ANNUAL REPORT 2004-05



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4 PREFACE

The Public Accounts of Alberta are prepared in accordance with the *Financial Administration*Act and the Government Accountability Act. The Public Accounts consist of the annual report of the Government of Alberta and the annual reports of each of the 24 ministries.

The annual report of the Government of Alberta released June 29, 2005 contains the Minister of Finance's accountability statement, the consolidated financial statements of the Province and a comparison of the actual performance results to desired results set out in the government's business plan, including the Measuring Up report.

This annual report of the Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations contains the Minister's accountability statement, the audited financial statements of the Ministry and a comparison of actual performance results to desired results set out in the Ministry business plan.

This Ministry annual report also includes other financial information as required by the *Financial Administration Act* and *Government Accountability Act*, either as separate reports or as a part of the financial statements, to the extent that the Ministry has anything to report.

The Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations is a single entity and does not have regulated funds, provincial agencies or governmentcontrolled corporations as part of its operations. The Ministry's annual report for the year ended March 31, 2005, was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Government Accountability Act* and the government's accounting policies. All of the government's policy decisions as at September 13, 2005 with material economic or fiscal implications of which I am aware have been considered in the preparation of this report.

Ed Stelmach

Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations

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MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



It is my pleasure to present the annual report of Alberta International and Intergovernmental Relations for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2005.

I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge the leadership of the Ministry by my predecessor, the Honourable Halvar Jonson.

In the past year, more than ever, the Ministry fulfilled its role in articulating Alberta's presence on the national and international stage.

It was an active year for Alberta on the national stage. The new Council of the Federation, which comprises Canada's premiers and territorial leaders, met four times. The result included a 10-year health care plan, with federal contributions rising to 25 per cent of provincial costs.

A Senate nominee election in November received the votes of over 700,000 Albertans. Four nominees were elected, demonstrating Albertans' continued support for Senate reform.

On the international front, the year's highlight was the opening of Alberta's office in Washington, D.C. It recognizes the importance of Alberta's largest export market, and has started to make its mark on promoting Alberta's economic and policy interests.

Alberta established its 14th twinning relationship in August: the western Ukrainian oblast of Ivano-Frankivsk, the ancestral homeland of many in Alberta's Ukrainian community.

Direction was provided to guide Alberta as it pursues its interests in the current round of trade liberalization negotiations under the World Trade Organization, ahead of the December 2005 ministerial meeting.

The year ahead holds much for the Ministry and the Government of Alberta, accompanied by challenges and opportunities. As Alberta takes the chair of the Council of the Federation in its centennial year, the Ministry will continue to ensure that its role in Confederation is respected; that its strategic international interests are addressed effectively; and that its resources and products have access to domestic and international markets

Ed Stelmach

Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations

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MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPORTING

The Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations is a single entity and does not have regulated funds, provincial agencies or government entities as part of its operations.

The executives of the individual entities within the Ministry have the primary responsibility and accountability for the respective entities. Collectively, the executives ensure the Ministry complies with all relevant legislation, regulations and policies.

Ministry business plans, annual reports, performance results and the supporting management information are integral to the government's fiscal and business plans, annual report, quarterly reports and other financial and performance reporting.

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the financial statements and performance results for the Ministry rests with the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations. Under the direction of the Minister, I oversee the preparation of the Ministry's annual report, including financial statements and performance results. The financial statements and the performance results, of necessity, include amounts that are based on estimates and judgments. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the government's stated accounting policies.

As Deputy Minister, in addition to program responsibilities, I establish and maintain the Ministry's financial administration and reporting functions. The Ministry maintains systems of financial management and internal control which give consideration to costs, benefits and risks that are designed to:

- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized, executed in accordance with prescribed legislation and regulations, and properly recorded so as to maintain accountability of public money;
- provide information to manage and report on performance;
- safeguard the assets and properties of the province under Ministry administration;
- provide Executive Council, Treasury Board, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations any information needed to fulfill their responsibilities; and
- facilitate preparation of Ministry business plans and annual reports required under the Government Accountability Act.

In fulfilling my responsibilities for the Ministry, I have relied, as necessary, on the executive of the individual sections within the Ministry.

Gerry Bourdeau

Deputy Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations

Our Vision

A strong Alberta, active in an open world and in a prosperous, united Canada.

Our Mission

To lead development of government-wide strategies and policies for Alberta's relations with international governments and organizations, and with federal, provincial and territorial governments in Canada.

Our Core Business

Sound government-to-government relationships are key to securing Alberta's future well-being and to achieving the Ministry vision of providing leadership in the management of Alberta's international and intergovernmental relationships.

To fulfill this leadership role, it is essential to coordinate Alberta's strategies. Development and implementation of strategies requires close cooperation with other Alberta ministries as well as public and private organizations.

Key services provided by the Ministry are:

- advancing Alberta's interests through intergovernmental negotiations and discussions.
- coordinating Alberta's strategies relating to international and intergovernmental relations.
- providing strategic advice and policy analysis to Alberta ministries and other clients.
- obtaining, disseminating and analyzing information for Alberta ministries and other clients.

CORPORATE STRUCTURE

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MINISTRY OVERVIEW

Canadian Intergovernmental Relations Section

Works with other Alberta ministries to coordinate Alberta's intergovernmental activities with the federal government and other provincial and territorial governments to ensure that Alberta's interests are reflected in the Canadian federation. This section of the Ministry is composed of three teams working under the direction of an assistant deputy minister.

International Relations Section

Works with other Alberta government ministries and foreign governments to advance Alberta's strategic international interests, and develop and advance Alberta's international relationships. This section of the Ministry is composed of four teams working under the direction of an assistant deputy minister.

Trade Policy Section

Deals with domestic and international trade and investment agreements, negotiations, and disputes affecting Albertans. It pursues policies that meet Alberta's objectives of reducing trade and investment barriers. This section of the Ministry is composed of four teams working under the direction of Alberta's Trade Representative.

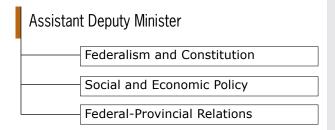
Corporate Services Section

Provides a variety of services to assist other sections of the Ministry in achieving their goals.

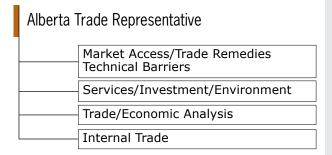
Through shared services arrangements with the Ministries of Education, and Restructuring and Government Efficiency, the section coordinates provision of:

- financial services;
- human resource services;
- information technology services;
- · administrative services.

Financial, information technology and administrative services of this section also support the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development.







Corporate Communications Section

Provides a wide range of services to the Ministry, including writing support, strategic communications planning and issues management, media monitoring and media relations, advertising and printing services, responding to public inquiries, and coordination of the internet home page at www.iir.gov.ab.ca. Staff in this section are deployed to work in the Ministry by the Public Affairs Bureau.

SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES

Promoting the interests of and securing benefits for Alberta as an equal partner in a revitalized, united Canada:

Council of the Federation

At the July Council of the Federation meeting in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, premiers agreed on an Action Plan for Better Health Care. The council's focus on health care proved successful in terms of health-related outcomes at the First Ministers Meeting. At their meetings in August and September, premiers developed detailed proposals for health care funding, and a proposal for a national pharmacare program which would be funded by the federal government as indicated by the Prime Minister during the June 2004 federal election.

First Ministers' Meeting on Health Care

Premiers met with the Prime Minister in September 2004 to finalize a 10-year plan for health care which will see federal contributions to health care rise to 25% of provincial costs.

First Ministers' Meeting on Equalization

At the October 2004 First Ministers' Meeting in Ottawa, the federal government announced changes to the equalization program, adding significant new resources to the program for the equalization-receiving provinces. The federal government agreed to establish an expert panel to review equalization. In response, premiers agreed to establish a Council of the Federation panel to review the fiscal imbalance, equalization and other federal transfers such as the Canada Health Transfer and the Canada Social Transfer.

MLA Committee on Strengthening Alberta's Role on Confederation

In June 2004, the MLA Committee on Strengthening Alberta's Role in Confederation submitted its final report to the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations. The committee was established in 2003 to solicit the opinions of Albertans about the state of the federal-provincial relationship, and on how the relationship might be improved or changed. The government announced it had accepted all of the committee's recommendations on October 19, 2004.

Senate Election

Alberta made legislative and regulatory changes associated with the *Senatorial Selection Act* in spring 2004, paving the way for an election to select four nominees for appointment to the Senate. The Senate nominee election was held concurrently with the provincial general election on November 22, 2004, with a total of 10 candidates standing for election. Although Alberta's Senate nominees have not been appointed to the Senate to date, the election demonstrated Albertans' continued support for Senate reform.

Alberta-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting

The Alberta and British Columbia (B.C.) Cabinets met twice over the past year to consider and develop joint initiatives as agreed to in the overarching Protocol of Cooperation, signed by Premier Ralph Klein and Premier Gordon Campbell during their first meeting in October 2003. During the year, Alberta and B.C. signed a total of nine agreements, including agreements on the negotiation of bilateral water management, controlling the mountain pine beetle, and environmental cooperation, and have committed to work together in a number of other areas.

Promoting the interests of and securing benefits for Alberta from strengthened international relations:

Opening of Alberta Office in Washington, D.C.

Alberta established its office in Washington, D.C. in January 2005. Located in the Canadian Embassy, the three-person office promotes the province's economic and policy interests in the U.S. capital, and establishes and builds relationships with high-level decision-makers in Alberta's largest and most important market.

Premier's Mission to China and Korea

During Premier Klein's June mission to China and South Korea, he highlighted Alberta's abundant and secure energy supplies in a keynote speech in Beijing, and reinforced messages about the safety of Alberta beef. Premier Klein's meetings quickly resulted in a number of investment exploration missions to Alberta by senior Chinese delegations representing China's major state-owned oil corporations.

Premier's Participation in Energy Summit, New Mexico

Premier Klein delivered the keynote address at the April 2004 Energy Summit in New Mexico. The Premier focused on Alberta's energy significance to the U.S. and Alberta's potential as a reliable and secure supplier. Electricity transmission in the western states and provinces as well as the development of Alberta's oil sands were also key discussion items with participants at this summit, which featured western governors and other key decision-makers.

Establishment of Alberta's 14th Twinning Relationship

In August 2004, Premier Klein signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the western Ukrainian oblast of Ivano-Frankivsk, the ancestral homeland of many of Alberta's Ukrainian community. The MOU was a follow-up to the Premier's 2002 mission to Ukraine and was promoted by the Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations.

Promoting the interests of and securing benefits for Alberta from greater trade and investment liberalization both domestically and internationally:

In response to Council of the Federation direction to improve the operation of the *Agreement on Internal Trade* (AIT), Alberta led ongoing negotiations on the completion of the energy chapter, addressed gaps in the AIT, and recommended improvements regarding the AIT decision-making process and disputesettlement mechanism. Alberta's contributions were incorporated into a work plan, which was approved by the Council of the Federation in July 2004, and also by the federal government at the December 2004 Ministerial Meeting of the Committee on Internal Trade.

Alberta challenged, under the AIT, internal trade practices of other Canadian jurisdictions. Alberta received two successful panel reports: one against the cost of credit disclosure requirements in the federal government's *Bank Act*, and the other against the discriminatory provisions contained in Ontario's *Edible Oils Products Act*. Alberta also initiated formal dispute procedures against Québec's ban on the sale of coloured margarine, and initiated consultations with the federal government regarding its geographically based hiring criteria.

Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Dispute

Alberta continued in its efforts to resolve the softwood lumber dispute. The Government of Alberta worked with its legal counsel to defend provincial programs and to ensure that Alberta positions were reflected in legal challenges made by Canada in the World Trade Organization and under the North American Free Trade Agreement. (NAFTA)

Near the end of the reporting period, efforts resumed to find a long-term, durable solution to the dispute, outside of litigation. Alberta contributed to the development of a Canadian framework document for further discussions. This document was sent to the U.S. in March 2005. Alberta's position continues to be that resolution of the dispute must recognize the importance of long-term tenures as a vehicle for sustainable forest management.

World Trade Organization Negotiations

Alberta pursued its interests in the current round of trade liberalization negotiations (the "Doha Development Agenda") taking place under the World Trade Organization (WTO). A key outcome this year was the "July Package," consisting of a framework agreement and detailed annexes intended to provide direction to negotiators. Alberta promoted its interests in agriculture, services, market access and trade remedy reform in advance of and following the release of the July package. Efforts are now underway to prepare ministers for the 2005 WTO Ministerial Meeting, scheduled to take place in December in Hong Kong.

Ministry Expenses by Core Business

The Ministry's financial performance was within budget targets and no significant variances arose in comparison to budget for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2005.

International and Intergovernmental Relations has three core businesses: Canadian Intergovernmental Relations, International Relations and Trade Policy.

Key services provided by the ministry are:

- advancing Alberta's interests through intergovernmental negotiations and discussions;
- coordinating Alberta's strategies related to international and intergovernmental relations;
- providing strategic advice and policy analysis to Alberta ministries and other clients;
- obtaining, disseminating and analyzing information for Alberta ministries and other clients.

Year April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005 (in thousands)

Core Business	2004-05 Budget	2004-05 Actual	2003-04 Actual
Canadian Intergovernmental Relations	\$3,530	\$2,766	\$2,285
International Relations	\$3,549	\$3,821	\$2,614
Trade Policy	\$1,420	\$1,676	\$1,583
Total Ministry Expense	\$8,499	\$8,263	\$6,482

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

GOAL 1:

Promoting the interests of, and securing benefits for, Alberta as an equal partner in a revitalized, united Canada

Premiers' Conferences

Alberta participated in a record number of conferences throughout the year, including:

First Ministers' Meeting

- September 13-15, 2004 Ottawa, Ontario
- October 26, 2004 Ottawa, Ontario

Special Meeting of First Ministers and Aboriginal Leaders

• September 13, 2004 - Ottawa, Ontario

Council of the Federation

- July 28-30, 2004 Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario
- September 1-2, 2004 Toronto, Ontario
- September 12, 2004 Ottawa, Ontario
- October 25-26, 2004 Ottawa, Ontario

Meeting of Premiers and Aboriginal Leaders

July 28, 2004 - Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

Western Premiers' Conference

• July 7-9, 2004 - Inuvik, Northwest Territories

Alberta-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting

- May 25-26, 2004 Prince Rupert, B.C.
- March 17-18, 2005 Cranbrook, B.C.

Council of the Federation

The Council of the Federation's (COF) objectives are to:

- promote interprovincial-territorial cooperation and closer ties between members of the council, to ultimately strengthen Canada;
- foster meaningful relations between governments based on respect for the constitution and recognition of the diversity within the federation;
- show leadership on issues important to all Canadians.

The council continues to be an effective forum for Alberta to advance its priorities within the Canadian federation. Alberta was lead or co-lead on the following three Council of the Federation initiatives: bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), appointments to national institutions, and the provincial-territorial role in international trade negotiations, agreements and fora. These initiatives coincided with what Premier Klein identified as priority areas for Alberta.

Progress is being made in each of these priority areas:

- On September 10, 2004, the federal government announced a \$448 million strategy to reposition the country's livestock industry, including measures such as working to reopen the U.S. border, facilitating increased domestic slaughter capacity, sustaining the industry until capacity is increased, and increasing international market share for Canadian beef. On March 7, 2005 the federal government affirmed its commitment to the repositioning strategy.
- Premiers have discussed the appointment process to the Senate and Supreme Court, and agreed that it is inappropriate for members to be selected by the Prime Minister, given the federal nature of Canada. The ad hoc committee of ministers is continuing its work on appointments to national institutions.
- The federal government is reviewing its best practices with respect to the provincial-territorial role in international negotiations and is going to re-engage with provinces and territories in the future.

Since its inception in December 2003, the Council of the Federation has brought premiers together numerous times, and the last year has been no exception. The Council of the Federation met in February 2004 in Vancouver and set the course for the First Ministers' Health meeting in September 2004. Successful outcomes from the First Ministers' Meetings stem from the ability of premiers, through the Council of the Federation, to work together on issues of importance to all Canadians.

At the council's summer meeting at Niagara-on-the-Lake, premiers recommended establishment of a national pharmacare program. Other key initiatives on which premiers announced progress at Niagara were improving Canada-U.S. relations, domestic trade flows, BSE, appointments to national institutions and a provincial-territorial role in international trade negotiations, agreements and fora. And, in order to bring recognition to achievements in literacy in every province and territory, premiers agreed to create a Council of the Federation literacy award which will be awarded annually by each premier beginning in 2005.

