

Final Report

Minister Bhullar Mission to Washington, D.C. International Open Government Data Conference July 10-13, 2012

Overview:

The Honourable Manmeet S. Bhullar, Minister of Service Alberta, attended the International Open Government Data Conference, held in Washington, D.C., July 10-13, 2012.

Mission Objectives:

The Mission was successful in meeting a number of following objectives:

- Explore current and future opportunities, ideas and benefits of open data strategies through presentations, plenary sessions, and discussions with leading experts from around the world;
- Share Alberta's vision for open data and open government.
- Evaluate other jurisdictions' experiences (particularly the U.S. government) to assist Alberta in executing our vision; and,
- Establish relationships and enhance Alberta's network in the global open data community in order to continually draw upon the knowledge and advice as Alberta moves forward in achieving this vision.

Results:

The mission's objectives were realized. The mission was particularly successful in: (a) establishing relationships with experts and governments with experience in implementing open data initiatives; (b) learning about best open data practices; and (c) providing forum in which to present Alberta's vision for open data and open government.

One-on-one meetings with U.S. government officials were extremely useful as they allowed Minister Bhullar to gain a comprehensive understanding of the U.S. digital strategy, including: methods of implementation; formats of digital data; and, the technological and administrative challenges that were encountered. Of particular importance in this regard was the Minister's meeting with Steven VanRoekel, the President's Chief Information Officer and Administrator, and Todd Park, Chief Technology Officer and Assistant to the President.

Delegation:

Honourable Manmeet S. Bhullar
Minister of Service Alberta

Emir Mehinagic
Chief of Staff to Minister Bhullar