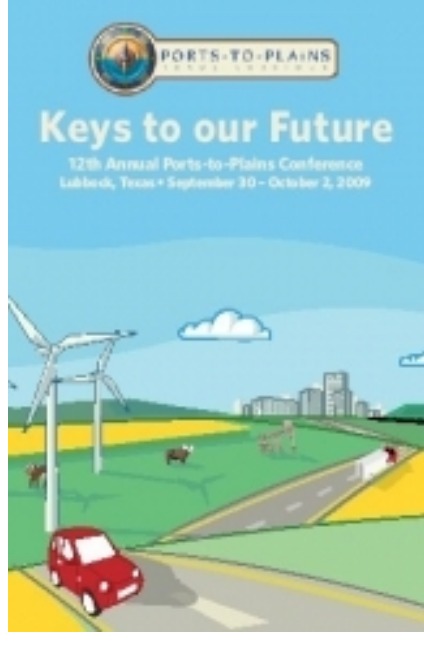




PORTS-TO-PLAINS TRADE CORRIDOR

Securing the Benefits of Commerce to North America's Energy and Agricultural Heartland



It's not too late to attend next week's Ports-to-Plains Annual Conference!

Online registration has ended, but you can still register at the door to attend the Ports-to-Plains Conference scheduled for Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2009 in Lubbock, Texas at the beautiful [Overton Hotel and Conference Center!](#)

Join us as we learn more about the *Keys to our Future: Transportation, Energy and Agriculture* and how the Ports-to-Plains Alliance is working to secure the economic benefits and turn these *Keys to our Future* into *Keys to our Success!*

Enjoy some wonderful entertainment after the opening reception hosted by the Government of Alberta as we all go to the Cactus Theater in the Lubbock Downtown Depot District to hear Don Caldwell and the Cactus Stars along with the Lubbock Rhythm Machine play top hits from the 70's, 80's and 90's! Join us as Texas Tech University hosts Thursday evening's reception at the Jones AT&T Stadium Club and listen to some live jazz music led by Stephen Jones, Director of Jazz Studies, from Texas Tech University.

Let's all learn together while having lots of fun too at the 12th Annual Ports-to-Plains Conference! Don't miss out! For more information, please visit us at [Ports-to-Plains](#).

Ports-to-Plains proudly thanks all our Conference Sponsors for this year's event!

(See Sponsors at the end of this Newsletter)

John Bertsch receives Panhandle/Great Plains Excellence in Transportation Award

John Bertsch, City Councilman for Plainview, Texas and Board Director for the Ports-to-Plains Corridor Coalition was awarded the Panhandle/Great Plains Excellence in Transportation Award during the 12th Annual Transportation and Infrastructure Summit in Irving, Texas held Aug. 11-14, 2009.

Ports-to-Plains Board Member and past Texas Road Hand recipient Gaynelle Riffe of Stratford, Texas presented the prestigious award to Mr. Bertsch during the event. This annual summit was chosen by several groups as a venue to recognize service above and beyond toward improving transportation and infrastructure. The honorees are selected based upon their service, dedication and commitment to these initiatives. Bertsch received his award in front of hundreds of community transportation advocates from 41 states.



Gaynelle Riffe presents John Bertsch with Panhandle/Great Plains Excellence in Transportation Award at 12th Annual Transportation and Infrastructure Summit in Irving, Texas

John began his service on the Plainview City Council, District 4, in 2002, where he continues to serve and has devotedly served on the Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors since February 2005. When asked about the importance of Ports-to-Plains to his community, John stated, "I consider Ports-to-Plains a window to the world for our community. With the expansion of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor we have the opportunity to promote our goods and services to those moving across this great country. Plainview has open space, great schools, and outstanding health care facilities along with affordable property, talented citizens, dedicated workers, fresh water and access to alternative energy needs. All these attributes make this a wonderful place to live, work and do business. With traffic on the Ports-to-Plains Corridor flowing by our door step we simply need to share the news about our assets and those travelers will come back to live, work and retire."

Lubbock Mayor Tom Martin was the inaugural recipient of this award in 2008. Mayor Martin also serves on the Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors where he is current vice chair of the organization.



Click on photo to enlarge

Mexican Independence festivities, speaking roles at annual logistics program, and meetings with Mexican and U.S. Mayors highlight Ports-to-Plains trip to "Los Dos Laredos"

The week of Sept. 14, 2009, Ports-to-Plains Alliance Board Director and Alberta MLA Len Mitzel led a group of Alliance representatives to the U.S.-Mexico border "sister cities" of Laredo, Texas, and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Mexico, the southern terminus of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor. Alberta Director of U.S. Relations David Kettles, Ports-to-Plains Vice President Joe Kiely, and Policy Advisor Scott Flukinger joined Mr. Mitzel for a busy week promoting the Ports-to-Plains region in a community that serves over 40% of all

U.S.-Mexico trade. On Sept. 15 and 16, the Ports-to-Plains delegation attended Mexican Independence Day celebrations, met city officials and toured bridge, customs, and cultural sites on both sides of the border. Joseph Mendiola, Chief Administrative Officer of the Laredo Development Foundation, and Gerardo Lozano, Director of Binational Affairs at the Nuevo Laredo Office in Laredo, arranged introductions to Nuevo Laredo Mayor Ramon Garza Barrios, senior municipal officials, and top executives of the customs, logistics, and manufacturing community.

Mayor Garza Barrios spent most of this important holiday with the group; in addition to a meeting at City Hall, he accompanied them on a tour of the city's ultra-modern civic center and natural history museum, and hosted a lunch meeting to continue discussion about ways the City of Nuevo Laredo might benefit from participation in Ports-to-Plains activity. [Read more](#)

Mexico Trade Mission co-hosted by Ports-to-Plains

Looking to do business in Mexico? Wanting to know how to do business in Mexico? Wanting to see Mexico City and learn about opportunities across Mexico? Ports-to-Plains is joining the [Chamber of the Americas](#) (COTA) in co-hosting a Mexico City Trade Mission during the week of November 9-13, 2009. The Mission is also in cooperation with Continental Airlines. [Read more](#)

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Saskatchewan, September 2009

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Thank you 2009 Conference Sponsors!

Co-hosted by

Keys to our Future
12th Annual
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Lubbock, Texas
Sept 30 - Oct 2, 2009

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