



PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Message from the President



I am honored to serve you as the president of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region. Our region is unique in its unparalleled quality of life, outstanding environment and economic potential. The incredible natural beauty, strong agricultural and manufacturing production, vast natural resources, world class cosmopolitan cities and rural communities are second to none. The efficient transportation corridors and gateway facilities ensure our place in the world as a major hub for trade and commerce.

The real engine of region is our skilled and innovative people, our most valued resource. Having dedicated my career to education, I know the important benefit of educated, well-trained critical thinkers. I am impressed by the caliber and quality of the individuals working to make our region a global leader in economic development done responsibly, while ensuring the well-being of our communities.

PNWER has proven itself to be an ideal vehicle for identifying shared regional problems and crafting solutions that serve the people we represent. With our region strategically located between Asia and Europe and at the crossroads of trade between North America and Asia, the opportunities for economic growth are immense and I believe PNWER is the best organization to help us take full advantage of them.

By seeking and sharing the perspectives of public, private, academic and non-profit stakeholders, PNWER allows us to pursue common goals and craft collaborative solutions to the pressing issues and unprecedented opportunities we face.

Please continue to contribute your participation, ideas, and support to take cooperation within our region to the next level. With this in mind, I invite you to come and share in PNWER's 2018 Annual Summit in Spokane, Washington, July 22 - 26, 2018. With more than 600 legislators, business, and local government leaders participating, the Summit is an excellent forum for establishing relationships and developing regional solutions to the global challenges and opportunities we share. The transcendent cooperation and collaboration facilitated by PNWER has resulted in the provision and sharing of key infrastructure, education, entrepreneurial expertise and state and federal funding that has made possible the successes we in Oregon are experiencing.

I acknowledge and congratulate MLA Dan Ashton (BC) for the exceptional achievements he accomplished as PNWER's president and for his outstanding leadership of PNWER in 2016 - 2017. As PNWER's president, I will look to sustain this successful collaborative model – the spirit of the people in our region – but also to explore unique opportunities for cooperation and collaboration with the private sector and all levels of government including First Nations.

Hopefully the activities and outcomes highlighted from this past year will encourage you to continue to be actively involved in PNWER. We live in a great future-oriented, outward-looking, and economically vibrant region that encourages cooperation, collaboration, and perseverance among our members to make a real difference for the well being of our families.



Arnie Roblan, PNWER President

Contents

Introduction

- 4 | About PNWER
- 5 | Leadership
- 6 | 2017 at a Glance
- 8 | Key Accomplishments

Conferences

- 10 | 27th Annual Summit
- 14 | 2017 Economic Leadership Forum

Programs

- 16 | Invasive Species
- 17 | Legislative Energy Horizon Institute
- 18 | Working Groups and Action Items
- 28 | Capital Visits
- 31 | Center for Regional Disaster Resilience

Finances

- 32 | PNWER Partnerships
- 33 | Financial Report
- 34 | Supporters and Partners

Upcoming Events

- 35 | 2018 Annual Summit: Spokane

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About PNWER

PNWER is the preeminent bi-national advocate for regional state, provincial, and territorial issues.

Founded in 1991, the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (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 provides the public and private sectors a cross-border forum for unfiltered dialogue, capitalizing on synergies between business leaders and elected officials with the goal of working to advance the region's global competitiveness.

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.

Public & Private Sector Leadership

PNWER delivers results on regional issues through action plans developed within working groups that correspond to the region's key priorities. Each working group is co-chaired by an industry or academic leader and a government representative.

Mission

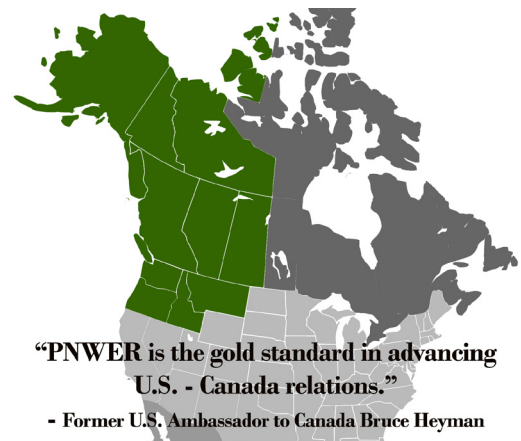
To increase the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the region, while maintaining and enhancing our world-class natural environment.

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

The Region's Future

With over \$1.2 trillion (USD) in gross regional product, the Pacific Northwest region is one of the fastest growing regions of North America, and is Asia's gateway to the continent.



PNWER Staff

Matt Morrison, CEO

Brandon Hardenbrook, COO

Eric Holdeman, Director, Center for Regional Disaster Resilience (CRDR)

Steve Myers, Senior Program Manager

Rachael Kopp, Events Manager

Jennifer Grosman, Program Manager

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Angelica Wang, Program Coordinator

Chris Chan, CPA, Accountant



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President
Oregon



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Saskatchewan



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**Jurisdiction Leads on the
PNWER Executive Committee
are in bold*

PRIVATE SECTOR COUNCIL

PRIVATE SECTOR

CO-CHAIRS

Colin Smith, Engineers &
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Dan Kirschner, NWGA

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Bill Kidd, BP
Cam Toohey, Shell
Hans Neidig, ExxonMobil

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Economic Development
Mike Simpson, Devon
Energy
Larry Delver, Alberta Beef
Producers
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Riley Georgson, Transalta
Scott Thon, AltaLink
Adam Sweet, Edmonton
Economic Development
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Kevin Davis, Quad-Lock
Hana Doubrava, Microsoft
Marcia Smith, Teck
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Gardens
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Patrick Kole, Idaho Potato
Commission
Bob Naeurbout, Idaho
Dairymen's Assn.
John Revere, INL/Battelle
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Washington Companies
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Energy

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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Investments
Pawan Chugh, NWT BDIC

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Sunny Radcliffe, PGE
Kent Yu, Seft Consulting
Ken Nichols, EQL Energy
Curt Abbott, Oregon PUD
Association
Diane Warner, Northwest
Cement Council
Mark Sytsma, Portland
State University

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Natashia Stinka, Canpotex
Janice Tranberg,
SaskCanola
Bob McDonald, APEGS

WASHINGTON

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Courtney Wallace, BNSF
Nina Odell, PSE
Brandon Housekeeper, PSE
Irene Plenefisch, Microsoft
Megan Ouellette, Alaska
Airlines
Bob Sailer, PNWLG
George Caan, WPUDA

YUKON

Lynn Hutton, Yukon First
Nations Chamber of
Commerce

OTHER

David Miller, CN
Amb. David Wilkins, Nelson
Mullins

January

PNWER organized Capital Visits to Juneau, Olympia, and Salem to discuss key PNWER initiatives and provide testimony at legislative hearing on issues related to invasive species and disaster resilience.



February

PNWER convened new NAFTA Modernization Task Force and developed a survey to solicit stakeholder input on modernizing NAFTA.

March

PNWER hosted a major cyber security exercise in Washington state utilizing an innovative game format.



Sen. Arnie Roblan assumed PNWER presidency from Dan Ashton, MLA at the 27th Annual PNWER Summit in Portland, Oregon.

PNWER Summit brought together 843 delegates to discuss major regional challenges and opportunities.

PNWER's Legislative Energy Horizon Institute (LEHI) provided an extensive overview of the North American energy system for legislators, administrators and policy experts in Richland, Washington.

PNWER organized a working session on interdependencies between energy and transportation sectors in partnership with Northeastern University. Captain Linda Sturgis, Commander, Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound, shared the lessons from New York's recovery following Hurricane Sandy.

July

August

September

April

Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly visited PNWER to discuss disaster resilience planning, border solutions, and trade.

CRDR held the Disruptive Trends in Public Safety Technology Symposium.



May

PNWER visited Ottawa and met with Minister Marc Garneau, Minister Jim Carr, Charge d'Affaires Elizabeth Aubin, General Andrew Leslie, and several other key Canadian officials to discuss NAFTA, transportation, and natural resources. PNWER Executive Director also provided testimony to the Standing Committee on International Trade on NAFTA modernization (pictured below).



June



PNWER held the Economic Leadership Forum in Victoria, B.C., a productive meeting with advancements made on PNWER working group action items. Lead delegates from member jurisdictions helped clarify the organization's priorities for the upcoming year and drafted a NAFTA Resolution. (Pictured above: Sen. Arnie Roblan)

The Economic Leadership Forum attendees explored the differences in governance systems and visited the beautiful BC Parliament Building in November.

32 state and provincial legislators and six non-legislative attendees graduated from the rigorous LEHI program in Washington D.C. (see pg 17).

PNWER organized a Cybersecurity Workshop to discuss cyber incident reporting and emergency cyber workers.

