



**BRAED**

BATTLE RIVER ALLIANCE  
FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

[Visit our Website](#)

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## Chair's Message

Since our last KNOTice at the end of March, the full extent of the impact of COVID19, from health, social and economic perspectives has begun to emerge. While much is uncertain, one thing is very very certain. A return to "business as usual" is at least 12 to 18 months away. And "business as usual" will probably not be that "usual".

With this as a backdrop, the Regional Economic Development Alliances were advised in late March that operational funding from the Province of Alberta would drop from \$100,000 annually to \$50,000. This reduces BRAED's operational budget to somewhere around \$95,000 depending on the level of ongoing support from our member communities. Our operations plan, approved by the members on April 29<sup>th</sup>, reflects a streamlined set of objectives for the operational year 2020-21.

We will be focussing on continuing our very successful value-added agriculture project, and supportive work for the energy and tourism sectors. BRAED will also be supporting a regional roundtable on economic recovery and leveraging the work of larger, better resourced organizations. And finally, we will be addressing BRAED's long term sustainability.

It will be a busy year and we are already launched.

Albertans are tremendously resilient.  
Never forget that.

Stay safe,

Brain Ducherer  
***Board Chair***



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## **BRAED-Camrose Value-Added Agriculture Cluster Project - Phase 1**

As mentioned in the last KNOTice email, the Value-Added Agriculture Cluster Project - Phase 1 report has been published.

This report is an excellent overview of the investment opportunities in our region for value-added agriculture.

The top opportunity:

1. Plant-based protein opportunities:
  - a. Protein isolate and concentrate production from pulses (especially from yellow peas) and from canola meal for plant-based food ingredients and end-use markets .
  - b. Protein extraction from cold-pressed canola meal to produce “golden tofu”, dairy substitutes, etc.

The fractionation of peas, fababeans and other pulses; and hemp and cannabis processing to produce oil, fibre and cannabinoids including CBD take the second and third place on the best opportunities.

[Download the full report here.](#)



Visit our BRAED  
Regional Map

## Our Regional Map Has been Expanded with a Transportation Layer

[See our regional map in multiple ways.](#)

As part of BRAED's ongoing efforts to ensure that visitors see all that our region has to offer for investors, our regional map has had a new layer added: transportation.

There are now 3 options for website visitors to explore maps

- Member communities
- Affiliated members
- Transportation

Select the blue buttons at the bottom of [the map](#) to see alternate views.

## RMA Resolution in Support of REDA Funding

The Board of Directors of BRAED extends sincere thanks to the Rural Municipalities Association for their Resolution 5-20S in support of the work of Rural Economic Development Associations (REDAs) and continued, stable funding at prior levels for a sustainable future.

For our membership who would like to review the resolution, it is found on page 9 of [this document](#).



## Flagstaff County COVID-19 Small Business Hub

Continuing with the theme of the last newsletter, and sharing the COVID responses of our members, Flagstaff County and member communities have

put together a listing of businesses that are open. [Take a look here.](#)

# Links to Ongoing Economic News

## 2 Ways to View Alberta's Most Current Economic Statistics

[Alberta's Economic Dashboard \(With numbers as recent as April 2020\)](#)

[May 15 Issue of Alberta's Economic Indicators at a Glance Publication](#)

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## Upcoming BRAED Executive and Member Board Meeting Dates

Both meetings will be held on the Webex Platform. Please contact [Info@braedalberta.ca](mailto:Info@braedalberta.ca) for your link to the meeting.

**Executive:** June 11 at 8 am

**Board of Directors:** June 25 at 8 am

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