MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am honored to serve as President of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) for 2019-20. We are a nuts and bolts operation at PNWER that gets things done. As I have said in the past, we approach our opportunities and challenges with a positive mindset. We develop solutions and make things happen. We can smile with pride at our many accomplishments.

Fair, free, and stable trade between the U.S. and Canada remains a core priority for PNWER. This year, ratification of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA or CUSMA) tops the list for PNWER and our region. PNWER communicated directly with Parliament, Congressional delegations, the White House, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative on the importance of USMCA. PNWER strives for a strong and stable trading relationship between the U.S. and Canada. Our efforts helped remove tariffs on steel, aluminum and uncoated paper.

PNWER maintains involvement in the ongoing Columbia River Treaty negotiations, which have been a top priority for me personally as well. PNWER participated in a stakeholder symposium in Kimberley, B.C., town hall meetings, and hosted a special session on the negotiations led by the B.C. Minister Katrine Conroy, Minister responsible for the Columbia River Treaty at our Economic Leadership Forum in November.

Another longtime top priority for me has been invasive species, and PNWER has been one of the leading advocates in D.C., Ottawa, and the region for several years. Particularly, we continue to seek federal funding to keep invasive mussels out of PNWER country. We met with Parliament, our Congressional delegations, Department of Interior, Army Corps of Engineers, and other key agencies multiple times throughout the year to keep this issue at top of mind, and to protect our environment and economy from the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Please join me at Big Sky, Montana, for the 30th Annual Summit July 19-23, 2020 to discuss these issues and many more. We promise “a Big Sky good time” with top-notch speakers, a pitchfork fondue, cutting-edge topics, fantastic scenery, pure air, sweet mountain solitude, and Montana country fun. We look forward to welcoming legislators, governors and premiers, business professionals, and academics for a week of meaningful dialogue and stronger relationships.

Hats off to Larry Doke, immediate past president of PNWER, who served as an outstanding leader. We achieved much under his tenure, and I remain proud to serve with him. His collaboration across borders, across all levels of government and the private sector, furthered the economic success of our region. He led the fight for rural Ports of Entry between Saskatchewan and Montana. MLA Doke ensured that First Nations were included in conversations at PNWER, adding rich and robust discussion.

I encourage you to remain actively engaged with PNWER. Together we are stronger and better, at all levels. We are a diverse group with many competing interests, personalities, and political factions, but we stand on common ground and share so much. PNWER attracts those who care about the region, and who believe that our region grows better and stronger together.

We have accomplished much. Together, under the PNWER banner, we will do much more!

Sincerely,

Senator Mike Cuffe, Montana
PNWER President 2019 - 2020
COLLABORATIVE PROSPERITY:
OVERCOMING CHALLENGES
BY WORKING TOGETHER AS A REGION

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2019 Annual Summit
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PNWER Strategic Plan
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Save the Date: Big Sky, Montana 2020
The Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) is the preeminent bi-national advocate for regional, state, provincial, and territorial issues. Founded in 1991, PNWER is a public-private partnership chartered by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington; the western Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan; and Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

PNWER is recognized by the federal governments of both the United States and Canada as the model for regional and bi-national cooperation because of its proven success.

PNWER is the leading forum where people in the policy world and the business world come together to figure out solutions to regional challenges in a bi-national forum.

MISSION
To increase the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the region, while maintaining and enhancing our world-class natural environment.

- Coordinate provincial and state policies throughout the region
- Identify and promote "models of success"
- Serve as a conduit to exchange information
- Promote greater regional collaboration
- Enhance the competitiveness of the region in both domestic and international markets
- Leverage regional influence in Ottawa and Washington D.C.
- Achieve continued economic growth while maintaining the region’s natural environment

GOALS
• Coordinate provincial and state policies throughout the region
• Identify and promote "models of success"
• Serve as a conduit to exchange information
• Promote greater regional collaboration
• Enhance the competitiveness of the region in both domestic and international markets
• Leverage regional influence in Ottawa and Washington D.C.
• Achieve continued economic growth while maintaining the region’s natural environment

PNWER IS THE PREEMINENT BI-NATIONAL ADVOCATE FOR REGIONAL, STATE, PROVINCIAL, AND TERRITORIAL ISSUES
2019 - 2020 LEADERSHIP

DELEGATE COUNCIL

Jurisdiction Leads on the PNWER Executive Committee are in bold

ALBERTA
Premier Jason Kenney
Richard Gottfried, MLA

BRITISH COLUMBIA
Premier John Horgan
Rick Glumac, MLA
Dan Ashton, MLA

IDAHO
Gov. Brad Little
Sen. Michelle Stennett
Sen. Chuck Winder
Rep. Elaine Smith
Rep. Rick Youngblood
Rep. Mat Erpelding (Alt)

MONTANA
Gov. Steve Bullock
Cliff Larsen
Sen. Mike Cuffe
Sen. Keith Reiger
Sen. Jon Sesso (Alt)
Rep. Derek Skees
Rep. Bradley Hamlett

OREGON
Gov. Kate Brown
Sen. Arnie Roblan
Sen. Bill Hansell
Rep. David Brock Smith
Rep. Caddy McKeown (Alt)
Rep. Greg Barreto (Alt)

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Premier Caroline Cochrane

SASKATCHEWAN
Premier Scott Moe
Larry Doke, MLA

WASHINGTON
Gov. Jay Inslee
Sen. Jim Honeyford
Sen. Barbara Bailey (Alt)
Sen. Lisa Wellman (Alt)

YUKON
Premier Sandy Silver
Paolo Gallina, MLA

PRIVATE SECTOR COUNCIL

PRIVATE SECTOR
CO-CHAIRS
Colin Smith, Engineers & Geoscientists BC
Dan Kirschner, NWGA

ALASKA
Gov. Mike Dunleavy
Lt. Gov. Kevin Meyer
Sen. Jesse Kiehl
Sen. Mia Costello
Sen. Donny Olson (Alt)
Rep. Chris Tuck
Rep. Dave Talerico
Rep. Chuck Kopp (Alt)
Rep. George Rauscher

ALBERTA
Amanda Affonso, Enbridge
Jim Donihee, CEPA
Riley Georgson, Transalta
Mike Simpson, Devon Energy
Scott Thon, AltaLink

BRITISH COLUMBIA
David Bennet, FortisBC
Dave Cowen, The Butchart Gardens
Don Dalik, Fasken Martineau
Hana Doubra, Microsoft
Colin Smith, Engineers & Geoscientists of B.C.
Marcia Smith, Teck

IDAHO
Gov. Brad Little
Sen. Michelle Stennett
Sen. Chuck Winder
Rep. Elaine Smith
Rep. Rick Youngblood
Rep. Mat Erpelding (Alt)

MONTANA
Mike Halligan, The Washington Companies
Cory Fong, MDU Resources
Bob Rowe, Northwestern Energy

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Darrell Beaulieu, Denendeh Investments
Pawan Chugh, NWT BDIC

OREGON
Curt Abbott, Oregon PUD Association
Dan Kirschner, Northwest Gas Association
Sunny Radcliffe, PGE
Mark Sytsma, Portland State University
Diane Warner, Northwest Cement Council

SASKATCHEWAN
Shawna Argue, APEGs
Chris Dekker, STEP
Bob McDonald, APEGs
Alan Migneault, AJM Management Corp
Natasha Stinka, Canpotex
Victor Thomas, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
Larry Long, Nutrien

WASHINGTON
Pam Brady, BP
George Caan, WPUDA
Matt Gill, Marathon
Petroleum
Brandon Houskeeper, PSE
Megan Ouellette, Alaska Airlines
Irene Plenefisch, Microsoft
Bob Sailer, PNWLG
Dennis Vermillion, Avista
Courtney Wallace, BNSF

YUKON
Albert Drapeau, Yukon First Nations Chamber of Commerce
Leneath Yanson, Yukon First Nations Chamber of Commerce

OTHER
David Miller, CN
Amb. David Wilkins, Nelson Mullins
PNWER’s CRDR hosted the first state-wide Drone (UAS) Workshops in WA and ID to connect Unmanned Aerial System users from the public and private sectors to improve awareness of damage post-disaster.

