



**SEE WHAT'S DRIVING THE REGION OF PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE'S  
ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**P  
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D**

**DEVELOPERS DAY 2026**

**ADVANCING GROWTH THROUGH REGIONAL COLLABORATION**

**BUSINESS WALKS 2026**

**MAJOR INCREASE IN BUSINESSES ENGAGED**

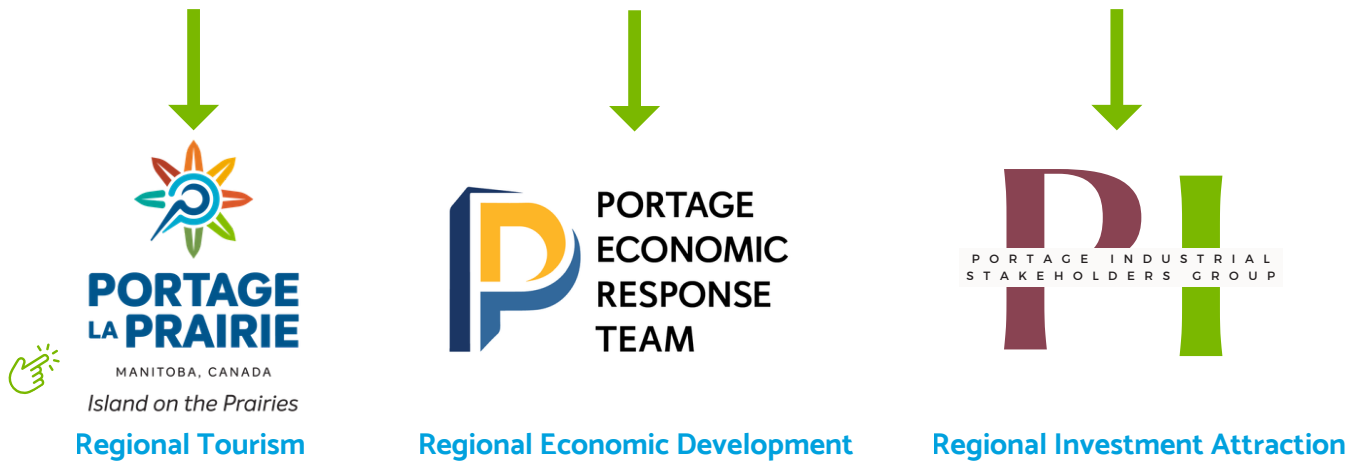
**DATA-INFORMED GROWTH ACROSS  
OUR REGION**

**NEW CENTRALIZED DATA, EASIER ACCESS**

# PRED: WHAT WE DO



Portage Regional Economic Development



PRED is a not-for-profit economic development agency that manages economic development initiatives for the City and RM of Portage la Prairie.

It is through this joint venture that our Region is flourishing and has developed a sophisticated and unique concierge process to create the regional approach model for Economic Development.

## PRED Services



# PRED: WHO WE ARE



**Eve O'Leary**

Director of Economic  
Development



**Inem Adeniyi**

Economic Development  
Coordinator



**Ryan Simpson**

Tourism  
Coordinator

Eve O' Leary joined the PRED team in December 2019. With over 18 years of business experience working at large international companies and Municipalities, Eve is an accomplished Economic Development Professional that brings a wealth of Economic Development experience and business management knowledge to the organization. Eve can be reached via email at [eoleary@investinportage.ca](mailto:eoleary@investinportage.ca)

Inemesit Adeniyi joined PRED in March 2022 and is the Economic Development Coordinator. With over 19 years of experience in project management, customer care, office administration, marketing, and salesmanship, she is an invaluable asset to the organization. She is dedicated to helping her community thrive one business, one project and one relationship at a time. Inem can be reached via email at [iaadeniyi@investinportage.ca](mailto:iaadeniyi@investinportage.ca)

PRED is pleased to welcome Ryan Simpson to the team as our new Tourism Coordinator, effective October 20, 2026.

Ryan brings many years of marketing and communication experience to the PRED team and is excited to work closely with the Portage Regional Tourism Committee to support and advance tourism initiatives throughout the region.

