

Out-of-Province Ministerial Travel and Expenses

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

Ministry	Advanced Education	
Title of Travel	Mission to Germany and France	
Location	Frankfurt, Germany and Paris, France	
Date(s)	December 2 – 9, 2022	
Participants	Honourable Gordon Wyant, Minister of Advanced Education Ashley Boha, Chief of Staff to Minister Wyant Denise Macza, Deputy Minister, Advanced Education	
Purpose of Travel	To further Saskatchewan's interests in deepening trade relations; to strengthen ties between Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions and their German counterparts; and to represent Canada as Chair of the Council of Ministers of Education (CMEC) at the OECD Education Policy Committee Meetings	
Total Travel Expenditures for Participants		
Air Travel (including airfare and airport service fees, baggage fees)		\$7,124.95
Ground Travel (including taxis, car rentals, trains and buses)		\$1,184.70
Accommodation (including room charges, and all related taxes and fees)		\$4,489.81
Meals (personal per diem meal claims)		\$2,465.76
Conference & Registration Fees		\$0.00
Miscellaneous (including incidentals, parking, temporary cell phone upgrades, fax and internet charges, passport and visa fees, medical and vaccination fees, and other sundry expenditures)		\$787.64
	Subtotal	\$16,052.86
General Travel Expenditures		
Business Hosting Expenses (expenses for luncheon and/or dinner meetings hosted by the Government of Saskatchewan, including food, beverages, catering staff, service charges, equipment, and entertainment)		\$448.76
Miscellaneous (Including meeting rooms, translator and interpreter fees, police security, publications, shipping charges, gifts)		\$1,007.14
	Subtotal	\$1,455.90
	TOTAL	\$17,508.76

Overview of Travel and Objectives

The Minister's mission to Germany and France focused on three key objectives:

- Furthering Saskatchewan's interests in deepening trade relations with Western European partners in key strategic areas;
- Strengthening ties between Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions and their German counterparts by leveraging the existing collaborations between institutions as well as identifying potential for academic exchange and joint research projects; and
- Representing Canada as Chair of the Council of Ministers of Education (CMEC) at the OECD Education Policy Committee Meetings in Paris, France.

Travel Activity

Minister Wyant participated in Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing ceremonies to celebrate the partnerships between Saskatchewan Polytechnic and the University of Saskatchewan with their German partners, the International University of Applied Sciences and Goethe University, Frankfurt, respectively. These MOUs will explore and leverage collaboration opportunities for students, faculty, and researchers in both Saskatchewan and Germany. The Minister also participated in a round-table discussion with Goethe University on strengthening research collaborations with the University of Saskatchewan in areas of mutual interest.

While in Germany and France, the Minister attended several meetings with leaders in business and government. These meetings allowed the Government of Saskatchewan to promote the future opening of the trade and investment office in Germany and to profile Saskatchewan's strengths in agriculture and food security, energy, critical minerals and rare earth elements and our efforts in building renewable energy sources, positioning the province as an ideal partner and place to do business. These meetings included partners from:

- The Frankfurt Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
- The Hessen Ministry for Economy, Energy, Transport and Housing;
- Consulate of Canada to Germany;
- The Global Head of Head of Environment, Social and Governance, Deutsche Bank;
- The Ambassador of Canada to France and the Special Envoy to the European Union and Europe; and,
- The French Secretary General for Investment;

The Minister spoke at an event hosted by Business France, and networked with attendees, approximately half of which were France-based investors interested in establishing operations in Canada. Business France is the French national agency tasked with fostering export growth for French businesses and promoting and facilitating international investment in France. The event, "Setting Up in Canada", primarily targeted companies in France that want to invest/establish divisions in the North American market. In his remarks, the Minister directed French companies' focus to Saskatchewan by highlighting the province's strengths in agriculture and food security, energy, critical minerals and rare earth elements.

The Minister attended Food Ingredients Europe 2022, an annual trade show for companies to sell conventional and organic food ingredients to the European Union and around the world. The

Minister worked with Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership support Saskatchewan-based providers who were presenting at the event, as well as promote potential investment in Saskatchewan.

The Minister represented Canada at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Education Policy Committee meetings as Chair of CMEC. Topics included “Building democratic societies through education”, “Strengthening equity and inclusion in and through education” and “Supporting learning throughout life for an inclusive and equitable society”. He was able to bring visibility to educational initiatives in Canada and had the opportunity to highlight specific provincial/territorial accomplishments, including those of Saskatchewan. In addition to the general policy discussions, the Minister was able to have separate bi-lateral discussions with representatives from key strategic partners including Mexico, the United States of America, Germany, the United Kingdom and the European Union, where they discussed opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration on pressing educational issues.