PNWER attended the National Governors’ Association 11th Annual Meeting in D.C. to discuss key issues such as USMCA, tariffs, and aquatic invasive species. SK Premier Scott Moe with PNWER CEO Matt Morrison.

The 6th Annual Arctic Encounter Symposium was held in Seattle in April highlighting innovation in the Arctic. Premier Bob McLeod of the Northwest Territories and PNWER Vice President gave a keynote speech.

PNWER visited Helena, Boise, Salem, Olympia, and Juneau and testified in committees on the importance of trade with Canada, innovation, and ec dev opportunities. President Doke seen testifying in MT on invasive species prevention.

Idaho Governor Brad Little provided opening remarks at the PNWER CRDR 5th Annual Idaho Cybersecurity Summit attended by over 300 participants. Attendees participated in a mock data breach trial.

PNWER co-chairs the Beyond Preclearance Transportation Summit hosted by the U.S. and Canadian Chambers of Commerce in D.C. Pictured: Ambassador MacNaughton and Scotty Greenwood with the CABC.
The CRDR hosted workshops in ID, MT, OR, and WA to look at how each state is using drones, and conducted a drill to explore using drones for situational awareness during disasters.


The 29th Annual Summit in Saskatoon, SK, brought together over 500 regional legislators, business leaders, academics, and policymakers to participate in 23 working group sessions over 4 days.

Senator Jim Woodward (ID), William Crozer, White House, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and Sen. Mike Cuffe (MT) (left to right) meeting at the White House about USMCA.

The 2019 class of PNWER’s Legislative Energy Horizon Institute (LEHI) attended a graduation ceremony at the Embassy of Canada in D.C. LEHI has graduated over 300 legislators from the U.S. and Canada over the past 10 years.

2018 - 19 PNWER President MLA Larry Doke of Saskatchewan passed the gavel to new PNWER President Sen. Mike Cuffe of Montana. The 2020 Annual Summit will be held in Big, Sky, MT July 19 -23, 2020.
PNWER champions critical policy issues important to the region at the federal level. In Washington, D.C., PNWER leadership communicated regional needs to U.S. federal policy makers in the Pacific Northwest congressional delegation and executive agencies on several topics: agriculture, border policy, preclearance, trade, invasive species, energy, transportation, water policy, critical minerals, forestry, and arctic policy.

**EXECUTIVE AGENCIES AND OFFICES VISITED:**

- Executive Office of the President, at the White House
- Office of the United States Trade Representative
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Energy
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Interior
- Department of State
- Department of Transportation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

"PNWER calls upon the U.S. Congress and the Canadian Parliament to put aside partisan issues and pass this agreement [USMCA] because it is the right thing to do. It is the right thing for the U.S. and the right thing for Canada. It is time for us to come together in North America to build our global competitiveness and strengthen our ties as friends and allies."

- PNWER President Sen. Mike Cuffe, Montana and Immediate Past President Larry Doke, MLA, Saskatchewan

**U.S. Representatives**

- Don Young- AK
- Mike Simpson- ID
- Russ Fulcher- ID
- Greg Gianforte- MT
- Earl Blumenauer- OR
- Suzanne Bonamici- OR
- Peter DeFazio- OR
- Kurt Schrader- OR
- Greg Walden- OR
- Suzan DelBene- WA
- Adam Smith- WA
- Denny Heck- WA
- Jaime Herrera Beutler- WA
- Pramila Jayapal- WA
- Derek Kilmer- WA
- Rick Larsen- WA
- Dan Newhouse- WA
- Cathy McMorris Rodgers- WA
- Kim Schrier- WA

**U.S. Senators**

- Lisa Murkowski- AK
- Dan Sullivan- AK
- Jim Risch- ID
- Mike Crapo- ID
- Steve Daines- MT
- Jon Tester- MT
- Jeff Merkley- OR
- Ron Wyden- OR
- Maria Cantwell- WA
- Patty Murray- WA
This year PNWER...

- Advocated for the elimination of section 232 U.S. Tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum and removal of retaliatory tariffs
- Promoted preclearance agreements and co-location for remote border crossings
- Released white paper with Beyond Preclearance Coalition identifying $30 billion in savings by employing current technologies at multimodal ports of entry.
- Advocated for aquatic invasive species prevention funding in western provinces
- Showcased collaboration on oil spill, accident prevention, and safety in the Salish Sea regarding the Ocean Protection Plan (OPP)
- Hosted policy makers on a Working Waterfront Tour during the Economic Leadership Forum in Seattle
- Facilitated a presentation on the critical minerals strategic collaboration between the U.S. and Canada at the Saskatoon Summit. Representatives from NRCan and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation spoke about the process and collaboration underway.
- Hosted a Border Roundtable Listening session with Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale and public and private multi-modal stakeholders from the U.S. and Canada
- Held and participated in a number of sessions on the Columbia River Treaty between federal leaders from the U.S. and Canada. See page 24 for more information.

“PNWER and the Cascadia region act as a pathfinder for the rest of North America.”
- Colin Robertson, Vice President and Fellow, Canadian Global Affairs Institute

PNWER continues to engage Canadian federal partners on a number of priorities
Each year, the PNWER Executive Committee visits our region’s capitals to advocate for regional issues and assess priorities that PNWER should focus on in the coming year. Meetings with legislative majority and minority leadership, governors and premiers, and key executive branch staff provide an opportunity to discuss regional trade and PNWER programs. The visits also allow for cross border legislative collaboration.

Major themes this year included the new NAFTA trade agreement, tariffs, invasive species prevention and funding, Canadian and U.S. market access for agriculture, innovation, drones, energy policy, infrastructure and transportation, and opportunities for collaboration among the entire region.

Sen. Michelle Stennett speaks at a dinner of the PNWER Idaho Council, which provides thought leadership regarding Idaho’s needs and opportunities related to domestic and international trade and business and government relations amongst states, provinces, and territories.

“Our economies are stronger when we work together.”
- PNWER 2018-19 President Larry Doke, MLA, Saskatchewan

“Sub-national relationships are more important than ever.”
- Governor Steve Bullock, Montana

PNWER 2018-19 President Larry Doke (above) presents to a rare joint House-Senate Natural Resources Committee. Doke presented on invasive mussels and the status of federal funding that PNWER has worked to secure for the region.

PNWER leadership met in Helena and spoke about important topics such as invasive species, agriculture, trade, forestry, and mining, among others. The delegation engaged with the legislative leadership and set the stage for the 30th Annual Summit in Big Sky in 2020. The Montana legislators are excited to host and showcase what Montana has to offer for the region.

PNWER leadership met with Governor Steve Bullock to discuss trade and the impacts of Section 232 steel and aluminum tariffs to local businesses in both the U.S. and Canada.

