

New West Trade Partnership Trade Agreement

July 1, 2010 marks the first day that the *New West Partnership Trade Agreement (NWPTA)* will be in effect. The agreement was signed on April 30, 2010 by the governments of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia and builds on the successful *Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA)* between the provinces of BC and Alberta.

NWPTA replicates the terms of TILMA, extending them to include Saskatchewan, creating Canada's largest interprovincial free trade zone – almost nine million people with a combined GDP of more than \$555 billion. The agreement covers **all** public sector entities. The dollar levels at which the NWPTA applies is as follows:

Public Entities	Goods	Services	Construction
Departments, ministries, agencies, boards, councils, committees, commission and similar agencies of a Party.	\$10,000	\$75,000	\$100,000
Crown corporations, government-owned commercial enterprises and other entities that are owned or controlled by a Party through ownership interest. (Does not apply to Saskatchewan until July 1, 2012.)	\$25,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Regional, local, district or other forms of municipal government, school boards, publicly-funded academic, health and social services entities, as well as any corporation or entity owned or controlled by one or more of the preceding entities. (Does not apply to Saskatchewan until July 1, 2012.)	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$200,000

Source: Government of Alberta

Key elements of the NWPTA include equal opportunities for suppliers in all three provinces to the provincial government procurement opportunities of the partners; streamlined provincial regulations and standards related to all aspects of trade, investment and labour mobility, including the recognition of credentials for certified workers; a workable dispute

resolution process with potential penalties of up to \$5 million; and an agreement to work together more transparently and cooperatively while respecting the various jurisdictions of each province. The transition period for Saskatchewan to bring its measures into full compliance ends in July 1, 2013. 

Six programs newly accredited through the CSCSC’s National Accreditation Program

According to a news release on April 1, 2010, on March 26, the Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council accredited six educational programs through its National Accreditation Program (the NAP), bringing to 14 the number of educational

offerings accredited through the NAP since the program was established in August 2009.

The newly accredited programs are:

Champlain College – St. Lambert	Specialist in Transportation and Logistics Program
Collège Communautaire du Nouveau Brunswick – Dieppe	Business Administration, Logistics and Transportation Program
Georgian College of Applied Arts and Technology	Business Logistics Program
HBI College	Supply Chain and Inventory Management Diploma Program
Wilfrid Laurier University	BBA Supply Chain Management Concentration Program
	MBA Supply Chain Management Concentration Program

The NAP recognizes educational offerings in supply chain-related topics that meet the Council’s standards for accreditation, created with the assistance of CSA Standards and with significant input from supply chain stakeholders.

Post-secondary institutions, associations and private training schools are eligible to submit their programs and courses for review.

The standards are based on national and international best practices and principles, and include requirements for course/program needs assessment, design, development, delivery, and student evaluation. To be accredited, a course or program must meet all of the standards.

More information about the NAP standards, fees and review process is available at: www.supplychaincanada.org/en/NAP. The Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council is an all-stakeholder, not-for-profit organization responsible for the human resources strategy for the supply chain sector in Canada. The CSCSC is funded by the Government of Canada’s Sector Council Program .

CN’s supply chain wins award

According to a news update from the Prince Rupert Port Authority, CN's ongoing efforts to deliver cutting-edge supply chain solutions for its customers have been recognized by Wal-Mart

Canada with the retail giant's prestigious Innovator of the Year honour. The award commends CN's drive and ability to support customers' needs by leveraging its rail franchise

and combining non-rail transportation solutions. CN is delivering “truck like” service via rail, allowing both CN and Wal-Mart to continue to benefit from both cost savings and positive environmental impact.

“At CN we value our customers' business and share their sense of urgency to continually improve the service we offer,” says Paul Waite, vice president of CN Intermodal. “Our approach allows us to act quickly, turning challenges into ideas and then executing innovative solutions.”

Prince Rupert Port Authority President & CEO Don Krusel says the Wal-Mart award for innovation to CN is well deserved.

“CN has continually demonstrated its high level of innovation and commitment to customer

service as our partner, with Maher Terminals, in creating and growing the fastest and most reliable trade corridor for shippers through the west coast. The award reinforces the competitiveness of the northwest trade corridor through Prince Rupert in providing our customers, including Wal-Mart Canada, with a significant advantage over alternative gateways.”

CN's mainline to Prince Rupert is the only railroad with the network reach to all three coasts that also connects to the major North American hubs. CN offers superior, uncongested rail connections to Central Canada and the U.S. Midwest, including consistently moving cargo from Fairview Terminal to Chicago in about 100 hours. 