



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region



2018 Annual Report

Message from the President



I am privileged to serve as President of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) for 2018-19. The past year saw significant political and economic change in the United States (U.S.) and Canada, with the landscape we operate in evolving faster than ever before. PNWER has played an increasingly critical role in advancing the Canada-U.S. relationship and is recognized as a leader in the region for its engagement. Our ability to drive collaboration between the public and private sectors and increase knowledge-sharing across borders continues to enhance our regional competitiveness, and support the largest trading relationship in the world.

PNWER has advocated for the importance of trade between Canada and the U.S. and will continue to highlight the significance of the new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement and work of the Regulatory Cooperation Council. PNWER has also advocated against policies such as unnecessary tariffs which could reduce our competitiveness on the world

stage and negatively impact our integrated supply chains.

The Columbia River Treaty has also been a focus of PNWER's work and, as part of the Annual Summit, a joint session with stakeholders and both lead negotiators from the U.S. and Canada was held. PNWER also organized a two-day trip to the interior of British Columbia (B.C.) for 50 leaders to learn from Canadian officials and communities about the impacts of the treaty in Canada, as well as an additional tour to Grand Coulee Dam in Washington State. This program area led to a deeper engagement with First Nations and Native American stakeholders – relationships that we hope to continue to foster.

PNWER has worked with its partners to establish Harbour-to-Harbour floatplane service between Seattle, Washington and Vancouver, B.C., and helped develop a pilot program with the Canada Border Services Agency and U.S. Customs and Border Protection for bi-national clearance. The one-hour flight is a major boost to tourism and business travelers. The pilot program began in spring of 2018.

On the cybersecurity front, PNWER's Center for Regional Disaster Resilience procured independent funding from the Department of Homeland Security to develop a cyber resilience assessment tool and a cyber response planning guide for businesses and local governments in the region.

We also undertook considerable action to continue the fight against invasive species and have been instrumental in securing US\$14 million in federal funds for Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana over the past three years.

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge and congratulate Oregon Senator Arnie Roblan for his achievements and outstanding leadership as PNWER's President in 2017-18. His dedication to PNWER, to the region, and its citizens is unparalleled.

I look forward to another productive year ahead. Continuing to foster cross-border relationships and explore opportunities for cooperation and collaboration with the private sector (and all levels of government), as well as encouraging the inclusion of diverse voices within PNWER, remains a priority. I also look forward to welcoming everyone to my home province of Saskatchewan July 21-25, 2019, for the 29th Annual Summit in Saskatoon.

For all our progress and success, there's still more to do. I urge you to remain actively involved in PNWER so we can continue our efforts to improve the lives of the citizens and jurisdictions in our outward-looking and economically vibrant region.



Larry Doke, Member of the Legislative Assembly,
Saskatchewan, PNWER President

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Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

ABOUT

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is the preeminent bi-national advocate for regional state, provincial, and territorial issues.

Public-Private Partnership
founded in 1991

Chartered by:

- Alaska
- Idaho
- Montana
- Oregon
- Washington
- Alberta
- British Columbia
- Saskatchewan
- Yukon
- Northwest Territories

STAFF

Matt Morrison
CEO

Brandon Hardenbrook
COO

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Director, Center for Regional
Disaster Resilience (CRDR)

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Senior Program Manager

Rachael Kopp
Events Manager

Jennifer Grosman
Program Manager

Nate Weigel
Program Coordinator

Tara Edens
Program Coordinator

Chris Chan, CPA
Accountant

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
- Promote greater regional collaboration

WORKING GROUPS

- AGRICULTURE
- BORDER & TRADE
- CROSS-BORDER LIVESTOCK HEALTH
- DISASTER RESILIENCE
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- ENERGY
- ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
- INNOVATION
- INVASIVE SPECIES
- MINING
- TOURISM
- TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE
- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- WATER POLICY

TASKFORCES

- COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY
- NAFTA MODERNIZATION
- UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS' ROUNDTABLE

PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

- ARCTIC CAUCUS
- CAPITOLS COMPETING FOR CAPITAL
- CENTER FOR REGIONAL DISASTER RESILIENCE
- LEGISLATIVE ENERGY HORIZON INSTITUTE

2018 Leadership



LARRY DOKE, MLA
President
Saskatchewan



SEN. MIKE CUFFE
Vice President
Montana



GRAHAM SUCHA, MLA
Vice President
Alberta



REP. GAEL TARLETON
Vice President
Washington



HON. BOB MCLEOD
Vice President
Northwest
Territories



SEN. ARNIE ROBLAN
Immediate Past
President
Oregon

DELEGATE COUNCIL

ALASKA

Gov. William Walker
Sen. Kevin Meyer
Sen. Cathy Giessel (Alt)
Sen. Bill Wielechowski (Alt)
Rep. Bryce Edgmon
Rep. Charisse Millett
Rep. Chris Tuck (Alt)

ALBERTA

Premier Rachel Notley
Nicole Goehring, MLA
Graham Sucha, MLA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Premier John Horgan
Rick Glumac, MLA
Dan Ashton, MLA

IDAHO

Gov. C.L. Butch Otter
Sen. Michelle Stennett
Sen. Chuck Winder
Rep. Elaine Smith
Rep. Rick Youngblood
Rep. Mat Erpelding (Alt)

MONTANA

Gov. Steve Bullock
Cliff Larsen
Sen. Keith Reiger
Sen. Jon Sesso
Rep. Mike Cuffe
Rep. Shane Morigeau

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Premier Bob McLeod
Hon. Wally Schumann, MLA

OREGON

Gov. Kate Brown
Sen. Arnie Roblan
Sen. Bill Hansell
Rep. Deborah Boone
Rep. David Brock Smith
Rep. Caddy McKeown (Alt)
Rep. Greg Barreto (Alt)

SASKATCHEWAN

Premier Scott Moe
Larry Doke, MLA
Hon. Dustin Duncan, MLA
Hon. Lori Carr, MLA

WASHINGTON

Gov. Jay Inslee
Sen. Maralyn Chase
Sen. Jim Honeyford
Sen. Barbara Bailey (Alt)
Sen. Lisa Wellman (Alt)
Rep. Bruce Chandler
Rep. Gael Tarleton
Rep. Cindy Ryu (Alt)

YUKON

Premier Sandy Silver
Hon. Ranj Pillai
Hon. Pauline Frost (Alt)

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

PRIVATE SECTOR COUNCIL *PARTIAL LISTING

PRIVATE SECTOR

CO-CHAIRS

Colin Smith, Engineers & Geoscientists BC
Dan Kirschner, NWGA

ALASKA

John Boyle, BP
Cam Toohey, Shell
Hans Neidig, ExxonMobil

ALBERTA

Steve Allan, Calgary Economic Development
Mike Simpson, Devon Energy
Larry Delver, Alberta Beef Producers
Jim Donihee, CEPA
Riley Georgson, Transalta
Scott Thon, AltaLink
Donny Van Dyk, Enbridge

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Colin Smith, Engineers & Geoscientists BC
David Bennett, FortisBC
Don Dalik, Fasken Martineau
Hana Doubrava, Microsoft
Marcia Smith, Teck
Charles Kelly, Concrete BC
Dave Cowen, The Butchart Gardens
Greg Wirtz, CLIA-NWC

IDAHO

Ken Dey, J.R. Simplot
Patrick Kole, Idaho Potato Commission
Bob Naeurbout, Idaho Dairymen's Assn.
John Revere, INL/Battelle
Jesse Ronnow, Zions Bank

MONTANA

Mike Halligan, The Washington Companies
Bob Rowe, Northwestern Energy
Cory Fong, MDU
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Darrell Beaulieu, Denendeh Investments
Pawan Chugh, NWT BDIC
OREGON
Dan Kirschner, NWGA
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

SASKATCHEWAN

Shawna Argue, APEGS
Natashia Stinka, Canpotex
Bob McDonald, APEGS

WASHINGTON

Dennis Vermillion, Avista
Pam Brady, BP
Courtney Wallace, BNSF
Nina Odell, PSE
Brandon Housekeeper, PSE
Irene Plenefisch, Microsoft
Megan Ouellette, Alaska Airlines
Bob Sailer, PNWLG
George Caan, WPUDA

YUKON

Albert Drapeau, Yukon First Nations Chamber of Commerce

OTHER

David Miller, CN
Amb. David Wilkins, Nelson Mullins

The Year in Review

January



State Capital Visits: PNWER leadership in Juneau, AK. **Above** Also visited were Olympia, WA and Boise, ID to discuss priorities for the region. Major themes included NAFTA modernization, cybersecurity, invasive species, transportation, innovation, & more.

Cybersecurity: PNWER's Center for Regional Disaster Resilience released the Cyber Incident Reporting Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for Washington State and is a model for the nation. The project was funded by a grant from the Department of Homeland Security. WA Rep. Zack Hudgins speaks at a [CRDR Cybersecurity workshop](#) in Seattle, WA. **Below**

March



Earthquake Recovery: PNWER hosted an exercise on post-earthquake disaster recovery efforts in March in Seattle, WA. 125+ energy, transportation, healthcare, education, leaders attended to discuss the post-response, long-term recovery process.

Arctic Strategy: In March, PNWER hosted the 6th Annual North American Arctic Leaders' Roundtable in D.C. Led by U.S. Senators, Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan and U.S. Representative Don Young, the roundtable brought experts from the U.S., Canada, and Greenland to discuss collaboration on North American Arctic strategy. **Below**

April



Transportation: **Pictured Above** Brandon Lee, Consul General of Canada in Seattle, and Brad Smith, President of Microsoft, at the inauguration of the Harbour-to-Harbor Floatplane. PNWER helped develop a pilot program with CBSA and CBP for bi-national clearance.