Nirav Desai, PNWER Innovation Co-Chair, and Steve Myers, PNWER, testifying before the Alaska Senate Labor and Commerce Committee on economic diversification.

Rep. Chris Tuck (left) hosted the PNWER delegation for a legislative "Lunch and Learn". Premier McLeod gave an insightful overview of the Northwest Territories to legislators. Larry Doke showcased PNWER and answered questions from members about PNWER and its role in Alaska.

PNWER met with Captain Ed Page of the Alaska Marine Exchange and learned more about the operation center to monitor shipping vessels.
Meetings in Olympia with Lt. Gov. Cyrus Habib, the Governor’s staff, the Dept. of Commerce, Senate President Karen Keiser, House Minority Leader J.T. Wilcox, Senate Majority Whip Mark Mullet, provided opportunities to highlight PNWER’s efforts to examine the impact of new tariffs on the economy.

Our region shares strong connections in technology and innovation. Rick Glumac, MLA from B.C., presented to the House Economic Development and Trade Committee in Olympia.

The PNWER delegation met with Oregon State leadership in Salem on topics of increasing bi-national concern including wildfires, energy efficiency in the built environment, drone usages post-disaster, and the economic impact of steel and aluminum tariffs and ratification of the USMCA Agreement.
The Legislative Energy Horizon Institute (LEHI) is a certificate program covering the North American energy system. LEHI is specifically designed to prepare emerging state and provincial leaders to address the complex energy issues facing state and provincial legislatures.

The comprehensive curriculum helps policymakers understand how energy systems and infrastructure work; how energy infrastructure is built and financed; and the regulation and market impacts on energy infrastructure.

“If you want to understand the complexity and significance of energy policy to our civil society, then LEHI is your premier ‘go-to’ program to jump start your education”

Senator Albert Olszewski, MT

**INSTITUTE PARTNERS**

Over 500 regional legislators, business leaders, academics, and policymakers gathered in Saskatoon, SK on July 21 - 25.

Attendees discussed the top issues facing our region in 23 working group sessions, where action items were developed representing the steps the working groups will take to advance the region’s priorities.

The Summit featured several thought-provoking keynote plenary panels featuring outstanding regional leaders.

Attendees were invited to participate in several informative policy tours that highlighted the major industries and issues in Saskatchewan.

Through engaging discussion, compelling keynote presentations, evening networking events and offsite policy tours, the Annual Summit provides an opportunity to connect and strengthen relationships with legislators, government officials, private sector leaders, and academia from a broad cross-sector of industries and backgrounds. The strength of these bi-national relationships leads to real results for each jurisdiction.

“The Canada - U.S. relationship is stronger than the politician of the day or the politics of the day.”
- Scotty Greenwood, CEO Canadian American Business Council

“Asia is moving at a speed and scale unlike any other, and the Pacific Northwest has the resources and ingenuity to tap into this market. This is an opportunity for the U.S. and Canada to work together to access the Asian region.”
- Victor Thomas, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada

The Honourable Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan, attended a number of events at the Summit. Premier Moe spoke about Saskatchewan’s focus on international trade to create jobs and opportunity, as well as the need to continue engagement between Canada and the United States at all levels.

The importance of North American free trade in the region was a major theme during the Summit with many discussions during keynote plenaries, working group sessions, and the Executive Committee meeting focusing on USMCA ratification and the value of the U.S.-Canada trading relationship. On July 22, the PNWER Executive Committee released a statement in support of the ratification of the USMCA in which they respectfully urged the Congress of the United States and the Parliament of Canada to ratify the agreement as soon as possible.

“The economies of Canada and the U.S. are more integrated than ever before. This has happened not by accident but by design. This relationship is the envy of the world.”
- The Honourable Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan

“It is vital we continue developing relationships, growing our economies, and enhancing our region’s economic competitiveness to improve our jurisdictions and the lives of our citizens, and PNWER is one of the best vehicles to do this.”
- Larry Doke, MLA, Saskatchewan
PNWER President 2018-2019

The leading forum where people in the policy world and the business world come together to figure out solutions to regional challenges.

Agriculture
Border
Border Security Roundtable
Climate Policy & Economic Growth
Cross-Border Livestock
Health
Disaster Resilience
Economic Development: The Changing Dynamics of Indigenous Businesses
Energy Resilience, Regional Reliability, & Infrastructure
Forestry
GHG Reduction & Reuse Strategies
Infrastructure Resilience & Energy Innovations
Innovation
Invasive Species
Mining
Tourism
Trade
Transportation & Infrastructure
University Presidents’ Roundtable
Water Policy
Workforce
“People have a strong history of working together here in Saskatoon. It is this same spirit that is critical to the vision behind PNWER.”
- Mayor Charlie Clark, City of Saskatoon

Montana Senator Mike Cuffe was elected by the PNWER Delegate Council to serve as the 2019-2020 PNWER President. Cuffe has been involved with PNWER as a member of the Delegate Council since 2013. “We are a nuts and bolts operation at PNWER that gets things done. We help develop solutions, and we make things happen,” Cuffe said upon accepting the presidency.

Delegates were invited to participate in several informative policy tours that highlighted the major industries and issues in Saskatchewan.

Delegates toured the U of S Canadian Light Source which produces the brightest light in the country. This facility enables research in mine tailing remediation, food security, cancer research, to drug development and cutting edge-materials, like semi conductors and future battery technology.

PNWER delegates had the special opportunity to tour SaskPower’s Boundary Dam 3 and Carbon Capture Facility in Estevan, SK. Boundary Dam 3 is the world’s first commercial carbon capture facility and remains the only facility that is fully-integrated with a coal-fired power plant.

At the University of Saskatchewan’s Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence, delegates got a personal look at cow-calf production, beef cattle production & forage production, and grazing & pasture management. It is designed to be the largest and most comprehensive centre for work on cattle and forage in Canada.
Building on the leadership from PNWER President Larry Doke, PNWER Executive Committee priorities, and working group action items, PNWER focused on a number of First Nations, Indigenous, and Métis initiatives in 2019, culminating in several sessions during the Summit.

As a result of a 2018-19 action item proposed by Premier Bob McLeod, the Tourism working group highlighted Indigenous tourism initiatives and explored the opportunities that exist to curate First Nations cultural tourism and experiences and further develop the Indigenous tourism potential that exists in the region.

The Economic Development working group session engaged high-level Indigenous leaders from Canada and the U.S. and focused on how leaders can encourage economic growth, resource development, and promote world-class Indigenous businesses in a dynamically-changing business environment.

"Indigenous business is good for the economy. It’s not just one group or one people that are lifted up, but the entire economy."
- Sean Willy, CEO, Des Nedhe Development

The Honourable Bob McLeod, Premier of the Northwest Territories, spoke on policy implementations that can promote the development of Indigenous business.

The Asham Stompers performed during the evening reception. Their mission is to help re-capture and preserve the history of the Métis people through the traditional dancing of the Red River Jig and to bring hope to the children in Aboriginal communities by taking the richness of this history and sharing it on the world stage.

The Young Spirit Dancers, a Grammy-nominated Cree drum group, shared their cultural traditions with the PNWER delegates during an evening reception. This group formed to represent and maintain their Western Canadian Plains Cree culture and language. Their goal is to empower young people through traditional Indigenous drumming and singing and provide role models for younger people to maintain and share their cultural traditions.
Legislators, business leaders, and policy professionals from throughout the region met in Seattle, WA, for a three day meeting focused on Trade, the Columbia River Treaty, Innovation, the PNW Space Cluster, Autonomous Vehicles, 5G Networks, Smart Grid Technologies, Maritime Industries, and Enhanced Border Facilitation.

