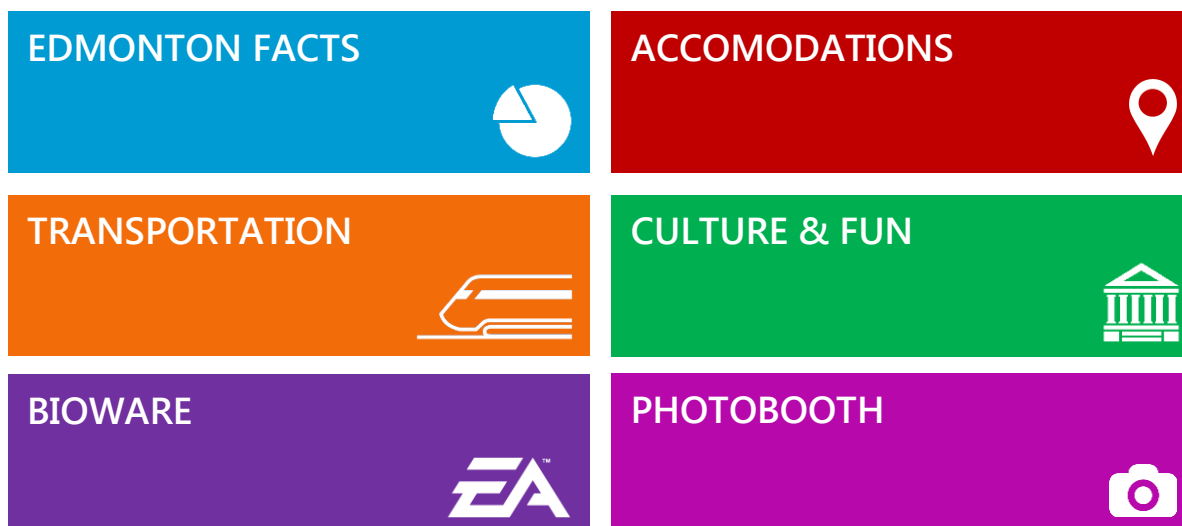


LIVING IN EDMONTON

A HANDY GUIDE TO WORK AT BioWare 
EDMONTON



MAIN MENU



INTRO

We would like to thank you for your interest in BioWare, a division of EA. We know working in another country can be a challenge, but it can also be a unique opportunity to get to know a new place, culture, and people and have a great amount of new experiences. This guide has useful information about various topics that should answer many of your questions, but feel free to contact your recruiter to address any questions or concerns you may have.

EDMONTON FACTS

Monetary unit: Canadian Dollar
Politics: Federal Monarchy, Constitutional Monarchy, Parliamentary System
Prime Minister: Stephen Harper



Canada

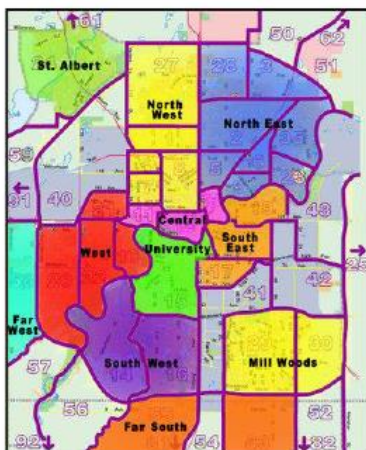


Land mass is 9,970,610 KM²
Second Largest Country in the World
Capital: Ottawa Ontario

Population of Canada: 35 million (April 2013)
Official languages are English and French

The city of Edmonton is the 2nd largest city in Alberta and the 5th largest municipality in Canada.

It is a cultural, governmental and educational center. Edmonton is known for holding year-round festivals, reflected in its nickname "The Festival City."



Edmonton



The city is known for being friendly and beautiful with a booming economy and diverse workforce making it a great place to work and live.

Edmonton is called Canada's Gateway to the North, as it is the farthest north of Canada's large cities and has import road, rail & air transportation links.

COST OF LIVING

We imagine that you are wondering if your income will be enough to get by in Edmonton. Below you can find some examples of regular consumption products along with their average prices in the city.



Lunch: \$12-\$15



Cup of cappuccino: \$4.00



1 pint of beer (bar): \$5.00



Drink (bar): \$6.00



Milk (1 L): \$2.15



Beefsteak (1lbs): \$12.00



Bread loaf: \$2.50



Pasta (packet): \$3.00



Bag of chips: \$2.00



Roasted chicken: \$10.00



Can of Coke: 1.50



Chocolate bar: \$1.50



Gyms \$30-\$60



Movie ticket: \$13.00



Amusement Park: \$20-\$40

FINDING ACCOMODATIONS

It is highly recommended to start your house hunting and checking out all other amenities over the internet. Below you can find some websites that could prove useful in your search.

Useful Links

[City information](#)
[General information](#)
[Edmonton Tourism](#)
[Discover Edmonton](#)
[Immigration Alberta](#)
[Edmonton](#)
[Environment](#)
[Edmonton Recycling](#)
[Travel Alberta Video](#)

Housing

[Padmapper](#)
[Rent Edmonton](#)
[Edmonton Kijiji](#)
[Realtor.ca](#)
[Craigslist](#)

Telephone

[Rogers](#)
[Telus](#)
[Bell](#)
[Fido](#)

Internet/Cable

[Bell](#)
[Telus](#)
[Shaw](#)

Energy

[Epcor](#)
[Enmax](#)

Family Resources

[Public Schools](#)
[Catholic Schools](#)
[Childcare](#)
[Child Friendly](#)
[Health Care Services](#)
[Public Library](#)
[Find a Doctor](#)
[Hospitals](#)

Pets

[General Info](#)
[Edmonton Humane](#)
[Society](#)
[Vets & Pet Hospitals](#)
[Pet Licences](#)



EDMONTON BY DISTRICTS

1 – North West

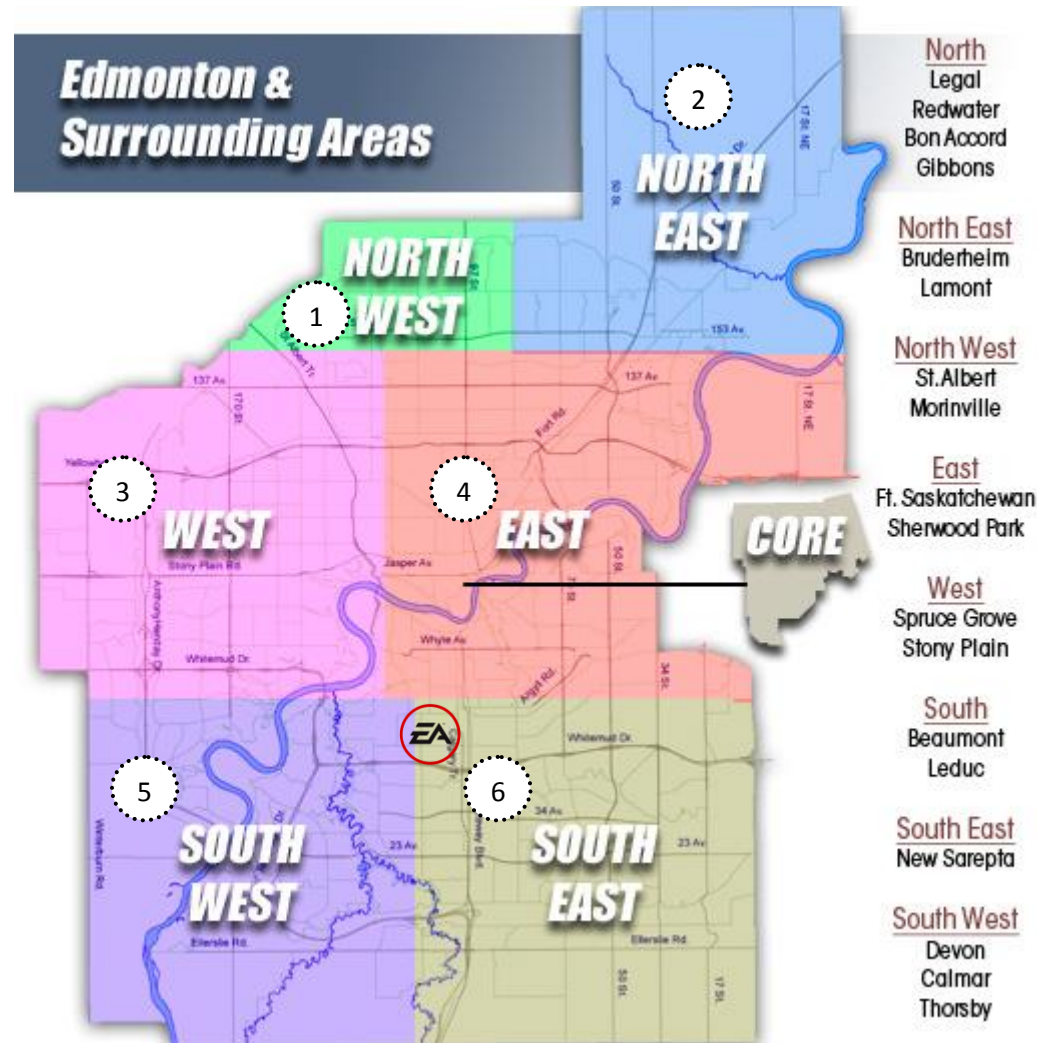
· A suburban area of Edmonton. They have plenty of restaurants and landmarks such as Big Lake. It is also the home for CFB Edmonton, the highest military authority in Western Canada.