One of the council's priorities, as well as Alberta's, was to promote regular annual First Ministers' Meetings. There were two First Ministers' Meetings in the fall of 2004: one on health and one on equalization – both priority areas for the COF. The COF met prior to both meetings in order to ensure successful outcomes. In pursuit of the goal of jointly determining agendas for First Ministers' Meetings, the COF proposed an agenda for the First Ministers' Meeting on Health Care. The outcomes from both First Ministers' Meetings proved very successful, with the establishment of a 10-year action plan on health, a national pharmacare strategy, and a new equalization and territorial funding formula framework.

In order to support the work of the council, the Ministry worked closely with other ministries in preparing for meetings and conferences and providing briefing information for the Premier. The Ministry worked to support the Premier at conferences to help ensure that Alberta's priorities are not only met, but remain at the forefront of the council's agenda. The Ministry has been instrumental in ensuring that Alberta is an active participant in the council, and that Alberta is ready to take over as chair of the Council of the Federation in the summer of 2005.

Intergovernmental Agreements

The Ministry assisted other provincial government ministries in negotiating and finalizing a number of intergovernmental agreements over the past year. A list of agreements concluded in 2004-05 is shown in Appendix 2. Based on the results of a joint Ministry-Office of the Auditor General review of the processes for handling intergovernmental agreements conducted in 2002-03, the Ministry has established a work plan to update the management of intergovernmental agreements. This updating process is ongoing and will be completed in the 2005-06 fiscal year.

Alberta-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meetings

On May 25-26, 2004, Alberta and B.C. held a joint Cabinet meeting in Prince Rupert, B.C. Premier Klein and Premier Campbell, along with members of their Cabinets, discussed a wide range of topics. One of the items discussed was the potential development of a northern corridor from Alberta to B.C.'s north coast. The provinces agreed to identify strategic industrial and infrastructure opportunities that hold the greatest economic development potential for a northern corridor, including port facilities in Prince Rupert and Kitimat, B.C.; and new roads, rail upgrades, and air transportation. Cabinet ministers also discussed health care reform and sustainability, in advance of a meeting of health and finance ministers, and the First Ministers' Meeting on Health Care.

During the Alberta-B.C. meeting, the two provinces signed five agreements that will:

- provide mutual assistance, services and resources during public health emergencies or natural disasters;
- harmonize regulations in the oil and gas sector to reduce industry costs, increase available investment and advance economic development;
- increase environmental cooperation and harmonization by adopting similar rules in both provinces;
- lead to enhanced trade, investment and labour mobility between the two provinces; and
- commit the provinces to cooperate on e-learning through the provision of a wider range of support, tools and resources to teachers. Alberta and B.C. also committed to reduce duplication of effort and share more information between provinces.

In advance of the meeting, two additional agreements were signed that will:

- improve traveller information in and around mountain parks in partnership with Parks Canada; and
- develop a partnership between Northern Lights College and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology to enhance skills training in the oil and gas sector.

Premiers and ministers also received the following updates, developed as a result of their first meeting in Calgary in October 2003:

- the joint-use motor vehicle inspection station on the Trans-Canada Highway that will save both provinces an estimated \$2 million in capital costs and \$300,000 in annual operating costs;
- Northern Lights College in Dawson Creek and Grande Prairie Regional College are jointly delivering advanced education programs via video conferencing;
- joint procurement of kindergarten to Grade 12 learning resources that will result in potential savings of \$350,000 for each province over the next year;
- the Alberta-B.C. Partnership on Child Welfare, which has resulted in shared knowledge about innovative practices that improve outcomes for children, youth and families in contact with the child welfare system; and
- cooperation in BSE testing that will reduce costs for each province.

In October 2004, Alberta and B.C. signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation in labour market programming. This MOU will enhance the sharing of information on both a general and non-personal nature with regard to the continuum of services provided by each ministry, increase knowledge and experience of both provinces by sharing best practices, assist both provinces in planning parallel and streamlined programs for Aboriginal peoples, and increase strategic planning cooperation in areas of common interest.

The second Alberta-B.C. joint Cabinet meeting was held in Cranbrook, B.C. on March 17-18, 2005. Premier Klein and Premier Campbell, as well as members of each Cabinet, discussed possible long-term solutions to the softwood lumber dispute, further action on a comprehensive bilateral agreement on trade, investment and labour force movement between the two provinces, and transportation infrastructure.

Alberta and B.C. have also agreed to establish new economic gateways that will allow access to vast and rapidly growing markets in China and other Asian countries. Both provinces commit to move forward with implementation of the B.C. ports strategy, provide funding to support completion of a west coast container super port feasibility study, and develop a northern airports strategy. Both provinces have continued efforts on cooperative transportation projects such as joint-use vehicle inspection stations and improved highway traveller information signage.

During this meeting, Alberta and British Columbia signed three agreements which will:

- provide funding and initiatives to combat the increasing problem of the mountain pine beetle;
- initiate and guide negotiation on how the provinces share and protect their common water resources; and
- assist both provinces in sharing Olympic and Paralympic training and competition facilities to develop high performance athletes and sport tourism initiatives.

In advance of the meeting, an additional agreement was signed between Alberta's Education Learning Centre, the B.C. Ministry of Education, and the Special Education Technology Program. All partners will work together to improve services to students with special needs from both provinces.

Infrastructure Development

The Ministry continued throughout the year to work closely with Infrastructure and Transportation to secure federal support for development of infrastructure in Alberta through three major federal-provincial infrastructure agreements. The Ministry also assisted in the development of bilateral agreements for federal funding of municipal infrastructure and ring roads in Calgary and Edmonton. Together with all provinces and territories, Alberta advocated strongly for major new infrastructure funding from the federal government more in line with the amount of revenue the federal government collects from its fuel tax.

Alberta also joined other western provinces in developing a western transportation strategy to guide cooperative intergovernmental efforts in the area of infrastructure. This strategy offers the federal government the opportunity to invest a greater portion of fuel taxes in western infrastructure as a matter of national priority. The Ministry provided advice and assistance to Transportation to establish agreements with B.C. that would increase cooperation and efficiency of management of border transportation issues such as joint weigh scales and traveller information messaging.

Securities

Chaired by Alberta's Minister of Finance, provincial ministers responsible for securities regulation continued to work toward a better securities regulation system for Canada. The federal Minister of Finance and the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance discussed the development of a single national securities regulator. Securities regulation is an area of provincial jurisdiction. The Ministry provided advice and assistance as Alberta Finance continues provincial leadership in regulatory reform.

Marketing Choice for Wheat and Barley Producers

The Government of Alberta continues to push for marketing choice for Alberta's wheat and barley producers. Amongst producer groups, farmers should have the option to sell their grain through either the Canadian Wheat Board or privately. The Ministry continued to work with Agriculture, Food and Rural Development to advocate Alberta's position.

Municipalities

During the past year, Alberta made significant progress toward the creation of a bilateral agreement with the federal government, resulting in increased federal funding for municipal infrastructure under the federal New Deal for Cities and Communities. The federal government wants to develop new partnerships with municipalities through the New Deal. As municipalities are an area of provincial jurisdiction, the Ministry worked with Infrastructure, Transportation and Municipal Affairs to develop frameworks for positive federal relationships with Alberta and its municipalities. Alberta also encouraged the federal government to make long-term funding commitments to Alberta communities within national parks. The Ministry continues to provide advice to Municipal Affairs and other ministries on issues related to federal involvement with municipal governments.

Agricultural Policy Framework

The Ministry is continuing to work with Agriculture, Food and Rural Development and other ministries in collaborating with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to implement the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF). A new business risk management program is being put into place to help farmers and others in agriculture deal more effectively with the vagaries of agricultural business operations, low commodity prices and a crushing livestock market due to closure of the U.S. border to importation of livestock. The Ministry participates in a federalprovincial APF advisory committee and provides independent advice and assistance to Agriculture, Food and Rural Development to ensure that agricultural policies and programs reflect Alberta's strategic interests and priorities.

Climate Change

In December 2002, the federal government decided to proceed with ratification of the Kyoto Protocol without the agreement of provincial governments. With Russian ratification, the agreement came into force in February 2005. The Ministry has worked to limit the impact of this unilateral federal decision on areas of provincial jurisdiction and ensure federal recognition of the need to limit the long-term risks to investor and industry posed by the Kyoto Protocol. The Ministry assisted Environment in the process of ensuring federal cooperation in Alberta's ongoing activities to implement an action plan on climate change and provided advice on intergovernmental issues related to the Kyoto Protocol.

Security

The Alberta government continues to monitor world events and will take the necessary steps to protect Albertans, in cooperation with federal and municipal authorities. Under Alberta's Security Task Force, chaired by the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations, Alberta has examined the real dangers and has put solid plans in place.

MLA Committee on Strengthening Alberta's Role in Confederation

On November 15, 2003, Premier Klein appointed a nine-member MLA Committee on Strengthening Alberta's Role in Confederation. The committee was established to solicit Albertans' views about the status of federal-provincial relations, and how the relationship might be improved or changed. The committee also heard Albertans' ideas about how to strengthen Alberta's position within the Canadian federation.

After holding public consultations, the committee closed submissions on March 31, 2004, and spent April to June 2004 reviewing and considering input. Over 150 Albertans made presentations to the committee, and over 550 written submissions were received.

The committee submitted its report and recommendations to the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations on June 28, 2004. The report was publicly released on August 11, 2004. The committee examined several aspects of the federal-provincial relationship, including ideas such as the establishment of a provincial pension plan, a provincial police force and provincial collection of personal income taxes. In all, the committee made 26 recommendations concerning these and a variety of other issues, including Senate reform, health care, federal transfer payments and provincial-municipal relations.

Alberta released its response to the committee's report on October 19, 2004, in which the government accepted all of the committee's 26 recommendations. The government also identified appropriate follow-up. Ministries have now begun to pursue these follow-up actions.

The Ministry provided secretariat and support services to the committee, and will review progress on the government's follow-up to the committee's report. The report will assist the Ministry in pursuing its mission and business plan objectives.

Senate Reform and Senate Nominee Election

Alberta remains committed to pursuing meaningful Senate reform. The Ministry continues to lead the government's efforts toward achieving comprehensive constitutional reform of the Senate of Canada, while, in the interim, exploring and advocating non-constitutional options to democratize the Senate.

Albertans continued to demonstrate strong support for Senate reform. With the terms of the two previous Senate nominees having expired, and with three Alberta vacancies in the Senate, the government saw the need to hold a fresh Senate nominee election in 2004.

The election was held concurrent with a provincial general election on November 22, 2004. Ten candidates stood for election. Bert Brown, Betty Unger, Cliff Breitkreuz and Link Byfield were chosen as Alberta's four Senate nominees.

Despite his earlier commitment to bring about democratic reform of Parliament, Prime Minister Paul Martin selected his own unelected candidates to fill Alberta's three Senate vacancies.

Child Care Negotiations

Following the federal government's 2004 election platform promise of working with provinces and territories on child care, Alberta has been negotiating with the federal government on a new child care agreement. The Ministry has worked closely with Children's Services during the negotiations and will continue to support Children's Services as negotiations continue.

Regulatory Gap

Increasingly the lack of regulatory schemes for developments on reserve lands is adversely affecting the economic well-being of Aboriginal peoples. The Ministry assisted and provided advice to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development as it pursued legislative solutions with the federal government and affected First Nations.

GOAL 2:

Promoting the interests of, and securing benefits for, Alberta from strengthened international relations

United States Initiatives

The United States remained Alberta's biggest trading and investment partner in 2004-05. Relations with U.S. decision makers and key states were strengthened through the establishment of the Alberta Office in Washington, D.C., Premier's and ministerial missions, and participation in a number of state-level organizations and bilateral cooperation agreements.

Alberta Office in Washington, D.C.

The Alberta Washington Office is unique in that it is primarily policy-oriented, unlike Alberta's other international offices, which have a trade and investment mandate. The Washington office focuses on advancing the interests and views of Alberta at the highest levels of government throughout the U.S. administration and Congress. It also focuses on business associations, thinktanks and media in Washington that help shape U.S. opinion and public policy.

The office works with Alberta ministers, officials and the private sector, in partnership with the Canadian Embassy, to:

- provide information and analysis to Alberta on political and economic developments in Washington;
- contribute to the development of Alberta's U.S. energy, trade, agricultural and investment strategies;
- ensure Alberta's views and priorities are understood and factored into Canadian policies and initiatives;
- build Alberta's profile in the U.S. as a secure, safe and reliable supplier of energy, agricultural products and other goods and services; and
- promote the sale of Alberta products and services in the U.S., in cooperation with Alberta businesses and government.

Alberta's initiative prompted the federal government to invite provinces to co-locate in the newly created Advocacy Secretariat of the Canadian Embassy in Washington. An agreement governing the terms of Alberta's co-location was reached in July 2004 and the Alberta Washington Office began initial operations in October. Following the appointment of Alberta's former energy minister, Murray Smith, as the Alberta Representative in Washington, D.C. effective January 1, 2005, the office was fully staffed and operational.

Premier Klein officiated at the opening on March 22, 2005. The opening attracted over 300 guests, including congressional representatives and senior staffers, administration officials, heads of industry associations and think-tanks, and prominent U.S. and Alberta business leaders. The Premier's program included meetings with the new U.S. Secretary of Energy, officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. meat industry. The Premier signed an MOU with the Smithsonian Institution, committing Alberta to participate as the feature "region" at the 2006 Smithsonian Folklife Festival (held every July on the National Mall near the U.S. Capitol Building).

In its first few months of operation, the Alberta Washington Office established key relationships with individuals, agencies and groups involved in the development of U.S. policy, particularly in the priority areas of energy, agriculture (e.g., BSE), critical infrastructure security and softwood lumber. The office developed strategically targeted programs for a variety of incoming Alberta delegations to the U.S. capital, including those led by the Ministers of International and Intergovernmental Relations, Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Energy, Sustainable Resource Development, and Premier Klein.

The work of the office resulted in valuable media exposure for Alberta in *The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal,* Fox News, *Time* and several energy publications. Alberta accepted an invitation to participate in a study on western hemisphere energy security, sponsored by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies. Alberta contributed to an embassy event on March 1, 2005 that was held on Capitol Hill to introduce senators and congressmen to Canada. Alberta's energy resources were featured in one display, and the Alberta emergency response system was highlighted in another.

Premier Klein's Mission to Washington, D.C. and Boston

The Alberta Washington Office coordinated Premier Klein's March 2005 mission to Washington and Boston. In Washington, the Premier met with Canada's new Ambassador to the U.S., Frank McKenna, to explore how Alberta and Canada can work together to improve relations with the U.S.

During a meeting with U.S. Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman, the Premier reinforced Alberta's importance as a secure and reliable source of energy. The Premier was impressed with the Secretary's knowledge of Alberta's oil sands and his interest in closer cooperation.

At an Alberta-hosted luncheon with U.S. beef industry representatives and senior U.S. administration officials, Premier Klein reinforced the safety of Alberta beef, and the province's commitment to a full re-opening of the Canada-U.S. border to trade in beef and cattle. He thanked the U.S. administration for its continuing support of the border re-opening.

In Boston, Premier Klein participated in a dinner for members of the Massachusetts business and political community to raise Alberta's profile and promote investment opportunities. He had an opportunity to highlight Alberta's economy and investment climate at a roundtable and question and answer session with analysts from the New England investment community.

During a meeting with Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, the Premier outlined Alberta's position as a safe and secure supplier of energy to North America and to Massachusetts. He concluded his mission with an address at Harvard University, focusing on Alberta's key role in North American energy security.

Premier Klein's Participation in Energy Summit, New Mexico

Premier Klein and the Minister of Energy participated in the April 14-16, 2004 North American Energy Summit, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The summit brought together key policy-makers from the U.S., Mexico and Canada to address mutual energy needs. In his keynote address, Premier Klein focused on Alberta's energy significance to the U.S. and its potential as a reliable and secure supplier. During the summit, the Premier signed an addendum to the association's Regional Transmission Protocol, which will help streamline new electricity transmission infrastructure in western North America. He also succeeded in getting the final recommendations of the summit's oil session to include Alberta's priorities in:

- endorsing the oil sands as a key source of oil supply to the U.S.;
- supporting construction of additional pipeline and refinery capacity;
- exploring regional cooperation to increase crossborder mobility of energy infrastructure workers;
- exploring potential cooperation on greenhouse gas emission abatement strategies.

Ministerial Mission to Washington, D.C.

