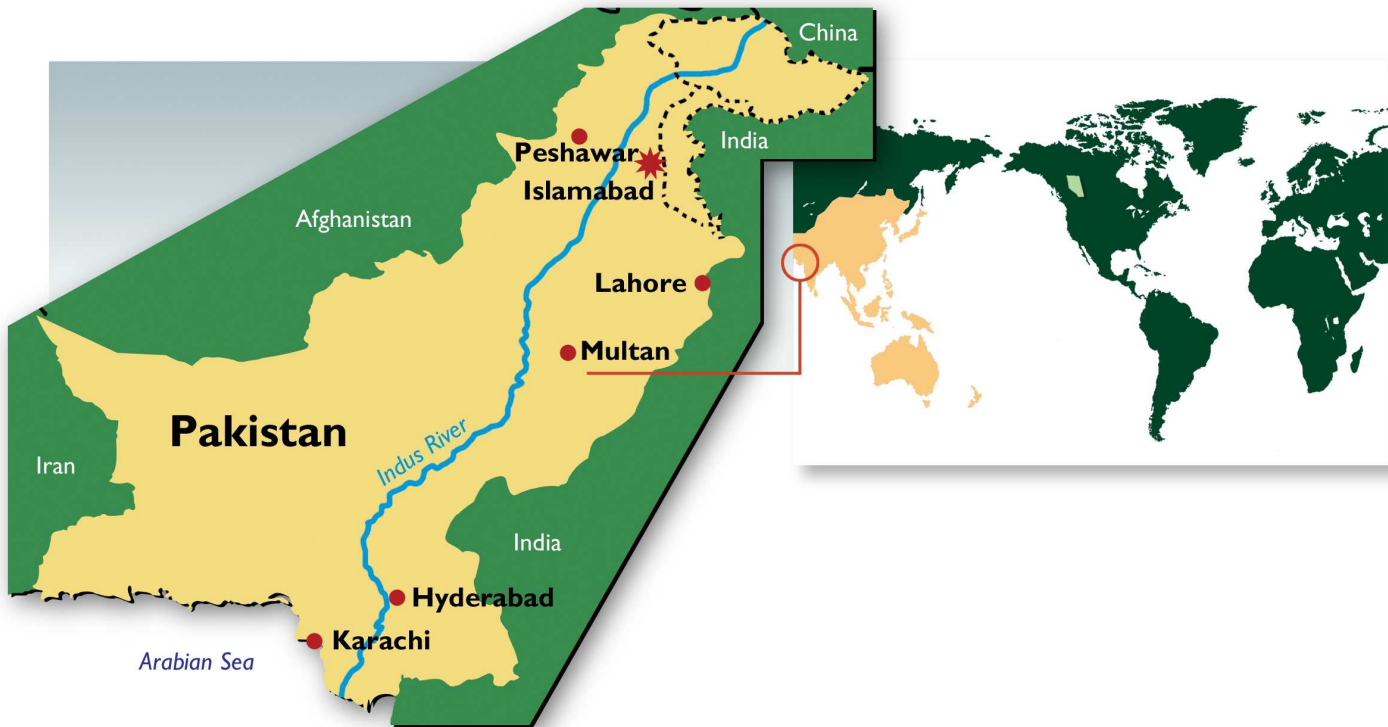


Pakistan – Alberta Relations

Government of Alberta ■
International and Intergovernmental Relations



PROFILE

Capital: Islamabad

Population: 181.4 million (2009 est.)

Language: Urdu (official), Punjabi, Sindhi, Siraiki, Pashtu, Balochi, Hindko, Brahui, English, Burushaski

Government: Federal Republic

Head of State: President Asif Ali Zardari

Head of Government: Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani (since March 2008)

Currency: \$1CDN = 82.37 Pakistan Rupee ; 1 Pakistan Rupee = \$0.012CDN (May 2010)

GDP: US\$162.0 billion (2009)

GDP (PPP): US\$441.3 billion (2009)

GDP Per Capita (PPP): US\$2,430 (2009 est.)

GDP growth rate: 2.7% (2009 est.)

Inflation: 13.6% (2009 est.)

Unemployment: 14% (2009 est.)

Key Industry Sectors: textiles and apparel, pharmaceuticals, food processing, construction materials, paper products, fertilizer and shrimp.

DID YOU KNOW?

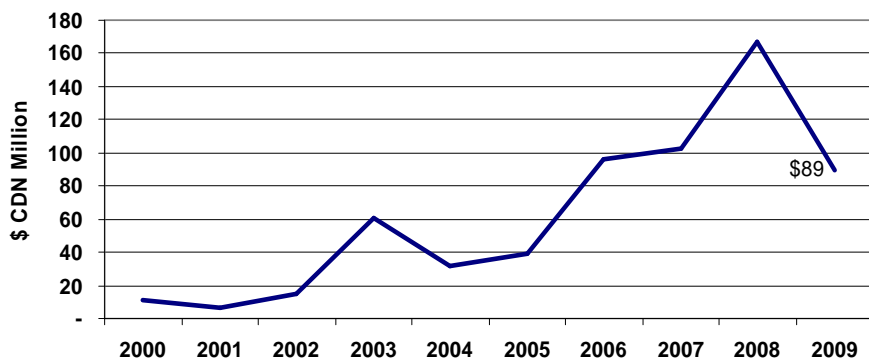
- The Islamic Republic of Pakistan was founded in 1947 when Britain partitioned British India into India and Pakistan.
- Pakistan is a member of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), created in 1985 to help promote regional economic cooperation, plus economic and social development.
- Pakistan is home to 50 of the world's highest mountain peaks including the famous K2 Mountain, which stands at 8,611m.
- Pakistan is one of the world's largest producers of cotton. Other major crops include wheat, rice and sugar cane, which accounts for more than 40% of national employment.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

