California – Alberta Relations

Government of Alberta International and Intergovernmental Relations



PROFILE

Capital: Sacramento

Population: 37, 253,956 (2010)

Language: English (Spanish)

Government: Bicameral state government

Head of Government: Governor Jerry Brown (D)

Currency: U.S. Dollar

CDN\$1 = U.S. \$1.0079 (September 2011)

GSP: \$1.94 trillion U.S. (2010)

GDP Per Capita: \$51,914 U.S. (2010)

Unemployment Rate: 12.0% (July 2011)

Key Industry Sectors: Electronic components and equipment, transportation equipment, aerospace, film, food processing, computers and computer software, tourism.

Major Cities (Metropolitans):

- (2009)
 - Los Angeles: 12.9 million
 - San Francisco-Oakland: 4.3 million
 - Riverside-San Bernardino 4.14 million
 - San Diego: 3.05 million

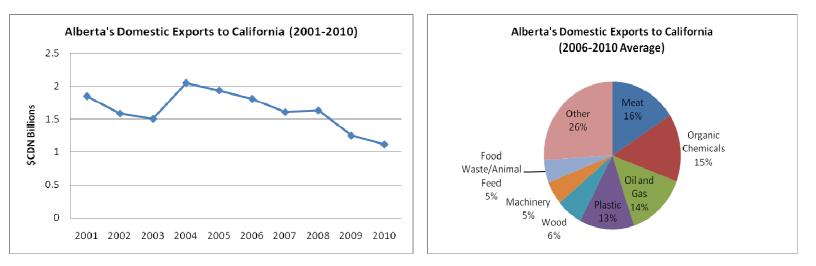
DID YOU KNOW?

- California has the world's 6th largest economy, and is a major world center of learning, technology, and entertainment.
- The technology sector accounts for a large percentage of California's merchandise exports. High tech exports represented close to 40% of the state's total exports in 2006, the equivalent of \$52 billion.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Alberta's imports from California include: railway coaches, wine, fruits and vegetables, electrical parts, laboratory equipment, high tech apparatus, and airplane parts.
- California is connected to Alberta by the I-15 highway, providing the southern link along the CANAMEX intermodal transportation corridor.
- In 2002, Alberta Innovation & Science developed the Alberta-California Venture Channel (ACVC). This initiative is aimed at partnering expertise and capital from California with entrepreneurs from Alberta.

- Alberta Advanced Education & Technology (formerly Innovation and Science) has been holding annual expatriate events in California since 1999. Alberta alumni are provided information on the high-technology opportunities that exist in Alberta to encourage their return, investment or participation in future developments.
- Over 70 California businesses supply equipment, parts and services for Alberta's oil sands projects.
- It is estimated that the development of Alberta's oil sands will contribute an average of between \$886 million and \$1.7 billion per year to the economy of California between 2010 and 2035, depending on the ability of growing production to find pipeline access to markets.
- It is estimated that the development of Alberta's oil sands will create or preserve an average of between 8,840 and 17,000 jobs per year in California between 2010 and 2035, with these workers earning an average of between \$412 and \$793 million per year.



Note: Natural Gas from Alberta is piped to California but recorded in Washington export statistics. It would be Alberta's largest export to California.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Canada is California's second largest export market, after Mexico.
- Alberta accounts for more than 12 percent of Canada-California trade.
- Since the implementation of NAFTA in 1994, trade between California and Canada has increased by an average of 119%.
- Alberta's annual exports to California have averaged \$1.48 billion over the last five years.
- Alberta's main exports to California were Meat, Oil, Natural Gas, Organic Chemicals, and Wood.
- Alberta's main imports from California were Machinery, Fruits and Nuts, Vegetables, Electrical Machinery, and Medical Instruments.

ENERGY

- Alberta exports a large volume of natural gas to California, via pipeline through Washington (these volumes are often reported as exports to Washington in statistical summaries).
- In 2008, Alberta exported 28,308 barrels per day of light and heavy crude oil to California.
- In 2009, Alberta exported 269.1 billion cubic feet of Natural Gas to California.
- California produces over 200,000 barrels per day of crude oil, 1/10th of total U.S. production. It is also home to 10 percent of U.S. refining capacity.

TOURISM

- California is Alberta's second largest source of U.S. visitors and tourist dollars spent, after Montana.
- California is a popular tourist destination for Albertans (Disneyland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Palm Springs).

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- Alberta's universities are developing close linkages with their California counterparts on NAFTA issues and areas of bilateral mutual interest.
- Alberta is committed to facilitating development of new partnerships between film producers in Alberta and California. Alberta does not provide subsidies, but does offer: no provincial sales tax; low construction and service costs; experienced crews; technical capacity and spectacular locations.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- High technology
- Multimedia & film
- Electronics & telecommunications
- Transportation equipment
- Value-added forest products
- Tourism
- Agri-food

SHARED ORGANIZATIONS

- CSG-WEST
- Western Governors' Association (WGA)

RECENT VISITS

- January 2011: Culture and Community Spirit Minister Lindsay Blackett represented Alberta in Los Angeles.
- December 2009:MLA Len Webber participated in the PNWER Energy Horizons course in San Diego
- November 2009: MLAs Len Webber and Ty Land attended the CSG Annual Conference in La Quinta.

- October 2009: A California Energy and Environment Study Tour, academics and government officials, visited Edmonton, Alberta Heartland and the oil sands.
- March 2009: MLA Len Webber attended Canada Day in Sacramento to promote Alberta to California legislators.
- October 2008: Transportation Minister Luke Ouellette attended an international conference on Green Public Transit in San Diego.
- June 2008: Premier Stelmach traveled to San Diego to promote trade, research and investment at the BIO International Convention.
- Alberta has been undertaking regular missions to California to develop closer cooperation in information and communication technology.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- Laura Lochman is the U.S. Consul General in Calgary.
- Canada's Consul General in Los Angeles is David Fransen.
- Canada's Consul General in San Francisco is Cassie Doyle.

Government of Alberta

For more information, contact: Alberta International and Intergovernmental Relations Tel: (780) 427-6543 Fax: (780)427-0699 http://www.international.alberta.ca/

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