

# AGENDA

As of Aug. 1, 2012

*Revisions will be made to agenda as speakers are confirmed.*

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2012

5:30 pm

### OPENING RECEPTION

*For the first time, the Ports-to-Plains Alliance is holding its annual conference in Canada. Enjoy Medicine Hat hospitality and network with community and business leaders from the corridor region throughout North America. Provincial and local officials will speak and welcome attendees to Alberta.*

#### Welcoming Remarks

- Alison Redford, Premier of Alberta (*Invited*)
- His Worship Norm Boucher, Mayor of Medicine Hat
- His Worship Darcy Geigle, Reeve of Cypress County
- Chairman Milvia Bauman, Medicine Hat and District Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2012

8 a.m.

### BREAKFAST AND WELCOME

- John N. Bertsch, Ports-to-Plains Alliance Chairman

#### Keynote Address

##### ***13 Ways to Kill Your Community***

- The Honourable Doug Griffiths, Minister of Municipal Affairs

9 a.m.

### Updates from Ports-to-Plains Alliance Partners

*The Ports-to-Plains Alliance partners are busy throughout the year working to improve the infrastructure and business environment that allows commerce to thrive throughout the region. Hear reports on past year's activities from the Ports-to-Plains Coalition, Heartland Expressway Association, Theodore Roosevelt Expressway Association and Eastern Alberta Corridor.*

- Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor
- Heartland Expressway Association
- Theodore Roosevelt Expressway
- Eastern Alberta Trade Corridor

10 am

### NETWORKING BREAK

10:30 am	<p><b>Transportation Challenges – How are Ports-to-Plains Alliance jurisdictions addressing the issues?</b></p> <p><i>The Ports-to-Plains region fuels North America with Alberta, home of the world's third largest proven oil reserves, and 7 of the top 10 oil producing US states. While the production is a boom to the local economies, it is placing a strain on the transportation infrastructure. Transportation leaders from Alberta, Texas and North Dakota will tell how they are facing the challenge.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alberta Transportation</li> <li>- North Dakota Department of Transportation</li> <li>- Texas Department of Transportation</li> </ul>
Noon	<p><b>LUNCH</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Address</b></p> <p><b>Impact of Trade Corridors on Economic Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Texas Department of Transportation</li> </ul>
1:30 pm	<p><b>Beyond the Canadian Wheat Board – The Future of Agricultural Trade</b></p> <p><i>The Canadian government's decision to end the Wheat Board's monopoly fundamentally shifted agriculture trade in North America. Hear how this decision will impact our rural, ag-based economies, and other farm trade issues.</i></p>
2:30 pm	<b>NETWORKING BREAK</b>
3:30 pm	<p><b>Economic Impact Beyond the Oil Sands</b></p> <p><i>The Alberta oil sands are obviously an economic boom for Fort McMurray and the surrounding area, but the economic impact stretches much further than that. Suppliers to oil sands development are located throughout the entire Ports-to-Plains region from Eastern Alberta to Mexico. Hear directly from researchers and businesses that create jobs in the Ports-to-Plains area by supplying the oil sands.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Peter Howard, President &amp; CEO, Canadian Energy Research Institute</li> </ul>
5 pm	<b>NETWORKING RECEPTION</b>

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2012

8 am	<b>BREAKFAST</b>  <b>Keynote Address</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Tim Shipton, President, Alberta Enterprise Group</li></ul>
9:30 am	<b>Border Cooperation...Expanding Alternatives</b>  <i>Border crossings are a key component of trade. They serve as essential checkpoints, ensuring the safety and security of people and truck loads entering our countries and driving on our highways. They can also serve as bottlenecks of congestion that slow trade. Learn how we can improve existing border crossings, and provide new alternatives to improve the flow of trade and create new opportunities for our communities.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Donna Davis, Associate Professor of Marketing, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University</li></ul>
10:30 am	<b>Taking advantage of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor – Economic Development Successes</b>  <i>You have heard about the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridor and the opportunities for growth and prosperity it brings. Learn first-hand how communities are taking advantage of their location along the corridor.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mark Baxter, President Outlook Market Research &amp; Consulting</li><li>- U.S. Economic Developer</li></ul>
11:15 am	<b>Cool Companies</b>  <i>What are the innovative companies who are making a positive impact on our region and the world? Hear from some of the cutting edge entrepreneurs who are creating jobs in innovative ways.</i>
Noon	<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>  <b>Call to Action</b> <i>Ports-to-Plains owes its success to the hard work and dedication of its grassroots volunteers. Now is the time to take what you have learned at the conference and take action in your own communities.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Michael Reeves, President of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance</li></ul>