October

November

December

NAFTA Modernization Task Force

In November 2016, PNWER established a *NAFTA Modernization Task Force* to develop a regional bi-national consensus of recommendations needed to update the agreement. The Task Force held monthly calls to discuss key areas of interest to include in a modernized agreement and to develop a survey to collect feedback from economic sectors across the bi-national region. With NAFTA renegotiation ongoing, PNWER provides regular updates on the process to stakeholders. This continues to be a priority for PNWER delegation visits to Ottawa and D.C. *See pg. 30 for more details.*

Members of the Task Force Include:

- PNWER Private Sector Working Group
Co-chairs
- Alberta Economic Development and Trade
- Alaska Department of Commerce Division
Economic Development
- Business Oregon
- BC Trade Policy and Negotiations
- BC Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
- Cascadia Institute
- Idaho Department of Agriculture
Market Development Division
- Idaho Department of Commerce
- Montana Department of Commerce
- Montana Governor's Office of Economic
Development
- Northwest Territories Ministry of Industry Tourism
and Investment
- Saskatchewan International Relations Executive
Council
- Saskatchewan Trade Policy Executive Council,
Office of the Premier
- Washington Department of Commerce
- Washington Governor's Advisor for Trade Policy
- Washington Council on International Trade
- Western Washington University Border Policy
Research Institute
- Yukon Economic Development

NAFTA Modernization Survey

Through this process PNWER created a survey to gather feedback from across North America. The survey collected data from industries and organizations on overarching principles that they would like to see included in a renegotiated NAFTA. The results of the survey were submitted to the United States Trade Representative and Canadian Parliament House Standing Committee on International Trade, respectively, in response to their calls for public comment. PNWER also testified at hearings at the US Trade Representative and Standing Committee on International Trade in Ottawa.

NAFTA Modernization Resolution

In November 2017, the PNWER Executive Committee approved a resolution in support of the modernization of NAFTA. In summary, the resolution states that PNWER supports the modernization of NAFTA to enhance the existing economic relationships within PNWER jurisdictions in a mutually beneficial manner; and, that PNWER continues to encourage our countries to respect the spirit of NAFTA by promoting policies that support and enhance the integrated nature of our supply chains and economies that provide jobs in our respective communities; and that PNWER supports improvements that enhance the commitment and the success for all parties of NAFTA; and that PNWER members encourage their federal governments to strive towards a modernized NAFTA that builds upon its current success to further enhance trade and investment in North America.

For the complete text and more information, please visit www.pnwer.org/nafta-modernization

NAFTA Recommendations

Stakeholder survey recommendations:

1. **INCLUDE ADVANCEMENTS FROM OTHER FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS:** As a starting point, examine previously agreed upon advances from modern trade agreements like the Trans-Pacific Partnership.
2. **CROSS-BORDER TRADE FACILITATION:** Include "modern" processes for cross-border customs (methods to streamline and simplify clearance, declaration, documentation, facilitation, etc.). Simple clearance, declaration and origin rules will facilitate that process. Harmonizing and aligning standards before products reach the border to increase efficient trading. This includes preclearance for goods and livestock.
3. **DIGITAL TRADE AND E-COMMERCE:** NAFTA should be modernized to provide a framework to promote and govern digital trade, e-commerce, services; including financial services, logistics, and information and communication technology.
4. **ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE:** Support further integration of North American energy markets and the infrastructure needed to connect them.
5. **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:** Increase protection of intellectual property
6. **REGULATORY COOPERATION:** Encourage permanent adoption and expansion of the Regulatory Cooperation Council to align product standards, testing, and certification.
7. **EXPRESS DELIVERY:** Include modern provisions to facilitate cross-border express delivery for small shipments; harmonize de minimis thresholds for expedited shipments.
8. **LABOR MOBILITY:** Update NAFTA labor categories to reflect modern classifications and expand common standards for professions and mutual recognition of skills credentials.
9. **PROCUREMENT:** Include exemption for Canadian content in "Buy American" procurement, as it currently is in the defense sector.
10. **DISPUTE SETTLEMENT:** Establish clearer and more effective mechanisms for resolving trade disputes.

Preclearance

In 2015, PNWER established a *Preclearance Task Force* to provide input on the expected benefits and coordinate with agencies on both sides of the border prior to and during the eventual implementation of the agreement. Since November 2014, the Task Force has held monthly conference calls to share information across the Northern Border on the challenges, process, timeline, and implementation. This stakeholder engagement has helped with increased outreach and engagement from the federal entities to the Pacific Northwest. PNWER was instrumental in securing implementation legislation in the US in Dec. 2016 and in Canada in late 2017.

PNWER Preclearance Task Force Participating Organizations:

- Amtrak
- BC Ministry of Transportation
- Blackball Ferry
- Border Policy Research Institute
- Canada Border Services Agency
- Canadian Consulate Seattle
- CanAmBTA
- Cascadia Institute
- Government of British Columbia
- International Mobility and Trade Corridor
- Kenmore Air
- NW Congressional staff
- NW Cruise Line Industry Association
- Pacific Northwest Economic Region
- Port of Vancouver
- Privy Council of Canada
- Public Safety Canada
- Rocky Mountaineer
- The Butchart Gardens
- Tourism Industry Association of BC
- Tourism Victoria
- Transport Canada
- UPS
- US Consulate Vancouver BC
- US Customs and Border Protection
- US Department of Homeland Security
- Victoria Airport
- Victoria Clipper
- Washington Dept. of Transportation

The Pacific Northwest is in a unique geographic area of mountains and sea and has all the transportation modes tied to the "Two-Nation Vacation". This region is a prime location to test the implementation of preclearance.

PNWER holds 27th Annual Summit in Portland, Oregon

The Annual Summit, July 23-27, brought together 843 legislators, government officials, private sector leaders, members of academia, and the non-profit sector to discuss opportunities for growth within the region and address major challenges to the economy and our environment. PNWER Summits feature four days of powerful keynote speakers, first-class networking opportunities, and collaborative sessions. Attendees made connections that will be beneficial to the region in the future.

BY THE NUMBERS

843 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

- 54 state, provincial and territorial legislators
- 11 U.S. Federal Congressional leaders or federal Canadian MPs and Senators
- 73 CEOs or VPs
- 38 Executive Directors of NGOs or Associations
- 14 University Presidents or VPs
- 66 Non-elected state government officials
- 14 Federal level officials

Summit delegates discussed pertinent topics throughout 20 working group sessions, highlighting opportunities and challenges in cross-border trade, energy development and environmental stewardship, regional defense against invasive species, transportation and infrastructure, innovation, rural economic development, and other regional concerns.

Throughout the Summit, keynote speakers provided background and insight into important regional issues. Microsoft President Brad Smith gave a very compelling overview of the tremendous technology resources in our region and the need to expand this “innovation corridor” through sharing resources, workers, and expanding opportunities in education. Ambassador David Wilkins led a discussion on U.S. - Canada border and trade issues with Denis Stevens, Deputy Head of Mission Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and Charge d’Affaires Elizabeth Moore Aubin, U.S. Embassy in Ottawa.

The Summit featured several policy tours in and around the Portland area focused on innovative best practices to share with regional policy makers. The tours included OTRADI Health and Bioscience Innovations Incubator, Port of Portland tour, Sustainable and Resilient Buildings walking tour, and a full day tour of leading industries in the beautiful Columbia River Gorge - Bonneville Dam and Insitu Unmanned Aircraft.



Microsoft President & Chief Legal Officer Brad Smith spoke on the Innovation Corridor and the importance of sharing resources in our region.

WORKING GROUP SESSIONS

- Agriculture
- Border & Trade
- Cross-Border Livestock Health
- Climate Change Leadership
- Disaster Resilience Symposium
- Economic Development
- Energy
- Energy & Environment
- Forestry
- Infrastructure
- Innovation
- Invasive Species
- Mining
- Tourism
- Transportation
- University Presidents
- Water Policy
- Workforce Development

For more information, including presentations, proceedings and the complete agenda, please visit: www.pnwer.org/2017summit
Join us at next year's Summit in Spokane, WA July 22-26, 2018.



Ambassador David Wilkins moderated a discussion with Denis Stevens, Deputy Head of Mission Canadian Embassy in Washington D.C., and Charge d'Affaires Elizabeth Moore Aubin, U.S. Embassy in Ottawa.



Hon. Lawrence MacAulay, Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada participated in a stakeholder dialogue on Agriculture trade and NAFTA modernization issues during the Agriculture working group session.



University Presidents Roundtable participants discussed opportunities for better collaboration in the region.

“
Innovation requires diversity. The best ideas come when you bring together people who think differently.
Brad Smith, Microsoft
President & CLO
”



Oregon Secretary of State Dennis Richardson welcomed the PNWER Summit attendees to Portland.



Mayor Don Iveson spoke at the PNWER Summit, sharing the story of Edmonton's innovation in traditional industries.

ANNUAL SUMMIT: PARTNER EVENTS



ID Director of Emergency Management Brad Richy co-chaired the Disaster Resilience Symposium.



ID. Rep. Jeff Thompson, Energy Co-chair led a discussion on the utility pricing market during the Energy session.

DISASTER RESILIENCE SYMPOSIUM: As part of the 2018 Summit, a two-day **Disaster Resilience Symposium** was hosted by PNWER's Center for Regional Disaster Resilience. The symposium had eight sessions on a wide range of disaster resilience topics including public safety technology, cybersecurity, fires and floods, climate adaptation, and infrastructure resilience. 115 people registered for this event, in addition to other summit attendees who attended individual sessions. *See page 31.*

AEC PORTLAND HACKATHON: The Hackathon brought together architects, engineers, and construction practitioners to collaborate with innovators in VR/AR, automation, IoT, AI, and cloud computing for the future of the built environment.



Members of the Oregon Coastal Caucus discussed issues related to their region.

OREGON COAST ECONOMIC SUMMIT: The Oregon Coast Economic Summit co-met during the event and brought together nearly 200 congressional, state, local and tribal leaders, public policy advocates, academics, and private partners to discuss a wide range of topics that recognize the unique economic diversity of our coastal and rural communities.

PNWER thanks the Oregon host committee, co-chaired by Sen. Arnie Roblan and his staff, alongside Bill Wyatt, Executive Director, Port of Portland (retired), for their hard work in planning and executing this successful event.



