

New Investment Expected in Canada's Manufacturing Sector

Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association Applauds the Government of Canada's Budget Initiative

Alberta's Industrial Heartland (April 24, 2015) - New investment in the manufacturing sector is expected as a result of a long term tax credit announced in the Government of Canada's 2015 Budget. Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association commends this initiative. The program provides long term certainty to industry and helps boost Canada's global competitiveness to attract new investment.

"There is significant competition at the global level for new manufacturing investment, as it results in real economic and employment benefits," explained Ed Gibbons, Chair of Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association. "I've personally seen the level of subsidies and incentives provided to attract investment in the United States Gulf Coast region, which is in direct competition for the same companies we are trying to attract. Measures within the federal budget will help improve our competitiveness when compared to other manufacturing centres."

Specifically, the current Accelerated Capital Cost Allowance (ACCA) program is extended for the next 10 years. The ACCA program allows companies to depreciate their investment in new machinery and technology at an accelerated rate over the first five years of operation.

The extension of this program for the 10 year period will encourage new investment by providing greater certainty for companies that require several years to plan and put in place new equipment.

"We have a major opportunity to help transform and diversify Alberta's economy through investments in hydrocarbon processing to move our energy resources up the value chain," stated Neil Shelly, Executive Director of Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association. "But we have to make sure we offer a compelling business case or the capital investment can easily flow to other regions around the world."

Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association acknowledges the support of local Members of Parliament including James Rajotte, Chair of the Finance Committee, and Minister Rona Ambrose, as well as federal Ministers Hon. Joe Oliver, Hon. Tony Clement, and Hon. Greg Rickford.

Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association is dedicated to coordinating, advocating, and promoting sustainable industrial development in the Heartland 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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