hope these decisions will spur the creation of jobs in the oil sands and elsewhere. The decisions were swiftly condemned by some First Nations groups whose lands could be affected by the pipelines, as well as Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson.
- **Line 3 pipeline to be built in Saskatchewan** – Evraz North America [applauded](#) the federal government's decision to approve the construction of both the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain expansion and the Enbridge Line 3 projects. Evraz announced that the majority of the pipe for the Enbridge Line 3 replacement project will be made at its Regina facility. Evraz is investing over US\$220 million to upgrade the steel production capabilities at the Regina site. Because of the facility's low emissions profile and its proximity to the Line 3 route, making the pipeline in Regina minimizes the project's carbon footprint.
- **Competitiveness of Alberta's royalty regime** – A recent [paper](#) by the University of Calgary's School of Public Policy found that the Government of Alberta's changes to the royalty system for conventional oil production, which come into effect in 2017, will create a more lucrative environment for investors in this sector. They will also help to move Alberta from one of the highest to one of the lowest marginal effective tax and royalty rate (METRR) jurisdictions globally, increasing the province's competitiveness in comparison to both Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Under the current regime, conventional oil producers in Alberta face a METRR of 35 percent. This will be reduced to 26.7 percent once the new royalty regime comes into effect.
- **Magellan contract extended two years** – The contract for Winnipeg-based Magellan Aerospace to build parts for the F-35 fighter jet [has been extended](#) for two years. The contract, with BAE Aerospace, is worth \$70 million revenue to Magellan and employs 150 people in Winnipeg.
- **Tolko sells paper mill, preserving 300 jobs** – On November 10, BC-based Tolko Industries [announced](#) the purchase of their mill in The Pas by Canadian Kraft Paper Industries. The purchase agreement, which will allow the mill's 300 employees to keep their jobs, includes a five year wage cut, three year moratorium on pension-solvency payments, and a three-year municipal tax break. The mill was scheduled to close in December, and is the largest employer in The Pas.
- **US lobby group files petition asking for investigation of Canadian softwood shipments** – The US Lumber Coalition, a lobby group representing US forest industry interests, [filed a petition](#) with the US Department of Commerce (DoC) requesting an investigation into Canadian softwood lumber shipments. The lobby group alleges that the system of stumpage fees charged by Canadian provinces for timber rights on crown land results in below-market costs for Canadian producers, and thus negatively impacts the US industry and its workers. The US and Canadian governments have been negotiating towards a new bilateral agreement on softwood lumber trade. The previous agreement expired in 2015, and a one-year standstill period on new trade sanctions expired on October 12, 2016. With the launch of a DoC investigation, Canadian producers could see countervailing duties imposed on US-bound softwood lumber shipments as early as Spring 2017. International Trade Minister Chrystia Freeland's office issued a statement saying Canada "will vigorously defend the interests of Canadian workers and producers." This is likely to take the form of petitions with the World Trade Organization and under the North American Free Trade Agreement. Both of these bodies ruled in Canada's favour in past disputes over softwood lumber. In a statement, BC Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Steve Thomson said, "We encourage the US government to review previous cases and determine that the US industry allegations against Canada and B.C. are unfounded."
- **GE Digital buys B.C. startup for US\$153 million** – Bit Stew Systems, a Vancouver-based software developer in the industrial-Internet-of-Things sector, has been [acquired](#) by General Electric for its GE Digital business. The deal is valued at US\$153 million—one of the largest exits of a company backed by venture capital in Vancouver's tech scene. It also represents the largest exit to date for early investor Yaletown Partners, which led Bit Stew's \$5.4-million Series A round in 2013, generating a sevenfold return on that initial investment. GE says they will continue to expand from Vancouver, incorporating Bit Stew's technology into its own industrial systems.
- **Saskatchewan CEO named Canadian Entrepreneur of the Year** – Murad Al Katib, president and CEO of Regina-based AGT Food and Ingredients, was [named](#) this year's Canadian Ernest & Young Entrepreneur of the Year. AGT is one of the largest suppliers of pulses in the world, growing to become a \$1.7 billion-a-year business. Mr. Al Katib attributed the award to the exponential growth of pulse crops in the province transforming Saskatchewan into a global leader.



KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS - NOVEMBER

	 British Columbia	 Alberta	 Saskatchewan	 Manitoba	 Canada	Last Update
Gross Domestic Product						
Real GDP¹ (2007 \$billions, forecast)	\$214	\$292	\$58	\$55	\$1,673	2016 (f)
% ch. from year earlier	3.0%	-2.0%	0.2%	2.1%	1.5%	
Labour Market						
Employment (SA, thousands)	2,400	2,273	567	633	18,161	Oct-16
Change from previous month	14.9	9.0	-2.4	0.9	43.9	
% ch. from previous month	0.6%	0.4%	-0.4%	0.1%	0.2%	
% ch. from year earlier	2.4%	-1.1%	-1.8%	-1.3%	0.8%	
Unemployment Rate (SA,%)	6.2%	8.5%	6.9%	6.4%	7.1%	Oct-16
percentage points from previous month	0.5	0.0	0.1	0	0	
percentage points from year earlier	-0.2	1.9	1.2	1	0	
Regular EI beneficiaries (SA)	54,410	90,380	19,490	15,400	571,790	Sep-16
Change from previous month	470	220	1770	180	3,290	
% ch. from previous month	0.9%	0.2%	10.0%	1.2%	0.6%	
% ch. from previous year	-0.4%	55.0%	35.5%	4.1%	4.6%	
Average weekly earnings	\$921.43	\$1,117.95	\$981.87	\$891.60	\$957.27	Sep-16
Change from previous year	\$9.48	-\$19.42	-\$1.10	\$12.48	\$3.94	
Prices						
CPI (y/y)	2.1%	0.5%	0.8%	1.1%	1.5%	Oct-16
CPI (y/y) previous month	1.8%	0.5%	1.1%	1.3%	1.3%	Sep-16
Consumers and Business						
Retail Sales (SA, \$millions)	\$6,308	\$6,102	\$1,530	\$1,588	\$44,375	Sep-16
% ch. from previous month	0.9%	0.3%	-0.3%	-0.8%	0.6%	
% ch. from previous year	5.5%	-3.1%	-1.7%	2.4%	2.2%	
Manufacturing Sales (SA, \$millions)	\$3,933	\$5,299	\$1,239	\$1,437	\$51,467	Sep-16
% ch. from previous month	0.6%	-0.4%	1.0%	-1.0%	0.3%	
% ch. from previous year	9.3%	-5.2%	8.4%	1.4%	1.0%	
Building Permits (SA, \$millions)	\$996	\$1,120	\$143	\$200	\$6,854	Sep-16
% ch. from previous month	-13.3%	10.4%	-4.7%	-23.8%	-7.0%	
% ch. from previous year	-6.5%	-21.2%	-52.9%	-7.5%	-1.6%	
Housing Starts (SAAR, thousands)	48	29	5	5	219	Sep-16
% ch. from previous month	33.7%	47.4%	-25.2%	6.1%	19.1%	
% ch. from previous year	65.4%	-21.6%	28.8%	-38.7%	-6.0%	
International Trade						
Merchandise Exports (\$millions)	\$3,285	\$6,728	\$2,565	\$1,039	\$39,837	Sep-16
% ch. from previous month	0.4%	-4.3%	21.0%	0.5%	0.7%	
% ch. from previous year	7.6%	-16.0%	-6.5%	-21.2%	-5.2%	
Merchandise Imports (\$millions)	\$4,410	\$1,945	\$665	\$1,643	\$47,429	Sep-16
% ch. from previous month	2.7%	-0.4%	-2.9%	-2.4%	2.5%	
% ch. from previous year	-3.2%	-18.6%	-11.5%	-10.4%	2.7%	
Demographics						
Population (estimate)	4,751,612	4,252,879	1,150,632	1,318,128	36,286,425	Q3 2016
% ch. from previous year	1.5%	1.3%	1.5%	1.9%	1.2%	
Largest Cities (CMAs)	Vancouver (2,504,340)	Calgary (1,439,756)	Saskatoon (304,975)	Winnipeg* (793,428)		2015
	Victoria* (365,291)	Edmonton* (1,363,277)	Regina* (241,422)			

