

November 6, 2006

Health Minister to participate in the Reforming States Group's western regional meetings

Edmonton... Alberta Health and Wellness Minister Iris Evans will travel to San Diego, California to participate in the Reforming States Group's (RSG) western regional meetings scheduled for November 9 to 11, 2006. The trip is at the invitation and expense of RSG.

RSG is a group of leaders in the health policy sector from legislative and executive branches of state government. With participants from over 40 states, the voluntary association meets to share their experiences and to work on practical solutions to pressing health care problems.

Officials from 26 health jurisdictions from five countries are attending the sessions. Forum topics include a wide range of health issues such as emerging health reforms, improving quality care, mental illness and pharmaceutical access and cost.

"It will be a great opportunity to share Alberta's experiences and understand how other provinces and states are addressing their crucial health concerns," says Minister Evans.

The total cost of the trip for the Minister, excluding accommodations and airfare covered by RSG, is estimated at \$600.00.

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Backgrounder with Minister's Itinerary Attached

Media enquiries may be directed to:

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Access is available on-line at <http://www.health.gov.ab.ca>

To call toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

Backgrounder

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Health and Wellness Minister's Itinerary

November 8 to November 12, 2006

Wednesday, November 8, 2006

- Depart from Calgary , Alberta for San Diego, California

Thursday, November 9, to Saturday, November 11, 2006

- Attend Reforming States Group - western regional meetings

Sunday, November 12, 2006

- Depart San Diego, California for Edmonton, Alberta

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