Keynote presentation featuring Dr. Stephen E. Flynn, Founding Director of Center for Resilience Studies, Northeastern University, and Dr. Randy Kirchain, Co-Director of the Concrete Sustainability Hub, MIT.



Mary Moran, President of Calgary Economic Development gave opening remarks during the Economic Development working group session.



Ninth Circuit Senior Circuit Judge Edward Leavy and Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum of Oregon.



Bruce Agnew, Director, Cascadia Center, and PNWER Transportation co-chair, was recognized with the Alan Bluechel Memorial Award for his visionary leadership in promoting transportation solutions for the shared prosperity of the region.



Bryce Christiaens, Chair of the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council, and Jon Trapp, Operations Chief Incident Command Team, were awarded the Hot Potato award by PNWER Vice President Rep. Mike Cuffe for their work on building a firewall to protect the shared U.S. and Canadian Columbia River Basin following the discovery of invasive mussels in Montana.

“ We don't have Canadian issues and American issues; we have common issues. Denis Stevens, Deputy Head of Mission at Canada's Embassy to the U.S. ”



PNWER Leadership Elected. Sen. Arnie Roblan (left) accepted the PNWER presidency from 2016 - 2017 President, Dan Ashton, MLA, B.C.



Attendees enjoyed the best of Oregon's wine, craft brews, and seafood industries as part of the "Taste of Oregon" off-site reception at the Oregon Historical Society.



Legislators enjoyed the opportunity to network at the Summit. Pictured here from L-R Senator Floyd Prozanski (OR), Representative Sharon Wylie (WA), Senator Arnie Roblan (OR), Arlene Roblan, Representative Cindy Ryu (WA), and Senator Michael Dembrow (OR).

Economic Leadership Forum & Legislative Leadership Academy

Victoria, B.C.
November 5-7

More than 150 state and provincial legislators and business leaders from the Pacific Northwest and Western Canada convened at the Economic Leadership Forum, November 5 - 7 in Victoria to discuss regional economic issues, support international trade, and build cross-border relationships.

A highlight of the 2017 Economic Leadership Forum was the Legislative Leadership Academy, which gave participants a first-hand view of the differences between the Canadian and U.S. systems of government. The Academy is designed to educate, foster closer relationships, and develop a more in-depth understanding of issues among U.S. and Canadian legislators.



PNWER President Arnie Roblan during the Legislative Leadership Academy. Participants were tested on how well they knew the system of governance in the opposite country.

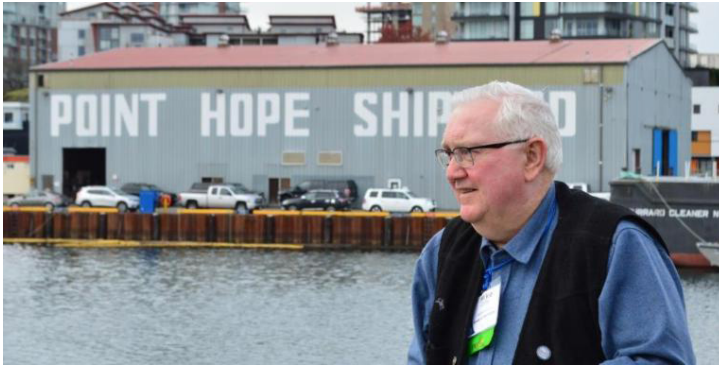
During the meeting, PNWER released its NAFTA Resolution calling for the modernization of the agreement. (*See page 8 for more details*). Attendees also heard from Dan Ujcz, Canada - U.S. Law Specialist with Dickenson Wright, on the current state of negotiations for the NAFTA. Ujcz identified key issues in the negotiation process, possible timeline of events, and several scenarios of how NAFTA is expected to shake out.



A panel discussion between the Honourable Darryl Plecas, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia (right) and Senator Arnie Roblan, former co-Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives (left), gave participants insight into the role of the Speaker in both countries. Former BC Minister of Environment Barry Penner (middle) moderated the insightful session.



Tuesday Keynote speakers Drew McArthur B.C. Commissioner of Information & Privacy (left) and Alex Alben, Chief Privacy Officer for Washington State (right) gave an important talk on data privacy and cybersecurity, and the emerging tech issues that legislators need to understand to protect public data.



PNWER Vice President Mike Cuffe, Montana, on the Harbour Tour.

Attendees also had the opportunity to take part in several off site activities, including a reception in the B.C. Parliament Rotunda which a number of B.C. Ministers and MLAs were in attendance; a visit to observe B.C. Legislature's Question Period; a working breakfast tour of Victoria Harbour, which highlighted the many industries that make up the world-class waterfront.



Mayor Lisa Helps highlighted the industry, activities, and policy that make Victoria's harbor work during the tour.



In mixed groups (Canada and US), legislators discussed the practical differences in governance in Canada and the US.



PNWER Vice Presidents MLA Graham Sucha and Rep. Gael Tarleton learned about the many industries dependent on the Harbour.



Canadian Consul General of Seattle Brandon Lee gave a keynote speech on the importance of Canada - U.S. relations.

Attendees heard from leading experts on a number of important issues facing our region, such as opportunities and challenges facing the regional tourism sector; automated connected electric shared vehicles (ACES), opportunities for smart Infrastructure including ultra-low energy, resilient buildings, and infrastructure resilience.

WORKING GROUP SESSIONS

- Border Issues
- Disaster Resilience
- Energy Efficiency
- Infrastructure
- Innovation
- NAFTA
- Tourism
- Transportation

Invasive Species

Quagga and zebra mussels

The Pacific Northwest remains the only region in the U.S. and Canada without quagga and zebra mussels. If these mussels were to establish themselves in the region, the cost is estimated at half a billion dollars annually to mitigate damage to region's infrastructure. The PNWER Report is available at www.pnwer.org/invasive-species

Preventing the \$500 million annual cost of a mussel infestation to the PNW

PNWER has helped the Columbia River basin jurisdictions share information and coordinate a perimeter defense strategy.

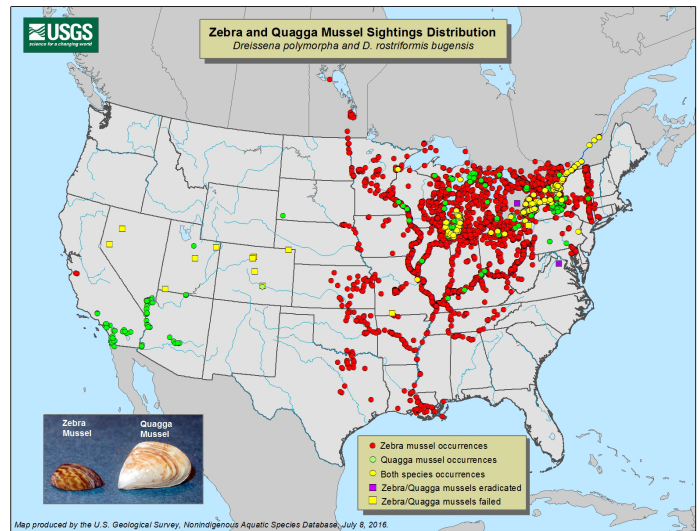
US Congress funded, through the US Army Corps of Engineers, approximately \$4 Million to protect the Columbia River Basin this year. PNWER and regional partners led this effort to secure funding.

PNWER also engaged key U.S. Department of Interior officials and through its Invasive Mussels Working Group requesting mandatory inspections for all watercraft leaving Lake Mead National Recreation Area and the Lower Colorado River basin, the source of most of the contaminated watercraft coming into the region.

PNWER helped secure \$9 million in federal funding

Following years of efforts by PNWER and partners, federal funding from the 2014 WRRDA bill was released to the four Northwest States in April 2017, allowing States to use matching federal funds to strengthen their watercraft inspection programs. In December 2016, Congress expanded funding to include early detection, rapid response, and monitoring through the Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation Act (WIIN). In April 2017, Congress appropriated an additional \$5 million for the four States. PNWER was instrumental in incorporating new language in WIIN that updates WRRDA 2014 language and allows for federal cost-share funds to be used for watercraft inspection stations outside of the Columbia River Basin and early detection and rapid response.

PNWER met with the Northwest Congressional delegation in D.C. to continue awareness of this issue and advocate for additional FY18 appropriations.



Quagga and zebra mussels have spread rapidly from the Great Lakes and Mississippi River watershed throughout the country and into Canada since the mid-1980s. Larvae were found in Montana in October 2016. Photo by the U.S. Geological Survey.

- TIMELINE -

- ▶ **October 2016**
Invasive Mussel larvae were discovered in Montana, prompting alarm throughout the region. Alberta contributed canine team to response
- ▶ **November 2016 PNWER Winter Meeting**
PNWER convened an emergency information sharing session with legislators and state invasive species coordinators
- ▶ **November 30, 2016**
Governor Steve Bullock declared a natural resources state of emergency and released \$750,000 in emergency state funds to combat the spread of invasive mussels. The Montana Mussel Incident Response Team was formed.
- ▶ **Early 2017**
PNWER gave presentations to Washington, Oregon, and Idaho legislative committees about the urgency of the situation. The Montana Legislature voted to increase Montana's aquatic invasive species prevention funding from \$2.2 to \$13 million for the 2017-2019 biennium, led by PNWER Vice President Rep. Mike Cuffe.

Through strong response by the State of Montana and close monitoring, the threat was contained. For the rest of 2017, no new mussels were found in Montana waters, nor in the rest of PNWER.

