

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Matt Morrison, PNWER CEO

Cell: (206) 399-4026

Office: (206) 443-7723

matt.morrison@pnwer.org



April 24, 2018

Exemption on Canadian steel and aluminum should be extended beyond April 30.

TARIFFS – THE WRONG WAY TO ACHIEVE GREATER ECONOMIC GROWTH, RESILIENCE, AND SECURITY IN NORTH AMERICA

SEATTLE – The highly integrated North American steel and aluminum industry supports critical manufacturing supply chains in both the US and Canada. Because of our interdependent economic ties, the proposed 25% steel and 10% aluminum tariffs will have unintended consequences which will seriously impact jobs and local economies in the US and Canada.

If tariffs are imposed they most likely will lead to higher prices for consumers in the US and in Canada which will limit economic growth. Canada buys more American steel than any other country and accounts for 50% of US exports. The US has a \$2 billion surplus in steel trade with Canada, and US exports of aluminum to Canada support more than 160,000 US jobs.

Should any tariffs be considered on steel and aluminum, Canada deserves an exemption due to our shared economics ties, supply chain integration, and mutual defense partnership.

Senator Arnie Roblan (Oregon), PNWER President: “PNWER stands for the strong economic connection between our two countries. We have the longest open border in the world, and our trade policy should reflect that. The integrated supply chains that allow us to build world class airplanes depend upon stable, reliable, and open trade relationships with Canada that would be disrupted by any tariffs between us.”

"Canada and the US share a long history of economic and security cooperation that has created one of the world's most enduring and prosperous international partnerships. Exempting Canada from the proposed steel and aluminum tariffs is the right choice for both our countries. It would mean these highly integrated industries can continue providing the prosperity and security that support so many businesses and hundreds of thousands of jobs on both sides of the border," said Graham Sucha, Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, and PNWER Vice President.

PNWER supports the modernization of NAFTA to enhance the existing economic relationships within PNWER jurisdictions in a mutually beneficial manner, and these tariffs should be waived while negotiations are in place for a modernized NAFTA.

MORE ABOUT PNWER

Founded in 1991, the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is the only statutory, non-partisan, bi-national, public/private partnership in North America. PNWER is the forum for collaborative bi-national planning involving both the public and private sectors from the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska; the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia; and Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

For more information, visit www.pnwer.org.