



# supportive supply chain

# supportive community + active oil and gas sector

The Town of Sylvan Lake, located in the nucleus of Central Alberta, is home to an active oil and gas servicing sector, a pivotal part of its thriving industrial base.

## LOCATION

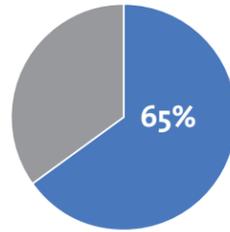
The Town of Sylvan Lake is strategically situated just west of the QEII, Canada's busiest trade corridor. The town is on Highway 11, 18 kilometres west of Alberta's third largest city, Red Deer. Sylvan Lake is centered in a prosperous region with easy access to an immediate trading area of over 313,000 people. The Town is ideally located in the middle of Canada's most economically vibrant region, with both Calgary and Edmonton less than 150km away. Highway 11 and Highway 2 are both major transportation arteries. Sylvan Lake's close proximity to the QEII highway positions it to access a market of over 2.7 million people. CN Rail access can be developed within the town's newly annexed industrial lands. The Red Deer Regional Airport, Canada's busiest regional airport, is a short 25 minute drive away.

## INDUSTRY CLUSTER

There are 93 oil and gas companies in Sylvan Lake, in which two primary business streams compose the core oil and gas industry activities:

- Oil and gas extraction, or the businesses engaged in operating conventional and non-conventional oil and gas properties (e.g. exploration, mining, production, processing)
- Support activities for mining and oil and gas extraction, including contract services like drilling, well foundation construction, chemical treatment, surveying, bailing, excavation, and well construction

Service companies comprise 65% of Sylvan Lake's oil and gas companies; however, the sector is supported by a wide range of businesses in both industrial and knowledge-based pursuits. For example, construction, manufacturing, real estate, architecture, engineering, computer systems, human resources consulting, electronics, biotechnology, environmental services, finance, and equipment rental and repair are all part of Sylvan Lake's business community.



**There's more than enough opportunity in Sylvan Lake and area. Technology makes it easy to live in a community you love and still be part of the global market.**

KENT STORMOEN, OWNER, VERSATILE ENERGY SERVICES

## SUPPLY CHAIN

Some of the oil and gas opportunities in Sylvan Lake, where gaps currently exist, include:

- Other heavy and civil engineering construction
- Other chemical product manufacturing
- Other non-metallic mineral product manufacturing
- Iron and steel mills and ferro-alloy manufacturing
- Steel product manufacturing from purchased steel
- Machine shops, turned product, and screw, nut, and bolt manufacturing
- Other general-purpose machinery manufacturing

The strength of Sylvan Lake's oil and gas industry would be further enhanced by investment in these areas.

**985** labourers work in the oil and gas field and account for 15% of the total labour forces.

## LABOUR FORCE

The median age in Sylvan Lake sits at 34.1<sup>1</sup>, well below the provincial median age of 38.11, and provides the community with a well-skilled, educated, young work force, calculated in 2015 at 8,724. The outlying region, an approximate 65 km radius or 45 minute drive, provides an additional labour pool from which to draw (see labour shed map on back cover).

Sylvan Lake's 11,641 employable individuals have a noticeably higher percentage than the provincial average of population with apprenticeships and college diplomas. Education and training for the labour force is supported by two area institutions, Red Deer College and Olds Institute, where programming in the fields of science, engineering, math, and computer sciences, and more technical programming in a range of industrial trades (e.g. crane operations, electricians, millwrights, steamfitters, or welders) are available.

## COMMUNITY ATTRIBUTES

With a population of 14,816<sup>2</sup>, Sylvan Lake is a town that has grown, on average, 4.5% per year since 2001. This increase is attributable to an interest by young families in the community's beautiful waterfront parks, spring-fed lake, progressive school network, and access to health care services. A thriving hub of activity that draws young professionals, entrepreneurs and their families, Sylvan Lake is a diverse community which offers unique business opportunities, year-round recreational, health and fitness activities, a variety of entertaining festivals and events, all which result in an environment that provides the perfect work-life balance.



<sup>1</sup> 2015 MUNICIPAL CENSUS  
<sup>2</sup> 2016 FEDERAL CENSUS

THE SECTOR IS SUPPORTED BY APPROXIMATELY 149 FIRMS IN RELEVANT CONSTRUCTION, MANUFACTURING, AND MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT REPAIR SUBSECTORS.

159 FIRMS ALSO SUPPORT THE INDUSTRY WITHIN PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL SERVICES FIELDS.

**When I decided to start my business in 2013, Sylvan Lake was a natural choice for the location, since both I and my business partner live in the community**

**Sylvan Lake is a great place to do business in the oil and gas sector for many reasons. We have been able to form strong business alliances, particularly in the manufacturing sector.**

**Sylvan's great location and easy access to highways makes it very manageable to service the entire region. We have no problem getting maintenance parts and raw materials, all from within 150 kms. The municipality has also been very accommodating to us through our start up process and all along the way.**

**We like to keep it local, doing as much business locally as possible. Of course, there's always room for more!**

**We would love to see more complementary businesses in our sector join us in Sylvan Lake, a good place to start and grow a business.**

DARRELL LINDSTRAND, CHARGER PUMPING SOLUTIONS

## The perfect balance

Sylvan Lake is located in the nucleus of Central Alberta and is home to an active oil and gas servicing sector, a pivotal part of its thriving industrial base.

**Contact Amanda Mercer, Economic Development Officer at Sylvan Lake for a guided familiarization tour of the Town or visit [sylvanlake.ca](http://sylvanlake.ca)**

Amanda will be happy to help with any business startup and relocation information.

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