

Agriculture Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
State of the Agriculture Industry in Alaska			
"Biofuels- The Changing Face of Agriculture- Opportunity or Challenge?"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force to explore use of agriculture and forest products and their residues for biofuels. The benefits: • New job opportunities and reduced cost for farmers. • Look at biofuel to reduce transportation related GHG's. Suggested by Joan McIntyre, M.L.A (West Vancouver-Garibaldi) Province of British Columbia 	Rep. Neuman Charles Hall Stan Blade Barry McFarland Rex Shattuck Eric Butters Rep. Bert Stevenson/Idaho	Nikki Strang
	Encourage PNWER to expand Agriculture Working Group to a full day to allow a full range of topics	Co-chairs Animal Health Conference	
	Continue to hold annual animal health conference for the PNWER region; consider expanding the scope of this meeting to address other agricultural related topics.	Planning committee	

Border Issues Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
<p>WHTI- BC-WA Drivers License Pilot</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNWER calls on the United States to implement explicit acceptance of Canadian enhanced driver’s licenses with identity and citizenship noted in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making as practical, convenient and secure alternatives to the WHTI passport requirement and further that this implementation plan be integrated into the current Notice of Proposed Rule Making so as to avoid additional delays in making enhanced drivers licenses from states and provinces operational. • PNWER calls on the government of Canada to provide timely approval and prompt implementation for enhanced drivers’ license projects under development in the region. • PNWER calls on the governments of Canada and the United States in the joint NEXUS program to implement a streamlined renewal process for NEXUS holders. • Fund an extensive communication and public awareness effort, as status quo is already creating damage to regional economies • PNWER calls for the Federal Government to work with the government of the United States to establish an improved mechanism to facilitate the movement of executive, professional and technical specialist categories of business travelers between Canada and the United States. • It is recommended that a streamlined system be 		

authorized that perhaps included exchanging the old passport for the new at the issuing office.

- **PNWER supports the creation of the Northern Border University Research Consortium proposed to provide timely and meaningful research on northern US border issues and problem resolutions. This initiative fills a void that currently exists to avoid disruptions to industry and provides creative and unique solutions.**
- **PNWER urges the expansion of pre-clearance legislation in Canada for entry into the US currently specified as airports only to include Vancouver Railroad Station so as to allow inspection of people and their belongings in a sterile area prior to boarding so that the stopping of the train at the physical border is eliminated. It should be noted that a second train a day has been added and efforts are underway to add additional trains. This is especially important for the 2010 Olympic Game visitors.**
- **PNWER encourage relevant parties to Address the unique needs of First Nations people across North America and ensure their ability to move freely across the border regions.**
- **PNWER calls for a common sense implementation of WHTI to include:**
 - **Determination of a detailed approach and process**
 - **Ensure interoperable technology is operational and fully tested, information technology support and capability is available and databases are compatible**
 - **Secure funding for joint Canada/US implementation**
 - **Effective implementation and**

<p>A Perspective on Securing and Facilitating Canada-U.S. Supply Chains and Visitation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">communications plan in place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNWER call upon the US and Canada to re-engage in action to implement the below recommended specific under takings. • PNWER supports the expansion of service at the Wildhorse Border Crossing to 24 hours between Alberta and Montana. This is especially important for trucks supplying the Canada oil sands operations that are required to detour five hours currently to utilize the only 24 hour border station at Coutts-Sweetgrass. The current level of hours of service limits the volume of trucks utilizing this crossing and therefore appears to be below the usage volumes required. Once the 24 hour service is granted, truck utilization will increase substantially. • Canada be urged to provide funds to CBSA to open NEXUS Convertible Lanes at selected Ports of Entry all across the Canada/US Border so that NEXUS is a viable preferred alternative for WHTI in the vast areas between Ontario and British Columbia. The US has funded opening NEXUS into the US at 6 such Ports of Entry. • Agreement be reached and Canadian legislation be passed to allow US officers to function on Canadian soil with reciprocal action by US to allow Canadian officers to function on US soil and specifically at the Vancouver railroad station to carry out goods inspection so train no longer has to stop at border. 		
<p>View From the</p>			

