

Red Deer Regional Airport Celebrates Grand Opening of Airport Drive

Red Deer, AB – October 16, 2025 – The Red Deer Regional Airport, in partnership with The Government of Alberta, Red Deer County and The City of Red Deer, proudly celebrated the grand opening of Airport Drive, marking another significant milestone in the airport's ongoing expansion and commitment to growth.

The Red Deer Regional Airport is more than a transportation hub - it is a launchpad for opportunity and economic growth.

Through the support of the Government of Alberta with the \$30 million dollar grant, this modern infrastructure will better serve regional travelers, support local industries, and reinforce the airport's dedication to innovation and excellence.

"The opening of Airport Drive is another clear example of how Alberta is investing in infrastructure that drives economic growth and regional opportunity. Red Deer's central location makes it a vital link in our provincial transportation network. By supporting projects like this, Alberta's government is helping build stronger communities and ensuring Central Alberta continues to play a leading role in connecting our province to new markets and investment." **Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors**

The Airport Drive expansion extends from Township Road 372 to C&E Trail, providing direct access from Highway 2A and Township Road 374. Together with the Taxiway Alpha extension, this phase has unlocked over 800 000 square meters of airside-access land, paving the way for related business development, logistics growth and new employment opportunities.

"The opening of Airport Drive is another example of what's possible when we work together to invest in the future of our region," said Mayor Ken Johnston, City of Red Deer. "This new infrastructure strengthens our connection to regional partners, supports local business growth, and reinforces Red Deer's position at the heart of a thriving Central Alberta economy."

By improving access and traffic flow, this development contributes to the fluidity and resiliency of Alberta's transportation network, supporting economic corridors at an affordable rate for businesses. The project will also enhance safety by providing an additional emergency access route to the airport and surrounding community.

"Our investment towards infrastructure and road improvements show that Red Deer County is committed to meeting current standards, while providing opportunity for future road expansion." said Jim Wood, Red Deer County Mayor. "With Airport Drive complete, the Hamlet of Springbrook now has another point of access, enhancing connectivity for the surrounding community."

Each phase of the airport's expansion brings it closer to achieving its vision of becoming a leading aviation hub in Alberta. The completion of Airport Drive represents more than just an infrastructure improvement, it is a catalyst for long-term economic growth and opportunity for Central Alberta.

*“Today marks another major step forward in strengthening Red Deer Regional Airport’s position as an economic engine for Central Alberta,” said **Nancy Paish, CEO of the Red Deer Regional Airport.** “This new roadway isn’t just about better access, it’s about enabling growth. By improving connectivity, we’re helping local businesses, industries, and community members with new opportunities, while ensuring the airport continues to be a strong contributor to the region’s long-term prosperity.”*

Where Business Meets Opportunity

Celebrating 25 years of service, the airport contributes over **\$55 million in direct economic impact** and **\$120 million in indirect benefits annually**.

Centrally located along the QEII, Alberta’s busiest transportation corridor, YQF connects your business to more than **2 million people within a 90-minute radius**. It also serves an immediate trade area of over **315,000 residents**. Red Deer, Alberta’s third largest city, offers a thriving workforce, affordable housing, and higher-than-average household incomes. All of this comes within a business-friendly community that is ready to support your success.

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