“What ties us together? Celebrating the Common Bonds in PNWER

Update on the Columbia River Treaty

Accelerating the Pacific Northwest Economy through Innovation

Innovation Ecosystems Leading to Economic Growth

Smart Grids

Out of this World: The Emerging Space Cluster in the PNW

Transportation of Tomorrow

Smarter Regions for the Future

What is the Deal with Trade?

Working Waterfront and Maritime Innovation Tour

Roundtable of Upcoming Legislative Sessions

Building the Border of the Future

What is all the Buzz About? What is the Future of Drones?

“If we engage and work together, there is nothing we can’t do. We have the opportunity to invent tomorrow together today.”

- Chris Gregoire, CEO, Challenge Seattle; former Governor of the State of Washington

Irene Plenefisch, Microsoft (right), moderated a discussion with WA former governor Chris Gregoire and PNWER delegates. Gregoire called on officials to be proactively looking at workforce, transportation, and housing challenges.

Amazon hosted the PNWER attendees for a reception at the Amazon Spheres. Delegates had the chance to explore this unique workspace which contains more than 40,000 plants from over 30 countries.

Attendees learned about the Space Sector in Puget Sound from a panel of industry experts. Space as a sector has changed from primarily federal programs to a majority of private industry players. Workforce and Transportation challenges were all highlighted as limiting factors that are hindering the growth of the sector in our region.

Bruce Agnew, ACES Northwest Network moderated the afternoon session on Autonomous, Connected, Electric, and Shared mobility. Tom Alberg and Bryan Mistele spoke of the practical applications for autonomous vehicles, highlighting the ways that ACES “advanced together can save lives, decrease traffic congestion, reduce carbon, and increase productivity for employers and employees.”
The Working Waterfront and Maritime Innovation tour explored the multi-sector dynamics of the maritime industry and the tremendous impact of maritime on the region’s economy. The two-hour cruise featured speakers from industries and the government including the Port of Seattle, the U.S. Coast Guard, Vigor shipyards, the Washington State ferry system, the Pacific fishing fleet homeport, and the cruise lines.

Seattle’s maritime sector has ties and linkages to the entire Pacific Northwest region and beyond. Several speakers on the tour highlighted the many interconnected industries of Seattle's vibrant waterfront, emphasizing the important economic benefit the waterfront provides to the regional economy, including fishing, manufacturing, tourism, and shipping.

“What was once viewed as just a trade issue is now growing beyond that discussion and spilling over into the national security discussion, and the rules and regulation discussion. The issues are getting harder and more complex.”
- Lori Otto Punke, Washington Council on International Trade

“Our economy has shifted... we need to have agreements that are more reflective of our new realities.”
- Maria Ellis, Pacific Northwest International Trade Association

PNWER leadership offered their perspectives on the main issues expected in their respective jurisdictions’ upcoming legislative sessions. The roundtable featured (L-R) WA Rep. Gael Tarleton, AB MLA Richard Gotfried, SK MLA Larry Doke, AK Sen. Mia Costello, and ID Sen. Chuck Winder. Panel was moderated by Tom Banse, KUOW News (far left).

The Trade panel discussed topics ranging from the trade war with China to the importance of trade with Canada and Mexico, the need to ratify the USMCA, to the serious impact that tariffs have had on state and regional businesses from manufacturing to agriculture. Featuring Lori Otto Punke, WA Council on International Trade; Maria Ellis, PNW Int’l Trade Association; Robert Hamilton, WA Dept of Commerce; Moderated by Edward Alden, Council on Foreign Relations

Adoption of 5G technologies has the potential to make life better for people, according to Kim Zentz, CEO of Urbanova. “We will be successful when we have healthier citizens, safer neighborhoods, smarter infrastructure, more sustainable environment, and a stronger economy, and 5G is an important tool in reaching these goals.”

“The Seattle waterfront serves as a gateway to the world for the rest of the region, allowing commodities from the inland Pacific Northwest to access key markets in Asia and beyond.”

Michael McLaughlin from the Port of Seattle addresses the attendees during the Working Waterfront Tour.

From left to right: Bruce Agnew, ACES NW Network; Linda Styrk, Puget Sound Pilots Association; Jill Mackie, Vigor Industrial; Rep. Gael Tarleton- WA; Sen. Mike Cuffe- MT; Rear Admiral Vogt, Thirteenth Coast Guard District, U.S.C.G; Richard Gotfried, MLA, AB; Matt Morrison, PNWER
The Center for Regional Disaster Resilience (CRDR), a division of PNWER, focuses on infrastructure interdependencies and disaster resilience projects. The CRDR is committed to working with states, provinces, territories and communities to develop regional public-private partnerships. This is done in a very collaborative fashion to provide workable and commonsense solutions to the complex problems brought on by operating in the technology heavy 21st Century. Our collective and ultimate goal is to reduce risks and eliminate vulnerabilities while building resilience in people, organizations, and institutions.

Cybersecurity remains a major focus of the CRDR. In 2019, the Idaho Office of Emergency Management and PNWER partnered for the 5th Annual Idaho Cybersecurity Interdependencies Summit, which brought together over 300 private and public sector stakeholders. The State of Idaho has contracted with PNWER for the past five years to help state-wide stakeholders better understand interdependencies and develop stronger public-private partnerships focused on the common goal of cybersecurity prevention, response, and mitigation.

The CRDR partnered with King County Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) to host a cybersecurity workshop in the Puget Sound region examining cybersecurity through the lens of critical infrastructure protection. The CRDR has helped to facilitate annual cybersecurity workshops in the Puget Sound since 2012. The 2019 workshop focused on a number of topics ranging from 911 and first responder communications, ransomware attacks, and mobile device security, in order to help participants develop stronger relationships and partnerships across the region.
LONG-TERM POWER OUTAGE

As part of a King County Regional Critical Infrastructure Working Group event funded by a Department of Homeland Security grant, the CRDR hosted a workshop to explore the potential impact of a long-term power outage due to a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME or Solar Flare), which would be catastrophic to North America’s electrical grid. The workshop included a briefing from Los Alamos National Laboratory on the impacts of a CME event and a discussion on how to mitigate potential effects to our critical infrastructure sectors.

DRONE WORKSHOPS

The CRDR was awarded a National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) Security and Resilience Challenge grant through the Department of Homeland Security to conduct a series of workshops in WA, OR, ID, and MT, to develop methodologies to allow for the rapid inspection of critical infrastructure post-disaster using UAS.

The goal of this project was to establish a working group of interested public and private sector infrastructure owners and operators within WA, OR, ID, and MT, and develop a stakeholder led workshop for each of the four states. Through these workshops, a Concept of Operations (CONOPS) template for access into disaster zones and the sharing of information was prepared for each state. The CONOPS also helped states better examine the communications channels and data file type for transmission as they begin to explore the use of UAS in situational awareness and damage assessment.