Energy: On November 8, 34 state and provincial legislators and local policymakers graduated from the rigorous LEHI program at a ceremony held at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C. **Below**

September



November





June



Ottawa: PNWER Leadership met with the U.S. Ambassador to Canada, Kelly Craft. The officers also met with Canadian federal ministries and discussed NAFTA, trade, invasive species, border policies, and more.

Economic Leadership Forum: During the Economic Leadership Forum in Whitehorse, Yukon, delegates met to discuss the importance of First Nations. PNWER leadership released a statement on the negative impact of the steel and aluminum on U.S.-Canada relations.

Pictured Below: Marilyn Jensen, Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Assoc., and McGarry Selbee, CEO of Chief Isaac Group of Companies, during a panel on FN Economic Development & Tourism.

July



Energy: PNWER's [Legislative Energy Horizons Institute \(LEHI\)](#) provided an extensive overview of the North American energy systems to legislators, administrators, and policy experts from around the U.S. and Canada in Richland, WA.

PNWER President: Larry Doke, MLA assumed the PNWER presidency from Sen. Arnie Roblan at the 28th Annual PNWER Summit in Spokane.

USMCA & Tariffs: PNWER presented at the CSG National meeting in Kentucky on efforts supporting the USMCA and pushing for exemptions on the Section 232 steel and aluminum tariffs with Canada. PNWER CEO Matt Morrison spoke with Ambassador Craft. **Below**



28th Annual PNWER Summit: The 28th Annual PNWER Summit brought together over 600 delegates in Spokane, WA, on July 22-26 to discuss the important issues of the region from the Columbia River Treaty to Disaster Resilience and Cybersecurity to Economic Development.

Drones: PNWER's CRDR presented the results of the technical research team, Global Resilience Institute, on utilizing self-directed drone technology (algorithms) and LIDAR to inspect damaged bridges in a post-disaster scenario. The project was under a grant from the Department of Homeland Security. **Below**

December



2017-2018 Accomplishments

This past year, PNWER's NAFTA modernization task force pushed for 10 recommendations, most of which made it into the final USMCA. We have pushed to end the steel and aluminum tariffs between the U.S. and Canada, which is an ongoing challenge today. We also focused on the Columbia River Treaty, transportation infrastructure, invasive species, and other high priority issues facing the region.

ANNUAL SUMMIT

Over 600 regional legislators, business leaders, academics, and policy makers gathered in Spokane, WA, on July 22-26. With 27 working group sessions, 6 keynote plenary sessions, and 7 policy tours, attendees had the opportunity to engage in dialogue, strengthen regional relationships, and address the various challenges that affect the region. Videos, media reports, and the work plan to guide PNWER over the next year are available at www.pnwer.org/2018summit.

PNWER encouraged the U.S. and Canadian Federal Governments to strive towards a modernized NAFTA that builds upon its current success to further enhance trade and investment in North America. PNWER has communicated with the White House, Department of Commerce, and United States Trade Representative, and presented to the Canadian Parliament on the importance of a tri-lateral NAFTA agreement, Canadian exemption for steel and aluminum tariffs, and the repeal of the tariff on Canadian newsprint. Communications with the White House, the NAFTA Resolution, and Modernization Task Force materials are available at www.pnwer.org/nafta-modernization.html.



Pictured above: U.S.-Canada panel on tariffs and international trade at 2018 PNWER Annual Summit in Spokane, WA.

TRANSPORTATION

PNWER has long worked with our partners to establish Harbour to Harbor floatplane service between Seattle and Vancouver, B.C., and helped develop a pilot program with CBSA and CBP for bi-national clearance. The one-hour flight is a major boost to tourism and business travelers, and the pilot program began in Spring 2018.

INFRASTRUCTURE

PNWER continues to showcase Canadian expertise in public-private partnerships and is working with the Administration and the U.S. Congress to develop a regional accelerator to promote public/private partnerships for regional infrastructure.

CAPITOLS COMPETING FOR CAPITAL

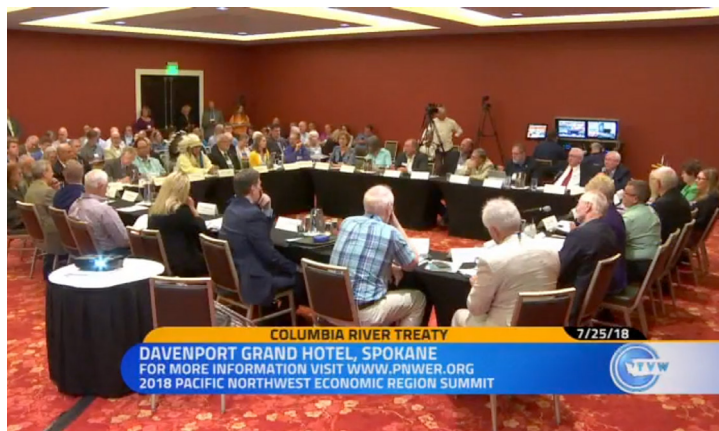
Twenty-five state legislators and executive branch officials spent two days in Silicon Valley examining the latest technologies, their application, and policy implications of 5G telecom infrastructure. The small, hands-on, intensive program provided policymakers a greater understanding of where the industry is going and how policies may affect infrastructure investments in our region.

COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY

Another key priority for PNWER this year has been the Columbia River Treaty. The Annual Summit included the first and only joint session with stakeholders with both lead negotiators from the US and Canada; Sylvain Fabi, Executive Director, U.S. Transboundary Affairs, Global Affairs Canada and Jill Smail, Columbia River Treaty Negotiator, U.S. Department of State. Stakeholders shared the benefits and impacts of the treaty focusing on ecosystems, tribal concerns, power generation, tourism, agriculture, irrigation, recreation, transportation and more.

PNWER organized a two-day trip to interior B.C. for 50

leaders to learn from Canadian officials and communities about the impacts of the treaty as well as an additional tour to Grand Coulee Dam in Washington State.



ARCTIC DEVELOPMENT

PNWER hosted the 6th Annual North American Arctic Leaders Roundtable held in the U.S. Capital, led by U.S. Senators Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan and Rep. Don Young. Representatives from the U.S., Canada, and Greenland, as well as many experts in the Arctic region, discussed collaboration on a North American Arctic strategy.

ENERGY

The [Legislative Energy Horizon Institute](#), PNWER's annual 60-hour certificate program in energy policy, has graduated over 240 state legislators and Canadian MLAs to date. 40 legislators, including MLAs from B.C. and Saskatchewan, participated in the Institute in Richland, Washington, and met in Washington D.C. in November for the second 3-day course. The Annual Summit featured 5 energy sessions covering grid reliability, battery storage, infrastructure resiliency, and permit reform.

DISASTER RESILIENCE

- **Earthquake Recovery:** PNWER hosted an [exercise](#) on post-earthquake disaster recovery effort in Seattle. 125 + energy, transportation, healthcare, education, and other sector leaders attended to discuss planning for the post-response long-term recovery process.
- **Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS):** PNWER won a national competition and was awarded a grant from the Department of Homeland Security to develop new technologies to utilize drones to quickly assess earthquake damage to critical infrastructure, including roads and bridges, following an earthquake. The [project](#) is a joint effort between PNWER and Northeastern University in Boston.
- **Cybersecurity:** PNWER's Center for Regional Disaster Resilience procured independent funding from DHS to develop a [cyber resilience assessment tool](#) and also a cyber response planning guide for businesses and local governments in the region.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

PNWER supported recent federal action to increase wildfire funding. In the past, PNWER has worked with our Congressional leaders and organized working group sessions focused on healthy forest management policies.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

PNWER was instrumental in securing \$21 million in federal funds for the fight against invasive species for Washington, Idaho, Oregon, and Montana over the past 4 years. PNWER has pushed Canadian federal agencies to support provincial efforts and is collaborating with the provinces on an Invasive Mussel Prevention Framework for Western Canada.

MINING

Binational legislators were educated on innovative and sustainable mining practices at the 2018 Annual Summit in Spokane, WA. Mining will be a significant focus at the 2019 Annual Summit in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

NAFTA Modernization

6

Letters sent to President Donald Trump and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross supporting a modernized NAFTA

4

Public statements opposing steel and aluminium tariffs.

1

Public statement opposing newsprint tariffs. Newsprint tariffs were discontinued.

OUR NAFTA MODERNIZATION TASK FORCE PUSHED FOR 10 RECOMMENDATIONS, MOST OF WHICH MADE IT INTO THE FINAL U.S.-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT (USMCA). PNWER ALSO PUSHED TO END SPECIFIC TARIFFS ON UNCOATED PAPER PRODUCTS-- WHICH WERE DISCONTINUED-- AND STEEL AND ALUMINIUM TARIFFS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND CANADA.

Trade

PNWER encouraged the U.S. and Canadian Federal Governments to strive towards a modernized NAFTA that builds upon its current success to further enhance trade and investment in North America. In the U.S., PNWER has communicated our recommendations to the White House, the Department of Commerce, and the United States Trade Representative. In Canada, PNWER presented to the Canadian Parliament on the importance of a tri-lateral NAFTA agreement. PNWER also sent numerous letters asking for Canadian exemption for steel and aluminum tariffs and the repeal of the tariff on Canadian newsprint. Communications with the White House, the NAFTA Resolution, and Modernization Task Force materials are available at www.pnwer.org/nafta-modernization.



