



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

2018 - 2019
PNWER Executive
Committee*

July 22, 2019

PNWER Supports Ratification of USMCA

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*Partial listing

The Pacific Northwest Economic Region Executive Committee supports the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), already ratified by the Mexican Parliament. We respectfully urge the Congress of the United States and the Parliament of Canada to ratify the agreement as soon as possible, with encouragement to complete the ratification process prior to both nations entering into national election cycles.

The North American economy is among the most competitive in the world, marked by highly integrated and valuable supply chains and common rules and harmonized regulations. These factors increase the speed and global competitiveness of business in the region, driving investment and creating value in each country's economy. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement makes targeted improvements to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) that build on the enormously successful North American partnership and our shared advancements in the global marketplace.

The U.S. and Canada have the largest trading relationship in the world and it is incredibly important to the Pacific Northwest. The Pacific Northwest benefits from two-way Canada-U.S. trade valued in 2017 at over \$541 billion USD (\$630 billion CAD) annually, of which about \$22.6 billion USD (\$29 billion CAD) is in the Pacific Northwest. Protectionist measures seriously damage vital economic regional partnerships in both countries. Our integrated supply chains depend on the certainty which will come from ratification of the Agreement.

Here in the Pacific Northwest, we are stronger by working closely together. We have ongoing partnerships in every major sector of our economies, as well as between state, provincial, territorial, local, and indigenous/tribal governments in the region. This cross-border region continues to work closely together with our interconnected and interdependent supply chains, and dozens of cross-border cooperative agreements on everything from our shared transboundary watersheds, cross-border airsheds, climate action, cross-border law enforcement, invasive species prevention, and forest fire prevention, to defending our shared borders in the 60-year-old NORAD (North American Air Defense) System.