During a mission by the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations to Washington, D.C. in February 2005, energy and Canada-U.S. relations were among the issues discussed in meetings with the U.S. Department of Energy and the State Department. The Ministers of International and Intergovernmental Relations and Agriculture, Food and Rural Development held a joint meeting with Montana Senator Burns to advocate re-opening the border to Alberta beef.

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

The annual meeting of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) was held in Victoria, B.C. in July 2004. The Ministry provided strategic coordination for Alberta's participation and promoted cooperation in such key areas as energy, agriculture, border issues and transportation. A presentation by the U.S. Department of Energy acknowledged that Alberta holds over 90 per cent of the continent's oil reserves. At the conclusion of the meeting, Alberta MLA Rob Renner assumed the PNWER presidency for a one-year term.

Alaska Alberta Bilateral Council

Alberta hosted the inaugural meeting of the Alaska Alberta Bilateral Council in May 2004. Governor Murkowski and Premier Klein signed a reaffirmation of the bilateral cooperation agreement, in recognition of the mutual interest in shipping Alaska gas through the Alberta pipeline hub. Working groups were established to promote cooperation and ensure ongoing dialogue in the areas of energy, transportation/tourism, workforce development and Aboriginal issues. The Ministry coordinated Alberta's participation, which included public and private sector involvement.

Asia Pacific Initiatives

Premier's Mission to China and Korea

China and South Korea are Alberta's second and fifth-largest trading partners respectively, with twoway trade between Alberta and China amounting to over \$3 billion per year. In China, the Premier met with a number of high-level officials in key ministries and senior executives of China's major oil companies. He updated them on developments in Alberta's energy industry, reinforced messages about the safety of Alberta beef, and strengthed the sisterprovince relationship with Heilongjiang, China. In Korea the Premier delivered the Alberta Advantage message to government and business leaders and celebrated 30 years of the Gangwon-Alberta twinning. Concluded on this mission were MOUs on science and technology (with China and Korea), and education (with China).

Premier Klein's mission attracted the attention of the Chinese government and its state-owned energy companies as they look to meet their growing energy demands. Premier Klein's meetings quickly resulted in a number of investment exploration missions to Alberta by senior Chinese delegations representing China's major state-owned oil corporations. The Ministry worked with other ministries and the federal government to develop and articulate a coherent message to potential Asian investors about Alberta as a secure and abundant source of energy.

Visit by Japan's PrincessTakamado

In June 2004, Alberta welcomed Her Imperial Highness, Princess Takamado of Japan. Princess Takamado's visit celebrated the 75th anniversary of Canada-Japan bilateral relations, and continued the legacy of the late Prince Takamado in a number of commemorative activities. These activities included the renaming of the University of Alberta's Centre for the Teaching of Japanese Language and Culture as the Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research.

Tsunami Relief

The Ministry coordinated Alberta's response to the devastating earthquake and tsunami that struck South and Southeast Asia on December 26, 2004. A \$5 million donation was made by the Government of Alberta to the Canadian Red Cross, earmarked for tsunami relief efforts.

Asian Sister Province Relations

Relations with Alberta's sister provinces were enhanced through activities surrounding the 30th anniversary of Alberta-Gangwon relations, preparations for the 25th anniversary of Alberta-Hokkaido relations, and the Premier's visit to Heilongjiang, China.

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Alberta-Gangwon sister province relationship, Alberta sent a 16-member delegation of Aboriginal dancers and drummers to the Gangneung International Folklore Festival. Alberta hosted an official from the Gangwon government for six months, giving him an opportunity for professional learning and development in the areas of tourism policy and cultural resources.

To recognize the importance of Alberta's municipal twinnings in Japan, and in preparation for the 25th anniversary of Alberta-Hokkaido relations, the Ministry provided grants to 18 Alberta municipalities that are twinned with Japanese counterparts. The department continued its funding support for the Alberta-Japan Twinned Municipalities Association.

Europe Initiatives

Germany-Alberta Relations

The Ministry worked with various government departments to raise Alberta's profile and strengthen relations with Germany. Key visitors to Alberta from Germany included the Atlantik Bruecke (Atlantic Bridge) delegation of German and Canadian parliamentarians, the Canadian-German Young Leaders, the new Canadian Ambassador to Germany, and the German Consul General from Vancouver. Most groups visited the oil sands during their stay in Alberta.

With a view to strengthening relations with the Free State of Saxony, Premier Klein and Minister-President Milbradt extended the current Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2002, for an additional three years. They identified priority areas of cooperation as education, science and technology, and economic ties.

Ukraine-Alberta Relations

Alberta continued to demonstrate full commitment and support for the advancement of democracy in Ukraine, particularly as the people of Ukraine organized the "Orange Revolution" during the presidential elections in 2004. Alberta supplemented the work of the Canadian federal government and Ukrainian-Canadians by providing funding for election monitors to ensure an open and transparent election process.

The Ministry welcomed the visit of the Governor of Ivano-Frankivsk, who was accompanied by a business delegation of 20 people. The governor signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with Premier Klein, establishing a sister-province relationship with this oblast in western Ukraine, the ancestral home of many Albertans. During this visit, Ivano-Frankivsk also signed cooperation agreements with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress-Alberta Provincial Council and the Canadian Ukrainian Development Association.

The Ministry coordinated activities with other ministries focusing on education and training, joint research in ethnography, teaching of disabled children, agricultural reform and farm management, and cultural linkages.

The Ministry continued to act as the Secretariat for the Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations (ACAUR). In 2004, priorities for ACAUR included election monitoring in Ukraine, promotion of the establishment of a Ukrainian Consulate General in Edmonton, and advancing cooperation between Alberta and Ukraine in intergovernmental cooperation, education, child services, economic development and agriculture.

International Governance Office

The International Governance Office (IGO) partnered with the private sector, post-secondary institutions and other governments to deliver assistance to foreign governments in China, South Africa, Russia and Mexico.

China

The Ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation with the Province of Shandong in October, and with the Harbin Institute of Technology in the Province of Heilongjiang in September. The MOUs set the stage for these Chinese provinces to gain exposure to Alberta's public sector expertise and management practices as part of their reform initiatives. In addition to these provinces, the Ministry continued to work with the Chinese National School of Administration, providing senior Chinese officials and future leaders with insight into Alberta's management of key issues and cross-government initiatives.

The IGO expanded its network of regional government partners in China to include the Provinces of Anhui, Xinjiang, Liaoning and Jilin, and the City of Chongqing. Overall, the IGO provided customized training programs for more than 100 senior national and regional Chinese government officials.

South Africa

The final activity under the three-year Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)-funded Canada-South Africa Twinning Project was a weeklong seminar in Edmonton in June. The seminar featured policies and procedures related to the Alberta government's role in intergovernmental relations, international relations, and protocol. Twenty government officials from seven South African provinces participated.

Russia

Through the CIDA-funded Governance Advisory Exchange Program, the IGO designed and managed two cross-Canada study tours. One involved seven officials from the Russian president's administration on industry regulations and the privatization of government operations in November. The second study tour was for two officials from the Russian Ministry of Economic Development and Trade in government's role in regional economic development in June.

Under this program, two Alberta experts were invited to deliver workshops in Moscow in February. The workshops focused on Alberta's business planning systems, performance management models, and human resource management policies and strategies, and reached an audience of about 80 people.

Mexico

In mid-2004, the State of Nuevo Leon, Alberta Environment and the IGO began discussions on a governance proposal to assist Nuevo Leon to develop regulations and policies in the areas of waste water management, air quality monitoring, environmental education, and wildlife and natural resource sustainability. This effort was initiated by the Commission for Environmental Cooperation under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Discussions are continuing with Nuevo Leon, which is Mexico's key industrial state.

International Missions to Alberta

The Ministry worked with partners in Protocol, Economic Development, Energy and other ministries to develop strategically focused programs in the past year for over 70 incoming delegations. Some of the visitors to Alberta included:

- Governor of the State of Minnesota, the Honorable Tim Pawlenty and 18-member education delegation;
- · Atlantik-Bruecke German Parliamentarians;
- Governor of the State of Alaska, the Honorable Frank Murkowski;
- Undersecretary of Environment, Mexico, Mr. Juan Elivira;
- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, India, Honorable Mani Shankar Aiyr;
- South Africa intergovernmental relations and protocol 20-member delegation;
- Deputy State Secretary of Education, Hungary, Mr. Peter Medgyes;
- Governor of Ivano-Frankivsk oblast in Ukraine and 20-member delegation; and
- Ambassadors and High Commissioners to Canada from the United States, European Union, Japan, Korea, France, Czech Republic, Ukraine, New Zealand, Croatia, Yemen, Portugal, Vietnam, Jamaica, Belize, Iceland and Guinea.

GOAL 3:

Promoting the interests of, and securing benefits for, Alberta from greater trade and investment liberalization, domestically and internationally

Provincial Role in International Negotiations

In March 2004, the Council of the Federation directed provincial ministers to undertake efforts to develop a mechanism for full provincial-territorial participation in international trade negotiations, agreements and fora. Alberta and New Brunswick were designated as lead provinces for the exercise. Following consultation, a consensus provincialterritorial framework document was concluded in May 2004, and sent to the federal government. No further federal-provincial-territorial meetings have been held since May 2004, and the Ministry developed a further consensus provincial-territorial letter to the federal government, outlining provincial-territorial concern with lack of progress on this initiative. Provinces and territories continue to pursue federal re-engagement.

World Trade Organization

Alberta pursued its interests in the current round of trade liberalization negotiations (the Doha Development Agenda) taking place under the World Trade Organization (WTO). A key outcome this year was the July Package, consisting of a framework agreement and detailed annexes intended to provide direction to negotiators. The Minister promoted Alberta's interests (in agriculture, services, market access and trade remedy reform) in advance of, and following, the release of the July Package. An Alberta paper containing proposals for the reform of anti-dumping rules in agriculture was developed and forwarded to the Government of Canada in December 2004. The Ministry also organized and conducted, in cooperation with the federal government, private-sector consultations at the Global Petroleum Show in Calgary in June 2004,

to get industry input on Alberta priorities related to oil and gas services trade in the Doha Round negotiations. In addition, in cooperation with Agriculture, Food and Rural Development and the Alberta agriculture industry, a WTO agriculture trade seminar was held in October 2004 with the federal chief agriculture negotiator. This provided an opportunity for agriculture industry representatives to provide input on the WTO agriculture negotiations.

North American Free Trade Agreement

The Ministry supported a number of NAFTA-related initiatives over the course of the year. In advance of Prime Minister Martin's visit to Washington, D.C. in April 2004, Premier Klein communicated Alberta's views to the Prime Minister about the potential benefits of further NAFTA integration. In June 2004, the Ministry prepared and forwarded to the federal government a report on the benefits to Alberta of reducing tariffs and removing rules of origin in the NAFTA region. In anticipation of the July 2004 NAFTA Commission meeting, the Ministry developed and forwarded further proposals to the federal government on improving the North American relationship and NAFTA's institutions. Finally, in March 2005, the Ministry forwarded its views related to the operation of the 30-plus working groups and committees established under NAFTA.

In June 2004, the Ministry developed Alberta's position in advance of, and attended, the *North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation* ministerial meeting.

In September 2004, the Ministry funded a "NAFTA at 10; FTA at 15" conference, which was organized by the Western Centre for Economic Research at the University of Alberta. Approximately 100 participants attended. The conference proceedings, providing independent analysis of the results of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement and NAFTA in Alberta, were subsequently published.

Softwood Lumber

The Ministry continued to work with Sustainable Resource Development in ongoing efforts to resolve the softwood lumber dispute. Since May 2002, the U.S. has been collecting countervailing and antidumping duties on imports of lumber from Canada. The current combined duty rate is approximately 20 per cent.

Canada has initiated several distinct, legal challenges in the WTO and under NAFTA against U.S. rulings made in anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations. While several favourable panel rulings have been issued, as of March 31, 2005, the legal proceedings have not been definitively concluded. Both the Ministry and Sustainable Resource Development have worked closely with Washington D.C.-based legal counsel to defend Alberta programs and to ensure that Alberta positions were reflected in overall Canadian legal arguments.

Near the end of the reporting period, efforts resumed to find a long-term, durable solution to the dispute, outside of litigation. Alberta contributed to the development of a Canadian framework document for further discussions. This document was sent to the U.S. in March 2005. Alberta's position continues to be that any resolution to the dispute be based on recognition of the importance of long-term tenures as a vehicle for sustainable forest management. Throughout this process, the Minister has participated in conference calls and attended a ministerial meeting in May 2004, to discuss this issue with his federal-provincial-territorial colleagues.

The Ministry and Sustainable Resource Development have also continued to conduct extensive consultations with industry, and have solicited input on issues related to the management of this dispute.

Bilateral and Regional Free Trade Initiatives

The Ministry worked to ensure that Alberta's priorities were incorporated into Canada's sectoral, regional, and bilateral trade initiatives during the year. Key initiatives included the following.

Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement

In February 2005, the Ministry coordinated a comprehensive government-wide policy statement on Alberta's interests in the potential negotiation of a free-trade agreement between Canada and Korea. Alberta forwarded this material to the federal government at both the ministerial and the officials' level.

Canada-European Union Trade Initiatives

The Ministry reiterated Alberta's interests in the proposed Canada-European Union (EU) Trade and Investment Enhancement Agreement negotiations to the federal government in advance of the November 2004 Canada-EU Joint Cooperation Committee meeting. Also in November, Alberta obtained formal federal ministerial acknowledgment that Alberta was not covered by the obligations related to provincial liquor boards contained in the recently signed Canada-EU agreement on alcoholic beverages on account of the largely privatized nature of the Alberta system.

Summit of the Americas

In November, the Ministry prepared and submitted to the federal government Alberta's priorities related to a Summit of Americas meeting that included discussion of the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

Potential Canada-Japan Trade Initiative

In May 2004, the Ministry outlined its interests regarding a potential Canada-Japan free-trade agreement in advance of a meeting of the Canada-Japan Joint Economic Commission.

Other Trade Issues

Canada-U.S. Live Swine Dispute

In April 2004, the U.S. Department of Commerce initiated countervailing and anti-dumping duty investigations against imports of live swine from Canada. In March 2005, the Department of Commerce ruled that Canadian federal and provincial governments were providing minimal subsidies to Canadian swine producers and the countervailing duty investigation was terminated. However, at the same time, the Department of Commerce found that Canadian exporters were dumping their product into the U.S. market.

In early April 2005 (slightly outside the reporting period), the U.S. International Trade Commission ruled that Canadian swine did not cause or pose a threat of material injury to U.S. producers. This effectively terminated the dispute and removed any risk of U.S. duties. The Ministry worked with Agriculture, Food and Rural Development and Washington, D.C. legal counsel to defend Alberta programs in the countervailing duty investigation. No Alberta programs were found to provide countervailable subsidies.

Canada-U.S. Wheat Dispute

The U.S. has been collecting anti-dumping and countervailing duties on imports of hard red spring wheat from Canada since October 2003, at a combined rate of 14.16 per cent. The Ministry worked with Agriculture, Food and Rural Development and Washington, D.C.-based legal counsel, as well as other Canadian governments, to challenge a U.S. Department of Commerce subsidy ruling made with respect to the provision of government-owned railcars. While a NAFTA panel upheld the Department of Commerce's ruling on this issue, the railcar subsidy was very small.

Aircraft Convention

In August 2004, the Ministry was requested to lead Alberta's involvement with the federal government on the *Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment as Applied to Aircraft Equipment.* The Minister outlined Alberta's concerns with this convention in a letter sent to the Government of Canada in December.

Chinese Investment in the Oil Sands

In November 2004, the Ministry coordinated provincial initiatives related to achieving a presence in the federal government's China-Canada Energy Working Group, which is a forum for the discussion of Canadian and Chinese energy issues and interests, including oil sands development. These efforts resulted in the federal government agreeing to establish a separate session to allow Alberta to present information to the Chinese on the oil sands.

UNESCO Draft International Convention on Cultural Diversity

The Ministry coordinated a review of a draft *International Convention on Cultural Diversity*, currently being negotiated by UNESCO member countries with a goal of finalizing it in September 2005. In February 2005, following the review, the Ministry forwarded Alberta's concerns to the federal government regarding the potential effect of the draft convention on Canada's existing international trade policy commitments and in areas of provincial jurisdictional responsibility.

