



MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
AND
THE STATE OF ALASKA

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia and the State of Alaska, as neighbours sharing a common border, have established a long-standing relationship of friendship and trust;

WHEREAS through various forms of contact, the deepening of their mutual understanding and strengthening of their friendship will enhance positive relations; and

WHEREAS their respective national governments have signed agreements that provide for enhanced cooperation between Canada and the United States; and

WHEREAS British Columbia and Alaska recognize the importance of working cooperatively to influence the two federal governments in areas of mutual interest; and

WHEREAS British Columbia and Alaska understand that environmental impacts are not constrained by political boundaries and recognize the significant benefits of cooperation and collaboration on mutual environmental interests;

WHEREAS British Columbia and Alaska share a mutual desire to promote common goals, expeditiously resolve potential cross-border concerns, and to learn from each other's best practices in areas such as agriculture, energy, environment, forestry, food production, mining, oil and gas development, tourism, transportation, telecommunications, and wildlife management;

WHEREAS both governments wish to explore specific opportunities for enhanced trade and investment between British Columbia and Alaska;

WHEREAS both governments wish to advance economic development opportunities and minimize environmental impacts of infrastructure projects that might be required to access the wealth of natural resources such as lumber, oil and gas, and minerals in British Columbia and Alaska;

THEREFORE, the Province of British Columbia and the State of Alaska hereby affirm their commitment to the special relationship outlined in this Memorandum of Cooperation in consideration of their mutually expressed desire to enhance understanding and cooperation;

The Province and the State will establish routine contacts between their respective governments in order to share information, promote understanding and identify areas for joint formal and informal cooperation;

The Premier and the Governor will meet periodically to review issues of mutual interest and to monitor progress towards joint cooperative efforts;

The Premier and the Governor will designate officials to serve as principal points of contact and liaison for the sharing of information of mutual interest;

The Premier and the Governor will encourage the Ministries of the Province and Departments of the State to work together with respect to responsibilities within their area;

The Premier and the Governor will, when appropriate, enter into specific cooperation arrangements on particular matters of common interest. Such arrangements will be incorporated as appendices to this general Memorandum of Cooperation.

This Memorandum of Cooperation comes into effect upon signing and shall remain in effect for a period of three years, unless one of the Parties notifies the other, in written form, of its intention to terminate. This Memorandum can be renewed for a further period upon written consent of both signatories or their designated representatives. Any provisions may be amended or waived by mutual consent.

Signed in the City of Vancouver, B.C.

This 31st day of October, 2005.

Original signed by Premier Campbell

Original signed by Gov. Murkowski

The Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier
Province of British Columbia

The Honorable Frank H. Murkowski
Governor
State of Alaska