## OUR TEAM

Portage Regional Economic Development (PRED) is dedicated to supporting business growth, investment attraction, and tourism development throughout the Region of Portage la Prairie. Our team brings extensive experience in economic development, business management, project coordination, marketing, tourism, and community engagement. Together, we work collaboratively with businesses, investors, community partners, and stakeholders to strengthen the regional economy, promote investment opportunities, and showcase the region as a great place to live, work, visit, and do business.

# PRED: HOW WE OPERATE

Our Board of Directors plays a vital role in guiding the economic development efforts of the region.



Roy Tufford  
Chairperson



Faron Nicholls  
Vice-Chairperson

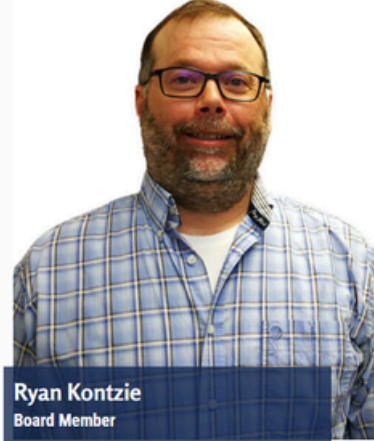


Colin Doyle  
Board Member

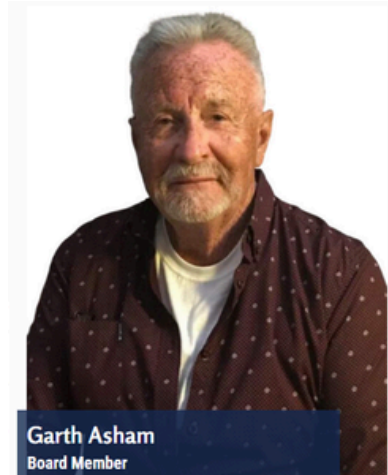
With representatives from the City and RM of Portage la Prairie, along with local community members, the Board helps shape strategic priorities, provides oversight on key initiatives, and ensures alignment with local needs and opportunities.



Preston Meier  
Board Member



Ryan Kontzie  
Board Member



Garth Asham  
Board Member



Lucy Kinnear  
Board Member



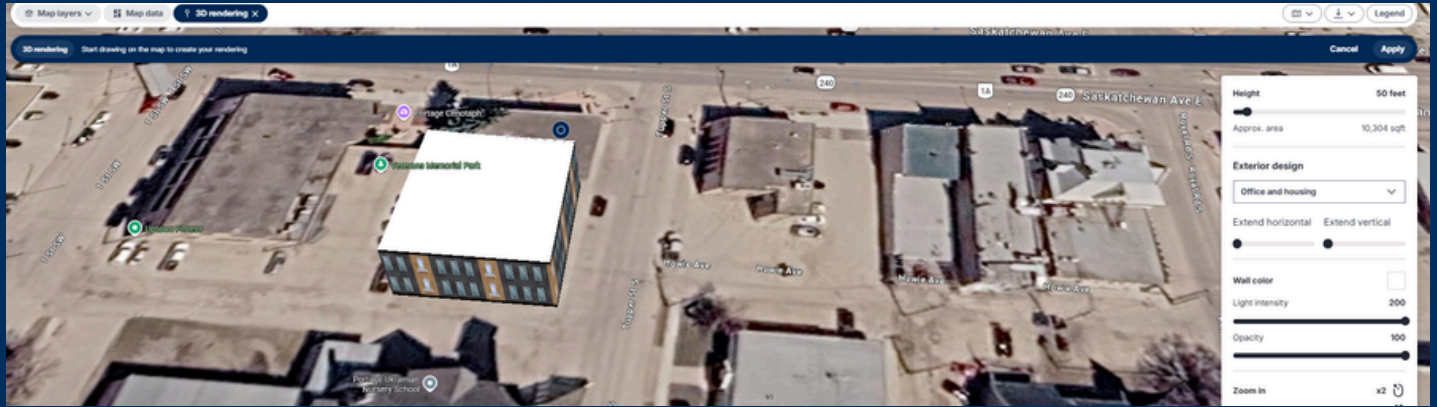
Nathan Peto  
Board Member

Their leadership supports our mission to drive growth, investment, and long-term sustainability throughout the region.

