

International Travel Final Report

Minister Tanya Fir

Mission to Illinois and Minnesota, United States

November 19-22, 2019



Overview:

From November 19-22, 2019, the Honourable Tanya Fir, Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, undertook a mission to Chicago, Illinois and Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Minister highlighted Alberta's economic policies aimed at attracting investment, promoting free trade between Alberta and our U.S. partners, and advocating for building energy infrastructure.

The mission was successful in meeting its objectives, as outlined below.

Mission Objectives:

1. Grow Alberta's economy by meeting investors and communicating Alberta's commitment to be Canada's most competitive destination for investment.
2. Increase investor confidence in Alberta's agriculture sector.
3. Make the case for free trade by speaking about the importance of trade between Alberta and the U.S., especially energy trade via pipeline to Minnesota and Illinois refineries.

Results:

Chicago

Minister Fir met with agricultural companies with existing investments in Alberta to thank them for their ongoing investment, highlight Alberta's latest economic policies designed to promote economic growth, and identify whether there are opportunities for them to expand their presence in Alberta.

The Minister also met with companies without existing investments in Alberta to promote Alberta as an attractive destination for their future plans. Minister Fir hosted a roundtable discussion with representatives from financial institutions and investment firms to provide them with information on Alberta's strong, competitive position relative to other Canadian and U.S. jurisdictions.

Minneapolis

Minister Fir continued to engage with agricultural companies and other private companies to attract investment into Alberta. The Minister also met with Minnesota state and federal officials and legislators to advance Alberta's free trade and market access priorities, and convey Alberta's priority messaging regarding two-way trade in energy, agriculture, and being open-for-business. Minister Fir met with Minnesota's Commissioner of Commerce to speak about the importance of Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline and provide information about Alberta's energy resources. Minister Fir also met with Minnesota's Agriculture Commissioner to discuss how to enhance Alberta and Minnesota's agricultural trade.

Delegation:

- Honourable Tanya Fir
- Kris Barker, Chief of Staff to Minister Fir
- Jason Krips, Deputy Minister, Economic Development, Trade and Tourism

Final Itinerary for Minister Fir:

Date	Event
Tuesday, November 19	Departed Alberta for Chicago, Illinois
	Attended the Private Label Manufacturers Association Trade Show and met with participating Alberta companies
	Met with Consulate General of Canada in Chicago
Wednesday, November 20	Met with agricultural companies
	Held a roundtable discussion with representatives from financial institutions, investment firms, and energy associations
	Travelled to Minneapolis, Minnesota
Thursday, November 21	Met with Consulate General of Canada in Minneapolis
	Met with Minnesota Commissioners of Agriculture and State
	Met with agricultural companies
Friday, November 22	Met with companies with exiting investments in Alberta
	Attended Minnesota Farm Bureau's Reception with State Legislators
	Returned to Alberta

Significant Speeches/Presentations:

- n/a

News Releases/Communiques:

- December 9, 2019: [Successful trade missions update: Minister Fir](#)
- November 18, 2019: [Advancing trade and investment in the U.S.](#)

International Travel Final Expenses

Expenditures by Participants	Amount
Travel (includes airfare, airport service fees, ground transportation costs, including taxis, car rentals, parking, trains, buses as well as mileage to/from airport or taxis to/from airport in Alberta, including any cancellation fees)	3,775.01
Accommodation (room charges and related taxes, including any cancellation fees)	2,009.98
Meals (includes restaurant bills and tips, meals on hotel bills, per diem meal claims, share of group meals or working sessions)	931.20
Incidental and Miscellaneous (includes cell phone rental charges, incremental costs for all electronic devices such as roaming charges for cell phones, iPads and costs associated with communications such as the costs incurred for media call-backs, conference/registration fees, including cancellation fees, fax and internet charges, passport and visa fees, medical and inoculation fees, laundry and dry cleaning, baggage handling, out-of-country per diems, and other sundry expenditures)	982.89
<i>Sub-Total</i>	7,699.08
General Mission Expenditures	Amount
Receptions and Hosting (receptions, luncheons, dinners, and events that are hosted by the GoA that are specific to the mission and include meeting related costs for room rental, room rental for hosted events, food, beverages, catering staff, service charges, entertainment, flowers)	1,427.57
Incidental and Miscellaneous (includes translation of documents fees, publications, shipping charges, gifts purchased specifically for mission, Canadian Embassy/High Commission/Consulate charges for services provided to the GoA)	5.19
<i>Sub-Total</i>	1,432.76
Total Costs	9,131.84