Invasive Species Prevention in Canada

PNWER has also pushed the Canadian federal government to develop a program within the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to provide funding to western provinces for their mussel prevention efforts, and has held several conferences promoting a Western Canadian framework for invasive mussels.

PNWER met with federal ministers and officials to call for more Canadian federal funding towards invasive species prevention initiatives in Western Canada.

Legislative Energy Horizon Institute

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 six-day course, accredited through the University of Idaho, included instruction and exercises regarding:

- ▶ Electric Power Generation, Transmission, Distribution
- ▶ Natural Gas Production, Transmission & Delivery
- ▶ Petroleum 101
- ▶ Integrating renewables
- ▶ Smart Grid & Energy Storage
- ▶ Canada's Energy Picture
- ▶ Future of Utilities & Ratemaking
- ▶ Carbon Markets
- ▶ Cyber Security
- ▶ Outlooks for state & provincial energy regulation

240
ALUMNI

Legislators, municipal leaders, committee staffers, executive branch officials have graduated from the program to date

12,000
HOURS

Hours contributed by legislators to participate in LEHI

60
CLASS
HOURS

Split into two sessions in Richland, WA and Washington DC

4.83
RATING

Legislators give LEHI a rating of 4.83 out of 5 on quality, saliency, and content

56%
KNOWLEDGE
GAIN

Average knowledge gain for 2017 LEHI participants



Legislators from Washington, Idaho, and Montana explored integrated resource planning with an interactive simulation.

PARTNERS

University of Idaho
 U.S. Department of Energy
 National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)
 Government of Canada
 Western Governors Association
 Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

2018 INSTITUTE

July 7-10, 2018 in Richland, WA
 November 8-10, 2018 in Washington, D.C.

MORE INFORMATION

www.pnwer.org/energyhorizon.html



The Washington State delegation following the LEHI Graduation Ceremony in Washington D.C. in October 2017.

“ The energy policies we face as state legislators are so very important and very complex. The LEHI experience provides a detailed foundation of knowledge and experience that will help state legislators more effectively handle the energy policies that we must face to improve our state and local communities.
 - Assemblyman Phil Pamesano, New York ”

Working Groups

Working Groups focus on key regional issues throughout the year. They are led by a public sector and private sector co-chair, along with one lead PNWER staff member, and include public, private, academic and non-profit stakeholders. This year, 17 Working Groups met to develop action items.

Action Items

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



Co-Chairs

Agriculture



Larry Duke, MLA
Saskatchewan



Patrick Kole
Idaho Potato
Commission - ID

Border Issues



Rep. Mike Cuffe
Montana



Dr. Laurie Trautman
Border Policy Research
Institute at WWU - WA

Cross-Border Livestock Health



Dr. Brad LeaMaster
State Veterinarian
Oregon



Jill Harvie
Canadian Cattlemen's
Association - AB

Disaster Resilience



Brad Richy
Idaho Office of
Emergency
Management



Eric Holdeman
Center for Regional
Disaster Resilience

Economic Development



Rep. Rick Youngblood
Idaho

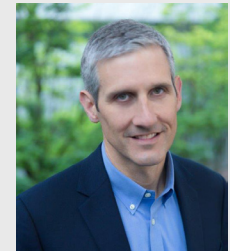


Adam Sweet
Edmonton Economic
Development - AB

Energy



Rep. Jeff Thompson
Idaho



Dave Robertson
Portland General
Electric - OR

Working Groups Co-Chairs

Energy & Environment



Rep. Deb Boone
Oregon

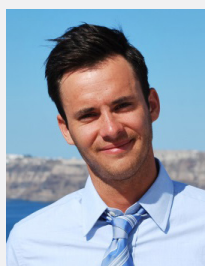


Paul Manson
DC Grid Development
Corporation - BC

Forestry



Rep. Mike Cuffe
Montana



Travis Joseph
American Forest
Resource Council - OR

Innovation



Sen. Mia Costello
Alaska



Nirav Desai
Booz Allen
Hamilton - WA

Invasive Species



Sen. Lee Heider
Idaho



Kate Wilson
Alberta Environment
and Parks - AB

Mining



**Rep. Dave
Talerico**
Alaska



David Ramsay
Fortune Minerals
Limited - NWT

Tourism



**Rep. Gael
Tarleton**
Washington



Dave Cowen
The Butchart
Gardens - BC

Transportation & Infrastructure



Sen. Chuck Winder
Idaho



Bruce Agnew
Cascadia Institute
- WA

University Presidents



Ed Ray
Oregon State
University



Wim Wiewel
Portland State
University



Nagi G. Naganathan
Oregon Institute of
Technology



Michael Schill
University of
Oregon

Workforce Development



Sen. Maralyn Chase
Washington



Shawna Argue
Assoc. of Professional
Engineers and
Geoscientists of SK -SK

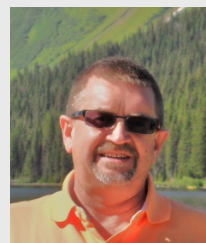
Water Policy



**Sen. Jim
Honeyford**
Washington



Rep. Cliff Bentz
CSG West Legislative
Council on River
Governance - OR



David Hill
University of
Lethbridge - AB

Visit www.pnwer.org/working-groups to see current activities, action item progress, recent news and contact information.

Agriculture

- Co-Chairs:**
- Larry Doke, MLA, Saskatchewan
 - Patrick J. Kole, Vice President, Legal & Government Affairs, Idaho Potato Commission
 - PNWER staff lead: Brandon Hardenbrook

Purpose:

Over the past two years the Agriculture Working Group has focused on trade with a primary examination of NAFTA and the Canada-U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Council Action Plan (RCC). The Working Group continues to provide input on cross-border agricultural trade issues to key decision makers in Ottawa and Washington DC.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

TRADE AND NAFTA
REGULATORY COOPERATION
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING

Key Projects:

- Provided stakeholder concerns and priority recommendations on regional trade and cross border issues to Hon. Lawrence MacAulay, Canadian Minister of Agriculture
- Hosted sessions between state, industry, and federal agriculture leaders to provide input on agricultural issues in NAFTA modernization.

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **NAFTA:** Recognizing the importance of trade and the benefits currently realized under the North American Free Trade Agreement, and to urge both the U.S. and Canadian federal governments to proceed quickly with modernizing NAFTA, committing to do no harm to the integrated North American agriculture industries.
- **Regulatory Standards:** Push for science based regulation in the agriculture sector and continue to advance regulatory alignment and cooperation. Work to ensure that plant and animal health restrictions regarding maximum residue levels, low level presence policies and the advancement of science based standards, guidelines and codes of practice adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the OIE World Organization for Animal Health are based on facts.

Border Issues

- Co-Chairs:**
- Rep. Mike Cuffe, Montana
 - Dr. Laurie Trautman, Director, Border Policy Research Institute at Western Washington University
 - PNWER staff lead: Brandon Hardenbrook

Purpose:

PNWER continues to serve as a top forum for U.S.-Canada border coordination and collaboration by providing input on the Beyond the Border Action Plan and other potential pilots. *Further details on page 8-9.*

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

PRECLEARANCE
BEYOND THE BORDER ACTION PLAN
NAFTA MODERNIZATION TASK FORCE

Key Projects

- Organized monthly calls to coordinate implementation of the US-Canada Preclearance Agreement. Implementation legislation was passed in U.S. and Canada.
- Developed stakeholder survey to collect recommendations for modernizing NAFTA
- Hosted discussions on NAFTA and the role of Congress as negotiations commenced
- Hosted a roundtable listening session on border and trade issues with Canada's Deputy Head of Mission Denis Stevens and the US Charge d'Affairs Elizabeth Aubin to discuss the modernization of NAFTA and plans to continue the Beyond the Border Action Plan and Preclearance

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **Preclearance:** Explore ways to improve cross-border flows, including implementation of preclearance across the region by coordinating with CBP and CBSA and regional carriers.
- **Border Policy:** Engage with stakeholders to highlight progress and to develop future guiding framework for policy action on the border, including impacts of changing trade policy on agriculture and rural areas.
- **Outreach:** Encourage stakeholders to utilize the resource tool developed by the Business Council of Canada and reach out to U.S. industry and policy makers to promote the importance of Canadian Trade.
- **Joint Action Item with Tourism:** Seek funding to develop a digital resource guide for cross-border travel which will include an explanation of entry requirements, how they vary by mode of entry, customs requirements, etc.

Cross-Border Livestock Health

- Co-Chairs:**
- Dr. Brad LeaMaster, State Veterinarian, Oregon
 - Jill Harvie, Programs Manager, Canadian Cattlemen's Association
 - PNWER staff lead: Brandon Hardenbrook

Purpose:

The Cross-Border Livestock Health Working Group consists of state, provincial and federal veterinarians and industry representatives. The group exchanges information on animal health issues/concerns, develops a common understanding of disease policies, and exchanges information on emergency response to emerging and foreign animal diseases.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

LIVESTOCK TRADE

E-CERTIFICATION IN LIVE CATTLE

ANIMAL WELFARE DURING BORDER CROSSING

PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION FOR ANIMAL DISEASE

Key Projects:

- Supported livestock-based modernization of NAFTA and advanced Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) initiatives.
- Tracked pilot projects for live cattle E-Certification. Requested specific criteria for system needs to fulfill data and security requirements from USDA and CFIA.
- Developed science-based guidelines/requirements and promoted consistency of requirements for animals crossing international, state and provincial borders.

