

Out-of-Province Ministerial Travel

(including expenses of participants and general expenses associated with travel)

Ministry	Agriculture	
Title of Travel	2019 Tri-National Agricultural Accord	
Location	Winnipeg, MB	
Date(s)	November 13 - 15, 2019	
Participants	Honourable David Marit, Minister of Agriculture Amanda Plummer, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Agriculture James Kettel, Executive Director, Ministry of Agriculture	
Purpose of Travel	To attend the 2019 Tri-National Agricultural Accord	
Total Travel Expenditures for Participants		
Air Travel (including airfare and airport service fees)		\$1,701.53
Ground Travel (including taxis and parking)		\$105.00
Accommodation (including room charges, incidentals, related taxes and fees)		\$1,193.14
Meals (personal per diem meal claims)		\$130.00
Conference & Registration Fees		\$1,350.00
Miscellaneous (including temporary cell phone upgrades, fax and internet charges, and other sundry expenditures)		\$0.00
Subtotal		\$4,479.67
General Travel Expenditures		
Business Hosting Expenses (luncheon and/or dinner meetings hosted by the Government of Saskatchewan, including food, beverages, catering staff, service charges, equipment, and entertainment)		\$0.00
Miscellaneous (Including meeting rooms, police security, publications, shipping charges, gifts)		\$0.00
Subtotal		\$0.00
TOTAL		\$4,479.67

Overview of Travel and Objectives

The purpose of this trip was to attend the 2019 Tri-National Agricultural Accord which is an annual meeting of Ministers, Commissioners, Secretaries and Directors of Agriculture and senior officials from the Canadian provinces, United States and Mexican states.

Accord meetings are one of the few opportunities where Agriculture Ministers and senior officials from Canada, the United States and Mexico have an opportunity to meet with counterparts and senior federal officials to discuss agricultural trade policy issues.

This year's Accord took on added significance due to the current global trade challenges including the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Discussions highlighted that USMCA implementation will maintain positive trade conditions while supporting innovation and agriculture investment in all three countries. Recognizing the importance of trade and fostering cooperation among these three countries, delegates acknowledged Mexico's leadership in being the first party to ratify to USMCA. Delegates called for the federal governments in the United States and Canada to proceed with ratification of the agreement as soon as possible.

With heightened global concerns relating to agricultural trade, including Canada's canola exports, it is important that Saskatchewan be represented to ensure the Canadian delegation maintains strength in its position in these matters, and to meet and discuss trade issues and areas of collaboration with several state governments and industry groups.

Travel Activity:

The Accord was an opportunity to meet and discuss trade issues and areas of collaboration with several provinces and state governments.

The following meetings and discussions occurred at the Accord;

- Participated in Canada-U.S. bilateral meeting;
- Co-chaired and presented at the Canada-Mexico bilateral meeting;
- Attended trilateral meetings focused on collaboration on animal diseases, particularly African Swine Fever, and the benefits of trade;
- Participated in Prairie Ministers' meeting;
- Met with the Ontario Minister of Agriculture; and,
- Met with Doug Chorney of the Canadian Grain Commission.