

Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER)



Alaska



British Columbia



Montana



Washington



Alberta



Idaho



Oregon



Yukon



2005 Work Plan

2005 PNWER Leadership



Honorable Rob Renner
PNWER President
AB



Glenn Anderson
PNWER Vice President,
Representative, WA



Dean Hassard
PNWER Vice President,
MLA, YK



George Eskridge
2nd Vice President
Representative, ID



Fred Dyson
Past President
Senator, AK



Barry Penner
Past President
MLA, BC



Jeff Morris
Past President
Representative, WA

PNWER Leadership

President:
Honorable Rob Renner, AB

Vice President US:
Rep. Glenn Anderson, WA

Vice President Canada:
Dean Hassard, MLA, YK

2nd Vice President:
Rep. George Eskridge, ID

Immediate Past President:
Senator Fred Dyson, AK

Past President:
Barry Penner, MLA, BC

Past President:
Rep. Jeff Morris, WA

Past President:
Rep. Max Black, ID

Senator Aubyn Curtiss, MT

Senator Cheryl Pflug, WA

**Senator Alan Bluechel
WA (Retired)**

Hon. David Coutts, AB

**Representative Lesil McGuire,
AK**

**Don Dalik
Fasken Martineau & DuMoulin,
LLP**

**Neil Windsor
APEGGA**

**Jan Romerdahl
US Bank**

**Executive Director:
Matt Morrison**

***Partial List**

PNWER Delegate Council 2004-2005

Rob Renner, Minister of Municipal Affairs, AB - President,

Representative Glenn Anderson, WA

Vice President U.S.

Dean Hassard, MLA, YK

Vice President, Canada

Representative George Eskridge, ID

2nd Vice President, U.S.

Alaska

Governor Frank Murkowski

Senator Fred Dyson

Senator Donny Olson

Representative Lesil McGuire

Representative Ethan Berkowitz

Alternates:

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Senator Ralph Seekins

Alberta

Premier Ralph Klein

Hon. Halvar Jonson

Hon. David Coutts

Hon. Rob Renner

Debby Carlson, MLA

Richard Marz, MLA

British Columbia

Premier Gordon Campbell

Barry Penner, MLA

Bill Belsey, MLA

Bill Bennett, MLA

Reni Masi, MLA

Idaho

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Representative Max Black

Representative George Eskridge

Representative Mary Lou Shepherd

Senator Monty Pearce

Senator Clint Stennett

Alternates:

Representative Kathy Skippen

Montana

Governor Brian Schweitzer

Senator Aubyn Curtiss

Senator Glenn Roush

Representative Kim Gillan

Alternates:

Senator Bob Keenan

Senator Jeff Mangan

*Some delegates have not yet been chosen or confirmed as of this printing

Oregon

Governor Ted Kulongoski

Senator Margaret Carter

Senator David Nelson

Representative Tom Butler

Representative Gary Hansen

Alternates:

Senator Frank Shields

Senator Frank Morse

Representative Vicki Berger

Representative Mike Schaufler

Washington

Governor Christine Gregoire

Senator Paull Shin

Representative Brian Sullivan

Representative Glenn Anderson

Senator Cheryl Pflug

Alternates:

Senator Tim Sheldon

Representative Deb Wallace

Representative Doug Ericksen

Yukon Territory

Premier Dennis Fentie

Dean Hassard, MLA

PNWER Private Sector Board 2005

Canadian Co-Chair: Neil Windsor, APEGGA—**US Co-Chair:** Jan Romerdahl, US Bank

Alaska

Bruce Carr, Alaska Rail Road

Alberta

Neil Windsor, APEGGA

Greg Moffatt, TransCanada Pipelines

Tim Boston, EPCOR

John Makaryshyn, Telus

Tim Schultz, AB Society of Engineering Technologists

British Columbia

Don Dalik, Fasken, Martineau & DuMoulin, LLP

Sarah McCullough, West Coast Energy

Bob Skene, WCG International

Kevin Hyde, Keen Engineering Co., Ltd.

Idaho

Dean Haagenson, Contractors Northwest

Evan Hayes, Idaho Grain Producers

Dar Olberding, Idaho Grain Producers

Mark Falconer, Hewlett Packard

Montana

Haley Beaudry, Columbia Falls Aluminum Co.

Oregon

James Baumgartner, Black Helterline, LLP

Charles Hall, INOVXCO

Tom Lowles, Key Bank

Capt. James Townley Jr., Columbia River Steamship Operators

Washington

Cathy Brightwell, AT&T

Jan Romerdahl, US Bank

Chris Parsons, Boeing

William Kidd, BP

Paul Day, DMJM H+N

Alternates:

W. Mike Tracy, PSE

Greg Boos, Chang & Boos

Bob Sailer, Judd & Sailer, PLLC

Yukon

To be designated

Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER) Work Plan



Message From The President

Honourable Rob Renner, Alberta

We would like to invite you to the Pacific Northwest Economic Region's (PNWER) 15th Annual Summit this year in Seattle, WA, July 14-18, 2005. Your participation will provide vital assistance to PNWER's efforts to improve understanding, growth and cooperation across the entire PNWER region.

PNWER is a statutory public/private partnership created in 1991 by the legislatures of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia & Alberta, and the Yukon Territory. All legislators in the region are members of PNWER. It is a forum to promote bi-lateral co-operation in the Northwest region with a non-partisan agenda of networking and problem-solving.

The major area of focus for PNWER is economic development. The PNWER Private Sector Council, including some of the leading companies in the northwest, helps elected officials understand and work with business on policy and legislation. If your company has customers in our region, PNWER is a great forum for resolving problems and promoting business policy directly with legislators. There are 14 working groups on various topics within PNWER, and it is very likely that you will find state representatives and provincial MLAs at our meetings with similar interests to yours.

Each PNWER working group is co-chaired by a legislator from

the region and by a private sector leader. We would welcome your active participation in any of the working groups. That participation includes input into the agenda of the meeting and could include a role in the leadership of a working group.