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **E-Certification:** Support the progress made in Electronic Certification; identify ways to improve the service and facilities (provided by the CFIA and USDA) at border crossings; suggest preclearance to improve the efficiency of live animal trade; encourage public/private sector collaboration on e-certification education systems; and improve consistency of CFIA/USDA veterinarian inspection standards between the Ports of Entry.
- **Livestock Trade:** Continue discussion on eliminating the requirement to prove that cattle exported to the U.S. are born after March 1999, as well as the CAN Brand Requirement for trade in purebred breeding cattle. Provide options for permanent identification instead.
- **Animal Disease Prevention:** Explore multi-use permits for embryos and semen, and to further increase collaboration for FMD preparedness.

Economic Development

- Co-Chairs:**
- Rep. Rick Youngblood, Idaho
 - Adam Sweet, Chief of Staff, Edmonton Economic Development
 - PNWER staff lead: Nate Weigel

Purpose: To share best practices among jurisdictions by utilizing PNWER as an information-sharing forum.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

DEVELOPMENT FOR RURAL AREAS AND URBAN CENTERS

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Key Projects:

- Convened key legislators, economic development ministers and directors, and other stakeholders to discuss successful economic initiatives that can be replicated in both the U.S. and Canada.
- Highlighted best practices and strategic initiatives from both rural areas and urban centers in the PNWER region. Showcased innovative financing and development opportunities for rural areas and small businesses.

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **Resource Sharing:** Develop a panel of legislators on breaking down political barriers to economic growth, a list/resource hub to display on PNWER website sharing financing and lending opportunities for small businesses and rural communities.
- **Financing:** Expand on the topic of financing, funding mechanisms, and access to capital in the PNWER region. Include crowd funding, VCs, angel investors, and community development corporations.

Energy

- Co-Chairs:**
- Rep. Jeff Thompson, Idaho State
 - Dave Robertson, VP Public Policy & Corporate Resiliency, Portland General Electric
 - PNWER staff lead: Brandon Hardenbrook

Purpose:

The Energy Working Group strives to find ways to provide sustainable energy for North America that is clean, safe, affordable, and reliable, while meeting low carbon targets and lowering the overall carbon footprint of the region.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

UTILITY PRICING

TRANSMISSION SITING AND PERMITTING

FOSSIL FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY

CHALLENGES

Key Projects:

- Convened energy leaders at the Annual Summit to examine the utility of the future; including how utilities are pricing services, the impact of Direct Access and underlying causes of changes in legislation, regulation and consumer demands.
- Shared information on regional projects including: LNG exports in Oregon, disrupted energy resources initiative by BPA; and an initiative to develop small scale nuclear reactors.

Action Items:

- **Utilities:** Consult with utility, regulatory and policy leaders on best practices of new business models that are being tested and demonstrated in the PNWER region and develop a methodology to share them on a regular basis.
- **Microgrids:** Examine changing cooperative business legislation to encourage microgrid research and development.
- PNWER should partner with NWPPCC to hold a seminar on disaster planning on the NW Power system.

Energy & Environment

- Co-Chairs:**
- Rep. Deborah Boone, Oregon
 - Paul Manson, CEO, DC Grid Development Corporation
 - Energy Efficiency Lead: Andrew Pape-Salmon, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Government of British Columbia
 - PNWER staff lead: Jennifer Grosman

Purpose:

The E&E Working Group addresses the convergence of environmental sustainability and economic development while promoting the region's competitiveness in addressing environmental challenges with innovative solutions.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RESILIENCY

CARBON PRICING

MICROGRIDS & ENERGY STORAGE

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Key Projects

- "Roadmap to Resilient, Ultra-Low Energy Buildings in the Pacific Northwest" will develop market-driven strategies to improve energy efficiency by focusing on policy options; innovative technologies and construction materials; industry capacity building; and workforce developments.
- Completed report showcasing common technical and policy aspects of 23 high-performing buildings.
- Increased focus on private sector and sub-regional climate leadership.

Action Items

- Compile an inventory of each jurisdiction's actions on climate policy including criteria for measuring carbon footprint.
- Explore avenues to work with First Nations and Tribal groups and share best practices on reducing carbon footprint. Reference practices from Alberta, Yukon and Washington and other PNWER jurisdictions
- **Ocean and Marine Renewable Energy:** Send letter to Gov. Kate Brown, Oregon expressing support for NNMREC's Pacific Marine Energy Center. Ocean and marine energy are a tremendous and resilient resource for many PNWER jurisdictions and the greater region.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Seek data sources, insights and interests from PNWER stakeholder networks
- **Energy Efficiency:** : Seek additional private sector support to finish Roadmap research
- **Energy Efficiency:** Develop "Roadmap to Resilient, Ultra-low Energy Buildings" by June 2018 that recommends policy solutions and market mechanisms that move the middle of the "market transformation curve" and respond to diversity of carbon pricing regimes (flexible caps, carbon pricing, cap and trade)
- **Energy Efficiency:** Continue to secure legislative support in each PNWER jurisdiction for Roadmap process and objectives

Forestry

- Co-Chairs:**
- Rep. Mike Cuffe, Montana
 - Travis Joseph, President, American Forest Resource Council
 - PNWER staff lead: Brandon Hardenbrook

Purpose:

The Forestry Working Group includes 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.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

PROMOTING HEALTHY FORESTS
EFFECTIVE FIRE SUPPRESSION FUNDING
RESILIENT WATERSHEDS
FOREST PRODUCT INNOVATION

Key Projects:

- Examined challenges and opportunities in the renewable forest products industry.
- Explored advancements in building with wood from CLT manufacturers and builders. Examined impact of new technology on the industry and the need for a sustainable supply of renewable materials to develop the industry.

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **Healthy Forests:** Encourage federal and local policies that result in large landscape scale treatment and restoration, as well as economic and financial incentives to build or rebuild rural manufacturing and milling infrastructure in hard hit communities.
- **Mass Timber:** Support state/provincial collaboration to update and modernize building codes for mass timber to follow global standards and technology
- **Rural Communities:** Encourage a "Big Picture" analysis of the region, including social, economic, and environmental factors and impacts of increasing the domestic supply of wood. Support the training of the next generation of skilled labor to meet the growing demand in the wood manufacturing industry.

Innovation

- Co-Chairs:**
- Nirav Desai, Chief Technologist, Booz Allen Hamilton
 - Sen. Mia Costello, Alaska
 - PNWER staff lead: Steve Myers

Purpose:

The PNWER Innovation Working Group provides policymakers and governments with ideas and advice in support of a regional innovation ecosystem. The competitive landscape of the global economy, coupled with worldwide environmental challenges, is creating unprecedented demand for scientific discovery and application.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT
REGIONAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN
RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS

Key Projects:

- Convened entrepreneurs, researchers, and private sector to discuss collaboration across innovation ecosystems
- Highlighted the Cascadia Innovation Corridor as a best practice for regional collaboration
- Discussed methods to foster advancements in bioscience cluster

Action Items

- **Regional Research:** Encourage Map research, technology, and infrastructure assets in the public and private sectors in the region. Support continued research into autonomous aviation, maritime, and ground transportation or other areas that come out of the initial research.
- **Arctic Development:** Encourage establishment of a U.S. National Lab in the Arctic.
- **Defense Innovation:** Invite Defense Innovation Unit experimental and DIU Silicon Valley to meet with PNWER to discuss dissemination of federal declassified technologies to startup ecosystems and how government can use new technology.
- **Regional Collaboration:** Identify collapsing industries that could present opportunities for innovation and start-ups.
- **Rural Development:** Roadmap to accelerate AEC innovation to impact rural communities within PNWER.

Invasive Species

- Co-Chairs:**
- Sen. Lee Heider, Idaho
 - Kate Wilson, Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, Alberta Environment and Parks
 - PNWER staff lead: Nate Weigel

Purpose:

The PNWER Invasive Species strives to protect the region from the spread of invasive species through collaborative partnerships and information sharing between U.S. states and Canadian provinces and territories. For the past 10 years, PNWER has led efforts to develop a regional perimeter defense against invasive quagga and zebra mussels. *Further details on page 30.*

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

EARLY DETECTION, RAPID RESPONSE
PERIMETER DEFENSE
LEVERAGING FEDERAL FUNDING

Key Projects:

- Convened a full-day conference on invasive species during the Annual Summit in Portland. Discussions revolved around aquatic and terrestrial invasive species, including Northern pike, Sudden Oak Death, gypsy moth, flowering rush, and quagga and zebra mussels.
- Shared crucial information on possible mussel infestation with key stakeholders.

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **Funding:** Continue to work with Congress and partners on WRDA federal funding for invasive mussels.
- Identify CBP and CBSA locations that have received aquatic invasive species training, then prioritize the border locations that have not yet been trained.
- **Prevention:** Encourage consideration of a regional emergency response fund.
- **Regional Collaboration:** Form an Advisory Council of bi-partisan delegates from the legislatures of the 4 states and appropriate state agency(s) directors to review the mussel prevention efforts from a regional perspective, advise on key priorities for the next season, and educate legislators on regional needs.
- **Research Opportunities:** Increase research on impacts of invasive species, including invasive mussels, on species at risk and salmon population.
- **Regional Collaboration:** Build a coordinated joint request from Western Canada partners to federal government for increased funding and prevention tools.
- **Early Detection Methods:** Hold a mock detection drill focusing on AIS detection outside of the Columbia River Basin at a border crossing. Test communication and response protocols and identify gaps to address.
- **Economic Impacts:** Form a PNWER cross-border northern pike committee to develop a PNWER-scale (regional) economic analysis of native fisheries and salmon/steelhead recovery investments threatened by northern pike.

