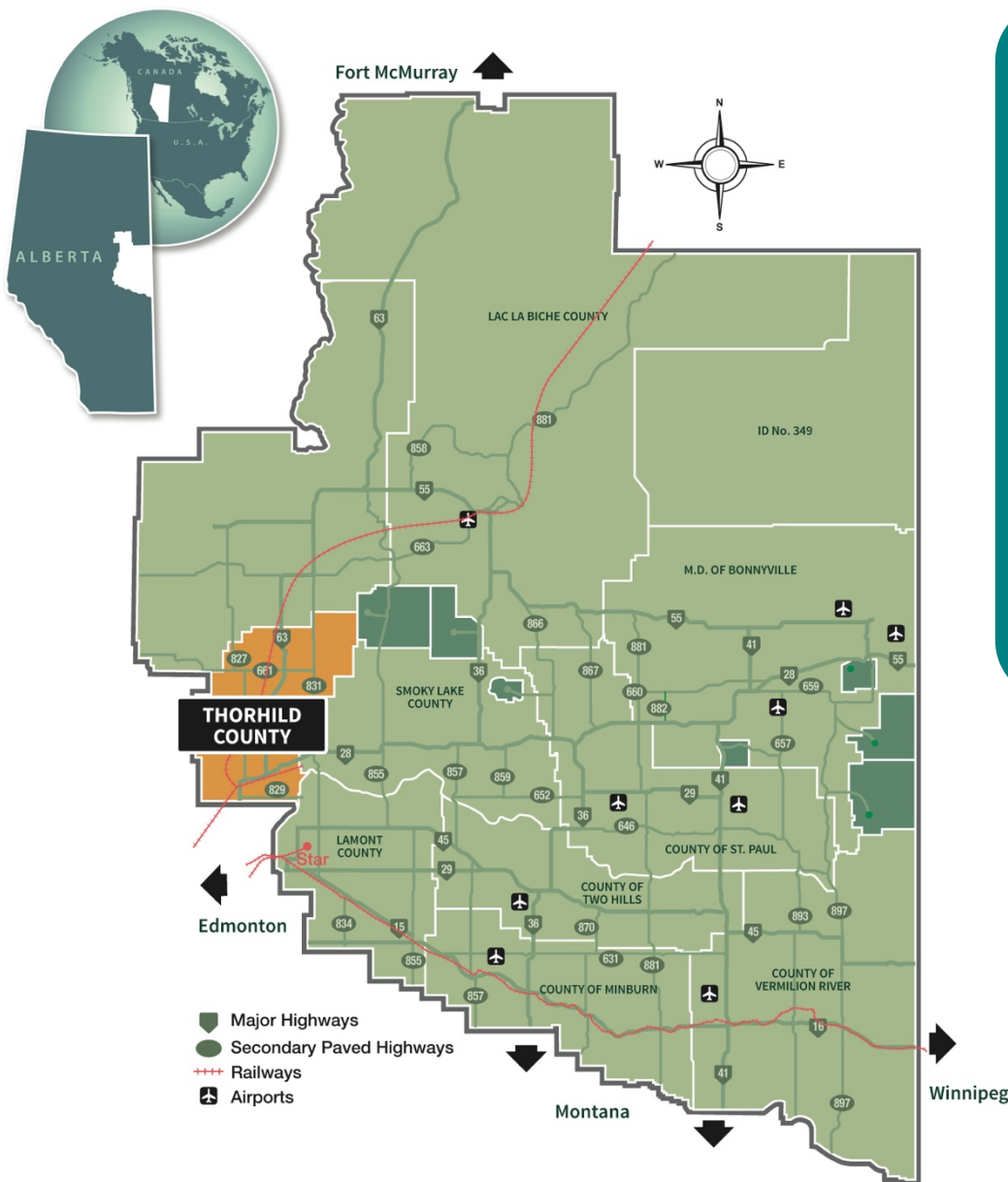


# Thorhild County

## CONNECTED TO GLOBAL MARKETS



The Agriculture Industry saw moderate growth from 2016 to 2021 with a 15% increase in Gross Farm Cash receipts hitting over \$84 million. The growing conditions are excellent for pulse and value-added crops. The County has an excellent climate for growing Hemp, Quinoa and Faba Beans. Global food trends show these crops are growing in demand.

The poultry category continues to show growth (the number Hens and Chickens up 49% in five years), which provides a great opportunity for value-added processing.

Thorhild County's location is ideally positioned to serve provincial, national and global markets. Highways 18, 28, and 63 offer business and industry excellent transportation routes. Highway 63 is the main north route to the Fort McMurray market and south to the capital region of Alberta with a population of over 1 million people. The active CN Railway corridor passes through the Hamlet of Thorhild, connecting the City of Edmonton to the south, and Fort McMurray to the north.

Farming Overview	2016*	2021*	% ±
Number of Farms	382	421	10.21%
Total Land - Km2	2,002	1,997	-0.25%
Land in Crops - acres	184,950	171,188	-7.44%
Natural Land for Pasture - acres	59,730	70,432	17.92%
Number of Farm Operators	550	565	2.73%
Number of Employees	167	38	-77.25%
Gross Farm Receipts	\$73,844,150	\$84,804,638	14.84%

\*Source: Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, and community information. Figures are based on number of farms reporting.

Crop Overview	2016*	2021*	% ±
Canola - acres	59,559	60,172	1.03%
Wheat - acres	43,562	36,307	-16.65%
Barley - acres	24,892	21,683	-12.89%
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures - acres	28,708	24,215	-15.65%
All other tame hay and fodder crops - acres	7,546	11,289	49.60%
Oats - acres	10,361	11,300	9.06%
Dry field peas - acres	8,090	5,186	-35.90%
Fruits, Berries and Nuts - acres	n/a	29	n/a
Lentils - acres	0	n/a	n/a
Total rye - acres	n/a	n/a	n/a
Flaxseed - acres	0	n/a	n/a
Vegetables - acres (excluding greenhouses)	38	9	-76.32%
Total greenhouse area in use - square feet	21,200	3,790	-82.12%

\*Source: Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, and community information. Figures are based on number of farms reporting. n/a - not available from Statistics Canada Census data

Thorhild County has 421 farms with over 171,000 acres of crop land with gross farm receipts estimated at approximately \$84.8 million in 2021, a close to 15% increase from 2016.

Livestock Overview	2016*	2021*	% ±
Value of Livestock & Poultry	\$43,166,027	\$36,621,627	-15.16%
Cattle and Calves #	19,932	23,755	19.18%
Dairy Cows #	n/a	1	n/a
Beef Cows #	n/a	9,637	n/a
Heifers #	1,793	2,727	52.09%
Calves #	7,651	9,469	23.76%
Steers #	411	1,344	227.01%
Bulls #	523	577	10.33%
Pigs #	1,287	651	-49.42%
Hens and Chickens #	55,035	82,168	49.30%
Sheep and Lambs #	473	1,289	172.52%

\*Source: Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture, and community information. Figures are based on number of farms reporting. n/a - not available from Statistics Canada Census data

Lower operating costs, excellent market access, available land and a skilled labour force makes Thorhild County an excellent choice for value-added agriculture investment.



The Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development lists the value of agricultural land in the County as \$1,861/acre in 2021.