"Here in the Pacific Northwest, we are stronger by working closely together, and our relationships are intact because of the ongoing partnerships in every major sector of our economy, and in state, provincial, territorial, local, and tribal governments. The U.S. should exempt Canada from any steel and aluminium tariffs, which are causing significant disruption to the largest trading relationship in the world." - Sen. Arnie Roblan, Oregon

& International Trade



OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, PNWER HAS STRONGLY ADVOCATED TO TOP U.S. OFFICIALS THE IMPORTANCE OF A FAIR, FREE, AND STABLE TRADING RELATIONSHIP.

The U.S. and Canada have the largest trading relationship in the world, and here in the Pacific Northwest, we benefit from the two-way trade of over \$630 billion annually, of which \$34 billion is in the Pacific Northwest.

Tariffs

PNWER sent [six letters](#) this year to the White House and U.S. Department of Commerce on the importance of bi-national trade and opposition to unnecessary tariffs. PNWER issued a statement against tariffs on uncoated paper that was used by Congress in an ITC Hearing. Ultimately, the tariff was discontinued. PNWER worked to galvanize state legislative support against tariffs and in favor of a waiver for Canada on steel and aluminum tariffs. PNWER hosted sessions at the Summit in Spokane and at the Whitehorse Economic Leadership Forum on the impact of tariffs and is working on compiling specific case studies of industries being affected. These case studies will be collected and shared with congressional leaders to illustrate the negative impact of steel and aluminum tariffs to industries on both sides of the border.

“We believe that unilateral tariffs between the U.S. and Canada go against the principles of free and fair trade and only harm industries in both countries. When markets are open, and goods are transported freely across borders, the results are economic growth, new businesses and more and better job opportunities for individuals.” - Larry Doke, MLA, Saskatchewan

Border Policy

FACILITATING EFFICIENT CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND GOODS

In 2015, PNWER established a [Preclearance Task Force](#) to provide input on the expected benefits with agencies on both sides of the border prior to and during the implementation of the U.S. - Canada Preclearance agreement. The Task Force has held monthly calls to share information across the northern border on the challenges, process, timeline, and implementation for the past 3 years. This stakeholder engagement has helped with increased outreach and engagement from federal partners to our cross-border carriers in the Pacific Northwest. PNWER was instrumental in securing implementation legislation in the U.S. and Canada.

As the 2015 Agreement moves to full implementation across major transportation modes, stakeholders are pressing for more coordinated, efficient, and secure ways to allow legitimate low-risk goods and travelers to cross the border. As the trading relationship evolves between Canada and the U.S., it is even more important now to press the reset button to progress border cooperation further to benefit travel, trade, tourism, and the national security interests of both countries.

PNWER along with Vancouver Airport Authority are co-chairing the Beyond Preclearance Coalition, a group of bi-national organizations with a vested interest in advancing the efficiency and security of the U.S.-Canada border. Together, the coalition commissioned a White Paper to explore multi-modal opportunities going forward. Further details at www.beyondpreclearance.org.

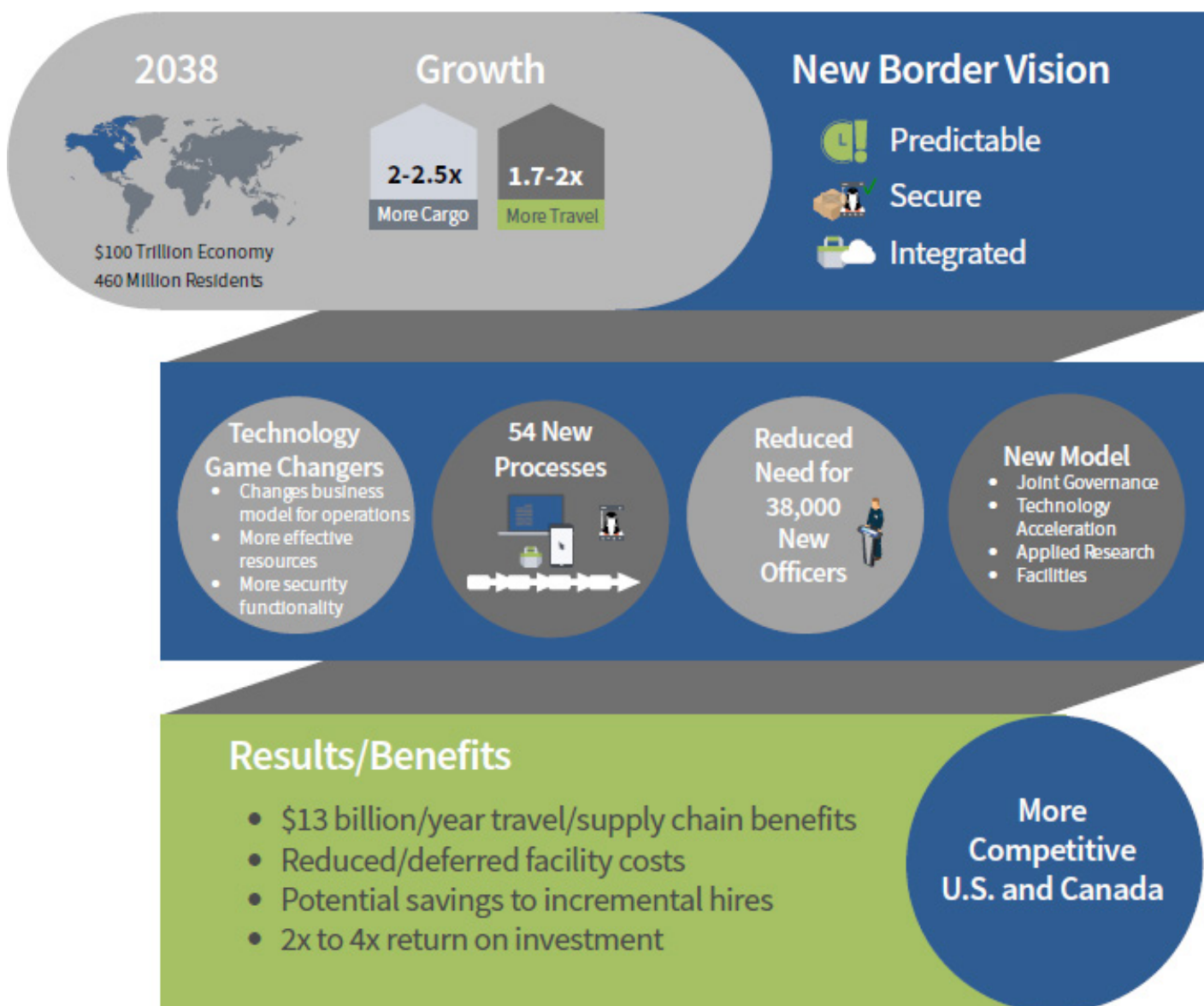
BEYOND PRECLERANCE COALITION



& Preclearance



BEYOND PRECLEARANCE COST SAVINGS BY IMPLEMENTING CURRENT TECHNOLOGIES



Graphic courtesy of Beyond Preclearance and YVR Aviation Border Summit II. PNWER is a partner organization in the Beyond Preclearance Coalition.

Federal Engagement

Congressional offices visited in 2018:

U.S. Representatives -
 Don Young (AK)
 Mike Simpson (ID)
 Greg Gianforte (MT)
 Earl Blumenauer (OR)
 Suzanne Bonamici (OR)
 Peter DeFazio (OR)
 Kurt Schrader (OR)
 Greg Walden (OR)
 Suzan DelBene (WA)
 Denny Heck (WA)
 Jamie Herrera-Beutler (WA)
 Pramila Jayapal (WA)
 Derek Kilmer (WA)
 Rick Larsen (WA)
 Cathy McMorris-Rodgers (WA)
 Dan Newhouse (WA)
 Dave Reichert (WA)
 Lou Correa (CA)

Congressional offices visited in 2018:

U.S. Senators -
 Lisa Murkowski (AK)
 Dan Sullivan (AK)
 Jim Risch (ID)
 Mike Crapo (ID)
 Steve Daines (MT)
 Jon Tester (MT)
 Jeff Merkley (OR)
 Ron Wyden (OR)
 Maria Cantwell (WA)
 Patty Murray (WA)
 Senate Committee on
 Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

A major priority of PNWER is communicating and working with our federal legislators, whose policies impact the economic relationship of the region. PNWER has been actively engaged in sharing our message on a number of issues important to the region. In 2018, PNWER leadership met with all of the Northwest Congressional delegation members or their staff.



PNWER Arctic North American Leaders Forum: Alaska State Sen. Cathy Giessel, U.S. Sen. Dan Sullivan, U.S. Rep. Don Young, U.S. Sen Lisa Murkowski, and Alaska State Sen. Bert Stedman.



PNWER President Arnie Roblan, Matt Morrison, and MLA Fred Bradshaw, SK enjoying the Energy Council Reception at the Embassy of Canada.



U.S. Rep. Pete Defazio with Sen. Arnie Roblan exchanging ideas.



PNWER met with WGA and key White House and OMB intergovernmental affairs directors.

