

Final Report

**MLA Len Mitzel to Broomfield, Colorado
Ports-to-Plains Energy Summit
April 6-8, 2011**

Overview:

Len Mitzel, MLA Cypress-Medicine Hat, represented Alberta at the 2011 Ports-to-Plains (PTP) Energy Summit held in Broomfield, Colorado, April 6-8, 2011.

Mission Objectives:

The mission was successful in meeting a number of objectives:

1. Highlighted Alberta's achievements in the energy sector and profiled the province as a resourceful, responsible energy producer.
2. Highlighted the importance of efficient trade corridors between Alberta and the U.S.
3. Profiled Alberta as a strong partner for trade and investment and a strong supporter of greater economic co-operation with the U.S.
4. Worked with the PTP members and officials to collaborate on common issues and opportunities and exchange ideas.
5. Worked with Alberta delegation participants at the meeting to network with PTP members and companies.
6. Promoted strengthened Alberta-U.S. ties.

Results:

Approximately 120 participants attended the second annual Ports-to-Plains Energy Summit. Speakers focused on new technology developments in major oil and gas exploration activities in the PTP region, particularly in the oil sands in Alberta and the Bakken formation that covers parts of Montana, North Dakota and Saskatchewan. Updates were given on the advances in technology used to extract oil from both formations while lessening the impact on the environment. The importance of pipelines and the need for new routes and capacity increases across the continent was discussed. Pipelines were identified as a key component of energy security in North America as they are the conduits through which critical energy supplies are delivered to where they are needed in order to allow the economy to be productive.

Presentations were made on wind energy and its development prospects across the region. These were accompanied by an overview of the economic impact of firms setting up manufacturing facilities in the region close to where wind turbines are to be installed. With the increase in the number of planned wind turbines across the southern PTP region, it has become economically feasible to set up production facilities to manufacture the components.

The mission provided an opportunity to network with PTP officials and to assure them of Alberta's continued commitment and capacity to serve as a secure, reliable, environmentally responsible supplier of energy to the U.S.

Delegation:

Len Mitzel
MLA, Cypress-Medicine Hat