

## Final Report

**Premier Ed Stelmach's Mission to BIO 2011  
Washington, D.C., and Boston, Massachusetts  
June 27-July 1, 2011**

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### **Overview:**

In June 2011, Premier Ed Stelmach and Advanced Education and Technology Minister Greg Weadick led a mission to Washington, D.C., and Boston, Massachusetts. The focus of the Washington portion was to support and promote Alberta's biotechnology industry to an international audience, and to meet with political leaders. The Boston portion focused on meetings with the Governor of Massachusetts and academic and business leaders.

The mission was successful in meeting its objectives as outlined below.

### **Mission Objectives:**

1. Support Alberta companies participating in BIO 2011, which is the world's pre-eminent biotechnology conference.
2. Enhance and promote Alberta's economic linkages to the U.S.
3. Advance Alberta's important and growing role as a secure and responsible energy supplier.
4. Obtain first-hand information and advice on U.S. policy developments with potential to affect the province's interests.
5. Promote strengthened Alberta-U.S. ties in a broad range of interests.

### **Results:**

Premier Stelmach spoke at the official opening of the Canadian pavilion at the BIO 2011 conference in Washington, highlighting Alberta's thriving biotechnology and life sciences sectors. Similar messages were conveyed by the Premier at a subsequent BioAlberta reception which attracted a wide spectrum of international delegates. BIO 2011 also presented an opportunity for Alberta to explore potential strategic partnerships with global leaders in pharmaceutical and biotechnology areas, and the Premier and Minister Weadick met with a number of pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies about doing business in Alberta.

While in Washington, Minister Weadick signed a Memorandum of Understanding on research and commercialization collaboration between Advanced Education and Technology, Alberta Innovates-Health Solutions and Pfizer Canada Inc.

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Also in Washington, Premier Stelmach met with a variety of Congressional officials to pursue key Alberta priorities, including developments surrounding Alberta's capacity as a secure energy supplier. His program included meetings with:

- Senator Lindsey Graham, South Carolina;
- Senator Joseph Manchin, West Virginia; and
- Canadian Ambassador Gary Doer.

In Boston, Premier Stelmach met with Governor Deval Patrick and Canada's Consul General Patrick Bins. At the invitation of Professor Juan Enriquez, who had served on the Premier's Council for Economic Strategy, the Premier met with innovation leaders in the region and visited the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and associated business innovation centres with a view to identifying concepts and practices that might be transferrable to Alberta.

**Delegation:**

Honourable Ed Stelmach  
Premier

Honourable Greg Weadick  
Minister of Advanced Education and Technology

Ron Glen  
Office of the Premier

Cam Hantiuk  
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