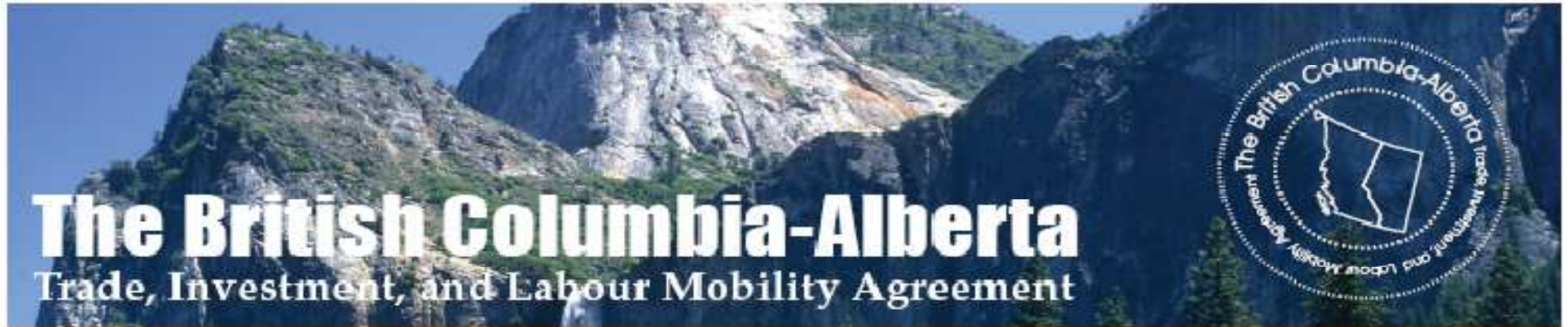


**Trade, Investment and Labour  
Mobility Agreement Between  
British Columbia and Alberta  
(TILMA)**



## Quick History

- **1994** - AIT signed (in force in 1995)
- **Oct 03** - AB-BC Protocol of Cooperation
- **Feb 04** - COF Internal Trade Workplan
- **Apr 06** - TILMA signed
- **Apr 07** – TILMA comes into force
- **Apr 09** – Full Implementation (Some items to conclude earlier)



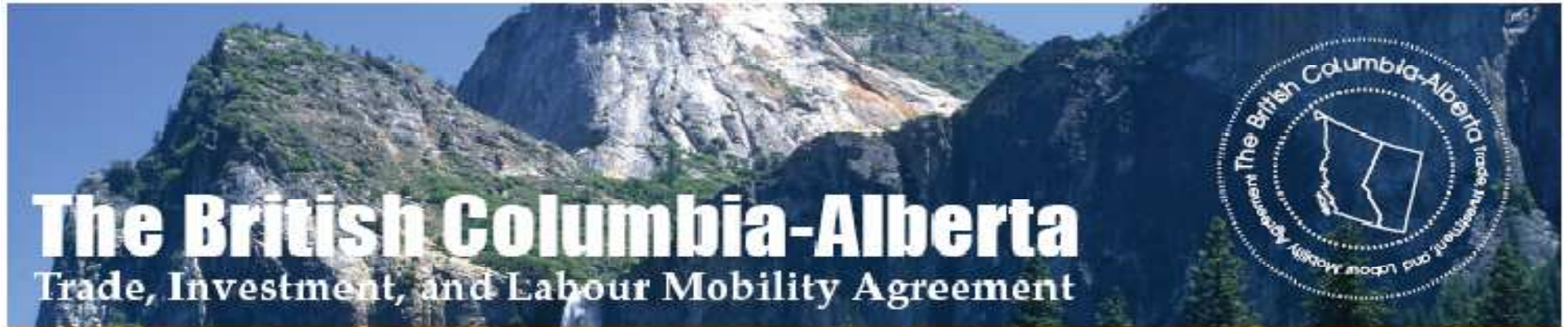
## Observations on the AIT

- Lags in implementing AIT obligations have led to doubts about that agreement
- AIT dispute resolution mechanism has been undermined
- Provincial and federal regulations continue to inhibit trade between the provinces



