

Final Report

Council of State Governments (CSG) Spring Conference

Date: May 15 - 18, 2009

Government of Alberta ■

Overview:

Len Webber, Parliamentary Assistant for Energy, MLA Calgary-Foothills and Ty Lund, MLA for Rocky Mountain House participated in the Council of State Governments (CSG) Spring Conference in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, May 16 - 18, 2009. The event covered a number of topics relevant to Alberta's interest, including energy and transportation and provided a forum to share best practices of delivering government services to the public. The CSG provides a non-partisan platform to promote cooperation among the legislatures across the United States. Alberta and British Columbia are associate members of the western chapter of CSG.

Mission Objectives:

The mission met its objectives, allowing Alberta to:

- Profile the province to legislators from across the U.S.
- Showcase Alberta as a resourceful, responsible energy producer and a strong supporter of greater economic cooperation with the U.S.
- Explore areas of mutual interest and opportunities to enhance cooperation with jurisdictions in the U.S.
- Work with the CSG organization to secure Alberta presentation opportunities at future conferences on topics related to energy, environment, agriculture, and transportation.

Results:

MLAs Lund and Webber networked with legislators and government leaders from across the U.S. and discussed regional and current issues such as energy, climate change, transportation and the world financial crisis. The mission also provided opportunities to explore areas of mutual interest and opportunities to enhance cooperation.

Friday, May 15: *Travel to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho*

Saturday, May 16: *Attended 2009 Council of State Governments Spring Conference*

- MLA Webber participated in the Energy & Environment Policy Task Force business meeting, which discussed the new U.S. administration's energy and environment objectives.
- MLA Ty Lund participated in the Transportation Policy Task Force business meeting, which discussed the new *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users* and the impending impact on states given the current economic situation in the U.S.

Sunday, May 17: *Attended 2009 Council of State Governments Spring Conference*

- MLA Webber participated in a session on *Electricity Transmission: Overcoming Key Challenges*, which discussed managing the delivery of safe and reliable supplies of electricity and natural gas to the U.S.
- MLA Ty Lund attended the *Stimulating Transportation* session that discussed the U.S. federal economic stimulus package and the attention and money directed to transportation projects across the U.S.

Monday, May 18: *Travel to Edmonton*

Delegation:

Len Webber, Parliamentary Assistant for Energy, MLA Calgary-Foothills
Ty Lund, MLA for Rocky Mountain House