Border			
NAFTA Visa Holders/First Nation Citizens Relative to WHTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to review NAFTA visa holders’ border crossing process to improve current constraints. • The policy for First Nation citizens in Canada be determined relative to the requirement of the Western Hemisphere Exemption Removal Legislation as they do not normally possess Passports or secure documents. • Special attention should be given to facilitating the movement of ceremonial materials utilized in traditional ceremonies by tribes needing to cross the border 		
Coordinated Clearance-Point of Departure Determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNWER call upon the U.S. and Canada to incorporate the Coordinated Clearance-Point of Departure Determination vision into its bilateral work on North American Competitiveness Council (NACC), Security & Prosperity Partnership (SPP) and Canada/US Smart Border activity. 		
Business Travel Pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNWER call upon the U.S. and Canada to implement the “Nexus Plus” business plan. 		
Northern Border University Research Consortium (CanAmBURC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support establishment of Northern Border Research Consortium consisting of universities in the northern tier states to engage in critical policy research focused on trade, environment, transportation, border security and economic competitiveness issues. 		

Energy I and II Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
Infrastructure Constraints in the Northwest	Pursue bi-national funding in order to develop a better understanding of resource acquisition plans and better anticipate transmission planning in the region.		
Energy Policy Act	<p>Continue to monitor the implementation of the corridor provisions of the Energy Policy Act (Sections 368 and 1221).</p> <p>Review and distribute an analysis of state and provincial hydroelectric regulations in preparation for reviewing the hydroelectric provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Distribute this information and consider advocating Congress to revisit these provisions in future legislation.</p>		Earle Ausman
Multi State Transmission Siting	Facilitate discussions between public and private sector stakeholders on the potential terms of a multi-state transmission siting compact.	Jim Luce	
Update on Regional Transmission Projects	N/A		
Ministers/Energy Chairs Roundtable (Broad	N/A		

discussion on Transmission, Pipeline, etc.)			
Other	Encourage federal policymakers to increase the amount of money available for research.		
	Pursue bi-national funding to share information on best practices in increasing energy efficiency, demand side management and conservation		Sen. Karen Fraser
	Create an inventory of existing and proposed transportation fuel programs by states and provinces.		Paul Wirienga
	Report on the barriers and options for harmonization of carbon fuel standards.		Paul Wirienga
Intergrating New Technologies and Renewable Sources of Energy	Encourage the standardization of definitions, etc. throughout the region to support the full development of alternative, renewable and clean sources of energy. Develop a report on best practices in alternative, renewable and clean sources of energy.		
Accessing the Region's Research Labs and Energy Institutions	Facilitate the exchange of information between PNWER and the various labs and energy institutions in the region, and gather information on what they might be able to offer on potential tours. Encourage and support greater collaboration among labs and energy institutions in the region.		
Notes to Staff (Not Action Items)	Encourage greater federal participation at the 2008 conference		
	Schedule a session at the Annual Conference that is unstructured so as to provide time for brainstorming future energy issues.		
	Include a presentation on California's low carbon		

	fuel standard methodology on the agenda of next year's conference		
	Schedule a session at the Annual Conference that is unstructured so as to provide time for brainstorming future energy issues.		
	Include a presentation on California's low carbon fuel standard methodology on the agenda of next year's conference		

Environment Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
<p>BC Climate Change Initiatives</p>			
<p>Panel of legislative and private sector leadership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNWER will promote the sharing of best practices regarding climate change technologies and ways of providing incentives to change behavior between all jurisdictions • PNWER members should recommend to their governments to consider joining the Climate Registry, which will establish common language and metrics to facilitate collaboration on climate change in the region. • Look at opportunities for the PNWER conference being carbon neutral next year • Establish climate change task force or working group to develop plans for the PNWER's whistler conference in November 2007. • Share information with California and discuss legislation on climate change 		
<p>Reducing Marine Emissions:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to track progress and legislation on International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex VI and a Sulphur Emissions Control Area (SECA) and share this information with working group members. • Encourage additional ports to join the Seattle, Tacoma, Vancouver three port agreement • Share best practices from the West Coast Collaborative with relevant regional organizations 		

and policy makers

- PNWER should recommend that both the US and Canada ratify MARPOL Annex VI so that we will be part of the review process of this major international standard.

