A close relationship

By some estimates, close to 1 million Canadians make their home in the Golden State. Canada is also a significant source of foreign investment in California, with 293 Canadian companies employing over 9,000 people in 1,427 locations across the state. Canada is California’s second largest export market behind Mexico and ahead of China and India. The $28.3 billion in bilateral trade supports more than 931,000 jobs in California. Canada is also California’s largest source of tourism. In 2009, Canadians made more than 1,232,000 visits to California, spending $1 billion.

Celestica’s global network connects Canada and California

Toronto-based multinational Celestica Inc., offers electronics manufacturing services and solutions to original equipment manufacturers across many industries. Its products are found in smart phones; networking, wireless and telecommunications equipment; storage devices; healthcare products; aerospace and defense electronics, such as in-flight entertainment and guidance systems; audiovisual equipment, printers and related supplies; peripherals; gaming products, and a range of industrial and green technology electronic equipment to name just a few.

With over 38,000 employees around the world California is a key location in Celestica’s global manufacturing and supply chain network, generating sales in excess of $50 million. Celestica has two branches in San Jose and Fontana, California employing 450 staff providing services in semiconductor and related devices, and electrical equipment and supplies business.

Partners in innovation

The power of innovation is harnessed by the Canada–California Strategic Innovation Partnership (CCSIP), a catalyst for collaborative research and development between California, one of the most dynamic innovation engines in the world, and Canada, a leader in university research and investment. CCSIP brings together 23 Canadian universities, eight campuses of the University of California, and more than 49 companies, labs and agencies. Canada and California recently announced 15 projects supported by over $1 million in new seed funding for commercially relevant research.

November 2010
United States–Canada: working together to create jobs

The United States and Canada share a deep and unique relationship, which supports our mutual prosperity and millions of jobs in both countries. Building on our strong economic partnership, we continue to find new and innovative ways to stimulate our highly integrated economies, thereby ensuring the long-term competitiveness of our respective and shared supply chains.

Successful relationships always require constant attention and cooperation. It’s crucial our countries work together to secure recovery from the current economic downturn. By successfully negotiating an agreement on government procurement, we will keep doors open for Americans and Canadians alike to create wealth and ensure our joint prosperity and security.

With over $1 million worth of goods and services crossing our border every minute of every day, challenges are bound to emerge. Over the years our two countries have faced — and resolved — challenges of varying degree. Commerce remains critical to both countries, so we must continue to nurture this vital relationship for the benefit of citizens on both sides of our 5,500 mile border. Canadians are committed to working closely with our American neighbors to build on our tremendous record of cooperation — and to doing so as we’ve always done in the past: as partners, allies, and friends.

Canada is the biggest customer for 34 states; over 8 million U.S. jobs depend on trade with Canada

Our relationship is about people too

Cross-border travel is not only the key to our prosperity — it links our communities and strengthens our families. In 2009, Canadians made more than 1,232,500 visits to the Golden State, contributing over $1 billion in tourism directly to local coffers. They come to this great state for its beauty and lifestyle, to do business and to meet Californians.

California's goods exports to Canada, 2009

- Agriculture (28%)
- Personal & household goods (13%)
- Telecommunications (12%)
- Transportation (12%)
- Equipment (11%)
- Energy (5%)
- Other (18%)

Total California exports: $10.4 billion

California's goods imports from Canada, 2009

- Transportation (45%)
- Personal & household goods (11%)
- Agriculture (9%)
- Equipment (6%)
- Energy (5%)
- Chemicals (5%)
- Other (19%)

Total California imports: $17.9 billion

For more information on Canada's trade relationship with California, please contact:

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Job numbers are based on 2008 data from a 2010 study commissioned by the Embassy of Canada. All other figures are based on 2009 data in U.S. dollars.


Dun & Bradstreet: Canadian-owned companies and employment (August 2010 release). Figures are converted at the rate of US$1.00 = C$1.420. Figures may not add up due to rounding.

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