

Out-of-Province Ministerial Travel

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

Ministry	Executive Council	
Title of Travel	Council of the Federation Mission to the National Governors Association Winter Meeting	
Location	Washington, D.C.	
Date(s)	February 6 - 10, 2020	
Participants	Honourable Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan Shannon Andrews, Chief of Staff to the Premier Jim Billington, Director of Communications and Press Secretary to the Premier Jodi Banks, Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade and Export Development Renata Bereziuk, Executive Director, Trade and Export Development	
Purpose of Travel	To lead a delegation of Canadian Premiers to the 2020 NGA Winter Meeting to participate in a NGA panel on infrastructure and engage with United States (U.S.) Governors to express support for the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), reinforce that protectionist policies harm North American competitiveness and also share Saskatchewan's perspective on the Canada-U.S. trade and energy relationship	
Total Travel Expenditures for Participants		
Air Travel (including airfare and airport service fees)		\$5,694.21
Ground Travel (including taxis and parking)		\$242.89
Accommodation (including room charges, incidentals, related taxes and fees)		\$6,120.62
Meals (personal per diem meal claims)		\$1,309.75
Conference and Registration Fees		\$4,585.05
Miscellaneous (including temporary cell phone upgrades, fax and internet charges, and other sundry expenditures)		\$80.81
Subtotal		\$18,033.33
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		\$18,033.33

Overview of Travel and Objectives

Premier Moe travelled to Washington, D.C., to attend the 2020 NGA Winter Meeting. On the margins of the 2020 NGA Winter Meeting, Premier Moe also conducted a number of meetings with members of the U.S. Administration and Congress, along with a number of bilateral meetings with Governors representing states of strategic importance to SK.

In addition to Premier Moe as Chair of COF, participants at the 2020 NGA Winter meeting included:

- COF Premiers Blaine Higgs (New Brunswick), Francois Legault (Quebec), Doug Ford (Ontario) and Jason Kenney (Alberta);
- U.S. Governors from 43 states;
- Acting Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. Kirsten Hillman;
- Honourable Michael Pompeo, U.S. Secretary of State, who provided remarks at the 2020 NGA Winter Meeting; and
- Honourable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, who participated in an armchair conversation with NGA Vice Chair, Governor Andrew Cuomo (D-NY).

Objectives included:

- Building on existing relationships, or developing new ones, to advance advocacy efforts on issues important to SK;
- Highlighting the benefits of the Canada-U.S. relationship, expressing support for the USMCA and reinforcing that protectionist policies (i.e., duties on softwood lumber and Buy American policies) add costs for business that are passed onto consumers and limit the ability of North American companies to compete globally;
- Encouraging collaboration between Canada and the U.S. on energy infrastructure projects to ensure products can reach their intended market and improve the efficiency of the system across North America;
- Profiling SK's support for the U.S.-Canada Action Plan on Critical Minerals to improve mineral security, strengthen the competitiveness of our respective industries and support a secure and reliable critical mineral supply chain; and,
- Outlining SK's leadership and commitment to carbon capture and storage (CCS), and to further develop small modular reactor (SMR) technology options and research, and explore opportunities for collaboration.

Travel Activity:

While at the 2020 NGA Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C., Premier Moe and the four COF Premiers:

- Engaged with U.S. Governors in a discussion on infrastructure during a NGA plenary session;

- Attended a dinner hosted by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs Chrystia Freeland;
- Participated in a briefing hosted by Acting Ambassador of Canada to the U.S. Kristen Hillman;
- Conducted a joint COF media session to reinforce the importance of Premiers engaging with U.S. Governors at the 2020 NGA Winter meeting; and,
- Participated in a meeting alongside Deputy Prime Minister Freeland with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer to express support for the USMCA and to highlight other Canada-U.S. trade issues (i.e., Buy American and softwood lumber).

Premiers Moe and Kenney also participated in a media panel discussion with Lauren Gardner (a senior POLITICO Pro Canada editor and reporter) at an event co-hosted by the Canada Institute at the Woodrow Wilson Centre and POLITICO which focused on the importance of Canada-U.S. trade, the highly integrated nature of North American supply chains, the importance of the USMCA and the need to support cross border energy infrastructure projects (i.e., pipelines).

In his capacity as Chair of COF, Premier Moe also conducted a meeting with Governor Francisco Domínguez Servián, Chair of the Mexican National Governors' Conference (CONAGO) and Governor of Querétaro; and with Governor Carlos Mendoza Davis, incoming Chair of CONAGO and Governor of Baja California Sur to express support for the USMCA and highlight the importance of the Canada/SK-Mexico relationship.

On the margins of the 2020 NGA Winter meeting, Premier Moe conducted a number of private meetings with members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Administration including:

- Representative Kelly Armstrong (R-ND);
- Representative Steve Chabot (R-OH);
- Mark Menezes, Undersecretary of Energy, Department of Energy (subsequently nominated to the role of Deputy Secretary of Energy); and,
- Dr. Mike Goff, Assistant Director of Nuclear Energy, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President; and,
- Richard Steffens, Executive Director; and Ian Saunders, Deputy Assistant Secretary; Western Hemisphere, U.S. Department of Commerce; and,

Premier also held bilateral meetings with NGA Chair Governor Larry Hogan (R-MD), North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum (R-ND), Montana Governor Steve Bullock (D-MT), Minnesota Governor Tim Walz (D-MN) and South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster (R-SC). The Premier expressed support for the USMCA, the importance of a strong, stable and open for business Canada-U.S. border, noted the importance of cross border energy infrastructure projects and cautioned against the use of protectionist policies that harm the North American economy.