

## Out-of-Province Ministerial Travel

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

Ministry	Executive Council	
Title of Travel	Asia Trade Mission	
Location	Tokyo, Japan; Seoul, South Korea; and Hong Kong	
Date(s)	October 7 - 17, 2019	
Participants	Honourable Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan Everett Hindley, Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Trade and Export Development Shannon Andrews, Chief of Staff to the Premier Jim Billington, Director of Communications and Press Secretary to the Premier Kent Campbell, Deputy Minister of Trade and Export Development Jodi Banks, Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade and Export Development	
Purpose of Travel	To advance Saskatchewan's (SK) trade, investment, mining and energy interests, encourage increased collaboration in education and innovation, and promote new opportunities arising out of recently implemented trade agreements	
Total Travel Expenditures for Participants		
Air Travel (including airfare and airport service fees)		\$64,432.03
Ground Travel (including taxis and parking)		\$3,089.29
Accommodation (including room charges, incidentals, related taxes and fees)		\$24,192.29
Meals (personal per diem meal claims)		\$5,932.49
Conference and Registration Fees		\$0.00
Miscellaneous (including temporary cell phone upgrades, fax and internet charges, and other sundry expenditures)		\$1,275.36
Subtotal		\$98,921.46
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)		\$9,234.15
Miscellaneous (Including meeting rooms, police security, publications, shipping charges, gifts)		\$8,713.04
Subtotal		\$17,947.19
TOTAL		\$116,868.65

### Overview of Travel and Objectives

Premier Moe travelled to Tokyo, Japan; Seoul, South Korea; and Hong Kong to advance and expand trade relations; attract investment into the province's agri-value, energy and manufacturing sectors; and promote collaboration in innovation and education. This mission also presented an opportunity to help diversify SK's export markets and highlight opportunities presented by the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) in Tokyo and the Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement (CKFTA) in Seoul.

Japan is a major export market (SK's third-largest in 2018 with C\$1.12 billion in exports), and is home to companies that have made significant investments in the province's energy and agriculture sectors, and research institutions that are key partners in innovation for SK. South Korea is Asia's fourth-largest economy, with an affluent middle class looking for healthy, high quality agri-food products and has substantial potential for increasing exports, attracting additional investments into the province and collaborating in education and innovation. Hong Kong companies are among the largest investors in SK's energy sector and have the potential to make further substantial investments in the province.

This was Premier Moe's first mission to these markets.

Objectives included:

- profiling new opportunities created by the CPTPP and CKFTA to encourage Japanese and South Korean companies to source additional agri-food products and commodities from SK;
- leveraging well-established connections with Japanese and Hong Kong partners to encourage them to strengthen their relationships with SK and expand their investments into new areas;
- promoting SK canola (to help maintain and expand market share in Japan and South Korea) and supporting the efforts of the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission to restore flax sales to South Korea;
- supporting SK's mining sector in its efforts to maintain and strengthen critical relationships;
- encouraging increased collaboration between SK and Japanese and South Korean companies and institutions on carbon capture and storage, and agriculture and animal health related research; and,
- supporting SK's post-secondary institutions in their efforts to attract Korean students, establish formal partnerships with their Korean counterparts and formalize student and researcher exchange programs.

### **Travel Activity:**

While in Tokyo the Premier participated in a number of events including:

- witnessing the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between Cameco Corporation and one of their key Japanese partners;
- witnessing the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the International CCS Knowledge Centre and Japan CCS Company;
- hosting and providing remarks to over 100 key Japanese partners (and stakeholders) at a Saskatchewan Reception at the Canadian Ambassador's Official Residence;

- providing the keynote address at a Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) luncheon to existing and potential customers of STEP members; and
- touring the Katakura Co-op Agri Corporation's Chiba Plant, a potash facility, with Canpotex's largest Japanese customer Zen-Noh.

The Premier also conducted meetings with:

- the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum;
- Marubeni Corporation;
- Itochu Corporation;
- Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) Aviation Division;
- Japan-Canada Uranium Co. and Overseas Uranium Resources Development Co.;
- NH Foods Ltd. and Lacto Japan Co., Ltd.;
- Japanese Society of Synchrotron Radiation Research;
- Sojitz Corporation;
- Japan Flour Millers Association and a number of their members; and,
- MHI Engineering.

While in Seoul the Premier participated in a number of events including:

- a networking seminar with leadership from 10 South Korean post-secondary institutions that included witnessing the signing of seven agreements around student and faculty exchange, and research collaboration between South Korean and SK institutions;
- providing remarks at a Flax Promotion Media Event to South Korean media, nutritionists and food bloggers;
- delivering the keynote address at a STEP luncheon to existing and potential customers of STEP members;
- witnessing the signing of an agreement between the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization-International Vaccine Institute and the International Vaccine Institute; and,
- providing remarks at a Recruitment Seminar to South Korean students and agents to encourage them to study in SK.

The Premier also conducted meetings with:

- Daesang Corporation;
- Ottogi Corporation; and,
- Homeplus.

While in Hong Kong the Premier met with existing and potential investors in SK to encourage them to expand their relationship with the province. The Premier hosted an investment engagement dinner with potential investors.

The key outcomes of the trip were:

- STEP member companies, which visited Tokyo, Osaka and Seoul, secured 36 contracts valued at an estimated C\$3.3 million; and
- The MOU between VIDO-InterVac and the International Vaccine Institute in South Korea paved the way for the two institutions to collaborate on a C\$180,000 research project (announced on March 27, 2020) to look at virus replication, immune responses and the effect of antivirals (and other medicines) to combat COVID-19.