



West at a Glance

JULY 2017



WEST AT A GLANCE

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PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENTS

BRITISH COLUMBIA

- **BC provincial election results decided** – A week after the BC Liberal government [Throne Speech](#), which included many newly proposed NDP and Green Party policy ideas, NDP leader John Horgan introduced a motion of non-confidence against the BC Liberal government. The motion passed 44-42, with all NDP and Green members voting in favour, and all Liberal members voting against. Following the vote, Premier Christy Clark met with Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon (Lt.-Gov) to announce she no longer had the confidence of the house and asked for the dissolution of government and a new election. The Lt.-Gov. denied the request and asked [John Horgan](#) to form the next BC provincial government and become the 36th premier, which he accepted.

ALBERTA

- **Alberta's Oil Sands Advisory Group provides advice on oil sands cap** – The Oil Sands Advisory Group (OSAG) has completed [phase one](#) of its three-phase mandate. Phase one includes advice to the Government of Alberta on growing oil sands production in compliance with the province's legislated 100 megatonne annual cap on oil sands emissions. OSAG recommends the province adopt early actions such as requiring new or expanding facilities to use the Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BATEA) as well as triggers if emissions approach the limit. Phase two, which will be carried out by existing OSAG board members, is to provide advice on targeted investments that will yield the greatest emissions reductions. The Government of Alberta is currently recruiting new board members for phase three, which will focus on regional land based management and improving environmental performance.
- **Alberta's Energy Minister meets with US legislators** – Energy Minister Margaret McCuaig-Boyd [traveled to Bismarck](#), North Dakota from June 22 to 25 to engage with representatives of the Energy Council. Alberta and Saskatchewan are international affiliates of the Council, which comprises state-level legislators from energy-producing and refining states. On the trip, Minister McCuaig-Boyd promoted Alberta's energy policies as well as North American energy trade and security. In 2016, Alberta's exports to Energy Council states totaled \$14.7 billion, 68 percent of which was oil and gas.
- **Alberta Minister attends biotech mission to California** – From June 16-21, Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Deron Bilous, participated in the 2017 Biotechnology Innovation Organization ([BIO](#)) [International Convention](#) in San Diego. The convention features innovative biotechnologies and pharmaceuticals and attracts approximately 16,000 participants from 76 countries. According to the Government of Alberta, Alberta delegations at BIO have attracted more than \$40 million in health research investments over the past 10 years. Following the convention, Minister Bilous also met with local companies to expand contacts made in a previous investment attraction mission in the region in April.
- **Government of Alberta expands export grant program** – The Government of Alberta has raised the maximum limit for its [Export Readiness Micro-Voucher Program](#) from \$5,000 to \$10,000, following feedback from Alberta companies and international business consultants. Micro-vouchers are used by Alberta companies to offset the costs of developing international market assessments or business plans focused on one country. The program was initially announced in August 2016 and is being delivered by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade in partnership with Alberta Innovates.
- **Wood Buffalo Wildfire review report released** – The Alberta government has released a [KPMG report](#) on the review of the government response to the Wood Buffalo wildfire in May 2016. Although improvements have been made in responding to disasters since the Slave Lake fire in 2011, the authors note that further work needs to be done to improve outcomes of future disasters, regardless of their scale. There were 31 recommendations in the report, all of which the [government has committed](#) to implement, for a cost of \$10 million over three years with the majority of the funding provided from existing budgets.
- **Alberta Green Certificate Program receives new funding** – The Government of Alberta has announced [\\$400,000 in course fee funding](#) for high school students pursuing training in various agri-food related careers under the apprenticeship-style Green Certificate Agricultural Training Program (GCP). GCP was set up in conjunction with the agriculture industry and provides material and hands-on training for technician roles ranging from beekeeping to



field crop to animals. Around 750 students participate in the GCP each year. Course fees (approximately \$1,000 per year) had been cited as the biggest obstacle to participating in the program.

