

July 26, 2011

Alberta advances energy advocacy with western state leaders

Edmonton prepares to host 2012 annual meeting

Edmonton... Environmental protection, energy security as well as trade and transportation will be Alberta's focus at the 2011 Council of State Governments-WEST (CSG- WEST).

MLAs Dave Rodney and Ty Lund will represent Alberta and discuss these topics at the annual meeting in Honolulu, from July 30 to August 2. Alberta will play host to the July 2012 conference in Edmonton, which will be only the second time the conference has been held outside the U.S.

"This is an excellent opportunity to work with our counterparts in the U.S. and to discuss topics common to all of us—including issues that affect transportation and trade, said Lund, MLA for Rocky Mountain House.

"It's also an important forum for us to continue strengthening our ties and promoting the province as a responsible developer of energy."

During the conference, Rodney will promote the 2012 annual meeting in Edmonton during a presentation that highlights Alberta and the outstanding recreational, social and cultural opportunities available to visitors.

"Alberta is proud to welcome our CSG-*WEST* colleagues and host the 2012 annual conference," said Rodney, MLA for Calgary-Lougheed. "We look forward to showcasing all the great attributes of our province as well as sharing best practices and discussing new opportunities for increasing trade and investment."

The CSG-*WEST* provides a platform for regional cooperation among the 13 western U.S. states. Alberta is an associate member of CSG-*WEST*, along with British Columbia.

This year's theme, *Halawai*, is Hawaiian for "*Where Leaders Gather*." It reflects the need for western legislators to assemble and seek opportunities to collaborate and share experiences and lessons learned about what works and what doesn't work in serving their constituents.

The cost of travel, conference registrations, accommodations and meals for Lund and Rodney is approximately \$6,000. For more information about CSG- *WEST* visit www.csgwest.org.

The Alberta government is working to build a better Alberta by fostering economic growth, strengthening our health and education systems, investing in infrastructure, supporting safe and strong communities and ensuring a clean and healthy environment.

Media inquiries may be directed to:
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To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

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MLAs Lund and Rodney's itinerary *

July 29	Travel to Honolulu, Hawaii
July 30	Represent Alberta at CSG-WEST Executive Committee meeting Attend sessions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Asia-Pacific economic cooperation● Social media● Leadership
July 31	Attend sessions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Health innovation and best practices● International trade
August 1	Attend sessions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fiscal affairs● Water and environment● Education● Energy and public lands
August 2	MLA Rodney presentation promoting Alberta as 2012 hosts Attend sessions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Future of western legislature● Western economic development
August 3	Return to Alberta

* Note: Itinerary subject to change.

-30-

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