Federal Trade Policy Strategy Reviews

The Ministry contributed to policy reviews undertaken by the Government of Canada. In September 2004, the Ministry provided comments on the trade policy and foreign policy elements of the Government of Canada's foreign-policy review. In January 2005, the Ministry contributed to a government-wide review of the federal government's emerging markets strategy.

Provincial Implementation of International Labour Cooperation Agreements

The Ministry contributed the substance and directed the strategy regarding negotiation of a federal-provincial-territorial understanding on provincial-territorial implementation of international labour cooperation agreements within Canada. At a meeting of federal-provincial-territorial labour ministers in January 2005, all of Alberta's objectives were met and accepted by the federal government.

Research Studies

The Ministry contracted with the Western Centre for Economic Research at the University of Alberta to conduct a number of research studies on trade policy issues. These studies, on Western Canadian export performance under free trade agreements and the effect of NAFTA tariff reduction harmonization on Alberta, provide quantitative and qualitative information used to develop Alberta's priorities for trade negotiations and initiatives.

Council of the Federation

The Ministry was involved extensively in issues related to the Council of the Federation (COF) direction on improving the operation of the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT). The COF met in March 2004 and called on provincial-territorial ministers responsible for internal trade to report on progress in the AIT by July. Ministers met in April 2004 to begin preparation of the report. Alberta and B.C. had been designated as the lead provinces for identifying gaps in the existing AIT, and Alberta was appointed lead on completing negotiation of an energy chapter for the AIT. In addition, the Ministry prepared proposals for improvements to the dispute settlement mechanism and for the decision-making process. Efforts continued through the summer, and Alberta contributed to the internal trade work plan delivered at the July COF meeting. Provincial and territorial internal trade ministers agreed to the proposed work plan and provided direction to re-engage the federal government. All of Alberta's contributions to the work plan were incorporated.

Committee on Internal Trade Meeting

In December 2004, a ministerial meeting of the Committee on Internal Trade (CIT) was held. The Ministry ensured that Alberta's priorities, including the removal of local hiring restrictions in federal public service hiring practices, were identified and presented at the meeting. The CIT reached agreement on a new protocol for the AIT related to coverage of procurement by federal and provincial Crown corporations. As well, the federal government agreed to re-engage in the AIT process and fully accepted the work program developed by the COF.

Alberta-British Columbia Bilateral Trade Agreement

Alberta and B.C. had a joint Cabinet meeting in Prince Rupert in May 2004. At this meeting, ministers signed an internal trade framework agreement, outlining how to conduct consultations and negotiations to conclude a bilateral trade enhancement agreement. This agreement will lead to enhanced trade, investment and labour mobility between the two provinces. Alberta and B.C. developed common positions for the internal trade component of the Alberta-B.C. Cabinet meetings. The two Cabinets met again in Cranbrook, B.C in March 2005 and approved a progress update on the initiative which has paved the way for further consultations and negotiations with an agreement expected to be concluded by late 2005.

Disputes and Complaints under the Agreement on Internal Trade

Alberta participated in a number of disputes concerning the internal trade practices of other jurisdictions in Canada.

Cost of Credit Disclosure

In June 2004, the AIT panel report on a dispute involving the cost of credit disclosure requirements in the federal government's *Bank Act* was released. Alberta had requested an AIT panel on this issue in November 2003, arguing that the federal requirements did not match the harmonized model agreed to by AIT signatories, placing Alberta's Treasury Branches and credit unions at a competitive disadvantage. The panel report fully endorsed Alberta's position and concluded that the federal government had not met its obligations under the AIT. Alberta continues to monitor efforts by the federal government to bring itself into compliance with the AIT panel report.

Edible Oils

In May 2004, the province started formal dispute procedures against the Ontario Edible Oils Products Act. This legislation protects Ontario's provincial dairy industry by prohibiting the sale in Ontario of a number of imitation dairy products, some of which are produced in Alberta. Panel hearings were established in September, and the Ministry prepared a submission and contributed to the hearings. The AIT panel report was released in November. The panel fully supported the Alberta position and determined that Ontario was not meeting its AIT obligations. Although Ontario's Edible Oils Products Act was repealed in January 2005, the Minister wrote to his counterpart in Ontario in March 2005 to encourage full compliance with the AIT panel report, particularly in addressing those barriers that prevent the sale of a number of dairy blend products, resulting from amendments made to Ontario's Milk Act.

Coloured Margarine

In July 2004, Alberta initiated formal AIT dispute procedures against Québec's ban on the sale of coloured margarine. This restriction has caused economic injury for Alberta canola producers and processors and coloured margarine producers. Both provinces attempted to resolve this dispute through the consultation mechanisms provided by the AIT; however, a mutually satisfactory solution was not reached. In early 2005, Ministerial correspondence was developed to encourage Québec to appoint a panellist to hear the dispute, as doing so had become an outstanding obligation. Since then, Québec has successfully appointed a panellist, and the hearing will occur in May 2005.

Public Service Commission Hiring Practices

Alberta continued to express its concern over the federal Public Service Commission's use of geographic hiring criteria, a practice that prevents qualified candidates from applying for federal jobs solely on the basis of their geographic location. This matter was raised by Alberta at the most recent meeting of the Committee on Internal Trade and is presently being pursued by Alberta officials. It is expected that the Ministry, in collaboration with Human Resources and Employment, will use the dispute resolution provisions of the AIT in resolving this matter with the federal government.

Progress on Strategic Priorities

The chronicling of achievements on the Ministry's strategic priorities over several years helps demonstrate the long-term nature of Ministry achievements. In compiling the list, staff examined Ministry initiatives and undertakings over past years, considering whether the results contributed to the strategic priority. The results for each strategic priority identified in the 2004-05 Ministry business plan follow.

Strategic Priority 1:

Successfully conducting and coordinating intergovernmental negotiations to advance Alberta's interests in Confederation

The focus of intergovernmental initiatives this past year was three non-constitutional priorities:

- Regular annual First Ministers' Meetings, with agendas that are jointly determined between Premiers and the Prime Minister, and standing items on health, trade, finance, justice and the economy;
- A formalized provincial role in international agreements related to areas of provincial jurisdiction; and
- Consultations with provinces on federal appointments, including Senatorial appointments, that affect their jurisdictions;

The Ministry continued to advance these priorities throughout the year when working with other provinces (e.g. Western Premiers' Conference, Council of the Federation meetings, etc.).

More information on the initiatives listed below can be found in the corresponding Ministry annual report, which can be obtained directly from the Ministry, or downloaded from www.iir.gov.ab.ca/about_us/.

2003-04

June 2003

Western Premiers' Conference: Future First Ministers' Meetings discussed. Prime Minister Martin later agrees to hold annual meetings of First Ministers.

January 2004

First Ministers' Meeting: Prime Minister committed to working with provinces to develop framework for a provincial role in international agreements. Alberta and New Brunswick, representing provinces/ territories, involved in discussions with federal Minister of Intergovernmental Relations.

Council of the Federation Meeting: Premiers mandated Alberta and New Brunswick to develop a position on a provincial role in federal appointments. Status report presented at the Council of Federation Meeting in July 2004.

2004-05

May 2004

Alberta-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting: Five agreements were concluded (re: mutual assistance during public health emergencies or natural disasters, harmonized oil/gas regulations, environmental cooperation and harmonization, trade, investment and labour mobility, e-learning). Two agreements were signed before the meeting (re: mountain park traveller information, oil and gas sector skills training).

July 2004

Western Premiers' Conference: Discussion of possible action on a variety of issues including health care, BSE, securities, strengthening the federation, and energy. Premiers drafted an open letter to the Prime Minister regarding the devolution of federal control over northern lands to the territories.

Meeting of Premiers and Aboriginal Leaders: Discussion of Aboriginal health issues in anticipation of the September 2004 First Ministers' Meeting on Health Care.

Council of the Federation: Premiers discussed health care reform efforts aimed at improving health care services and outcomes. Premiers also discussed other issues, including improving Canada-U.S. relations, domestic trade flows, BSE, literacy and appointments to national institutions.

September 2004

Council of the Federation: Possible reforms to the health care system were discussed.

Special Meeting of First Ministers and Aboriginal Leaders: Agreement on the need for an action plan to improve health services for all Aboriginal peoples and adopted specific measures to close the gap between the health status of Aboriginal peoples and the Canadian public.

First Ministers' Meeting on Health Care: Agreement on a 10-year, \$41 billion plan to strengthen health care across the country.

October 2004

Council of the Federation: Possible equalization funding arrangement was discussed.

First Ministers' Meeting on Equalization: Agreement on a \$33 billion, 10-year equalization deal that will increase support to the provinces and territories under the Equalization and Territorial Financing Formula.

March 2005

Alberta-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting: Resulted in initiatives and funding to mitigate mountain pine beetle infestation, and expand export gateways to Asia.

Strategic Priority 2:

Successfully promoting Alberta by strengthening international relations

The Ministry works to strengthen relations with the United States, since it is Alberta's closest and largest trading partner. The key focus of discussions by the Premier and the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations in 2004-05 was the security of Alberta's energy supply, and reopening the borders to live cattle. Discussions in previous years focused on energy, trade, transportation and tourism. More information on these initiatives can be found in the corresponding Ministry annual report, which can be obtained directly from the Ministry, or downloaded from <code>www.iir.gov.ab.ca/about_us/</code>

2002-03

June 2002

Premier met western governors in Yukon (re: energy, pipelines)

IIR Minister, two other ministers and two MLAs attended Montana-Alberta Bilateral Advisory Council Meeting (re: agricultural issues).

July 2002

IIR Minister, another minister and five MLAs attended Pacific NorthWest Economic Region meeting (re: energy, agriculture, transportation issues).

December 2002

Premier promoted investment opportunities with business people in New York.

2003-04

June 2003

Premier met with U.S. Vice-President Dick Cheney and others (re: BSE, oil sands). IIR Minister, another minister and three MLAs attended Montana-Alberta Bilateral Advisory Council (re: BSE, water, borders).

July 2003

IIR Minister, five other ministers and 15 MLAs attended Pacific NorthWest Economic Region meeting in Calgary (re: energy, emergency preparedness, agriculture).

September 2003

Premier attended Western Governors' Associate Meeting in Montana (re: BSE, energy, firefighting).

March 2004

Premier and Deputy Premier met Senators and agriculture officials in Washington, D.C. to urge border reopening for cattle.

2004-05

April 2004

Premier was keynote speaker at Western Governors' Energy Summit. One minister and one MLA attended Western Governors' Association meeting (re: oil sands, electricity transmission, pipeline capacity).

May 2004

Premier, three ministers and two MLAs met with Alaska Governor Murkowski in Alberta to resign Alaska Alberta Bilateral Council MOU (re: energy, transportation/tourism, workforce development, Aboriginal issues).

July 2004

Three ministers and three MLAs attended Pacific NorthWest Economic Region meeting (re: energy, agriculture, border issues, transportation).

February 2005

IIR Minister and Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Minister met with Canadian Embassy officials, U.S. Department of Energy officials, and officials from Montana and Alaska (re: Alberta Office in Washington, D.C., BSE, energy supply).

March 2005

Premier met with U.S. Energy Secretary Bodman, Governor of Massachusetts, and Canada's new Ambassador to the U.S. McKenna (re: energy supply and security, expanded trade/investment, BSE, softwood lumber, Alberta Office opening).

Bilateral relations between Alberta and other world regions are initiated or enhanced through missions to or from Alberta. These missions pave the way for increased activity between Alberta and other world regions, and may result in MOUs being signed. Details regarding key missions and MOUs identified below can be found in the corresponding Ministry annual report or in the individual mission reports, which can be accessed at www.iir.gov.ab.ca.

2002-03

May 2002

Premier signed memorandum of understanding with International Finance Corporation in Ukraine (re: agriculture).

June 2002

Premier signed memorandum of understanding initiating collaboration through a bliateral advisory council between Alberta and Alaska.

September 2002

Premier discussed energy reform and cooperation between Alberta and Mexico with Government of Mexico and the Secretariat of Energy of the United Mexican States.

2003-04

May 2003

IIR Minister in Dresden to lay groundwork for future joint initiatives with Saxony, Germany.

August 2003

Governor of Jalisco, Mexico, visited Alberta. During his visit, a cooperation agreement on forestry was signed between Alberta and Jalisco.

January 2004

Premier explored areas of potential cooperation in energy and training with India.

February 2004

Deputy Premier of Saxony, Germany, visited Alberta. During his visit, Alberta and Saxony signed an agreement on learning.

2004-05

June 2004

Premier's mission to China and Korea re: safety of Alberta beef, energy security and supply, signing of MOUs on energy, science and technology, and education.

Visit of Japan's Imperial Highness, Princess
Takamado to commemorate 75th anniversary of
Canada-Japan bilateral relations, and rename of
the University of Alberta's Centre for the Teaching
of Japanese Language and Culture to the Prince
Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research.

July 2004

Alberta signed Washington office co-location MOU with Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

August 2004

Visit of Governor of Ivano-Frankivsk to sign MOU on cooperation with Alberta.

January 2005

Premier renewed Alberta-Saxony MOU.

Strategic Priority 3:

Successfully participating in international negotiations to advance Alberta's interests with important trading partners

The Ministry promotes Alberta's interests and priorities in international trade negotiations to which Canada is a party. Currently the most significant is the "Doha Development Agenda" round of trade liberalization negotiations, taking place under the World Trade Organization (WTO). These negotiations provide the opportunity to reduce barriers to Alberta's worldwide exports of agricultural and non-agricultural goods and services, and to reduce the impact of defensive trade remedy actions taken by other countries against Canada (such as U.S. actions against softwood lumber).

In 2004-05, the Ministry presented Alberta's views on the WTO Doha negotiations in advance of and following the release of the "July Package," which was agreed to by WTO member countries on July 31, 2005. This package of agreements provides direction for negotiators in the lead up to the December 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Conference.

The Ministry's efforts to ensure that Alberta's WTO interests are addressed are identified below. More information on these and other initiatives can be found in Ministry annual reports, available at www.iir.gov.ab.ca.

2002-03

November 2002

Alberta forwarded its views on trade remedy and market access reform in the WTO to the federal government.

January 2003

Alberta forwarded its position on Canada's initial WTO services offer to the federal government.

2003-04

September 2003

Minister attended the fifth WTO Ministerial Conference in Cancun, Mexico.

November 2003

Alberta forwarded its positions on WTO negotiations to the federal government.

2004-05

July 2004

Minister forwarded Alberta's interests in WTO negotiations in advance of the release of the "July Package."

Strategic Priority 4:

Building upon and enhancing the benefits from the Agreement on Internal Trade with like-minded Canadian jurisdictions

The Ministry also pursues its trade and investment liberalization goals domestically, working to reduce trade barriers within Canada. The primary vehicle through which these efforts are made is the *Agreement on Internal Trade* (AIT).

The Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations works with other Canadian ministers responsible for internal trade through meetings of the Committee on Internal Trade and, more recently, through the provincial-territorial Council of the Federation (COF). The Ministry also consults with provincial stakeholders in internal trade promotion and expansion. Alberta is prepared to work bilaterally or regionally to improve trade and investment opportunities. The Ministry also defends Alberta's AIT interests and manages its involvement in disputes.

In 2004-2005, under the direction of the COF, efforts focused on developing a consensus provincial-territorial work plan to improve the operation of the AIT, and subsequently, on reengaging the federal government in the AIT process. Additional detail regarding domestic trade initiatives identified below can be found in corresponding Ministry annual reports at www.iir.gov.ab.ca.

2002-03

June 2002

Minister co-chaired the Committee on Internal Trade Meeting. Agreement reached on investment incentives and government procurement.

November 2002

Minister forwarded a proposal to B.C. on a bilateral trade enhancement agreement dealing with energy.

2003-04

October 2003

Alberta-B.C. Protocol of Cooperation signed; the provinces agree to work on a bilateral trade enhancement agreement.

November 2003

Alberta requests dispute resolution panel on federal cost of credit provisions.

January 2004

Minister attended a Council of the Federation meeting on the AIT. Alberta proposed to improve the AIT and was designated lead jurisdiction for new negotiations.

2004-05

May 2004

Alberta and B.C. signed a framework agreement, outlining how to conduct consultations and negotiations to conclude a bilateral trade enhancement agreement. Alberta requests dispute resolution panel on Ontario's *Edible Oil Products Act*.

April 2004

Provincial-territorial ministers responsible for internal trade met to develop a work plan on improving the AIT process, on direction of the Council of the Federation.

June 2004

Panel rules in Alberta's favour on discriminatory federal cost of credit provisions.

July 2004

Council of the Federation accepted AIT work plan. Alberta requests dispute resolution panel on Québec ban on coloured margarine sales.