FEDERAL AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS VISITED IN 2018:

Agriculture
 Commerce
 Interior
 Energy
 Homeland Security
 Transportation
 State

Executive Office of the President
 White House
 Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
 Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)

Ottawa

The PNWER leadership met with several Ministers and Ministry officials in Ottawa throughout the year. The key issues focused on were invasive species (primarily quagga/zebra mussels), transportation infrastructure, the Ocean Protection Plan as it relates to marine safety and oil spill preparedness in the Salish Sea, border issues including the preclearance agreement and preclearance of goods and services as well as travelers; the impact of NAFTA, and PNWER's NAFTA Modernization Task Force recommendations for an updated agreement, & regional concern about section 232 tariffs, & avoiding a trade war between the U.S. & Canada.

Meetings included:

Hon. Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Scott Brison, President of the Treasury Board

Minister Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development

Hon. Francois-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

U.S. Ambassador Kelly Craft

John Ossowski, President of Canada Border Services Agency

Hon. Andrew Leslie, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs



PNWER delegates met with Ambassador Kelly Craft, U.S. Ambassador to Canada (center) to discuss the future of NAFTA and the Canada - U.S. relationship.



Delegates met with Hon. Andrew Leslie, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to discuss PNWER's advocacy against tariffs.



Discussions with John Ossowski, President of CBSA, (second from left) included preclearance, border processes, improving hours at specific border crossings, and DHS projects with PNWER.

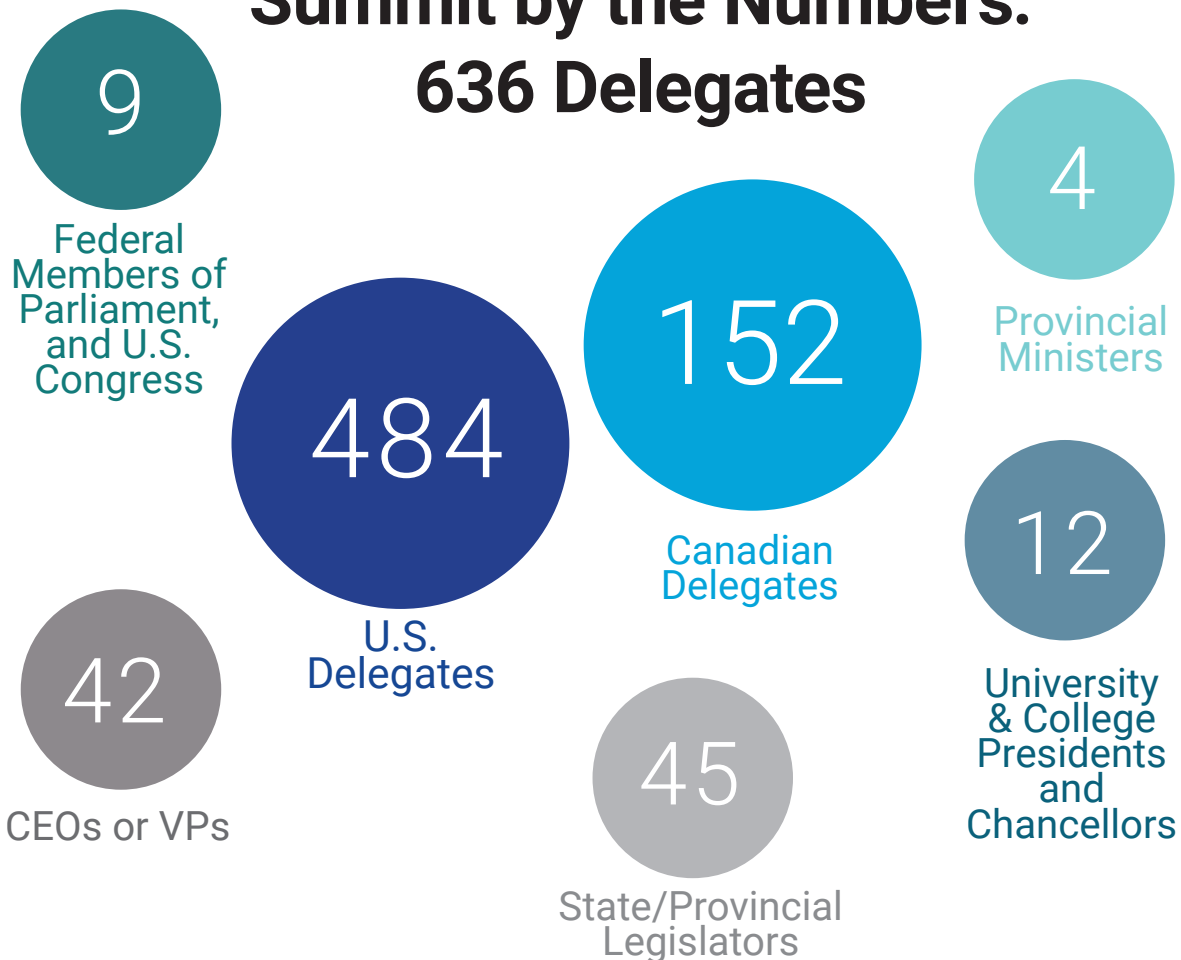


Meeting with officials from Oceans and Fisheries Canada on the impact of a potential quagga zebra mussel invasion in our region, as well as preventing future infestations in our waterways.

2018 Annual Summit

Over 600 government and business leaders gathered in Spokane, WA, for the 28th Annual Summit to explore policy barriers and innovative solutions to the region's pressing issues.

Summit by the Numbers: 636 Delegates



Through engaging discussion, compelling keynote presentations, evening networking events and offsite policy tours, the Summit provided an opportunity to connect and strengthen relationships with legislators, government officials, private sector leaders, and academia from a broad cross-sector of industries and backgrounds. The strength of these bi-national relationships leads to real results for each jurisdiction. Session proceedings, speaker presentations, video, media and other resources are available at www.pnwer.org/2018summit.

Summit delegates discussed the top issues facing our region in 27 working group sessions, where action items are developed representing the steps the working groups will take to advance the priorities of the group.

Sessions:

- Agriculture
- Border & Trade
- Columbia River Treaty
- Cross-Border Livestock Health
- Carbon Policy and Energy Reliability
- Drone Applications in Disasters
- Economic Development
- Energy & Environment
- Energy Innovations
- Election Infrastructure and Cybersecurity
- Forestry
- Infrastructure Resilience
- Innovation
- Invasive Species
- Mining
- Tourism
- Transportation and Infrastructure
- University Presidents Roundtable
- Water Policy
- Workforce Development



Washington State Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers (middle) in discussion with Colin Robertson, Vice President of Canadian Global Affairs Institute (left) and Matt Morrison, Executive Director of PNWER (right) during a study tour through Washington and Idaho, hosted by BNSF Railway.



Bruce Agnew, Director of Cascadia Center; Victor Thomas, Vice-President, Prairie Region of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada; Stephen Metruck, Executive Director of the Port of Seattle, and Idaho Senator Chuck Winder discussed how to grow global competitiveness through expanding markets and infrastructure.

2018 Annual Summit

Tariffs and Trade

"We believe that new unilateral tariffs between the U.S. and Canada go against the principles of free and fair trade and only harm industries in both countries. When markets are open and goods are transported freely across borders, the result is economic growth, new businesses, and more and better job opportunities for individuals."

Several Summit sessions focused on the impact of tariffs on the region, which will continue to be a priority for PNWER in the coming year. As an outcome of the Summit, PNWER issued the above statement on tariffs.



Plenary keynote panel on the current state of North American Free trade, featuring Chris Sands, Senior Research Professor and Director of the Center for Canadian Studies with Johns Hopkins Center School of Advanced International Studies; Colin Robertson, Vice President and Fellow with the Canadian Global Affairs Institute; and Dan Ujzco, International Trade Lawyer with Dickinson Wright. Moderated by former U.S. Ambassador to Canada David Wilkins.



Alan Bersin, former Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security gave a compelling keynote on the "Border of the Future", alongside prepared remarks from John Ossowski, President of the Canada Border Services Agency. Moderated by Laurie Trautman, Director of the Border Policy Research Institute at Western Washington University.

For more information, including presentations, video recordings, and the complete agenda, please visit www.pnwer.org/2018summit. Join us at next year's Summit in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan July 21 - 25, 2019!

Regional Opportunities



Summit delegates were honored by the welcome from the Salish School of Spokane. SSOS is an independent, non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve and revitalize Salish language.



Passing the Gavel. Larry Doke, MLA from Saskatchewan, accepted the role of PNWER President for 2018 - 2019 from past president Oregon State Senator Arnie Roblan.



Evan Reis, Executive Director and Co-founder of the U.S. Resiliency Council, spoke at Tuesday's breakfast about the steps that communities and leaders can take to strengthen their resilience in the wake of natural disasters. Hosted by Pacific Northwest Building Resilience Coalition, the session explored how the region can better prepare.



WA Sen. Jim Honeyford, MT Rep. Mike Cuffe, WA Rep. Mary Dye, and NWT Premier Bob McLeod enjoy the time to network while learning about the Northwest rail network.



Senator Arnie Roblan presents Former MLA Ed Conroy and The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children and Family Development and Minister responsible for Columbia River Treaty, British Columbia (left to right) the Hot Potato Award for their years of work regarding Columbia River Treaty issues.



PNWER Projects

University Presidents Roundtable

The PNWER University Presidents Roundtable is the only one of its kind in North America. The roundtable explored how the region could move forward to address obstacles and opportunities in talent development, as well as share strategic partnerships and innovations for emerging challenges in higher education.



2018 Co-Chairs Christine Johnson, Chancellor, Community Colleges of Spokane; Mary Cullinan; President, Eastern Washington University; Ana Mari Cauce, President, University of Washington; and Kirk Schulz; President, Washington State University led a discussion on challenges & opportunities in regional talent development.