A full agenda for this year's summit and a description of PNWER's many interesting work areas can be found online at www.pnwer.org. As you are a leader of our regional business community, and PNWER represents the elected officials from your community and others, we hope that you will join us. It is a great opportunity for you to learn more about PNWER, make your voice heard on policy, and work directly with our elected officials, from the US and Canada here in the pacific northwest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Renner".

Rob Renner,
Minister of Municipal Affairs, Alberta
PNWER President

PNWER Vision and Mission

PNWER Vision

- *PNWER is the pre-eminent bi-national regional advocacy group for state/provincial regional issues.*

PNWER Mission

- *To increase the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the region.*
- *To coordinate provincial and state policies throughout the region; to identify and promote "models of success;" and to serve as a conduit to exchange information.*

PNWER Mission Statement Goals

- *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 beauty and environment*



PNWER works to enhance the region's global competitiveness, while striving to maintain or improve the environment

"If it were a nation, PNWER would rank 10th among the world's leading industrial economies, with a combined population of more than 19 million and an annual gross regional product of over \$697 billion."

PNWER Profile

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is a statutory, public/private partnership composed of legislators, governments, and businesses in the Northwest states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington and the Western Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and the Yukon Territory.

PNWER is the only regional planning and facilitation organization set up in statute by the border states and provinces to deal with transboundary policy and planning in the Pacific Northwest. Established by the state and provincial legislators in 1991, PNWER promotes

greater regional cooperation by government and business to enhance the region's global competitiveness, while striving to maintain and/or improve the environment. If it were a nation, PNWER would rank 10th among the world's leading industrial economies, with a combined population of more than 19 million and an annual gross regional product of over \$697 billion (USD).

All state and provincial legislators in the region are members of PNWER, as are the Governors and Premiers. In addition, private sector members, counties,

economic development commissions, industry associations and similar entities may join PNWER by paying dues on a sliding scale determined by their size. The general membership of PNWER meets once a year at our Annual Summit.

For more information on PNWER or the Annual Summitt please visit www.pnwer.org



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region



PNWER Working Groups

- Agriculture
- Energy
- Renewable Energy
- Forestry
- Tourism
- Healthcare
- Transportation
- High Tech
- Environment
- Border Issues
- Sustainable Development
- Trade & Economic Development
- Homeland Security
- Workforce Development

**Thanks to PNWER's
2003-2004 Sponsors:**

- Province of B.C
- Ministry of Energy & Mines
- TransCanada
- Johnson & Johnson
- Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development
- Conoco Phillips
- Enbridge
- ENCANA
- British Columbia Transmission Corporation
- Le Master & Daniels
- Horizon Air
- BP
- Terasen Gas
- ENMAX
- EPCOR
- Fasken-Martineau
- Fortis BC
- Glaxo Smith Kline
- Duke Energy
- Exxon Mobil
- TransAlta
- Price Waterhouse Coopers
- Powerex
- Centre for Energy
- APEGGA
- Hewlett Packard
- Merck Frosst
- Canadian Natural
- Astra Zeneca
- Altalink
- Puget Sound Energy
- Alberta Environment
- Alaska Railroad Corporation
- Microsoft
- Job Wave
- AT&T
- Flint Hills Resources
- National Energy & Gas Transmission
- TOTE
- Office Depot

PNWER Benefits To Business

- PNWER gives business the reach of a cross border region-wide network of private and government officials.
- You will make important business connections with targeted audiences at several events every year.
- PNWER is the gateway to hundreds of regional economic development resources.
- PNWER provides excellent opportunities to expand business contacts.
- The PNWER private sector council allows business to help communicate with top officials and help shape regional interests.
- PNWER is the premier resource for bringing together public and private sector leaders.
- PNWER is a strong voice for business and government across five states, two provinces and a territory.
- PNWER provides its renowned weekly newsletter that focuses on regional economic issues.

Could you benefit from participating in PNWER?

- Does your business have any contact, direct or indirect with any other state or province in this region?
- Can you imagine any artificial barrier that makes your costs higher?
- Is there a customer that would like your products or services within any of the other states and provinces in PNWER?

**If you answered yes to any of these questions,
You could benefit from PNWER!**

What Business Leaders Are Saying About PNWER...



TransCanada
In business to deliver

"PNWER provides my organization with a unique opportunity to engage state and provincial leaders on important regional economic issues that affect my business."



TransAlta



British Columbia Transmission
CORPORATION™



ExxonMobil

"The Pacific Northwest is the preeminent place to live and do business, thanks to PNWER this will continue well beyond the 21st century."



ENBRIDGE



Centre for Energy

"PNWER has helped my business develop several cross-state/province and cross-border collaborations."



"The bi-partisan cooperation and the refreshing problem solving climate of PNWER is very encouraging for the future of our region."



APEGGA

The Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta



FORTISBC

"PNWER looks for creative and innovative solutions to meet the needs of business while maintaining the region's natural beauty and environment."

FASKEN MARTINEAU



"PNWER does an outstanding job of identifying and promoting models of success across the five states and western Canadian region."



Microsoft



Duke Energy

"Business must view government as a partner. PNWER helps achieve this collaboration."

Canadian Natural Resources

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

Johnson & Johnson

Office DEPOT

CN

"This is the only organization that I know of that is able to successfully convene such a wide range of decision makers from the public and private sectors to address important issues within our region."

ConocoPhillips

"At PNWER working group sessions we've accomplished a great deal that would have taken us weeks or months to accomplish any other way."

MERCK FROSST
*Discovering today
for a better tomorrow.*

"PNWER helps enhance the competitiveness of the region in both domestic and international markets."

CN

2004-05 Resolutions and Action Items



Agriculture Working Group



Co-Chairs:
Richard Marz MLA, Alberta (right)
Eric Davis, President, (left)
National Cattlemen's & Beef Association



The Agriculture Working Group is a long established group, inaugurated at the 1995 PNWER Summer Meeting. The group was formed at the request of Alberta. The goal of the group is to promote the global purchase of regional products, and to foster collaboration on sharing best practices on agriculture policies.