A demonstration drill was conducted in Washington to test this CONOPS, with one infrastructure owner and operator (Olympic Pipeline). This drill used the established process for a private CI owner to obtain access to a disaster fly zone, fly a simulated damaged area with a UAS, and transmit simulated disaster damage information to the state Emergency Operations Center. The outcome of the drill was extremely useful to both the WA EOC and the National Guard as they further develop the Domestic Operations Awareness and Assessment Response Tool (DAART) for use across all fifty states. Ultimately, the long-term goal is to demonstrate this UAS-to-EOC situational awareness tool in real-time during the Cascadia Rising II exercise planned for 2022.
PNWER prepared and delivered letters to all of the region’s congressional delegation strongly urging them to ratify the USMCA and to encourage the Trump administration to remove the steel and aluminum tariffs. These letters reiterated the importance of free, fair, and open trade for the mutual benefit of the three economies.

PNWER applauded the agreement on lifting steel and aluminum tariffs and associated retaliatory tariffs - May 2019.

PNWER joined the bipartisan Pass USMCA Coalition which is a group of U.S. companies and associations working to secure congressional approval of the USMCA - March 2019.

Participated in weekly national strategy conference calls

PNWER drafted a USMCA resolution and submitted it to PNWER states - Jan 2019.

PNWER testified to trade committees in 5 states as part of Annual Capital Visits - Jan 2019.

“Here in the Pacific Northwest we are stronger by working closely together, and our relationships are intact because of the ongoing partnerships in every major sector of the economy, and in state, provincial, territorial, and tribal governments.”

- Sen. Arnie Roblan, OR
PNWER Past President 2017 - 2018

PNWER met with all 29 congressional leaders from the northwest states advocating for the USMCA and repeal of section 232 tariffs

Letters and statements sent directly to President Trump and Ambassador Lighthizer

Total value of trade between the U.S. and Canada in 2017

Canada is the largest goods export market for the United States

Two-way trade with Canada in the Pacific Northwest

“When markets are open and goods are transported freely across borders, the result is economic growth, new businesses, and more and better job opportunities for individuals.”

- Larry Doke, MLA, Saskatchewan
PNWER President 2018 - 2019
BEYOND PRECLEARANCE COALITION

The Beyond Preclearance Coalition was formed in 2018 and includes over 60 businesses and organizations from Canada and the U.S. with the shared goal of developing a long-term vision for trade and travel between the countries across all modes. PNWER and Vancouver Airport Authority serve as co-chairs of the Coalition.

As part of the Beyond Preclearance Initiative, Summits were held in October 2018 (Vancouver, B.C.) and April 2019 (Washington, D.C.). One of the main outcomes of the 2019 Summit was an agreement to establish working groups to advance pilot projects, additional research, or short-term initiatives identified in the Beyond Preclearance White Paper. The objective is to jointly determine solutions (government/industry, U.S./Canada), as well as map out the timing and scope of additional research or analyses.

PNWER PRECLEARANCE TASK FORCE

For the past five years PNWER has facilitated regular monthly/quarterly calls with federal and regional government and transportation partners from across rail, ferry, port, and cruise ship industries to discuss the implementation of the preclearance agreement in our region. The purpose of these calls is to work together to avoid costly misunderstandings and delays and to open the lines of communication across all sectors and levels of government. PNWER continues to work with our partners to find creative solutions to ensure the agreement will work for all partners. During the Economic Leadership Forum, PNWER hosted a panel on preclearance and discussed the possibility of a pilot on cargo at the land border.

BORDER ISSUES

Matt Morrison co-chairs the Efficient Cross-Border Movement of People & Goods Committee as part of the Cascadia Innovation Corridor along with PNWER Border co-chair Dr. Laurie Trautman, Director, Border Policy Research Institute at Western WA University. The committee met in Seattle during the Cascadia Innovation Corridor meeting in October and developed a multi-year action plan focused on improving the flow of traffic and goods at the border. Below are the main areas of focus that PNWER can support:

1. Improve efficiency of border crossing for all legitimate travel and trade: We will explore ways to reduce wait times and expedite cross-border travel through the use of new technologies.
2. Increase facilitation, integration, and expansion of trusted trader and traveler programs.
3. Trusted trader and traveler programs (i.e. FAST and NEXUS): We will work to expedite a pilot for an advanced protocol 'will call' app that will expedite travelers at the land border.
4. Advance preclearance for passengers in the marine and rail modes: We will help to facilitate this expansion to increase the efficiency of our region’s cross-border rail and marine networks, thereby improving our cross-border connections.
PNWER provides a non-biased holistic view of the Columbia River Treaty. Through its Water Policy working group, PNWER provides an important dialogue on water policy issues throughout the region. By connecting with legislators, the private sector, and universities, PNWER works to identify best practices to improve water security, adaptation of climate change, and storage options.

PNWER has held a number of sessions on the Columbia River Treaty between Federal leaders from the U.S. and Canada and our regional State and Provincial leadership. PNWER provided testimony in the State Legislatures on the progress of the Columbia River Treaty as well as cross-border projects. PNWER leadership spoke with the lead negotiator in the U.S. stressing the importance of the Treaty to the entire region.

In 2019, PNWER continued promoting engagement in the treaty renegotiation process. PNWER participated in a special symposium hosted by the Columbia Basin Transboundary Conference in Kimberley, B.C. where stakeholders shared the benefits and impacts of the Treaty, focusing on areas including ecosystems, tribal groups, utilities, tourism, agriculture, recreation, and more. The Symposium also featured legislators of jurisdictions that are in and surrounding the Columbia River Basin who spoke about the effects of CRT on the livelihoods in the region. PNWER hosted a special session led by Minister Conroy, B.C.’s Minister Responsible for the Columbia River Treaty, in Seattle during the opening night of the Economic Leadership Forum on November 17th.


We have an opportunity to actually hear the concerns and suggestions of the residents of the basin. Our kids and their kids will be the beneficiaries of this future treaty.

- Hon. Katrine Conroy, B.C.
PNWER has identified aquatic invasive species as a top priority and regularly informs and advocates for invasive species funding, education, and prevention efforts at both the regional and federal levels. PNWER continues to champion efforts to combat the spread of invasive quagga and zebra mussels to the Pacific Northwest.

Working with state and provincial agencies, and promoting collaboration between them, PNWER works to form a more coordinated regional defense perimeter to fight invasive mussels. PNWER has been successful in securing $21 million U.S. federal matching funds for watercraft inspection stations for the four northwest states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington to protect the Columbia River Basin.

In 2019, four new river basins became eligible to access federal funds for watercraft inspection stations. PNWER successfully advocated for an increase of federal matching funds from $5 million to $15 million to ensure northwest states were still able to adequately protect their waterways from aquatic invasive species.

PNWER has engaged with key U.S. Department of Interior officials working towards a comprehensive policy of mandatory inspections on watercraft exiting the mussel-infested waters of Lake Mead and the Lower Colorado River Basin. Bi-partisan legislation sponsored by the Montana Senate delegation was introduced this year to assist states in combating the transportation of mussels on contaminated watercraft from these waterbodies.

The Invasive Species working group continues to engage on other challenges included feral swine and northern pike. Check out page 33 to learn more about the working leadership and action items for 2020. All of these efforts to protect the region directly impact our economic and environmental well-being.
PNWER has worked for years to foster innovation and cooperation across the region. Stemming from an Innovation Working Group action item, this spring and summer PNWER had the opportunity to work with Seattle-based startup Moonbeam Exchange and a team of graduate students from the University of Washington Master of Administration Applied International Studies (MAAIS) in the Jackson School of International Studies. The team excelled at researching clusters of economic development and forming recommendations on how the region could collaborate in specific sectors. Through this analysis the team identified nascent clusters of economic activity that could be nurtured through public/private partnership. Specifically:

- An emerging cargo drone hub in Anchorage;
- An opportunity to build a public safety-related technology hub in Calgary;
- A potential pivot toward medical devices and wearables in Portland;
- And global centers of excellence in AI and immersive tech in Seattle and Vancouver

Please take the time to review the great work the team put forward at pnwer.org and learn how the region can leverage the innovation clusters currently in the ecosystem. Contact Steve Myers at steve.myers@pnwer.org for more information.