- **Rural infrastructure projects in Alberta receive \$100 million in funding** – The Government of Alberta announced [\\$100 million in funding](#) for 87 rural projects under its Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP). \$37 million of the funding will be spent on projects in 2017-18, with the remaining balance distributed over the following two years. The [funding is assigned](#) to a variety of road, bridge, park, trail, and community airport projects, including a significant asphalt overlay at Slave Lake Airport to support the region's forestry air tanker base and medevac service.
- **Alberta Announces New Indigenous Wisdom Advisory Panel** – The Government of Alberta announced the [Indigenous Wisdom Advisory Panel](#), which will provide strategic advice and recommendations to Alberta's Chief Scientist on how to meaningfully incorporate Indigenous perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge into environmental monitoring. This panel is the first legislated Indigenous advisory body of its kind in Canada; it is made up of seven members including academics, industry experts, and Elders.
- **Alberta caps regulated electricity rates** – The Government of Alberta [introduced legislation](#) proposing a rate cap on regulated electricity of 6.8 cents per kilowatt hour from June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2021. Since the Regulated Rate Option is the default electricity contract for 60 percent of Albertans, a rate cap would make power bills more affordable and predictable. The Government will [take steps](#) to ensure the rate remains below the regulated amount, but if it should exceed, funding from the carbon tax revenue will be used to subsidize the cost for consumers.

SASKATCHEWAN

- **Government of Saskatchewan implements provincial tax changes** – As part of the provincial budget's tax-reduction commitments, the Government of Saskatchewan announced that starting on July 1, 2017 Saskatchewan [Personal Income Tax rates](#) will drop by half a percentage point and will drop by another half point on July 1, 2019. Combined, these two reductions will lower personal income tax rates from the current 11 percent/13 percent/15 percent to 10 percent/12 percent/14 percent when fully implemented. These rate reductions will save a single Saskatchewan taxpayer, with no dependents and an annual income of \$50,000, about \$77 per year in each of 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. Also starting July 1, to mitigate the effect of the recent Provincial Sales Tax increase, the Low Income Tax Credit is going up. With the implementation of all these changes, Saskatchewan will have the second-highest combined personal tax credit amounts in Canada.
- **Premier of Saskatchewan meets with US governors** – Saskatchewan Premier [Brad Wall travelled](#) to Whitefish, Montana June 25-26 to attend the Western Governors' Association's (WGAs) annual meeting of the governors of western states. The Premier also participated in a roundtable panel on "connecting Canada and the West" with his US counterparts and Canada's Ambassador to the United States, David MacNaughton. The Premier stated that any renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) will build on decades of success and recognize the integration of supply chains between Canada, Saskatchewan, and the US. In 2016, Saskatchewan exported \$4.7 billion worth of products to the WGA region. Top exports included crude oil, oil cake, potash, and canola oil.
- **Saskatchewan will not receive a provincial allocation from the Low Carbon Economy Fund** – The Government of Saskatchewan is [not eligible to receive funding](#) from the \$1.4 billion Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund which is being administered under the recently announced \$2 billion federal Low Carbon Economy Fund. The Leadership Fund will provide support for provinces and territories that have adopted the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change to help them deliver on their commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Saskatchewan and Manitoba have not adopted the Framework and, as a result, will not receive a provincial allocation, which includes base funding of \$30 million plus a per capita-based amount. The two provinces have until the end of 2017 to sign on to the Pan-Canadian Framework and receive their share of the Fund; otherwise the potential allocations will be transferred to the \$600 million Low Carbon Economy Challenge Fund, which will support projects by governments, Indigenous organizations, and the private sector across Canada. The Government of Saskatchewan has indicated that it intends to apply for project funding despite not having adopted the Pan-Canadian Framework.
- **Saskatchewan joins the federal Early Learning and Child Care Framework Agreement** – The Deputy Premier and Education Minister of Saskatchewan, Don Morgan, joined his federal, provincial, and territorial counterparts to



announce the province's participation in the [Early Learning and Child Care Framework Agreement](#). The Framework will provide a federal investment of \$7.5 billion over 11 years to continue improving access and affordability to early learning programs and child care for families in Saskatchewan. The Government of Saskatchewan and the federal government will partner to develop a three-year investment plan that aligns with the provincial Early Years Plan.

- **Canada and Saskatchewan jointly fund water and wastewater projects** – The governments of Saskatchewan and Canada announced funding for 75 [new water and wastewater projects](#) throughout the province. This investment represents joint federal, provincial, and local partner funding of more than \$94 million to support the building of new sewage treatment lagoons, upgrades to sewage pumps, and improving drinking water supply systems. The federal government will contribute more than \$45 million toward these projects with the Government of Saskatchewan providing approximately \$25 million and local partners covering the remainder of the cost.

