



INVEST IN E-COMMERCE & TECHNOLOGY

SECTOR PROFILE

TOWN OF MORRIS



REASONS TO INVEST

Morris is positioned within a cost-competitive location in the centre of Canada, just under a half hour drive away from the international border. With recent investments coming from both the public and private sector, the Municipality and surrounding area is now equipped to deliver fast and reliable fibre internet speeds, capable of supporting logistics infrastructure to expedite trade.

There is a variety of different sized lands and affordable sites along historical main streets that are suitable for various uses, from digital creators and technology firms, to warehousing and data storage companies.

It's a good time to get into bioproduction, with the Federal Government investing \$1.5 billion over five years through the Clean Fuels Fund. The fund offers new opportunities to fuel Canada's transition to clean energy and aims to help Canadian companies produce clean fuels, create an estimated 36,000 new jobs by 2030, and enable the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. This is clearly an opportunity to restore the biodiesel industry in Manitoba, which does not exist on a commercial basis since a fire in 2012 depleted a biodiesel production plant in Winnipeg.



CLEAN TECH. & ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Our strategic geographic location is near one of the busiest commercial border crossing between Canada and the U.S. west of Windsor, creating a strong value proposition for foreign direct investments, particularly in clean technology and electric vehicle opportunities.

Along with the availability of hydropower, wind and solar energy, Manitoba has access to nickel, lithium, cesium, and silica sand markets that are needed to produce specialized batteries and equipment to drive today's economic and environmental innovation. Each of these resources play a key role in developing a value-added Information Technology and Energy Innovation sector.



ACCESS TO YOUNG TALENT AND THE E-ECONOMY

As the post-COVID economy becomes more digital, geography and location constraints will reduce. With relatively close proximity to large urban centres such as Winnipeg and an influx in urban dwellers looking to move to more affordable and smaller communities, Morris is in a position to become a destination for individuals and families looking to experience a small town atmosphere with fast internet connection while remaining close to major urban areas.

There are emerging opportunities within a rapidly-evolving IT sector. To accompany this sector and drive its economic potential, there is a growing millennial cohort capable of supporting the following business opportunities:

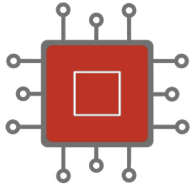
- Smart tech & electronic product development
- Publishing and design services
- Motion picture, broadcasting & recording industries
- Telecommunications
- Data processing, hosting and related services





INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Morris' economic experts have analyzed and identified the following markets to have unique and favourable opportunities within the E-Commerce and Technology Sector:



DIGITAL CREATION & SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

- Ready-to-develop data storage areas
- Available provincial innovation grants
- Thriving software industry



CONSULTING & TECHNOLOGY

- Home-based start-ups
- Scientific and technical consulting services
- Cross-border logistics / business



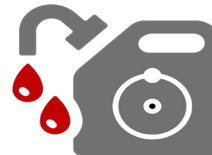
ONLINE ENTERPRISE SUPPORT

- Dedicated fibre optic internet
- Remote entrepreneuring
- Web-based hosting (servers)
- Technical support to businesses (i.e. online shopping)



AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION

- Bio-product manufacturing & refinement
- Flax-based product manufacturing
- Natural plastics/cosmetics/products etc



GREEN ALTERNATIVE FUELS

- Proximity to leading agriculture labs
- Easy access to PTH 75 for exporting and importing
- Government grants and funding available

FAST FACTS

- In 2019, the Manitoba Government launched a Bioeconomy Strategy, including the Bioeconomy Development Centre, which provides funding & resources for companies developing bio-based products
- Manitoba's bioproducts industry revenues totaled over \$626 million in 2020
- Hit the ground running: available manufacturing lots and business park are already serviced and ready for development
- Current or anticipated trade-focused development along PTH 75 includes: CentrePort Canada, the Winnipeg Metro Region and Emerson's anticipated Mid-Canada-Gateway Development Zone
- Several companies are seeing rapid growth in the bio-product industry: Botaneco (naturally based personal care and food products), Pure Anada (a Morden based natural cosmetics company), EcoPlast Solutions (creates building blocks from recycled plastic bottles), and more



RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS

PROGRAMS & SUPPORTS

The Town of Morris offers several programs, dedicated personnel, grants and incentives to support economic development in the town. The town is open for business and welcomes investment. Please visit the following websites to learn more about the available programs, supports and opportunities within Morris:

- [Invest Morris](#)
- [Sector Profiles](#)
- [Site Selector](#)

AVAILABLE MUNICIPAL INCENTIVES

Several incentives and supports are available and open to discussion with our Staff and Council to assist you in achieving your business objectives.

- **Opportunity Zone** - Redirecting a grant of up to 100% of accruing municipal tax to targeted development projects like multi-family housing.
- **Shared Building Ownership** - The Town and investor would create a joint venture to make more equity capital available.

OPEN DATA

Explore our [Data Library](#) to access a wide-range of reports, mapping data, publications and relevant municipal by-laws.

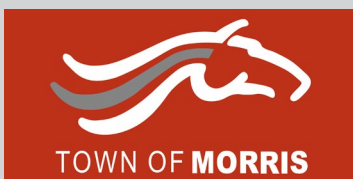
CONTACT US

Ready to start your next business investment or expansion? We are available and ready to assist investors and business.

Our experts are here to help. If you would like more information, please contact:

Town of Morris | Economic Development

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