1. PNWER is to facilitate development of an action plan to address broad agriculture issues of concern to PNWER members. That this action plan be used to determine movement on these issues at upcoming PNWER meetings.
2. PNWER encourages continued communications within industry with respect to the North American beef value chain. That the industry should look at strategic/collaborative ways of enhancing market share and re-opening lost markets.
3. Encourage the exchange of information between PNWER members on issues related to waste management, specifically Specified Risk Materials amongst members.
4. Encourage all jurisdictions within PNWER to exchange information on water management research with each other as new research is developed.
5. PNWER to make website URLs of 2004 PNWER agriculture working group speakers available on the PNWER website.



Co-Chairs:
Senator Ralph Seekins
Alaska State Senate (left)
Jim Phillips, President, CAN-AM BTA (right)



Border Issues Working Group



The Border Issues Working Group has focused since 9-11 on ensuring greater security and mobility for goods and services on the Canada-US border, siting our region as a test bed for new and innovative approaches to implement the Smart Border Accord. Stakeholders identify obstacles, infrastructure limitations, etc. and then work toward regional, bi-national consensus solutions.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 - 01

Re: Vital Transportation Infrastructure Improvements at the US-Canadian Border to Support Growing Trade and Tourism in the Pacific Northwest, and Especially the Winter Olympics and the Para Olympics to be held in Vancouver-Whistler in 2010

Whereas PNWER was created by statute in 1991 by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and the Canadian Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and later the Yukon Territory for the purposes of enhancing trade and economic development throughout the Northwest; and

Whereas adequate transportation infrastructure in the region is essential to bi-national economic development and trade, including the cross-border transit of people and goods essential to both; and

Whereas the growth of tourism throughout the region, and especially in the trans-border areas of PNWER and adjoining regions, depends upon adequate transportation and border facilitation infrastructure; and

Whereas current and planned transportation infrastructure, especially in the trans-border areas of PNWER and adjoining regions, is inadequate to serve current and expected growth, including the 2010 Olympics and Para Olympics –

RESOLUTION

Therefore, be it resolved that the PNWER region of the US and Canada – with the support of their federal, provincial, state, and local governmental agencies – move forward aggressively to improve the inadequate existing infrastructure at international land crossings and at air and sea ports of entry in order to meet both current and near-term infrastructure needs as well as those essential to support the Winter Olympics and the Para Olympics to be held in 2010 in Vancouver-Whistler.

ACTION POINTS

To implement this resolution, the Border Issues Working group will take the following actions –

- Working with the Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC) and all transportation and border crossing agencies involved, assess existing infrastructure plans, including border facilitation infrastructure, intended to support the Olympics;
- Determine additional transportation/border facilitation infrastructure needed; and



Border Issues Working Group (Continued)

- Bring these needs to the attention of VANOC and appropriate governmental agencies in each PNWER jurisdiction.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 02

Re: Support for additional initiatives in the Canada/US Smart Border Plan

Whereas PNWER was created in 1991 by statute by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and later the Yukon Territory for the purposes of enhancing trade and economic development throughout the Northwest; and,

Whereas Border crossing is vital to the economy of the entire region; and,

Whereas it is our mutual objectives to enhance the travel, trade, and tourism in the Pacific northwest region in a manner that ensures the security of goods and people crossing our mutual borders at the same time facilitating low-risk activity.

Whereas At any given time, US and Canada border inspection agencies have not as yet achieved opening all existing primary lanes at peak periods on the US/Canada Border due solely to “availability” of Homeland Security primary Inspectors. Additional resources for Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) are also required.

Whereas there is a need to shift control to the origin or Perimeter first point of arrival into either country thus allowing facilitated movement of low-risk goods and people at the Canada/US Border.

Whereas To expedite the movement of goods there is a need for the Canadian government to allow US officials to work on Canadian soil and vice versa in the clearance of people and goods in any mode-land, marine and air. This is the basis for implementing Accord Processing Zones at the land border crossing.

The accord Processing Zone implementation at the shared land border will also result in true joint facility operations becoming a reality voiding the current limitation of having to have the actual “border line” run through the building that currently locates the buildings in the wrong place.

Whereas dealing with immigration at the source, offshore (perimeter approach) results in only admissible individuals actually physically landing on Canadian or US soil.

Whereas Physical reality and infrastructure constraints at the border crossings must be dealt with. FAST, other low-risk trucks and handling of ‘empties’ are currently impeded by the physical inability to reach the primary land to be processed. The current reality is that the least prepared cargo carrier in each line dictates the waiting and delay time of “all” the pre-cleared carriers in line behind it. Translation – 45 minute delay “waiting time” to just get to the primary booth to be processed in seconds is ridiculous. It is extremely “costly” to the shipper and the carrier, also wasteful of fuel and negatively impacts the environment unnecessarily. Trucks need to be “streamed” so that all those prepared and/or pre-cleared are processed in tandem without waiting needlessly in line (for those ahead of them in the same line on the two lane road) who “are not” prepared and “require additional time” at the primary booth to be processed. This involves traffic management on the approach roads.