Seattles and Vancouver represent a Globally Recognized Hub for Artificial Intelligence, Cloud, and Immersive Technology

MAAIS Team (left to right): Damian Allen, Nina Gerber, Arafat Sabawan, Jose Gomez
Every two years, PNWER executive committee members gather at the Economic Leadership Forum to discuss the organization’s priorities and how they align with PNWER’s mission statement. Before the Forum, PNWER staff reached out to the jurisdictions and asked for an updated list of their priorities. Priorities are matched with ongoing PNWER strategies and initiatives and turned into a priority wheel.

With public and private sector representatives from PNWER jurisdictions, the executive committee met and conducted an interactive exercise to determine which priorities are most important to which jurisdictions. Each delegate was given five stickers with their state’s initials, which they then placed on the chart according to their priorities. Participants were then encouraged to write their names on small sticky notes and attach them to those strategies they would personally like to work on. The resulting document serves as a guide for PNWER’s working groups.

Following this activity, the Priority Wheel is updated to reflect the new ranking of priorities and will be used as a starting point for PNWER priority re-evaluation in 2021.

“When states and provinces work together, we all succeed.”
- Hon. Katrine Conroy, B.C. Minister Responsible for the Columbia River Treaty

PNWER executive committee members engaged in collaborative discussion while considering the PNWER priorities for 2020-2021.
WORKING GROUPS
PNWER’s working groups, co-chaired by the public and private sectors, meet throughout the year with stakeholders to address regional items.

ACTION ITEMS
Action Items are developed by working groups at PNWER’s two annual meetings and approved by the Executive Committee. They represent concrete actions the working groups will take to advance the priorities identified and constitute PNWER’s priority work throughout the year.

KEY FINDINGS
Key Findings are best practices or identified needs that are highlighted by the working group during the sessions. Not all key findings are actions the working group will take on for the annual workplan.

Agriculture
Purpose: Provides input on cross-border agriculture trade issues to key decision makers in Ottawa and Washington, D.C. Focuses on agriculture trade with a primary examination of the new USMCA and the Canada - U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) Action Plan.

Action Items:
1. Statement in support of USMCA/CUSMA: The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) in both the United State and Canada, recognize the importance of trade and the immense benefits realized under the U.S.-Canada-Mexico Agreement. The agriculture sector in particular has been a major beneficiary, creating deeply integrated cross-border supply chains that have enhanced our competitiveness internationally. Members of the PNWER Agriculture Working Group urge both the U.S. and Canadian federal governments to ratify the agreement so we can realize the economic benefits of the USMCA/CUSMA.

2. Encourage state and provincial legislatures to explore policies for improved rural broadband access to enhance precision farming and blockchain for improved food safety capabilities across the region.

3. Explore and address policy gaps around utilizing unmanned vehicles in farming.
**Purpose:** Serves as a top forum for U.S.-Canada border coordination and collaboration by providing input on preclearance and recommendations for potential pilots in our region.

**Action Items:**
1. Develop draft proposal for a cargo truck pilot in our region similar to the Peace Bridge pilot.
2. Continue to engage with the Beyond Preclearance initiative and work to develop action plans for each of their working groups.
3. Work with research institutes to develop white papers related to economic impact analyses and cost estimates for various projects and policies, including pre-clearance, co-location, loss of Canadian Enhanced Driver’s Licenses, business impacts of immigration delays, etc.

**Cross Border Livestock Health**

**Purpose:** Exchanges information on animal health issues, develops a common understanding of disease policies, and exchanges information on emergency response to emerging and foreign animal diseases. Consists of state, provincial, and federal veterinarians and industry representatives.

**Findings:**
1. CFIA/USDA develop, in cooperation and consultation with livestock organizations, ‘disease zoning and/or departmentalization agreements in writing that minimize trade disruptions between U.S. and Canada, as well as with other major trading partners.
2. CFIA/USDA and all industry sectors to prioritize national EM preparedness planning.
3. Host regular meetings/exercises between industry leaders and CVOs at CFIA/USDA or trilateral meetings.
4. CFIA/USDA/Industry to discuss depopulation and disposal strategies and determine the delegation of responsibility between industry and government.
5. E-certification updates, expand functionality of feeder cattle export certificates from Canada to emulate the 24-hour travel time available by multiple trucks on U.S. feeder cattle export certificates.
**Disaster Resilience**

**Purpose:** Works with states, provinces, territories, and communities to create public-private partnerships, develop action plans, and undertake pilot projects and activities to improve regional disaster resilience cooperation and emergency preparedness. Primarily facilitated through the Center for Regional Disaster Resilience. More information on pages 20-21.

**Action Items:**
1. Promote the inclusion of Canada and its Western provinces in Canada Rising 2028: exercise and participation.
2. Finding: U.S. and Canadian federal governments should establish a knowledge database in the region for different types of mitigation projects and seek cooperation of private sector in data-sharing.
3. Seek funding for bi-national critical infrastructure exercise.

**Economic Development**

**Purpose:** Shares best practices among jurisdictions and highlights case-studies of successful economic initiatives that can be replicated around the region, examples being innovative financing opportunities, rural economic development, Indigenous business development, and urban to rural economic drivers.

**Action Items:**
2. Continue to invite Indigenous speakers from both sides of the border to participate at PNWER. Engage with national and international groups to discuss economic development. Potentially invite banking organizations to address financing opportunities.
3. Promote the World Indigenous Business Forum in October in Vancouver, B.C.
Energy

Purpose: Addresses the convergence of environmental sustainability and economic development, while promoting the region’s competitiveness in addressing environmental challenges with innovative solutions.

Action Items:


2. The PNWER Secretariat will continue to maintain and annually update an inventory of carbon policies in PNWER jurisdictions as a resource.

3. Finding: It was noted that energy storage companies in the PNWER region that are either developing or manufacturing energy storage technology should be catalogued.

4. Finding: It was noted that Indigenous Services Canada should collaborate with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to promote high performance homes.

5. Finding: It was identified that the working group should collaborate with the Energy working group to examine east-west transmission capacity.

6. Finding: It was identified that the working group should work with the Mining working group to catalog critical mineral inventories within the region with the idea of being able to foster a cluster for collaboration.

Energy and Environment

Purpose: Addresses the convergence of environmental sustainability and economic development, while promoting the region’s competitiveness in addressing environmental challenges with innovative solutions.

Action Items:

1. More education and training opportunities during the PNWER Summit for industry to educate policy makers about best practices, technological advancement, and successful policies in other jurisdictions. Prior to the Summit, survey the PNWER membership to identify weaknesses in understanding by legislators in order to fine tune the education received. Within this format, allow for local jurisdictions and industries a chance to inform legislators about the impact of the policy decisions they are making. Furthermore, this would provide an opportunity to enhance the Legislative Energy Horizons Institute (LEHI) program. More information on LEHI on page 13.
**FORESTRY**

**Purpose:** Promotes coordination and collaboration between private forest managers and landholders, legislators, and agency staff dedicated to healthy and sustainable forest management, as well as non-profit partners in conservancy and academics in forestry and wood product research.

