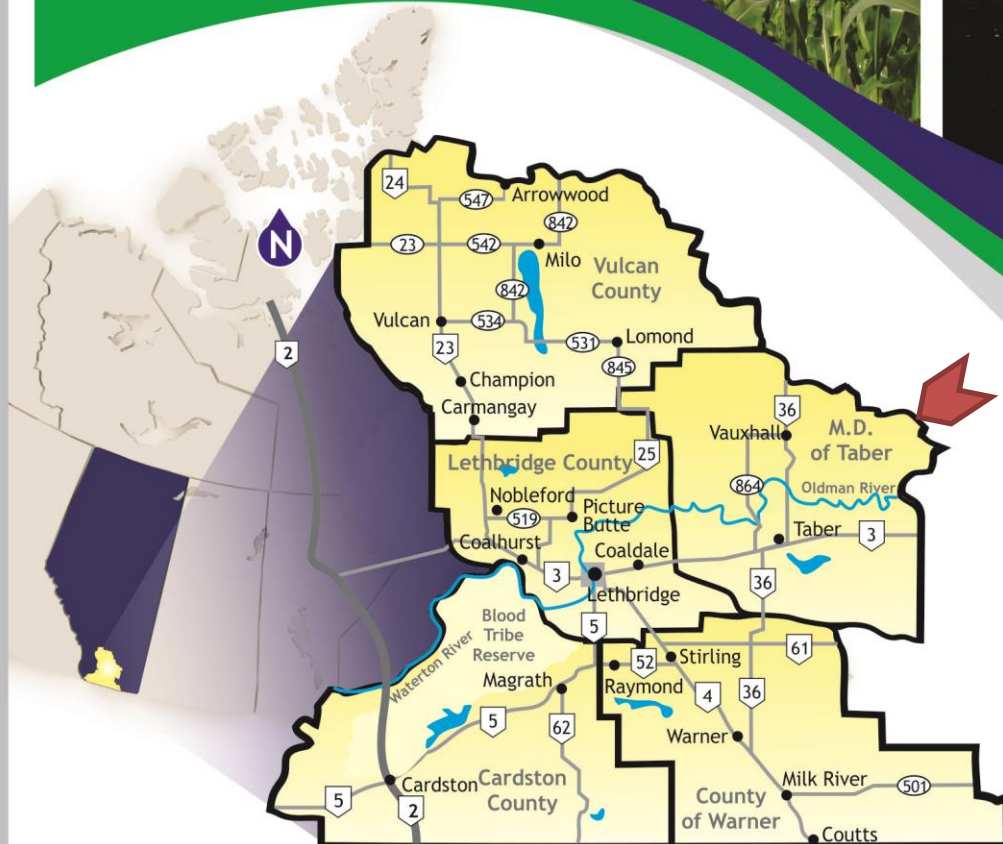
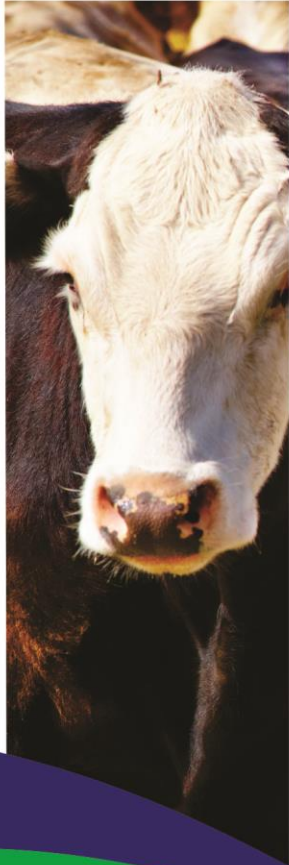


Municipal District of Taber

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY PROFILE



Welcome to the Municipal District of Taber

The M.D. of Taber is located in south central Alberta neighbouring with 6 other rural municipalities. Running east through the centre of the municipalities is the Oldman River that joins with the Bow River at our east boundary. The Bow River defines a majority of our north boundary and Chin Lakes as well as Chin Coulee defines the south.

