

Khanty-Mansii – Alberta Relations



Government of Alberta ■
International and Intergovernmental Relations



PROFILE

Area: 532,100 km²

Capital: Khanty-Mansiysk

Other Major Centres: Surgut, and Nizhnevartovsk

Population: 1.52 million (2009)

Language: Russian

Government: Khanty-Mansii is an autonomous okrug located within the Tyumen oblast. It is administered by a Governor & elected legislative council (Duma), and holds four seats in the bicameral Russian Federal Assembly: two in the Council of Federation and two in the federal State Duma.

Head of Government: Governor Natalya Komarova (appointed February 2010)

Currency: \$1 CDN = 29.49 Roubles ; 1 Rouble = \$0.03 CDN (June 2010)

Unemployment: 1.4% (2009)

Key Industry Sectors: Oil and natural gas, forestry, and fishing

DID YOU KNOW?

- Khanty-Mansii is divided into 22 municipal units, each of them governed by its own administration.
- Khanty-Mansiisk City is 2759 km from Moscow.
- Between 1991 and 2009, the population of Khanty-Mansii increased by 86,900 people to 1.52 million.
- The topography of Khanty-Mansii is very similar to that of Northern Alberta. The region is covered mostly by forests (52%) and swamp-land (39%).
- Like Alberta, Khanty-Mansii is rich in natural resources, especially oil.
- There are 29 specially protected nature territories in Khanty-Mansii; it represents 6.9% of the Okrug territory.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Both Alberta and Khanty-Mansii are members of the Northern Forum, an organization that brings together sub-national governments from a number of northern countries to address common political, environmental, and economic issues.
- The majority of Alberta companies working in the Russian oil patch are located in Khanty-Mansii.
- In February 1995, Alberta signed a cooperation agreement with Khanty-Mansii.
- Alberta has provided customized training programs to Khanty-Mansii government officials, on a cost-recovery basis, in the areas of public expenditure management, health care and secondary education administration.

KHANTY-MANSII'S ECONOMY

- Oil and gas are the key natural resources of Khanty-Mansii, and the oil and gas industry plays a dominant role in the district's economy.
- Approximately 9% of the total volume of industrial production in Russia falls at the Autonomous Okrug.
- The main exports of the district are oil and oil products, fuel, timber and timber products.

ENERGY

- Khanty-Mansii is the source of about 55 percent (2009) of Russia's oil production, making Khanty-Mansii the second largest crude oil producer in the world, after Saudi Arabia.
- In 2009, Khanty-Mansii produced 270 million tons of oil and approximately 36 billion of cubic meters of natural gas.
- The Khanty-Mansii is one of the world's largest oil-producing areas and Russia's main oil and gas region.
- Numerous oil production associations based in Khanty-Mansii have sent staff to Alberta for training and to source technology and equipment.
- 7.3% of the total volume of electric power generation over Russian Federation is generated on the Autonomous Okrug territory.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- High levels of oil production in Khanty-Mansii provide numerous opportunities for Alberta energy companies.
- Rapid development of the oil industry, construction, and power engineering has led to a huge population growth, with more than one million people moving to Khanty-Mansii over the past 30 years. This pace of growth is creating an expanding market for products and services.
- There has been considerable progress in recent years in Khanty-Mansii regarding infrastructure improvement, and there are emerging opportunities in such fields as construction and telecommunications.

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY

- The Khanty, Mansii and Forest Nenets people are indigenous to the area, but only account for 1.5% of the total population.
- The aboriginal people are Finno-Uralics distantly related to both Hungarians and Finns. They live primarily in rural areas and maintain a clan system as well as their traditional religion and language. Many support themselves through traditional methods of fishing, hunting, and trapping.
- The indigenous population in Khanty-Mansii has concerns with how its traditional way of life is being affected by increasing industrialization. It faces many of the same challenges of other indigenous populations throughout the world.

RECENT VISITS

- June 2008: A Khanty-Mansii delegation attended the Global Petroleum Show in Calgary.
- December 2007: A delegation from Khanty-Mansii visited Alberta and met with Treaty 8 Grand Chief Arthur Noskey and Dene Tha' Chief James Ahnassay regarding economically developing areas traditionally inhabited by indigenous people.
- April 2007: A delegation from Khanty-Mansii visited Alberta on a CIDA-funded study tour under the Canada-Russian Northern Development Partnership Program (NORDEP).

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- The Russian Ambassador to Canada is His Excellency Georgy Mamedov.
- The Canadian Ambassador to Russia is Mr. John Sloan.