**Action Items:**

1. Submit formal support statements from PNWER to state governments about the use of Good Neighbor Authority agreements, Shared Stewardship, and the role of active forest management in protecting our forests and communities.
2. Finding: There is a current need for ongoing information sharing, best practices, and continued cross-boundary learning on fire suppression, mitigation, and adaptation (such as a future event with trainings from professionals).
3. Finding: There is a need for more science on the long-term impacts of fire and smoke on human health.

**INNOVATION**

**Purpose:** Channels the strengths of the region’s resources into a collaborative, comprehensive effort to maximize economic benefit and respond to the competitive landscape of the global economy. This, coupled with worldwide environmental challenges, is creating unprecedented demand for scientific discovery and application.

**Action Items:**

1. Communicate the University of Washington recommendations with PNWER Delegates and representatives from Oregon, Alaska, and Alberta.
2. Work with the local host committee to develop an innovation panel or workshop for the PNWER Economic Leadership Forum in Seattle (potentially related to the Working Port or Smart Cities).
3. Identify a group of EDCs and districts for which to map capabilities (e.g. Co.Labs/Innovate Saskatoon, Launch Alaska, WEDA, Oregon Coastal Caucus) with a focus on presenting results of cross-region collaboration at the next PNWER Summit.
**Invasive Species**

**Purpose:** Establishes a regional defense against invasive species threats by bringing together state and provincial partners to collaborate on initiatives and coordinate on strategic partnerships, information sharing, and best practices. See more on invasive species on page 25.

**Action Items:**

1. **Establish a bi-partisan PNWER Invasive Mussel Advisory Committee** to advocate for continued federal funding of watercraft inspections/monitoring match funding for the Columbia River Basin.
2. **Advocate for funding from the Canadian federal government** to the provincial governments of western Canada to support AIS management and prevention.
3. **Assist in developing strategy to prevent infected boat movement from infested waters in the Midwest to Western states and provinces.**
4. **Facilitate a cross-border call on Feral Swine** to consider whether a committee would be useful.

**Mining**

**Purpose:** Identifies best practices for environmental sustainability and engaging Indigenous groups to improve the quality of life in the region while fostering economic development. The group aims to show how development when done responsibly, supports economic growth and increases the standard of living.

**Action Items:**

1. **Advocate for free flow of minerals (no tariffs) on critical minerals within the region to promote development in the area**
2. **Promote U.S. - Canada collaboration for critical mineral development in the region** (could include follow-up/progress for presentations by NRCan and Dept. of Interior).
3. **Share information on mineral exploration/production/investment in region.**
4. **Finding:** Saskatchewan Geological Survey has a best practice for mineral assessment for parks or no-development zones. This process provides an assessment so that an informed decision can be made on an area’s designation.
5. **Finding:** During the session, the importance of hosting a plenary speaker that will promote mineral literacy that showcases the connections between natural resource development and the digital economy was highlighted.
**TOURISM**

*Purpose:* Develops a more interconnected tourism region and facilitates collaboration among industry and public partners throughout the region. Tourism is one of the largest economic drivers in several PNWER jurisdictions, and is a clean industry.

*Action Items:*
1. Develop standards for tourism metrics across the region; enlist the help of key academic institutions to support the production of the Tourism Dashboard.
2. Collaborate with the Border working group to ensure at least one border metric is presented within the PNWER Tourism Dashboard.
3. Ensure the Tourism Dashboard includes a metric that speaks to the quality of tourism employment that is available in the region.
4. Finding: There is an opportunity to collaborate with the border working group on the following:
   a. Support and analyze Trusted Traveler Programs: Simplify application process, program offerings; promote attributes and educate tourism industry professionals and public sector; monitor customer satisfaction.
   b. From the Two Nation Vacation perspective, synchronize visa processes and border transit requirements for long-haul foreign visitors so they can easily visit each country. Review border process for group tour operators. Study independent foreign visitors as a separate customer group.

**TRADE**

*Purpose:* Works with public and private stakeholders to provide input to federal partners on specific issues impacting trade between the U.S. and Canada, including the new USMCA/CUSMA, the impact of tariffs, and the regulatory cooperation council (RCC). More information on page 2

*Action Items:*
1. Issue a statement in support of ratification of USMCA/CUSMA by the U.S. and Canada.
2. Encourage public and private PNWER delegates to communicate with their congressional and parliamentary delegation on the benefits of USMCA/CUSMA.
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

**Purpose:** Facilitates regional collaboration on public policy of transportation corridors and gateways, sharing best practices on technology development, infrastructure financing, and addressing the challenges of multi-modal market access to global markets.

**Action Items:**
1. Write letter of support urging the U.S. to issue a Presidential Permit for Alaska to Alberta (A2A) rail project.
2. Hold legislative panel in Big Sky 2020 on ACES, 5G connected technologies, harmonizing regulations. Smart Cities, includes smart communities focusing on rural development through 5G and other technologies to maintain economic prosperity.
3. Support request to U.S. DOT to assist with $25 million to continue maintenance of Alaska-Canada Highway that goes through Yukon and B.C.
4. Finding: It was noted that the working group should collaborate with the Border working group; Cascadia Innovation Corridor; and state, provincial, and federal agencies to promote the testing of autonomous vehicles (personal and commercial) on the I-5 and Hwy 99 corridor.
5. Finding: Idaho DOT will continue to be a leader on harmonizing trucking regulations among 5 NW states, and will showcase similar improvements in Western Canadian provinces.

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS ROUNDTABLE

**Purpose:** This cross-border regional forum for University Presidents is the only one of its kind in North America. University Presidents discuss issues impacting both sides of the border, as well as meet state, provincial, and territorial government and business leaders. The Presidents explore opportunities for cross-border research, exchange, study and collaboration. Presidents are able to promote the role universities play in economic development and regional growth to other summit delegates as well as explore opportunities for participation and partnership with PNWER and its working groups.

**Action Items:**
1. Finding: It was noted that continued engagement with Indigenous communities in economic development and workforce development should be supported across the region.
**Water Policy**

**Purpose:** Provides an important forum to address water policy issues throughout the region. Connects legislators, private-sector and universities to identify best practices to improve water security, climate change adaptation, and water storage options. Provides updates to the region on the Columbia River Treaty.

**Action Items:**

2. Continue to hold a legislative roundtable in future water policy session at the Annual Summit.

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**Workforce Development**

**Purpose:** Provides member policymakers, governments, academia, and industry with ideas and advice in support of regional workforce policies that promote education and worker retention and mobility within the region.

**Action Items:**

1. Professional Credential Recognition 2005: Licensing - Urge licensing bodies to adopt licensure by comity for professional credential recognition for engineers who have successfully practiced for a set number of years.
2. Develop a purpose statement and definite mission for the upcoming year - hold sidebar at Seattle meeting to identify key members.
3. Invite representatives and stakeholders that service marginalized communities to speak to challenges with engaging in education and workforce programs.
4. Invite representatives from major employers investing in workforce program development to speak about status. E.g. Amazon, RBC, Starbucks long-term investment in career development.
CONGRATULATIONS

PNWER OFFERS A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO FORMER PREMIER BOB MCLEOD OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES FOR HIS MANY OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO PNWER

Premier McLeod has served as Premier of the Northwest Territories for the past seven years and is the first Governor or Premier to join the ranks of PNWER officers. He was elected as PNWER Vice President during the 2018 Annual Summit in Spokane. He was instrumental in pushing for the Northwest Territories to join PNWER in 2009 and has been an active delegate or board member since that time.