November 2004

Panel rules in Alberta's favour on the Ontario *Edible Oil Products Act.*

December 2004

Committee on Internal Trade meeting held. Agreement reached on coverage of Crown corporations. The federal government agreed to reengage in the AIT process.



Report of the Auditor General on the Results of Applying Specified Auditing Procedures to Performance Measures

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

In connection with the Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations' performance measures included in the 2004-2005 Annual Report of the Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations I have:

- 1. Agreed information from an external organization to reports from the organization.
- 2. Agreed information from reports that originated from within the Ministry to source reports. In addition, I tested the procedures used to compile the underlying data into the source reports.
- 3. Checked that the presentation of results is consistent with the stated methodology.
- 4. Checked that the results presented are compatable to stated targets, and information presented in prior years.
- 5. Checked that the perfromance measures, as well as targets, agree to and include results for all the measures presented in Budget 2004.

As a result of applying the above proceedures. I found no exceptions. These procedures, however, do not constitute an audit and therefore I express no opinion on the performance measures included in the 2004-2005 Annual Report of the Ministry of International and Intergovermental Relations.

Edmonton, Alberta

August 12, 2005

MEASURES OF MINISTRY PERFORMANCE

Overview

The Ministry's goals are focused on the attainment of long-term objectives – ensuring that Alberta pursues an effective strategy to advance Alberta's interests in conducting and coordinating intergovernmental negotiations, building Alberta's linkages and relationships with other countries, and improving the domestic and international environment in which Alberta companies do business.

The Ministry's success frequently depends on many factors, such as the state of the economy and relations between governments. These factors influence the nature and scope of the Ministry's measures. As a result, the Ministry's goals are often attained over the long term rather than the short term, and are often best measured in non-numerical ways.

The chief measure of the Ministry's performance is the detailed narrative account of achievements and results outlined in the annual report. It is a vital document, chronicling annual progress on goals that are multi-year in scope. Through the narrative annual report, the Ministry outlines intergovernmental outcomes and events with a view to assessing how they conformed to Alberta's objectives. In compiling the report, staff reviewed Ministry initiatives and undertakings using criteria that included:

- links between the issues and the Ministry's business plan;
- perceived importance of the issue for the Premier,
 Minister or government as a whole;
- · public or stakeholder interest; and
- · investment of staff time.

A team of Ministry officials referencing yearly annual report standards prepared the annual report for the Minister's approval.

Presented below is a discussion of Ministry performance measures, including:

- client satisfaction survey results;
- narrative accounts;
- softwood lumber dispute resolution;
- public approval rating in federal-provincial relations.

Each measure, its data sources, targets (where applicable) and methodologies are described, and reported against specific Ministry goals.

Performance Measure: Client Satisfaction Survey Results

The 2004-07 Ministry business plan indicated that a client satisfaction survey, a Ministry performance measure, is conducted every second year. The results of the survey are presented below. In the 2005-08 Ministry business plan, client satisfaction is a key Ministry performance measure with targets identified for each goal.

Background

A key element of the Ministry's success is the quality of relationships built with clients and partners, including other Alberta government ministries, other Canadian provincial and territorial governments, and the private sector. To help advance Alberta's interests, these relationships must be developed and fostered over the long term. The Ministry's biennial client satisfaction survey is a key instrument for assessing the quality and effectiveness of these relationships. The last survey was conducted in January 2005. The next survey will be conducted in January 2007.

The survey attempts to track Ministry performance in achieving both its mission and vision. The survey also measures the Ministry's success in contributing to government-wide priorities and positions in international and intergovernmental relations.

Objective

The 2005 survey differed from the 2003 survey in that it was administered over the internet. As a result, a question was added about the efficacy of the internet survey process. The 2003 survey differed from the 2001 survey in that it did not include questions about Aboriginal relations. The government at that time had created a separate Ministry, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (as of March 2001). Questions related to intergovernmental relations remained part of the 2003 survey to facilitate comparison between the results of previous surveys.

Given the scope of the survey and the demands it places on respondents, surveys are conducted every two years. The 2005 survey is the sixth such survey conducted since this performance measure was initiated in 1995.

To ensure useful and credible data, the Ministry follows these principles when conducting the survey:

- surveys are conducted by a third party with the anonymity of respondents guaranteed;
- selection of surveyed clients is inclusive (known critics are included);
- questions are probing and related to Ministry goals and strategies;
- survey results are used internally to improve business practices.

Target

The Ministry's target is to achieve a high satisfaction rating of 4.0 out of a 5.0-point scale from the Ministry's key clients. Although a specific target for 2004-05 was not identified in the business plan, the survey was conducted in January 2005.

Methodology

The Ministry retained a consultant to coordinate the 2005 survey. The survey and mailing list were put together by the consultant with input from Ministry staff. The consultant directly contacted potential respondents through electronic mail or follow-up telephone call to seek responses.

A comprehensive list of clients totalling 342 was contacted by electronic mail on January 6, 2005 with a request to complete the survey by January 24, 2005. Of those notified, 281 were internal clients (provincial government) and 61 were external clients (non-government). Seventeen clients indicated they did not use the Ministry's services, resulting in an adjusted comprehensive client base of 325.

Completed surveys were accepted up to and including January 26, 2005. By that date, 197 surveys had been received for an overall response rate of 61 per cent (the 2003 response rate was 53 per cent and the 2001 response rate was 54 per cent).

The survey aims to collect feedback on client satisfaction in three areas described below. For each area, respondents are asked to rate service performance on a five-point scale, ranging from 1=very dissatisfied to 5=very satisfied.

1. Ministry Services

Clients are asked a series of questions about their satisfaction in four services areas: advancing Alberta's interests, coordination, strategic advice, and information. Responses to questions result in ratings on overall client satisfaction with these services.

2. Ministry Program Areas

Respondents are asked about their satisfaction with each of the three program areas of the Ministry (Canadian Intergovernmental Relations, International Relations, Trade Policy). This question was first added in 1999. Responses to questions result in ratings on overall client satisfaction with these program areas.

3. Overall Client Satisfaction

Respondents are asked a series of questions to assess their overall satisfaction with staff effectiveness and accessibility. Responses to questions result in ratings on overall client satisfaction of staff effectiveness/accessibility.

Survey Results

Client satisfaction ratings are shown below, relating to each of the Ministry's goals (referred to as program or service areas in the survey). Results for all areas polled in the 2005 client satisfaction survey are detailed in Appendix 1 on page 65. Comparisons to previous years' results are also shown.

Question asked: "How satisfied are you with this service area?"

Results	1999	2001	Last Actual 2003	2005	Target 2007
Goal 1: International Relations	4.2	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.0
Goal 2: Trade Policy	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.0
Goal 3: Canadian Intergovernmental Relations	4.1	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.0

The Ministry finds the semi-annual client survey useful in evaluating the satisfaction of key clients, both within the Alberta government and outside of the Alberta government. While very positive results are evident throughout each of the six surveys completed to date, there are minor variations that generate internal review. Staff make use of the information and feedback to consider their interaction with clients for the future.

Narrative Accounts

The Ministry documents its performance on key initiatives through publicly released reports or communiqués issued at the conclusion of major conferences, trade negotiations or international missions led by the Premier or Minister. These reports assess how the province achieved its objectives.

Mission reports for the Premier's and Minister's missions are developed by Ministry officials in consultation with provincial representatives who participated in the mission. Captured in mission reports are the mission objectives, mission results, significant issues addressed during the mission, opportunities identified and follow-up required.

Communiqués from major intergovernmental meetings are generally negotiated among, and drafted by, intergovernmental officials at each meeting. The communiqué is intended to reflect the discussion and decisions made by premiers. Once drafted, communiqués are reviewed and amended as necessary by premiers before being published.

Publicly available status reports of meeting outcomes allow the public to track complex, long-term issues. The mode of preparation for each report varies, and is explained with each example identified, but is generally prepared by the Ministry in consultation with others.

There are two distinct newsletters (Governance Gateway, The Alberta Ukraine Connector) produced by the Ministry, targeted to specific client groups, reporting progress on key initiatives, and identify upcoming events/initiatives of interest. These newsletters are developed by staff in consultation with relevant clients.

Listed below are narrative records identified by goal.

GOAL 1:

Promoting the interests of, and securing benefits for, Alberta as an equal partner in a revitalized, united Canada.

Performance Measure:

Narrative Account-Achievements at Key Intergovernmental Conferences

Western Premiers' Conference

(Inuvik, NWT, July 7-9, 2004)

At this conference, premiers released six news releases. The releases focused on reforms and innovations in health care, the role of the west in providing a secure and reliable supply of energy to Canada and the U.S., strengthening the federation, BSE, border security (passports), and the location of the 2005 conference in Lloydminster.

The news releases can be obtained from IIR, or the following websites:

www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850097004_e.html www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850097006_e.html www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850097007_e.html www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850097008_e.html www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850097009_e.html www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850097010_e.html

Council of the Federation Meeting

(Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, July 28-30, 2004)

This meeting resulted in three news releases:

- announcing progress on a number of issues, such as improving the economy (e.g., Canada-U.S. relations, BSE), strengthening the federation (e.g., provincial/territorial role in international trade negotiations), and reaching out to young Canadians;
- releasing a statement on an Action Plan for Better Health Care (e.g., national pharmacare program, Aboriginal health care; innovations and best practices); and
- the location of the 2005 meeting in Banff, Alberta.

The news releases can be obtained from IIR, or the following websites:

www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850098005_e.html www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850098004_e.html www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/850098006_e.html

Special Meeting of First Ministers and Aboriginal Leaders

(Ottawa, Ontario, September 13, 2004)

The news release issued on September 14 identified that First Ministers and Aboriginal leaders agreed on the need for an action plan to improve health services for all Aboriginal peoples, and adopted specific measures to close the gap between the health status of Aboriginal peoples and the Canadian public.

The news release can be obtained from IIR, or the website:

www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/800041005_e.html

First Ministers' Meeting

(Ottawa, Ontario, September 13-16, 2004)

At this meeting, premiers released a new proposal to achieve a national health agreement. The proposal commits all governments to reductions in wait times in priority areas such as cancer, heart, diagnostic imaging, joint replacement, and sight restoration. It also includes additional funding to support medical travel in the territories and Labrador, and a pharmacare strategy.

The news release can be obtained from IIR, or the website:

www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/800042010_e.html

Alberta-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting

(Prince Rupert, B.C., May 25-26, 2004)

At the conclusion of this meeting between Premier Klein and Premier Campbell and various Cabinet members, a news release and backgrounder were issued detailing the seven agreements signed by the premiers. Topics discussed during the meeting including health care reform in advance of the upcoming meeting of health and finance ministers, and the First Ministers' Meeting on Health Care planned for the summer of 2004.

The news release and copies of the MOUs can be obtained from IIR, or at the following website: www.iir.gov.ab.ca/canadian_intergovernmental_relations/interprovincial_relations_ab_bc_premiers.asp

Alberta-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting

(Cranbrook, B.C., March 18, 2005)

The news release and backgrounder for this meeting identified that Alberta and B.C. agreed to work together to mitigate mountain pine beetles, and to expand export gateways to Asia. In total, five MOUs were signed at this meeting.

The news release and copies of the MOUs can be obtained from IIR, or at the following website:

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/canadian_intergovernmental_relations/interprovincial_relations_ab_bc_premiers.asp

GOAL 2:

Promoting the interests of, and securing benefits for, Alberta from strengthened international relations

Performance Measure:

Narrative Account-Reports on Premier's International Missions

Final Report: Mission to China and Korea (May 31–June 9, 2004)

This report provides the objectives of Premier Klein's mission, and identifies key mission results:

- reinforcing the safety of Alberta beef and encouraging China to lift sanctions against beef and beef products from Canada as soon as possible;
- speaking to over 200 people at the Canada-China Business Council luncheon about opportunities for business partnership in Alberta;
- signing agreements on education, science and technology, and joint operation of the petroleum centre in Beijing;
- promoting energy expertise and oil sands investment opportunities to Chinese energy industry representatives;
- signing a letter of intent on research cooperation in science and technology in Korea; and
- reaffirming Alberta's sister-province relationship with Gangwon after 30 years of cooperation and friendship.

The mission report can be obtained from the Ministry, or the website:

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/ documents/China_Korea_Mission_Report.pdf

Performance Measure:

Narrative Account-Reports on Alberta's Accomplishments at Canada-U.S. Transboundary Meetings.

Premier Klein's Mission to Albuquerque, New Mexico North American Energy Summit (April 14-16, 2004)

This report highlights Alberta's overall U.S. strategy, and the key objectives and achievements of Premier Klein's mission. Mission highlights include delivery of the energy summit's keynote address to key U.S. governors, legislators, and senior officials, recognition by members of the Western Governors' Association of Alberta oil sands as a key source of supply of oil for the U.S., agreement to explore regional cooperation to increase cross-border mobility of energy infrastructure workers, and agreement to explore cooperation on greenhouse gas emission abatement strategies.

The mission report can be obtained from the Ministry, or the website:

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/ Albuquerque_Mission_Report.pdf

Final Report: Mission to Washington, D.C. (February 7-8, 2005)

The objectives and key results for the International and Intergovernmental Relations Minister's mission are identified in this report. Results include:

- emphasizing the importance of provincial relations with Alaska, and the availability of Alberta's pipeline hub as a distribution point to North American markets;
- stressing Alberta's ability to provide a secure and abundant source of energy to key officials at the U.S. Department of Energy; and
- emphasizing the importance of close relations between Alberta and Montana to Montana Senator Burns, especially in terms of re-opening the border to the flow of Canadian beef.

The mission report can be obtained from the Ministry, or the website:

http://www.iir.gov.ab.ca/documents/MissionReport_ Mar2005_.pdf

Final Report: Mission to Boston and Washington, D.C.

(March 21-25, 2005)

The mission report identifies Premier Klein's mission objectives, and details meeting results, including:

- meeting with U.S. Secretary of Energy Bodman to discuss Alberta as a stable, secure and reliable supplier of a variety of forms of energy;
- meetings with U.S. agriculture officials aimed at re-opening the Canada-U.S. border to trade in beef and cattle;
- opening of the Alberta Office in Washington, D.C.;
- promoting Alberta's investment opportunities to Boston investment firms and Massachusetts state senators;
- discussing the potential future role of Alberta energy with the Governor of Massachusetts.

The mission report can be obtained from the Ministry, or the website:

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/ Missionreport_final_.pdf

Performance Measure:

Narrative Account-Newsletters by International Governance Office and Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations

Governance Gateway...information about Alberta's International Governance Office

(April 2004, Winter 2004)

Two newsletters were produced in the reporting period. The newsletters were developed by Ministry officials in consultation with Economic Development, and with other private and public sector partners referenced in the newsletters. The newsletters identify recent International Governance Office activities and upcoming events that may be of interest to the office's stakeholders.

The newsletters can be obtained from the Ministry, or from the websites:

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/ IGONewsletterApril04.pdf

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/ winter2004.pdf

The Alberta Ukraine Connector

(Spring/Summer 2004, September 2004, October 2004)

Three newsletters were produced in the reporting period. The newsletters feature the activities of the Advisory Council on Alberta-Ukraine Relations (ACAUR), and the highlights of Ukraine-focused accomplishments of the Government of Alberta. The document is assembled by Ministry officials in consultation with ACAUR members.

The newsletters can be obtained from the Ministry, or from the websites:

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/ ACAURConnector-Spring2004.pdf

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/ ACAURConnector-September2004.pdf

www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/ ACAURConnector-October2004.pdf

GOAL 3:

Promoting the interests of, and securing benefits for, Alberta from greater trade and investment liberalization, domestically and internationally

Performance Measure:

Narrative Account-Achievements in International and Internal Trade Negotiations, Management of Trade Disputes and Implementation of Obligations in Trade Agreements

Provincial/Territorial Committee of Ministers on Internal Trade

(Toronto, Ontario, April 28, 2004)

This news release identifies that provincial and territorial ministers responsible for internal trade agreed on how to include procurement by provincial and territorial Crown corporations under the procurement chapter of the *Agreement on Internal Trade*.

The news release can be obtained from the Ministry, or the website: www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/860479004_e.html

Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee of Ministers on Internal Trade

(Ottawa, Ontario, December 6, 2004)

At this meeting, ministers renewed their commitment for federal-provincial-territorial cooperation on internal trade. They agreed to increase coverage of Crown corporate procurement, valued in the billions of dollars, under the agreement promoting transparency in tendering and the equal treatment of suppliers across the country.

