Catalyzing the Growth of Innovation Clusters in the Pacific Northwest's

A research collaboration between PNWER, Moonbeam, and the University of Washington's Jackson School



JACKSON SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON



Research, Identify, and Support

In Spring 2019, PNWER, Moonbeam, and UW partnered to map the innovation economy in the PNW, specifically:

- Identify underleveraged or emerging innovation clusters in the region;
- Propose linkages between the clusters;
- Make recommendations for how PNWER
 can help catalyze their growth.

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Report authors: Damian Allen, Nina Gerber, Arafat Sabawan, Jose Gomez



Methodology

We applied a 5-step process to this analysis to identify innovation clusters and connections.

To facilitate this analysis, we leveraged a variety of data sources and data sets:

federal spend | venture deals | foreign direct investment | demographics | corporate activity university R&D | patents | growth trends workforce metrics

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(2) Identify

- Map industries and capabilities
- Identify centers of agglomeration
- Determine gaps and barriers to development

(1) Baseline

- Gather relevant data sources and economic indicators
- Map industries and capabilities
- Baseline indicators and index innovation

(4) Validate

- Evaluate investment levels and trends
- Interview industry and regional experts
- Develop testable prototypes

(3) Hypothesize

- Find connections across capability, market, investment, and workforce
- Formulate gap mitigations through connection
- Mapp strategies and tactics

(5) Recommend

- Assess economic impact goals
 Develop key performance indicators
- Implement recommendations for measurable results



Key Findings

Our analysis identified key innovation drivers, capabilities, gaps, and opportunities borne from collaboration. Looking at government R&D spend, startup activity, capital investment and spend, workforce, industry demographics, and extensive stakeholder interviews, we identified:

- An emerging cargo drone hub in Anchorage;
- An opportunity for build a safety tech hub in Calgary;
- A potential pivot toward devices and wearables in Portland;
- And global centers of excellence in AI and immersive tech in Seattle and Vancouver.

Cargo Drone Hub – Anchorage and other parts of Alaska

Opportunity: Leverage local hardware startups with Seattle software to establish a Cargo Drone Innovation Cluster

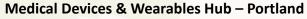
The PNW AI & XR Hub

Seattle – HQ for enterprise leaders in cloud (MS & Amazon), AI (MS, Amazon, Google), and Immersive Technology (MS, HTC, Oculus)

Vancouver – Home to over 200 XR (VR/AR/MR) startups fueled by the entertainment industry

Drone/Safety Tech Hub – Calgary

Opportunity: Attract other sectors with a public safety component (manufacturing, agriculture, construction, emergency, etc.) to apply UAS, AI, and XR technology



Opportunity: Pivot efforts on drug development towards devices and wearables



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Successful genius clusters rely on three key components



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Successful genius clusters rely on three key components

