

International Travel Final Report

Estefania Cortes-Vargas, MLA Strathcona-Sherwood Park
Mission to Snowbird, Utah
September 11-15, 2018



Overview:

MLA Estefania Cortes-Vargas, Alberta's representative to the Council of State Governments (CSG) West, traveled to Snowbird, Utah, to participate in the CSG West annual meeting.

Mission Objectives:

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

1. Meet with the CSG West legislators and officials to build Alberta's network of relationships with state legislators to facilitate current and future communications about the benefits of trade and other key bilateral files, and express opposition to the U.S. steel and aluminum tariffs.
2. Advance Alberta's priorities and represent Alberta's interests on key policy issues to legislators from the U.S.; and highlight the importance of energy infrastructure including the Trans Mountain Expansion Project for continued economic growth on both sides of the border.
3. Participate in the Midwest Canada Relations Committee and the North America Summit session with legislators to discuss international issues and highlight the value of the Canada-U.S. trading relationship to both as it pertains to NAFTA modernization discussions.

Results:

MLA Cortes-Vargas co-chaired the Canada Relations Committee, where she highlighted the value of the Alberta-U.S. trade relationship, and brought forward a resolution affirming support for the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as a trilateral agreement. The resolution was passed unanimously by the Canada Relations Committee, and by the CSG West Executive Committee, which circulated the resolution to U.S. decision makers and stakeholders. During the Committee session, MLA Cortes-Vargas also provided a detailed update on Alberta's implementation of the Climate Leadership Plan and spoke to the importance of Alberta gaining energy market access.

MLA Cortes-Vargas also presented at the North America Summit session, where she discussed the importance of two-way trade, maintaining NAFTA as a trilateral agreement, and highlighted the negative impacts of the U.S. tariffs on imports of Canadian steel and aluminum for U.S. stakeholders. She also spoke to the importance of Alberta gaining energy market access for the purpose of ensuring North American energy security. Finally, she highlighted Alberta as an attractive destination for investment.

In addition, MLA Cortes-Vargas met with the CSG West Executive Committee, where she discussed Alberta's priority issues, including the importance of trade, energy infrastructure, and climate leadership.

The mission provided an opportunity for MLA Cortes-Vargas to continue to build Alberta's network of relationships with state legislators throughout the course of the meeting, while delivering Alberta's priority messaging, sharing knowledge and successes, and promoting continued collaboration.

Delegation:

- Estefania Cortes-Vargas, MLA Strathcona-Sherwood Park

Final Itinerary:

| Date | Event |
|--------------------|---|
| September 11, 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Departed Alberta for Snowbird, Utah |
| September 12, 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivered Remarks at the North America Summit |
| September 13, 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Met with CSG West Executive Directors• Co-Chaired the Canada Relations Committee• Introduced Resolution Affirming NAFTA as a Trilateral Agreement |
| September 14, 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participated in CSG West Committee Sessions• Networked with State Legislators of Key Trading Partners |
| September 15, 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Departed Utah for Edmonton, Alberta |

News Releases/Communiques:

- [Championing trade with U.S. legislators](#) – September 10, 2018

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) | 822.76 |
| Accommodation (room charges and related taxes, including any cancellation fees) | 788.12 |
| Meals (includes restaurant bills and tips, meals on hotel bills, per diem meal claims, share of group meals or working sessions) | 373.23 |
| 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) | 718.85 |
| Sub-Total | 2,702.96 |
| General Mission Expenditures | Amount |
| Receptions and Hosting (receptions, luncheons, dinners, and events that are hosted by the Government of Alberta 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) | 0.0 |
| 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) | 0.0 |
| Sub-Total | 0.0 |
| Total Costs | 2,702.96 |