

Final Report

Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Alliance

Annual Meeting Lubbock Texas

Date: September 29 – October 2, 2009

Government of Alberta ■

Overview:

Len Mitzel, MLA for Cypress-Medicine Hat, traveled to Lubbock, Texas to participate in the Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Alliance Annual Meeting, September 29 to October 2. The event provided an opportunity to meet and collaborate on common issues and opportunities, and exchange ideas with representatives from throughout the region. Alberta became the first Canadian member of the alliance in May 2009. Other members include jurisdictions in Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming.

The Ports-to-Plains region is home to approximately 38.5-million U.S. citizens and produces much of the energy in the U.S., including biofuels and wind power. It also produces more than 40 per cent of U.S. agricultural goods, 14 per cent of U.S. gross domestic product, and accounts for 20 per cent of U.S.-Canada-Mexico trade. The organization promotes a broader range of economic goals, served by a regional intermodal transportation network.

Mission Objectives:

- Work with Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Alliance members to profile Alberta as a desirable partner for trade and investment.
- Collaborate on common challenges and opportunities with the Corridor Alliance.
- Profile the province to the Alliance's U.S. members, showcasing Alberta as a resourceful, responsible energy producer and a strong supporter of greater economic cooperation with the U.S.
- Connect Alberta businesses with Ports-to-Plains Corridor Alliance members and companies.

Results:

The mission was successful in meeting its objectives, allowing Alberta to:

- Showcase the province, highlighting that Alberta is a resourceful, responsible energy producer and a strong supporter of greater economic cooperation within North America.
- Profiles the province as the northern anchor of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance and gateway to Western Canada and Asia Pacific through a presentation given by MLA Len Mitzel.
- Further develop contacts with U.S. government and business representatives, providing a basis for future cooperation with jurisdictions in the U.S.

Delegation:

Len Mitzel, MLA Cypress-Medicine Hat