3 - West

· A mostly suburban area that also includes the world famous West Edmonton Mall, a landmark in Edmonton. It is also the home of our Edmonton Valley Zoo.

5 – South West

· A suburban area of Edmonton offering plenty of beautiful parks and golf courses. Edmonton Rainbow Valley is based here with fantastic parks for summer and a ski hill for winter.



2 – North East

· Houses one of 4 industrial neighbourhoods within Edmonton known mostly for the Edmonton Energy & Technology Park. It is also known for Elk Island, they're amazing national park

4 - East

· Another suburb of Edmonton best known for housing Heritage Village, an outdoor living history museum.. Holds the core of downtown and access to the River Valley.

6 – South East

· A mostly suburban area of Edmonton that houses the BioWare Edmonton Studio within its geographical region. Plenty of eateries and shopping.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

There are plenty of options to get around Edmonton. Edmonton offers several bus lines as well as a light transit system. In addition to that, Edmonton encourages walking & cycling as an active fun way to get around. Otherwise, you can easily grab a [Cab](#) or check out the [Via Rail](#) train for any longer trips.

BUSES

The Edmonton Transit system runs between 5am and 1:30am. They provide 189 routes, 25 hubs and 15 stations.

 **ETS** More info @ <http://www.edmonton.ca/transportation/edmonton-transit-system-ets.aspx>

BIKES

Edmonton is a very cycle friendly city offering close to 500 km of bike routes. If you do not own a bike, you can easily rent/purchase one for a reasonable price through [BikeWorks](#), a series of volunteer run community bike workshops.

PRICING INFO

TICKET TYPE	BUS	NOTES
Regular tickets		
One-way ticket	\$3.20	If you need to take more than one bus, please be sure to get a receipt so as to not have to pay again for the bus.
10 trips	\$24.00	
Monthly passes		
Student/Senior	\$69.00	These prices are valid as of February 2013.
Adult	\$89.00	

APPS FOR CITY SURVIVAL

Here are a few apps that should make your life easier when getting around!



Edmonton Transit
11904 154 St Nw, Edmonton
<http://nearyouca.com>



Edmonton Bicycle & Touring Club
10125 97 Ave Nw, Edmonton
<http://nearyouca.com>



EDMONTON TOURISM
9990 Jasper Ave NW, Edmonton
<http://nearyouca.com>

BUS PASS – Edmonton Transit System

When using public transportation, it is mandatory to purchase monthly passes or tickets.




Tickets and monthly passes are available at the following locations:

- [Downtown ETS Sales Outlets](#)
- [Northeast ETS Sales Outlets](#)
- [Northwest ETS Sales Outlets](#)
- [Southeast ETS Sales Outlets](#)
- [Southwest ETS Sales Outlets](#)
- [Regional ETS Sales Outlets](#)



