

OREGON- ALBERTA RELATIONS



PROFILE

Capital: Salem

Population: 3.64 million (2005 Estimate)

Language: English

Government: Bicameral state government

Head of Government: Governor Ted Kulongoski (D)
Term expires: 2006

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

GSP: US\$136.6 billion (2005)

Per Capita Income: US\$32,103 (2005)

Key Industry Sectors:

High technology, agriculture, tourism, forestry, manufacturing

Unemployment: 5.6% (April 2006)

Primary Cities: The Portland-Salem-Vancouver (WA) metro area has a population of 2.2 million.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Asian countries receive over half of the \$10 billion in products exported from Oregon each year.
- Portland is a major U.S. port; its maritime operation exports more wheat than any other U.S. port and it is the second largest grain exporter in the world.
- Oregon is the trendsetter for American states in many arenas ranging from health cost reform, governance and climate change.
- Alberta had a trade office in Portland from 1996 to 2003.

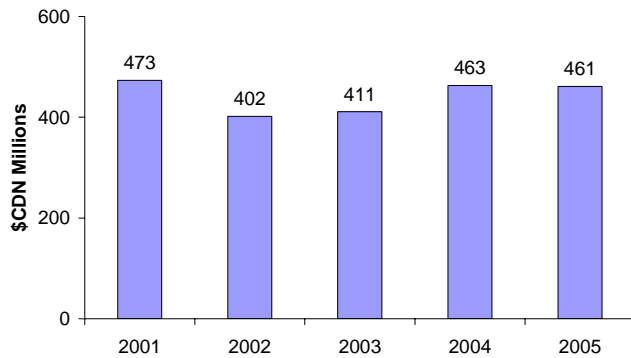
RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Oregon was Alberta's 18th largest U.S. export market in 2005.
- Oregon is an important market for Alberta petrochemical, forestry, and agri-food products and is itself a large forestry and agriculture producer.
- Alberta firefighters provided assistance in fighting wildfires in Oregon in the summer of 2002. Oregon's Governor acknowledged their contribution in a letter of thanks to Premier Klein.

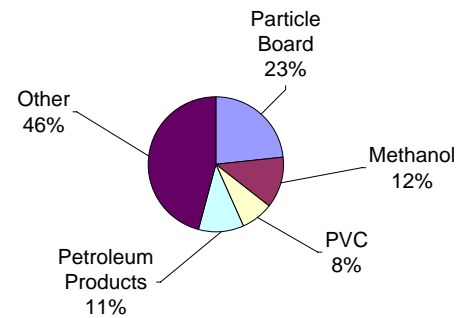
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Alberta exports to Oregon averaged \$441 million over the past five years.
- Exports to Oregon in 2005 were worth \$461 million and included particleboard, methanol, PVC, and petroleum products.
- In 2005, Alberta imports from Oregon totaled approximately \$339 million, a 95% increase from 2004. This increase was caused primarily by an influx of steel imports from Oregon.
- Due to the dependence of Oregon on Asian countries as export destinations, the Asian flu and the bursting of the high tech bubble, combined to stifle the growth of Oregon's manufacturing sector for several years.
- In order to continue to diversify, Oregon has redirected much of its manpower from traditional industries to expanding industries like high tech.

Alberta Exports to Oregon



2005 Alberta Exports to Oregon



Agriculture

- In 2005, Alberta's agri-food exports to Oregon amounted to approximately \$87 million and included beef, hogs and pork, canola oil and meal, and grass seeds.
- Japanese trading houses have offices in Portland to focus on food imports, and present useful contacts for Alberta.
- The port of Portland could represent a viable alternative for Alberta grain exports, if favorable shipping rates could be negotiated with U.S. railroads.

Energy

- Oregon shares the region's electricity challenges caused by the growth of the western and northwestern economies, and a slower than expected growth in electrical generating and transmitting capacity.

Environment

- Alberta and Oregon are both committed to long-term strategies to address climate change.
- Oregon's emission and efficiency standards, combined with Oregon's Climate Change Trust illustrate the state's commitment to the environment.

RECENT VISITS

- November 2003: Alberta Energy Minister participated in the PNWER winter meeting held in Portland.
- June 2002: Alberta delegates traveled to Oregon for the 2002 PNWER Annual Meeting.
- March 2000: Alberta's Economic Development Minister met with key public and private sector individuals in Oregon and Washington.
- January 1999: Premier Klein led a Team Alberta Trade Mission to the Pacific North West, which included a visit to Oregon.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- Agri-food products involving livestock, meats, and value-added products.
- Pulp and paper products including: wafer board; wood pulp; lumber; furniture; newsprint; veneer; and fiberboard.
- Transportation requirements ranging from construction and engineering services to automated traffic systems.
- Energy sectors such as electricity, petrochemical products and natural gas
- Tourism
- High Technology

SHARED ORGANIZATIONS

- Alberta and Oregon are members of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER). This alliance seeks to promote greater regional collaboration among its members in order to enhance the economic competitiveness of the region through private and public sector partnerships.
- Both are also members of sectoral organizations in the areas of agriculture (WASDA), forestry and electrical energy (WIEB).
- Western Governors Association (WGA).

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- The U.S. Consul General in Calgary is Mr. Tom Huffaker.
- The Canadian Consulate General in Seattle is responsible for Oregon. A new Consul General will be named shortly.