We have access to primary highways 3, 36 and 25, as well as a number of secondary highways that provide key transportation corridors within the M.D. of Taber. These highways provide great access and routing to all major centres.

Within the M.D. of Taber are 5 hamlets:

- Grassy Lake, on Highway 3, 2.5 miles from the east boundary
- Hays, at the intersection of Highway 875 and 524
- Enchant, along Highway 526 in the northwest corner of M.D.
- Johnsons Addition, adjacent to the west side of the Town of Taber
- Purple Springs, on Highway 3, approximately 10 miles east of Taber

The Towns of Taber and Vauxhall, plus the Village of Barnwell are also located within the M.D. of Taber's boundaries.

The brown soils in the M.D. vary from clay to sandy loams of a medium texture which combine with a relatively level topography to make the area ideally suited to irrigation farming. The foundation for the present and future prosperity of the M.D. was laid in 1920 when the introduction of irrigation water changed area farming from a gamble to a reliable industry as rainfall was the principal limiting factor in crop production. The continual improvement and expansion of water supplies via the Taber, Bow River and St. Mary Irrigation District systems has paved the way to more intensive crop production techniques. The result has been the development of sugar beet and vegetable processing industries, plus livestock confinement operations which need an abundance of hay, pasture and crop by-products for feed.



Road Travel Distances

Distance M.D. of Taber To:	Kilometers	Miles
Calgary	265	166
Edmonton	521	324
Lethbridge	54	34
Medicine Hat	117	73
US border at Coutts	97	61
Waterton National Park	166	103

Climate

The M.D. of Taber is in a region that has more days of bright sunshine than anywhere else in Canada. Winters are cool but are moderated by warm chinook winds blowing from the west coast.

Average:	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Temperature °C	-6.0	-4.2	-0.1	6.0	11.1	15.2	18.2	17.7	12.6	6.6	-1.2	-5.4
High temperature	0.1	2.3	6.4	13.1	18.3	22.0	26.1	26.0	20.2	13.7	4.8	0.6
Low temperature	-12.1	-10.6	-6.5	-1.1	3.9	8.3	10.3	9.5	4.9	-0.6	-7.2	-11.4
Precipitation (mm)	13.5	12.0	22.8	28.0	49.9	82.0	42.6	37.3	41.4	20.1	17.8	12.9



Economic Indicators

Agriculture:

The M.D. of Taber is an agriculturally diversified and intensively farmed district, producing a wide variety of crops and livestock. Farm operations range from large dryland grain farms and grassland leases to productive irrigated farms of various sizes producing a wide range of valuable crops. Intensive agriculture has increased with the development of a number of confined feeding operations.

Several of the main crops and livestock originating from the Taber area includes hogs, beef, sheep, poultry, sugar beets, potatoes, onions, canola/mustard, oats, beans, corn, flax/barley, wheat, carrots, peas and hemp. Better crop science and genomics have helped producers to produce higher yielding crops. The M.D. of Taber has the climate, land, water and innovative agricultural producers necessary to produce harvest and market a diversity of crops successfully.

Food Processing:

Food processing is another key industry in the M.D. of Taber. Due to the thriving agricultural industry, the agri-food processing industry has flourished with manufacturers such as Lamb Weston and Lantic Inc. (Rogers Sugar) locating in the municipality or nearby communities of Taber, Coaldale, and Lethbridge.



Western Tractor dealership built its new 48,000 foot² shop/dealership on 23 acres of land at the corner of Highways 3 and 36.

Energy:

Energy has been a driving industry for the M.D. of Taber. When the area was originally settled, there were a number of coal mining companies in the vicinity. Coal mining dropped dramatically in the 1920s. Oil was first discovered in the area in 1937. Since then this sector has embedded itself as a core economic provider within the municipality.