Delegates were invited to a lovely outdoor reception at Washington State University's Health Sciences Building to learn more about WSU's health and agriculture research. UW President Ana Marie Cauce and WSU President Kirk Schulz are seen here enjoying the event.

Capitols Competing for Capital (C3)



PNWER developed a program for the telecom industry, focused on 5G networks. Both legislators and the private sector encouraged its development.

The Inaugural PNWER Capitols Competing for Capital (C3) program was held in the San Francisco Bay area June 18 & 19th. We had 22 legislators and municipal policymakers from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana participated.

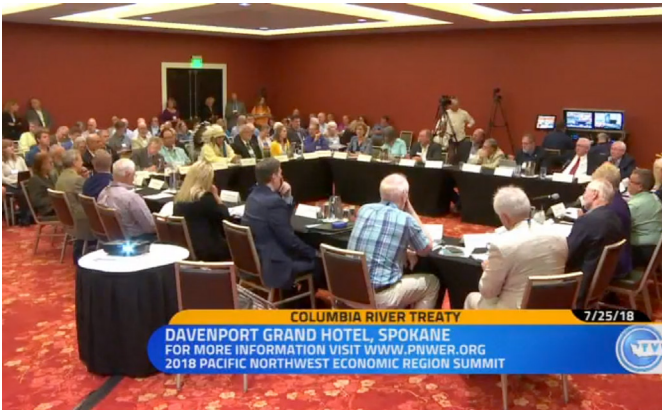
The goals and outcome of the curriculum sought to address and answer some of the following questions:

- Understanding new communication technologies coming to constituencies over the next decade. What will they look like, what will they provide in service, and what digital divides might exist?
- What will the world market look like for these technologies?
- How do we as a region compare vs. others for investment by communication service providers?

The first class included key legislative leadership from both parties, and the participants rated the course very highly. Many expressed that the learning will help them in their upcoming legislative sessions.

Columbia River Treaty

The Columbia River Treaty Symposium was held in conjunction with the PNWER Summit this year. Jill Smail, U.S. Chief Negotiator for the Columbia River Treaty, and Sylvain Fabi, Canadian Chief Negotiator for the Columbia River Treaty, spoke about the importance of the treaty to the region and for the two nations. The listening session provided an opportunity for stakeholders to share the benefits and impacts of the treaty, focusing on areas including ecosystems, tribal groups, utilities, tourism, agriculture, recreation, and more.



The Roundtable was the first--and only place thus far--where the chief negotiators from the U.S. and Canada, Jill Smail and Sylvain Fabi, presented together and heard testimony from stakeholders on both sides of the border. These discussions are a testament to where PNWER excels by providing stakeholders from across the region the opportunity to meet and hear from each other through open dialogue.



The tour of Grand Coulee Dam in central Washington showcased hydroelectric power and water storage for irrigation projects in the U.S. & Canada. In a two-day tour of southeast B.C., 50 leaders visited the Hugh Keenleyside Dam and the Spicer farm in Nakusp, one of the farms inundated when the treaty dams were built. Columbia Basin residents & local experts present along the way to share their knowledge of how the treaty affects the region's ecosystems, agriculture, tourism, & community.

Working Group Co-Chairs

Working Groups

PNWER's Working groups, co-chaired by the public and private sectors, meet throughout the year with stakeholders to address regional items. Resources available at www.pnwer.org/working-groups.html.

Action Items

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

Key Findings

Key Findings are best practices, or identified needs that are highlighted by the working group during the sessions. Not all key findings are actions the working group will take on for the annual workplan.

Agriculture



Larry Doke
MLA,
Saskatchewan



Patrick Kole
Vice President
Idaho Potato
Commission

Border Issues



Sen. Mike Cuffe
Montana State
Legislature



Dr. Laurie Trautman
Director
Border Policy
Research Institute

Cross-Border Livestock Health



Jill Harvie
Programs Manager
Canadian
Cattlemen's Assoc.



Dr. Amber Itle
Asst. State Veterinarian
Washington Dept.
of Agriculture

Disaster Resilience



Eric Holdeman
Director
Center for Regional
Disaster Resilience



Brig. Gen. Brad Richy
Director
Idaho Office of
Emergency Management

Economic Development



Rep. Rick Youngblood
Idaho State
Legislature



Steve Allan
Chair, Board of Directors
Calgary Economic
Development

Energy



Rep. Jeff Morris
Washington
State
Legislature



John Gibson
Chief R & D Engineer
Avista

Energy & Environment



Rep. Deb Boone
Oregon State
Legislature



Paul Manson
CEO
DC Grid Development
Corporation

Forestry



Mark Peck
Libby County
Commissioner
Montana



Travis Joseph
President
American Forest
Resource Council

Innovation



Sen. Mia Costello
Alaska State
Legislature



Rick Glumac, MLA
Parliamentary Secretary
for Technology
British Columbia



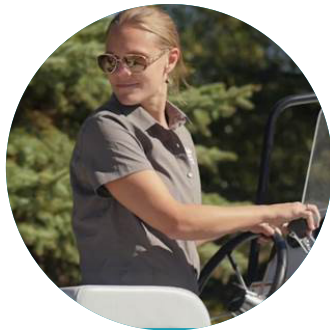
Nirav Desai
Senior Partner
Moonbeam

Working Group Co-Chairs

Invasive Species



Rep. Terry Gestrin
Idaho State
Legislature



Kate Wilson
Commission Administrator
MT Dept. of Natural
Resources & Conservation

Mining



Rep. Dave Talerico
Alaska State
Legislature



David Ramsay
Director
Fortune Minerals

Transportation



Sen. Chuck Winder
Idaho State
Legislature



Bruce Agnew
Director
Cascadia Center

Tourism



Rep. Gael Tarleton
Washington State
Legislature



Dave Cowen
CEO
The Butchart
Gardens

Water Policy



Sen. Jim Honeyford
Washington State
Legislature



Dr. David Hill
Director
Centres & Institutes &
Research Advocacy, U of L

Workforce Development



Sen. Maralyn Chase
Washington
State
Legislature



Shawna Argue
Director of Education
& Governance
APEGS

Working Groups

TRADE & NAFTA
REGULATORY COOPERATION
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE

Co-Chairs: Larry Doke, MLA, Government of Saskatchewan
Patrick Kole, Vice President, Idaho Potato Commission

Purpose: Over the past several years, the Agriculture Working Group has focused on trade with a primary examination of NAFTA and the Canada-U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) Action Plan. The working group continues to provide input on cross-border agriculture trade issues to key decision makers in Ottawa and Washington, D.C.

Key Projects:

- Hosted listening session with Under Secretary Bill Northey, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, on stakeholder concerns and priority recommendations on regional trade and cross-border issues.
- Hosted Agriculture roundtable discussion with four state/provincial Ministers/Directors.
- Hosted a webinar on the impact of a new NAFTA on the agriculture sector.

Action Items:

- Collaborate with Border & Trade working group to compile regional examples of impacts of tariffs (jobs, decline in sales, etc.)
- Share Joint Statements supporting modernizing NAFTA, opposing tariffs, and supporting science-based regulatory systems in agriculture.

Joint Statement:

- The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER), in both the United States (U.S.) and Canada, recognize the importance of trade and the immense benefits realized under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The agriculture sector in particular has been a major benefactor, creating deeply integrated cross border supply chains that have enhanced our competitiveness internationally. Members of the PNWER Agriculture Working group urge both the U.S. and Canadian federal governments to continue negotiating a modernized and enhanced NAFTA.
- We believe that new unilateral tariffs between the U.S. and Canada go against the principles of free and fair trade and only harm industries in both countries. When markets are open and goods are transported freely across borders, the result is economic growth, new businesses and more and better job opportunities for individuals.
- We believe the U.S. and Canada should enhance competitiveness by becoming more effective and efficient through the adoption of new and cutting edge technologies. A science-based regulatory system is needed to support our industry's efforts in this area, and this requires strong leadership internationally from both Canada and the U.S. to address issues with countries whose regulations are less than science-based. As such, members of PNWER encourage the U.S. and Canada to continue pushing for science-based regulation in the agriculture sector in forums like Codex Alimentarius Commission and the OIE World Organization for Animal Health.

Working Groups

TRADE & NAFTA
REGULATORY COOPERATION
PRECLEARANCE

BORDER & TRADE

Co-Chairs: Rep. Mike Cuffe, Montana
Dr. Laurie Trautman, Director, Border Policy Research
Institute at Western Washington University

Purpose: PNWER continues to serve as a top forum for U.S.-Canada border coordination and collaboration by providing input on preclearance and recommendations for potential pilots in our region. PNWER has worked with public and private stakeholders to provide input to federal partners on specific issues impacting trade between the U.S. and Canada, including NAFTA, the impact of tariffs, and the regulatory cooperation council (RCC). More information on page 10.

Key Projects:

- Developed stakeholder recommendations on modernizing NAFTA .
- Committed to sustained advocacy in D.C. and Ottawa on importance of stable and fair trading relationship.
- Collaborated on tech innovations to promote a more secure border.

Action Items:

- Work with Beyond Preclearance Coalition to publish their White Paper on connecting transportation and industry in identifying how new technologies can improve border security and facilitation.
- Host several conference calls before the winter meeting with tourism and transportation providers, DHS and CBSA, and consulates to help identify recommendations for messaging related to cannabis to reduce problems for travelers crossing the border.
- Compile regional impacts of Section 232 tariffs on business and jobs and share with congressional delegation.
- Send letter supporting expansion and continued participation in Regulatory Cooperation Council initiatives to U.S. Federal Government.

