



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 24, 2024

Washington State Representative Cindy Ryu Elected to Serve as President of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER)

Ryu to serve one-year term as chair of the bi-national nonprofit organization

WHISTLER, BC – The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region’s (PNWER) Delegate Council elected Cindy Ryu, state representative for Washington’s 32nd Legislative District, to serve as the next PNWER president at this year’s PNWER Annual Summit in Whistler, BC, on July 21.

Ryu was elected to serve as PNWER U.S. vice chair in 2022 and will continue to represent Washington state as PNWER president for the next year. In this role, Ryu will work to foster cross-border collaboration between PNWER’s 10 member jurisdictions and ensure the Washington state government remains an engaged partner on important regional issues.

“I am thrilled to be serving as the PNWER president and will work hard to serve our member states, provinces and territories,” Ryu said. “I chair the Innovation, Community & Economic Development, and Veterans Committee and serve on the Washington Tourism Marketing Authority, NCSL 2024 Taskforce on Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity and Privacy, and the FCC Intergovernmental Advisory Committee in large part because of the conversations and engagements within PNWER over the 14 years I have been in the Washington State Legislature.”

Ryu is currently serving her 7th term in the Washington State House of Representatives. Ryu served as a Shoreline city council member prior to joining the legislature, during which time she became the first Korean American woman mayor in America.

During her term as PNWER president, Ryu said her focus will be on tourism, disaster resilience and advanced technology, including biosciences and artificial intelligence. Ryu will also play an integral role in shaping the [2025 PNWER Annual Summit](#), which will take place in Bellevue, WA, July 20 - 24, 2025.

“PNWER has both informed and demonstrated to me the value of regional cooperation and coordination PNWER provides on critical topics of the Pacific Northwest and beyond,” Ryu said. “I hope you will join me in preparing to welcome everyone to the 2025 Summit in Bellevue, WA next year.”

###

ABOUT PNWER

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is a public/private non-profit organization created by statute in 1991. Member jurisdictions include Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington, and the Canadian provinces and territories of Alberta, British Columbia, the Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon. PNWER's mission is to increase the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the region; identify and promote "models of success" and serve as a conduit to exchange information. For more information on PNWER, visit www.pnwer.org.

Contact:

Patty Kieburtz
Communications Manager
Pacific Northwest Economic Region
Patty.Kieburtz@pnwer.org