



Pacific North West Economic Region

Innovative Infrastructure Finance Task Force

Traditional funding mechanisms for large-scale infrastructure and transportation projects have been challenged in recent years, encouraging states/provinces and regional jurisdictions to find innovative strategies to fund projects. Partnering with private funding sources has found success in Canada and select U.S. states, but a lack of regulation harmonization and disparate financing laws between PNWER U.S. member states presents challenges in coordinating infrastructure and transportation planning efforts. More information at <http://www.pnwer.org/infrastructure-finance.html>

A PNWER-based Innovative Infrastructure Finance taskforce can play an important role in sharing best practices for public-private infrastructure financing and the public benefits of utilizing new models of infrastructure finance. Potential actions for the working group include:

- **Establish a PNWER advisory board** to help coordinate and partner with P-3 initiatives in PNWER. These include Partnerships BC, SaskBuilds, Alberta Infrastructure as well as the multi-jurisdictional West Coast Infrastructure Exchange
- **Establish a resource center** to act as a repository for the widening infrastructure finance knowledge base, maintaining a reference library of innovative financing models from projects throughout PNWER
 - **Analysis of Cost-Savings:** [Infrastructure Ontario – Alternative Financing and Procurement](#) (Office of the Auditor General of Ontario)
 - **Procurement:**
 - [Public-Private Partnership Project Assessment and Procurement Guideline](#) (SaskBuilds)
 - [Procurement Options Analysis](#) (PPP Canada)
 - **Best Practices:**
 - [Canada as a Global Leader: Delivering Value through Public-Private Partnerships at Home and Abroad](#) (The Conference Board of Canada)
 - [Methodology for Quantitative Procurement Options Analysis](#) (Partnerships BC)
 - [Alberta's Public-Private Partnership Framework and Guideline](#) (Alberta Treasury Board)
 - [Identifying P3 Potential](#) (PPP Canada)
- Work through PNWER delegates to **inventory each jurisdiction's legislative statutory framework** for public private partnerships
- Seek regional partners to **secure federal bi-national funding** for legislative advocacy in addition to potential private sector and foundation in-kind and financial grants

- Lead **infrastructure financing teach-in teleconferences** with U.S. and Canadian state and provincial legislative leaders to educate on related issues, such as risk transfer, use of federal resources, etc.
- Serve as **regional ambassadors** for national initiatives with speakers from USDOT, Departments of Treasury and Commerce, the Department of Homeland Security, Public Safety Canada, Transport Canada, and Infrastructure Canada
- **Sponsor field visits** directly prior to PNWER's Annual Summit in July and host a bi-national PNWER alternative infrastructure financing forum
- Create a **bi-national, university-based research project** with private industry oversight to investigate current and potential barriers to project delivery for infrastructure and transportation projects
- **Incubate alternative infrastructure financing projects** in partnership with universities through PNWER's University Presidents Roundtable

Past Events

- Jan. 14, 2016: Salem, OR Capitol Visit
- Jan. 15, 2016: conference call with Working Group co-chairs and PNWER staff – ID potential topics for Summit meeting, Working Groups members to help with agenda
- Jan. 19 – 20, 2016: Olympia, WA Capitol Visit
- Jan. 20 – 21, 2016: Boise, ID Capitol Visit
- Feb. 9, 2016: Webinar - Mark Romoff, President & Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Council for Public Private Partnerships; Michael Gifford, President, AGC of Colorado; and John Parkinson, Executive Director of Association for the Improvement of American Infrastructure

Prospective Timeline

- April 2016: Select choices for infrastructure tour(s), begin planning logistics. Working Group conference call to select topics and speakers for Summit meeting, ideas for possible infrastructure tours
- **May 10, 2016: Webinar featuring Jonathan Trutt, Executive Director, West Coast Infrastructure Exchange & Canadian perspective TBD**
- May 2016: Secure Summit speaker confirmations
- May 30 – June 3, 2016: conference call with Working Group co-chairs and speakers to determine speaker order, agenda, and presentations for Summit meeting; finalize infrastructure tour plans
- June 13 – 17, 2016: finalize speaker confirmations
- July 11 – 15, 2016: infrastructure tour(s) leading up to Summit meeting
- **July 18 – 22, 2016: PNWER Annual Summit**
 - **Monday, July 18th**
 - **morning - Transportation Session**
 - **afternoon – Infrastructure Session**