



## Community Profile

Municipal/County Name	Hillspring	Contact Name	Greg Robinson
Date	December 2023	Email	<a href="mailto:cao@hillspring.ca">cao@hillspring.ca</a>
		Phone Number	403-626-3876
Give an overview of your region (150-200 words)			
<p>Welcome to Hillspring, Alberta – a serene haven nestled in the heart of tranquility, where peaceful landscapes and scenic beauty create a stable and idyllic retreat. As you step into Hillspring, you are welcomed by a community that echoes the calm rhythms of nature, providing a peaceful haven for residents seeking a respite from the hustle and bustle of daily life.</p> <p>The scenic vistas that surround Hillspring paint a picture of natural beauty, offering a stable backdrop for a life of simplicity and harmony. Here, stability is not just a feature of the landscape but a hallmark of the community spirit, where residents cherish the peace that comes from living in a place where time seems to slow down.</p>			
<b>Sectors</b>			
What sectors are you most competitive for and why?			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Tourism-</b> with the proximity to Waterton Lakes National Park and the various outdoor recreational opportunities in the area, Hillspring lends itself to being a place to stop or stay on your way. Many people have seasonal homes in the village to take advantage of the outdoors and nature that are at its doorstep.</li> </ol>			
What is your value proposition?			
<p>In Hillspring, you'll discover a unique blend of tranquility and stability, creating a perfect setting for those who appreciate the beauty of a peaceful life amid breathtaking scenery. Join us in Hillspring, where the landscape mirrors the calm of the community, and every moment is an opportunity to embrace the serenity that defines this charming Alberta town.</p>			
<b>Costs of Doing Business</b>			
Tax rates			
Residential/Farmland: 8.80275 Non-Residential: 13.70769			
Land Costs per acre (average)			
Currently no land available for sale.			
Real estate costs per sq. ft (average)			
Average sales price YTD: \$190,875 (www.realtor.ca)			
Incentives or cost advantages (if any)			
No formal programs, council would be open to conversation.			
Other			
<b>Ease of Doing Business</b>			
What supports do you bring for new businesses (try to be specific)?			
A friendly team that will try to connect business with the supports and resources needed to move quickly and efficiently			
Are there major transport access (road, rail, air)			
Road: Highway 800 connects the community North and South to Highway 5 and Highway 505			
Describe the business culture in the community			
100% of the businesses in the village are small. A convenience store, brand new restaurant, and stained-glass studio plus some other home-based businesses exemplify the environment in Hillspring.			
How do you make new businesses feel welcomed? Feel supported?			
The municipality will promote the business through its communication channels.			
Who is the point of contact for inquiries?			
Greg Robinson			

Speed of Doing Business
What are the permitting & zoning timelines?
Follows the Municipal Government Act guidelines.
Is the point of contact for inquiries familiar with land use planning, development approvals and the building process?
Yes
Talent
What does your talent pipeline look like? How do you attract talent? What is the affordability look like (e.g., Average housing costs)
With the small population, the village relies on recruitment from the larger rural area including the other villages of Glenwood, Mountain View, and the neighboring Blood Tribe. There is a large number of retirees in the village so there could be potential for part-time staff.
Is there access to post-secondary or training programs offered?
Closest is Lethbridge.
What are the stats about the local workforce?
Alberta Regional Dashboard: 25 people in the labour force (largely at the school), participation rate of 35%, 0% unemployment. Stats Canada 2021 Census: 50% of the population is between the ages of 15-64 with an average age of 48.6.
How do you retain talent? What is the quality of life like in your community? (schools, recreation etc.) How do you ensure new residents feel welcome?
The biggest draw in the area is the access to the great outdoors. With so many world-class parks within 30 minutes, the outdoor enthusiast will find it easy to call this village home. A school that supports K-9 is split between Hillpring and the neighboring community Glenwood.
ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) + DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) ESG compliance and disclosure are top drivers of investor trust as there is a growing awareness that communities, companies, government etc. have the responsibility and resources to accomplish positive climate action and build a more sustainable and resilient future.
What are the environmental, sustainability or emission reduction initiatives in your community?
No official strategies are in place at this time.
What are the DEI initiatives in your community?
No official strategies in place at this time.
Other
Are there any other aspects that make your community unique?
In essence, it's the combination of Hillspring's stunning natural surroundings, tranquil atmosphere, strong community bonds, and stability, that make it a truly distinctive and special place within the Alberta landscape.
Include any relevant maps or photos of investment ready sites

