PNWER Briefing to Community & Economic Development Committee

In Order:



Matt Morrison
CEO
Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER)



Rick Glumac, MLA
British Columbia
PNWER Vice President
B.C. Lead for WA State;
PNWER Energy & Environment Co-Chair



Consul General Brandon Lee
Consul General of Canada to Pacific Northwest
Consulate General of Canada



Laurie Trautman
Executive Director
Border Policy Research Institute; PNWER Border Working Group Co-Chair



Nirav Desai
CEO
Moonbeam;
PNWER Innovation Co-Chair

PNWER Overview

PNWER is a statutory, public-private partnership chartered in 1991 by the U.S. States of Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and the Canadian Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Mission: To increase the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the region, while maintaining and enhancing our natural environment.

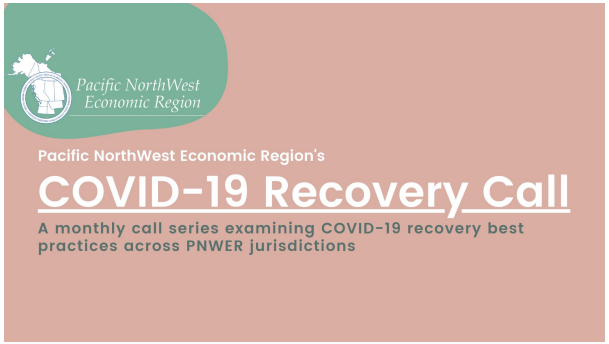


Safe, Healthy Recovery and Regional Resilience in 5 states, 3 provinces and 2 territories

- During the next 12 months, learning from our neighbors and cooperating in both public and private sectors will be really important
- PNWER's 18 Working Groups are having regular meetings in each key industry sector to share best practices for safe economic recovery, and best practices on vaccine distribution, testing, and health safety
- Your investment in PNWER has never been more important to continue this vital collaboration in the region with all 10 jurisdictions
- Our success for the next decade hinges on how well we work together and learn from each other.

PNWER Pandemic Recovery Efforts

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, PNWER began assembling calls of our elected officials to discuss ways we could respond to COVID-19 as a region. We then began having bi-weekly calls with economic recovery and health department leaders in both the U.S. and Canada, before combining these efforts into our ongoing COVID-19 Recovery Call Series. Notes, presentations, and recordings can be found at pnwer.org/covid19-recovery-call.



These calls explore topics including:

- Rapid COVID testing
- Contact Tracing and Exposure Notification Apps
- Economic Recovery Dashboards- highlighting WA State Dept. of Commerce
- Broadband Access

The next call is January 20, 2021 at 11 am PST, discussing the COVID-19 vaccine and ways to encourage public trust in it's safety and effectiveness.

Cybersecurity

With everyone working from home, cybersecurity is more important than ever. PNWER's Center for Regional Disaster Resilience (CRDR) worked with King County/Region 6 to put on a number of cybersecurity-focused webinars addressing the specific and unique cyber challenges presented by the pandemic. These are available online at pnwer.org/past-webinars.

Northwest Regional Tourism Rebound Initiative

Tourism is a key economic driver for the PNWER region, averaging $71.4 billion per year in visitor spending. The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly disrupted the tourism industry and highlighted the value of cross-border travel to the region. In response, PNWER has formed a Regional Tourism Task Force and developed a Northwest Regional Tourism Rebound to address the current crisis and to facilitate industry and government dialogue and collaboration to ensure that cross-border tourism is able to resume safely, sustainably, and competitively. PNWER's Tourism Working Group and Task Force is committed to recovering the vital tourism and travel industry.

Regional Economic Recovery Best Practices

British Columbia Economic Recovery and Stronger B.C.