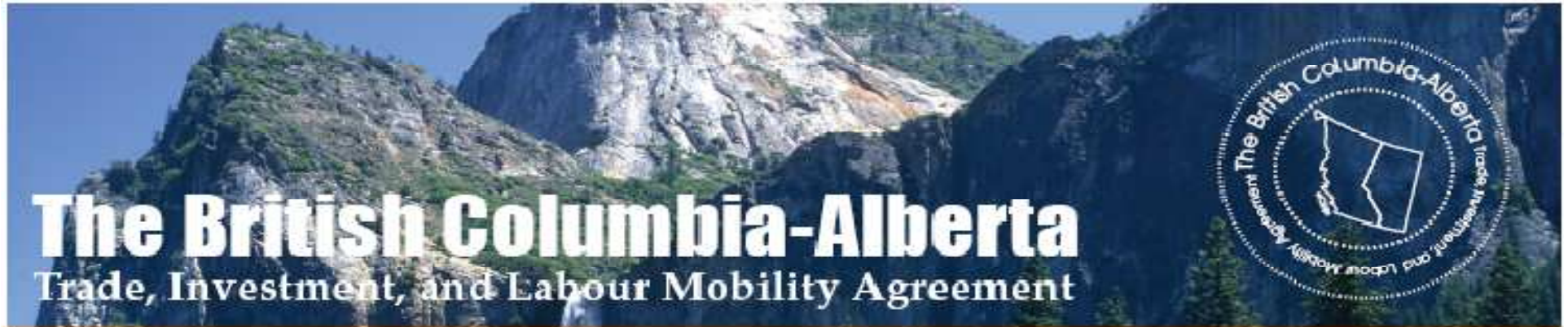
## TILMA Overview

- Comprehensive coverage for trade in goods and services
- Liberalizes investment regulations
- Enhances labour mobility



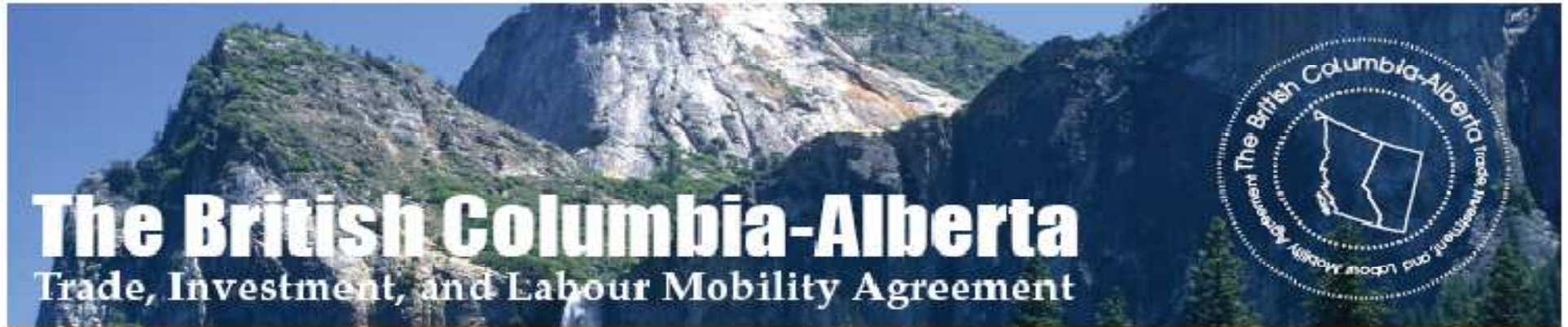
## TILMA Overview

- Composed of seven parts:
  - Operating Principles
  - General Rules and Special Provisions
  - Administrative Provisions
  - Dispute Resolution Procedures
  - Exceptions
  - Transitional Measures
  - Definitions



