



PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

Securing the Benefits of Commerce to
North America's Energy & Agriculture Heartland

NEWS RELEASES

[Ports-to-Plains Alliance 2010 Report Card ... Who We Are... Accomplishments](#)

[Ports-to-Plains Alliance Trade Task Force](#)

February 16-18, 2011
San Angelo, TX»
Not only will this meeting explore west Texas Trade opportunities, it will define the regional Ports-to-Plains Alliance Economic Development workgroup.

»»

[Mitzel: For Canada, Ports To Plains is About Relationships \(Podcast\)](#)

[Milton Pax inducted into Texas Road Hand Hall of Fame](#)

Upcoming Ports-to-Plains Alliance Activities

- January 25 -- Montana Economic Development Association Day in the Rotunda, Helena, MT
- January 25 -- Highway 2 Association Annual Meeting, Helena, MT
- February 8-10 -- PTP Alliance Staff in Washington DC
- February 16-18 -- PTP Trade Task Force, San Angelo, TX
- April 6-8 -- PTP Energy Summit, Broomfield, CO
- May 2-6 -- Ports-to-Plains Fly-in, Washington, DC (Mark Your Calendar Now)



TRANSPORTATION

[TxDOT Restructure Council Issues Report](#)

[Mica Plans Field Hearings on Surface Transport Bill](#)

[Transportation Spending Under an Earmark Ban](#)

['Earmarks' to nowhere: States losing billions](#)

[Strange bedfellows: U.S. Chamber and AFL-CIO may team up against House GOP infrastructure cuts](#)

[House Approves Rules Change That Could Lead to Reduced Highway & Transit Investment](#)

[Highway Trust Fund Rescue Effort](#)

[Obama administration's proposal aims to resolve trucking dispute with Mexico](#)

[TRIP Report Identifies Wyoming's Most Needed Transportation Projects](#)

[Nebraska Transportation Funding Bill Introduced](#)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

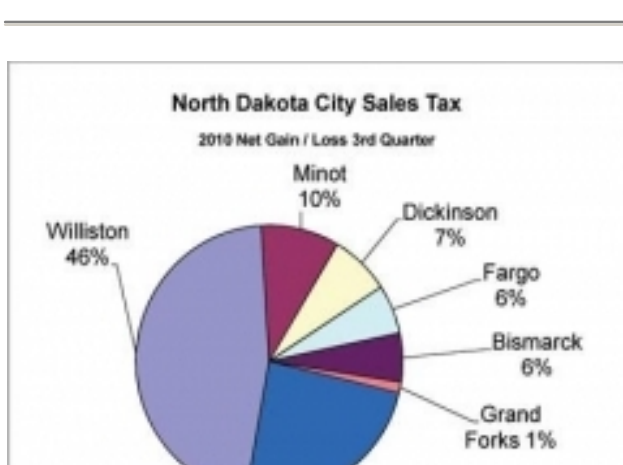
[Ports-to-Plains valuable in promoting Alberta, rural economic development](#)

Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta (MLA) Len Mitzel walked through the crowded lobby outside the Hilton Hotel meeting hall, shaking hands, meeting new people and greeting old friends asking about oil prices, crops in Southern Alberta, the border crossing at Wild Horse or what he expects when the legislative session begins. Not an unusual experience for the Cypress-Medicine Hat MLA, except that the meeting that Mitzel is attending is not in Edmonton or Calgary anywhere in Alberta. It is the Texas Transportation Forum in Austin, Texas, attended by more than 1,200 state legislators, community leaders, contractors and economic developers.



[San Angelo, TX: City may become transit hub](#)

[A Rural Rebound](#)



This graph shows how much of the increase in third quarter taxable purchases and sales from 2009 and 2010, from cities only, came from the city of Williston. Williston was responsible for 46 percent of the increase, while five other major cities combined were responsible for 30 percent. The remaining 44 of the state's top 50 cities combined for 24 percent.

Williston Economic Development Graph

ENERGY

[A look forward on North Dakota's energy boom](#)

The boom is on in western North Dakota. The following articles highlight the impacts. Sales tax revenues in Williston demonstrate the current effect of energy and agriculture on western North Dakota economy.

The Williston Herald reported, "The third quarter totals for Williston, which covers the months of July, August and September, were up 151 percent over the same period in 2009" and "Other cities in the region also saw large increases over the same period in 2009. Tioga recorded \$78.6 million, a 186 percent jump from \$27.5 million in 2009. Watford City increased by 55 percent to \$20.3 million, up from \$13.1 million."

[Optimism riding high in Alberta oilpatch](#)

[Booming Energy Economy Impacting Condition of North Dakota Roads](#)

[The State of American Energy Speech](#)

AGRICULTURE

[The Price of Groceries](#)

Just before Christmas, the Departments of Justice and Agriculture held a one-day hearing on the discrepancies between the prices for food paid to farmers and the prices for food paid by consumers at the grocery.

The hearing was one of five held in 2010 that explored competition in the agriculture markets. The federal government is asking if the markets are fair, or if some companies have accumulated enough market power to alter competition and prices...



ENERGY SUMMIT

PORTS-TO-PLAINS

Mark Your Calendar 2nd

Annual

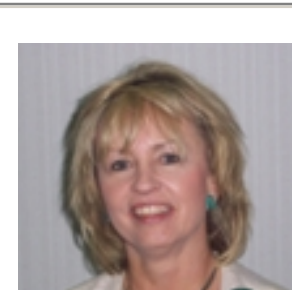
PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE ENERGY SUMMIT

April 6-8, 2011
Omni Interlocken Resort
Broomfield, Colorado

Board Member Spotlight

[Penny Peryatel](#)

Raton, New Mexico
Cofax County



Penny Peryatel

Penny Peryatel has been a member of the Ports-to-Plains Board since January 2001. Penny states, "This Corridor provides regional economic growth opportunities for the towns and villages along the route and helps us all get "jump started" and to focus on future opportunities together!"

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