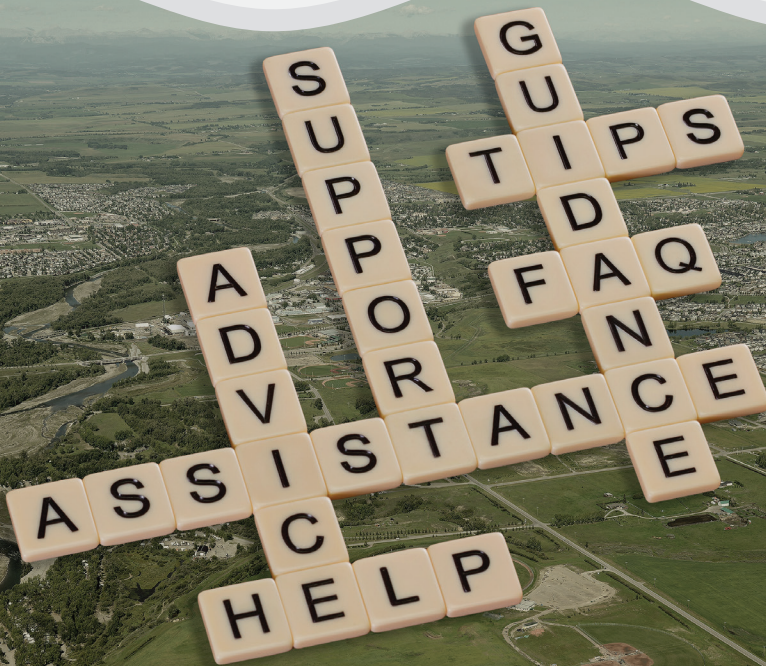


2018

BIZ LINK PRESENTS

A resource guide for your Okotoks business venture



Your place, your opportunity



Thank you for being part of our community!

We are thrilled you chose Okotoks as your business location and wish you great success. Every day, businesses in Okotoks use innovation, creativity and sustainability to fuel our future. Our goal is to **assist you in growing your business**, to **achieve greater results** that will not only benefit your organization, but our town and region as well.

Biz Link's working partnerships with the **Chamber of Commerce**, **Community Futures Highwood**,

Bow Valley College, and **McBride Career Group**, adds to the Town's business-friendly and "can do" attitude. Our combined team uses resources to plan networking & learning opportunities and events, and we work to build and maintain relationships with the local business community. Please use this guide as your ongoing resource and one-stop-shop for your business needs, and as your 2018 calendar for upcoming **opportunities and events**.

Okotoks Economic Development

The **Economic Development team** is your conduit to business success. We work with business, government and community partners to position Okotoks as the location of choice to attract business investment, foster trade and grow our workforce.

For more information, please visit www.okotoksventure.ca



Think business. Think Okotoks.



Town of
OKOTOKS
Municipal Centre

5 Elizabeth Street

Okotoks



INNOVATION



INVESTMENT



COMMUNITY



OKOTOKS

& DISTRICT

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The **Okotoks & District Chamber of Commerce** plays a very important role in our community. It is the mandate of the Chamber to **promote and improve the awareness of businesses in our community**. As your advocate for business, we lobby government on all levels, to ensure your voice is heard.

Membership in the Chamber is a great business decision that gives you a competitive edge and a finger on the pulse of what's happening in the business community. Consumers are 63% more likely to buy from a Chamber member... the Chamber "brand" is not only strong, but valuable to your business.

Make connections with others through many networking opportunities that will help you expand your business; Learn and grow by attending valuable speaker breakfasts, luncheons, seminars and other events.

We host monthly networking & educational opportunities, as well as round tables with members of parliament, and council.

We also host the **Trade & Lifestyle Show**, the **Business Excellence Awards**, and a **Christmas social**. These events are fun and are a great way to network with other business people in and around Okotoks. Members are encouraged to get involved.

You have access to great **savings** through our affinity programs such as the Chamber Group Insurance program (see brochure), merchant services, and member to member discounts.

Whether you join to have an impact in your community, or to gain more direct benefits, it seems that **belonging to your Chamber is simply good business**.

Join the Chamber today. A membership form is included for you. Should you have any questions, please call **403-938-2848**.