Healthcare Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
<p>Aboriginal Health: Addressing Needs of First Nations and Native Communities</p>	<p>PNWER will feature a health innovations showcase highlighting data sharing with a particular focus on Aboriginal Health Data at the 2008 Annual Summit in Vancouver.</p> <p>PNWER will create a portal enabling international collaboration and knowledge exchange of best practices</p>		
<p>Leveraging Technology: Advancing Healthcare Delivery and Access</p>	<p>The healthcare working group will form an advisory committee to work with the high-tech working group on the creation of the innovation network (R+D Exchange)</p>	<p>Tom Nighswander Mary Polak</p>	

High-tech Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
<p>Research & Development Network</p>	<p>Develop a substantive communications framework that will support and enhance R&D collaboration, information sharing and access to funding across the region.</p> <p>In addition to the Network, the High Tech Working Group supports the convening of the researcher community (academic, government & private sector) in face-to-face forums that would establish trust between potential partners, as well as facilitate the exchange of ideas across disciplines.</p>		<p>Glenn Anderson</p>
<p>Grant Funding</p>	<p>Leverage the Network and forums to identify and build regional partnerships based on organizational/institutional core competencies that could be leveraged and engaged as partners in responding to funding requests.</p>		<p>Jeff Morris Glenn Anderson</p>

Homeland Security Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
<p>Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Arrangement (PNEMA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with states/provinces to further develop cross jurisdiction collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PNWER will continue to work to engage with PNEMA on regional disaster issues ○ PNWER supports the expansion of PNEMA to include Alberta ○ Utilize the PNWER Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Task Force to develop a prioritized regional action plan based on issues identified by state/provincial CIP Directors 	<p>PNWER CIP Task Force</p>	
<p>PNWER Center for Regional Disaster Resilience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop PNWER as a mechanism and resource to enhance regional disaster resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PNWER will work to re-establish the Northwest Warning Alert and Response Network (NWWARN) and encourage federal agencies to fund the initiative. ○ PNWER will work to develop a regional information fusion system framework which includes the private sector. ○ PNWER will provide an opportunity for states/provinces to share public information strategies on emergency management through the PNWER center for Regional Disaster Resilience 	<p>Puget Sound Partnership, PNWER RDR Center and the NWWARN Executive Committee</p>	

	web portal library.		
Antiterrorism and All Hazards Advisory Council Alaska (ATAACA) and the Alaska Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNWER will work to partner with ATAACA and the Alaska Partnership on critical infrastructure interdependencies initiatives such as exercises, information sharing and exchanging best practices 	Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help interested regions within PNWER to create cross sector partnerships, conduct regional exercises with various all hazards scenarios. 	PNWER Center for Regional Disaster Resilience	

Ocean Energy Working Group
PNWER 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Timeline
<p><i>Regional Resource Picture and Opportunity</i></p> <p><i>How does the resource match the markets</i></p>	<p>Goal: Continuation & expansion of the success of last years action items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource analysis – Action: expand to look at the <u>practical</u> resource that is available. <p>Goal: Matching resources to the market.</p> <p>Action: explore the expansion of BPA’s current project to include the California energy market.</p>	<p>Lead: Gouri Bhuyan</p>	
<p><i>Strategic investments to secure an ocean energy opportunities</i></p>	<p>Goal: Clear and consistent utilities plans for drawing in ocean energy.</p> <p>Action: Using the Energy Horizons program as a tool for utilities to meeting with industry and discuss mechanisms that can be implemented in the different utility and market structures that address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including ocean energy potentials (and related economic development potential) in long-term resource plans. • Introduction of programs such as standing offers, production credits, portfolio standards, advanced tariffs, and development centres. 	<p>Lead: Jeff Morris</p>	
<p><i>Enabling the Ocean Energy Opportunities</i></p>	<p>Goal: PNW Working Group whose key activity is to facilitate the acceleration of ocean energy market development through a communication network. This multi-organisational group task is setting and leading the dialogue and co-operation for: research; resource assessment; environmental and resource impacts; policy; financing; information sharing; regulation; and the role of utilities.</p>	<p>Lead: OREG (Jessica Johnson)</p>	