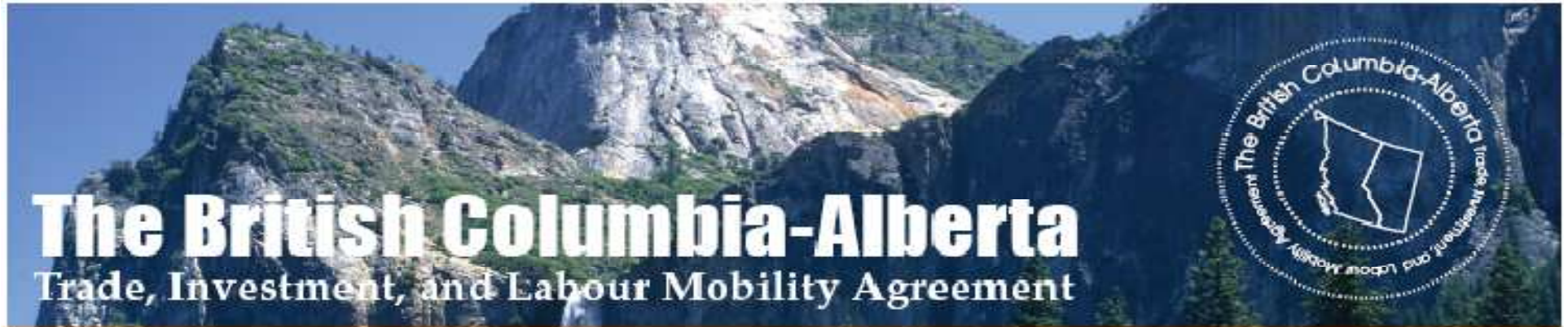
## General Rules

- Apply throughout the agreement
- Special provisions augment the general rules in some areas
- Any exceptions to the general rules are clearly identified in the agreement



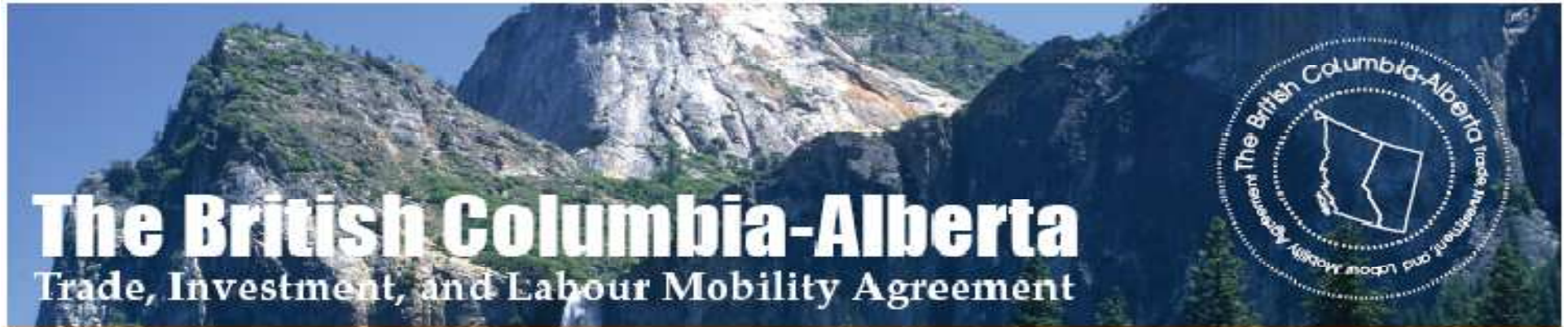
## Special Provisions

- Agreement covers all sectors of the economy
- Additional rules address:
  - Energy
  - Investment
  - Subsidies
  - Transportation
  - Procurement
  - Labour Mobility