The news release can be obtained from the Ministry, or the website: www.scics.gc.ca/cinfo04/830833004_e.html

Progress of Complaints and Disputes Under the Agreement on Internal Trade.

Since the inception of the *Agreement on Internal Trade* in 1995, a "Record of Complaints and Disputes Involving Alberta" demonstrating the progress of complaints and disputes under the agreement, is posted on the Ministry website at: www.iir.gov.ab.ca/trade_policy/interprovincial_dispute-resolution.asp

As of December 2004, there were six active complaints by Albertans against procurement, labour mobility, investment and other practices of other provinces; no complaints against Alberta have been recorded.

Performance Measure GOAL 3: Softwood Lumber Dispute Resolution

This narrative measure relates to goal 3 of the Ministry's 2004-07 business plan. After internal review and in consultation with Sustainable Resource Development regarding the relevance of this measure, the measure was discontinued and removed from the 2005-08 business plan. Nonetheless, it is reported here because it was referenced in the Ministry's 2004-07 business plan.

The Alberta government continues to work on a long-term solution to the softwood lumber dispute by December 31, 2005. The promotion of free and unimpeded movement of goods, services, people and capital across borders is an important tool for enhancing the economic performance and wellbeing of the province. In recent years, there have been several barriers placed on Alberta's ability to trade effectively. Examples include the softwood lumber dispute and border closures related to BSE.

Information for this measure was obtained from the timelines for, and the results of, the legal challenges and internal documents that have been developed by Sustainable Resource Development to coordinate analysis of the proposed changes arising out of discussions with the United States. The international trade and negotiation portion of the dispute are led by International and Intergovernmental Relations.

The initiative to find a long-term solution for the softwood lumber dispute involves the following stages.

Sta	ige	Status
1.	Analysis of options presented in the U.S. Department of Commerce draft policy bulletin	Not Completed*
2.	Modifications to the Community Timber Program to isolate participants from a potential market system	Completed
3.	Exploration of the possibility of a replacement border measure for the current countervailing duty	In Progress
4.	Preparation of a revised draft Policy Annex that incorporates proposed forest management policy changes	In Progress
5.	Exploration of a means to monitor the impact of any policy changes	In Progress

^{*}This stage has not been completed and has been updated to reflect that discussions with the United States have moved in a different direction. Sustainable Resource Development is now analyzing proposed forest management policy changes based on the Alberta Policy Annex that was previously endorsed by the Alberta government, as a starting point for discussions.

Performance Measure GOALS 1 & 3: Public Approval Rating in FederalProvincial Relations Compared to Average of Four Nearest Provinces

An indicator formerly tracked by the Ministry reflects polling results of Albertans' views regarding the performance of their government in the area of federal-provincial relations, as compared with the views of the four nearest provinces (B.C., Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario). However, since this polling data does not specifically relate to the performance of the Ministry, it has been discontinued as a performance measure of the Ministry as of the 2005-08 Ministry business plan. Nonetheless, the data is included here since it was identified as a performance measure in the Ministry's 2004-07 business plan for goals 1 and 3. The measure remains in the government's 2005-08 business plan as a societal measure under goal 9 (Alberta will have strong and effective partnerships with local, provincial, national and international governments).

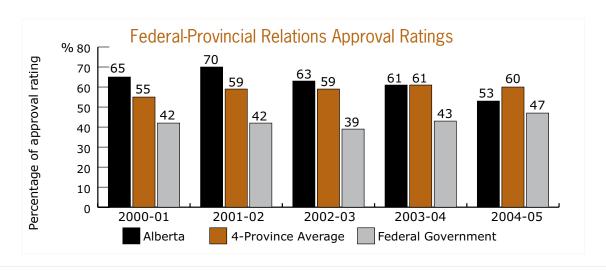
The polling data is based on a national opinion poll conducted four times a year by Environics Canada, surveying provincial and federal government performance, as reported in the quarterly *Focus Canada Report*. Respondents are specifically asked to rate their approval or disapproval of the way their government (both provincial and federal) is handling federal-provincial relations. The average of the four surveys each year shows the percentage of citizens approving of their respective governments' performance.

For each *Focus Canada Report* survey, Environics completes telephone interviews of over 2000 Canadians. For the 2005-01 (first quarter) edition of the questionnaire, 200 interviews were conducted in Alberta, 218 in B.C., 125 in each of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and 602 in Ontario, with 2,022 across Canada. The margin of error nationally is +/- 2.2 per cent, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error rises as the sample sizes fall (for Alberta, it is 6.9 per cent; B.C. – 6.6 per cent; Saskatchewan – 8.8 per cent; Manitoba – 8.8 per cent; Ontario – 4.0 per cent).

Sample selection was through random digit dialing. Additional details on methodology are available from the Ministry.

Alberta's target was to maintain the Alberta government's public approval rating in federal-provincial relations on par with the average of B.C., Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario. These four provinces are used as a benchmark because they are the closest to Alberta in terms of geography, history, demographics and political concerns. Public approval ratings for the federal government are also shown here for comparison.

In 2004-05, Alberta public approval ratings in federal-provincial relations dropped below its target. The approval rating, however, has rebounded from its low point of 20 per cent below the average in the third quarter poll of the fiscal year to within two per cent of its target in the fourth quarter. Ongoing issues that challenged intergovernmental relations in 2004-05 included BSE, softwood lumber, health care, Canada-U.S. relations, Senate reform, the Kyoto Accord and western alienation.



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- 2. Comparison of Expenses Directly Incurred, EIP and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
- 3. Salary and Benefits Disclosure
- 4. Related Party Transactions
- **5.** Allocated Costs



To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

I have audited the statement of financial position of the Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations as at March 31, 2005 and the statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Ministry's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Ministry as at March 31, 2005 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Edmonton, Alberta

May 20, 2005

Statement of Operations Year Ended March 31, 2005

	(in thousands)					
	20	005			2004	
	Budget		Actual		Actual	
Revenues						
Other Revenue	\$ -	\$	7	\$	17	
Expenses - Directly Incurred (Note 2b and Schedule 5)						
Voted (Schedules 1 and 2)						
International and Intergovernmental Relations	8,499		8,172		6,461	
Statutory (Schedules 1 and 2)						
Valuation Adjustments						
Provision (Decrease) for Vacation Pay			91		21	
	8,499		8,263		6,482	
Net Operating Results	\$ (8,499)	\$	(8,256)	\$	(6,465)	

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position Year Ended March 31, 2005

	(in thousands)					
		2005	2	2004		
ASSETS						
Cash	\$	61	\$	-		
Accounts Receivable		1		-		
Advances		4		7		
Tangible Capital Assets (Note 3)		127		-		
	\$	193	\$	7		
LIABILITIES						
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities (Note 4)	\$	2,050	\$	786		
NET LIABILITIES						
Net Liabilities at Beginning of Year		(779)		(812)		
Net Operating Results		(8,256)		(6,465)		
Net Transfer from General Revenues		7,178		6,498		
Net Liabilities at End of Year		(1,857)	_	(779)		
	\$	193	\$	7		

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended March 31, 2005

	(in thousands)				
	2	2005	2004		
Operating Transactions					
Net Operating Results	\$	(8,256)	\$	(6,465)	
Non-cash items included in Net Operating Results					
Amortizaton		1		-	
Valuation Adjustments		91		21	
		(8,164)		(6,444)	
(Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable		(1)		5	
Decrease in Advances		3	;		
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities		1,173		(64)	
Cash Applied to Operating Transactions		(6,989)		(6,500)	
Capital Transactions					
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets		(128)			
Financing Transactions					
Net Transfer from General Revenues		7,178		6,498	
Increase (decrease) in Cash		61		(2)	
Cash, Beginning of Year				2	
Cash, End of Year	\$	61	\$		

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2005

NOTE 1

AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

The Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations operates under the authority of the Government Organization Act, Chapter G-10, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000.

The purpose of the Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations is to lead in the development of government-wide strategies and policies for Alberta's relations with international governments and organizations; and federal, provincial and territorial governments in Canada.

NOTE 2

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES

The recommendations of the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants are the primary source for the disclosed basis of accounting. These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the following accounting policies that have been established by government for all ministries.

(a) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is the Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations for which the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations is accountable. The Ministry Annual Report provides a more comprehensive accounting of the financial position and results of the Ministry's operations for which the Minister is accountable.

All departments of the Government of Alberta operate within the General Revenue Fund (the Fund). The Fund is administered by the Minister of Finance. All cash receipts of departments are deposited into the Fund and all cash disbursements made by departments are paid from the Fund. Net transfer (to) from General Revenues is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements made.

(b) Basis of Financial Reporting

Revenues

All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting.

Expenses

Directly Incurred

Directly incurred expenses are those costs the Ministry has primary responsibility and accountability for, as reflected in the Government's budget documents.

In addition to program operating expenses such as salaries, supplies, etc., directly incurred expenses also include:

- · amortization of tangible capital assets;
- pension costs which comprise the cost of employer contributions for current service of employees during the year;
- valuation adjustments which include changes in the valuation allowances used to reflect financial assets at their net recoverable or other appropriate value.
 Valuation adjustments also represent the change in management's estimate of future payments arising from obligations relating to vacation pay, guarantees and indemnities;
- grants are recognized when authorized and eligibility criteria are met.

Incurred by Others

Services contributed by other entities in support of the Ministry operations are disclosed in Schedule 5.

Assets

Financial assets of the Ministry are limited to financial claims, such as advances to and receivables from other organizations, employees and other individuals. The fair values of the financial assets are estimated to approximate their carrying values because of the short-term nature of these instruments. Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act.

Accounts receivable are unsecured and noninterest-bearing.

Advances represent amounts provided to Ministry employees for travel expenses and are non-interest-bearing and recoverable on demand.

Assets acquired by right are not included. Tangible capital assets of the Ministry are recorded at historical cost and amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The threshold for capitalizing new systems development is \$100,000 and the threshold for all other tangible capital assets is \$5,000 (2004 - \$15,000).

Liabilities

Liabilities represent all financial claims payable by the Ministry at fiscal year end. The fair value of accounts payable and accrued liabilities is estimated to approximate their carrying value.

Net Liabilities

Net liabilities represents the difference between the carrying value of assets held by the Ministry and its liabilities.

NOTE 3

TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

(in thousands)

				200	04						
	Estimated Useful Life	Cost		Cost Accumulated Amortization		Cost				Net Boo Value	
Equipment (a)	10 years	\$	108	\$	-	\$	108	\$	-		
Computer hardware and software	5 years		20		1		19		-		
		\$	128	\$	1	\$	127	\$			

(a) Equipment includes office equipment and furniture.

NOTE 4

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

(in thousands)

	2005		2004		
Accounts Payable	\$	591	\$	33	
Accrued Liabilities:					
Manpower		313		272	
Supplies and Services		254		53	
Grants		355		8	
Vacation Pay		500		409	
Other		37		11	
	\$	2,050	\$	786	

NOTE 5

DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS

(in thousands)

The Ministry participates in the multi-employer pension plans, Management Employees Pension Plan and Public Service Pension Plan. The Ministry also participates in the multi-employer Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers. The expense for these pension plans is equivalent to the annual contributions of \$402 for the year ended March 31, 2005 (2004 - \$381).

At December 31, 2004, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a deficiency of \$268,101 (2003 - \$290,014) and the Public Service Pension Plan reported a deficiency of \$450,068 (2003 - \$584,213). At December 31, 2004, the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers had a surplus of \$9,404 (2003 - \$9,312).

The Ministry also participates in two multiemployer Long Term Disability Income Continuance Plans. At March 31, 2005, the Bargaining Unit Plan reported an actuarial deficiency of \$11,817 (2004 – \$9,766) and the Management, Opted Out and Excluded Plan an actuarial surplus of \$3,208 (2004 – \$1,298). The expense for these two plans is limited to the employer's annual contributions for the year.

NOTE 6

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain 2004 figures have been reclassified to conform to the 2005 presentation.

NOTE 7

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved by the Senior Financial Officer and the Deputy Minister.

Expenses - Directly Incurred Detailed by Object **Year Ended March 31, 2005**

Schedule 1

(in thousands)

91

21

	(iii tilousulus)					
	2005			2004		
	Budget		Budget Actual		Actual	
Voted						
Salaries, Wages and Employee Benefits	\$	5,205	\$	5,038	\$	4,473
Supplies and Services		3,205		2,815		2,020
Supplies and Services from Support Service Arrangements with Related Parties (a)		-		55		53
Grants		7		362		8
Financial Transactions and Other		77		83		77
Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets		5		1		-
Total Voted Expenses before Recoveries	\$	8,499	\$	8,354	\$	6,631
Less Recovery from Support Service Arrangements with Related Parties (b)				(182)		(170)
	\$	8,499	\$	8,172	\$	6,461
Statutory						
Valuation Adjustments						

⁽a) The Ministry receives financial reporting and human resource services from the Ministry of Education.

Provision for Vacation Pay

⁽b) The Ministry provides financial, information technology and administrative services to the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development.

Comparison of Expenses - Directly Incurred, EIP and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget Year Ended March 31, 2005

Schedule 2

(in thousands)

	2004-2005 Authorized Budget		2004-2005 Actual ^(a)		authorized 2004-200		(0	pended Over ended)
Voted Expenses								
International and Intergovernmental Relations								
1.0.1 Minister's Office	\$	310	\$	306	\$	4		
1.0.2 Corporate Services								
-Operating Expense		1,915		1,982		(67)		
-EIP		25		122		(97)		
1.0.3 Canadian Intergovernmental Relations		2,546		1,814		732		
1.0.4 International Relations		1,725		1,932		(207)		
1.0.5 Trade Policy		1,003		1,201		(198)		
1.0.6 Washington, D.C. Office								
-Operating Expense		1,000		937		63		
-EIP		-		6		(6)		
	\$	8,524	\$	8,300	\$	224		
Operating Expense	\$	8,499	\$	8,172	\$	327		
Equipment/Inventory Purchases		25		128		(103)		
	\$	8,524	\$	8,300	\$	224		
Statutory Expenses:								
Valuation Adjustments								
Provision (Decrease) for Vacation Pay	\$		\$	91	\$	(91)		

⁽a) Includes achievement bonus amounting to \$268.

Salary and Benefits Disclosure Year Ended March 31, 2005

Schedule 3

			2004						
	Base Salary (1)					Non-cash		Total	Total
Deputy Minister (4)	\$ 157,392	\$	30,849	\$	30,868	\$ 219,109	\$222,062		
Minister - Counsellor (Alberta) (6)	56,632		9,641		3,621	69,894	-		
Executives Assistant Deputy Minister -									
International Relations Assistant Deputy Minister - Canadian	130,368		29,272		25,652	185,292	180,350		
Intergovernmental Relations Alberta Trade Representative Director - Corporate Services (5)(7)	128,436 122,400 78,157		26,431 17,992 26,638		25,681 23,368 16,488	180,548 163,760 121,283	173,400 159,484 125,833		

Total salary and benefits relating to a position are disclosed.

- (1) Base salary includes regular base pay.
- (2) Other cash benefits include bonuses, vacation payouts, overtime, and lump sum payments.
- (3) Other non-cash benefits include government's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short and long term disability plans, professional memberships and tuition fees.
- (4) Automobile provided, no dollar amount included in other non-cash benefits.
- (5) The position was occupied by two individuals through the year.
- (6) Position was filled January 1, 2005.
- (7) The incumbent's services are shared equally with the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development which contributes its own share of the cost of salary and benefits. Full salary and benefits are disclosed in this Schedule.

Related Party Transactions Year Ended March 31, 2005

Schedule 4

(in thousands)

Related parties are those entities consolidated or accounted for on the modified equity basis in the Province of Alberta's financial statements. Related parties also include management in the Ministry.

The Ministry and its employees paid or collected certain taxes and fees set by regulation for permits, licences and other charges. These amounts were incurred in the normal course of business, reflect charges applicable to all users, and have been excluded from this Schedule.

The Ministry had the following transactions with related parties recorded on the Statement of Operations and the Statement of Financial Position at the amount of consideration agreed upon between the related parties.

	2	.005	2004		
Expenses - Directly Incurred					
Supplies and services provided by other ministries	\$	501	\$	494	

The above transactions do not include support service arrangement transactions disclosed in Schedule 1.

The Ministry also had the following transactions with related parties for which no consideration was exchanged. The amounts for these related party transactions are estimated based on the costs incurred by the service provider to provide the service. These amounts are not recorded in the financial statements.

