

Benefits for Albertans

From 1995 until the present, 34 out of 40 complaints that were made by Alberta entities under the *Agreement on Internal Trade* (AIT) have been resolved. Of the 34 resolved complaints, Alberta individuals and companies had their grievances addressed in the vast majority of cases. This is demonstrated in the table below, on a chapter-by-chapter basis:

Table 1

Chapter of the AIT	Complaints by Albertans that were resolved in favour of complainants	Complaints by Albertans that were either rejected or withdrawn
Procurement	4	3
Labour Mobility	13	2
Investment	0	1
Alcoholic Beverages	1	1
Natural Resources Processing	1	0
Transportation	6	1
Environmental Protection	1	0
Total	26	8

In some cases, complainants could not be helped, either because complaints were not subject to the AIT, or because Alberta entities voluntarily decided to abandon their complaints. However, even in the latter case, Alberta followed up on complaints in a number of instances. Of the eight complaints that have not been resolved in complainants' favour, only four were rejected outright as inapplicable under the AIT, and not pursued any further.

In one case, a labour mobility complaint against a neighbouring province was rejected because it was deemed not to be a labour mobility issue under the AIT. Still, the neighbouring province has changed its practices to the advantage of an Alberta complainant. The complainant attributed this change to the dispute resolution mechanisms under the AIT. In three other cases, Alberta did the follow-up on complaints even though individual complainants were no longer interested in pursuing their cases. The experience over the last eight years demonstrates that the dispute resolution process under the AIT has been effective in addressing trade-related complaints of Albertans.