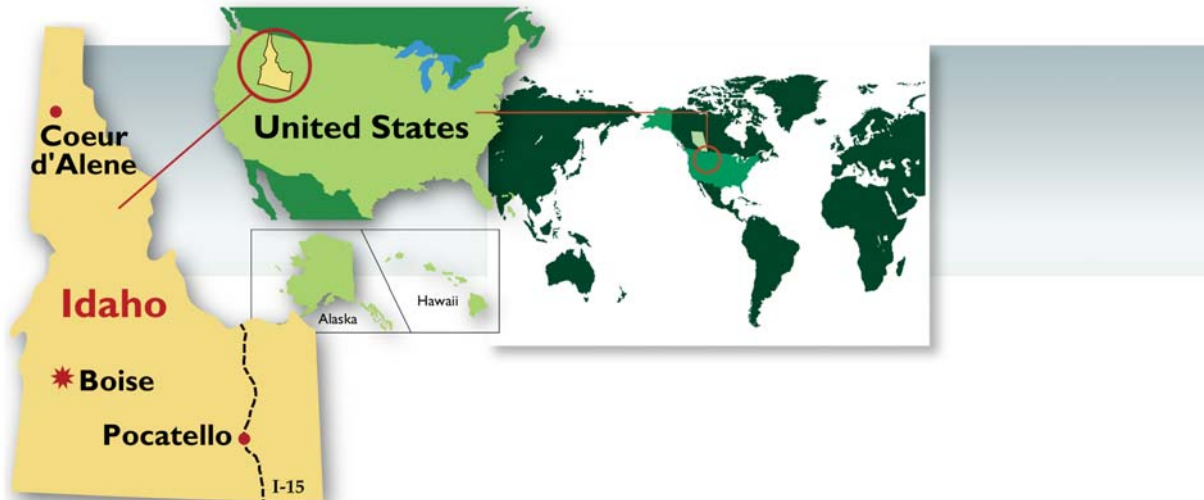


# IDAHO - ALBERTA RELATIONS



## PROFILE

**Capital:** Boise

**Population:** 1.41 million (2005 Estimate)

**Language:** English

**Government:** Bicameral State Government

**Head of Government:** Governor Jim Risch (R)  
Term expires: 2006

**Currency:** US Dollar  
CDN\$1 = 0.89 US (August 2006)

**GSP (Gross State Product):** US\$43.5 billion (2005)

**Per Capita Income:** US\$28,158 (2005)

**Key Industry Sectors:** Agriculture, high technology, forestry, mining and tourism.

**Unemployment rate:** 4.0% (March 2006)

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Like Alberta, Idaho has a “sister state” relationship with Jalisco, Mexico.
- High technology & machinery account for more than 2/3 of Idaho’s global exports.
- Major employers in the state include Hewlett Packard, Micron and Simplot (agriculture).

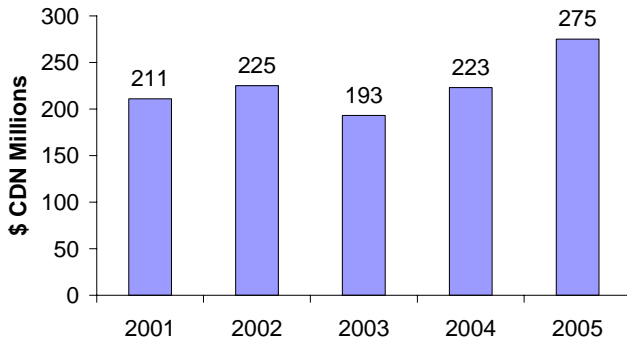
## RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Energy Minister Greg Melchin led a delegation of representatives from government, industry and the University of Calgary to meet with officials from the Idaho National Laboratories Power Research Center in Jan 2006. The purpose of the meetings was to learn more about ensuring reliable electric service in order to improve the power system in Alberta.
- Alberta and Idaho signed a cooperation agreement in May 2000 that established a task force to manage bilateral relations and advance mutual opportunities.
- The agreement was signed during a 40-member trade mission to Alberta led by Governor Kempthorne to increase economic cooperation between the two jurisdictions.
- Governor Kempthorne was recently confirmed as U.S. Secretary of the Interior.

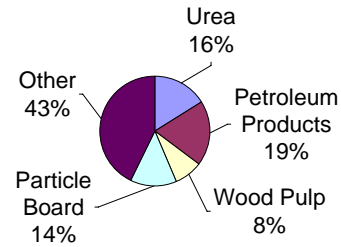
## TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Canada is Idaho’s second largest export customer, after the UK.
- Alberta exports to Idaho have averaged \$225 million annually over the past five years.
- In 2005, Alberta exports to Idaho were worth \$274 million and included urea, petroleum products, wood pulp and particle boards.
- In 2005, Alberta imports from Idaho totaled more than \$138 million, including fertilizer, chemicals, medicine, live farm animals, and food preparation machinery.

## Alberta Exports to Idaho



## 2005 Alberta Exports to Idaho



### Agriculture

- Idaho producers have historically viewed themselves as competitors with Alberta farmers, however, transboundary communication and cooperation is increasing.
- Alberta's main agricultural exports to Idaho (about \$51 million in 2005) are oilseed cake and meal, canola/mustard oil (refined), and beef (fresh, frozen, chilled).
- Alberta's agri-food imports from Idaho amounted to just over \$17 million in 2005. Major imports include cereal preparations, and canola seed.
- Agriculture accounted for over 15% of Idaho's exports in 2004, contributing more than \$789 million to the economy.
- The J.R. Simplot Company, a privately held agri-business corporation headquartered in Boise is among the largest and fastest-growing privately held businesses in the U.S. Annual revenues are approximately \$2.8 billion, derived principally from food processing, fertilizer manufacturing, agriculture, and related business.

### Transportation

- Idaho provides an important transportation link for Alberta exports to other markets in the U.S. and Mexico.
- Idaho is important to Alberta in working to advance CANAMEX, a north-south trade and transportation corridor.

### Technology

- Alberta works closely with Idaho's National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, INEEL.
- INEEL officials visited Alberta in October, 2003, to participate in the Remediation Technologies (RemTech) Symposium.
- Alberta Economic Development, in cooperation with the Seattle Consulate, facilitated a technology advancement and partnering mission to the Idaho National Laboratory in March 2005.

### EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- High technology ranks as one of the state's largest production industries.
- Agricultural products
- Forestry/wood products
- Metals and mining machinery

### PARTNERSHIPS & COOPERATION

- Alberta and Idaho signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in May 2000.
- Both Alberta and Idaho are members of sectoral organizations in the areas of agriculture (WASDA), forestry, and electrical energy (WIEB).
- Alberta and Idaho are members of several transboundary organizations such as PNWER, WGA, CSG – West.

### RECENT VISITS

- July 2006: Commerce Director Roger Madsen traveled to Edmonton and met with the Ministers of IIR and AED to discuss Alberta-Idaho relations.
- Jan 2006: Minister Melchin led an Alberta delegation on a tour of the Idaho National Laboratories Power Research Centre.
- July 2003: Idaho agriculture delegation toured Alberta.

### DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- U.S. Consul General in Calgary is Mr. Tom Huffaker.
- The Canadian Consulate General in Seattle has jurisdiction over Idaho. A new Consul General will be named shortly.