LIVESTOCK TRADE
E-CERTIFICATION IN LIVE
CATTLE

ANIMAL WELFARE DURING
BORDER CROSSING

PREVENTION AND EARLY
DETECTION FOR ANIMAL
DISEASE

CROSS-BORDER LIVESTOCK HEALTH

Co-Chairs: Jill Harvie, Programs Manager, Canadian Cattlemen’s
Association
Dr. Amber Itle, Assistant State Veterinarian, Washington
Department of Agriculture

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, develops a common understanding of disease policies, and exchanges information on emergency response to emerging and foreign animal diseases.

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.

CRITICAL
INFRASTRUCTURE
CYBERSECURITY
WILDFIRE
ELECTION SECURITY

DISASTER RESILIENCE

Co-Chairs: Brad Richey, Director, Idaho Office of Emergency
Eric Holdeman, Director, Center for Regional Disaster
Resilience

Purpose: The Center for Regional Disaster Resilience works on emergency preparedness and disaster resilience projects across the Pacific Northwest. The CRDR is committed to working with states, provinces, territories, and communities to create public-private partnerships, develop action plans, and undertake pilot projects and activities to improve regional disaster resilience cooperation. More information on Page 32.

Key Projects:

- Hosted the Blue Cascades Earthquake Recovery Tabletop Exercise on post-earthquake disaster recovery efforts in March in Seattle, WA. 125+ energy, transportation, healthcare, education, leaders attended to discuss the post-response, long-term recovery process.
- Completed the Cyber Incident Reporting Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for Washington State and is a model for the nation.
- Continued work on application of drones in disaster response including a workshop on drone use by local governments, webinar on establishing a drone program, and a study of technical guidelines for infrastructure inspection.

Action Items:

- Develop a cyber threat briefing for presentation at the next summit. Additionally, develop a webinar on the same topic that can be presented and would be available online on the CRDR website as a resource tool.
- Seek funding to develop an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS)/Drone workshop to help educate personnel from private companies, city/municipality, county, and state/provincial jurisdictions.
- Develop a database of UAS users, their equipment, and their usage (Current DHS funded project deliverable).
- Develop a "users group" and hold quarterly conference calls for the sharing of best practices (Current DHS funded project deliverable).

RURAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
INNOVATIVE FINANCING
OPPORTUNITIES
URBAN TO RURAL
ECONOMIC DRIVERS
INDIGENOUS
TRIBES ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Co-Chairs: Rep. Rick Youngblood, Idaho State Legislature
Steve Allan, Chair, Board of Directors, Calgary Economic
Development

Purpose: The Economic Development Working Group shares best practices among jurisdictions and highlights case-studies of successful economic initiatives that can be replicated around the region.

Key Projects:

- Convened key legislators, economic development directors, and 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.

Working Groups

GRID RESILIENCY &
MODERNIZATION

TRANSMISSION &
INFRASTRUCTURE
PERMITTING

UTILITY REGULATION

ENERGY

Co-Chairs: Rep. Jeff Morris, Washington State Legislature
John Gibson, Chief R & D Engineer, Avista

Purpose: Strive 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. Topics explored include utility pricing models; pipeline safety; collaboration on cross-border energy infrastructure; climate policy; integrated resource planning; resiliency of the shared energy grid; and LNG export opportunities.

Key Projects:

- Organized two-day energy track at Annual Summit covering smart grids, energy reliability, carbon pricing, funding for energy research, and infrastructure permitting.
- Graduated 33 policymakers from Legislative Energy Horizon Institute. More information on page 31.

Action Items:

- The PNWER Executive Committee will submit a request to the Western Governors Association to include renewable natural gas as part of the renewable energy discussion that has been announced for the agenda for WGA's winter meeting in December. PNWER will assist in assembling a panel/presentation for the WGA Annual Meeting. The request letter should be transmitted to WGA within two weeks of the conclusion of the 2018 Summit.
- PNWER will investigate the possibility of convening a sidebar of clean energy and cleantech stakeholders at the The Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) May 27, 2019 in Vancouver, BC.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT / INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

INFRASTRUCTURE
RESILIENCE

RENEWABLE ENERGY

ENERGY INNOVATION

CARBON POLICY

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, British Columbia

Purpose: Address the convergence of environmental sustainability and economic development while promoting the region's competitiveness in addressing environmental challenges with innovative solutions.

Key Projects:

- Increased focus on infrastructure resilience, green building, and climate change adaptation requiring collaboration between working groups. International experts spoke at Annual Summit.

Action Items:

- The PNWER Secretariat will continue to maintain and update annually an inventory of carbon policies in PNWER jurisdictions as a resource.
- Encourage collaboration between the Innovation Working Group and the Northwest Energy Innovation Alliance on the best models to develop innovation ecosystems.
- Complete the Roadmap to Resilient, Ultra Low Energy Buildings and present to the University President Roundtable at the 2019 Summit.

PROMOTING HEALTHY
FORESTS

EFFECTIVE FIRE
SUPPRESSION FUNDING

RESILIENT
WATERSHEDS

FOREST PRODUCT
INNOVATION

FORESTRY

Co-Chairs: Mark Peck, Libby County Commissioner, Montana
Travis Joseph, President, American Forest Resource
Council

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.

Key Projects:

- Examined challenges and opportunities in the renewable forest products industry.
- Explored advancements in building with wood from CLT manufacturers and builders.

INNOVATION

Co-Chairs: Sen. Mia Costello, Alaska State Legislature
Rick Glumac, MLA, Parliamentary Secretary for Technology,
Government of BC
Nirav Desai, Senior Partner, Moonbeam

Purpose: The competitive landscape of the global economy, coupled with worldwide environmental challenges, is creating unprecedented demand for scientific discovery and application. The Pacific Northwest region must channel the strengths of its many separate resources into a collaborative, comprehensive effort that maximizes the economic benefits of regional innovation.

Action Items:

- Conduct a study/Share information across states/provinces on how each handles data privacy and associated legislation (GDPR). Assemble a common body of knowledge on this topic.
- Promote the U.S. Navy Hack the Machine event in Seattle on August 20-22 Coordinate a call with AK, WA, and OR on potential Navy Future Command in the PNW with PNWER Maritime Cyber Task Force.
- Investigate development of a White Paper on state-verified identities leveraging blockchain tech - Lessons learned and best practices from B.C. and others.
- Update PNWER's Innovation Assets Map of the PNW.
- Plan a session to investigate mechanisms for ethical use of technology for Big Data (deep learning and AI) and coordinate with our universities in PNWER jurisdictions.

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM
DEVELOPMENT

REGIONAL COLLABORATION
BETWEEN RESEARCH
ORGANIZATIONS

INCUMBENT SECTORS
INNOVATION POTENTIAL

CASCADIA INNOVATION
CORRIDOR INITIATIVE

Working Groups

INVASIVE MUSSELS
FEDERAL FUNDING AND
ADVOCACY

REGIONAL PERIMETER
DEFENSE STRATEGY

NORTHERN PIKE

INVASIVE SPECIES

Co-Chairs: Rep. Terry Gestrin, Idaho State Legislature
Kate Wilson, Commission Administrator, Montana
Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Purpose: The Invasive Species Working Group focuses on establishing a regional defense against invasive threats by bringing together state and provincial partners to collaborate on initiatives and coordinate on strategic partnerships, information sharing, and best practices.

Action Items:

- Advocate for increased invasive species federal funding for jurisdictions within PNWER and modifications to existing programs, legislation, and policies.
- Inform state, provincial, and territorial officials and lawmakers of high priority invasive species and pathways.
- Request letter from PNWER Executive Committee to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council regarding the need and potential for additional economic analyses of invasive species to be developed.
- Support cross border Pike committee planning and key action items.

WORKFORCE
AND ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGY
DEVELOPMENT

INFRASTRUCTURE

INDIGENOUS,
FIRST NATION AND
NATIVE AMERICAN
ENGAGEMENT

MINING

Co-Chairs: Rep. Dave Talerico, Alaska State Legislature
David Ramsay, Director, Fortune Minerals

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.

Key Projects:

- Showcased redevelopment of legacy mines for restoration and sustainable operations with the goal of mitigating past exploration.
- Highlighted Cobalt mining in the region as a critical element in the production of batteries.
- Informed policy makers on roads to resources and the need for infrastructure and market access to rural and remote communities.

Action Items:

- Work with member jurisdictions to inventory best practice of developing transparent economic benefits and environmental remediation investments of mining projects in order to streamline permitting.
- Work with members to identify best practices for outreach on the economic benefits of mining within communities.

INNOVATIVE
INFRASTRUCTURE
FINANCE

MARKET ACCESS &
RAIL CAPACITY

OIL TRAIN SAFETY &
SAFETY IN THE SALISH
SEA

ULTRA-HIGH SPEED
RAIL & CASCADIA
CORRIDOR

AUTONOMOUS,
CONNECTED, ELECTRIC,
SHARED VEHICLES

TECH FOR SECURE
BORDER
CROSSINGS

PERMIT REFORM

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Co-Chairs: Sen. Chuck Winder, Idaho State Legislature
Bruce Agnew, Director, Cascadia Center

Purpose: The Transportation and Infrastructure Working Group facilitates regional collaboration on public policy of transportation corridors and gateways, sharing best practices on technology development, infrastructure financing, and addressing the challenges of multi-modal market access to global markets.