Whereas Cross Designation – (CBP & CBSA to each other) Perform small Port inspections in both directions. Cross Designation (FDA to CBP) Regular inspections after 5 pm and weekends to serve 24/7 Integrated Maritime Enforcement Team (IMET) put one Coast Guard Officer on each other’s (countries) boats for uninterrupted pursuit across boundary lines will all increase efficiency and effectiveness.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) call upon the US and Canada to engage in action to implement the above recommended specific under takings.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution shall be disseminated to local, provincial, territorial, state and federal governments in the PNWER region.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 03

Re: Support for the “Nexus Plus” Business Plan & Pilot Project

Whereas PNWER was created in 1991 by statute by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and the Yukon Territory for the purposes of enhancing trade and economic development throughout the Northwest; and

Whereas transportation linkages are vital to the economy of the entire region; and

Whereas It is our mutual objectives to enhance the travel, trade and tourism in the Pacific Northwest region in a manner that ensures the security of goods and people crossing our mutual borders; and

Whereas expansion of existing expedited clearance programs (NEXUS, CANPASS-Air) to facilitate low-risk passenger traffic at the U.S./Canada border in an integrated manner can benefit the traveling public, commercial carriers, and other interested parties in the private and public sector leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, Canada; and

Whereas the potential exists to pilot an intermodal (highway, marine, air, and rail) expedited clearance “Cascadia Nexus

Border Issues Working Group (Continued)



Plus" concept which will integrate into a single program a next generation process for secure and easy cross-border travel; and

Whereas the successful pilot may demonstrate higher levels of customer service, improve market awareness, reduce administrative burdens, increase resource usage and productivity, while enabling future expansion to other U.S./Canada border crossings; and

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) call upon the U.S. and Canada to undertake a Nexus Plus program pilot.

Be it further resolved that a steering committee representing both countries and industry be created to guide the development of a Nexus Plus Business Plan and report study results to the appropriate governmental entities of Canada and the U.S., and,

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution shall be disseminated to local, provincial, territorial, state and federal governments in the PNWER region.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 04

Harmonizing Treatment of Non-Violent Criminal History

RE: LOW LEVEL CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND BORDER TURN-BACKS

Whereas PNWER was created in 1991 by statute by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and later the Yukon Territory for the purposes of enhancing trade and economic development throughout the Northwest; and,

Whereas Border crossing is vital to the economy of the entire region; and,

Whereas it is our mutual objective to accommodate and enhance travel, trade and tourism in the Pacific Northwest region in a manner that does not threaten the public safety of the respective nations, states or provinces, and

Whereas within their individual systems, Canada and the United States and, in some cases, the member states or provinces classify certain low level criminal offenses differently and apply different penalties and remedies (i.e., driving under the influence of alcohol and low level marijuana possession are classified differently on either side of the national border), including, in some cases, denial of entry of those convicted of said offenses in the other nation regardless of how that offense is classified in that other nation, and

Whereas the occasional cross-border entry for visitation, transit or commerce by convicted persons who are not then fugitive from justice, under suspended sentence nor on probation and who have demonstrated rehabilitation, have been pardoned, or do not otherwise pose a threat to the public safety of the host nation; is a reasonable and safe accommodation to the cultural and economic health of the region,

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) respectfully requests that the appropriate Canadian and United States officials work together to timely develop more harmonized policies that would allow more reasonable opportunity for low-risk citizens of Canada and the United States to enter the other nation for the purposes of travel, trade or tourism, and

Be it further resolved that the nations develop and implement policies that would allow similarly situated persons to qualify for participation in the NEXUS, CANPASS-Air or other programs that facilitate low-risk passenger traffic from nation to nation, and Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution shall be disseminated to local, provincial, state, and federal governments in the PNWER region.

"PNWER provides organizations with a unique opportunity to engage state and provincial leaders on important regional economic issues that affect business."

BC Lieutenant Governor Iona Campagnolo and Mel Knight
MLA, Alberta

"At PNWER working group sessions we've accomplished a great deal that would have taken us weeks or months to accomplish any other way."





Co-Chairs:
Mel Knight, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Alberta (*Left*)
Cam Barton, Vice President, AltaLink (*right*)



Energy I Working Group



The Energy I Working Group has explored the possibilities for a regional energy strategy in the Pacific Northwest that promotes co-operation between interests in Canada and the US. Energy is the lifeblood of the Pacific Northwest Economy and will continue to play a major role in the future. This group has brought together key industry leaders from both countries to examine supply and demand issues, transportation, permitting across multiple jurisdictions, and many issues that must be dealt with to secure efficient, reliable, low cost and environmentally safe energy supply for our future.

The Energy Working Group held an all day Energy Forum with the Energy Council. Building upon the Action Plan from the past two meetings – November 2003 in Portland, and last July 2003 in Calgary, the working group concluded the following action points as the best ways for PNWER to be effective in addressing the critical issues facing the energy sector in the region. It was agreed that PNWER should continue to seek additional resources from its members (both public and private) and as a trusted third party implement the following:

1. Serve as a catalyst between various planning initiatives.
2. Provide a forum for streamlining the public process (vision – one stop shop, corridors identified) *act as liaison with various authorities.
3. Be involved in a dialogue about the future of BPA. Help reassess the current role of the power planning council.
4. Consider the establishment of an inter-state compact to address siting needs in the region. Examine existing models for application the Pacific NW.
5. Focus some attention on regional benefits to communicate costs of non-action.
6. Assist in identifying a “regional project of significance” (or group of projects) – consider an MOU. Consider identifying with stakeholders a ‘group of projects’ that taken together would significantly impact performance thus economic competitiveness over the next 10 years. This encourages a holistic view of regional benefits and greater consensus.
7. Bring utilities together (triage) to expose benefits (education on benefits) – especially energy ministers and key policy-makers. Encourage a Regional approach to dealing with transmission issues. (grass-roots level).
8. Deal with the lack of a shared vision – by facilitating stakeholder meetings, most effectively done informally to legitimize a consensus to move forward.
9. Seek funding to build a bi-national energy planning process, envisioned last July in Calgary. PNWER is in a unique position to do this – build more support in NW Congressional Delegation for funding to PNWER to facilitate a series of stakeholder meetings – designed to inform, educate, and work toward consensus on how to ensure a reliable and adequate energy future for the region.
10. Report back any progress to the PNWER Executive Committee at the next annual meeting.



Energy II Working Group



Co-Chairs:
Rep. George Eskridge, Idaho (*left*)
Dr. Gouri Bhuyan, Powertech Labs (*right*)



The

Energy II Working Group identifies Emerging Distributive Generation Technologies, which will help improve the environment and also contribute to regional economic development. This working group is also charged with working on renewable portfolio incentives, interconnection standards and examining the policy obstacles to distributive generation and renewable development in the region.

