

FINDING

Work in ...

Informing
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BOW ISLAND

Community Snapshot

Bow Island is a vibrant rural community of approximately 1700 people located 60 km west of Medicine Hat on Highway 3. Many agri-processing and agri-service industries and businesses are located in the area. The town offers affordable housing, quality health and educational facilities, a vibrant retail and service sector, safe neighborhoods, and a wide variety of recreational activities.

Employment Opportunities

Employment opportunities can be found in the following sectors:

- Agriculture and related service centre industries and businesses
- Health care
- Food processing
- Manufacturing
- Service and retail businesses

Many different types of occupations are available in the town including:

- General laborers in many of the industries
- Farm laborers (full and part time)
- Apprentices in the construction and manufacturing industries
- Health care, personal care, and therapy assistants
- Registered nurses and licensed practical nurses
- Retail staff
- Waiters/waitresses for service businesses
- Gas station/convenience store staff

Job Search

Job search opportunities in Bow Island include:

- *The Commentator* classified ads (local newspaper)
- Bow Island web site (www.bowisland.com)
- Visits to businesses

- Referrals and word of mouth
- 40 Mile Youth Connections (youth 15 - 24) (www.40mileyouth.ca)
- Alberta Human Resources & Employment – Medicine Hat
- www.jobbank.gc.ca



Current Skills Gaps & Shortages

Current skills gaps and shortages include opportunities as:

- Waiters/waitresses
- Health care/personal care aides
- Gas station/convenience store attendants
- Agricultural labor (seasonal)
- Agriculture service industry laborers and staff
- Construction laborers/apprentices

Training Opportunities

- In many positions, on-the-job training by the employer may be available.
- The Medicine Hat College & 40 Mile Community Adult Learning offer a variety of employment courses.
- Visit the Corporate Education Network web site for additional training opportunities specifically in Southeast Alberta (www.cenetwork.ca).

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Future Trends in Community

Future trends in the community indicate positive signs for growth and employment in different sectors.

- The construction industry has seen the addition of 4-5 new companies within the past 5 years.
- Currently all available industrial land is either sold or on hold, indicating the arrival of additional industrial businesses to the town.
- Opportunities in the agricultural sector and related service centre businesses are stable, with opportunities becoming available regularly.



Community Resources

The Town of Bow Island office is generally the first point of contact for new residents. The staff can provide a variety of information, publications, and contacts. In addition, the Town organizes an annual Meet & Greet social to provide new and current residents with an opportunity to meet and get to know each other.

Additional community resources include:

- The Bow Island Municipal Library
- 40 Mile Regional FCSS
- 40 Mile Youth Connections
- Bow Island/Burdett Chamber of Commerce
- Bow Island Health Centre
- Pleasant View Seniors Lodge, Manor, & Social Housing
- Alfred Egan Home
- Golden Age Seniors Centre
- Canada Post Office
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment

- Local real estate companies & agents
- Several educational institutions:
 - Bow Island Elementary/Senator Gershaw School (public K -12)
 - St. Michael's School (Catholic K – 12)
 - Cherry Coulee Christian Academy (private K – 9)
 - Sun Country Christian Academy
- Many recreational opportunities:
 - Swimming pool
 - Hockey/Skating arena
 - Curling arena
 - Ball diamond complex
 - Golf Course
 - Multiplex
 - Bowling alley
 - 40 Mile Park & Reservoir

A more detailed profile of Bow Island is available on the Alberta First web site (www.albertafirst.com).

Major Employers

- Agricore United Bow Island Bean Plant (801 1st Ave. East)
- Agricore United Crop Production Centre & Elevator (1201 1st Ave. East)
- Alberta Sunflower Seeds (Highway 879 South) (www.spitz.ca)
- Alfred Egan Home (941 - 1st Street East)
- Bow Island Health Centre (938 Centre Street) (www.palliserhealth.ca)
- County of 40 Mile (<http://40mile.ca>)
- Daymar Construction Inc.
- Hiebert Cabinets & Fine Woodworking (517 8th Ave. East)
- Johnson & Gutfriend Welding & Machining Ltd. (501 8th Ave East)
- Jade Homes (713 7th Ave. East)
- KT Builders Inc.
- Lakeside Fertilizers (Highway 3 West)
- PolyCore Industries
- Robey's Welding (208 6th St. East)
- St. Mary's River Irrigation Development (705 Centre St.)
- ServAgro Ltd. (801 7th Ave. East)
- South Island Farms