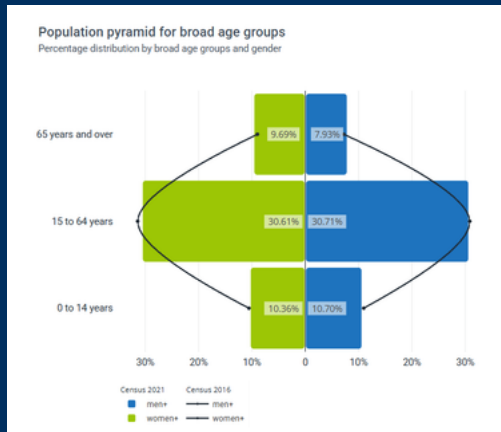
# STREAMLINED DATA

The **investinportage.ca** website features updated data, interactive site selection tools, community profiles, and a brand-new regional land inventory for commercial and industrial property in the Region of Portage la Prairie.

**BRING YOUR DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT TO LIFE WITH OUR FREE RENDERING TOOL**



**NEW CENTRALIZED DATA!**



**READ LOCAL STUDIES, STRATEGIES AND MORE...**

Figure 20 – Top Industry Subsectors (4-Digit NAICS) by Employment LQ (Min 50 jobs), Region of Portage la Prairie, 2016-2023

| NAICS | Description                                                     | Estimated 2016 Jobs | Estimated 2023 Jobs | Estimated Net Change | 2023 LQ | % Change |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------|----------|
| 3114  | Fruit and vegetable preserving and specialty food manufacturing | 645                 | 663                 | 18                   | 43.1    | 3%       |
| 5612  | Facilities support services                                     | 10                  | 105                 | 95                   | 23.3    | 913%     |
| 6115  | Technical and trade schools                                     | 25                  | 115                 | 90                   | 15.7    | 362%     |

**CONNECT WITH THE PRED TEAM TODAY FOR ECONOMIC INDICATOR DATA PERTAINING TO THE REGION OF PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.**



**The Region has 6 Targeted sectors - each has thier own economic data section**



Aerospace



Agri-Food



Tourism



Manufacturing



Agriculture



Healthcare

# BUSINESS WALKS 2026



PORTAGE  
ECONOMIC  
RESPONSE  
TEAM

SEPTEMBER 25TH 2026

Pert visited 263 businesses and engaged with 149 businesses in 2026, representing a 8.8 % increase over 2025, and a overall growth of 36.7% increases since the inception of the program in 2024.

# 149

## BUSINESS ENGAGED

Stay tuned as we compile the results, analyze the data, and begin planning for an even stronger 2027.



[LEARN MORE ABOUT PERT AND BUSINESS WALKS HERE](#)

