

Bavaria - Alberta Relations

Government
of Alberta



This map is a generalized illustration only and is not intended to be used for reference purposes. The representation of political boundaries does not necessarily reflect the position of the Government of Alberta on international issues of recognition, sovereignty or jurisdiction.

PROFILE

Capital: Munich

Population: 12.6 million (2011)

Language: German

Government: *Landtag* (legislative assembly of a German state)

Head of State: Minister-President Horst Seehofer (since 2008)

Currency: Euro, CAD\$1.00 = €0.78, €1.00 = CAD\$1.29 (June 2012)

GDP: €442.4 billion (2010)

GDP per Capita (PPP): €35,337 (2010)

GDP Growth Rate: 3.5% (2011 est.)

Inflation: 2.3% (2011)

Unemployment: 3.8% (2011)

Key Industry Sectors: Automobile, heavy engineering, electro-technology and advanced technology

DID YOU KNOW?

- Bavaria is Germany's largest and oldest state and leading location of innovation, spending approximately 3% of its GDP on research and development.
- The major European transport routes converge in Bavaria, facilitating trade between Eastern and Western European countries.
- More than half of the state's total land is used for agriculture.
- Bavaria has oil refining facilities as well as two crude oil pipelines, allowing Bavaria to be part of the international oil processing and supply network.

- Bavaria is the number one high-tech state in Europe. More than 12% of all employees in the state work in the high technology sector, more than anywhere else in Europe.
- Bavaria is also the top media location in Germany. Almost 23,000 firms in the media, communications and information sectors, with more than 250,000 employees, are located in Munich and its surroundings alone.
- Two of the top five German universities are located in Bavaria: Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) and Technische Universität München (TUM).
- Germany's most prestigious research societies have centres in Bavaria (Max Plank, Fraunhofer and Helmholtz).
- The headquarters of many international firms are located in Bavaria (e.g. Siemens, EADS, MTU, BMW, Audi, MAN, Adidas and Allianz).
- Bavaria is Germany's top tourism destination, welcoming over 24 million visitors every year.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Since its establishment in Munich in 2002, the Alberta Germany Office has been instrumental in building relationships between Alberta's and Bavaria's respective business communities.
- On January 1, 2010, Dr. Florence Gauzy Krieger, Senior Scientific Officer, Bavarian Research Alliance, Munich, Germany was appointed to the board of the Alberta Research and Innovation Authority (ARIA), an

advisory body for research and innovation.

- In June 2009, Alberta signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on science, research and education cooperation with Bavaria.
- Alberta and Bavaria have mutual economic interests, for instance in the aerospace, health technology and nanotechnology sectors. Germany's most important cluster in the unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) sector is located in Bavaria.
- Both Bavaria and Alberta have similar conservative governments and support strong provinces within a federal country.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- In 2011, Bavaria's exports are estimated to €159.8 billion, increasing by 30.6% since the 2009 economic crisis. The state's main export markets were the United States, China, Austria and many emerging countries in Asia and Latin America.
- Bavaria's imports in 2010 are estimated to €154.9 billion surpassing the record level set in 2008.
- Every year, Bavaria attracts about €50 billion in foreign investment.

ENERGY

- Hydroelectricity from Bavaria generates 15% to 18% of Germany's overall power production.
- In December 2011, the Government of Bavaria shortened the permit process for wind power plants from

10 months to three months, with the aim of accelerating construction and generation.