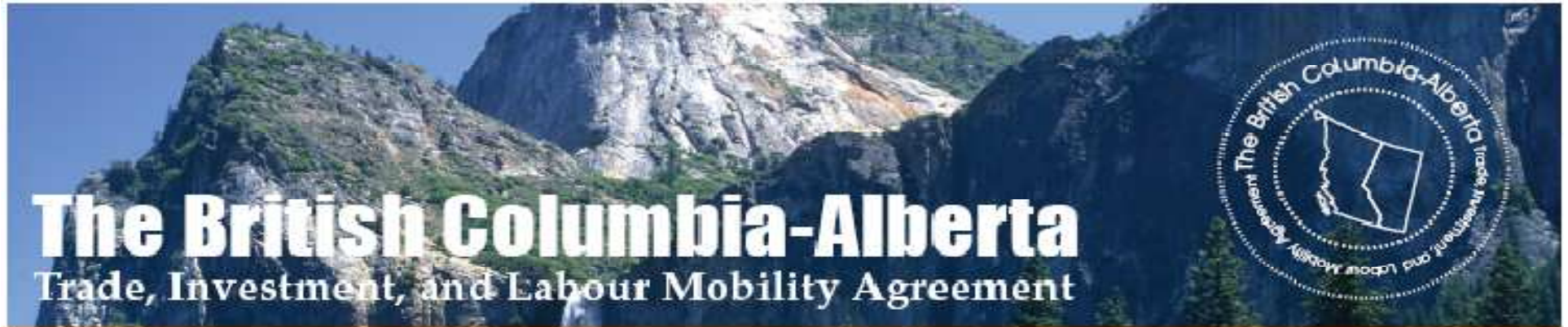
## Energy

- The TILMA is the first trade agreement within Canada to cover the energy sector
- Covers trade in all areas of the energy sector including electricity, oil and gas



## Investment

- Corporate registration and reporting requirements will be reconciled
- Provides for non-discriminatory treatment of businesses regardless of where the business is located
- Residency and local presence requirements eliminated



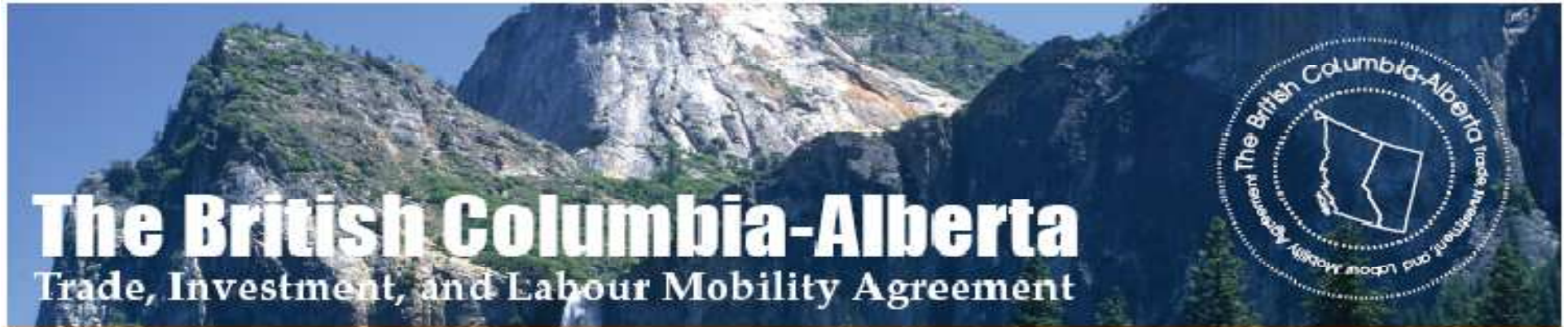
## Subsidies

- The removal of harmful subsidies will create a level playing field
- Both provinces are committed to encouraging other jurisdictions to eliminate subsidies



