

Final Report

Mission to India, United Kingdom and Hong Kong
January 2 to 24, 2009



Overview:

Deputy Premier and Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations, Ron Stevens, led an Alberta delegation to India, the United Kingdom and Hong Kong from January 2 to 24, 2009.

Minister Stevens' mission included meetings with government officials, businesses and investors to advance Alberta's international interests.

Mission Objectives:

The mission was successful in meeting its objectives as outlined below:

- promote investment and trade opportunities in Alberta with growing markets, and reinforce Alberta's commitment to international trade with long-time economic partners;
- strengthen Alberta's relations with India, the United Kingdom and Hong Kong;
- highlight Alberta's global role as a stable, resourceful and responsible energy producer; and
- pursue opportunities to increase collaborative research and technology development.

Results:

During his mission, Minister Stevens met with a variety of elected officials, department staff, diplomatic staff and businesses to discuss key areas of interest for Alberta. The following are highlights of the meetings and activities during the mission.

India:

- Attended and delivered a keynote speech to approximately 2,500 people at Asia's largest oil and gas show, the 'Petrotech 2009 Oil and Gas Conference'.
- Met with a variety of public and private sector leaders, including:
 - India's Federal Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and India's Director General of Hydrocarbons, to discuss potential energy sector collaboration between India and Alberta;
 - the Secretary for the Federal Ministry of External Affairs, to discuss Alberta's coal reserves and the province's \$2 billion investment in carbon capture and storage;
 - the Chairman of Oil India Limited and Oil and Natural Gas Limited, to discuss opportunities to leverage Alberta technologies and expertise in the development of India's energy sector;
 - the Chairman of India's largest downstream operator, Indian Oil Corporation, to review potential investment opportunities in Alberta;
 - the President and Chairman of India's largest private bank, ICICI Limited, to discuss investment opportunities in Alberta;

- Larsen and Toubro, India's largest engineering firm, Infosys Technologies, India's largest IT firm, and Reliance Industries Limited, to discuss opportunities to invest in Alberta; and
- senior Canadian officials in Bangalore, Mumbai and New Delhi, including the Canadian High Commissioner, the Consul General and senior trade officials.

United Kingdom:

- Participated in TD Newcrest's London Oil Sands Forum and provided the keynote address during the forum dinner. The speech highlighted Alberta's fiscal position and continued investment opportunities in the province's energy sector.
- Spoke on trade and investment opportunities in Alberta at a Trade Net reception.
- Spoke at a UK Trade and Investment event, which was attended by businesses interested in participating in Alberta oil sands projects.
- Met with the Deputy High Commissioner and all department heads of the High Commission.
- Conducted an interview with the Financial Times to discuss Alberta's stable investment environment.
- Met with various representatives from the British business community and discussed opportunities in Alberta's energy and other industry sectors.
- Spoke at the opening of the new location of the Alberta UK Office and at a dinner to commemorate the fifth anniversary of Alberta's office in London.

Hong Kong:

- To discuss ways to strengthen ties in trade, investment, innovation and education services, Minister Stevens met with the following:
 - the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) Government;
 - the Chief Executive of Macao SAR;
 - executives of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong; and
 - the Consul General of Canada in Hong Kong.
- Visited the Hong Kong Science and Technology Park to foster a closer collaborative relationship with the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation. Topics discussed included joint research, university and industry collaboration, technology development and commercialization.
- Met with the Cheung Kong/Hutchison Group, to discuss investment opportunities in Alberta.
- Toured the Canadian International School in Macao, which is the first out-of-province institution accredited by Alberta Education to offer the Alberta curriculum.
- Met with staff from the Alberta Hong Kong office.

Delegation:

Ron Stevens

Deputy Premier and Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations