

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and Workforce Mobility



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

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Enhanced mobility between jurisdictions opens the door to all kinds of opportunities for joint ventures, cross border practice and technology exchange.

Improving Workforce Mobility

Workforce Mobility

Enhancing cross border mobility for goods and services is a key goal of PNWER. On separate occasions the PNWER Executive Committee has voted unanimously to support resolutions proposing enhanced mobility for professionals and the ability to gain professional licensure without undue process. Over the past twelve years discussions between U.S. and Canadian regulators has demonstrated that although the systems used are different in many respects the end result is equivalent, i.e. both systems ensure that only fully qualified individuals are licensed to practice.

PNWER Engineering Licensure Resolution

PNWER's Workforce Mobility resolution calls on all PNWER jurisdiction licensing bodies for engineers to adopt policies or present amendments to their respective legislative bodies which allows them to waive the requirement for satisfaction of prescriptive credentials in education and examination if the applicant meets specific criteria adopted by each jurisdiction

PNWER continues to encourage Alaska, Montana, Oregon and Washington to join with Idaho in facilitating this resolution.

Working Group Co-Chairs

- Sen. Maralyn Chase, Washington State Legislature
- Shawna L. Argue, P.Eng., FEC, FCSSE, FGC (Hon.)
Director of Education and Compliance, Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientist of Saskatchewan

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and Future Workforce Needs

Leveraging Our World Class Workforce

Skilled Worker Engagement & Development

Currently, the skilled worker demand in the Region is far exceeding the supply of available trades people. PNWER's goal is to encourage stakeholders to examine ways the region can promote job opportunities to workers in the region.

The Workforce Development Working Group is identifying the barriers to addressing labor shortages, the key stakeholders, and specific actions that can be implemented to alleviate these shortages. How can we train and retrain the skilled workforce that will be needed to fuel the growth of tomorrow? What are the best practices of industry/government cooperation? How can we ensure greater professional mobility in terms of licensing requirements, as many projects cross multiple jurisdictions? PNWER works to find solutions to these issues and more.

The Future

The Pacific Northwest (Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Saskatchewan, Washington, Yukon and Northwest Territories) has over 22 million people and is one of the fastest growing regions of North America. Currently, the Pacific Northwest has a bi-national, regional advocate that works in collaboration with the public and private sectors. Our region needs to explore all the possibilities when it comes to ensuring growth for the future. PNWER engages private sector, government, and academia to learn how we can leverage our regional workforce. As our economies continue to grow we need to have a flexible and mobile workforce that can meet the needs of all our jurisdictions.



High Demand Occupations in the Region

- ◇ Carpenters
- ◇ Industrial Electricians
- ◇ Ironworkers
- ◇ Millwrights
- ◇ Machinists
- ◇ Plumbers and Pipe fitters
- ◇ Welders
- ◇ Heavy Duty Mechanics
- ◇ Heavy Equipment Technicians
- ◇ Drilling Coordinators/Production Managers
- ◇ Boilermakers