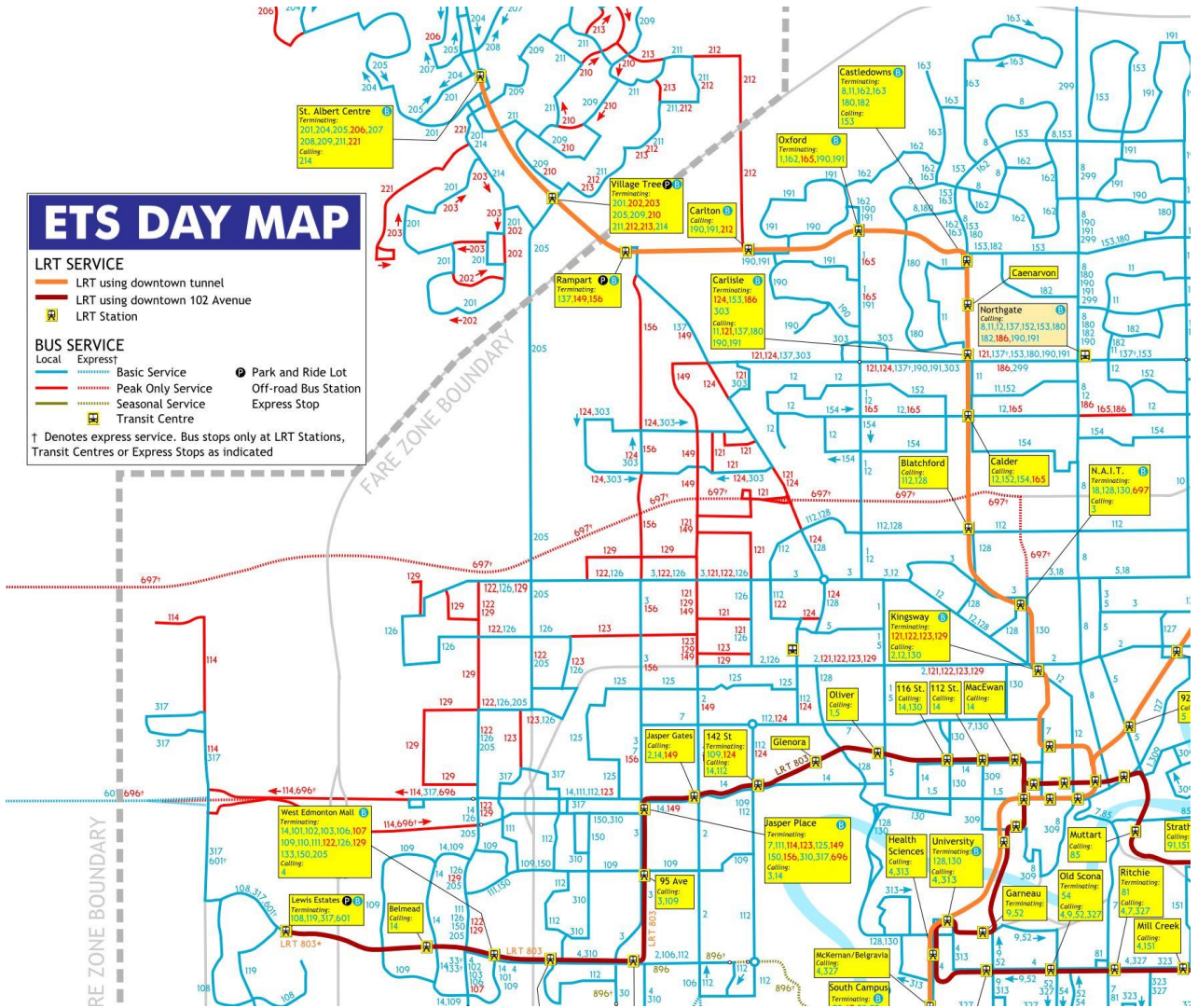
ETS DAY MAP

LRT SERVICE

-  LRT using downtown tunnel
-  LRT using downtown 102 Avenue
-  LRT Station

BUS SERVICE

-  Local
 -  Express
 -  Basic Service
 -  Peak Only Service
 -  Seasonal Service
 -  Transit Centre
 -  Park and Ride Lot
 -  Off-road Bus Station
 -  Express Stop
- † Denotes express service. Bus stops only at LRT Stations, Transit Centres or Express Stops as indicated



CULTURE & FUN

NIGHTLIFE

Edmonton's nightlife has something for everyone, including [Bars, Pubs, Clubs & Lounges](#) or perhaps even [Edmonton Casinos](#)!

MUSEUMS

Edmonton is a city of great history with plenty of museums or educational spots to visit which includes, but is not limited to, the [Royal Alberta Museum](#), [Art Gallery of Alberta](#), [Edmonton Valley Zoo](#), [John Janzen Nature Centre](#), [Telus World of Science](#), [Muttart Conservatory](#), [Fort Edmonton Park](#), [Citadel Theatre](#) and many more!