Trade Networks

Natural Resources

Innovation Assets

Patent Activity

Corporate Partners

Logistics



Venture Capital
Angel Investors

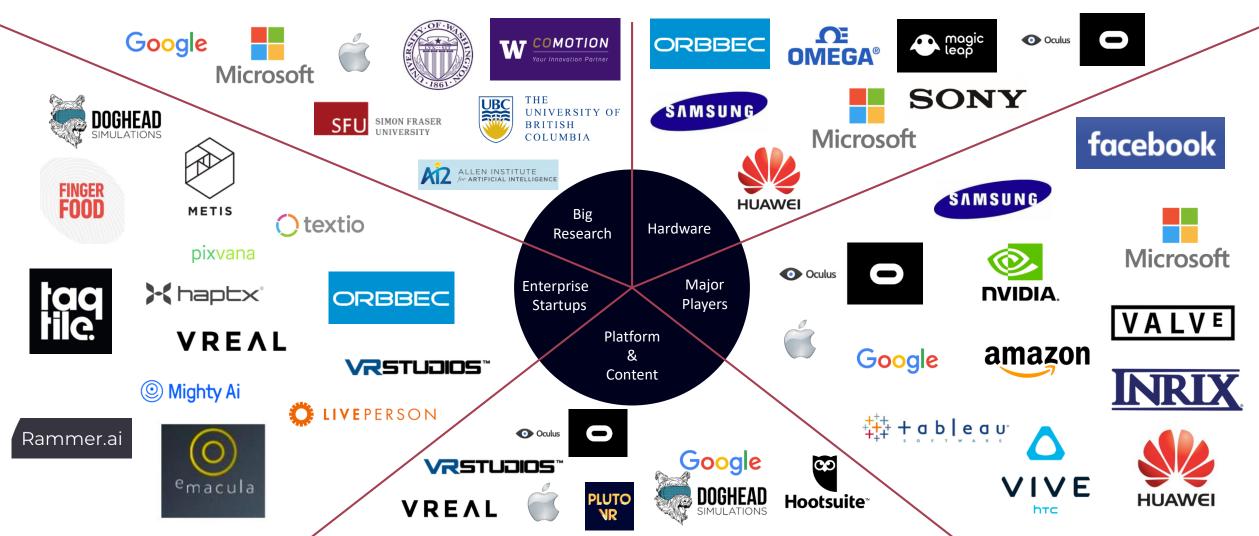
Corporate Buyers

Foreign Direct Investment

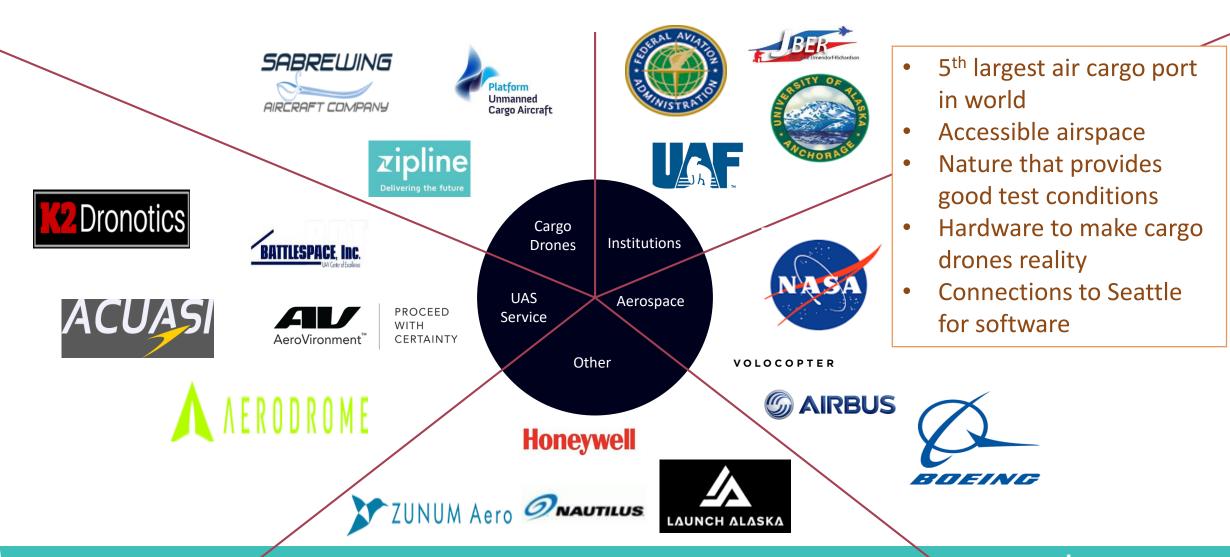
Customer Base
Grant Funding



Seattle and Vancouver represent a Globally Recognized Hub for Artificial Intelligence, Cloud, and Immersive Technology



Alaska can retain their incumbency in cargo by embracing Cargo Drones.

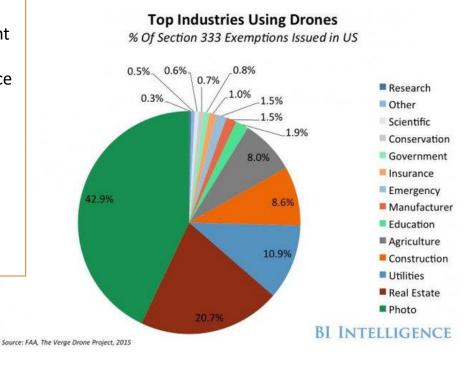


SafeTech Calgary: 2300+ Public Safety Related UAS, Geospatial, and Sensor Companies with a potential to grow beyond Oil & Gas



SafetyTech has the potential to improve several incumbent industries, including:

- Research & Science
- Government
- Insurance
- Manufacturing
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Utilities
- Real Estate

















Portland has the potential to be a leader in Medical Devices & Wearables.

- Existing centers of excellence in IT Hardware, Sports Tech, Retail, and Apparel
- Over 216 Life Sciences firms and 3 Universities

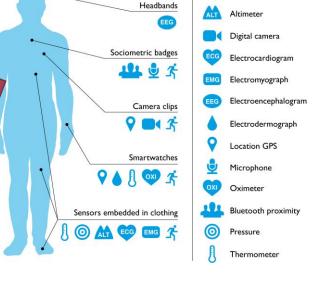












Accelerometer

- Oregon has invested over \$1.2B private and federal R&D in developing life sciences
- \$27B/yr. market impact from Intel resulting is a robust angel ecosystem









Recommendations to PNWER

For Oregon

- i. The Oregon legislature to hold a hearing on the economic potential of wearables and medical devices. Interested committees include the Senate Business and General Government Committee, the House Business and Labor Committee, and the House Economic Development Committee.
- ii. A forum on wearables and medical devices to be created as part of an existing event in the Oregon business space. PNWER should assess public and private sector entities to identify possible host events. They should also recommend speakers and invitees.

For Alberta

- i. Alberta to join the existing UAS information-sharing partnership between WA, OR, and ID.
- ii. Alberta Provincial Government and Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA) to establish an industry council to conduct a study identifying public safety applications for Calgary's UAS, geospatial, navigation, and global positioning ecosystem.
 - a. Calgary Economic Development (CED) to seek out UAS and public safety conferences in other regions for Calgary-based companies to attend.
 - b. CED and the Calgary Municipal Government to create a seminar that assists UAS, geospatial, navigation, and global positioning companies with marketing to a public safety audience.
- iii. The Alberta Ministry of Economic Development and TCAA to organize a UAS and public safety conference.

For Alaska

- i. Write an advocacy letter to Alaska Senators advocating for federal funds for drone research that benefits the commercial drone industry.
- ii. Advise that the Alaskan government should assist educational institutions, University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and Fairbanks (UAF), in seeking federal funds and other outside funding for innovation-related research.
- iii. Advise the Alaskan government to increase state procurement of UAS services instead of manned aircraft in certain aspects of their daily operations.
- iv. PNWER members should to attend one of the annual summits of Alaska Unmanned Aircraft System Interest Group sponsored by University of Alaska.