Wind energy has emerged as an alternate industry in the M.D. of Taber. Two projects currently exist in the municipality:

- **Chin Chute Wind Farm:** The initial investment in this project was \$60 million. It was completed in 2006 and consists of 20 turbines with the capacity to generate 30 MW of electricity. The Project is owned by Enbridge Wind Power General Partnership (Enbridge), Acciona Wind Energy Canada Inc. (Acciona), and Suncor Energy Products Inc. (Suncor). The Project is operated by Acciona (Facility Operator).
- **Taber Wind Farm:** Owned and operated by ENMAX Energy, the Taber Wind Farm consists of 37 Enercon E-70 Wind Turbines, each having a power output of 2.3MW. It has a total capacity of approximately 81MW. All of the energy generated for the next 20 years is already purchased by the City of Calgary.

**Recent Investments and Projects**

Project	Description
Bio-Energy Facility	Construction of a bio-gas energy generation facility. \$3 Million.
M.D. Taber Shooting Complex	Development of a number of shooting ranges will be available for use in the complex once fully completed. It will include 600 metre, 200 metre, and 50 metre ranges, as well as trap facilities, action shooting ranges, and a pistol range. Land and construction are valued at \$1.5 million.
Regional Water Projects	Establishment of 2 Regional Water Commissions within the M.D. of Taber including 2 water treatment plants and a total of 56 kilometers of pipelines. Construction costs \$28 million.
Grassy Lake Forks Recreation Area	Construction of a boat launch to facilitate access to the South Saskatchewan River.
Major Transportation Projects	Road infrastructure rehabilitation projects within the M.D. of Taber totalling \$4 million annually.



SouthGrown Success: The M.D. donated the land for the shooting complex and provided all equipment necessary to complete the construction of the range facility. The range was designed to fit esthetically into the surrounding natural terrain and will provide a facility which will facilitate shooting sports of all kinds long into the future.

Available Land

The M.D. has residential lots available in the following hamlets:

- Hamlet of Grassy Lake - 2 lots available, price range \$30,000 - \$40,000.
- Hamlet of Hays – 18 lots available, cost \$12,369.10 each.
- Hamlet of Enchant - 23 lots available, cost \$24,877.21 each.

All lot pricing includes water and sewer services installed to property line.

Lots for sale, that are classified as non-residential include:

- Hamlet of Grassy Lake - 5 commercial lots available, price range \$20,000 - \$30,000.
- Hamlet of Hays – 10 lots available – 2 commercial and 9 industrial cost \$12,369.10 each.

Additionally, the M.D. of Taber has operates two municipal airports located near Taber and Vauxhall and provides long term rental agreements to facilitate construction of hangar facilities for aircraft enthusiasts and aeronautical related industry.



Development Statistics

Year	Number of New Houses	Value of New Houses
2014	38	\$12,350,000
2013	28	\$9,800,000
2012	39	\$13,650,000
2011	52	\$18,200,000
2010	55	\$19,250,000

Fountain of Youth:
 With a median age of 27.4 years, the M.D. of Taber has a relatively young population for a rural community.

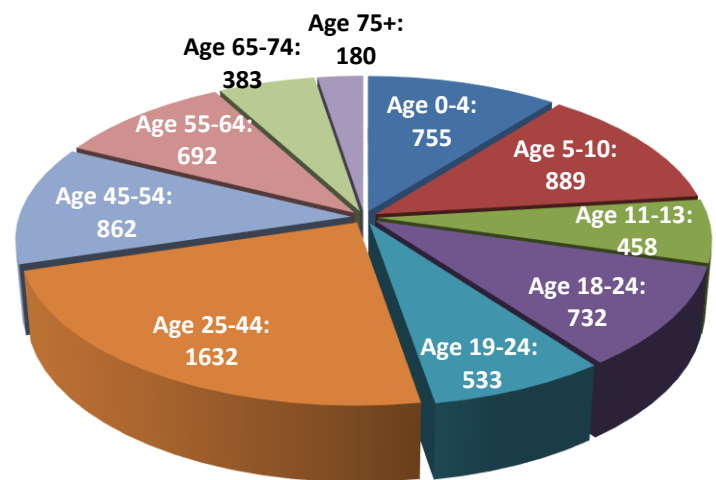
Key Demographics

Population Demographics (2011)	M.D. of Taber	SouthGrow Region
Population	6,851	158,282
Annual population growth rate (2001-11 trend)	1.40%	2.0%
Median age	27.4	38.3
Workforce population (age 15-64)	4,185	93,380
School population (age 5-17)	1,905	26,290
Senior Population (age 65+)	525	26,440
Average employment income	\$43,413	\$52,819
Average family income	\$87,320	\$87,602
Number of dwellings	2,022	61,566

