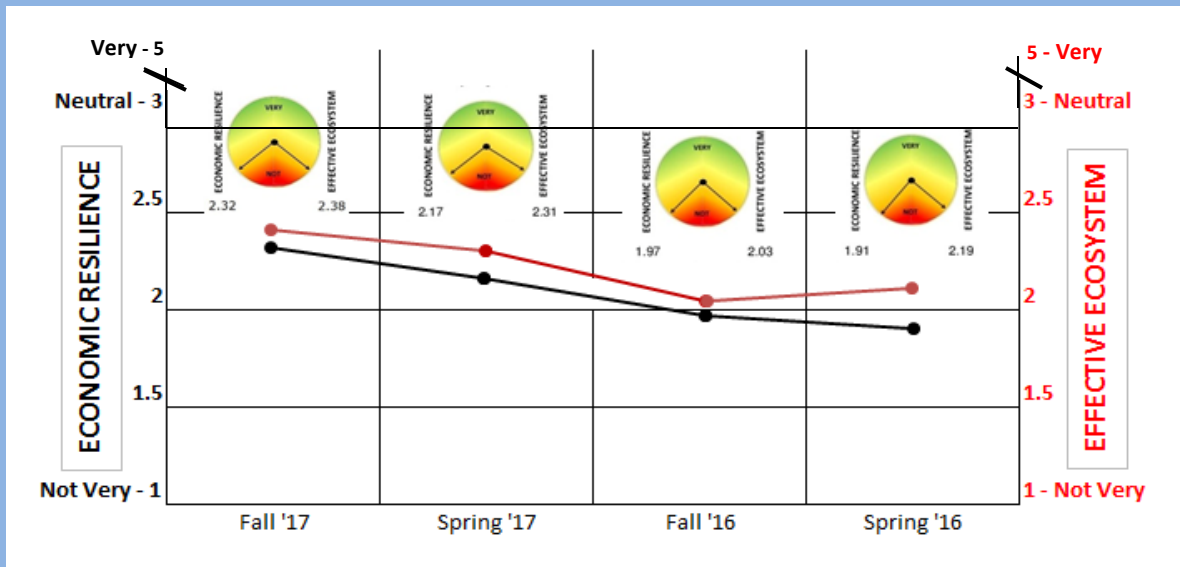


Weakness prevails. Progress meagre. ABCtech reports on Alberta's economic resilience and its innovation ecosystem – Fall '17 Survey



Economic Resilience (ER) – Weak and Widespread
Both Edmonton and the Calgary Regions are weak as are Alberta industries. The strongest include: Government, Environment, Communications, Energy and Tourism. Weakest are: Forestry, InfoTech, and Manufacturing.

Prime ER Indicators - Investment & People Impact
Corporate investment, job creation, and employment are viewed by respondents as the prime indicators of economic resilience. Job layoffs and Unemployment were less predominant than in the fall of 2016.

Constraints on Progress
2:1 of respondents view Alberta's Innovation Ecosystem as ineffective vs. 23% viewing it as effective - up from 3% since 2016. Comments contain extensive critiquing and many recommendations aimed at governments.

Government's Role – Job Support & SMEs
Policy and incentive support of small business and start-up innovation are expected as appropriate. Less so: invest in technology and job creating research and negotiating trade agreements..

87% Agree – Alberta's Innovation Ecosystem is essential for diversification

The Report echoes earlier weaknesses identified in the System's management processes.
Strongest: Technology, Manpower, Facilities & Equipment, Information excluding Financing.
Weakest: Decision making, Measures of Results, Accountability, and Leadership excluding Communications.

TOP 3 OPTIONS FOR SIGNIFICANT WEALTH CREATION

Immediate <5-years	Mid-term 5-15 years	Long-term >15 years
Tourism (Hospitality)	Bio-tech (Health)	Nuclear energy including –
Agriculture (Food Processing)	Renewable energy	advanced manufacturing
Construction (Real Estate)	Transportation and Infotech	Renewable energy

**Essential for creating the new Alberta: A resilient economy.
Leadership in innovation. Energy transitions.**

Join us in Edmonton, June 8-9th, 2018 – The Festival of BIG Ideas for addressing what can be done to advance Alberta's economic resilience. FOR MORE - Contact pkinkaide@ABCtech.ca



For more –
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