Mining

- Co-Chairs:**
- Rep. Dave Talerico, Alaska
 - David Ramsay, Director, Fortune Minerals Limited
 - PNWER staff lead: Steve Myers

Purpose:

The Mining Working Group identifies best practices for environmental sustainability and engaging indigenous groups to improve the quality of life in the region while fostering economic development. The working group aims to show how development, when done responsibly, supports economic growth and increases the standard of living.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
INFRASTRUCTURE
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT

Key Projects:

- Examined best practices in Arctic infrastructure projects at the Annual Summit.
- Contributed mining industry perspectives to carbon policy discussion.

- **Increase Collaboration:** Continue to incorporate Arctic and Northern community opportunities in planning discussion in the Mining Working Group.
- **Career Development:** Highlight job training programs that encourage rural and remote communities participation in coordination with the Workforce Development working group.

Tourism

- Co-Chairs:**
- Rep. Gael Tarleton, Washington State Legislature
 - Dave Cowen, CEO, The Butchart Gardens
 - PNWER staff lead: Nate Weigel

Purpose:

The Tourism Working Group works to develop a more interconnected tourism region and facilitate collaboration among industry partners in the Pacific Northwest and Western Canada. During the year, the Working Group helped to support other initiatives such as the PNWER Preclearance Task Force and cross-border infrastructure projects which focuses on expediting cross-border travel and tourism.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

TOURISM MARKETING
TWO NATION VACATION
SECURITY FOR BORDER CROSSINGS
PRECLEARANCE

Key Projects:

- Shared information on tourism funding mechanisms and new technologies to enhance security and streamline passenger travel.
- Tourism was a key highlight of the 2017 Economic Leadership Forum. Legislators from across the region were given a first-hand tour of the key industries of Victoria, B.C.'s world-class harbour.

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- Determine the one delegate from each PNWER jurisdiction who will commit to serving two years on the Tourism Committee.
- **Identify Opportunities:** Evaluate two or three initiatives already in the planning stages that will expand tourist access to multiple PNWER jurisdictions.
- **Resource Development:** Develop a web page on the PNWER website to post tourism economic impact studies, tourist “ratings” and photos on travel experiences in the Pacific Northwest, tour examples, etc. Include links to tourism offices and other resources in the PNWER region.
- **Border Security:** In collaboration with the Border Working Group, undertake initial steps to develop a simple and trusted source of border information for travel to both countries from all source markets. Focus should be on ETA/ESTA, visas and trusted/known traveler programs, while also promoting NEXUS and EDL benefits.
- **Border Security:** Discuss and activate advocacy opportunities for the development of synchronized application processes, particular for ESTA/ETA and visas from key source markets.
- **Develop advocacy plans** for other Tourism Working Group supported initiatives.

** This is partial list of action items; full list available at www.pnwer.org/tourism*

Harbour Air seaplanes spotted during the Victoria Working Harbour Boat Tour at the 2017 Economic Leadership Forum in Victoria, B.C. PNWER has been working with carriers and federal agencies to re-establish a Seattle to Vancouver sea plane service.



Transportation & Infrastructure

- Co-Chairs:**
- Sen. Chuck Winder, Idaho
 - Bruce Agnew, Director, Cascadia Center
 - PNWER staff lead: Jennifer Grosman

Purpose:

The Transportation and Infrastructure Working Groups focuses on the infrastructure of our major corridors and gateways, with a special interest on border infrastructure.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS

INNOVATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE
INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE
MARKET ACCESS & RAIL CAPACITY
OIL TRAIN SAFETY
ULTRA-HIGH SPEED RAIL
ACES VEHICLES
TECH FOR SECURE BORDER CROSSINGS

Key Projects:

- Sustained engagement with U.S. Congress to appropriate funds for Regional Accelerator Demonstration Program which would share expertise on innovative infrastructure
- Discussed the global oil market, movement of oil via tanker, rail, and pipelines, and safety lessons at Annual Summit
- Increased focus on infrastructure resilience and climate change adaption and collaboration between Working Groups. International experts spoke at Annual Summit and Economic Leadership Forum

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **Safety in the Salish Sea:** Convene "Safety in the Salish Sea Forum" with key parties including B.C. and Washington political leadership, port commissioners, First Nations, Native American Tribes, US and Canadian Coast Guards, pilots, tug boats, tankers, industry and appropriate federal officials.
- **ACES:** Investigate applications of ACES: Autonomous, Connected, Electric, & Shared Vehicles in PNWER region at 2018 Annual Summit
- **Rail:** PNWER endorsed cost benefit study of high speed rail connection between Seattle, WA and Vancouver, B.C.
- **Public Private Partnerships:** Develop PNWER Innovative Finance Task Force into Center of Excellence for performance-based innovative finance infrastructure in order to prepare the region to secure potential federal investment/policy. Secure federal funding through NW congressional delegation and PNWER state legislative support to match private sector contributions.

University Presidents Roundtable

- Co-Chairs:**
- Ed Ray, President, Oregon State University
 - Wim Wiewel, President, Portland State University
 - Nagi G. Naganathan, President-Designate, Oregon Institute of Technology
 - Michael Schill, President, University of Oregon
 - PNWER staff lead: Steve Myers

Purpose:

This cross-border regional forum for university presidents is the only one of its kind in North America. The Roundtable is a forum for university presidents to showcase best practices at universities and colleges across the region.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

INNOVATIVE ACADEMIC INITIATIVES
ENGAGING POLICYMAKERS

Key Projects:

- Explore opportunities for cross-border research, exchange, study and collaboration.
- Promoted the role universities play in economic development and regional growth to other Summit delegates as well as explored opportunities for participation and partnership with PNWER and its working groups.

Action Items:

- Draft and Develop Collaboration Challenge that engages the region's universities.

Water Policy

- Co-Chairs:**
- Sen. Jim Honeyford, Washington
 - Rep. Cliff Bentz, Oregon Chair, CSG West Legislative Council on River Governance
 - David Hill, director, Centres and Institutes and Research Advocacy (CIRA) University of Lethbridge
 - PNWER staff lead: Steve Myers

Purpose:

The Water Policy Working Group provides an important dialogue to address water policy issues throughout the Pacific Northwest region. By connecting with legislators, private-sector and universities, we work to identify best practices to improve water security, adaptation of climate change, and storage options. We also provide updates to the region on the Columbia River Treaty and explore linkages with other working groups, including Invasive Species.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY
CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION
INFRASTRUCTURE

Key Projects:

- Convened municipal planners and utility managers to discuss water resiliency: heightened water risk management, such as storms, flooding, drought infrastructure deficits and sea-level rise.
- Discussed dam re-licensing
- Shared information on infrastructure financing

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **Provide updates** to the region on the Columbia River Treaty and explore linkages with other working groups, including invasive species
- **Connecting universities** in the PNWER region and identify research groups/teams with expertise in water research, along with opportunities to conduct research in water policies.
- **Identify best practices** to appropriately fund projects, improve water security, adaptation of climate change, and storage options.

Workforce Development

- Co-Chairs:**
- Sen. Maralyn Chase, Washington
 - Shawna L. Argue, MBA, P.Eng., Director of Education and Compliance, APEGS
 - PNWER staff lead: Steve Myers

Purpose:

The Workforce Development Working Group identifies the barriers to addressing labor shortages and the key stakeholders, and specific actions that can be implemented to alleviate these shortages. The Working Group examines the training needed for the skilled workforce of the future as well as the best practices in industry and government cooperation.

MAJOR FOCUS AREAS:

LICENSING RECIPROCITY
INNOVATING WORKFORCE TRAINING
WORKFORCE MOBILITY

Key Projects:

- Increased focus on impacts of automation on the workforce
- Provided input on labour mobility to PNWER NAFTA Modernization Taskforce
- Met with Oregon stakeholders on license reciprocity

Action Items

The working group commits to:

- **NAFTA:** Work with the NAFTA Modernization Task Force **to ensure** labour mobility provisions for professions and trades and core labour standards are addressed in NAFTA; including migrant workers/contract laborers.
- **Education:** Inventory of educational programs that leverage P3s with training and funding from private sector i.e. K-TEC in Idaho, Oregon
- **Supply and Demand:** Research easy ways to share workforce needs and match the jobs with the workers within the current regulations of each jurisdiction
- **Professional Credential Recognition 2005: Licensing Reciprocity** - Urge licensing bodies to adopt reciprocal professional credential recognition for engineers who have successfully practiced for a set number of years. Assist licensing bodies in preparing amendments to rules or policies to enable reciprocity of licensure.

CAPITALS VISITED IN 2017

**HELENA | OLYMPIA | JUNEAU | SALEM
VICTORIA | OTTAWA | WHITEHORSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

The PNWER Board makes annual visits to state, provincial, territorial, and federal capitals to advocate for regional issues and assess state, provincial, and territorial priorities that PNWER should focus on in the coming year. Meetings with House and Senate majority and minority leadership and key executive-branch staff provide an opportunity to discuss regional trade and PNWER programs.

Highlights of the visits:

Helena, MT- Understanding and supporting Montana's emergency response to findings of invasive mussels in that state was the main focus of the capital visit to Helena in early January. The PNWER delegation briefed the Senate Natural Resources Committee on the status of federal support for state watercraft inspection stations and met with commanders of the Montana Mussel Response Team.