* Provincial Capital

¹ Real GDP at basic prices, forecast (Conference Board of Canada Provincial Outlook Spring 2016)

SA - Seasonally adjusted

SAAR - Seasonally adjusted at annual rates

Sources: Statistics Canada and Conference Board of Canada



UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Description	Location	Date
British Columbia			
Port of Vancouver	The Vancouver Board of Trade will host Port of Vancouver President and CEO Robin Silvester for his annual address.	Vancouver, BC	December 8, 2016
The Future of Vancouver International Airport	The Vancouver Board of Trade will host Craig Richmond, President and CEO of the Vancouver Airport Authority, for a keynote address.	Vancouver, BC	January 18, 2017
Vancouver Resource & Investment Conference 2017	Cambridge House International Inc. and Katusa Research will co-present the world's largest investment conference dedicated to resource exploration.	Vancouver, BC	January 22-23, 2017
AME Roundup 2017	The Association for Mineral Exploration (AME) will hold its annual Conference covering all aspects of mineral exploration.	Vancouver, BC	January 23-26, 2017
The Global Imbalance of Power	The Vancouver Board of Trade will host Jessica McDonald, President and CEO of BC Hydro, to discuss the global future of electricity and how BC fits into the picture.	Vancouver, BC	January 24, 2017
Western Business Outlook: Vancouver	The Conference Board of Canada will partner with the Vancouver Board of Trade to deliver its annual business outlook.	Vancouver, BC	January 27, 2017
Canadian Finance Forum 2017	The event will provide industry insights and a look at up-and-coming high-tech companies.	Vancouver, BC	February 8-9, 2017
Alberta			
Annual Aboriginal Oil and Gas Forum	The 15 th annual forum focused on how legislative and regulatory changes impact Aboriginal communities in Western and Northern Canada.	Banff, AB	December 1-2, 2016
International Oil Sands Tailings Conference	A conference bringing together experts and individuals interested in tailings technology and management in Alberta's oil sands industry.	Lake Louise, AB	December 4-7, 2016
Prospecting Calgary's GoldMind	One event in a series of roundtables to identify the unemployed and underemployed talent available in Calgary and bring forward ideas to get them back to work.	Calgary, AB	December 7, 2016
Fall Global Export Forecast Webinar 2016	Peter Hall, Vice-President and Chief Economist at Export Development Canada, provides insight on the major events influencing the world economy and their implications for Canadian exporters.	Webinar	December 7, 2016
2017 ESNA Economic Outlook Conference	An annual conference held by the Economics Society of Northern Alberta, presenting various economic and industry outlooks for the year ahead.	Edmonton, AB	December 8, 2016
2016 Alberta Export Awards	Honouring export success in Alberta as well as featuring speakers from industry who will share best practices on achieving cross-border excellence.	Edmonton, AB	December 8, 2016
Investing in Innovation Lunch and Learn	This lunch and learn session with MNP LLP, an accounting firm, will teach attendees about key performance indicators and scientific research and experimental development.	Calgary, AB	December 8, 2016



UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Event	Description	Location	Date
Beyond Line of Sight UAV Operations Discussion	A session discussing the potential of Unmanned Air Vehicle (UAV) operations to improved data acquisition and decision support in the oil and gas sector.	Calgary, AB	December 13, 2016
North American Business Accelerator Expert Workshop on Clean Technology	A two-day networking workshop connecting Canadian, American and Mexican business accelerators and highlighting the potential of valuable regional clean technology innovation ecosystems.	Calgary, AB	December 13-14, 2016
2017 Impact Luncheon	A lunch hosted by Edmonton Economic Development to celebrate the city's successes over the last year and discuss how a global mindset translates into a resilient economy.	Edmonton, AB	January 10, 2017
Energy Efficiency in Alberta Conference	The Alberta Energy Efficiency Alliance hosts this event, timed to coincide with the creation of Alberta's new energy efficiency agency.	Edmonton, AB	January 17, 2017
Tech Entrepreneur Space Launch Event	An event to celebrate the opening of a new downtown workspace for Edmonton's technology entrepreneurs.	Edmonton, AB	January 19, 2017
ConvergX – A Global Defence and Energy Conference	A global aerospace, defence, security and energy conference that aims to create investment and growth opportunities between sectors.	Calgary, AB	February 7-9, 2017
Big Data, Internet of Things & Machine Learning in Oil & Gas Canada Conference	The second annual conference, which will bring together more than 140 Canadian energy technology leaders to discuss the challenges of remaining profitable in the low oil price environment.	Calgary, AB	February 14-15, 2017
Western Aboriginal Consultation and Engagement	This event brings together participants from industry, Aboriginal communities and government for practical guidance to develop long-term partnerships.	Edmonton, AB	February 28-March 1, 2017
Saskatchewan			
2016 Breakfast Series – Mayor of Regina event	A Year in Review with Regina Mayor Michael Fougere.	Regina, SK	December 14, 2016
Pre-Budget Discussion – Luncheon Series	The Hon. Kevin Doherty, Saskatchewan Minister of Finance, delivers a presentation on "Keeping Saskatchewan Strong in Challenging Times".	Saskatoon, SK	December 16, 2016
Western Canadian Crop Production Show	The Western Canadian Crop Production Show has become Western Canada's premier grain industry showcase by presenting information to producers on the latest technology, services, and products.	Saskatoon, SK	January 10-11, 2017
CropShere 2017	Held in conjunction with the Western Canadian Crop Production Show, CropSphere 2017 will host sessions on market outlook, research, and agronomy.	Saskatoon, SK	January 10-11, 2017
2017 SABEX Awards	The Gala event honours Saskatoon region's finest businesses with awards in sustainability, community involvement, growth and expansion, and marketing.	Saskatoon, SK	February 9, 2017



UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Event	Description	Location	Date
Saskatoon Region Economic Outlook Forum 2017 hosted by the Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority (SREDA)	SREDA's annual Saskatoon Region Economic Outlook Forum provides a detailed and insightful look at the year ahead. It discusses the projected outlook for the local economy, the new economic growth drivers and SREDA's 2017 priorities to strengthen and grow the economy.	Saskatoon, SK	February 28, 2017
Manitoba			
Manitoba Environmental Industries Association (MEIA) Emerging Issues Conference	MEIA will partner with ECO Canada to host their annual conference. Issues discussed will include changing legislation, climate change and drinking-water quality.	Winnipeg, MB	December 1, 2016
Manitoba Precision Agriculture Workshop	The workshop features speakers explaining how UAV technologies can simplify farm operations and management, reduce risk, and help increase efficiencies, yields and profits.	Southport, MB	December 13, 2016
Manitoba AgDays	An annual exhibition of agricultural production expertise, technology and equipment for farmers and businesses from across Canada and the North-Central US.	Brandon, MB	January 17-19, 2017
Driving Innovation	A Manitoba conference focused on helping small and medium-sized businesses to keep abreast of new technologies, reach new markets and enhance productivity.	Winnipeg, MB	January 25-26, 2017
Crop Connect	This crop production and farm management conference includes a tradeshow and guest speakers on topics ranging from agronomy to finance.	Winnipeg, MB	February 15-16, 2017

Western Economic Diversification Canada

The role of Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) is to improve the long-term economic competitiveness of Western Canada by supporting programs and services that enhance innovation, business development, and community economic development. In addition, the department undertakes policy, advocacy and coordination activities in order to advance the interests of Western Canada in national economic decision-making.