Rick Glumac, MLA
British Columbia
PNWER Vice President
B.C. Lead for WA State;
PNWER Energy &
Environment Co-Chair

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Email: r.glumac@leg.bc.ca

Session Address:
Parliamentary Building
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4
Phone: 250-387-3655
Email: r.glumac@leg.bc.ca

Impact of U.S. - Canada Border Closures



Consul General Brandon Lee
Canadian Consulate General- Seattle

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Trade Relationship & Border Restrictions

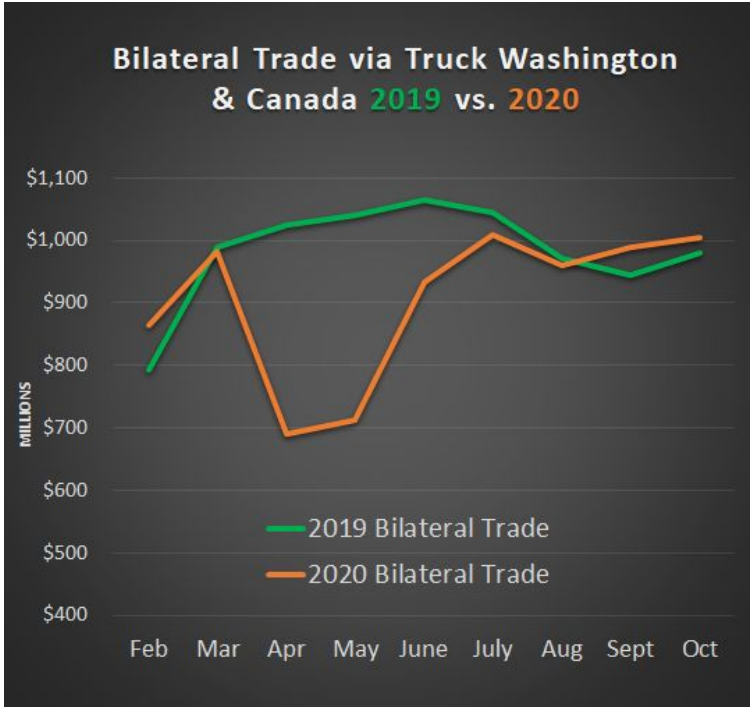


Laurie Trautman
Executive Director
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Trade Relationship & Border Restrictions

- Bilateral trade with Canada fell by 20% or $4 billion
  - Trade in aerospace and mineral fuels
- Impact of border restrictions negligible
  - Initial supply chain disruptions
  - Truck traffic and trade back to pre-pandemic levels
- May see a delayed impact from lack of businesses interaction/negotiations due to restrictions



A Few Impacts of the Border Restrictions

Vary by sector and location - greatest in area closest to the border and in sectors popular with Canadians

- $185 million in taxable retail sales in Whatcom Co.
- 60-70% of fuel tax revenue in border cities
- 80% of Pt. Robert's businesses border dependent

85% drop in land/rail/ferry crossings from B.C. to W.A. (loss of 10 million visits)

- Cross-border tourism infrastructure
- $60 million Clallam County from Coho ferry



Accelerating Recovery for WA Creative Sector



Nirav Desai
CEO
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Innovation Co-Chair

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Accelerating Recovery for Washington's Creative Sector

Tourism, Performing Arts, Travel, and Hospitality (TPATH)



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

January 19, 2021
Olympia, WA

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region
Seattle, WA | www.pnwer.org

2020 PNWER Innovation Working Group Activities



- Organized webinars showcasing the impacts of COVID on the Innovation Ecosystem of the Region with topics including:
  - Rural broadband and emerging innovation cluster
  - Establish border reopening mechanism with Consuls General
  - Green hydrogen to support grid decarbonization