MANITOBA

- **Manitoba designates two new provincial parks** – The Manitoba government has designated [Goose Island and Grand Island](#) as provincial parks. Sustainable Development Minister Cathy Cox noted that the islands, located in the northern basin of Lake Winnipegosis, will be protected and remain undeveloped. The lands have historical significance as traditional lands of the Anishinaabe people from Pine Creek First Nation and other surrounding Indigenous communities.
- **Province launches a review of college education** – A comprehensive [review of college education](#) has been launched in Manitoba to help identify opportunities to strengthen the system, improve outcomes for students, and focus programming on skills needed in the provincial labour market. The review will be completed in partnership with public post-secondary institutions delivering college level programming. A report to government is expected in late 2017.



NEWS AND OPINION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Vancouver International Airport and Musqueam band sign 30-year 'friendship' agreement** – Vancouver International Airport (YVR) signed a [30-year 'friendship' agreement](#) with the Musqueam Indian Band whose land the airport has been situated on for over 80 years. Under the agreement, the Musqueam people will receive one percent of YVR's annual revenues, job and educational opportunities such as apprenticeship positions and scholarships, and will be consulted on long-term YVR projects and issues of environmental sustainability.
- **Vancouver's 1QBit announces high-profile collaborations** – Quantum computing software developer 1QB Information Technologies (1QBit) will be partnering with [Fujitsu Ltd.](#) and [Biogen and Accenture Labs](#). 1QBit will assist Fujitsu in the development of quantum based, artificial intelligence (AI) applications in combinatorial optimization and machine learning as well as Biogen and Accenture Labs in developing a quantum-enabled molecular comparison application. Enhanced molecular comparison could, potentially, accelerate the drug discovery process for neurological conditions such as multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and Lou Gehrig's Disease.
- **Technology startup accelerator expands to Calgary** – San Francisco-based RocketSpace, an accelerator of technology startups, is opening a "[Tech Campus](#)" in Calgary as part of its global network of technology campuses across North America, Asia, Europe, and Australia. The 75,000 square feet of office space will provide room for up to 1,000 startup clients and entrepreneurs. This announcement is the result of Calgary Economic Development's mission to [Silicon Valley](#) in April with Mayor Naheed Nenshi and the Alberta Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Deron Bilous.
- **TransCanada invests in natural gas pipeline capacity** – TransCanada has announced a [\\$2 billion expansion plan](#) to its natural gas pipeline network in northern Alberta. New pipeline infrastructure is required to improve capacity and to connect the company's NOVA Gas Transmission pipeline system to natural gas producers along the BC-Alberta provincial border. The NOVA network will allow these producers to access markets in the Pacific Northwest, California, and Nevada. Subject to approvals, construction may begin in early 2019.
- **Indian Business Corporation launches women's fund** – The Indian Business Corporation launched a [new financing initiative](#) in support of female Indigenous entrepreneurs in Alberta. The \$5 million worth of loans will enable 70 to 100 small business clients to overcome traditional barriers to capital such as geographical remoteness, gender bias, and the mortgage limitations of on-reserve property. The Conference Board of Canada estimates that the number of Indigenous entrepreneurs in Canada increased by 10,000 between 2003 and 2011, and the National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association estimates that it will require \$54 million to match the rate of growth in lending and increase the availability of micro-financing.
- **Saskatchewan's first technology incubator launched** – On June 6, Premier Brad Wall announced the launch of Saskatchewan's first [technology incubator](#) in Saskatoon. Located at Innovation Place Research Park, [Co.Labs](#) is designed to provide early-stage technology startups with the skills, mentorship, and support required to build successful technology companies in the province. The Government of Saskatchewan committed \$250,000 to support the operations of Co.Labs. There are currently 13 startups engaged with Co.Labs.
- **K+S Potash Bethune mine in Saskatchewan** – K+S Potash's new Bethune mine, located 60 kilometres northwest of Regina, recently produced its first tonnes of [marketable potash](#). The new facility, which opened last month, is expected to produce between 600,000 and 700,000 tonnes of potash this year, with annual production eventually reaching two million tonnes. The mine's first shipment of potash is expected to be shipped to Vancouver in August 2017. The mine is the first potash mine to open in Saskatchewan in 40 years.
- **Cypher Environmental opens a new production facility** – Winnipeg-based [Cypher Environmental](#) opened a production facility for its newest road dust-control product, Dust Stop Municipal Blend (DSMB). The product, used for dust suppression on unpaved roadways, is an environmentally friendly alternative to chloride and oil-based products. Market analysis estimates show there is a US\$12.3 billion global market for the product.
- **Churchill flooding closes rail line** – On June 9, OmniTRAX announced the indefinite suspension of service along the [Hudson Bay Railway](#) from Amery, MB to Churchill, MB, due to severe flooding and rail washouts. A third-party assessment is being completed to determine the extent of damage and repairs required to resume operations. The line is expected to remain closed until next spring.



KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

| |  British Columbia |  Alberta |  Saskatchewan |  Manitoba |  Canada | Last Update |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Gross Domestic Product | | | | | | |
| Real GDP¹ (2007 \$billions, forecast) | \$224 | \$298 | \$60 | \$57 | \$1,716 | 2017 |
| % ch. from year earlier | 2.5% | 3.3% | 2.5% | 2.1% | 2.3% | |
| Labour Market | | | | | | |
| Employment (SA, thousands) | 2,486 | 2,299 | 568 | 644 | 18,411 | Jun-17 |
| Change from previous month | 19.7 | 7.5 | -1.9 | 1.6 | 45.3 | |
| % ch. from previous month | 0.8% | 0.3% | -0.3% | 0.2% | 0.2% | |
| % ch. from year earlier | 4.4% | 2.2% | -0.3% | 1.3% | 1.9% | |
| Unemployment Rate (SA,%) | 5.1% | 7.4% | 6.5% | 5.3% | 6.5% | Jun-17 |
| percentage points from previous month | -0.5 | -0.4 | 0.2 | 0 | -0.1 | |
| percentage points from year earlier | -0.8 | -0.5 | 0.3 | -0.9 | -0.3 | |
| Regular EI beneficiaries (SA) | 53,180 | 79,210 | 18,850 | 15,240 | 541,150 | Apr-17 |
| Change from previous month | 370 | -3,170 | 300 | -210 | -6,970 | |
| % ch. from previous month | 0.7% | -3.8% | 1.6% | -1.4% | -1.3% | |
| % ch. from previous year | 1.1% | 7.9% | 16.3% | -2.2% | -0.6% | |
| Average weekly earnings | \$934.23 | \$1,125.69 | \$1,004.61 | \$919.70 | \$971.13 | Apr-17 |
| Change from previous year | \$13.28 | \$6.29 | \$20.35 | \$31.96 | \$18.73 | |
| Prices | | | | | | |
| CPI (y/y) | 1.9% | 1.2% | 0.9% | 1.0% | 1.3% | May-17 |
| CPI (y/y) previous month | 2.1% | 1.7% | 1.4% | 1.6% | 1.6% | Apr-17 |
| Consumers and Business | | | | | | |
| Retail Sales (SA, \$millions) | \$6,836 | \$6,670 | \$1,649 | \$1,674 | \$48,639 | Apr-17 |
| % ch. from previous month | 0.3% | 0.5% | -4.1% | 1.9% | 0.8% | |
| % ch. from previous year | 7.1% | 6.0% | 3.7% | 5.7% | 7.0% | |
| Manufacturing Sales (SA, \$millions) | \$4,021 | \$6,005 | \$1,258 | \$1,460 | \$54,431 | Apr-17 |
| % ch. from previous month | 1.2% | 3.0% | -6.0% | -0.2% | 1.1% | |
| % ch. from previous year | 8.8% | 15.8% | 10.7% | -1.2% | 7.6% | |
| Building Permits (SA, \$millions) | \$1,272 | \$1,184 | \$160 | \$213 | \$7,740 | May-17 |
| % ch. from previous month | 4.2% | 18.2% | -7.9% | 0.5% | 8.9% | |
| % ch. from previous year | -0.9% | 16.1% | -4.1% | 6.5% | 10.8% | |
| Housing Starts (SAAR, thousands) | 40 | 31 | 5 | 7 | 213 | Jun-17 |
| % ch. from previous month | -18.0% | -5.3% | -0.5% | -36.9% | 9.1% | |
| % ch. from previous year | -19.7% | 26.7% | 8.1% | 33.7% | -3.0% | |
| International Trade | | | | | | |
| Merchandise Exports (\$millions) | \$3,835 | \$8,935 | \$2,626 | \$1,301 | \$45,709 | May-17 |
| % ch. from previous month | -0.6% | 6.3% | 11.0% | 13.5% | 10.1% | |
| % ch. from previous year | 25.3% | 59.1% | 38.3% | 10.4% | 23.5% | |
| Merchandise Imports (\$millions) | \$4,568 | \$2,486 | \$997 | \$1,949 | \$50,745 | May-17 |
| % ch. from previous month | 9.1% | 5.9% | -11.4% | 5.9% | 8.9% | |
| % ch. from previous year | 14.7% | 7.0% | 29.1% | 18.7% | 13.8% | |
| Demographics | | | | | | |
| Population (estimate) | 4,789,221 | 4,291,980 | 1,161,365 | 1,332,629 | 36,591,241 | Q2 2017 |
| % ch. from previous year | 1.3% | 1.4% | 1.4% | 1.6% | 1.2% | |
| Largest Cities (CMAs) | Vancouver (2,548,740) | Calgary (1,469,341) | Saskatoon (315,150) | Winnipeg* (811,874) | | 2016 |
| | Victoria* (370,899) | Edmonton* (1,392,594) | Regina* (247,224) | | | |