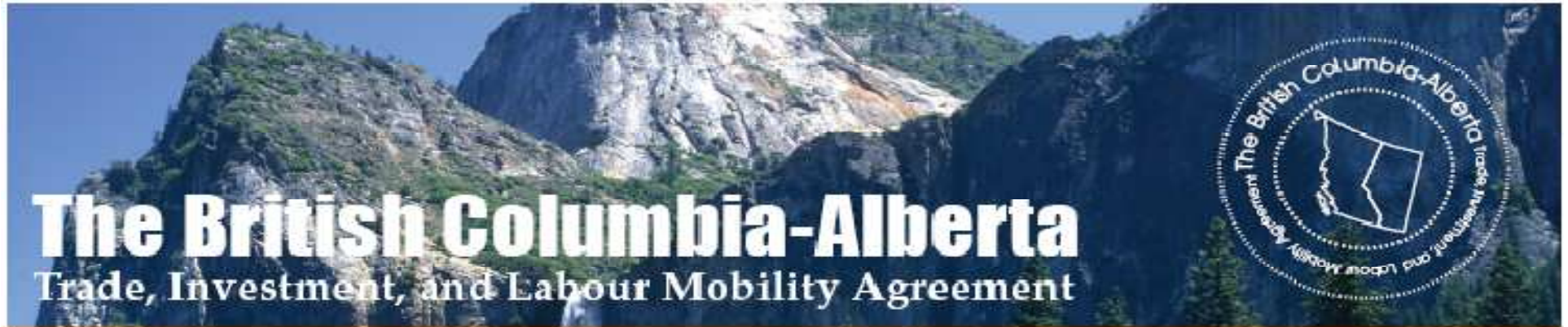
## Transportation

- Elimination of duplicate registration requirements for commercial vehicles
- Reconciliation of trucking standards
- Businesses and consumers will benefit from greater choice and lower shipping costs



## Procurement

- Simplified rules with fewer exceptions
- Lower thresholds
- Professional services covered



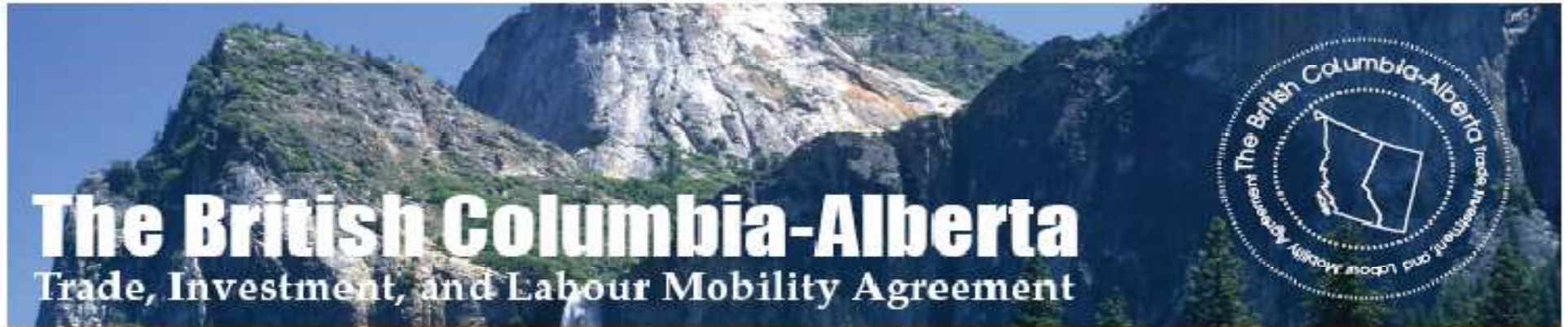
## Labour Mobility

- Will be improved through the:
  - Removal of regulatory barriers
  - Recognition of both domestic and foreign credentials approved by other jurisdiction's regulator
  - Reconciliation of occupational standards