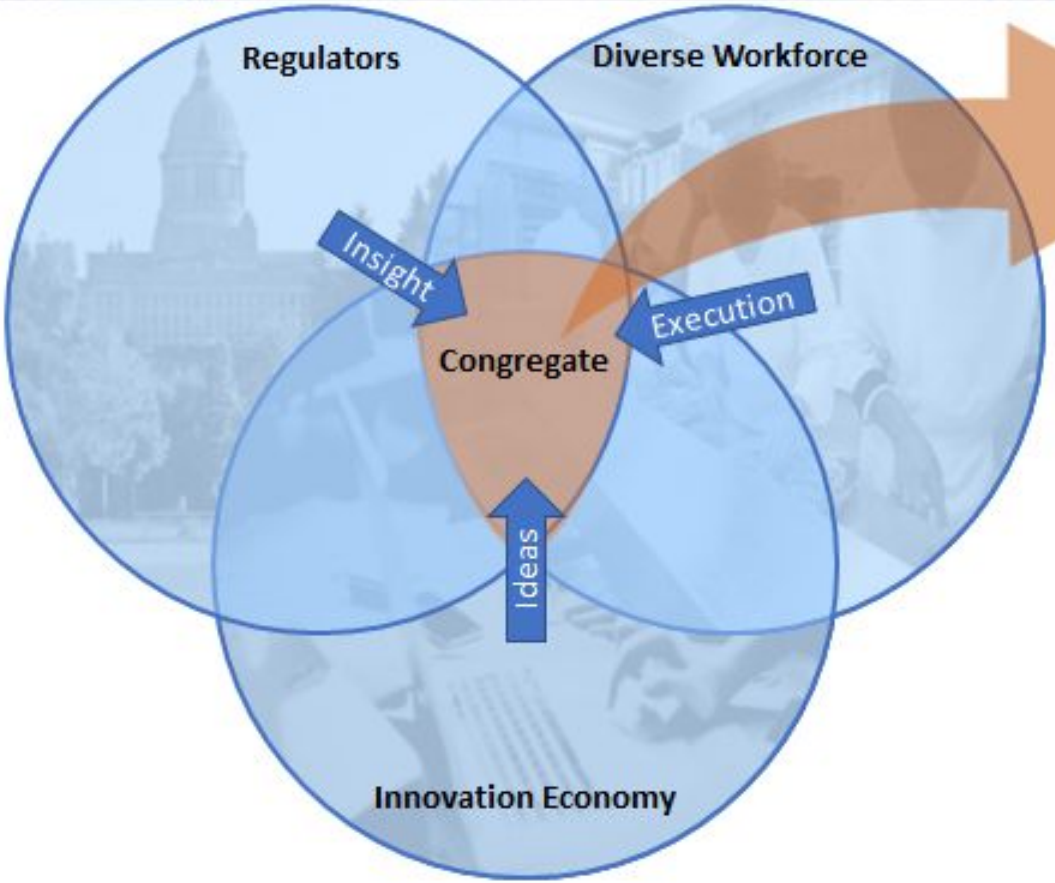


- U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Assistance Grant Application - Scaling Pandemic Resilience Through Innovation and Technology (SPRINT) Challenge
  - $25M national competition funded by the CARES Act
  - Calls for projects that aim to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic and future pandemics.
  - increasing regional, national, and government connectivity across innovation clusters to support commercialization and entrepreneurship
  - Awards Announced in the February to March 2021 timeframe



- PNWER EDA grant submission: "Congregate: A Solutions Accelerator to Safely Re-Open the Tourism, Hospitality, and Performing Arts Industries"
- In discussions with Canadian government agencies to match US EDA investment
- Significant private sector contribution from Amazon and WTIA – looking for additional funding.

Washington State's mix of innovators and early adopters uniquely position this region to envision the future.



Innovative solutions to allow people to safely congregate and thus re-open tourism, performing arts, travel, and hospitality sectors:

- Health Pre-Clearance
- Air Filtration
- Touchless and Disease-Resistant Surfaces