	<p>Action: Present the regional and global market opportunity, the regional industry supply chain capabilities and requirements, and how to collaborate to heighten awareness of the technology and the economic opportunities of the region and accelerate development.</p> <p>Action: creation of a web-based discussion forum and newsletters to inform on progress and working group meetings to assess progress and create new actions to move forward.</p> <p>Goal: Continuation & expansion of the success of last years action items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamlining permitting – Action: expand to address the nature of ocean energy and the state of the industry (need experience and to learn by doing and learn from each other– adaptive management). • Tax incentives and investment – Action: expand to build out appropriate pricing for ocean energy and market mechanisms (addressed in other action items as well). 	<p>Lead: OREG (Jessica Johnson)</p>	
<p><i>Other</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNWER should make an effort to have the federal governments realize that federal and state funds should be used in the Pacific Northwest, as opposed to other areas of the country. 	<p>Lead: Matt Morrison</p>	

Sustainable Development Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
Overview of Native Corporations			
Case Study 1: Red Dog Mine, Alaska			
Case Study 2: Galore Creek Mine, British Columbia	<p>Encourage envoys to inspect current Galore Creek-sponsored secondary school workforce development programs.</p> <p>Encourage stronger partnerships between governments and First Nations.</p>		Kevin Krueger
Case Study 3: Donlin Creek, Alaska	Facilitate working-relationships between Industry and First Nations to identify potential conflicts and maximize benefits to both parties.		Matthew Nicolai
Sustainable Development: Exploring Opportunities and Challenges	<p>Reform education efforts to establish Industry/ Dept. Labor/ School District partnerships which connect developing workforce with future job opportunities.</p> <p>Idaho has offered to showcase successful vocational education programs currently being developed in secondary schools.</p>		
Sustainable Development Panel	<p>Governments encourage early involvement with interest groups and communities to identify potential benefits, partnerships and potential conflicts.</p> <p>Canadian Stewardship Award System offered to showcase their model for certifying / grading sustainability of business practices.</p>		

The Legacy of Sustainable Mining in Juneau, AK			
Sustainability Showcase and Discussion	Encourage members to become involved with 2010 Sustainability Showcase Task Force, and offer helpful suggestions.		Matt Morrison

Telecommunications Working Group 2007

	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
<p><i>Cellular Inoperability</i></p>	<p>Telecom Working group should lead a stakeholder process to develop a strategy of seamless wireless communications across the region. This strategy is important for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out break management seamlessness of technology is significant. • Trade and economic development, particularly with the Pacific Rim, as well as globally. <p>Examine best practices for voice and data, particularly in the Pacific Rim.</p> <p>Expand the feasibility of cellular coverage through two items</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. seamless CDMA to GSM conversion technologies and 2. Expand the cellular footprint to provide cellular coverage through business case development including government incentives when required 		<p>Don Pumphrey</p>
<p>Infrastructure</p>	<p>PNWER to investigate a potential partnership to build the terrestrial link in conjunction with any terrestrial right of way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (e.g the railroad project under consideration to interconnect ARRC with the Canadian and US Railroads or pipeline project). 		<p>Don Pumphrey</p>

	<p>Identification of anchor tenants, such as The University of Alaska – Fairbanks – OC192 requests</p> <p>Expand participation of discussion and bring additional stakeholders to the table.</p>		
--	--	--	--

Tourism Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
Making the 2010 Olympics a Regional Success	PNWER will continue to work as a group to maximize exposure around events leading up to 2010 and beyond.		
NorPass Rail and Sail Initiative	PNWER will continue to support a multi-stop, multi-modal consumer “Norpass” system with WA, AK and BC provincial ferry systems.		
Regional Tourism Promotion Round Table	PNWER will conduct a quarterly conference call with tourism leaders from all PNWER jurisdictions beginning in September 2007.		
	Tourism working group encourages PNWER to prioritize tourism related sectors in workforce development discussions.		