Key Projects:

- Sustained engagement with U.S. Congress to appropriate funds for Regional Accelerator Demonstration Program which would prepare states to utilize Canadian expertise on innovative infrastructure financing mechanisms.
- Collaboration with Border and Tourism working groups on high-tech security measures to facilitate border crossings.
- Increased focus on preparing the region for autonomous, connected electric, shared vehicles.

Action Items:

- Encourage the expansion of Alaska and Washington's vessel tracking program into B.C. to improve the safety of the Salish Sea.
- PNWER will work with Idaho Dept. of Transportation to help connect them with key stakeholders across the region to provide input on their study focused on truck size and weight harmonization.
- PNWER will continue to advocate for the full appropriation of the FAST Act 1411 Regional Accelerator.
- Demonstration Project with the objective of sharing Canadian innovative financing models with U.S. jurisdictions. PNWER will share the findings with members and on our web site of the Coalition of America's Gateways and Trade Corridors Report "Freight Can't Wait: CAGTC Speaks on Permit Reform."

REGIONAL TOURISM
DESTINATION
COORDINATION

"TWO-NATION"
VACATION INITIATIVE

REGIONAL TOURISM
DATA, METRICS, AND
INFORMATION

SHARING ABORIGINAL
TOURISM

TOURISM

Co-Chairs: Rep. Gael Tarleton, Washington State Legislature
Dave Cowen, CEO, The Butchart Gardens

Purpose: The Tourism Working Group works to develop a more interconnected tourism region and facilitate collaboration among industry and public partners throughout the region. Tourism is one of the largest economic drivers in each state and province and is a clean industry.

Action Items:

- In 2019, focus on incorporating indigenous tourism into a session at the Annual Summit.
- Encourage each PNWER member jurisdiction to designate a representative to the PNWER Tourism Working Group.

Working Groups

COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY
CLIMATE CHANGE
ADAPTATION
INFRASTRUCTURE

WATER POLICY

Co-Chairs: Sen. Jim Honeyford, Washington State Legislature
Dr. David Hill, Director, Centres and Institutes and Research
Advocacy, University of Lethbridge

Purpose: Provide an important forum to address water policy issues throughout the region. Connect legislators, private-sector, and universities, to identify best practices to improve water security, adaptation of climate change, and storage options. Also provide updates to the region on the Columbia River Treaty & explore linkages with other working groups.

Action Items:

- Continue to hold a legislative roundtable in future water policy session at the Annual Summit.
- Share information about bioremediation work on water treatment technology in the Elk Valley, B.C. with PNWER members.

LICENSING
RECIPROCIITY
INNOVATING
WORKFORCE
TRAINING
WORKFORCE MOBILITY

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Co-Chairs: Sen. Maralyn Chase, Washington State Legislature
Shawna Argue, Director of Education and Governance,
Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists
of Saskatchewan (APEGS)

Purpose: The Workforce Development Working Group identifies best practices and the barriers to addressing labor shortages, the key stakeholders, and specific actions that can be implemented to alleviate these shortages.

Action Items:

- 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.
- Compile and share best practices/lessons learned from PNWER members on the prepare the workforce for the future (example "Future Ready Oregon").

INNOVATIVE ACADEMIC
INITIATIVES
ENGAGING
POLICYMAKERS
CROSS BORDER
COLLABORATION

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS ROUNDTABLE

Co-Chairs: Christine Johnson, Chancellor, Community Colleges of Spokane
Mary Cullinan; President, Eastern Washington University
Ana Mari Cauce, President, University of Washington;
Kirk Schulz; President, Washington State University

Purpose: The University Presidents Roundtable identifies best practices and the barriers to addressing labor shortages, the key stakeholders, and specific actions that can be implemented to alleviate these shortages. More information on page 18.

Key Projects:

Presidents and chancellors explored how the region could move forward to address challenges and opportunities in talent development, as well as share strategic partnerships and innovations for emerging challenges in higher education.

PNWER Program: LEHI

Legislative Energy Horizon Institute

261

Number of legislators and policymakers graduated from the program

14,000

Number of classroom hours that participants have contributed to LEHI

60

Number of hours each graduate contributed to learning about energy

A nationally-recognized certificate program for state and provincial legislators and policymakers focused on the North American energy system and energy policy

LEHI is designed to prepare emerging state and provincial leaders to address the complex energy issues facing each of our jurisdictions. Founded by PNWER in 2009, the Institute has graduated over 260 legislative leaders in this 60 hour class from across the U.S. and Canada who have contributed over 14,000 collective hours of their own time to complete the course. The six-day course, in partnership with the University of Idaho, includes instruction and exercises.



2018 LEHI graduating class during the graduation ceremony at the Embassy of Canada in Washington, D.C.

LEHI Partners

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region
University of Idaho
U.S. Department of Energy
National Conference of State Legislatures
Government of Canada
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Western Governors' Association
National Governors Association
Energy Council

"If you want to understand the complexity and significance of energy policy to our civil society, then LEHI is your premier 'go-to' program to jump start your education."

– Sen. Albert Olszewski, Montana, 2018 LEHI Graduate

2019 Institute Dates

July 6-9, 2019, in Richland, WA

October 24-26, 2019, in Washington, D.C.

More information

www.pnwer.org/energyhorizon

PNWER Programs



Center for Regional Disaster Resilience

11

Workshops, Summits,
Webinars, or Exercises
held this year.

970

Participants from the
Northwest or across
the Nation

CYBERSECURITY

DRONES

**CRITICAL
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**WILDFIRE
RESPONSE**

**EARTHQUAKE
PREPAREDNESS**

**ELECTION
SECURITY**

CYBERSECURITY

Cybersecurity remains an area of emphasis for the CRDR who, this year, conducted two workshops with our partners, King County Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) and the Idaho Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The State of Idaho has contracted with PNWER for the past four years to assist in [developing public-private sector partnerships](#) focused on the need for cybersecurity prevention, response, and mitigation.

The CRDR completed the [Cyber Incident Reporting Concept of Operations \(CONOPS\)](#) for Washington State and is a model for the nation. This work was funded by a grant from the Department of Homeland Security Resilience Challenge Program. The CONOPS was developed via several workshops and a detailed survey that organizations could use to evaluate their cybersecurity program. This work was an outgrowth of many years of cybersecurity workshops where our participants indicated that it was not clear when, where, to whom, and how to submit reports of cyber-intrusions.

DISASTER RESILIENCE CHALLENGE GRANT: DRONES

The CRDR, in partnership with the Global Resilience Institute, developed technologies to use [Unmanned Aircraft Systems \(UAS\)](#), or drones, to inspect critical infrastructures post-disaster under contract from the Department of Homeland Security. In 2019, the CRDR will be working with four states-- Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington to develop a Concept of Operations (CONOPS) to establish an access control process for each state. This process will outline how critical infrastructure owners and operators can obtain access to their infrastructure in a disaster scenario in order to inspect and put the infrastructure back in operation. Additionally, each state will establish the type of information they would like to obtain about infrastructure damages to have a better common operational picture.

INFRASTRUCTURE INTERDEPENDENCIES EXERCISE

The [Blue Cascades VII Infrastructure Interdependencies Exercise](#) brought 150 practitioners to discuss the impacts to critical infrastructure in the Puget Sound Region during a disaster. King County Homeland Security Region 6 provided the funding that enabled this event. Discussions centered on the challenges of multiple infrastructures being simultaneously impacted by an earthquake.





Invasive Species

The Pacific Northwest remains the only region in the U.S. and Canada without invasive quagga and zebra mussels.

\$500mil

Annual cost to PNW if mussels are established

PNWER and partners worked with the NW Congressional delegation to incorporate new legislative language to allow for funds to be used outside the the Columbia River Basin and to include early detection, rapid response, inspection, decontamination, and monitoring. More details at www.pnwer.org/invasive-species.html

\$21mil

Federal funds obtained by PNWER & Partners to protect the region

These federal funds are a result of years of concerted efforts by PNWER and partners to work with Congressional delegations and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to secure funding, beginning with \$4 million in the 2014 WRRDA bill. PNWER was instrumental in obtaining an additional \$5 million through the 2016 WIIN Act and the 2019 WRDA act includes an addition \$6 million in funding.

\$6mil

Funding included in 2019 WRDA

The federal funding was instrumental following a invasive mussel scare in Montana in October 2016. Thanks to a strong response by the State of Montana, the threat was contained, and the infestation has not spread.

Federal and Jurisdictional Advocacy

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Department of Interior
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Canadian Ministries
Northwest U.S. Congressional delegation
State legislative committees

NORTHERN PIKE

PNWER coordinated the first Pacific Northwest Northern Pike Forum at the Summit with the Washington Invasive Species Council to form the Pacific Northwest Northern Pike Coordinating Group, a cross-border committee focused on working as a region to combat the spread of non-native northern pike, which pose serious risks to the region's native fisheries, including salmon.

INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION IN CANADA

PNWER has also pushed the Canadian federal government to develop a program within Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to provide funding or educational resources to western provinces for for their mussel prevention efforts, and has held several conferences promoting a Western Canadian framework for invasive mussels which included public and private

State and Provincial Capital Visits

BOISE
EDMONTON
JUNEAU
OLYMPIA
REGINA

Each year, the PNWER Board visits state, provincial, territorial, and federal capitals to advocate for regional issues and assess priorities that PNWER should focus on in the coming year. Meetings with legislative majority and minority leadership, governors and premiers, and key executive-branch staff provide an opportunity to discuss regional trade and PNWER programs. The visits also allow PNWER leadership to connect with the PNWER delegate council members and LEHI alumni.