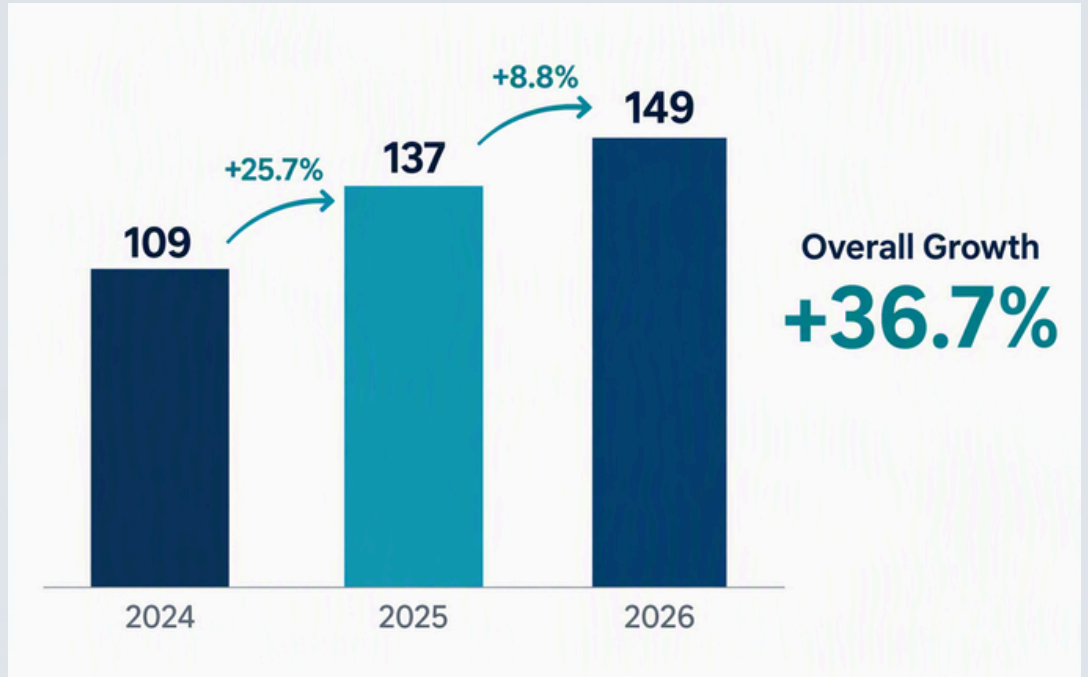


IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, IDEAS, OR WANT TO STAY CONNECTED WITH UPCOMING PERT INITIATIVES, [REACH OUT HERE.](#)

# BUSINESS WALKS 2026



PORTAGE  
ECONOMIC  
RESPONSE  
TEAM



**16 Regional Zones** Established with a Focus on Improving Efficiency and Streamlining Processes



**LEARN MORE ABOUT PERT AND BUSINESS WALKS HERE** 



**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, IDEAS, OR WANT TO STAY CONNECTED  
WITH UPCOMING PERT INITIATIVES, REACH OUT HERE.**

# SUCCESS STORIES



**ALL VACANCIES  
FILLED**

**WITH NEW COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES**



**Old Seasons Building Before**



**and After Development**



**NOW  
LEASING**

**COMMERCIAL /  
RESIDENTIAL MIXED  
USE SPACE**

**Portage Commons Commercial Strip & 56-Unit  
Residential Development Progression**



**2014**



**2026**

**SEE MORE OF OUR AVAILABLE INVESTMENT READY LAND [HERE.](#)**



# DEVELOPERS DAY 2026 PROJECT UPDATE



**On September 2, 2026**, Portage Regional Economic Development hosted its fourth annual Developers Day, bringing together approximately 40 developers, municipal representatives, and industry stakeholders from across the Region. The event focused on commercial and residential development opportunities and featured a series of fireside discussions covering local development successes, the permitting process, infrastructure and utilities, and municipal leadership. Combined with dedicated networking opportunities, the day provided a valuable forum for sharing information, strengthening relationships, and exploring opportunities to support continued growth across the Region of Portage la Prairie.

Developers Day continues to serve as a strategic initiative that brings together key partners to align priorities, identify opportunities, and support responsible growth across the region.

The event reflects a focused and collaborative approach to economic development, strengthening relationships between developers, municipalities, service providers, and regional stakeholders to help move projects forward more effectively.



# CEDI PARTNERSHIP

The CEDI partnership continues to move forward since 2023 with purpose, grounded in collaboration and a shared commitment to strengthening relationships across the region. Following the Prairie Unity Pow Wow, the committee convened for a comprehensive debrief to reflect on successes, identify opportunities for growth, and ensure continued alignment in planning and delivery. Insights gathered from both the event and the Prairie Unity Pow Wow social media report demonstrate strong community engagement and growing visibility, reinforcing the event's importance as both a cultural celebration and a unifying regional initiative.



CEDI • IDEC



Portage la Prairie  
City of Possibilities



CEDI Workshop 4 brought together elected officials, Council members, senior administration, and staff from Long Plain First Nation, Dakota Plains Wahpeton Nation, Dakota Tipi First Nation, and the City of Portage la Prairie to strengthen relationships and explore opportunities for continued collaboration beyond the CEDI program.

The morning focused on relationship-building, progress updates, and discussions on shared priorities and future partnerships. In the afternoon, participants took part in a land-based learning experience at the Indigenous Residential School Museum, led by Long Plain First Nation, which provided valuable insight into Indigenous history, culture, traditions.

At its core, the CEDI table remains a **space for dialogue**, trust building, and shared action. Continued relationship building between partner communities remains essential, ensuring that **collaboration** is not just ongoing, but impactful. This work is foundational to creating a stronger, **more inclusive Region**, one where all communities feel represented, respected, and supported.

FOLLOW **@PRAIRIEUNITYPOWWOW** TO LEARN ABOUT THE POWWOW FOR 2026!