Action Items: To be completed and presented within one year:

PNWER should develop an inventory and a comparison of renewable energy policies, programs, incentives in the region. This would include a definition of renewable resources.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 05

PNWER should develop a resolution supporting making the Canadian and U.S. federal tax credits applicable to all new & existing renewable resources. [approved in concept – develop a specific resolution and submit for further board approval]



Energy II Working Group (continued)

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 06

PNWER should resolve to support a streamlining and congruence of the regulatory siting process to both Federal governments to enable renewable energy technology and development readily to cross the border.

Action point:

Rep. Rydalch volunteered to procure the WGA siting protocols for the PNWER website.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 07

PNWER should informally work with stakeholders toward establishing a process for multi-state and multi-national transmission siting. PNWER members should assist in securing congressional funding for the PNWER bi-national regional energy planning initiative endorsed July 2003 in Calgary.

The potential goals of a PNWER regional Bi-national energy planning initiative are:

1. Develop Regional stakeholders input on a structure for ongoing energy planning that includes fuel, electricity, and transportation; and includes all states and provinces of the PNWER region.
2. Develop an action plan for educating the public on the need to develop infrastructures, find support for new development, etc.
3. Analysis of the feasibility of moving megawatts vs. BTU's
4. Develop a plan for least cost corridor planning and coordinated permitting for across jurisdictions for new corridors.
5. Develop a blanket statement which properly articulates the positive role of secure, interdependent energy flow within the Pacific Northwest.
6. Shift energy source away from reliance on Middle East.
7. Provide data sharing on resource availability—supply/demand of gas, petroleum and electricity and coal.
8. Marketable regional benefits—reliable energy, efficient delivery, best cost to consumers.
9. Explore fair share emissions policy options.
10. Encourage sustainability, and renewable energy technologies and work towards making the Pacific Northwest a global leader in clean energy by:
 - a. Comparing regulatory and siting requirements for renewable 2nd distributed sources including wind;
 - b. Encouraging appropriate regulatory reform;
 - c. Supporting the formation of clean energy clusters;
 - d. Working with other regional partners to encourage information sharing and demonstration of innovative clean energy technologies.

Action Points:

Electric and Natural Gas Transmission Siting

Develop model legislation for multi-jurisdictional siting of transmission facilities in consultation with private sector stakeholders.

Inventory which governments, organizations, and projects are involved in siting across borders. (Legislative Energy Chair Task Force) for the Pacific Northwest bi-national Regional Energy Initiative. (Reiterates 2003 resolution.)

Recognizing the many existing planning initiatives, (e.g. NW Power Pool, WGA, and NTAC), PNWER should play a role in facilitating the provision of information to state and provincial legislators.

Energy II Working Group (continued) Emerging Technology/Ocean Power



RESOLUTION 2004-08

Just as the Pacific NW plays a leadership role in the hydrogen and fuel cell technology development, the region has the potential to lead in the technology development and production of renewable energy from the ocean. Resource assessments show that Ocean Energy has a potential to play a major role in achieving a goal of 20% of electricity generation from renewable energy sources by 2020 for PNWER members.

Action Items

1. PNWER urges Federal governments of Canada and the United States to implement national Ocean Energy Strategy.
2. PNWER recommends to both federal governments to promote the development and use of Ocean Energy technologies. Specific recommendations should include:

- Federal recognition of Ocean Energy as a renewable resource;
- Creation of an Ocean Energy program within the relevant Energy and Economic development departments;
- Streamlining of regulatory process for approval of Ocean Energy projects;
- Market incentives to spur investments in Ocean Energy technologies and projects, like investment credits, production tax credits, renewable energy credits, and alike;
- Federal funding sources for R&D and demonstration projects.
- Ask federal governments to establish pilot test areas for ocean energy development.

PNWER should develop a model memorial to encourage member legislatures to adopt in the next legislative session.



Environment Working Group

Co-Chairs:

Ron Tenove, P.Eng., Director,
Corporate Development, The Focus Corporation



Public Sector Co-chair TBD

The Environmental Working Group's goal is to remove the barriers to regional collaboration and promote coordinated research, development and marketing of environmental technology and services. The working group has also focused on performance based regulatory reform and sharing of best practices across the jurisdictions on case studies of success.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 09

Support the Georgia Project Basin Research Conference by attendance, and presentation of PNWER's performance based environmental model.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 10

The PNWER Executive Committee should consider merging the Environment and Sustainable Development Working Groups to address sustainable environment and economic issues.

Action point:

The Environment Working Group will undertake the following activities during the PNWER winter meeting:

1. Using the ENLIBRA principles, facilitate a case assessment of the economic and environmental impacts of the cruise ship industry.
2. Review recommendations from the Invasive Species technical working groups.



Forestry Working Group



Co-Chairs:
Michael de Jong, Minister of Forests
 Province of BC (left)
Bill Bourgeois, VP, Environment and Gov't Affairs,
 Riverside Forest Products (right)



The Forestry Working Group has looked at sustainable forest practices in each jurisdiction—how they are working, and what has been most effective from a policy perspective. The working group has also worked on developing mutual aid agreements across the border for sharing resources in firefighting. The group has also had sessions on value-added wood product manufacturing, workforce development in this field, and promoting regional value added building materials in Pacific Rim markets. In 2005 PNWER's Forestry Working Group will meet jointly with the Western Legislative Forestry Task Force.

Action Item:

PNWER should work with the appropriate state, provincial, and federal agencies to streamline procedures for resource deployment between jurisdictions associated with firefighting.



High Tech Working Group



Co-Chairs:
Lee Cheatham, Director,
 Washington Technology Center (right)
Skip Rung, Executive Director, Oregon
 Nanoscience & Micro-technologies Institute



The High-tech Working group addresses the opportunities for growth in the high technology sector throughout the region. The working group has focused on micro-technology and nano-technology, as well as co-sponsored a major Northwest Energy Technology Showcase in 2004, highlighting 'smart energy' technologies.

