

# Final Report

Premier's Mission to Germany, South Africa and Ireland  
September 22 - October 4, 2005



## MISSION OBJECTIVES

### Germany

- Discuss with German businesses opportunities for building German-Alberta ties
- Get firsthand information on outcome of Germany's September 18 election and their implications for Alberta-Germany trade and investment ties

### South Africa

#### *Johannesburg/World Petroleum Congress*

- Promote Alberta as a key supplier in meeting world energy demand and as a prime energy investment opportunity
- Support Alberta companies exhibiting and receiving awards at the World Petroleum Congress
- Meet with energy ministers and decision-makers of key countries to advance Alberta's bilateral interests

#### *Mpumalanga*

- Lead first Premier's mission to Alberta's South African sister province
- See firsthand results of Alberta's contribution to building democratic governments in post-apartheid South Africa
- Renew and expand Alberta-Mpumalanga twinning agreement

### Ireland

- Review firsthand Ireland's electronic administrative system and consider whether it is applicable to Alberta

## PROGRAM AND RESULTS

Date	Program
Thu, Sep 22	Departed Calgary for Frankfurt, arriving Sep 23
Fri, Sep 23	Met with the Frankfurt Economic Development Corporation and business leaders to discuss trade and investment opportunities in furthering Alberta-German ties
Sat, Sep 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Participated in a civic ceremony in Remlingen, the ancestral home of the Klein family</li><li>▪ Departed Frankfurt for Johannesburg (arriving Sep 25)</li></ul>

<p>Mon, Sep 26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Briefed by the Canadian High Commissioner to South Africa, Sandelle Scrimshaw</li> <li>▪ Accompanied by Alberta Energy Minister Greg Melchin and MLA Shiraz Shariff, participated in the World Petroleum Congress awards luncheon, where <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Nexen and Encana, both Alberta-based companies, received two of four WPC excellence awards</li> <li>➢ Randy Gossen of Nexen was elected president of the World Petroleum Council</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Visited Alberta companies exhibiting in the World Petroleum Congress trade show. A display of Alberta oilsands at the Canadian exhibit captured much interest and received an exposition award for the Canadian booth.</li> <li>▪ Met with executives of Canada's delegation at the World Petroleum Congress</li> </ul>
<p>Tue, Sep 27</p>	<p>Accompanied by Melchin, met with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ South African Minister of Energy and Mines, Lindiwe Hendricks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Klein and Hendricks reviewed South Africa's leading role in the conversion of coal into liquid fuels</li> <li>➢ Klein promoted Alberta's interest in the development of clean coal technology. South Africa's power generation comes almost exclusively from coal.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Indian Secretary of Petroleum and Natural Gas, S. C. Tripathi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Klein and Tripathi reviewed Alberta companies' success in winning Indian exploration and production rights</li> <li>➢ Tripathi shared his favourable impressions about his own visit to Alberta, noting similarities in Alberta and India's business practices, and educational and government systems</li> <li>➢ As a result, Tripathi is now encouraging Indian companies to look at investment in Alberta</li> <li>➢ Klein encouraged Indian companies to partner with their Canadian counterparts, and promoted Alberta's coalbed methane production expertise</li> <li>➢ Klein and Tripathi agreed they would explore a broad energy cooperation memorandum of understanding, focusing on such common interests as coal gasification, enhanced oil recovery and in situ production</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Wed, Sep 28</p>	<p>Departed Johannesburg for Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. Shariff accompanied Klein during the Mpumalanga leg of his mission.</p>