- Bavaria intends to have wind power cover 10% of the state's energy consumption by 2021, potentially leading to the installation of 1,000 to 1,500 wind turbines.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- Mechanical engineering, with more than 196,000 employees in over 1000 plants, traditionally ranks at the top in Bavaria with €43.1 billion in sales. Add to that a strong process engineering sector and you will find tremendous opportunities for Albertan companies from the conventional and unconventional oil & gas industry. This is particularly the case for high valued-added technologies required in the supply chain management of upgraders.
- Munich-based Siemens will deliver 37 pumping stations and 19 substations to supply the TransCanada Keystone Pipeline project, estimated at \$200 million CAD. The pipeline will transport crude oil from Northern Alberta's oil sands to the U.S.
- On both the international and national level, Bavaria has taken a leading position in almost all new technologies – including nanotechnologies as well as environmental technologies.
- Bavarian environmental technology is aimed at increasing economic efficiency while simultaneously conserving natural resources and protecting the environment in fields such as water and air filtration.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- Alberta Education co-operates in both teacher and secondary student exchange programs with Bavaria.
- In 2010/2011, 70 schools reported 4,300 enrollments in German language programming. Eight of these schools offer bilingual programs.
- The Bavaria – Quebec – Alberta International Scientific Mobility Exchange Program is in place to aid the movement of researchers between Bavaria and Alberta.
- In 2009 the Cluster of Excellence CoTeSys Munich – Cognition for Technical Systems – signed a cooperation agreement with the Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Machine Learning (AICML) at the University of Alberta (U of A).

- The U of A has also established partnerships with Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, with Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU), and the Technical University of Munich (TUM).
- In 2008 the U of A and the LMU signed an agreement for a Jointly Delivered Doctoral Degree program. Participating faculties at the U of A include Arts and Education. Participating faculties at the LMU include Economics; History and the Arts; Philosophy; Philosophy of Science and Religious Studies; Psychology and Educational Sciences; Cultural Sciences; Languages and Literatures; and the Social Sciences.
- Since 2007, the Bavarian Research Alliance has been engaged in developing research cooperation with Alberta.
- In 2007, seven researchers from different Bavarian universities and research centres specialized in chemical, mechanical, computer, materials and environmental engineering visited Alberta universities.
- Mount Royal University has established a partnership with Munich University of Applied Sciences.

IMMIGRATION

- The Government of Alberta recently completed a labour supply study and credential comparisons for engineering occupations in Germany in order to provide tangible labour market intelligence and credential information to employers recruiting international workers.

VISITS

- September 2012: The Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations led a mission to Alberta's sister-province of Saxony.
- June 2012: His Excellency Dr. Georg Witschel, Ambassador of Germany, visited Edmonton to meet with the Deputy Premier and the Speaker and to highlight some current initiatives underway between Germany and Alberta.
- May 2012: German Consul General, Mr. Hermann Sitz visited Edmonton and meet with the Deputy Premier to highlight some of the current research initiatives underway between German institutions and the University of Alberta and to

discuss opportunities for improving research, technical collaboration and commercialization activities between Alberta and Germany.

- March 2011: Bavaria's Vice Minister of Economic Affairs, Katja Hessel, and a delegation of 28 Bavarian politicians, business people, academics and government officials visited Alberta. The purpose of the visit was to increase trade and investment and scientific cooperation between Alberta and Bavaria.
- September 2010: The Honourable Doug Horner, Alberta's Deputy Premier and Minister of Advanced Education and Technology, visited Bavaria to pursue collaborative research projects, market Alberta's knowledge-based industry and innovation capacity, and to promote Alberta internationally as a preferred partner in research, innovation and commercialization.
- September 2010: Nanotechnology delegation from Alberta visited Bavaria to explore opportunities for collaboration.
- June 2010: Dr. Annette Trimbee, Deputy Minister of Alberta Advanced Education and Technology, visited Munich, accompanied by a high-level delegation of experts. The purpose of the visit to Germany was to explore further possibilities of research cooperation with Bavaria.
- June 2009: The Alberta Minister of Advanced Education and Technology, Mr. Doug Horner, visited Munich/Germany.
- November 2008: Visit of the Alberta Premier, Mr. Ed Stelmach, to Germany/Munich, introducing the new Managing Director of the Alberta Germany Office, Mr. Wes Sawatzky.
- June 2007: A business delegation from Bavaria attended Calgary's Gas & Oil Exposition GO EXPO.

REPRESENTATION and OFFICES

- The German Ambassador to Canada is His Excellency Mr. Werner Wnendt.
- Canada's Ambassador to Germany is Mr. Peter Boehm.
- Mr. Alan Minz is the Canadian Consul and Trade Commissioner in Munich.
- Co-located in the Consulate is Alberta's Germany office.
- The State of Bavaria has an office located in Montréal, Québec.



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