



Retail and Consumer Services



“The BREOC region has provided great opportunities for growth. I love serving the community and am excited to continue the expansion of my catering business.”

*~ Tammy Cooke,
The Stuffed Potato*

Who is BREOC?

BREOC, or the Battle River Economic Opportunities Committee is a partnership of seven municipalities taking ownership of driving economic prosperity in their region. It is a partnership of seven municipalities including the County of Paintearth, Flagstaff County, Castor, Coronation, Halkirk, Forestburg, and Heisler.

Sector Overview

The BREOC region is establishing itself as THE place to do business in Alberta. From premiere business support organizations to the low cost of doing business, BREOC offers an environment that breeds success for start-ups, particularly within consumer services. As it is a thriving and developing ecosystem, there are opportunities and spaces to succeed for new businesses, entrepreneurs, and innovative ideas. The business support organizations in the region offer a suite of services to aid in your success. Also, in the rural communities, it is easy to have a quick coffee with the local elected officials or CAO. The business community is growing, innovating, and thriving—come grow with BREOC!

Highlights

An innovative business community of over **700 businesses**

An **ideal environment** for retail and consumer service start-ups

An **ecosystem of support** organizations ready to help businesses thrive

Why BREOC?



A Thriving Business Community

- Over 700 businesses currently operate in the region, an increase of over 100% since 2010



An Ideal Start-Up Environment

- BREOC has an entrepreneurship rate of 17% versus the Canadian average of 12%
- The low cost of doing business allows for market entrance at a discount compared to other places in Alberta



Growing Micro and Small Business Ecosystems

- 98.6% of businesses within BREOC are micro/small businesses
- Multiple markets and small business events within our region year round



Award Winning Support Network

- Attend workshops, access professional support, and have a team in your corner invested in your success
- Our business support organizations often win awards at the provincial and national level for their work within the business community



“Key to the infrastructure and resilience of our communities, our ecosystem of consumer services is constantly developing to thrive and serve our region.”

Opportunities in BREOC

There are plenty of opportunities to capitalize within the region; the following have been identified by local community leaders:

- Family Clothing Store
- Childcare
- Microbreweries
- Fast Food Restaurants
- Veterinarian Services
- Accounting Services
- Abattoirs
- Specialty Clothing Stores

In Good Company

There is a culture of success in the retail and consumer service industry. In BREOC, you are in good company amongst:

- The Rusty Daisy Gift Co.
- Salted
- Beans and Blossoms
- Quality Fitness Gym
- Golby Hardware
- CJs Deli and Restaurant
- Cabin on the Coulee Farm
- Wildflower Rustix



Industry Resources

The following are some resources that can be accessed to grow your business, apply for loans, and receive professional support. Contact them today to learn more.

- BREOC Suite of Business Support Programs
- Battle River Innovation Centres for Workspace, Supports, and Access to Technology
- Community Futures Loan and Entrepreneurship Programs
- Support organizations such as Alberta Innovates, Business Link, Export Development Canada, and Business Development Bank of Canada
- Financial Institutions including RBC, TD, BMO, ATB, and more

How BREOC Can Help

BREOC can support your business by:

- Facilitating introductions to investors and companies in the sector
- Providing BREOC specific market information
- Providing insight into major projects planned in the region through our network and events
- Facilitating attraction and retention of workforce

Battle River Innovation Contact Info

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BREOC
Battle River Economic
Opportunities Committee