EDMONTON IN AND AROUND

Edmonton is a lively city all year round! In the winter, check out: [Skiing/Snowboarding](#), [Skating](#), [Festival of Trees](#), [Sledding](#), [Dog Sledding](#). In the summer: [Art Walk](#), [Taste of Edmonton](#), [Capital Ex](#), [Fringe Festival](#), [Folk Fest](#), [Street Performers](#), [Shakespeare in the Park](#), [Heritage Days](#), [Symphony under the Sky](#), [Jazz Festival](#), [Golf Courses](#), [Outdoor Pools](#), [Corn Maze](#), [Canadian Finals Rodeo](#) & [Edmonton Indy](#). All year long you could also check out [Jubilee Auditorium](#) or [Rec Centers](#).

For those of you with an adventurous spirit – you might also want to try [Skydiving](#), [Rock Climbing](#), [Canoeing](#), [Hot Air Ballooning](#), [Paintball](#), [Sailing](#), [City Chase](#) & [Skateparks](#).

You could also travel to other parts of Alberta that aren't too far away including [Calgary](#), [Banff](#) or even [Jasper](#)!

You may also be interested in checking out other provinces in Canada. What better way than hiking or camping at some of [Canada's National Parks](#)?



SPORTS AND OUTDOORS

Besides the different outdoor activities or sports teams you can join in on when working at BioWare, Edmonton offers many possibilities for sports fans.

SPORTS TEAMS

Sports in Edmonton are very important. Some of the professional teams found in the area include the [Oilers](#) found in the National Hockey League. In addition to the Oilers, Edmonton also has [Eskimos](#) of the Canadian Football League, the [Capitals](#) of the North American Baseball League and [Rush](#) of the National Lacrosse League. Edmonton also has a sizeable female roller derby following, with their most well-known team being the [Oil City Derby Girls](#) .

PARKS & RIVER VALLEY

Edmonton's parks and River Valley breathe life into a vibrant city, providing an integrated safe environment for active living and urban wellness. The [River Valley](#) forms a "Ribbon of Green" that winds its way along the North Saskatchewan River and through the heart of the city. It features natural areas, [paved and natural trails and amenities](#). Wildlife sighting's in the River Valley are common, so bring your camera!

As the largest urban park in Canada, with more than 160 kilometres of maintained pathways and 20 major parks, the River Valley is a natural wonder for all Edmontonians to be proud of.

SKIING/SNOWBOARDING

It's no secret that Edmonton has amazing mountains skiing and snowboarding. Edmonton offers several places to practice your skills including [Snow Valley](#), [Snow Ridge Ski Area](#), [Rabbit Hill Snow Resort](#) & [Edmonton Ski Club](#).

If you'd like to ski or board in the mountains, the [Rockies](#) are only a few hours' drive away. There are even [companies](#) who specialize in bussing people to the mountains and back in one day.



EDMONTON HOTSPOTS



West Edmonton Mall

The world famous West Edmonton Mall has more than 800 shops, 100 eateries and 10 world-class attractions all under one roof.



Old Strathcona

Old Strathcona is one of Canada's top shopping districts and offers a wide variety of dining and pubs. This historic neighborhood also is a center for music, art & theatre.



Fort Edmonton Park

Fort Edmonton Park is a place where time has stopped and is waiting to be experienced as life was through four historical periods between 1846 and 1929.



Edmonton Valley Zoo

This zoo is home to more than 100 exotic, endangered and native species. They offer different climate and habitats for the full experience.



Canada's Festival City

Edmonton hosts an incredible array of colourful, entertaining festivals every year that celebrate arts, culture, sports, film, theatre and winter.



TELUS World of Science

Become part of a larger-than-life experience in IMAX, take part in fun and informative science demonstrations and explore a changing selection of feature exhibitions.

EDMONTON CUISINE

The [Edmonton Restaurant](#) scene has a lot to offer, whether it be distinct burger joints around the city or the finest of dining, Edmonton has it all.

Edmonton, being the City of Festivals, offers [A Taste of Edmonton](#), a festival with a dazzling array of tastes and sounds that fill their Sir Winston Churchill Square. It is said to reflect the vitality and dynamism of the city. A Taste of Edmonton is a 10 day experience with live music and tastes from all around the globe. This year, they will be present a new venue with an increased focus on independently owned eateries and vendors around the city.