Trade and Economic Development Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
How solid is your supply chain?	<u>Action</u> - EACH jurisdiction will be encouraged to develop a Buyer / Seller Forum for their region, with consideration of partnerships within the PNWER region.	Clint Dunford and Ken Kolby	
Economic Snapshot of the Region	<u>Action</u> - THE Trade and Economic Development Work Group will come forward (at the 2008 PNWER Annual Summit) with some recommendations of common economic measurements and benchmarks for the PNWER region.	Don Brunell and Jock Finlayson	
Chamber Director Panel	<u>Recommendation</u> - AS a resource rich region growing in population, it is imperative that each PNWER jurisdiction have the ability to share best practices in policy development for timely siting of major infrastructure projects. <u>Recommendation</u> - THAT PNWER create an Asia-Pacific International Trade Forum session at the 2008 PNWER Annual Summit.		
Update on 2006 Work Group Action Item – TILMA	<u>Recommendation</u> - IT is recommended that PNWER ask the Workforce Mobility Task Force to consider expanding their project's objectives to also include other TILMA issues such as procurement and standards/ regulations.		

Transportation Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
<p>Transportation Infrastructure Development</p>	<p>International trade volumes through the North America Pacific Gateway are forecast to increase dramatically. To increase the capability of infrastructure for the efficient delivery of goods to markets requires substantial and stable sources of funding. PNWER should continue to facilitate discussion of funding alternatives between respective responsible federal, state/provincial and respective local CA/US officials together with cargo owner and transportation provider representatives. Funding Pacific Gateway infrastructure programs should be an ongoing topic within PNWER for 2007 to 2010.</p> <p>Infrastructure funding is a complex and urgent consideration for public and private sector decision making. PNWER will explore with representatives of government and industry parameters for funding mechanisms and formula concepts that consider sharing by beneficiaries and users. It is recommended a session of the 2008 Summit be devoted to this topic.</p> <p>It is desirable that the North American Pacific Gateway be the most environmentally progressive logistics center in the world. PNWER will access leading government, business and transportation providers to develop a competitive regional plan and standards to address this goal, starting with an inventory of multi-modal freight corridor assets</p>		

	<p>Implementation of climate change policies must be balanced with maintaining movement of trade goods in a globally competitive market. The PNWER Transportation and Environment working groups will collaborate on this topic for the 2008 Summit.</p> <p>Infrastructure development will increasingly impact PNWER economic and stewardship initiatives. It is suggested the above resolutions will require two transportation working group sessions at the 2008 Summit (one of which will include environment working group collaboration).</p>		
Alaska-Yukon Rail Study	<p>PNWER should continue to discuss and facilitate appropriate actions of government and industry for this project.</p>		

Water Policy Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
<p>Towards A Sustainable Future: Public Policy Instruments for Managing Cumulative Impacts on the Alberta Environment</p>	<p>The water policy working group should develop an online portal on the PNWER website; This portal will serve as a clearinghouse of regional plans, studies, best practices and no regret activities across the PNWER jurisdictions.</p>		
<p>Forecasting the Future: Climate Change Impacts on Water in the Pacific Northwest and their Implications for Transboundary Relations between Canada and the United States</p>	<p>PNWER Officers should provide regional input regarding water treaties between the US and Canada.</p>		
<p>Creating a</p>	<p>Develop the Water Policy Task Force by creating a</p>	<p>At least one</p>	

PNWER Water Task Force: Towards a PNWER Consensus on Water Issues	prioritized list of regional issues to address. The task force will do this through a series of conference calls and other in person meetings. The task force will also identify potential funding sources to coordinate activities and work to secure support for identified initiatives.	person from each PNWER jurisdiction.	
--	--	--------------------------------------	--

Workforce Development Working Group 2007

Discussion Topic	Action Items	Project Team	Initial Project Leader
Understanding Regional Best Practices	Collecting data on best practices within PNWER region, related to high school student retention, completion rates; student mentorship and career awareness programs; post secondary training and retention of older workers. .		Deb Wallace Neil Windsor
Data Collection & Worker Mobility	Investigate the extent that the US unemployment system collects worker certification information. Collection of comparable data upon worker entry into the system would enable the effective and efficient matching of available workers to vacant jobs around the region.	Paul Holvey	Deb Wallace Neil Windsor
Strategic Vision of Pacific Northwest Workforce	In the next 90 days, develop an overarching strategic vision, mission and goals for what the region envisions its workforce should look like over the next 10 years. This plan is important to provide a framework for comprehensive planning both with in individual jurisdictions and the region at-large under the auspices of PNWER.	Tim Smith John Leech	Deb Wallace Neil Windsor