



NEWS RELEASE

SouthGrow's regional economic development boosted by government grant

September 20, 2013, Lethbridge, Alberta:

SouthGrow Regional Initiative will experience a boost as a result of a \$30,000 grant presented by the Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada; Invest Canada – Community Initiatives (ICCI) Funding Program.

The grant will support SouthGrow's investment attraction strategy focusing on sustainable opportunities related to water in agriculture, value-added agriculture and manufacturing. With the support of ICCI, SouthGrow will build on the Marketing Strategy and develop an Investment Attraction Strategy and Business Cases / Community Profiles for investment attraction. These globally targeted business cases will identify opportunities for new investment and expansion.

“SouthGrow is committed to assisting communities, organizations, businesses and people in the region to further their economic development goals and to maintain the high quality of life. The funds will certainly provide SouthGrow with the means to further these goals and initiatives.”
says Ron Lagemaat, SouthGrow Chair.

For more information, contact:

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Background information -- SouthGrow Regional Initiative

SouthGrow Regional Initiative was formed in 2003 and is a member-driven, volunteer-supported, not-for-profit regional economic development alliance for south-central Alberta. SouthGrow encompasses twenty communities with a total population of about 50,000. SouthGrow encourages collaboration, focuses on regional economic development issues and ensures the region has equal opportunity for growth and development. The Chair of SouthGrow Regional Initiative is Ron Lagemaat, a Councillor with the Town of Coalhurst. He leads a ten member board of Directors.