# CHECK OUT OUR **SALES SHEETS** FOR INVESTMENT ATTRACTION



## The Portage Advantage

CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT FOR SUCCESS

- CLOSE TO WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
- CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE US BORDER
- ACCESS VIA TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY
- CONNECT TO GLOBAL MARKETS



www.investinportage.ca

## POPLAR BLUFF INDUSTRIAL PARK



## The Portage Advantage

CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT FOR SUCCESS

- OVER 250 + ACRES OF INVESTMENT READY LAND
- THRIVING FAMILY-OWNED ENTERPRISE ECOSYSTEM
- AGRICULTURAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
- DYNAMIC WET AND PROTEIN INDUSTRY CLUSTER PRESENT



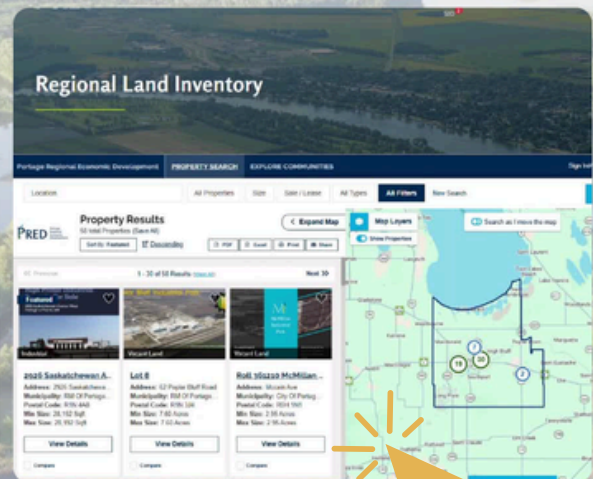
www.investinportage.ca

## MCMILLAN INDUSTRIAL PARK

## REGIONAL LAND INVENTORY



Discover available **commercial** and **industrial** properties across the Region of Portage la Prairie and find the right location for your next investment.



[InvestinPortage.ca/Regional-Land-Inventory](http://InvestinPortage.ca/Regional-Land-Inventory)

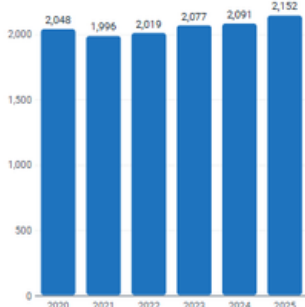
If you have a study or strategy you would like shared on this centralized library pertaining to our local economy and to better increase the knowledge of our community send us an email today  
eoleary@investinportage.ca

# DO YOU NEED

LOCATION

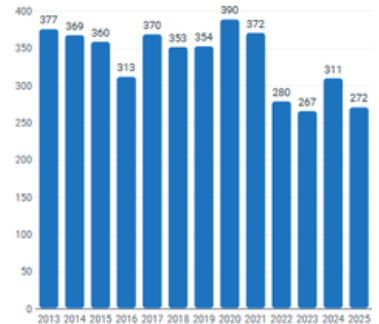
# DATA?

Number of businesses by year  
Total businesses (with and without employees) by year

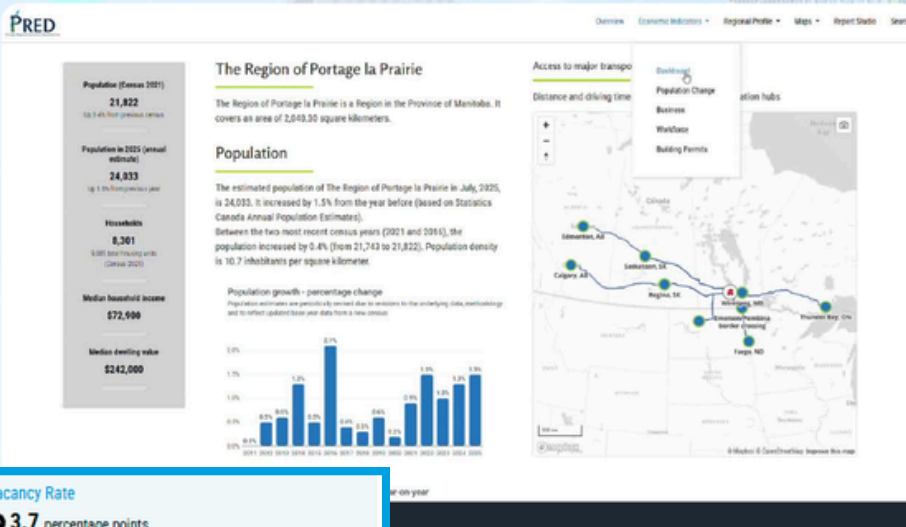


ACCESS TO DATA IS IMPORTANT TO BENCHMARK THE **SUCCESS OF THE COMMUNITY** AND TO ALLOW OUR BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO GROW.