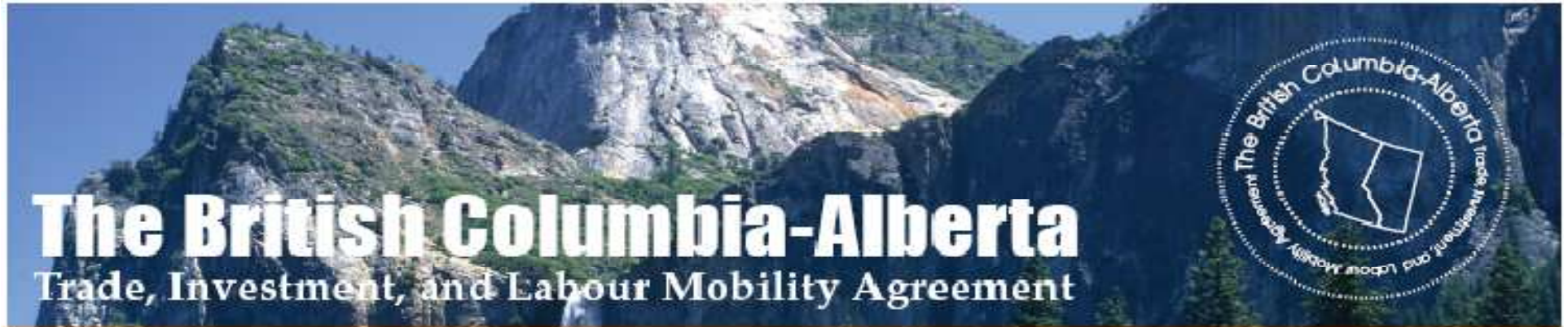
## Transitional Period

- Two-year period to April 2009
- Provides the necessary time to consult with stakeholders (eg. regulatory organizations, municipalities)
- Make necessary changes to legislation for TILMA consistency



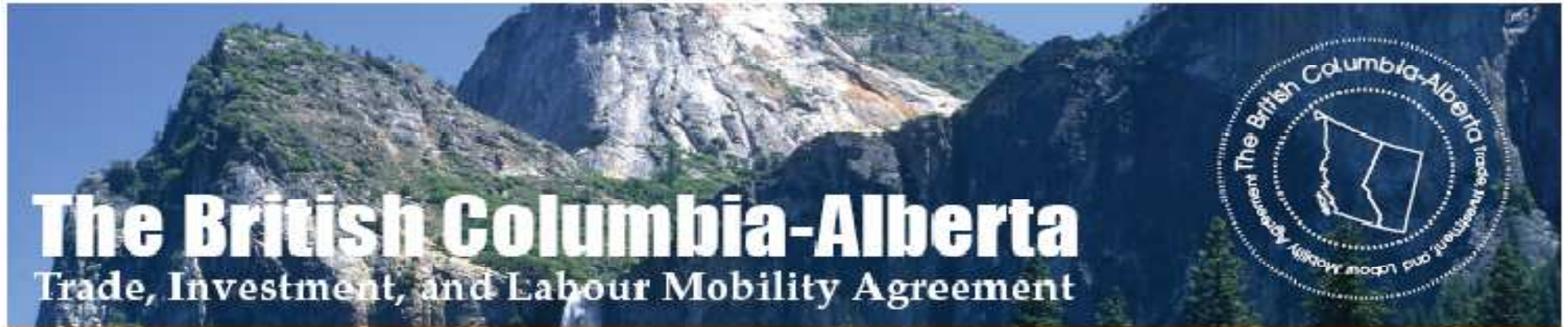
## TILMA Expansion

- Over the transitional period, negotiations will occur to extend coverage including:
  - Municipalities
  - Crown Corporations
  - Academic Institutions
  - Health Sector
  - Financial Services Sector



