



New West Partnership Trade Agreement
British Columbia : Alberta : Saskatchewan

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New West Partnership Trade Agreement
British Columbia : Alberta : Saskatchewan

Why Have a Partnership?

- ✓ **Creates Canada's largest, barrier-free, interprovincial market.**
- ✓ **Removes barriers to the free movement of goods, services, investment, and people within and between the three provinces.**
- ✓ **Creates a single economic region encompassing British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan, enhancing opportunities for continued economic growth and prosperity.**



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Benefits of the Partnership

- ✓ **Open and competitive economy**
 - **British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan have a market of almost nine million people and a Gross Domestic Product of more than C\$609 billion.**

- ✓ **Labour mobility**
 - **Provisions allow certified workers to practice their occupation in the three provinces without being subject to additional exams or training requirements.**

- ✓ **Business registration**
 - **Registrants in one province are now able to seamlessly register in the other provinces.**



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Benefits of the Partnership

- ✓ **Streamlined regulations and policies**
 - Unnecessary differences in business standards and regulations will be eliminated.

- ✓ **Enhanced competitiveness**
 - Allowing goods, services, capital and workers to flow freely across the British Columbia-Alberta-Saskatchewan borders.

- ✓ **Best value for public spending**
 - Open procurement policies with low thresholds help ensure best value for tax dollars.



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Government Actions

- The NWPTA requires that government and public entities remove impediments across all economic sectors.
- The Partnership obligates the jurisdictions to ensure:
 - No obstacles: government standards and regulations, policies and programs cannot restrict or impair trade, investment or labour mobility.
 - Non-discrimination: no preferential treatment of a province's citizens, investments and goods or services.



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Transportation Harmonization Initiatives

- The majority of requirements for commercial vehicles are already harmonized.
- The remaining differences tend to be complex, all of which are being addressed through the NWP Initiative.
- Trucking industry priorities for harmonization were identified through consultations with stakeholders, and include:
 - Differences in vehicle weights and dimensions regulations and permits,
 - inconsistencies in safety and enforcement programs,
 - differences in internal operational and permitting policies.



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Transportation Harmonization Successes

In 2011 and 2012, harmonization was achieved in the following areas:

- 1. Weights and dimensions - regulations**
- 2. Safety and Enforcement Programs - procedures**
- 3. Internal Operating and Permitting - policies**



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Weights and Dimensions - Regulatory



Reconciled Regulations regarding Commercial Vehicles

- Allowable vehicle weights
- Overall dimensions of vehicle combinations
- Internal dimensions (e.g., inter axle spacing)



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Safety and Enforcement Programs



- Created consistent enforcement policies across jurisdictions
- Reduced industry confusion over requirements



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Internal Operating and Permitting Policies



- Reconciled a number of operating restrictions
- Streamlined divisible oversize load permits
- Implemented oversize/overweight corridors



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Other Harmonization Initiatives

Canada's New West Partnership

Welcome to Canada's New West Partnership site for permits, route and other useful commercial vehicle information from the three western provinces.

BRITISH COLUMBIA	ALBERTA	SASKATCHEWAN
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provincial PermitsPoliciesRoute InformationLegislation and RegulationsLoad RestrictionsWeigh Scales/Inspection StationsCommercial Vehicle EnforcementCommercial Vehicle Licensing & InsuranceGovernment of British ColumbiaMinistry of Transportation and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provincial PermitsPoliciesRoute InformationLegislation and RegulationsLoad RestrictionsWeigh Scales/Inspection StationsCommercial Vehicle EnforcementCommercial Vehicle LicensingCommercial Vehicle InsuranceGovernment of AlbertaMinistry of Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provincial PermitsPoliciesRoute InformationLegislation and RegulationsLoad RestrictionsWeigh Scales/Inspection StationsCommercial Vehicle EnforcementCommercial Vehicle Licensing & InsuranceGovernment of SaskatchewanMinistry of Highways and Infrastructure

A joint website for commercial carriers was implemented, providing links to provincial permits, policies, regulations, and route planning information to make it easier and faster for carriers to plan inter-provincial trips.



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Other Harmonization Initiatives

Personal Automobiles Exemption from Vehicle Inspections



People moving between Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia will no longer need a vehicle inspection and can register their vehicle right away if the vehicle meets certain conditions.

These changes will make it easier, faster and less costly for families to move and ensure that unsafe vehicles are repaired or taken off the road.



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Final Remarks

- **The New West Partnership is a far-reaching economic initiative between the Governments of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan.**
- **Under the Partnership, the three western provinces have committed to ongoing collaboration on innovative ways to strengthen the economy of Western Canada.**
- **The Partnership is responsive to the need to ensure an efficient, effective and safe commercial trucking industry.**
- **Partnership principles could have application for a PNWER-based commercial trucking approach.**



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For Further Information

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