

Association Focused on Energy Sector with NDP Government

Alberta's Industrial Heartland (May 7, 2015) – Albertans elected an NDP majority government in Tuesday's provincial election. Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association's Board of Directors congratulates Premier elect Rachel Notley and her team for their successful campaign.

"We are encouraged with Ms. Notley's vision of adding value to our resources as a means of diversifying the economy and providing a long term, sustainable future for the province," stated Ed Gibbons, Chair of Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association. "Our organization has long advocated for enhancing value added processing, and we look forward to working with the NDP to pursue these endeavors."

As Canada's largest hydrocarbon processing region with over \$30 billion in capital investment to date, Alberta's Industrial Heartland offers key opportunities for new petrochemical investment.

"We have analyzed the business cases for more petrochemical and other value added development in Alberta. We are keen on sharing our ideas with Ms. Notley and her new team on seizing the opportunity to attract billions of dollars in global investment," added Chair Gibbons.

Currently, industrial projects planned for the Heartland region are valued at over \$13 billion and will create more than 10,000 construction jobs. Recent changes in the economy and energy sector have resulted in additional new opportunities for investment. A study from University of Calgary economist, Ron Schlenker, shows conservative estimates of new developments would add \$6.2 billion in provincial GDP, over \$600 million in annual new corporate taxes as well as creating over 20,000 new jobs.

"Our energy sector is Alberta's main economic driver. It's critical that we expand on our strengths by encouraging diversification of the petrochemical and other related industries," explained Neil Shelly, Executive Director of Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association. "Several shovel-ready projects worth billions of dollars are planned for the region, including one related to further processing of propane into higher value products. Timely action by the Government of Alberta through policy is critical to encourage these investments that will benefit the entire province."

For more information on the Association and industrial projects in the region, visit industrialheartland.com or follow @ABHeartland on Twitter.

Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association is dedicated to coordinating, advocating, and promoting sustainable industrial development in the region. The Association is a cooperative effort of Lamont County, Strathcona County, Sturgeon County, and the Cities of Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan.

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