Olympia, WA - The topic of invasive species continued in Olympia with the PNWER delegation providing an overview of the threat posed by invasive mussels to the Senate Agriculture, Water, Trade and Economic Development Committee, the Senate Natural Resources and Parks Committee, and the House Natural Resources Committee.

Salem, OR - A meeting with Gov. Kate Brown allowed the delegation to discuss preparations for the Summit and central topics for the meeting; disaster resilience, oil train safety, and workforce education, among others.

Juneau, AK- One-on-one meetings with more than 20 legislators provided an opportunity for the delegation to speak on key issues affecting Alaska and the region, the importance of the Arctic and Arctic Caucus to Alaska, and the ways that we can continue working with the Alaskan legislature to showcase Alaska's Arctic policy.

Victoria, BC- In the Fall, PNWER met with leadership of the new BC government for a productive visit with the opportunity to brief members on PNWER's initiatives and the upcoming Economic Leadership Forum in Victoria.

Whitehorse, YT - The government in the Yukon hosted a reception for the PNWER delegates with all the members of government attending. It was a great opportunity to showcase PNWER's leadership around the region. PNWER is looking forward to bringing the 2018 Economic Leadership Forum to Whitehorse.



PNWER leadership met with Lt. Gov Mike Cooney of Montana in Helena.



PNWER leadership met with the Yukon Cabinet in Whitehorse.



From left: Matt Morrison, Shawna Argue, Colin Smith, Rep. Jeff Reardon, Sen. Arnie Roblan, Gov. Kate Brown, Rosie Shatkin, Dan Ashton, MLA, David Kettles and Chris Radojewski meet in Salem with Governor Kate Brown.



PNWER met with Premier Sandy Silver (center) and the Yukon Cabinet while visiting Whitehorse in preparation of the 2018 Economic Leadership Forum.

U.S. Federal Engagement and Outreach to Washington, DC

PNWER had an active year engaging with Congressional and Federal officials from the US. PNWER met with then Secretary of Homeland Security General John Kelly, a number of Congressional leaders, and staff. PNWER conducted 5 visits to Washington, D.C. in 2017 and briefed the region's congressional delegation and members of the U.S. Federal Government executive branch.

Highlights and Meetings:

- Sec. John Kelly in Seattle on disaster preparedness
- Congressman Dave Reichert, chairman of the House Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee on NAFTA negotiations
- Congressional leadership on the state-federal relationship with Western Governors Association
- Advocated for invasive species management with NW Congressional Delegation and Dept. of Interior
- Presented to the U.S. Trade Representative Hearing on NAFTA Modernization
- Presented the CRDR's work to Department of Homeland Security leadership



Sen. Jim Honeyford (right) and Brandon Hardenbrook, PNWER, discussed invasive species prevention with David Postman, Chief of Staff to Washington Governor Jay Inslee.

U.S. Agencies and Legislative Offices PNWER met with in 2017

Office of the Vice President
 U.S. Department of Commerce
 U.S. Department of Energy
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 U.S. Department of Interior
 U.S. Department of State
 U.S. Department of Transportation
 U.S. Trade Representative

Office of:

Speaker of the House Paul Ryan
 House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
 Congressman Earl Blumenauer
 Congressman Greg Walden
 Congressman Mike Simpson
 Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici
 Congressman Adam Smith
 Congresswoman Cathy McMorris-Rodgers
 Congressman Dan Newhouse
 Congressman Dave Reichert
 Congressman Derek Kilmer
 Congressman Greg Gianforte
 Congresswoman Jamie Herrera-Beutler
 Congressman Peter DeFazio
 Congressman Rick Larsen
 Congresswoman Suzan DelBene
 Senator Maria Cantwell
 Senator Mike Crapo
 Senator Steve Daines
 Senator Dan Sullivan
 Senator Jeff Merkley
 Senator Lisa Murkowski
 Senator Patty Murray
 Senator Jon Tester



Steve Myers, on behalf of PNWER, testified to the United States Trade Representative (USTR) stakeholders to state our recommendations for NAFTA Modernization.

Ottawa Engagement

PNWER representatives participated in a visit to Ottawa in May to facilitate and contribute to discussions on Canada/US border relations, trade and natural resource management, invasive species and transportation issues.

The delegation met with Hon. Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport to discuss market access issues, cross-border infrastructure, and marine safety.

NAFTA negotiations were at the forefront of PNWER's activity in Ottawa. Officers discussed the PNWER NAFTA Modernization Task Force, Stakeholder Survey, and efforts to approach key allies in congress within subcommittees on the NAFTA renegotiation, and with key Federal officials.

PNWER met with Minister Carr to discuss cross-border energy issues and the benefits of educating legislators from across the US and Canada. Additionally, the delegation met with General Andrew Leslie, Parliamentary Secretary, Minister of State for US Relations.

In Ottawa, the delegation met with the House of Commons Standing Committee on International Trade:

Hon. Mark Eyking, M.P. Nova Scotia
Randy Hoback, M.P. Saskatchewan
Tracey Ramsey, M.P. Ontario
Sukh Dhaliwal, M.P. British Columbia
Peter Fonseca, M.P. Ontario
Kyle Peterson, M.P. Ontario
Karen Ludwig M.P. New Brunswick
Linda Lapointe M.P. Quebec
Dave Van Kesteren, M.P. Ontario



PNWER visited Ottawa and met with Minister Marc Garneau.

In addition to the ministers and members of parliament, PNWER also met with senior staff in the Federal Government of Canada and Elizabeth Aubin of the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa.

A major accomplishment from PNWER's years of advocacy with stakeholders is the finalized preclearance agreement between Canada and the US land, marine, and air transportation systems will have the ability to clear customs before entering the US. Preclearance that has been implemented at major airports has improved the flow of tourism and business travel, while preventing individuals without proper documentation from entering the US. This is a proven best practice for US security.



PNWER presented testimony based on stakeholder perspectives and the NAFTA Taskforce at the International Trade Committee in Ottawa.

PNWER has proven itself to be an ideal vehicle for identifying shared regional problems and crafting solutions that serve the people we represent.

Oregon State Senator Arnie Roblan, PNWER

Center for Regional Disaster Resilience



The Center for Regional Disaster Resilience (CRDR), operating under PNWER, focuses on infrastructure interdependencies and disaster resilience projects. The CRDR is committed to working with states, provinces, territories and communities to create public-private partnerships, develop action plans, and undertake pilot projects to improve regional disaster resilience.

7 Events

650 Participants

DRONES

WILDFIRES

EARTHQUAKES

CYBERSECURITY

MARITIME SECURITY

INFRASTRUCTURE

Disaster Resilience Symposium at Annual Summit

The Disaster Resilience Symposium was held concurrently with the Annual Summit in Portland, Oregon. Sessions included:

- Calgary Flood and Alberta Fires Response and Recovery
- Climate Change and Adaptation
- Critical Infrastructure Interdependencies: Cross State/Province/National Borders
- Cybersecurity
- Defining Disaster Resilience
- Oil Train Safety and Emergency Response Planning
- Public-Private Partnerships on Resilience
- Technologies Impacting Disaster Resilience

Partner: Global Resilience Institute

A partnership has been formed with the Northeastern University's Global Resilience Institute (GRI). CRDR staff contributed to a GRI study on the impact of wildland fires on critical infrastructures. Work on earthquake resilience that began with a GRI-led Critical Infrastructure Workshop in September, will continue in 2018. The CRDR will plan and execute a Blue Cascades, Earthquake Recovery Tabletop Exercise for King County, Washington focused on critical infrastructure interdependencies.

Cybersecurity



Cybersecurity has remained an area of emphasis with two workshops in Washington State and one in Idaho. Topics included communication sharing and cyber insurance. Rep. Zack Hudgins (WA) spoke on cybersecurity on Dec. 7



A board game guided participants through a cyber attack and response. Lessons learned on vulnerability and response planning will be addressed at 2018 events.

2018: Maritime & Drones Resilience Challenge

CRDR has been awarded two Department of Homeland Security Resilience Challenge infrastructure projects. The first project will develop a maritime cybersecurity reporting Concept of Operations (CONOPS) that can be used by the maritime industry to report cybersecurity incidents and share information with key partners.

The second grant, in partnership with the Global Resilience Institute, will develop technologies to use Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), or drones, to inspect critical infrastructures post disaster. GRI will provide the technical expertise to execute the engineering aspects of the project and the CRDR will assist with overall stakeholder coordination and grant administration.



Fort McMurray Fire Study with Paul Spring. Phoenix Heliflight (left) and Steve Myers, PNWER (right).

JOIN PNWER IN IMPROVING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

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 27 years ago. PNWER's reach cross-border and region-wide makes it a valuable organization for business and government leaders alike.

PNWER is a strong voice for business and government across five states, three provinces, and two territories and to the federal governments in Washington D.C. and Ottawa

PNWER has consistently been recognized as a leader in the region, bringing together the public and private sectors to tackle our common challenges and share innovative best practices for growing our regional economy.