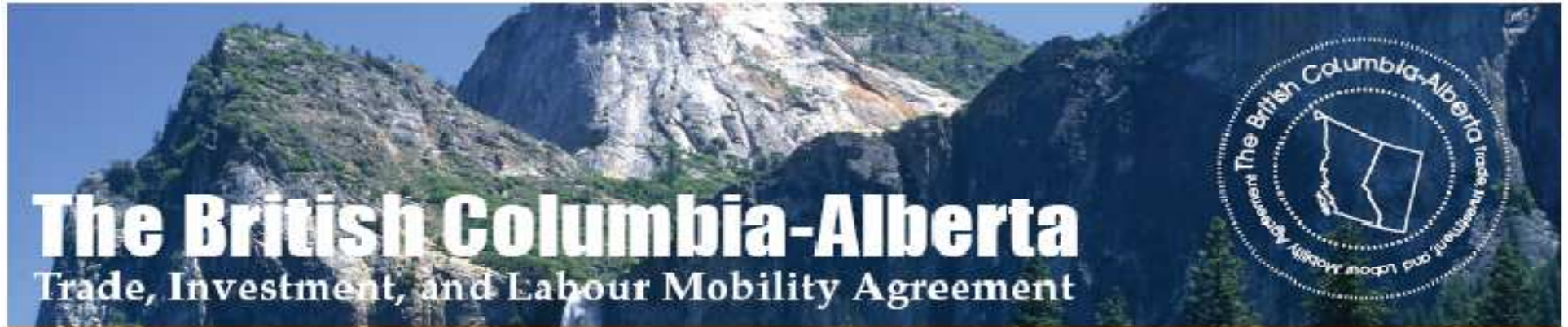
## Dispute Resolution

- Timely dispute avoidance provisions
- Arbitral process accessible by both governments and persons
- Enforceable through monetary penalties against governments



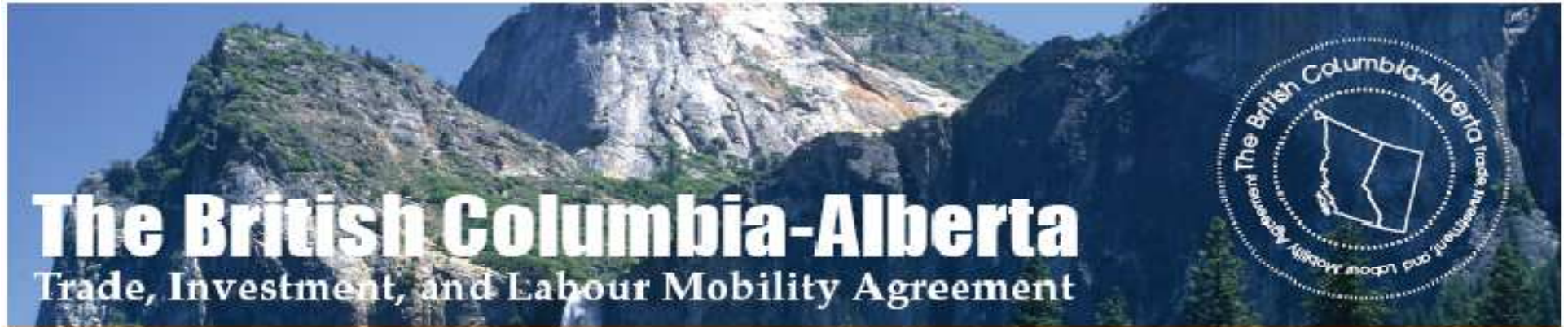
## Accession

- Other provinces, territories and the federal government may accede to the TILMA
- TILMA terms must be accepted
- Exceptions could be negotiated comparable to Alberta's and B.C.'s



## Next Steps

- Implementation is the immediate priority for both Alberta and British Columbia.
- Promoting TILMA as a model for improving internal trade within Canada.
- Negotiating accession with interested parties.



## Early Lessons

- Political support
- Transparency, consultations
- Interdepartmental cooperation and coordination