Or, visit our website at **www.okotokschamber.ca**



Community Futures

Serving Entrepreneurs

BUSINESS & AGRICULTURAL LOANS

• UP TO \$150,000

FREE BUSINESS IDEA CONSULTATION

FREE BUSINESS PLAN ASSISTANCE

• EDUCATIONAL & SUPPORT PROGRAMS

**YOUTH & STUDENT
ENTREPRENEURS**

• BUSINESS PROGRAMS & LOANS
• AB YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP CAMP

ENTREPRENEURS WITH DISABILITIES

• BUSINESS PROGRAMS & LOANS

SHAREHOLDER REGIONS

Okotoks | High River | Black Diamond | Nanton | Turner Valley | Vulcan
MD of Willow Creek | MD of Foothills | Vulcan County



403-995-4151

info@cfhighwood.net

highwood.albertacf.com

14 McRae Street, Box 1599

Okotoks, AB T1S 1B5

McBride Career Group

McBride Career Group provides government funded **Career and Employment Services** in the Foothills with **two Career and Employment Centres**, one in **High River** and one in **Okotoks**. We provide support to employers in the following ways:

1. **Post your job postings** in our centres and/or online at no cost. You may choose to post only within the centre if you want to attract employees from the local area.
2. We can partner with you to host or **arrange hiring events** located in our centre or elsewhere.
3. **Your business can be spotlighted** in one or both centres. Bring in a small display to raise awareness that your business is opening or hiring; let job seekers know the best way to apply.
4. We hold a large **Career and Employment Expo** every March in Okotoks. No fee is charged to have a booth.
5. We have various publications , geared towards the **Employer** from **ALIS** (Alberta Learning Information Services) such as “An Employers Guide to Employment Rules” or “Labour Market Information for your Business: A Practical Guide” plus many more.

The Province of Alberta is working in partnership with the Government of Canada to provide employment support programs and services.



Canada  Alberta 



For entrepreneurs with children

Being an entrepreneur and a parent can be stressful! We are here to help. The Foothills Children's Wellness Network supports parents and caregivers in their journey of raising happy, healthy children. We help parents and caregivers access services, supports and resources. We can guide them to know where to go and what to do when they have questions or concerns about their children.

Information can be accessed through our website www.foothillsnetwork.ca or by calling the Network Navigator **403-995-2706**.

By supporting our children now, we are building a better future for all!



BOW VALLEY COLLEGE

Bow Valley College is committed to **improving the educational and career opportunities for our learners**. We believe in providing an educational experience that is relevant, leading-edge, flexible, and focused on the needs of our learners.

Bow Valley College is mandated by the provincial government to **increase access to higher education and foster program completion and successful transitions to the workforce** in rural communities. The college provides an increasingly wide range of adult career programs, high school upgrading and other skills programs at local campuses in the Foothills. The college works closely with employers, other post-secondary institutions and social agencies in the community to ensure the career programs available **meet the demands of both local employers and residents**.

Bow Valley College currently offers several programs through the Chiu School of Business in the Foothills Region:

- Business Administration Certificate (option for Diploma and Degree transferability)
- Legal Assistant Diploma
- Medical Office Assistant Certificate
- Hospital Unit Clerk Certificate

Various Business Education Seminars are also available through collaborative community partnerships. For more information on current business credit programs and upcoming continuing education seminars available in your region, please contact our Okotoks Campus at Tel 403-476-2233 or email bvcokotoks@bowvalleycollege.ca

For more information, visit bowvalleycollege.ca.





Training & Networking Opportunities

Mark your calendar for these 2018 events:

- January 17: Chamber Luncheon and AGM
- February 21: Chamber Luncheon
- March 21: Chamber Luncheon
- April 20-21: Chamber Tradeshow
- May 16: Chamber Luncheon
- June 11: Biz Link Networking BBQ
- June 20: Chamber Luncheon
- September 13: Chamber Golf Tournament
- October 18: Chamber Business Excellence Awards
- November 21: Chamber Luncheon
- December 6: Chamber Christmas Social

Stay tuned and check the following websites for great educational opportunities, events and workshops for 2018.

www.okotoksventure.ca

www.okotokschamber.ca

highwood.albertacf.com

For more training opportunities in Okotoks and the region please visit

www.bowvalleycollege.ca

For additional networking, business and downtown events, visit

www.oldtowneokotoks.ca

www.coollittletowns.com

www.okotokstourism.ca



www.okotoksventure.ca