The 2013 M.D. of Taber municipal census indicated that the total population of the M.D. of Taber is 7,116 as of July 1, 2013 and individual hamlets' populations are as follows:

Hamlet Populations	M.D. of Taber Municipal Census (2013)
Grassy Lake	778
Hays	163
Enchant	289
Purple Springs	41
Johnsons Addition	115
Hamlet Total	1,386

Municipal District of Taber – 2013 Census Population Age Dispersion



Workforce Statistics

Statistic (2011)	M.D. of Taber	SouthGrow Region
Workforce population (age 15-64)	4,185	93,380
Workforce participation rate	74%	70%
% of Workforce with no diploma or post-secondary	42%	25%
% of Workforce with high school diploma or equivalent	27%	29%
% of Workforce with post-secondary diploma, certificate, or degree	31%	46%

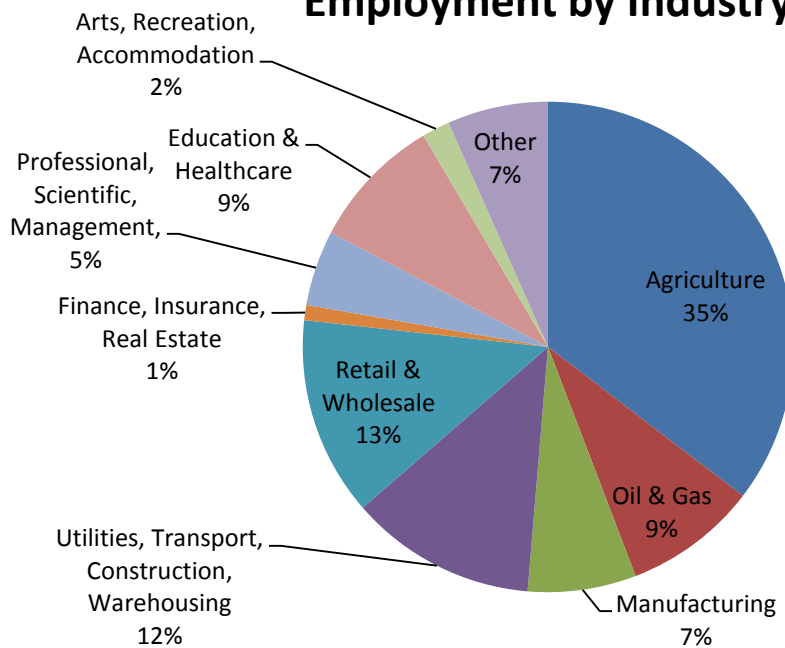
Employment by Industry

Statistic (2011)	M.D. of Taber	SouthGrow Region
Agriculture	35%	12%
Oil & Gas	9%	5%
Manufacturing	7%	8%
Utilities, Transportation, Construction, Warehousing	12%	15%
Retail & Wholesale Trade	13%	14%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	1%	4%
Professional, Scientific, Management, Waste Remediation	5%	7%
Education & Healthcare	9%	18%
Arts, Recreation, Accommodation	2%	6%
Other	7%	11%

Major Employers

Sector	Businesses
Health Care and Education	Associate Medical Clinic
	Holy Spirit Catholic School Division
	Horizon School Division
Agriculture / Agri-Processing	Lamb Weston
	Hostess Frito-Lay
	Lantic Inc.
	Rocky Mountain Equipment
	Western Tractor
Oil & Gas / Energy	Canadian Natural Resources
	Fortis
	Atco
	Bow River Gas Co-op