Background

The provinces and states in the Pacific Northwest region have major initiatives underway to encourage nanotechnology, Microsystems and/or MEMS – the “small” technologies. This working group panel presented background and definition of the area. The session allowed discussion of the initiatives underway in Oregon, Alberta and Washington.

Principles

The group resonated with several principles outlined during the session.

1. Strong regional partnerships are based on strong local programs. Therefore we must encourage the local states/provinces/communities to develop strong programs first. Regional partnerships follow.
2. We commit to work together to develop opportunities larger than any single group can successfully achieve, realizing that we may (will) compete in other areas.

2004 Outcomes

During 2004 we expect the following outcomes:

1. Signature regional event showcasing the local initiatives, companies and technologies.
2. Common communications mechanism for sharing of information, linking people and discovering joint opportunities.
3. At least one submitted proposal developed using partners from at least two provinces or states.

Actions

1. Implement a common communications tool using the N4 (Northwest Nanotechnology and Nanosciences Network). Include speakers, technical and business resources, researchers, common calendar and email/website mass communications tools.
2. Develop a regional signature event in conjunction with PNWER's 2005 Annual (summer) meeting.
3. Hold meeting/conference call to explore joint proposal/funding opportunities.



Co-Chairs:
Sen. Cheryl Pflug, Washington (*left*)
Greg Szabo, Executive Director, Merck Frosst,
Canada (*right*)



Healthcare Working Group



Healthcare is a major issue to all state and provincial legislators. The rising costs of healthcare, whether public or private and the increasing concern about access is an issue to both Canadians and Americans. Although our systems are very different, we can learn much from a better understanding of both. The Health Care Working Group has focused on methods for states and provinces to increase access and effective care while reducing healthcare costs. It has also addressed the drug importation issues.

Action Item

PNWER should coordinate sharing of “best practices” that increase access, reduce costs, and provide chronic disease management to PNWER members.



Co-Chairs:
Dave Coutts, Minister of Government Services,
Alberta (*left*)
Chris Parsons, Senior Engineer, Boeing

Homeland Security Working Group



The Homeland Security Working Group incorporates the Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security (PRIS) and focuses on security issues in the US and Canada. One of its major focuses has been on critical infrastructure protection, and especially dealing with the interdependencies of the region’s critical infrastructure. PNWER has held two major tabletop exercise with critical infrastructure stakeholders known as Blue Cascades I and II. Key findings and recommendations from these exercises are available on the PNWER website: www.pnwer.org

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 11

PNWER should continue to seek financial support to further the Partnership for Regional Infrastructure Security and implementation of identified action plan for regional preparedness needs.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 12

As a regional, cross border, multi-state/province organization, PNWER should continue to seek Federal participation and support to address cross-border challenges to regional disaster preparedness.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 13

PNWER should encourage and support building public/private linkages to address critical infrastructure interdependencies. Of particular focus should be facilitating preparedness for the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, B.C.

“The bi-partisan cooperation and the refreshing problem solving climate of PNWER is very encouraging for the future of our region.”



“PNWER does an outstanding job of identifying and promoting models of success across the five states and western Canada region.”



Co-Chairs:
Fred Dyson, Senator, Alaska
 Private Sector co-chair TBD

Invasive Species Working Group



Invasive Species take a large toll on our regional economy each year in the Pacific Northwest. Launched out of the Agriculture Working Group, the Invasive Species group is working on cross border collaboration on state and provincial policies for invasive species prevention, detection and control. The Invasive Task Force has been working to encourage the development of Invasive Species Councils in each jurisdiction and to foster greater collaboration throughout the region. PNWER has developed an Invasive Species website identifying the major threats in each jurisdiction and what is being done to prevent their spread.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 14

PNWER shall create invasive species technical working groups (aquatic and plant) to make recommendations on coordinated actions during PNWER's winter meeting. These working groups shall include appropriate technical experts.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 15

The Agriculture and Environment Working Groups shall draft a letter to the Western Governor's Association and Western Premier's Association asking them to request federal funding: [and encourage the governors and premiers to introduce a resolution to this effect]

1. To develop a pathway approach to the state, provincial, and federal invasive species regulations, and
2. To coordinate Rapid Response plans and activities to prevent, eradicate and manage invasive species.



Sustainable Development Working Group



Co-Chairs:
Brian Murphy, Executive Director, Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management, British Columbia (*Left*)
Scott Canonico, Compliance Assurance Manager, Hewlett Packard (*right*)



The goal of the Sustainable Development Working Group is to identify "Best Practices" for environmental sustainability to improve the quality of life in the region as well as foster sustainable economic development. This working group has brought together state and provincial initiatives to develop state and provincial Sustainability Plans, and to share how these are working and to provide a tool kit for a sustainable future for the region.

The Sustainable Development Working Group featured the 2010 Olympic Sustainability Strategy Ken Baker, Assistant Deputy Minister of BC's Ministry of Sustainability and Resource Management also gave an analysis of the Province's goal of making the 2010 Winter Olympics a model of sustainability. The opportunity for the region to highlight key sustainability goals and strategies could be one of the most important 'branding' opportunities for sustainable development.

This working group has looked at "Governance for Sustainability"- highlighting how state and provincial governments are taking a leadership role to encourage sustainability principles; as well as what leading private sector companies are doing in the region to design for the environment, and promote corporate social responsibility.

In 2005 the working group will look at the issues surrounding electronic waste, and what are the best policies for dealing with the proper disposal and recycling of e-waste.



Tourism Working Group



Co-Chairs:
Rep. **Lesil McGuire**, Alaska (*Left*)
Lorne Whyte, Executive Director,
Tourism Victoria



The Tourism Working Group focuses on developing collaborative efforts between jurisdictions to promote tourism throughout the region.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 - 16

PNWER shall create a regional cooperation council consisting of one tourism director, one economic or commerce director, and one private sector tourism representative from each PNWER jurisdiction, to support and invest in a collaborative approach with the 2010 Host Committee to develop a regional business plan optimizing regional opportunities for the 2010 Olympics.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 - 17

Resolved that PNWER host a special meeting to address opportunities offered by the cruise ship industry; and to explore ways of working together to overcome barriers to entry to this market.



