Wilkie to Get New Grain Terminal

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Wilkie will be the new home for a grain terminal being built by GrainsConnect Canada. The facility will be a $30 million investment for the Calgary based company.

Warren Stow, President of GrainsConnect Canada, said Wilkie is a great location for the company to expand, "We like the amount of grain production in that area, we like the commodity mix. It's a strategic location for our rail partner, CN. So there's a number of factors that we look at when we pick the location and ticked most of the boxes."

This will be the second terminal being built by the company in Saskatchewan, the first being located in Maymont, SK. "We're in the process of constructing in Maymont. That location will be operational in the fall of next year. Then our elevator at Wilkie, just south of Wilkie, that will be the second elevator in Saskatchewan. Then we're looking at constructing two in Alberta basically a year after each of those in Saskatchewan. So about every six months, we'll bring an elevator online."

The elevator will be able to store a capacity of 35,000 tonnes and the ability to load 130 rail cars within 10 hours.
Construction is expected to start immediately and to be finished by July of 2018. Around 50 construction jobs will be created during the building progress with a maximum of 150 to 200 at the time of the slip pour. Once operational, there will be 12 to 15 full time positions. Stow commented that they plan to keep the jobs localized.

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