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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Alberta Trade Mission
March 15-19, 2010

2010 Energy Summit
April 8-9, 2010



'The Alberta Mexico Office strongly believes that there is room for further increases in trade and cooperation. It is committed to continue exploring opportunities hand-in-hand with Alberta companies and other stakeholders, and to promote ways to facilitate trade and investment. The Ports-to-Plains Corridor fits well on this strategy.'



Guests watched as the ribbon was cut to celebrate the opening of the new Best Western Hotel and Suites in Lamesa, Texas on December 2, 2010. (Click on picture for larger view.)



Ports-to-Plains is gearing up for the upcoming Alberta Trade Mission scheduled for March 15-19, 2010.



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MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Ports-to-Plains construction funding continues to move forward

In last month's newsletter it was indicated that there is currently \$192.2 million of construction projects in seven of our states. The future continues to be bright as additional funding continues entering the queue.

2010 Appropriations Bill

In the 2010 appropriations bill, signed on December 16, 2009, there was one bridge replacement project included in the funding. This bridge funding was for a structurally deficient bridge just outside of Limon in the area connecting Ports-to-Plains and the Heartland Expressway.

Congresswoman Betsy Markey made the initial request and worked to secure funding for the project earlier this year.

"This is great news for Lincoln County," said Rep. Markey. "We have such huge transportation needs in our state, and this maintenance and safety improvement will help keep this stretch of road open for business and will aid in the economic recovery of the region. Repairing this bridge will put Coloradans back to work and make a much-needed improvement in our local infrastructure." [Read more»](#)

The Alberta Mexico Office: strengthening ties in North America

Alberta's International Strategy

The Government of Alberta has recognized for a long time that the future prosperity of the Province is very much related to the diversifying of export markets and to promoting new investment.

In this context, the Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations works with a wide range of partners to advance and develop Alberta's strategic international interests and relationships and to facilitate trade promotion and investment attraction in targeted international markets. [Read more»](#)

Ribbon cutting ceremony held for Lamesa Best Western Hotel & Suites

A ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the newly opened Best Western Hotel and Suites was held on December 2, 2010 in Lamesa, Texas. Located at 506 North Dallas Ave. (Intersection of Business US 87 and US 180), it provides a 21-person meeting room.

The Bethel Room (named in honor of former Lamesa Mayor Don Bethel) has internet service and will include intergrated projector and display for modern and effective meetings.

Upcoming Alberta Trade Mission

Mark your Calendars ... The Chamber of the Americas and the Ports-to-Plains Alliance have announced an Alberta Trade Mission during the week of March 15-19, 2010 and are working on the final agenda.

While the final agenda is still being developed, rest assured that this Mission will be of the same high quality as the Mexico City Trade Mission in November 2009.

Opportunities to meet the business communities, explore the energy and technology sectors will highlight the Mission. Stay tuned for more details after the first of the year, but mark your calendars now. [Read more»](#)

Plans underway for first Ports-to-Plains Energy Summit: Conoco-Phillips signed on as lead sponsor

On April 8-9, 2010, the Ports-to-Plains Alliance will host the first Ports-to-Plains Energy Summit in Colorado (location TBD). The Energy Summit is an opportunity for Ports-to-Plains Alliance communities, their Congressional representatives, and energy industry leaders to explore together the role of the Ports-to-Plains region in North America's energy economy, energy security and independence, and strategies to promote infrastructure development that supports robust growth, investment and new jobs throughout the region.

Ports-to-Plains states comprise America's top jurisdictions in every important sector of the energy industry, including: oil, natural gas, wind, biofuels, solar, coal and nuclear. As Members of Congress examine America's options in preparation for 2010, and new debates about a variety of policy alternatives, including cap and trade, Ports-to-Plains Alliance leaders believe Americans should study and fully understand America's domestic energy sources, and what it would take for Americans to build a more self-reliant energy culture for the future.

Conoco-Phillips, one of the world's largest multinational energy firms, has signed on as a lead sponsor of the Energy Summit, and founding member of a proposed energy work group. The energy work group is intended to provide Ports-to-Plains leaders, members and supporters a means of collaborating with the energy industry on common policy priorities, access sector-specific information to validate and enhance the impact of Alliance advocacy, and enlist industry leaders into the Alliance's national lobbying effort.

Montana Governor Schweitzer calls the region between Alberta and Texas the most important energy region on the planet. Boone Pickens believes the region offers America its best hope for a cleaner, energy independent future. The 1st Energy Summit of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance will bring together the public and industry leaders of the Ports-to-Plains region to assess the region's energy assets, explore regional strategies to encourage optimized use of those assets, in a manner that fuels business activity, job creation and new investment in the region, for years to come.

For more information about the Energy Summit, please call Duffy Hinkle, Vice President, Marketing and Membership, at 806-775-3373.