Annual permits issued  
Total number of building permits issued per year



## ECONOMIC INDICATORS



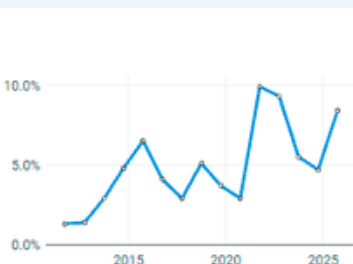
A centralized source of **local economic** and **community data** for the Region of Portage la Prairie.

The portal provides insights on **population, workforce and industries, household income, and transportation access**, helping businesses, investors, developers, and community partners **make informed decisions**.

### Vacancy Rate

▲ 3.7 percentage points

Vacancy rate across all unit types in Portage la Prairie in 2025 was 8.4%, an increase of 3.7 percentage points compared to the year before



[Data.InvestinPortage.ca](https://data.investinportage.ca)

Connect with PRED for **free** Environmental Scans and **economic indicators reports** on the region customized to your business or organizations needs!

Population

▲ 1.5% (24,033)

Unemployment rate

▲ 0.8 (4.3%)

Business Counts

▲ 2.9% (2,152)

EI Beneficiaries

▼ -26.3% (140)

[INVESTINPORTAGE.CA](https://investinportage.ca)

# UPCOMING EVENTS AND SESSIONS Q4 - 2026



## 10 - WEEK VIRTUAL RURAL BUSINESS ACCELERATOR

Are you a rural entrepreneur in South-Central Manitoba with a business idea ready to launch or grow?

### About the Initiate Rural Business Accelerator:

The Initiate Rural Business Accelerator helps rural and remote entrepreneurs launch new ideas or scale existing ventures. With mentorship, community support, and practical tools, you'll build the skills and confidence to grow a sustainable business and take your next big step.

### Program Dates:

October 13 - December 18, 2026  
Virtual workshop times TBD (based on participant availability)



Scan and Apply by September 21st, 2026 to save your seat!

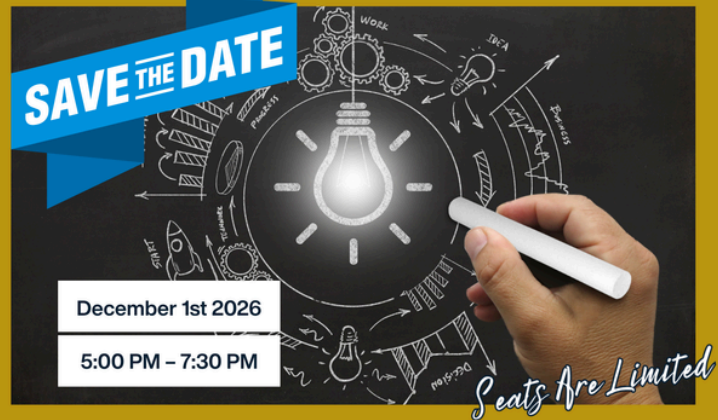
[www.smalleconomyworks.com/the-initiate-program#stream2](http://www.smalleconomyworks.com/the-initiate-program#stream2)

- ✓ Personalized coaching + peer learning to keep you on track and accountable
- ✓ Task-based business development with access to practical business rewards
- ✓ Connections to a local network of peers and Subject Matter Experts

Discover Resources. Build Connections. Create Impact.

## INNOVATORS & ENTREPRENEURS EVENING *Information Session*

This collaborative innovation event is designed to connect entrepreneurs, innovators, and business support organizations



**MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!**



[www.investinportage.ca](http://www.investinportage.ca)



204 - 856 - 5000



Investinportage



**CLICK HERE TO BE ADDED TO OUR MAILING LIST AND RECIEVE YOUR QUARTERLY REPORTS**