	2	005	2	004
Expenses - Incurred by Others				
Accommodations	\$	727	\$	912
Legal		11		21
Other		5		-
	\$	743	<u> </u>	933

Allocated Costs Year Ended March 31, 2005

Schedule 5

	(in thousands))
		2005		2004
International and Intergovernmental Relations Expenses Directly Incurred (1)	\$	8,172	\$	6,461
Expenses Incurred by Others				
Accommodation Costs		727		912
Legal Services		11		21
		8,910		7,394
Valuation Adjustments				
Vacation Pay		91		21
	\$	9,001	\$	7,415

(1) Expenses - Directly Incurred as per Statement of Operations, excluding valuation adjustments

2005 Client Satisfaction Survey Results

The results shown below are taken directly from survey summary results provided to the Ministry from the consultant hired to conduct the survey. Results are based on respondents' feedback on a series of questions. Respondents are asked to rate Ministry performance on a five-point scale, ranging from 1=very dissatisfied to 5=very satisfied. Responses to questions result in ratings on overall client satisfaction with these services.

Advancing Alberta's Interests

"Satisfaction ratings were consistent with results from 2003. Overall, clients are very satisfied with services in this area. The improvement of client satisfaction achieved in 2003 has been maintained and consistently improved since 1995."

	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
Provides leadership in advancing Alberta's interests with other governments	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.4
Develops strategies to deal with other governments	3.7	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.3
Negotiates agreements	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.3
Develops policies where no other government agency has overall/lead responsibility	3.6	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.3
Manages trade disputes/complaints in the interests of Albertans and Alberta business			4.2	4.0	4.4	4.4

Coordination

"Overall satisfaction with this service area remains consistent compared to 2003."

	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
Organizes meetings, conferences, special events	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.4
Organizes incoming international visits/missions	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.5
Coordinates/chairs policy working groups, inter-department committees	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.3
Implements agreements, policies, protocols and Memorandums of Understanding, including trade agreements	3.8	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.4	4.3

Strategic Advice

"Overall, Ministry clients indicated they are very satisfied with the 'strategic advice' services provided. The high level of satisfaction is consistent with 2003 results, which showed the highest average client satisfaction results since the Ministry instituted the client survey."

	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
Provides strategic advise	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.3
Interprets external events	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2
Interprets major agreements	3.9	4.2	4.1	3.9	4.4	4.3

Information

"Overall, Ministry clients indicated they are 'very satisfied' with the services in this area, maintaining the same high levels of client satisfaction reported in 2003."

	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
Reviews strategic information from outside Alberta/ other governments	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.2
Develops briefing materials that summarize and analyze issues	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.3
Responds to requests for general information and analysis	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.4
Provides up-to-date information on its web site	-	-	-	3.9	4.3	4.2

Program Areas

"The level of satisfaction with the three principal program areas continues to be high and has consistently been so since the collection of satisfaction data began with the client survey in 1999."

	1999	2001	2003	2005
International Relations	4.2	4.0	4.4	4.5
Trade Policy	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.3
Canadian Intergovernmental Relations	4.1	4.0	4.4	4.2

Customer Satisfaction Measures

"Overall, clients were satisfied or very satisfied with access to and quality of services provided by the Ministry. This response has been consistent since these measures were introduced into the client satisfaction survey in 1999."

	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
Staff were accessible	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.4
Advice contributed to objectives being met	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.2
Information and briefing notes were concise, accurate, useful, timely	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3
Preparation for meetings/conferences was effective	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2
Emerging issues were anticipated	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9
Staff contribution enhanced effectiveness of interdepartmental teams		4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2
Staff played a key role in Alberta cross-government initiative(s)		3.9	4.2	4.0	4.1

Using an On-Line Survey Process

"Overall, respondents 'strongly agreed' the website was easy to access, straightforward to complete, timely and efficient. They also agreed the on-line support provided was timely, courteous and addressed their needs and concerns. The on-line survey process was recommended for similar, future projects."

	2005
I was able to access the web site easily	4.4
I was able to log on to the web site easily (with my username and password)	4.5
The on-line responses were straightforward to complete	4.3
The on-line process was a timely and efficient method to provide my evaluation	4.4
On-line support personnel were friendly and courteous	4.0
On-line support personnel responded in a timely manner	4.1
On-line support personnel were able to deal with my concerns	4.0
I would recommend using this on-line process for similar future projects	4.4

2004-05 Inventory of International and Intergovernmental Agreements

EFFECTIVE DATE (D/M/Y)	PARTIES/TITLE	DEPARTMENT/ AGENCY
01/09/2004 (Renewal)	Alberta-Ontario Education and Training, University of Waterloo, "Tripartite Optometry Agreement"	Advanced Education
29/04/2004 (Amendment)	Alberta-Saskatchewan: Saskatchewan Learning, "Interprovincial Agreement on Occupational Therapy Between Saskatchewan Learning, Alberta Advanced Education and University of Alberta"	Advanced Education
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Citizenship and Immigration, "Memorandum of Understanding on the Priority Processing of International Students"	Advanced Education
04/05/2004	Alberta-Canada: Human Resources and Skills Development Canada & Citizenship and Immigration Canada, "Memorandum of Understanding for the Entry of Temporary Foreign Workers for Projects in the Alberta Oil Sands"	Advanced Education (previously Alberta Learning, now the responsibility of HRE)
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Canadian Heritage, "Provisional Agreement on Targeted Measures for Minority-Language Education and for Second-Official-Language 2004-2005"	Advanced Education & Education
29/03/2005 (Amendment)	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Alberta-Canada Livestock Welfare Research Partnership Agreement—Amending Agreement"	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
22/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Amendment No. 1 to the Memorandum of Understanding, Research Support Agreement"	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
21/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "memorandum of Understanding—Research Support Agreement"	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
02/07/2004	Alberta-Canada: Canadian Food Inspection Agency, "Memorandum of Understanding on Sharing of Information on the Importation of Honey Bees"	Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development
25/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Canada-Alberta MOU Research Support Agreement Agronomic Research"	Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development
23/08/2004 (Renewal)	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Collateral Agreement for Renewal Under the Canada-Alberta Implementation Agreement"	Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development
21/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Canada-Alberta Agreement Establishing the BSE Recovery Program Amending Agreement No. 2A"	Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development
(Amendment) 07/06/2004	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Canada-Alberta Framework Agreement on the National Water Supply Expansion Program"	Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development
27/07/2004	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Memorandum of Understanding for the Characterization of the Top Oil and Gas Reservoirs in Western Canada Suitable for CO ₂ Storage in Terms of Timing of Availability and Interactivity"	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board
05/07/2004	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board-British Columbia: Ministry of Energy and Mines, "Contribution Agreement for the Purposes of Building a Roadmap for CO, Sequestration and Acid-Gas Injection in Geological Media"	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board
26/11/2004	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Letter of Agreement for Stratigraphic Drilling in the Vicinity of Kimberlites in Buffalo Head Hills Alberta"	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board
01/11/2004	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board-Canada: Geological Survey of Canada, "Service Contract for Professional Services Relating to the Hearing of EUB Application No. 1322457"	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board
05/08/2004	Alberta-Canada: Canadian Police Information Centre, "Memorandum of Understanding between Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission and the Canadian Police Information Centre, a National Police Service of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police"	Alberta Gaming
20/12/2004	Alberta-Canada: FINTRAC, "Memorandum of Understanding between the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) and the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission"	Alberta Gaming
24/03/2005	Alberta-China: "Letter of Intent on Joint Research and Development Cooperation Between Heilongjiang Academy of Science and Alberta Research Council Inc."	Alberta Research Council
22/03/2005	Alberta-China: "Letter of Intent on Technology and Commercialization Cooperation Between Tsinghua Holdings Co. Ltd., the People's Republic of China and Alberta Research Council Inc., Canada"	Alberta Research Council
15/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Department of Natural Resources Canmet Energy Technology Centre Contribution Agreement"	Alberta Research Council
03/06/2004	Alberta-Canada: Canadian Innovation Centre, "Nano-technology Wear Resistant Coating: Market Evaluation and Validation Study Proposal and Agreement"	Alberta Research Council
16/08/2004	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Material Transfer Agreement: Destination Vector-LRCWheat3-pev Gateway"	Alberta Research Council
05/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, "Dr. Jian Zhang Industrial Research Fellowship"	Alberta Research Council

EFFECTIVE DATE (D/M/Y)	PARTIES/TITLE	DEPARTMENT/ AGENCY
10/08/2004	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Acid Gas Injection Study Phase IIIA FY 2004-2005 for NE B.C. Cluster"	Alberta Research Council
01/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Purchase of Final Report on Optical Measurement Technology—DIAL Survey 2004 Project"	Alberta Research Council
01/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Instrumentation of Deep Monitoring Well at the Penn West CO2-EOR Pilot Monitoring"	Alberta Research Council
31/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Technology and Innovation Program Contribution Agreement: Optimizing CO2 Storage in Oil Reservoirs"	Alberta Research Council
01/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Trace Fluids and Injected CO2 Storage Project—Coalbed Methane Study Phase IV"	Alberta Research Council
31/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Canada Centre for Mineral and Energy Technology (Natural Resources Canada), "Technology and Innovation Program Contribution Agreement: Micro-Porous Hollow Fiber for Greenhouse Gas Separation and Capturing"	Alberta Research Council
25/05/2004	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Analysis of Selenium and Other Trace elements in Bird Eggs"	Alberta Research Council
15/12/2004	Alberta-Canada: Health Canada, "Digestion of Teflon Filters Samples and Dust Samples Using Nitric and Hydroflouric Acids, ICP-MS Determination of Elements"	Alberta Research Council
03/11/2004	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Contribution Agreement: Develop a Prototype Project for Biodiversity Monitoring in Alberta"	Alberta Research Council
01/11/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Efficiency and Alternative Energy Program Contribution Agreement"	Alberta Research Council
1/12/2004	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Arsenic in Agricultural Water Supplies Arsenic Treatment Investigation: Letter of Agreement"	Alberta Research Council
30/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Western Economic Diversification, "Funding for the Establishment of the Agriculture Bio-Wastes Utilization Centre-IMUS"	Alberta Research Council
28/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Transport Canada, "Standard Fuel Analysis—ASTM Testing"	Alberta Research Council
01/11/2004	Alberta-Canada: Health Canada, "Literature Review of Manganese levels in Canadian Gasoline for Health Canada"	Alberta Research Council
30/08/2004	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Fuel Quality Tests"	Alberta Research Council
30/08/2004	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Fuel Quality and Analysis Tests for Environment Canada"	Alberta Research Council
01/09/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Fuel Quality Registry for Bio Fuels"	Alberta Research Council
26/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Centrifugation of Oil Samples"	Alberta Research Council
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: National Centre for Upgrading Technology, "ARC Staff Assignment to National Centre for Upgrading Technology for 2004-2005"	Alberta Research Council
01/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Assignment of Professional position at National Centre for Upgrading Technology for 2004-2005 Research Program"	Alberta Research Council
14/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Numerical Studies of ${\rm CO_2}$ Hydrate Formation Processes in Aquifier"	Alberta Research Council
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: National Research Council Canada, "ARC Calgary Facilities— Lease Agreement by NRC April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2007"	Alberta Research Council
30/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Western Economic Diversification, "Contribution for the Constriction of the Agriculture Fiber Pilot Processing Facility"	Alberta Research Council
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: National Research Council Canada, "Lease of Office Space to National Research Council for the Edmonton Millwoods Facility from 2004 to 2009"	Alberta Research Council
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: National Research Council Canada, "Information Services Provided to Industrial Technology Advisors under the IRAP Program 2004/2005"	Alberta Research Council
01/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, "Dr. Alexander Blyth Fellowship through NSERC—Monitoring of Geographical Storage of Greenhouse Gas"	Alberta Research Council
29/09/2004	Alberta-Canada: Environment Canada, "Understanding Preferences for Cumulative Effects Management in Northern Canada"	Alberta Research Council
31/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Contribution Agreement for the Canada Alberta Water Supply Expansion Program"	Alberta Research Council
21/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Canadian International Development Agency, "Capacity Enhancement for Community and Ecologically-Based Management"	Alberta Research Council
21/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: National Research Council Canada, "7 Day Oral Toxicity Screening Study in Rats"	Alberta Research Council
11/08/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Letter of Agreement: Next Generation Microsolid Oxide Fuel Cell and Microbial CBM Clean Energy Products"	Alberta Research Council

EFFECTIVE DATE (D/M/Y)	PARTIES/TITLE	DEPARTMENT/ AGENCY
14/09/2004	Alberta-Canada: National Centre for Upgrading Technology, "Literature Review of Available Upgrading and Flow Assurance Technology Options for Cairn Energy"	Alberta Research Council
10/01/2005	Alberta-Canada: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, "Effect of Glyphosate Formulations on Fungal Pathogens of Wheat and Common Soil Fungal Saprophytes"	Alberta Research Council
01/11/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Near and Far Field Effects on CO ₂ Injection in Geological Formations Toward Integrated Monitoring"	Alberta Research Council
23/03/2005 (Renewal and Amendment)	Alberta-TSX Venture Exchange Inc-British Columbia-Saskatchewan-Manitoba- Ontario-Nova Scotia, "Amended and Restated CPC Operating Agreement"	Alberta Securities Commission
1/08/2004	Alberta-British Columbia-Ontario-CDS Inc., "SEDAR Operations Agreement"	Alberta Securities Commission
01/05/2004 (Amendment)	Alberta-Canada: Indian Affairs and Northern Development-Little Red River Cree Nation, "Amendment and Extension of the Little Red River Cree Nation Welfare Agreement"	Children's Services
01/06/2004 (Amendment)	Alberta-Canada: Indian Affairs and Northern Development-North Peace Tribal Council, "North Peace Child Welfare Agreement"	Children's Services
06/05/2004 (Amendment)	Alberta-Canada: Canadian Heritage, "Amendment to the Contribution Agreement, Historic Places Initiative extending the Agreement for 2004-2005"	Community Development
18/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: Parks Canada, "Canada-Alberta MOU Concerning the Certification Service function for the Commercial Properties Incentive Fund"	Community Development
14/10/2004	Alberta-Québec-Canada: Departments of Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs, Native Affairs, "Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange between the Government of Québec and the Government of Alberta regarding Francophone Youth"	Community Development
29/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Parks Canada, "MOU Concerning the Certification Service Function for the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund"	Community Development
30/03/2005 (Amendment)	Alberta-Canada: Canadian Heritage, "Amendment to the Canada-Alberta Agreement to Advance the Canadian Sport Policy"	Community Development
18/03/2005	Alberta-British Columbia: Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development, "Memorandum of Understanding: Sharing of Olympic Training and Competition Facilities"	Community Development
02/11/2004	Alberta-Confederation Centre for the Arts-Prince Edward Island, "Annual Funding Agreement Between the Confederation Centre for the Arts, PEI, and Alberta Community Development"	Community Development
22/03/2005	Alberta-Smithsonian Institute, "Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of Alberta and the Smithsonian Institution for the Annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival"	Community Development
18/03/2004	Alberta-Canada: Parks Canada, "Memorandum of Understanding between Parks Canada Agency and the Province of Alberta Concerning the certification Service Function for the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund"	Community Development
04/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: Parks Canada, "Memorandum of Understanding between Parks Canada Agency and the Province of Alberta Concerning the certification Service Function for the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund"	Community Development
29/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Parks Canada, "Memorandum of Understanding between Parks Canada Agency and the Province of Alberta Concerning the certification Service Function for the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund"	Community Development
11/07/2004	Alberta-Canada: Parks Canada, "Memorandum of Understanding Concerning the Sharing and Management of Information for the Canadian Register of Historic Places"	Community Development
06/05/2004 (Amendment)	Alberta-Canada: Canadian Heritage, "Amendment to the Contribution Agreement between the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Government of Alberta"	Community Development
15/06/2004	Alberta-China: China National Petroleum Corporation, "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Oil Sand and Heavy Oil Sectors in Alberta, Canada"	Economic Development
08/02/2004	Alberta-China: National Petroleum Corporation, "Agreement on the Management and Operation of the CNPC-Alberta Petroleum Centre"	Economic Development
21/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: National Rural Conference-Rural Secretariat, "Letter of Understanding Between rural Secretariat, AAFC, and Alberta Economic Development (National Rural Conference 2004)"	Economic Development
13/12/2004	Alberta-Ontario: Tourism and Recreation-TNS Canadian Facts Inc., "Market Research Services Agreement between Alberta, the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, and TNS Canadian Facts Inc."	Economic Development
14/07/2004 (Amendment)	Alberta-Canada: Statistics Canada, Culture, Tourism, and the Centre of Education Statistics, "Amendment to the General Services Contract between Alberta Economic Development and statistics Canada, Culture, Tourism, and the Centre for Education Statistics"	Economic Development

