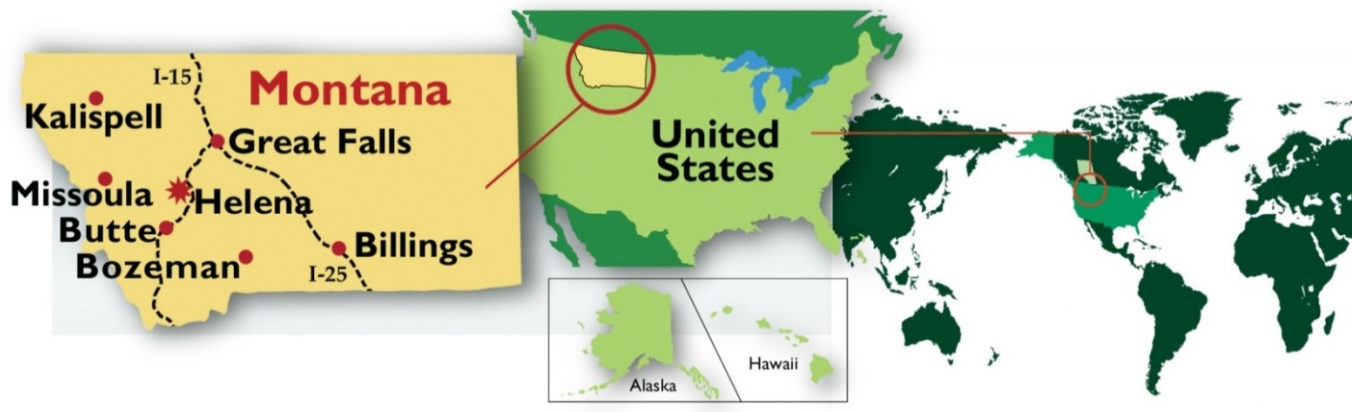


Montana – Alberta Relations



PROFILE

Capital: Helena

Population: 1,023,579 (2014 estimate)

Language: English

Government: Bicameral state government

Head of Government: Governor Steve Bullock (D) (First Term) (term expires January 2017)

Two consecutive term limit

Currency: U.S. Dollar (USD)
\$1 CDN = \$0.80 USD (July 2015)

Gross State Product (GSP): U.S. \$44.3 billion (2014)

GSP Per Capita Income: USD \$40,601 (2014)

Unemployment: 3.9% (May 2015)

Key Industry Sectors: wheat, chemicals, industrial machinery, vehicle parts, mining, forestry, pharmaceutical products, aircrafts

Main Cities (2013 estimate):

- Billings: 109,059
- Missoula: 69,122
- Great Falls: 59,351
- Bozeman: 39,860
- Butte-Silver Bow: 33,854
- Helena: 29,596

DID YOU KNOW?

- Montana's largest export is wheat and wheat products.
- 89% of Montana's population is employed by small business.
- Like Alberta, Montana has a large prairie, with a grain economy, but also a significant mountain region, with large forestry and mineral industries.
- The Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park straddles the Alberta-Montana border.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Montana is the only U.S. state bordering Alberta and as such is important to the province's export trade sector.
- Canada is one of Montana's largest export markets, with more than \$483 million CDN exported into Canada in 2014.
- Lethbridge, Alberta and Great Falls, Montana have a twinning relationship and are involved in various initiatives through the Advisory Commission on International Relationships and the Lethbridge Twinning Society.
- The proposed Keystone XL pipeline would run through Montana, carrying diluted bitumen from Alberta and also Bakken crude. This is an important project for Montana and would provide an economic boost for the state.
- Alberta oil supplies the refinery in Billings, Montana.
- In summer 2006 Alberta firefighters provided assistance fighting wildfires in Montana. Montana's Governor acknowledged their contribution in a letter of thanks to Premier Klein.

- A recent study by the Canadian Energy Research Institute estimated that between 2011 and 2035 the development of Alberta's oil sands will add an annual on average of between \$127 and \$437 million per year to the economy of Montana and will preserve or create an average of 1,280 to 4,640 jobs per year with those workers earning between \$60 and \$208 million. The range of these estimates depends on the ability of growing oil sands production in Alberta to find pipeline access to market.

- Ten Montana companies supply equipment, parts and services that are being used in the development of Alberta's oil sands.