* Provincial Capital

¹ Real GDP at basic prices, forecast (Conference Board of Canada Provincial Outlook Executive Summary, Spring 2017)

SA - Seasonally adjusted

SAAR - Seasonally adjusted at annual rates

Sources: Statistics Canada and Conference Board of Canada



UPCOMING EVENTS

| Event | Description | Location | Date |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| BRITISH COLUMBIA | | | |
| The Effects of Renegotiating NAFTA | The Surrey Board of Trade will host a dialogue exploring the impacts of renegotiating NAFTA. | Surrey, BC | July 12, 2017 |
| 2nd International Conference on Food Chemistry and Nutrition | The conference will focus on the theme "Where food meets science: Exploring recent advances in food research and business." | Richmond, BC | July 24-26, 2017 |
| Business Excellence Series: FinTech | Business in Vancouver will host this event focused on helping SMEs make informed decisions in the new landscape of FinTech. | Vancouver, BC | September 12, 2017 |
| Inclusive Business Forum: Leveraging Opportunities to Innovate Human Capital | The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade will host its inaugural Inclusive Business Forum, which will help local companies identify easily adopted strategies that they can begin implementing immediately. | Vancouver, BC | September 21, 2017 |
| ALBERTA | | | |
| WestDef 2017: Industry Intelligence | Hosted by the Western Canadian Defence Industries Association, this event will be a Voice of the West style forum and will be used to prepare a formal submission to the federal ministers of National Defence, Public Services and Procurement, and Innovation, Science and Economic Development. | Calgary, AB | July 4-6, 2017 |
| Stampede Investment Forum (SIF) 2017 | Hosted by Calgary Economic Development, the SIF provides participants with a forum to learn about investment opportunities in Alberta and gain insight into Alberta's energy and environment sectors. | Calgary, AB | July 9-12, 2017 |
| Innovation Rodeo | The Innovation Rodeo, hosted by Bow Valley College, connects some of Alberta's innovators and entrepreneurs, helping them develop new skills, exchange ideas, build new relationships, and collaborate to create and commercialize new ideas. | Calgary, AB | July 10-14, 2017 |
| National Gathering of Elders 2017 | Intermingling of like-minded, like-aged individuals and their families to reveal common grounds that strengthen those links. | Edmonton, AB | September 11-14, 2017 |
| Opportunities North | Edmonton North Partnership's conference will be focused on creating and expanding economic opportunities and partnerships between businesses and organizations in our Northern and Southern regions. Topics will cover business, agriculture, education, tourism, transportation, and healthcare. | Edmonton, AB | September 12-14, 2017 |
| EconoUS2017 - Innovation For Shared Prosperity | CCEDNet's event that provides an opportunity to connect with social innovation leaders from across Canada who share a passion for building strong, inclusive community economies. | Calgary, AB | September 13-15, 2017 |
| Health And Life Sciences Showcase | An event featuring educational seminars, pitch presentations, roundtables, vendors, and BioAlberta's annual awards gala. | Edmonton, AB | September 20, 2017 |



