

The British Columbia-Alberta Trade, Investment, and Labour Mobility Agreement



What does the Agreement mean for my business?

- With the removal of duplicate registration and reporting requirements, it will be easier and more cost-effective to expand your business into both provinces.
- Your business will be able to operate in both provinces without the added costs of establishing another office. In addition, residency requirements are eliminated.
- Improvements to labour mobility will make it easier to find qualified workers to fill job vacancies.
- With the removal of duplicate requirements for registration and permits, transportation costs will decrease.
- With strict and enforceable subsidy rules, competing businesses across the border will not receive subsidies that give them an unfair advantage.
- More government procurement opportunities will be available to businesses, and a wider array of services will be opened up for competition in both provinces.
- Goods and services are expected to cost less with the removal of these barriers and the creation of a seamless market of 7.5 million people.
- Negotiations to conclude by April 1, 2009 will extend coverage of the Agreement to the financial services sector.

What is the Agreement?

The British Columbia – Alberta Trade, Investment, and Labour Mobility Agreement consists of a set of General Rules and Special Provisions that apply to all government measures such as legislation, regulations, standards, policies, procedures and guidelines that affect trade, investment and labour mobility.

The Agreement applies across all sectors of the economies of British Columbia and Alberta. If a measure is not clearly identified as an exception, it is subject to the rules of the agreement.

The dispute resolution mechanism is effective and enforceable and accessible by both persons and governments. Non-compliance can result in a fine of up to \$5 million.

The Agreement comes into force on April 1, 2007, and will be fully implemented by April 1, 2009.



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