Employment by Industry



Transportation Infrastructure

The M.D. of Taber has a number of locational advantages that will and have provided a strong, stable economy:

- provincial highways provide north-west access along Highway 36 and east-west access by way of Highway 3 which is a four-lane route from Taber west;
- rail service is provided by the Crowsnest CPR main line;
- an abundance of agricultural land is supplemented by irrigation systems and a climate that provides heat units required for many specialty crops;
- oil and gas reserves provide economic diversity;
- the Town of Vauxhall, Village of Barnwell and the Town of Taber provide an urban nucleus with a broad diversity of support services.

Facility	Details
Highways	Highway 3 east-west <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014 Average Annual Daily Traffic west bound: 4,420 • 2014 Average Annual Daily Traffic east bound: 4,520
	Highway 36 north-south <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014 Average Annual Daily Traffic north bound: 3,030 • 2014 Average Annual Daily Traffic south bound: 1,990
	Secondary Highways: 513, 521, 524, 526, 864, 875, 877
Rail	Served by the Crowsnest Canadian Pacific Railway mainline
Municipal Airports	Taber (2,000 foot runway); Vauxhall (900m x 23m runway)
Regional Airport	Lethbridge Airport
International Airport	Calgary International Airport



Municipal Tax and Utility Rates

Service	Rate
Municipal Tax: Residential	5.9265 (2014 Mill rate)
Municipal Tax: Non-Residential	11.7305 (2014 Mill rate)
Grassy Lake Monthly Water Rate	\$55.00 / 22.7 m ³
Hays Monthly Water Rate	\$47.50 / 22.7 m ³
Enchant Monthly Water Rate	\$47.50 / 22.7 m ³
Hamlet Monthly Water Overage Charge	\$1.84 / m ³ over 22.7 m ³
Grassy Lake Garbage Pick Up	\$10.00 / month

Utility Providers

Service	Provider
Natural Gas Providers	ATCO Gas; Bow River Coop; Chin Coulee Gas Coop
Water Service Suppliers	Taber Irrigation District; St. Mary's River Irrigation District; Bow River Irrigation District.
Landfill / Waste Transfer Locations	Taber; Grassy Lake; Hays; Enchant; Vauxhall. Recycling facilities are also available.

Education

Horizon School Division No. 67 (www.horizon.ab.ca) provides the majority of education services within the M.D. of Taber.

Hamlet	Schools
Enchant	Enchant School (K-9)
Grassy Lake	Chamberlain School (K-12) Arden T. Litt Centre for Learning (Grade 9-12)
Hays	Hays School (K-9)

Within the communities of Taber, Vauxhall, and Barnwell are a number of other school options including Catholic schools, Mennonite school programs, and the Vauxhall Baseball Academy.

Several post-secondary options can be accessed nearby:

- University of Lethbridge
- Lethbridge College
- University of Calgary
- Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (Calgary)

Further education is also available through Taber & District Community Adult Learning Association / Career Research Centre.

A substantial population of Low German Mennonite families from Mexico and other Central American countries has moved into the area. Horizon School Division endeavors to accommodate these families and their children. A Kanadier Mennonite Learning Program provides an education setting that respects cultural components, religious beliefs and practices.

Health Care and Emergency Services

Facility	Details
Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> M.D. of Taber is served by the RCMP
Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> M.D. of Taber is served by the volunteer fire departments of Taber, Grassy Lake, Hays, Enchant, and Vauxhall.
Ambulance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local ambulance service is available.
Medical Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taber Hospital. Taber Hospital is an acute and continuing care facility. Services offered include 24-hour emergency, obstetrics, palliative care, intensive care, and surgical.
Doctors, Clinics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vauxhall Associate Medical Clinic Taber Associate Medical Clinic
Dentist, chiropractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taber