Co-Chairs:
Tim Martin, Amgen

Public Sector Co-chair TBD

Trade & Economic Development Working Group



Trade is one of the main reasons PNWER was formed in 1991. Many of the states and provinces are each other's largest trading partners. The Trade & Economic Development Working Group has focused on increasing trade between the jurisdictions, as well as promoting the region's goods and services to the world; and also looking at key industry sectors in the region poised for growth. PNWER has encouraged the promotion of regional clusters, and the importance of collaboration across borders, for example in the bio-tech sector.

Action Plan

Cruise Industry

Cooperative Relationships: Encourage local and regional communication to build cooperative enterprise relationships between communities and the industry.

1. Develop programs to educate legislators, communities and local businesses about the benefits of the cruise industry. Create local "Shore Excursion" capacity.
2. Create opportunities for "Two Nation Vacations" by encouraging cruise products that highlight excursions at multiple ports of call.
3. Create opportunities for tourism marketing surrounding the 2010 Olympic Games.

Immigration and Customs: Work with US and Canadian governments to develop seamless immigration and customs processes.

Cruise Industry and the Environment: Recognizing that preserving a high quality environment is essential to local communities and the cruise industry,

1. encourage standard regional regulations to ensure environmental protection and streamline industry compliance; and
2. facilitate cooperative relationships between the cruise industry and environmental groups.

Biotech

Develop a regional profile of university and research institutional bioscience research initiatives. State bioscience associations to compile and submit to PNWER compilation.

Develop a regional profile of state-by-state investments in the biotech sector and biotech's economic impacts. State biotech associations and legislative staff to submit to PNWER for compilation.

Monitor, analyze and report to PNWER regarding US and Canadian efforts to create a "West Coast Technology Corridor." Legislative staff/chamber of commerce representatives.

Trade & Economic Development Working Group (continued)

Urge the American Chamber of Commerce to make available to PNWER members the results of its innovative venture capital initiative and urge American Chamber of Canada to establish a bioscience venture capital fund.

The Trade & Economic Development Working group, shall:

1. Collect information from states and provinces in the region regarding how those states and provinces monitor federal trade negotiations and how those negotiations may affect state and province economies.
2. Urge U.S. legislators to be more proactive in their analysis of federal trade negotiations and how those negotiations may impact state and regional economies.

Fishing Industry

Organize a regional conference to create a constructive dialogue about the future of the Pacific Northwest fishing industry, including discussions about commercial fisheries, farmed finfish and shellfish, and environmental sustainability. Participants should include representatives of commercial fishers, sports fishers, tribes and first nations, the aquaculture industry, academic institutions and environmental/conservation groups. Issues will include marketing products, permitting challenges, and environmental protection. Explore joining with other organizations with a similar mandate.

Trade & Democracy

1. Agriculture: if funded, PNWER review impacts of agricultural trade agreements on local economies and investigate other methods to promote agriculture within the structure of the agreements.
2. Energy: if funded, PNWER encourages the independent NCSL Electricity Working Group to contact Canadian utilities and provinces on trade agreement issues of common concern. PNWER also encourages other western states to join the Electricity Working Group in its dialogue with the USTR. Finally, PNWER looks forward to the Electricity Working Group's report and will discuss its findings at a future meeting.



Transportation Working Group

Co-Chairs:

Kevin Falcon, Minister of Transportation,
Province of British Columbia (*right*)

Private Sector Co-chair TBD



The Transportation Working Group was established in 1993 and focuses on the infrastructure of our major corridors and gateways, with a special concern of the border infrastructure. This group brings together public and private, state/provincial and federal officials to address key issues of transportation management, including new technologies to address the increased flow of goods and services through our ports and across our borders.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 18

Resolved that PNWER encourage the Federal governments of Canada and the US to join in a bi-lateral process to further the development of an Alaska-Canada transportation and utility corridor connecting Alaska and Canada through the Yukon and northern BC.

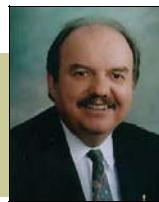
Further that the federal governments should make this a priority initiative.

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004-19

A resolution supporting the state of Alaska initiatives for; the Alaska-Canada rail link, the Alaska - Canada natural gas pipeline link, the Iskut/Bradfield road and other economic drivers.



Workforce Development Working Group



Co-Chairs:
Clint Dunford, Minister of Human Resources and Employment, AB (*left*)
Co-Chair: Neil Windsor, President, APEGGA (*right*)



The Workforce Development Working Group evaluates the capacities of the existing workforce and is looking out 20-30 years at the future needs of the region. How can we train and retrain the skilled workforce that will be needed to fuel the growth of tomorrow? Where are the best practices of industry/government cooperation? How can we ensure greater professional mobility in terms of licensing requirements, as many projects cross multiple jurisdictions?

PNWER RESOLUTION 2004 – 20

Whereas it is understood and agreed that the licensure systems applied by the licensing authorities in both Canada and the United States within a PNWER jurisdiction, although different in many respects, appear to provide reasonable assurance that persons so licensed by all these jurisdictions are fully qualified and experienced to practice the profession of engineering, in their jurisdictions,

Therefore the licensing authorities are encouraged to seek any legislative amendments necessary to provide to the Board/Council the authority to issue a license to a person licensed in a PNWER jurisdiction where in the opinion of the Board of Council the licensure requirements of the home jurisdiction of the applicant are substantially equivalent to those required by the host jurisdiction,

And that legislative representatives of the jurisdictions participating in PNWER be encouraged to introduce and support any legislative or policy amendments that may be required in their home jurisdiction to facilitate such agreements.

A presentation on projected labour requirements related to the huge oil and gas developments in northern Alberta, Alaska, British Columbia and the Yukon indicated that there is a “big storm” of labor force shortage expected over the next ten years. This, combined with the requirements represented by the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver will require far more resources than will be available in the region. -- End of resolution.

