

Tyumen Oblast – Alberta Relations



Government of Alberta ■

International and Intergovernmental Relations



PROFILE

Area: 159,870 km² (excluding Khanty-Mansii and Yamal-Nenets)

Capital: Tyumen

Population: 3.4 million (2009) (including Khanty-Mansii and Yamal-Nenets)

Language: Russian

Head of Government:
Governor Vladimir Yakushev
(since November 2005)

Political Status: Under the 1993 Constitution, Khanty-Mansii and Yamal-Nenets became fiscally and administratively independent of the Tyumen government. Khanty-Mansii and Yamal-Nenets are thus Autonomous Okrugs (Districts) within Tyumen Oblast (Province).

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

Gross Regional Product (GRP): over US\$10 billion (2006 est.)

Key Industry Sectors: Oil and natural gas, timber

DID YOU KNOW?

- Tyumen Oblast, including Khanty-Mansii and Yamal-Nenets, is just under the size of Quebec.
- Russians account for more than two-thirds of the population, with Ukrainians constituting the largest minority group, many of whom work in the oil and gas sector.
- Tyumen Oblast, with its wealth of oil and gas, is the largest exporter in the Russian Federation.
- The living standards of the residents of the town of Tyumen are second only to those of Moscow in Russia.
- The accelerated development of the oil and gas industry has stimulated the growth of other economic sectors and has brought about profound socio-economic changes.
- Tyumen Oblast is home to 125 nationalities with Russians constituting the largest ethnic group. Other nationalities include Ukrainians, Tatars, Belarusians, Bashkirs, Chuvash, Germans, Azeris, Moldavians, and Kazakhs. In the autonomous okrugs, the Khanty, Mansii, and Nenets ethnic groups are also represented.

- Tyumen was founded in 1585 and is the oldest city in Siberia. It was formerly an important center of trade with China.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Tyumen Oblast has international agreements with Finland, Austria, Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Moldova, Belarus, the province of Lower Saxony (Germany), and the Grampian Region (Scotland).
- Alberta signed a cooperation agreement with the Tyumen Oblast in 1992. Following changes in the Oblast's constitution, Alberta also signed subsequent cooperation agreements with the Autonomous Okrugs of Khanty-Mansii (1995) and Yamal-Nenets (1997).
- The Alberta Government had an office in Tyumen City from 1993 to 1996.

RESOURCES AND ECONOMY

Figures include Khanty-Mansii and Yamal-Nenets

- Most of Russia's oil and gas resources are located in the Province of Tyumen. In 2006, about 66% of Russia's crude oil was produced in the Province as a whole, making Tyumen the second largest crude oil producer in the world, after Saudi Arabia. By comparison, Alberta produced 1.7 million bbl/d, or about 67% of Canada's crude oil and equivalent production.
- In 2005, Russia was the largest producer (21.2 Tcf) and exporter (5.34 Tcf) of natural gas in the world, and had the world's largest reserves (1,688 Tcf).
- In 2006, about 91% of Russia's natural gas, or about 21 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of natural gas, was produced in Tyumen Province.
- Of more regional significance to the Tyumen portion of the Province that is not part of Khanty-Mansii and Yamal-Nenets are the timber and wood-processing industries, mechanical engineering, and the rapidly developing petrochemical and electrical energy sectors.
- Tyumen Province has the 3rd largest timber resource in the country; the total supply of timber has been estimated at 5.4 billion cubic meters.
- Tyumen also has large deposits of coal, peat and gold.
- Tyumen has more than 4 million hectares of farmland (farmland makes up about 3% of the Province's territory). Animal husbandry and grain farming are the leading branches of agriculture. Reindeer-breeding, fur-trading, and poultry farming are also developed in the Province.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- Grant MacEwan University has been active in health care programming in Russia since 1995. In 2003 it won the Canadian Bureau for International Education's Award for Outstanding Program in International Education for its CIDA-sponsored Health Education Link Project (HELP) in Tyumen region.
- The current project called the Canada-Russia Initiative in Nursing (2005-2010) has been implemented by MacEwan in partnership with Capital Health (till 2007) and Canadian Nurses Association (CAN) to assist Russian Ministry of Health and Social Development and Russian Nurses Association in developing new professional and education standards and educational programs in nursing.
- This project, which involves nursing schools and health care facilities in 18 Russian cities from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok, has been recognized by the Russian Ministry of Health and Social Development as the most successful international project in the area of nursing.

RECENT VISITS

- May 2008: Former Governor of Yamal-Nenets, Yuri Neyelov, visited Alberta.
- 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).
- June 2006: A delegation from Yamal-Nenets visited Alberta on a CIDA-funded study tour under NORDEP.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

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