Recreation

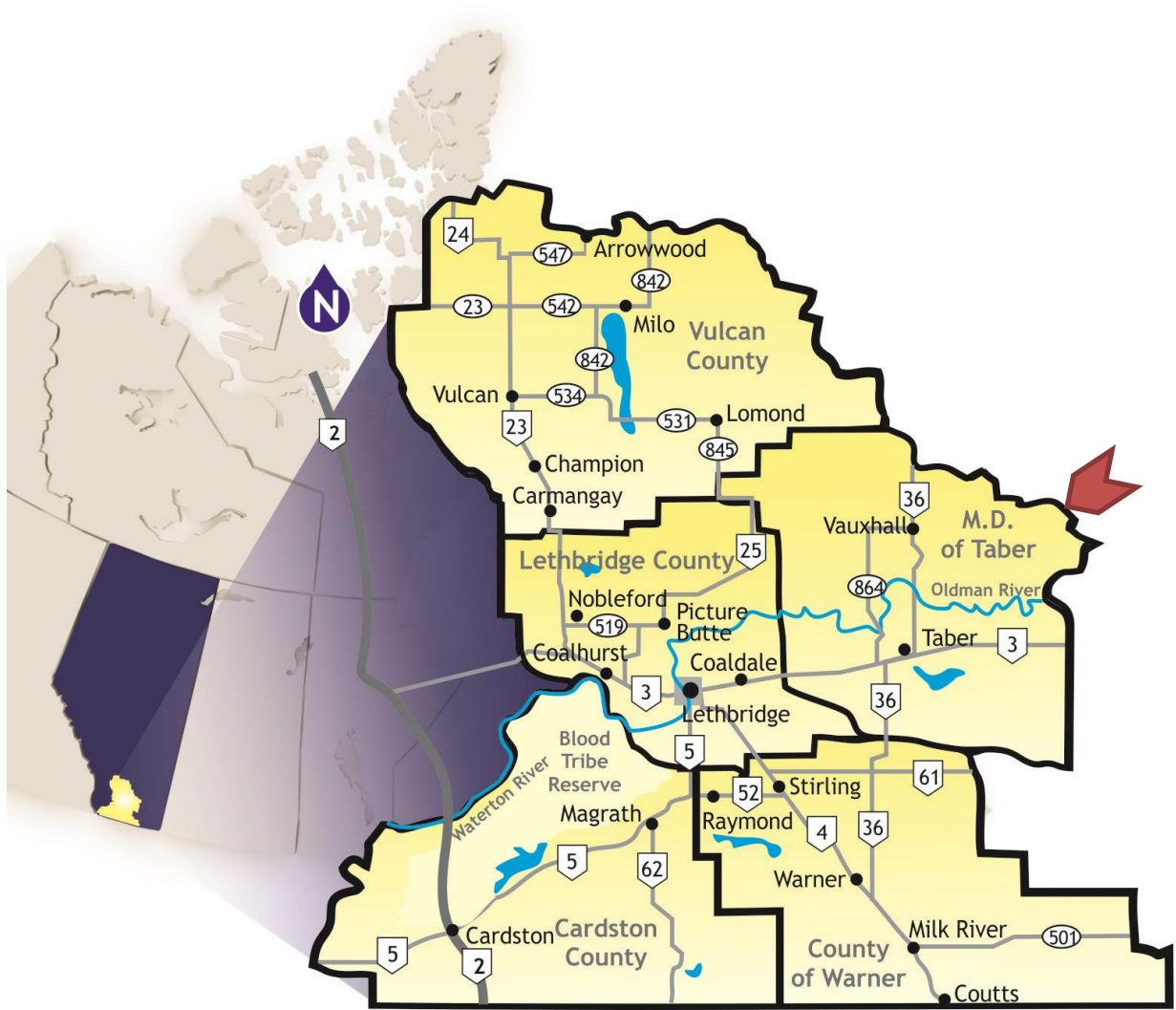
Camping, fishing, walking, hiking, golfing, motocross, swimming, boating, biking, and many more activities are available within the Municipal District of Taber boundaries. We have some great places to relax, unwind and have a great deal of fun!

Municipal Parks	Details
M.D. Taber Park	72 powered campsites; 2 group areas; washrooms; camp kitchens; playgrounds; horseshoe pits; weekend security; RV dump; trails & walking paths.
Enchant Municipal Park	150 powered campsites; large family centre; pay showers; caretaker; ball diamonds; free firewood; playground; 4 group use areas; picnic shelters; coin-operated laundromat; washrooms; horseshoe pits; RV dump; trails & walking paths; beach & swim area; fishing in lake (stocked annually with trout).
Grand Forks Park & Campground	Camp stalls (no power); camp kitchens; fishing spots; outhouse toilets; natural boat launch.
Grassy Lake Centennial Park	24 powered camp stalls; tent camping sites; flush toilets; playground; horseshoe pits; weekend security; day use area; 6 campsites with power, water, sewer; RV dumping station; pay showers; nearby ball diamond; picnic shelter; potable water; free firewood.
Vauxhall Lions Park	24 power camp stalls; 2 kitchen areas – potable water and fridges in both; flush toilets; playground; horseshoe pits; free firewood; day use area; group camping areas; pit toilets; free showers; ball diamonds nearby; picnic shelter; potable water.
Hays Campground	8 power camp stalls; tent campsites; golf pitch & putt; playground nearby; large green area for group gatherings; walking trail; free firewood; kitchen area with power; pit toilets; golfing nearby; potable water; picnic shelter; fishing nearby.



Area Attractions

Attraction	Details
Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden	Take an unforgettable walk through an authentic Japanese garden in the city of Lethbridge. www.japanesegarden.ab.ca
The Galt Museum	Located in Lethbridge, the renovated former Galt Hospital is the largest museum in Southern Alberta. www.galtmuseum.com
Taber Irrigation Impact Museum	Focuses on the impact of irrigation on Taber's development.
Fort Museum of NWMP and First Nations Interpretive Centre	A replica of the original North West Mounted Police outpost built in 1874 in Fort Macleod; view daily Musical Ride in July & August. Attracts about 20,000 visitors per year. www.nwmpmuseum.com
Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park	In 1939, Canada's Waterton National Park and Glacier National Park in the U.S. were joined to create the world's first international peace park. Known as "The Crown of the Continent" the combined park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/pn-np/ab/waterton/natcul/inter.aspx
Empress Theatre	The Empress Theatre in historic downtown Fort Macleod hosts an impressive lineup of events that often feature nationally and internationally known musicians and actors. www.empresstheatre.ab.ca
Castle Mountain Ski Resort	With two mountains, over 3500 skiable acres, 78 trails, 8 alpine bowls, 6 lifts, and 3 terrain parks Castle Mountain Ski Resort offers something for all levels of skiers and snowboarders. www.castlemountainresort.com
Writing on Stone Provincial Park	One of the largest areas of protected prairie in the Alberta park system. A National Historic Site, it contains the largest concentration of rock art on the Great Plains. www.albertaparks.ca/writing-on-stone.aspx
Head Smashed in Buffalo Jump Interpretive Centre	A UNESCO World Heritage Site which attracts about 60,000 visitors per year. www.head-smashed-in.com
Alberta Birds of Prey Centre	A "must see" attraction. Take a "hawk walk" and learn about Alberta's first privately licensed raptor rescue and conservation organization at Coaldale. www.burrowingowl.com
Remington Carriage Museum	The largest collection of horse-drawn vehicles in North America is located in Cardston. www.history.alberta.ca/remington
Bellevue Mine	Put on an authentic miner's helmet and lamp and tour the actual corridors taken by early coal miners. www.crownsnestpass.com/Tourism/historic/bellevuemine.html
Frank Slide Interpretive Centre	Experience what it was like to be in the coal mining town of Frank before, during and after the great rock avalanche. www.frankslide.com
The Mormon Trail	A 2-4 hour self-guided driving tour in Southern Alberta through the communities of Stirling, Raymond, Magrath, and Cardston. www.themormontrail.ca



Contact Information

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