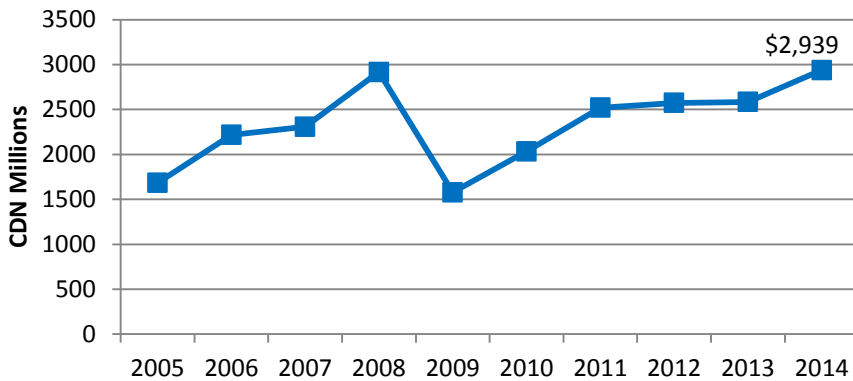
SHARED ORGANIZATIONS

- Council of State Governments (CSG) National
- CSG West
- Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER)
- Ports-to-Plains Alliance (PTP)
- Western Governors' Association (WGA)

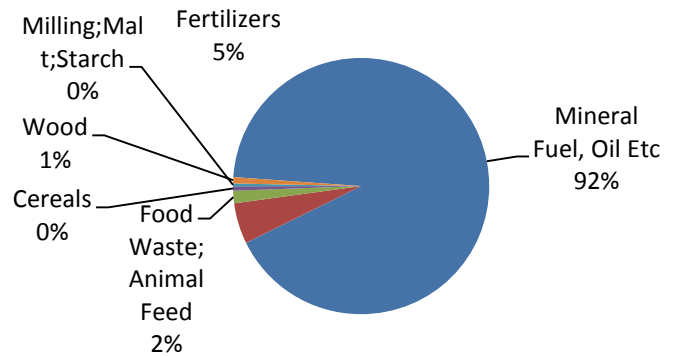
MABAC (MONTANA/ALBERTA BILATERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL)

- Alberta and Montana agreed to form MABAC in 1985 to discuss area of common interest, identify opportunities for cooperation and resolve emerging issues.
- In March 2000, Premier Klein and Governor Racicot signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) formalizing MABAC as an ongoing forum for transboundary dialogue and cooperation, and committing the parties to an informal dispute resolution process.

Alberta Exports to Montana, 2005-2014



Alberta Merchandise Exports to Montana, 2005-2014



- The last MABAC meeting was held in Coutts, Alberta in October 2010. Agriculture, transportation, energy, and environment were among the agenda topics.
- Members include government legislators and senior officials, and representatives from the business community.
- MABAC meetings are usually held annually, alternating between Alberta and Montana.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- From 2010-2014, Alberta's exports to Montana have averaged \$2.52 billion annually.
- In 2014, Alberta's exports to Montana totaled \$2.93 billion.
- Alberta's merchandise exports to Montana consist of oil and natural gas, fertilizers, wood, oil and gas equipment and food wastes.
- The majority of exports to Montana are related to the oil and gas industry.

AGRICULTURE

- Alberta's 2014 agri-food exports to Montana totaled \$133.8 million. Top exports included oilseed cake and meal (\$37 million), wheat (\$30.3 million), malt (\$21.1 million), dried peas (\$12.6 million).
- Alberta's 2014 agriculture imports from Montana totaled \$51.1 million.
- Alberta participates in a number of regional forums providing opportunities to engage with Montana on common agricultural issues.
- The Canadian and Alberta governments are continuously engaged in extensive advocacy efforts to influence the U.S. to comply with their World Trade Organization obligations regarding Country of Origin Labelling (COOL). As a result of these efforts, resolutions in support of this were passed by the following organizations: State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL), CSG National CSG Midwest, CSG West, PTP, Canadian/American Border Trade

Alliance, and PNWER.

- Business opportunities for Alberta companies exist in agricultural export areas such as wheat, canola meal, barley and seeds.