Thu, Sep 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Met with Mpumalanga Premier Thabang Makwetla, his cabinet, and the Deputy Speaker of the legislature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Klein and Makwetla renewed and expanded the Alberta-Mpumalanga twinning agreement</li> <li>➢ Klein referred to successful areas of cooperation, including the development of a Hansard system for Mpumalanga’s legislature and in-house training of Mpumalanga government’s financial officers in financial management by Alberta officials</li> <li>➢ Klein mentioned Alberta’s interest in pursuing areas of common economic interest, noting Mpumalanga’s expertise in the conversion of coal to gases and liquid fuels</li> <li>➢ Makwetla said “Mpumalanga is the Alberta of South Africa,” citing its agriculture, national parks and energy. He stressed his hope of expanding the twinning to include exchanges in new areas, including environmental management, agricultural processing and tourism.</li> <li>➢ Makwetla acknowledged Canadians as key supporters in South Africa’s fight against apartheid and move toward greater democracy</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Visited the Nkomazi municipality community centre. Mpumalanga municipal officials visited Alberta in 2004 to study integrated federal-provincial government service delivery. Alberta’s model was incorporated into Mpumalanga’s community centre concept.</li> </ul>
Sat, Oct 1	Departed Nelspruit for Dublin, arriving Oct 2
Mon, Oct 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Met with senior members of the Irish government’s Health Services Executive, a national body which runs Ireland’s health and personal social services, to explore Ireland’s experience with private and public health care delivery, and the electronic administrative system behind the delivery</li> <li>▪ Toured a leading Dublin hospital to see firsthand the Irish health system in action</li> </ul>
Tue, Oct 4	Departed Dublin for Calgary

### **Melchin Program**

In addition to meeting international World Petroleum Congress delegates with Klein, Melchin was an invited speaker at the WPC roundtable on “Revenue Transparency Initiatives.” He met with industry and government representatives from the U.S., Japan, Nigeria, Cuba and other countries, as well as with South African energy executives for a private tour of a coal-to-synthetic-fuels plant in Secunda belonging to Sasol, a Johannesburg-based energy company.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **Germany**

- Alberta-Germany relations were strengthened when Alberta and Saxony became sister provinces in February 2002
- Two-way trade averaged \$900 million in 2000-2004. Germany is a significant source of investment in Alberta.

- Albertans of German descent make up the province's second-largest ethnic group
- Frankfurt Economic Development Corporation: <http://www.frankfurt-business.de/>
- Details on Alberta-German and Alberta-Saxony relations at [http://www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international\\_relations/world\\_relations\\_europe.asp](http://www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/world_relations_europe.asp)

## **South Africa**

### ***Johannesburg/World Petroleum Congress***

- Organized by the London-based World Petroleum Council, the World Petroleum Congress is attended by over 90 countries, representing oil and gas-producing and consuming nations. Congresses cover the petroleum industry, ranging from exploration to downstream activities.
- Alberta's participation in the WPC expo is coordinated through the World Petroleum Congresses Canadian Association
- Calgary hosted the 2000 World Petroleum Congress. Details at [http://www.wpc2000.com/Congresses\\_16thWPC.htm](http://www.wpc2000.com/Congresses_16thWPC.htm)
- World Petroleum Congress: <http://www.world-petroleum.org/>

## ***Mpumalanga***

- Alberta twinned with Mpumalanga in October 1996 under the South Africa-Canada Program on Governance, funded by the Canadian International Development Agency. Under this program, exchanges covering legislature operations, financial management and the role of central agencies took place between Alberta and Mpumalanga.
- Both sides reaffirmed their twinning in April 2002. The relationship focused on helping the Mpumalanga public service in the areas of financial management, performance management, local economic development, legislature operations and communications.
- Details on Alberta-Mpumalanga relations at [http://www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international\\_relations/twinning\\_relations.asp](http://www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/twinning_relations.asp)

## **Ireland**

- Ireland is acknowledged as a leader in health infrastructure, where its electronic administrative system has enhanced patient safety, delivered more timely treatment and streamlined billing.

## OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS

### **Premier's Delegation**

- Honourable Ralph Klein, Premier of Alberta
- Gordon Vincent, Deputy Chief of Staff
- Marisa Etmanski, Communications Director

### **Melchin Delegation**

- Honourable Greg Melchin, Minister of Energy
  - Glenn Shepherd, Executive Assistant
- (Cost-related information for Melchin delegation at <http://www.energy.gov.ab.ca/>)