Premier McLeod decided to retire this October. We would like to congratulate Bob and thank him for his leadership and the effort he and his colleagues have made to increasing our understanding of the modern Arctic and the many amazing opportunities and challenges in the North.

Bob is a founding member of the PNWER Arctic Caucus, and this year, he participated in the PNWER Capital visit to Juneau, Alaska and Annual Summit in Saskatoon to share his perspective on the importance of collaboration on Arctic policy, climate change, and economic sustainability.

We wish Bob a happy retirement and offer a heartfelt thank you for his many outstanding contributions to PNWER over the years!

“The Northwest Territories has benefited enormously by being a part of PNWER for the past decade. We face very similar challenges with our neighbors in bringing resources to market, and we need to work together to find out what works and share best practices as a region. PNWER has really helped us to do this and to develop a sustainable economic framework. Collaboration is key to doing anything in the Arctic.”

- Premier Bob McLeod, Northwest Territories
PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS & MEMBERS

PNWER IS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR REGIONAL PARTNERS.

Our economy is strengthened by our regional connections, and it was the recognition of the need to build strong partnerships across these borders that first prompted the formation of PNWER 28 years ago. PNWER’s reach cross-border and region wide makes it a valuable organization for business and government leaders alike.

STATUTORY MEMBERS

- Alaska
- Alberta
- British Columbia
- Idaho
- Montana
- Northwest Territories
- Oregon
- Saskatchewan
- Washington
- Yukon

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS & ASSOCIATIONS

- Beyond Preclearance Coalition
- Canada Border Services Agency
- Cascadia Innovation Corridor
- City of Saskatoon
- City of Seattle
- Cyber Incident Response Coalition & Analysis Sharing (CIRCAS)
- Consulate General of Canada in Seattle
- Energy Council
- Idaho Transportation Department
- Idaho Office of Emergency Management
- Idaho National Laboratory
- King County Office of Emergency Management
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- National Institute for Hometown Security (NIHS)
- Natural Resources Canada
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)
- Pass USMCA Coalition
- Public Safety Canada
- Transport Canada
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Consulate General in Calgary
- U.S. Consulate General in Vancouver
- U.S. Customs & Border Protection
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Washington State Homeland Security Region 6
- Washington State Military Department
- Western Governors Association

“Think of us not as two great countries, but as one great place... Innovation requires diversity. The best ideas come when you bring together people who think differently.”

- Brad Smith, President of Microsoft
ACADEMIC PARTNERS

- Border Policy Research Institute at WWU
- Northeastern University
- Portland State University
- University of Idaho
- University of British Columbia
- University of Saskatchewan
- University of Victoria
- University of Washington
- Western Washington University

SUPPORTERS & MEMBERS OF PRIVATE SECTOR COUNCIL

- ACES Northwest Network
- AJM Management Corporation
- Alaska Airlines
- Alberta Beef Producers
- AltaLink
- Amazon
- American Electric Power
- American Gas Association
- American Public Power Association
- ANM
- Argosy Cruises
- Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
- Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of Alberta
- Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of Saskatchewan
- Avista
- Battelle
- BERK Consulting
- Berkshire Hathaway Energy
- BHP
- BNSF Railway
- BP
- The Butchart Gardens
- Calgary Economic Development
- Cameco
- Canadian American Business Council
- Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
- Canadian Energy Pipeline Association
- Canpotex
- Cement Association of Canada
- CI Security
- CN
- Cruise Lines International
- Datec Incorporated
- Denendeh Investments
- Devon Energy
- Edison Electric Institute
- Enbridge
- Engineers & Geoscientists of B.C.
- ExxonMobil
- Fasken Martineau
- Federated Co-operatives Limited
- First Net-Built with AT&T
- Food Northwest
- FortisBC
- Harris Greenaway Communications
- Hawley Troxell
- Holland & Hart
- Idaho Dairymen’s Association
- Idaho Potato Commission
- Idaho Water Users Association
- J.R. Simplot
- K+S Potash Canada
- Marathon Petroleum
- MDU Resources
- Microsoft
- Moonbeam Exchange
- Mosaic
- NASCO
- Nelson Mullins
- Northwest Cement Council
- Northwest Gas Association
- Northwest Healthcare Response Network
- Northwest Territories Business Development and Investment Corp.
- Northwestern Energy
- Nuclear Energy Institute
- Nutrien
- Orano
- Oregon PUD Association
- Pacific Northwest Building Resilience Coalition
- Pacific Northwest Law Group
- Port of Seattle
- Port of Vancouver
- Portland General Electric
- Puget Sound Energy
- SK Cattlemen’s Association
- SK Trade and Export Partnership
- Shell
- Tacoma Power
- Teck
- Tourism Saskatoon
- TransAlta
- The Washington Companies
- Washington Public Utility Districts Assoc.
- Westin Building Exchange
- Yukon First Nations Chamber of Commerce
- Zions Bank
PNWER’s income is derived from statutory dues from member jurisdictions as well as state, provincial, and federal grants and contracts, and private sector contributions. Private sector sponsorships vary by company and amount, and help fund projects, meetings, and conferences.
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SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2019 INTERNS

Daniel Green, University of Washington
Miranda Harris Hamlin, Seattle Pacific University
Sonora Hetrick, University of Washington
Truman Hopper, Western Washington University
Alexa Nava, Seattle University
Brenton Riddle, University of Washington
Sarah Smiley, University of Washington

PNWER is proud to be able to offer the opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience in U.S. - Canada relations and economic development. Each quarter, we look forward to supporting students as they develop practical skills and provide them with opportunities to discover their strengths in order to become the leaders of the next generation. If you know of interested students located in the greater Seattle area, please email intern@pnwer.org.

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On behalf of the State of Montana, I would like to personally invite you to join us under Montana’s Big Sky for the 2020 Pacific NorthWest Region’s Annual Summit.

Events will be taking place July 19th through the 23rd in Big Sky, MT and I know you will not want to miss this opportunity to take in the natural beauty we offer.

Montana is an active member of PNWER and enthusiastically promotes collaboration in the Pacific Northwest region through the close cultural, bilateral, and multilateral links we have with our neighboring PNWER states and provinces.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with key business and legislative leaders from ten jurisdictions in two countries, who are interested in building innovative solutions to solve common challenges and enhance the economy and lifestyle of our communities.

PNWER is a leader in fostering regional and international cooperation on priority issues such as agriculture, energy, the environment, disaster resilience, economic development, invasive species, trade, tourism, transportation, and workforce mobility.

Join us in Big Sky in July of next year for what promises to be an exciting conference that will bring together over 500 legislators, private sector and government leaders, who will share innovative solutions for our great region. And while you plan your trip, make sure to plan time to take in some of Montana’s spectacular, unspoiled nature, visit our vibrant and charming small towns, and have breathtaking experiences by day and relaxing Montana hospitality at night.

I look forward to welcoming you to Big Sky, Montana!

Sincerely,

STEVE BULLOCK
Governor
The leading forum where people in the policy world and the business world come together to figure out solutions to regional challenges.

Visit pnwer.org/2020-summit for more information.
Pacific Northwest Economic Region

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