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What do you want to do?

Edmonton well-represented on Alberta's best employer list

The Edmonton Journal

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Ten Edmonton-based companies were rated among Alberta's top 25 employers:

- BioWare Corp., 266 employees -- Video game developer has 40-seat theatre for employee and family movie nights, offers three weeks vacation to start and grants staff an extra week off upon release of a new product, and offers four separate health plans or cash equivalent for benefits.

- Epcor, 2,352 employees (2,208 local) -- Offers employees apprenticeship training, donates \$200 to local charities every time an employee volunteers 50 hours, and grants five extra days off a year as personal time.

- Focus Corp., 1,015 employees (240 local) -- Has an employee profit-sharing plan based on individual and corporate performance, has a share purchase plan and annual matching retirement contributions up to six per cent of salary.

- Matrikon Inc., 825 employees -- Developed performance management system for technical employees who wish to advance without entering sales or management ranks, lets employees transfer to international locations and offers bonuses when firm hires a recommended candidate.

- Micralyne, 154 employees -- Has sports field for summer soccer and turns into winter rink, has profit sharing and employee share purchase plans; makes matching RSP contributions.

- NAIT, 1,950 employees -- Wide range of meals with culinary arts centre, provides maternity leave top up and free membership to fitness facility with discounts for families.

- PCL, 1,266 employees (444 local) -- \$30-million addition to HQ provides learning and training centre, is 100 per cent employee owned, offers staff opportunity to move from job to job and has promote-from-within philosophy, corporate hockey tournament for teams from across North America.

- Spruceland Millworks, 175 employees (125 local) -- Gave employees prosperity bonuses last year for record profit, pays daily production bonus and shorter workday for reaching production targets early, has employee ownership plan and employee meetings in exotic locations, like an all-expenses paid trip to Mexico.

- Alberta Workers Compensation Board, 1,543 employees -- Advocates wellness with quit-smoking and weight-loss programs, first aid and onsite massage services, free membership to fitness centre and maternity top-up payments, employee referral bonuses and tuition subsidies.

Other Alberta-based employers:

- Agrium Inc.

- AltaGas Ltd.

- Bayer CropScience Inc.
- Enbridge Inc.
- Enmax Corporation
- City of Medicine Hat
- Midwest Surveys Inc.
- Nexen Inc.
- PrimeWest Energy Inc.
- Rogers Insurance Ltd.
- Shell Canada Limited
- Suncor Energy Inc.
- Syncrude Canada Ltd.
- Veer Incorporated
- WorleyParsons Komex

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