

Overview of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board



We're Building Our Region's Future Today

Our work over the coming years means our Region will strategically attract and supply the investment, infrastructure, jobs, homes, services, and vital amenities needed so that something is left -- something better -- for future generations.

The Edmonton Metropolitan Region is home to 1.2 million people who live in 13 closely connected municipalities. It's among the youngest and fastest growing regions in all of Canada. As it grows, its citizens are setting the pace for the development of a vibrant, resilient, and connected economic and social sphere - which has an increasingly prominent place on the global stage.

The Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) is a collection of decision-makers who are responsible for planning this growth. Its job is to break down traditional barriers and boundaries, and collaboratively harness the potential and passion of the Region, for the benefit of all - through a rigorous and transparent governance model.

The EMRB provides a platform to plan and partner on key regional initiatives from transportation to infrastructure, from investment attraction to environmental stewardship from services like solid waste and emergency management to how we manage our prime agricultural lands to value-added agriculture to residential, business, and industrial development, from regional energy corridors to regional broadband, and so much more. The EMRB is a regional advocate and partner with industry and other orders of government.

Where leadership, efficiency, innovation, and sustainability intersect, the EMRB has a role to play, leveraging collaborative expertise to gain economies of scale, enhance regional prosperity, and improve the overall quality of life for every resident in the Region.



The Region's population is expected to grow by another million people in the next 25 years. This amount of growth will impact us all in different ways and as a Region we need to plan the infrastructure, investment, services, and jobs to sustain that growth, and to build prosperity for future generations.



History

The regional collaboration journey began over 70 years ago when the Region's leaders started coming together to form a voluntary planning commission due to the uncoordinated growth caused by the oil boom in the 50's. Throughout the past 70 years, there have been many variations to the organizational structure of growth management boards in our Region. By 2008 the Capital Region Board was established to develop a long-term integrated growth management plan. In 2017, the Board was downsized and rebranded to the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board where it continues to develop a regional servicing plan to support the implementation of the regional growth plan and seeks out opportunities to the foundation to enable residents, businesses, and communities to succeed and thrive.



Value Proposition

The EMRB's regional collaborative efforts are in support of long-term economic, environmental, and social well-being and quality of life of our citizens. The EMRB's work helps to create the conditions that lead to increased economic competitiveness, so that our Region can compete globally for investment. The EMRB creates certainty and consistency to better support investment and the choices are residents are making about where they live, work and play. It drives efficiencies and leverages economies of scale. And because the Region's municipalities are all at the table, this means the organization provides one-window access to the Region and enables our local leaders to advance regional advocacy priorities with one voice.

Mandate

The EMRB is a regional growth management board established under the *Municipal Government Act* to plan for the future, to ensure the long-term economic prosperity and quality of life for the residents of the Region. Specifically, EMRB shall:

- strive towards consensus regarding matters before the Board,
- promote the long-term sustainability of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region,
- ensure environmentally responsible land use planning, growth management and efficient use of land,
- develop policies regarding the coordination of regional infrastructure investment and service delivery,
- promote the economic well-being and competitiveness of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region, and
- develop policies outlining how the Board shall engage the public on the growth plan and the servicing plan.

Membership

The Board's membership is mandatory and set out in legislation under the EMRB Regulation. The Board is comprised of appointed members from 13 municipalities in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region, which includes

- 3 towns (Devon, Morinville and Stony Plain)
- 4 counties (Leduc, Parkland, Strathcona and Sturgeon)
- 6 cities (Beaumont, Edmonton, Fort Saskatchewan, Leduc, St. Albert and Spruce Grove)

Return on Investment

Over the next 30 years, as the Region implements the growth plan, the Region will reap rewards in land savings of an estimated 160 sq km, the equivalent of Elk Island National Park, and \$5 billion in infrastructure cost, enough to fund the equivalent of 300 schools.