For all the meat lovers out there, Edmonton is probably best known for their beef. If you're checking out the restaurant scene in Edmonton, it is highly recommended to go to one of the many [Steakhouses](#) offered around the city!

If you're looking for the best rated dining experience in all of Edmonton, you should check out [Corso32](#), [The Marc](#), [Wildflower](#), [Three Boars Eatery](#) or even [MRKT](#).

If you're in Old Strathcona, it is highly recommended to check out [Whyte Ave](#). Whyte Avenue is the place to be for any kind of shops, restaurants, bars and buskers in Edmonton. There are almost 100 places to eat on this arterial road, many of which are locally owned businesses.



Bon appetite!



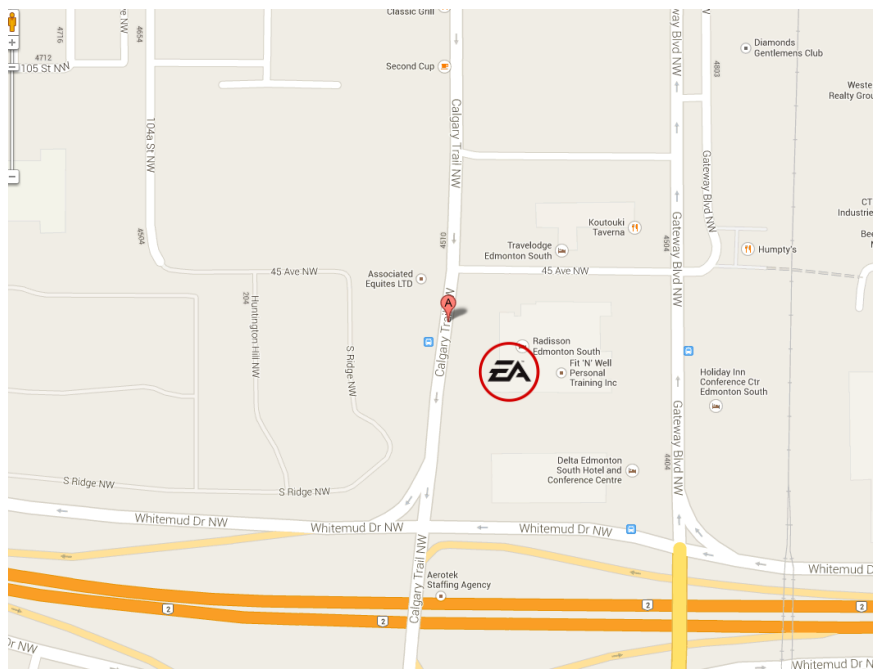
WELCOME TO BOWARE, a division of EA

BioWare's legendary Edmonton studio was established in early 1995 by Ray Muzyka, Greg Zeschuk & Augustine Yip, 3 doctors that studied together at the University of Alberta. They released their first game in 1996 & went on to release 6 more in the studio's first 10 years including Baldur's Gate, Baldur's Gate II, Neverwinter Nights, Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic & Jade Empire. In late 2005, BioWare & Pandemic Studios joined forces, two years later, they announced that Electronic Arts had bought the partnership, with BioWare retaining its culture and brand.

The latest blockbuster to come out of Edmonton is Mass Effect 3. The studio is hard at work developing the Dragon Age franchise. In December 2011, after more than 5 years of development, BioWare's Austin studio, with assistance from a team in Edmonton, released the highly anticipated MMORPG Star Wars: The Old Republic, BioWare's games have continually achieved critical and commercial success. Our main releases average a Metacritic score above 90%.

Our core values: quality in our products, quality in the workplace & entrepreneurship – all in the context of humility & integrity. Our mission: to create, deliver, and evolve the most emotionally engaging games in the world!

Our office in Edmonton is located at 4445 Calgary Trail NW Suite 200, Edmonton, AB, T6H 5R7.



DRESS CODE POLICY

At EA, employees are encouraged to dress casually.



SPARE TIME

In the studio there are areas where you can play videogames, or just relax at lunch time or at the end of the day.

PHOTO BOOTH

Someone wise once said a picture is worth a thousand words. We're practical people, so why not save ourselves a few thousands of words?





Created by BioWare Edmonton Recruitment - 2013