The group discussed the many factors that must be considered and noted a number of the major considerations:

- Access for local employment will not be the problem
- Labor force mobility will be the big challenge
- Need to coordinate activities of government, industry and academia
- Government and Industry need to coordinate assessment of skills requirements
- Means to include non-traditional workers including aboriginal peoples and foreign workers
- Need to define the skills required and the sustainability of those jobs, how many will be required after the “storm”. Training locally should focus on the long term, external workforce should be accessed for the balance, need to begin now
- Extensive training facilities currently exist but are underutilized
- Need inventory of skills training facility and centers of excellence, do not need to duplicate, survey of institutions
- Need inventory of skills required, survey of industry players
- Should avail of aging workforce who might be called back
- Should think of the labour market as “the Americas”
- Industry needs help in understanding government programs available and how to access them, need to facilitate access
- East – West mobility of workforce has almost been maximized, must look at North – South
- Need to promote career training in schools
- Training mobility will facilitate aboriginal peoples and others that may not travel to access training in the major centers
- Partnership between government, industry and academic institutions is critical
- Cooperative agreements for access to seats at institutions outside a province or state will aid mobility opportunities and maximize utilization of centers of excellence
- PNWER is an ideal vehicle through which to coordinate the work that will be required in this area

ACTION ITEM

The group proposes the creation of a Workforce Development Task Force to undertake the coordination of these activities, accessing all stakeholders and suggesting means to achieve the ends identified herein. Inventory research should begin immediately and a first session of the group to consider findings to date and consider next steps should be held in September.



**Pacific Northwest
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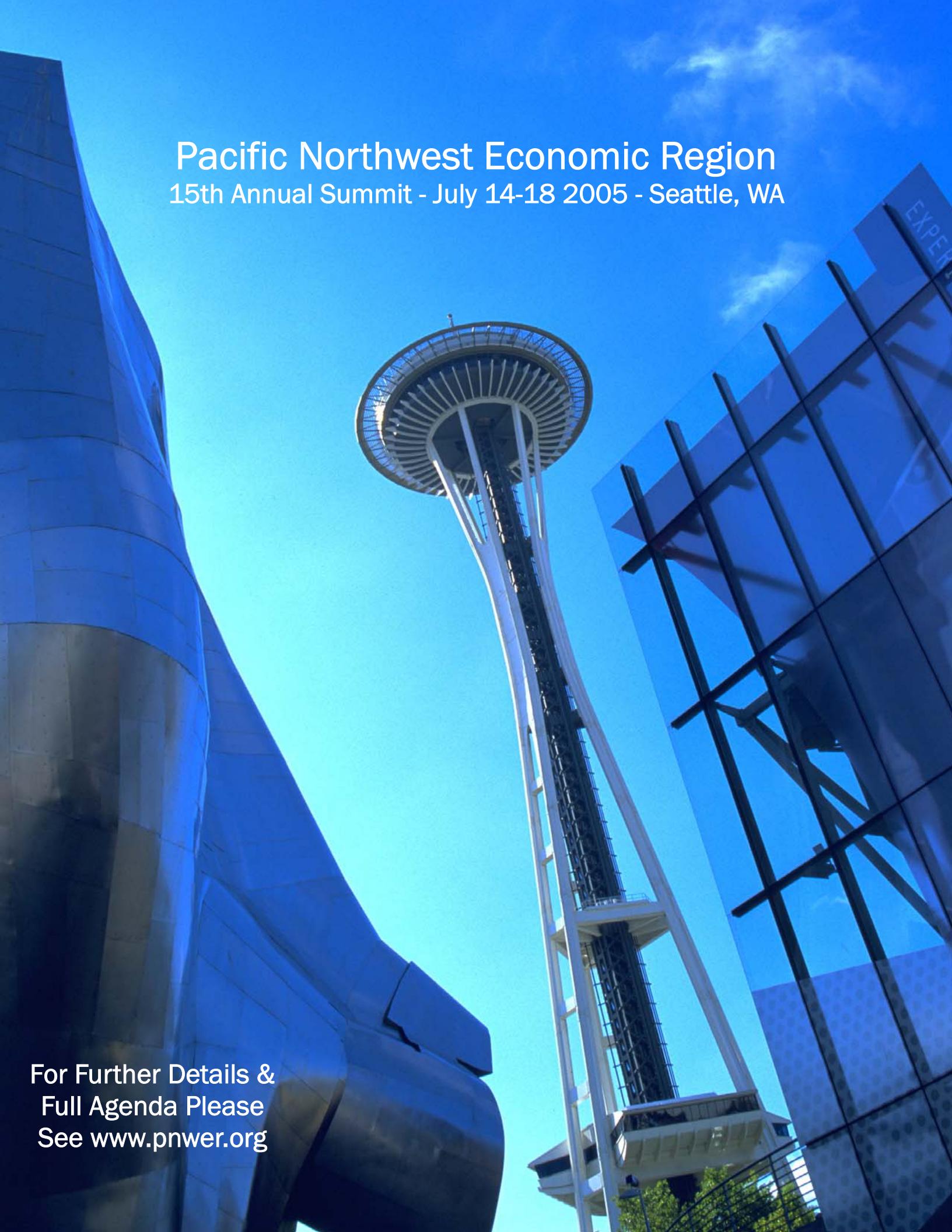
"One of the keys to improving U.S. - Canada relations is through non-governmental organizations like the Pacific Northwest Economic Region and through private sector involvement. Relationships in this framework are based on economic self-interest that will more readily endure politics. The more familial "friendships" tend to invest in high-result, low-cost, constructive engagements and have been shown to successfully bring the real positions and facts to the forefront of "disputes"!"

"Global Business Forum"
Banff, Alberta, Canada, 2003



Pacific Northwest Economic Region

15th Annual Summit - July 14-18 2005 - Seattle, WA



For Further Details &
Full Agenda Please
See www.pnwer.org