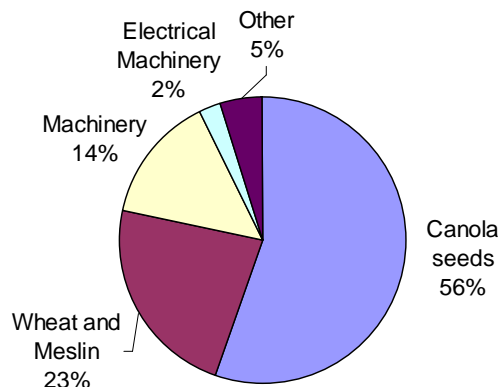
- Alberta's relations with Pakistan include ties through agri-food exports, educational programs, developmental initiatives and business relations.

- In the August 2010, heavy monsoon rains in Pakistan contributed to the worst flooding that the country has seen in 80 years. On behalf of Albertans, the Alberta government donated \$500,000 to the Canadian Red Cross for Pakistan flood disaster relief.
- In 2008-2009, CIDA disbursed \$63.0 CDN million for projects and initiatives in Pakistan.
- Pakistan remains an important ally for Canada in the global fight against terrorism. Both countries work together to enhance mutual regional security interests.
- Canada participated in monitoring the 2008 parliamentary elections in Pakistan.
- In March 2010, Canada and Pakistan along with the International Labour Organization (ILO) signed an agreement for a project aimed at increasing employment opportunities for women in Pakistan. Canada donated \$8 CDN million to this initiative.

Alberta's Merchandise Exports to Pakistan (2000 - 2009)



Alberta's Merchandise Exports to Pakistan 2005-2009 Average (Total = \$98.8 Million CDN)



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Between 2005 and 2009, Alberta's annual exports to Pakistan averaged \$98.8 million per year and were dominated by strong canola sales as well as wheat and machinery.
- During the same time, Pakistan exports to Alberta averaged \$8 million per year and included such items as clothing, textiles, potassium, and carpets. Please note, this does not include goods sold in Alberta that arrived via distribution hubs in other provinces.

ENERGY

- Alberta exports energy-related services to Pakistan, including oil and gas training, and management and consulting services.
- Pakistan is experiencing a 15% shortfall of electricity to meet the country's needs as a result of a growing economy, rising industrialization, dry weather (reducing hydropower) and a lack of long-term planning. Demand for electric power has risen sharply, especially in the residential sector, due to subsidies of domestic electric appliances.
- In March 2008, Niko Resources Ltd. of Calgary signed four offshore production sharing agreements with the Pakistan Secretariat of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources. The initial term of the exploration work is for five years

and the company established an operating presence to organize seismic survey work within the first year of the contract.

- Calgary-based Rally Energy Ltd., an oil and gas exploration, development and production company has a 30% working interest in the natural gas and condensate discoveries located in the Safed Koh Block in Pakistan.

COMMUNITY

- According to the 2006 census, Pakistan was Alberta's 4th largest source of immigration between 2001 and 2006. Pakistanis accounted for 6.7% of immigrants to Alberta.
- Approximately 11,000 Albertans are of Pakistani descent, and are well-represented through active community groups mainly in Edmonton and Calgary.
- CKER-FM broadcasts across Alberta in many different languages including programming in both Punjabi and Urdu.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- The Pakistani government is continuing to initiate the deregulation, liberalization and privatization of many sectors, including electricity and water utilities.
- Opportunities are available for drilling companies to contract their services for several blocks, which are planned for drilling. Several multinational and

national companies are working in the energy sector in Pakistan and require both exploration, and production machinery and equipment.

- Currently, Pakistan is in amid of a housing crisis and is in need of over 5 million housing units. For this reason, there are many international opportunities in Pakistan's housing sector

VISITS

- August 2009: Dr. Asim Hussain, Pakistan Federal Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources visited Calgary with a senior delegation to attend the Pakistan Exploration Promotion Conference.
- April 2008: Mr. Moin-ul-Haque, Consul General of Pakistan in Vancouver, visited Alberta.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- Pakistan's High Commissioner in Ottawa is Naela Chohan.
- Canada's High Commissioner in Islamabad is Mr. Ross Hynes.
- Pakistan's Consul General Mr. Moin-ul-Haque, based in Vancouver, has jurisdiction over Alberta.

For more information, contact:

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