EFFECTIVE DATE (D/M/Y)	PARTIES/TITLE	DEPARTMENT/ AGENCY
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, "Memorandum of Understanding on the Priority Processing of International Student Accepted at Designated Alberta Post-Secondary Institutions"	Human Resources and Employment
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Statistics Canada, "Letter of Agreement Regarding the Longitudinal Immigration Database"	Human Resources and Employment
04/10/2004	Alberta-British Columbia, "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Labour Market Programming"	Human Resources and Employment
17/12/2004	Alberta-Canada, "Amendment of the Memorandum of Understanding on Sponsorship"	Human Resources and Employment
01/06/2004 (Renewal)	Alberta-Canada: RCMP, "Lease Agreement for the RCMP Building in Coronation"	Infrastructure and Transportation
26/05/2004	Alberta-British Columbia: Transportation-Canada: Parks Canada, "Alberta-British Columbia, Canada: Memorandum of Understanding on Highway Traveller Information Sharing"	Infrastructure and Transportation
22/06/2004	Alberta-Canada: Transport Canada, "Contribution Agreement: Deployment and Integration of Intelligent Transportation Systems: Development of a Road Weather Information Systems Network"	Infrastructure and Transportation
21/09/2004	Alberta-Canada: Transport Canada, "Contribution Agreement: Intelligent Transportation Systems Research and Development"	Infrastructure and Transportation
22/11/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "The Maintenance of the Alberta Portion of the National Road Network (NRN)"	Infrastructure and Transportation
16/02/2005	Alberta-British Columbia: Ministry of Transportation, "Golden BC Inspection Facility Agreement in Principle"	Infrastructure and Transportation
25/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Transport Canada, "Contribution Agreement: Deployment and Integration of Intelligent Transportation Systems"	Infrastructure and Transportation
29/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Transport Canada, "Contribution Agreement between Transport Canada and Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation"	Infrastructure and Transportation
31/03/2005 (Extension)	Alberta-Canada: Public Works and Government Services Canada, "Lease Agreement—Lethbridge/Provincial Building"	Infrastructure and Transportation
31/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: Public Works and Government Services Canada, "Lease	Infrastructure and
(Amendment)	Agreement—Vermilion/Provincial Building"	Transportation
31/03/2005 Amendment	Alberta-Canada: Public Works and Government Services Canada, "Lease Agreement – O.S. Longman Building and J.G. O'Donoghue Building"	Infrastructure and Transportation
26/11/2004 (Renewal)	Alberta-Canada: National Research Council Canada, "Lease Agreement - Laboratory and Administration Building Alberta Research Council Facility 250 Karl Clark Road Edmonton, Alberta"	Infrastructure and Transportation, Alberta Research Council
02/06/2004	Alberta-China: Ministry of Science and Technology, "MOU on Science and Technology Cooperation between the Ministry of Science and Technology of China and the Government of Alberta"	Innovation and Science
04/06/2004	Alberta-Heilongjiang, China: Department of Science and Technology, Province of Heilongjiang, "Letter of Intent on Research and Development Cooperation between the Government of the Province of Heilongjiang and the Government of Alberta"	Innovation and Science
07/06/2004	Alberta-Republic of Korea, Ministry of Science and Technology, "Letter of Intent on Research and Development Cooperation"	Innovation and Science
11/08/2004	Alberta-Ukraine: Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation"	International and Intergovernmental Relations
12/10/2004	Alberta-Heilongjiang, China, Harbin Institute of Technology, "Heilongjiang- Alberta MOU on Pensions and Social Welfare Reform"	International and Intergovernmental Relations
08/06/2004	Alberta-Gangwon Province, Korea, "30th Anniversary Protocol of Reaffirmation and Affiliation between the Province of Alberta, Canada and Gangwon Province, Korea"	International and Intergovernmental Relations
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Justice Canada, "Agreement Respecting the Aboriginal Courtwork Program"	Justice
28/01/2005	Alberta-Northwest Territories: Department of Justice, "Secondment Agreement between the Northwest Territories and Alberta for the Provision of a Court Clerk to Assist with a French Language Trial"	Justice
01/07/2004	Alberta-Canada: Department of Justice, "Project Funding Agreement—Victims Fund"	Justice

EFFECTIVE DATE (D/M/Y)	PARTIES/TITLE	DEPARTMENT/ AGENCY
01/04/04	Alberta-Japan, "Agreement on Cooperation between Alberta Learning and Nippon Hoso Kyokai Gakuen or NHK Academy of Distance Learning"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
26/05/2004	Alberta-British Columbia, "Memorandum of Understanding – Cooperation and Collaboration on E-Learning"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
07/06/2004	Alberta-Japan, "Agreement on the Rex Program between Department of Learning, Province of Alberta, Red Deer Catholic Regional Division #39, and Hokkaido Board of Education"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
07/06/2004	Alberta-Japan, "Agreement on the Rex Program between Department of Learning, Province of Alberta, Wild Rose School Division No. 66, and Hokkaido Board of Education"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
10/09/2004	Alberta-British Columbia, "Alberta-British Columbia Protocol for a Partnership in support of Assistive Technology and other Specialized Services to Students with Special Needs"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
12/10/2004	Alberta-Germany, "Joint Declaration on the Cooperation between the Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Ministry of Learning of the Province of Alberta"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
16/11/2004	Alberta-China, "Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Learning of the Province of Alberta and the Beijing Municipal Education Commission"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
18/11/2004	Alberta-China, "Teacher Exchange Program Memorandum of Understanding between Department of Education of the Province of Heilongjiang, People's Republic of China and Department of Learning in the Province of Alberta, Canada"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
02/06/2004	Alberta-China: Ministry of Education, "MOU in the Matter of International Education between the Department of Learning in the Province of Alberta and the Ministry of Education, China"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
04/06/2004	Alberta-Heilongjiang, China: Ministry of Education, "MOU Between the Government of Alberta and the Government of Heilongjiang"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
19/02/2004	Alberta-Trinidad and Tobago: NESC, "Memorandum of Understanding Between National Energy Skills Centre, Trinidad and Tobago and the Government of Alberta"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
26/05/2004	Alberta-British Columbia: Ministry of Education, "Alberta-British Columbia Memorandum of Understanding – Cooperation and Collaboration on e-learning"	Learning (Education and Advanced Education as of Nov 2004)
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Citizenship and Immigration, "Memorandum of Understanding on the Priority Processing of International Students Accepted at Designated Alberta Educational Institutions"	Learning (now the responsibility of HRE)
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada, "Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Emergency Management Services to First Nations in Alberta"	Municipal Affairs
18/03/2005	Alberta-Yukon: Premier's Office, "Alberta-Yukon Protocol for Cooperation on Oil, Gas and Pipeline Development"	Premier's Office
11/12/2004	Alberta-Canada: Indian and Northern Affairs, "Canada-Alberta Memorandum of Understanding Respecting the Conveyance to Alberta Revenue of Personal Information that Identifies Registered Indians"	Revenue (now the responsibility of Finance)
30/09/2004	Alberta-Saskatchewan, Manitoba, British Columbia, Québec, Yukon, PEI and New Brunswick, "Provincial/Territorial Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Securities Regulation"	Revenue (now the responsibility of Finance)
01/04/2004 (Renewal)	Alberta-Canada: Solicitor General, "DNA Biological Casework Analysis (BCA) Agreement"	Solicitor General
12/07/2004 (Renewal)	Alberta-Canada: Solicitor General of Canada, "Lesser Slave Lake Regional Police Service – Tripartite Agreement Extension"	Solicitor General
01/10/2004	Alberta-Canada: Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, "MOU for First Nation Training Officers Secondment Program"	Solicitor General
01/01/2005	Alberta-Canada-Duncan's First Nation, "Community Tri-Partite Agreement (CTA) for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) First Nations Community Policing Service (FNCPS)"	Solicitor General
01/01/2005	Alberta-Canada-Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, "Community Tri-Partite Agreement (CTA) for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) First Nations Community Policing Service (FNCPS)"	Solicitor General

EFFECTIVE DATE (D/M/Y)	PARTIES/TITLE	DEPARTMENT/ AGENCY
01/02/2005	Alberta-Canada-Bigstone Cree Nation, "Community Tri-Partite Agreement (CTA) for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) First Nations Community Policing Service (FNCPS)"	Solicitor General
22/04/2004	Alberta-Canada-Blood Tribe, "Blood Tribe Police Service Agreement"	Solicitor General
22/04/2004	Alberta-Canada-Tsuu T'ina Nation, "Tsuu T'ina Nation Police Service Agreement"	Solicitor General
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada-North Peace Tribal Council, "North Peace Tribal Police Service Agreement"	Solicitor General
22/04/2004	Alberta-Canada-Louis Bull Tribe, "Louis Bull Tribe Police Service Agreement"	Solicitor General
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, "Supplement Agreement to the Exchange of Services Agreement"	Solicitor General
01/04/2004	Alberta-Canada: Royal Canadian Mounted Police, "IROC Agreement"	Solicitor General
27/05/2004	Alberta-British Columbia: Ministry of Forests, "Alberta-British Columbia Letter of Understanding on the Provision and use of Inventory Management Information System Software"	Sustainable Resource Development
17/03/2005	Alberta-Canada: NRCAN, Canadian Forest Service, " Canada-Alberta MOU to Cooperate and Implement Forest Inventory"	Sustainable Resource Development
01/04/2004	Alberta-British Columbia: Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management, " MOA for Maintenance of Mascot Survey Control System"	Sustainable Resource Development
18/03/2005	Alberta-British Columbia: Ministry of Forests, "Memorandum of Agreement: Control and Management o Mountain Pine Beetle Infestations Along the British Columbia-Alberta Border"	Sustainable Resource Development
08/02/2005	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Multi-lateral Agreement to the Canadian Vertical Reference System"	Sustainable Resource Development
12/12/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Canada – Alberta GeoConnections Programs Initiative Contribution Agreement"	Sustainable Resource Development
05/08/2004	Alberta-Canada: Canadian Police Information Centre, "Memorandum of Understanding Between Fish and Wildlife Dividion, Enforcement-Field Services Branch, and Canadian Police Information Centre to Provide Access to CPIC Information to Fish and Wildlife Officers."	Sustainable Resource Development
14/06/2004	Alberta (through the Provincial/Territorial Forum on Geomatics)-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Letter of Agreement Between Provincial/Territorial Forum on Geomatics and Canada"	Sustainable Resource Development
15/12/2004	Alberta-Canada: Natural Resources Canada, "Collaborative Research Agreement: Development and Enhancements to the BURN-P3 Application, a Fire Management Tool for Mapping Wildfire Susceptibility"	Sustainable Resource Development

Alphabetical List Of Entities' Financial Statements In Ministry 2004-05 Annual Reports

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency Ministry Annual Report		
Agriculture Financial Services Corporation ¹	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	
Alberta Capital Finance Authority	Finance	
Alberta Energy and Utilities Board		
Alberta Foundation for the Arts	Energy Community Davidsonment	
	Community Development	
Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission	Gaming	
Alberta Government Telephones Commission	Finance	
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research Endowment Fund	Finance	
Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund	Finance	
Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund	Finance	
Alberta Heritage Science and Engineering Research Endowment Fund	Finance	
Alberta Historical Resources Foundation	Community Development	
Alberta Insurance Council	Finance	
Alberta Pensions Administration Corporation	Finance	
Alberta Petroleum Marketing Commission	Energy	
Alberta Research Council Inc.	Innovation and Science	
Alberta Risk Management Fund	Finance	
Alberta School Foundation Fund	Education	
Alberta Science and Research Authority	Innovation and Science	
Alberta Securities Commission	Finance	
Alberta Social Housing Corporation	Seniors and Community Supports	
Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation	Community Development	
Alberta Treasury Branches	Finance	
ATB Investment Services Inc.	Finance	
Child and Family Services Authorities: Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority East Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority Edmonton and Area Child and Family Services Authority North Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority Northeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority Northwest Alberta Child and Family Services Authority Southeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority Southwest Alberta Child and Family Services Authority Metis Settlements Child and Family Services Authority	Children's Services	
Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation	Finance	
Crop Reinsurance Fund of Alberta ¹	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	
Department of Agriculture, Food and Dural Development	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	
Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development		
Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Department of Children's Services	Children's Services	

¹The Crop Reinsurance Fund of Alberta was merged into the Agriculture Financial Services Corporation, effective April 1, 2003. 2004-2005 Ministry Annual Report Standards

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	Ministry Annual Report	
Department of Education	Education	
Department of Energy	Energy	
Department of Finance	Finance	
Department of Gaming	Gaming	
Department of Health and Wellness	Health and Wellness	
Department of Innovation and Science	Innovation and Science	
Department of Seniors and Community Supports	Seniors and Community Supports	
Department of Solicitor General	Solicitor General	
Department of Sustainable Resource Development	Sustainable Resource Development	
Environmental Protection and Enhancement Fund	Sustainable Resource Development	
Gainers Inc.	Finance	
Government House Foundation	Community Development	
Historic Resources Fund	Community Development	
Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Education Fund	Community Development	
iCORE Inc.	Innovation and Science	
Lottery Fund	Gaming	
Ministry of Advanced Education ²	Advanced Education	
Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development ²	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development	
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	
Ministry of Children's Services	Children's Services	
Ministry of Community Development	Community Development	
Ministry of Economic Development ²	Economic Development	
Ministry of Education	Education	
Ministry of Energy	Energy	
Ministry of Environment ²	Environment	
Ministry of Finance	Finance	
Ministry of Executive Council ²	Executive Council	
Ministry of Gaming	Gaming	
Ministry of Government Services ²	Government Services	
Ministry of Health and Wellness	Health and Wellness	
Ministry of Human Resources and Employment ²	Human Resources and Employment	
Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation ²	Infrastructure and Transportation	
Ministry of Innovation and Science	Innovation and Science	
Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations ²	International and Intergovernmental Relations	
Ministry of Justice ²	Justice	
Ministry of Municipal Affairs ²	Municipal Affairs	
Ministry of Restructuring and Government Efficiency ²	Restructuring and Government Efficiency	
Ministry of Seniors and Community Supports	Seniors and Community Supports	
Ministry of Solicitor General	Solicitor General	
Ministry of Sustainable Resource Development	Sustainable Resource Development	

 $^{^{2}}$ Ministry includes only the departments so separate department financial statements are not necessary.

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPOR	RTING ENTITY
Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	Ministry Annual Report
N.A. Properties (1994) Ltd.	Finance
Natural Resources Conservation Board	Sustainable Resource Development
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Community Boards: Calgary Region Community Board Central Region Community Board	Seniors and Community Supports

Natural Resources Conservation Board	Sustainable Resource Development	
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Community Boards: Calgary Region Community Board Central Region Community Board Edmonton Region Community Board Northeast Region Community Board Northwest Region Community Board South Region Community Board	Seniors and Community Supports	
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Provincial Board	Seniors and Community Supports	
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers	Reserve Fund Finance	
Supplementary Retirement Plan	Reserve Fund Finance	
Victims of Crime Fund	Solicitor General	
Wild Rose Foundation	Community Development	

ENTITIES NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY			
Fund or Agency	Ministry Annual Report		
Alberta Cancer Board	Health and Wellness		
Alberta Foundation for Health Research	Innovation and Science		
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research	Innovation and Science		
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Science and Engineering Research	Innovation and Science		
Alberta Mental Health Board	Health and Wellness		
Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund Board	Education		
Improvement Districts' Trust Account	Municipal Affairs		
Local Authorities Pension Plan	Finance		
Long-Term Disability Income Continuance Plan - Bargaining Unit	Human Resources and Employment		
Long-Term Disability Income Continuance Plan - Management, Opted Out and Excluded	Human Resources and Employment		
Management Employees Pension Plan	Finance		
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Pension Plan	Finance		
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers (Unregistered) Pension Plan	Finance		
Public Post Secondary Institutions	Advance Education		
Public Service Management (Closed Membership) Pension Plan	Finance		
Public Service Pension Plan	Finance		
Regional Health Authorities	Health and Wellness		
School Boards	Education		
Special Areas Trust Account	Municipal Affairs		
Special Forces Pension Plan	Finance		
Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers	Finance		
Workers' Compensation Board Human	Resources and Employment		



For additional copies of this annual report, or for further information about the ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations

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