Major themes this year included NAFTA modernization, Columbia River Treaty, cybersecurity, invasive species prevention and funding, energy policy, innovation, infrastructure, and transportation.



Washington Governor Jay Inslee and PNWER President Senator Arnie Roblan discussing the carbon tax plan for Washington State, Harbour to Harbor air service between Vancouver and Seattle, and the Cascadia Innovation Corridor.



Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe (top left) conversing with the PNWER delegates. NAFTA and trade were front and center, along with recent efforts to address tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum and newsprint.



Meeting with Idaho Governor Butch Otter to talk NAFTA, Columbia River Treaty, and Aquatic Invasive Species.



Senator Arnie Roblan giving a few comments during the meet and greet lunch for legislators in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Sharing best practices



Rep. Mike Cuffe (Montana, PNWER Vice President), MLA Graham Sucha (Alberta, PNWER Vice President), Senator Arnie Roblan (Oregon, PNWER President), and Matt Morrison (PNWER Executive Director). PNWER participated in a Roundtable discussion with members of the Alberta Government.



PNWER updates the WA Senate Technology & Economic Development Committee on the importance of NAFTA to the state, the regional response and perimeter defense program for Quagga and Zebra mussels, and the PNWER transportation agenda- working toward a multi-state center of excellence for infrastructure finance and addressing the policy challenges for autonomous, connected, electric, and shared vehicles (ACES).



MLA Rick Glumac of B.C., Capt. Ed Page, Director of AK Marine Exchange, and Sen. Arnie Roblan. During the Alaska visit, the delegates visited the Alaska Maritime Exchange to see the 24/7 monitoring of all vessel traffic in Alaska. Discussed were building linkages between the U.S. and Canada to ensure that the entire West Coast has a seamless system and what more could be done to ensure the region has the best possible, world-class marine prevention system.



PNWER Executive Director Matt Morrison, Sen. Arnie Roblan, MLA Rick Glumac, and PNWER Steve Myers with Alaska Senator Lyman Hoffman (center). The Alaska Capital visit was an opportunity to start a dialogue with Alaska on the important issues that B.C. and Alaska share.

2018 Economic Leadership Forum

Legislators, First Nation leaders, business executives, and policy makers met in Whitehorse, Yukon, for PNWER's Economic Leadership Forum in November. Delegates heard from leaders and experts on a number of topics important to our region, toured Whitehorse's Innovation Hub, Air North, and Yukon Brewing, and even saw the Northern Lights. Resources are available at www.pnwer.org/2018-economic-leadership-forum.

Attendees were offered insights on the unique challenges and creative solutions in meeting the needs for consumers and industry in the North, with presentations looking at innovative energy solutions, utilizing low earth satellites to provide remote broadband access, and infrastructure challenges

First Nations Leadership & Governance

Trade & Tariffs
Energy Innovations

Tourism & Economic Development

Infrastructure & Transportation

Combatting Tariffs: Over the past year, PNWER has advocated for a waiver for Canada from the Section 232 U.S. steel and aluminum tariffs. PNWER hosted a session in Whitehorse to examine the specific negative impacts these tariffs are having on manufacturers on both sides of the border. More information on page 8.



The event kicked off with an opening reception at the MacBride Museum for Yukon History with welcoming remarks from the Honourable Ranj Pillai, Minister of Economic Development and Energy, Mines and Resources.



Premier Sandy Silver warmly welcomed PNWER to the Yukon and provided remarks highlighting the importance of First Nations in Yukon's economic development strategy and the expansive opportunities available in the territory. The Premier emphasized the importance of these international and inter-provincial relationships.

Whitehorse, Yukon | Nov. 13-15



Keith Halliday, Director of the Boston Consulting Group Centre for Canada's Future (left), Oregon Senator Arnie Roblan (center), Alaska Representative DeLena Johnson (right), discuss how the U.S. midterm elections and changes in the U.S. Congress will affect the ratification process of the new USMCA.



The PNWER Region is well known for fostering a collaborative environment and building trust and partnerships across the U.S. - Canada border. Consuls General Brandon Lee, Kathy Dhanani, and Lucia Piazza discuss the current state of the U.S.-Canada relationship.



Mark Romoff, President and CEO of the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships, gave an overview of P3's across Canada and featured several First Nation projects which are being organized through the First Nations Major Projects Coalition.



The meeting featured in-depth sessions on First Nations economic development, tourism opportunities, governance, and leadership. Grand Chief Peter Johnson gave a history of Yukon First Nations and explained the governance model and the legislation which created it.

Partners, Supporters,

STATUTORY MEMBERS

Alaska
Alberta
British Columbia

Idaho
Montana
The Northwest Territories

Oregon
Saskatchewan
Washington
Yukon

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Association of Oregon Counties
British Columbia Ministry of Energy and Mines
Consulate General Canada - Seattle
Consulate General Canada - Denver
City of Seattle
City of Saskatoon
Cyber Incident Response Coalition & Analysis Sharing (CIRCAS)
U.S. Coast Guard

Transport Canada
Lincoln County, Montana
Idaho Office of Emergency Management
King County Office of Emergency Management
Global Affairs Canada
National Institute for Hometown Security (NIHS)
Oregon Invasive Species Council
Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL)

Portland Bureau of Emergency Management
U.S. Department of Energy
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. State Department
Washington Economic Development Commission
Washington State Department of Commerce
Washington State Fusion Center
Washington Military Department

UNIVERSITY & ACADEMIC PARTNERS

Boise State University
Border Policy Research Institute at WWU
Community Colleges of Spokane
Construction Center of Excellence
Idaho National Laboratory
Mount Royal University
Northeastern University
Oregon Tech

Oregon Institute of Technology
Oregon State University
Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL)
Portland State University
The Van Horne Institute
University of Alaska - Fairbanks
University of Alberta
University of Calgary

University of Idaho
University of Lethbridge
University of Montana
University of Saskatchewan
University of Regina
University of Washington
Washington State University
Western Washington University

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Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta
Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan
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BP
The Butchart Gardens
Canadian Animal Health Coalition
Cascadia Center
CleanTech Alliance
Calgary Economic Development
CAPP
Canpotex Ltd.
Cement Association of Canada
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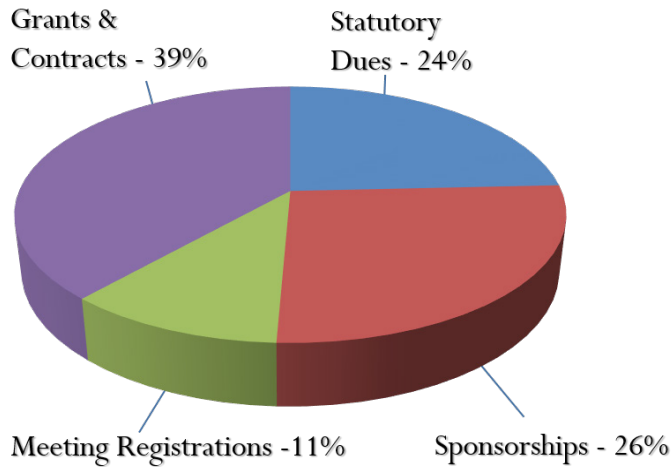
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Midas Gold Idaho
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Northwest Cement Council
Northwestern Energy
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Northwest Territories Business Development & Investment Corporation
North Star Group
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The Washington Companies
Van Ness Feldmen
Verizon
Veresen
Yukon First Nation Chamber of Commerce
Washington Public Utility Districts Association

Learn about the membership opportunities at www.pnwer.org/sponsorship.html

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

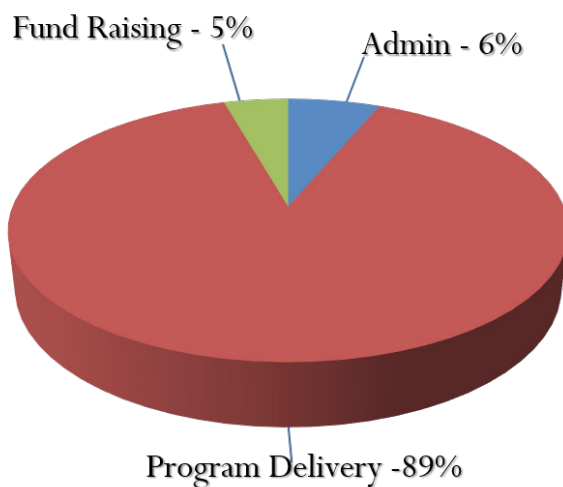
PNWER's income is derived from statutory dues from member jurisdictions as well as state, provincial and federal grants and contracts, and private sector contributions. Private sector sponsorships vary by company and amount, and help fund projects, meetings, and conferences.



Fiscal Year 2018 Revenue

Statutory Dues	\$ 416,000
Sponsorships	\$ 452,815
Grants & Contracts	\$ 660,255
Meeting Registrations	\$ 185,720
Total Revenue	\$ 1,714,790

REVENUE



Fiscal Year 2018 Expenses

Program Delivery	\$ 1,500,228
Administrative	\$ 106,572
Fund Raising	\$ 74,171
Total Expenses	\$ 1,680,971

EXPENSES

29th ANNUAL SUMMIT



PACIFIC NORTHWEST
ECONOMIC REGION

Join us in

Saskatoon, SK

SAVE THE DATE

July 21-25, 2019

at the
*Delta Bessborough Hotel &
Sheraton Saskatoon*

MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.PNWER.ORG

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