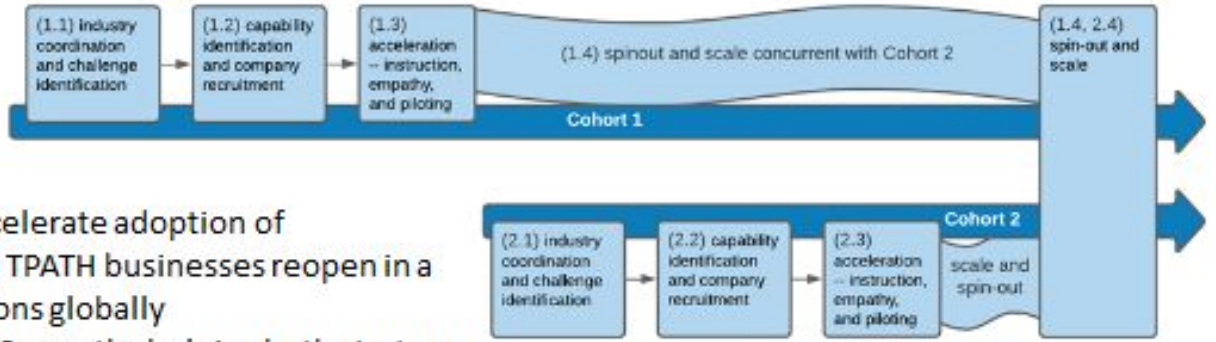
Congregate: A Solutions Accelerator to Safely Re-Open Washington's Tourism, Performing Arts, Travel, and Hospitality (TPATH) Industries

Focus Areas:

- Health Pre-Clearance
- Air Filtration
- Touchless and Disease-Resistant Surfaces

The States of Washington has been severely impacted by COVID-19

- In 2019, tourism was the fourth largest industry in the State, employed more than 182,700 workers, and generated $21.4B in annual spending.
- As of the three-month period from June-August 2020, the state's leisure and hospitality revenue is down by $2.8B, about 40% of the previous year.
- Further, the tourism sector is closely tied to the transportation sector which provides a critical transportation link for America to the world with major airline hubs for Alaska Airlines, Delta Airlines, and Korean Airlines.



Program Goals

- The objective of ***Congregate*** is to accelerate adoption of technological solutions that can help TPATH businesses reopen in a safe manner and export these solutions globally
- We will run it in two cohorts across 18 months helping both startups and corporate teams scale through collaboration with government and incumbents.

Congregate: A Solutions Accelerator to Safely Re-Open Washington's Tourism and Transportation Economy

Government Support

Washington State

U.S. Rep. Suzan DelBene (WA 1)
U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen (WA 2)
U.S. Rep. Derek Kilmer (WA 6)
U.S. Rep. Pramila Jayapal (WA 7)
U.S. Rep. Adam Smith (WA 9)
WA State Dept. of Commerce
Rep. Cindy Ryu – WA 32nd LD
Rep. Andrew Barkis –WA 2nd LD
Rep. Matt Boehnke – WA 8th LD
Rep. Lisa Callan – WA 5th LD
Rep. Laurie Dolan – WA 22nd LD
Rep. Davina Duerr – WA 34th LD
Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon – WA 34th LD
Rep. Christine Kilduff – WA 28th LD
Rep. Brad Klippert – WA 28th LD
Rep. Debra Lekanoff – WA 40th LD
Rep. John Lovik – WA 28th LD
Rep. Nicole Macri – WA 43rd LD
Rep. Alex Ramel – WA 40th LD
Rep. Sharon Shewmake – WA 42nd LD
Rep. Mike Steele – WA 12th LD
Rep. Gael Tarleton – WA 36th LD
Rep. Steve Tharinger – WA 24th LD
Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos – WA 37th LD
Rep. Amy Walen – WA 48th LD
Rep. Sharon Wylie – WA 49th LD
Rep. Bruce Chandler – WA 15th LD

Alaska

Lt. Gov. Kevin Meyer, State of Alaska
U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski (AK)
Commissioner Adam Crum of Alaska Dept of Health and Social Services

Private Sector Partners

aws
SWEDISH
BORDER POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
WTIA
VISIT seattle
CHALLENGE SEATTLE
FLYING FISH
ARGOSY CRUISES
FUTURE BORDERS COALITION
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA MUSEUM OF THE NORTH
ALASKA CENTER PERFORMING ARTS
ALASKA
ASM GLOBAL

Expected Outcomes

Reopen

Re-opening the TPATH sectors will return millions to the State Budget and billions to GDP – including addressing a disproportionate impact on minority jobs

Export

By creating the technology for reopening venues, we will create an exportable capability rooted in the PNW

Innovate

This will help Washington State retain and grow its position as a global innovation hub and a leader in the future economy. Establish as a model for other sectors, e.g., green tech, broadband, etc.