

# California–Alberta Relations



## PROFILE

**Capital:** Sacramento

**Population:** 38,802,500 (2014)

**Language:** English (Spanish)

**Government:** Bicameral state government

**Head of Government:** Governor Jerry Brown (D) Second Term (term expires January 2019)

Two consecutive term limit

**Currency:** U.S. Dollar=USD

CDN\$1 = USD\$0.79 (March 2015)

**Gross State Product (GSP):** \$2.2 trillion U.S. (2013)

**Per Capita Income:** \$50,109 U.S. (2014)

**Unemployment Rate:** 6.7% (February 2015)

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

**Main Cities** (2013 estimate):

- Los Angeles: 3,884,307
- San Diego: 1,355,896
- San Jose: 998,537
- San Francisco: 837,442
- Fresno: 509,924

## DID YOU KNOW?

- California has the world's 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

## SHARED ORGANIZATIONS

- Council of State Government (CSG) National
- CSG West
- Western Governors' Association (WGA)

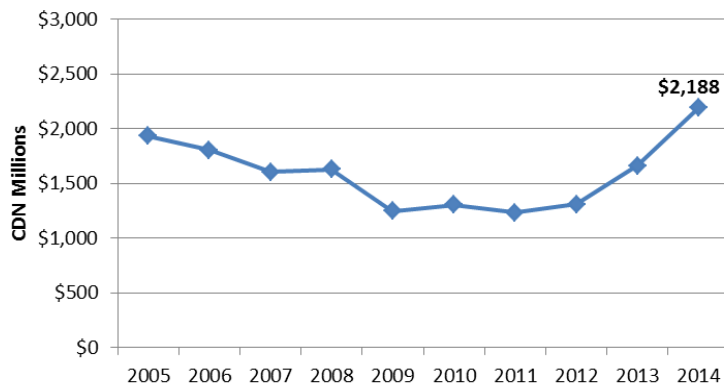
## RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- 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

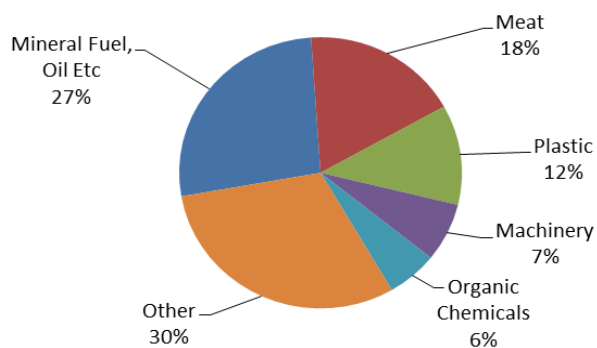
partnering expertise and capital from California with entrepreneurs from Alberta.

- Alberta Enterprise & Advanced Education 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.
- A recent study by the Canadian Energy Research Institute estimated that between 2011 and 2035 the development of Alberta's oil sands will add an annual average of between \$604 million and \$1.5 billion per year to the economy of California and will preserve or create an average of 6,040 to 15,320 jobs per year, with those workers earning between \$280 and \$700 million. The range of these estimates depends on the ability of growing oil sands production in Alberta to find pipeline access to market.
- 106 California companies have been identified that supply equipment, parts and services being used in the development of Alberta's oil sands.

## Alberta's Exports to California, 2005-2014



## Alberta's Merchandise Exports to California, 2010-2014



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

- From 2010-2014 Alberta's exports to California have averaged \$1.54 billion annually.
- In 2014, Alberta's exports to California were valued at \$2.2 billion, primarily composed of oil and natural gas, meat, plastics, machinery, and organic chemicals.

### ENERGY

- In 2013, California ranked as the third largest crude oil producing state in the U.S.
- As of January 2014, California had the third largest refinery capacity in the U.S., with a combined capacity of almost 2 million barrels per day from 18 operable refineries.
- In 2012, California ranked 49<sup>th</sup> on a comparison of states based on per capita energy usage. A mild climate combined with energy efficiency programs is cited as the reason for its strong showing.

### TOURISM

- California is one of Alberta's largest sources of U.S. visitors, with 90,000 overnight person-visits in 2012.
- California is a popular tourist destination for Albertans, with Disneyland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Palm Springs among the most visited areas.

### 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

### AGRICULTURE

- Alberta's 2013 agri-food exports to California totaled \$580 million. Top exports included beef (\$197.15 million), canola and mustard oil (\$65.81 million), processed potatoes (\$60.46 million), and pork (\$52.49 million).
- The Canadian and Alberta governments undertook extensive advocacy efforts in 2013 to influence the U.S. to comply with their World Trade Organization obligations regarding Country of Origin Labeling. As a result of these efforts, resolutions in support of this were passed by the following organizations: State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL), CSG National, CSG Midwest, CSG West, Ports-to-Plains Alliance, Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance, and the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

### RECENT VISITS/MISSIONS

- April 2014: A delegation from the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy participated in briefings and a site visit of the oil sands.

- August 2013: A delegation of California Venture Capitalists toured the oil sands.

### DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- His Excellency Bruce Heyman is the U.S. Ambassador to Canada.
- Gary Doer is the Canadian Ambassador in Washington, D.C.
- The Canadian Consulate responsible for Southern California is located in Los Angeles. James Villeneuve is the Consul General.
- The Canadian Consulate responsible for Northern California is located in San Francisco. Cassie Doyle is the Consul General.
- The U.S. Consul General in Calgary is Peter Kujawinski.
- The Honourable Rob Merrifield is Alberta's Senior Representative to the United States located in Washington, D.C.



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