"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, speaking at 2017 PNWER Annual Summit

► Ways to become involved:

- Join one of 19 industry specific working groups focused on advocacy and policy solutions
- Provide input and recommendations on proposed policy and pilot projects to the federal governments in Washington D.C. and Ottawa
- Join the PNWER private sector council, which helps businesses develop new relationships with partners, vendors, and suppliers on both sides of the border
- Increase visibility for your organization through sponsorship: www.pnwer.org/sponsorship

► 2018 Annual Summit | July 22-26 | Spokane, WA

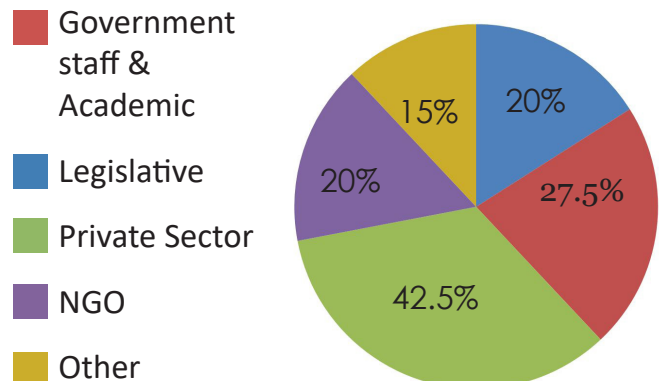
Join more than 550 key leaders, legislators and government leaders from PNWER's ten states, provinces and territories to address the biggest economic and environmental policy issues impacting the region.

Delegates

PNWER Summits routinely bring in 550+ outstanding attendees. Typical guest lists include:

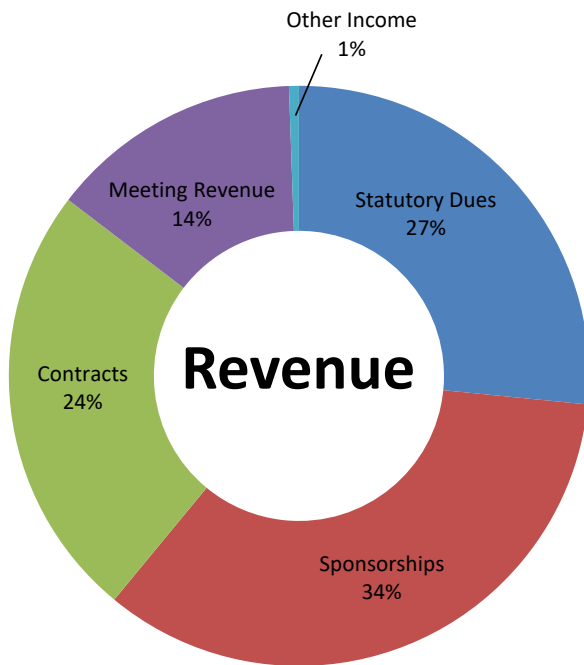
- 60+ state, provincial and territorial legislators
- 50 corporate CEOs or VPs
- 60 NGO executive directors
- Several federal legislators
- 15 University Presidents
- 90+ governmental officials

Attendance breakdown



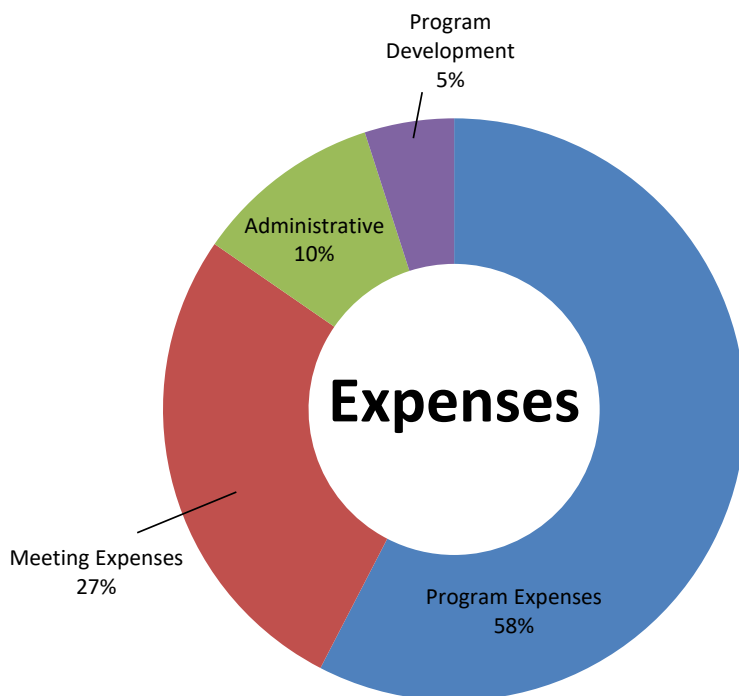
The Pacific Northwest Economic Region Foundation operates as a U.S. 501(c)6 nonprofit organization.

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.



Fiscal Year 17 Revenue

Statutory Dues	\$ 389,000
Sponsorships	\$ 503,780
Contracts	\$ 357,169
Meeting Revenue	\$ 206,039
Other Income	\$ 8,049
Total Revenue	\$ 1,464,056



Fiscal Year 17 Expenses

Program Expenses	\$ 844,000
Meeting Expenses	\$ 396,009
Administrative	\$ 152,637
Program Development	\$ 72,763
Total Expenses	\$ 1,465,409

Supporters and Partners

Statutory Members

Alaska

Alberta

British Columbia

Idaho

Montana

The Northwest Territories

Oregon

Saskatchewan

Washington

Yukon

Members

Association of Oregon Counties

Alaska Airlines

Alberta Beef Producers

ALMA

American Petroleum Institute

Andeavor

APEGA

APEGS

ASET

Association of Mineral Exploration BC

ASTTBC

Battelle

BNSF

Booz Allen Hamilton

BP

BYD

Business Oregon

The Butchart Gardens

Calgary Economic Development

Canpotex Ltd.

Cement Association of Canada

Century Link

CN

Construction Center of Excellence

Cruise Line International Association –
North West and Canada

Devon Energy

Edmonton Economic Development
Corporation

Enbridge

Energy Trust of Oregon

Engineers and Geoscientists of BC

ExxonMobil

Fasken Martineau

FortisBC

IBEW Local 48

Idaho Dairymen's Association

Idaho Potato Commission

Insulating Concrete Forms

Manufacturers Associations

Jordan Cove LNG

Koch Industries Inc.

League of Oregon Cities

MDU Resources

Metro

Microsoft

Nelson Mullins

NIKE

Northwest Cement Council

Northwestern Energy

Northwest Gas Association

Northwest Food Processors Association

NW Natural

One Concern

Oregon Concrete and Aggregate
Producers Association

Oregon Forest Resources Institute

Oregon People's Utility District
Association

Pacific Power

Pacific Northwest Law Group

Portland Business Alliance

Portland General Electric

Puget Sound Energy

SaskCanola

Simplot

Shell

Spectrum

Spectra Energy

RDH Building Science

Teck

Travel Oregon

Union Pacific

Vancouver Energy

Van Ness Feldman

Van Horne Institute

Washington Public Utility Districts
Association

Washington County, Oregon

Partners

Arctic Institute

American Chamber of Commerce in
Canada - Western Canada

American Gas Association

American Public Power Association

Berkshire Hathaway

Boise State University

Canadian American Business Council

Canadian Animal Health Coalition

Canadian Studies Consortium

Cascadia Institute

City of Seattle

CleanTech Alliance

Community Colleges of Spokane

Construction Center of Excellence

Consulate General Canada - Denver

Consulate General Canada - Seattle

Embassy of the United States in Ottawa

Global Affairs Canada

Homeland Security Emergency

Management Center of Excellence

Human Resources and Skills

Development Canada (HRSDC)

Idaho National Laboratories (INL)

ID Office of Emergency Management

Institute of the North

King County Office of Emergency
Management

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, AB

North American Strategy for

Competitiveness (NASCO)

National Conference of State Legislators

Natural Resources Canada

North Star Group

NW Healthcare Response Network

NW Power and Conservation Council

Northwest Warning, Alert and

Response Network

Oregon Institute of Technology

Oregon Invasive Species Council

Oregon State University

PNW Border Health Alliance

Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL)

Pacific States Marine Fisheries

Commission

Pierce County, Washington

Portland Bureau of Emergency

Management

Portland State University

Snohomish County, Washington

SkillSource BC

The Energy Council

Transport Canada

Trent University

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

U.S. Coast Guard

U.S. Consulate General - Vancouver

U.S. Department of Energy

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

University of Alaska - Fairbanks

University of Calgary

University of Idaho

University of Lethbridge

University of Regina

University of Washington

Washington OneNet

Washington State Dept. of Commerce

Washington State Fusion Center

Washington State University

Western Governors Association

Western Washington University - Border

Policy Research Institute

Yukon College - Cold Climate Research



Spokane: Where Collaboration
and Creativity Come Together



Pacific North West Economic Region

28th Annual Summit | Spokane, Washington | July 22-26, 2018

www.pnwer.org/2018summit

The premier bi-national conference on promoting regional collaboration

The Purpose

- Strengthen cooperation and develop regional solutions
- Learn about key economic issues
- Collaborate with US & Canadian public and private sector leaders

The Delegates

550+ Regional Leaders

- 60+ state, provincial & territorial legislators
- 50 corporate CEOs or VPs
- 60 NGO executive directors
- 15 University Presidents
- 90+ governmental officials
- Several federal legislators

The Issues

- Agriculture
- Border and Trade
- Columbia River Treaty
- Cross-border Livestock Health
- Disaster Resilience
- Economic Development
- Energy & Environment
- NAFTA Modernization
- Forestry
- Infrastructure
- Innovation
- Invasive Species
- Mining
- Tourism
- Transportation
- Workforce Development
- University Presidents

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You're Invited!
PNWER Economic Leadership Forum
Whitehorse, Yukon | November 2018



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

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