North Dakota -Alberta Relations





PROFILE

Capital: Bismark

Population: 699,628 (2012)

Language: English

Government: Bicameral state government

Head of Government: Governor Jack Dalrymple (R) Second term (No term limits)

Currency: U.S. Dollar (USD) \$1 CDN = \$0.99 USD (April 2013)

Gross State Product (GSP): \$40.3 billion

U.S. (2011)

Per Capita Income: \$ 47,236 (2011) **Unemployment:** 3.3% (February 2013)

Key Industry Sectors: Agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, coal mining and conversion, oil and gas exploration, extraction and refining, and exported services

Main Cities (Metro Area): (2011)

Fargo: 107,349 Bismarck: 62,665 Grand Forks: 52,631

DID YOU KNOW?

- Dakota is a Sioux Indian word which means "friend".
- North Dakota produces much of their power using lignite, an efficient coal
- North Dakota's main agricultural exports include wheat, cattle, soybeans, sugar beets, corn, and other vegetables.
- North Dakota is also the only state with a state owned bank, the Bank of North Dakota in Bismarck, and a state owned flour mill, the North Dakota Mill and Elevator in Grand Forks.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

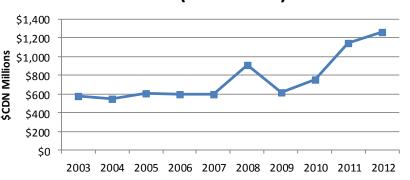
A study by the Canadian Energy Research Institute estimated that between 2011 and 2035 the development of Alberta's oil sands will add an annual average of between \$8 and \$21 million per year to the economy of North Dakota and will preserve or create an average of 120 to 280 jobs per year, with those workers earning between \$4 and \$9 million. The range of these estimates depends on the ability of oil sands production in Alberta to find pipeline access to market.

- 4 North Dakota companies have been identified that supply equipment, parts and services being used in the development of Alberta's oil sands.
- In 2011, Alberta became an associate member of the Council of State Governments Midwest (CSG Midwest) to which North Dakota belongs.

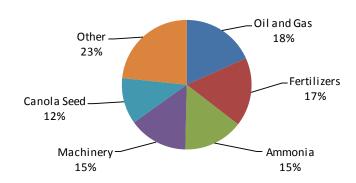
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Alberta's domestic exports to North Dakota have averaged \$938 million annually over the last five years. Principal exports are ammonia, fertilizers, canola seeds, propane and refined petroleum.
- In 2012, Alberta exports to North Dakota totaled \$1.25 billion, with oil & gas, fertilizer, machinery, ammonia and canola seed being the largest exports.
- North Dakota annually sends corn, sunflower-seeds, barley, canola oil and seeds, and bran to Alberta.

Alberta's Domestic Exports to North Dakota (2003-2012)



Alberta's Domestic Exports to North Dakota (2008-2012 Average)



ENERGY

- Energy is currently North Dakota's third largest industry, but its importance is growing with the rapid development of oil resources in the Bakken formation. New technology has allowed the development of this shale formation, which also extends into Montana and Saskatchewan.
- North Dakota is now the fourth largest oil producer in the U.S., after Texas, Alaska and California, accounting for 7% of total U.S. crude oil production. In August 2011 production averaged 445,000 barrels per day, up from 344,000 barrels per day at the end of 2010 and only 2,000 barrels per day in 2000. Total reserves in the state exceed one billion barrels.
- Currently lack of pipelines out of the Bakken area limit development as production must primarily be transported to market by rail or truck. The construction of the proposed Keystone XL pipeline that would link Alberta to the U.S. Gulf Coast refineries would also be used to carry Bakken production to market.
- Though North Dakota produces relatively little natural gas, it has the distinction of being one of only three states that produce significant quantities of synthetic natural gas. The largest synthetic gas plant in the United States is the Great Plains Synfuels Plant in Beulah, North Dakota, which annually produces more than 54 billion cubic feet of gas from coal.

- Among coal-producing states, North Dakota ranks ninth and produces 3 percent of the nation's output. North Dakota has one of the world's largest deposits of lignite coal. 94% of North Dakota's electricity is generated from coal.
- North Dakota is now home to six biofuel production facilities.
- The proposed Keystone XL Pipeline will transport crude oil from Alberta through North Dakota on its way to refineries in the Gulf Coast region.
- The Keystone XL Pipeline would also be used to transport North Dakota's oil production from the Bakken to market.

AGRICULTURE

- Agriculture is responsible for nearly one fourth of North Dakota's economic base and for almost 25% of their jobs. 90% of North Dakota's land area is in farms and ranches.
- North Dakota produces enough wheat annually to produce 16.2 million loaves of bread.
- Cattle production has traditionally ranked second only to wheat farming as the most important sector in North Dakota's economy. Swine and sheep production are also important, and the raising of buffalo and other "exotic" animals is becoming increasingly significant.
- North Dakota produces nearly all of the flaxseed (96%) and canola (90%) in the U.S.
- Value-added agricultural processing and farm input manufacturing generates \$1.7 billion in business activity per year.

- The value of 2011 North Dakota crop production is estimated at \$5.93 billion. This figure does not include sugar beet or livestock production.
- Alberta's 2011 agri-food exports to North Dakota totaled \$145.9 million.
 Top exports included barley (\$8.7 million), wheat (\$6.3 million), oats (\$1.1 million) and live animals excluding cattle and hogs (\$1.2 million).

RECENT VISITS/MISSIONS

- August 2012: Senator John Hoeven (R) participated in a site visit of the oil sands.
- May 2006: Former Governor Hoeven attended the Leader's Summit in Gimli, Manitoba as part of the Western Premiers Conference. Premier Klein was also in attendance.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- The U.S. Ambassador to Canada in Ottawa is David Jacobson.
- The Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. in Washington, D.C. is Gary Doer.
- The Canadian Consulate responsible for North Dakota is located in Minneapolis. Jamshed Merchant is the Consul General.
- The U.S. Consul General located in Calgary responsible for Alberta is Peter Kujawinski.

Government of Alberta





For more information, contact:

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