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| Banff Venture Forum | A showcase of the hi-tech companies from across North America offering insight into key issues within the industry, providing a premium networking opportunity, and giving companies a chance to learn from world-class professionals in the investment community. | Banff, AB | September 21-22, 2017 |
| Aboriginal Business Match | ABM allows business connections to be made by eliminating geographic barriers, condensing time requirements, and reducing costs. | Enoch, AB | September 25-27, 2017 |
| 2017 Alberta Climate Summit: Seizing Innovation And Opportunity In A Low-Carbon Economy | The event, hosted by the Pembina Institute, will bring together 500+ thought leaders from industry, government, environmental NGOs, and community stakeholders to learn from success stories, identify opportunities and challenges, and explore solutions related to Alberta's clean energy future. | Calgary, AB | September 28, 2017 |
| Rural Alberta Innovation And Learning Commons | A learning commons focused on rural economic and community development attended by councillors, mayors, CAOs, EDOs, community development professionals, and students from across the province. | Olds, AB | September 29 - October 1, 2017 |

SASKATCHEWAN

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| "Ag in Motion" | Ag in Motion is an outdoor, agricultural trade show in Western Canada with interactive exhibits and live field and crop plot demonstrations. Now in its third year, the Expo was created to empower farmers by providing the knowledge they need to make informed decisions. | Saskatoon, SK | July 18-20, 2017 |
| Carbon yXe | The Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Saskatoon are attempting to 'Change the Conversation Around Carbon.' A committee of Saskatoon business leaders has invited the international Carbon X Prize finalists to Saskatoon to attend a summit on July 19 & 20, 2017 where the prize, worth \$20 million, will be awarded. | Saskatoon, SK | July 19-20, 2017 |
| Cyclotron Research Day | Hosted by the Fedoruk Centre for Nuclear Innovation, the event will highlight recent developments at the Saskatchewan Centre for Cyclotron Sciences, including the newly opened research wing and the use of Canada's first PhytoPET imaging system. | Saskatoon, SK | July 28, 2017 |
| NSBA 3rd Annual Popcorn & Entrepreneurship Series | The North Saskatchewan Business Association will host their third annual event presented by EY Canada. The event titled "Changing the Pulse of the Province" will celebrate founder and CEO of AGT Foods & Ingredients Inc., Murad Al Katib, who won this year's EY World Entrepreneur of the Year award. | Saskatoon, SK | August 30, 2017 |
| EDCE Entrepreneurial Development Conference and Expo | The event offers insights and opportunities for small business owners and entrepreneurs. It includes over 20 sessions, workshops, and presentations from top industry experts, an interactive small business expo, and 3 one-on-one networking events. | Saskatoon, SK | September 15-16, 2017 |

MANITOBA

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| 2017 Canada Summer Games | Over 4,000 young athletes from across Canada will come to Winnipeg to compete in 16 different sports. In addition, The Forks will host the Games' festival where athletes, fans, and families can celebrate with live music, dancing, and cultural activities. | Winnipeg, MB | July 29 – August 13, 2017 |
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| International Downtown Association (IDA) 63rd Annual Conference and Tradeshow | Winnipeg will host the 63 rd annual conference themed "AuthentiCITY." The tradeshow will provide an opportunity to showcase best practices, explore new ideas, network, and share solutions while gaining the tactics and knowledge necessary to transform cities into healthy and vibrant urban places. | Winnipeg, MB | September 13-15, 2017 |
| ProjectWorld Business Analyst World Winnipeg | A leading Educational and Training Conference for project managers and business analysts. The event includes workshops on Lean Six Sigma, Agile Business Environments, Leadership and Essential Tools. | Winnipeg, MB | September 18-21, 2017 |
| Agricultural Bioscience International Conference | A premier global meeting promoting innovation in bioscience to ensure sustainable food, feed, fibre, and fuel security as the climate changes. | Winnipeg, MB | September 25-28, 2017 |

Western Economic Diversification Canada

The role of Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) is to improve the long-term economic competitiveness of Western Canada by supporting programs and services that enhance innovation, business development, and community economic development. In addition, the department undertakes policy, advocacy, and coordination activities in order to advance the interests of Western Canada in national economic decision-making.