ENERGY

- Montana and Alberta are part of the Western Energy Corridor Initiative to develop carbon neutral and environmentally suitable unconventional fuel sources. A carbon capture and storage framework is also under development.
- Montana approved a renewable energy standard in April 2005, requiring 15% of the state's energy to come from renewable sources by 2015.
- The U.S. arm of Calgary headquartered Enerplus Resources USA Corp was the 3rd largest producer of oil in Montana. In 2014, the company produced 103,130 barrels of oil per day.
- Calgary-based Connacher Oil and Gas Limited is an integrated oil sands company that owns and operates a 9,500 barrels per day (bbl/d) heavy oil refinery in Great Falls, Montana. Great Falls is the closest refinery in the U.S. to the Alberta oil sands.
- At the end of 2012, Montana was home to over one-fourth of U.S. recoverable coal reserves and ranked as the 8th largest coal-producing state, supplying 3.6% of U.S. coal.
- Calgary-based Montana Alberta Tie Ltd. received final regulatory approvals in October 2008 from the Canadian and U.S. governments for a privately-funded 600 megawatt, 230-kilovolt power transmission line between Alberta and Montana. Enbridge assumed ownership of the project with its acquisition of Tonbridge Power Inc. in October 2011. As of September 2013 the line is fully operational.
- Wind energy projects located in Montana have contracted to use the full capacity of the new Montana Alberta Tie line.

TRANSPORTATION

- Montana is Alberta's chief ally in advancing CANAMEX, a seamless north-south trade and transportation corridor, stretching from Alaska, through Alberta, Montana, and other western states to Mexico.
- Alberta and Montana contributed to a plan that has led to the "flagship" Canada/U.S. joint border crossing facility at Coutts/Sweetgrass, which opened in August 2003.
- Alberta and Montana operate a single Joint Use Vehicle Inspection Station at Coutts/Sweetgrass.

ENVIRONMENT

- The waters of the St. Mary and Milk Rivers traverse the Alberta-Montana border; Alberta and Montana jointly manage this resource.
- Alberta and Montana's water management partnership predates the International Joint Commission's call for state-province watershed boards.
- Alberta and Montana cooperate on wildlife conservation and fire management strategies along the border area.
- Alberta and Montana signed an MOU in 2007 regarding cooperation on the Crown of the Continent, a unique eco-system located in Waterton Glacier National Park.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Alberta and Montana work together to improve public safety and emergency management entities' ability to effectively respond to emergencies in the border region.
- In October 2014 Alberta and Montana signed a MOU that allows for coordinated and comprehensive emergency management cooperation between the two jurisdictions.

- In 2005, this ongoing relationship was given more structure with the establishment of the Western Border Region Interoperability Working Group, which includes representatives from all three levels of government.
- Law enforcement and emergency first responders from Alberta and Montana regularly participate in joint exercises responding to simulated emergencies at or near the border.

EDUCATION

- The University of Alberta and University of Montana have an agreement for student and faculty exchanges, focusing on natural resources, environment, and business.
- Lethbridge College, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) and Medicine Hat College have college transfer and course recognition agreements with the University of Great Falls.
- In 2004, SAIT was approved by the Montana Post Secondary Educational Opportunities Council to participate in their annual student recruitment fairs.
- Olds College has a transfer agreement with Montana State University-Northern.
- Other Alberta institutions, such as NAIT, work in partnership with Montana on specific projects.
- In 1998, Alberta and Montana signed an agreement to provide for cross-border schooling of grade 1 through 12 for students living along the border.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- The aerospace industry is an area that offers potential for collaboration and opportunity. Similarities in the areas of aerospace maintenance repair and overhaul capabilities, strong research and academic communities and common interests in developing and commercializing emerging technologies are examples of the possibilities emerging in this sector.

RECENT VISITS/MISSIONS

- July 2015: Governor Steve Bullock led a trade mission to Alberta to participate in the Global Petroleum Show.
- January 2015: Alana DeLong, MLA Calgary Bow, traveled to Boise, Idaho; Juneau, Alaska and Helena, Montana to participate in a PNWER mission to meet with state legislators.
- June 2014: A delegation of Rising State Leaders, including two legislators from Montana, travelled to Alberta to participate in briefings and a site visit of the oil sands.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- His Excellency Bruce Heyman is the U.S. Ambassador to Canada in Ottawa.
- The Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. in Washington, D.C. is Gary Doer.
- The Canadian Consulate responsible for Montana is located in Denver, Colorado. Marcy Grossman is the Consul General.
- The U.S. Consul General located in Calgary responsible for Alberta is Peter Kujawinski.
- The Honourable Rob Merrifield is Alberta's Senior Representative to the U.S. located in Washington, D.C.
- The Canadian Honorary Consul in Montana is Shirley Ball.



For more information, contact:
 Alberta International and Intergovernmental Relations
 Tel: 780-427-6543 Fax: 780-427-0699
www.albertacanada.com