



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

**2011 - 2012
PNWER Executive
Committee***

DRAFT

Rep. Mike Schaufler; Oregon
President

Lyle Stewart, MLA,
Saskatchewan
Vice President

State Sen. Kevin Ranker
Washington
Vice President

Hon. David Ramsay
Northwest Territories
Vice President

Hon. Mel Knight; Alberta
Immediate Past President

State Sen. Lesil McGuire;
Alaska
Past President

George Groeneveld; MLA
Alberta

John Les; MLA
British Columbia

Rep. George Eskridge; Idaho
Past President

Jim Kenyon; MLA Yukon
Past President

Rep. Deb Eddy;
Washington

State Sen. Cliff Larsen;
Montana

Hon. Bob McLeod;
Northwest Territories

Neil Windsor, P.Eng.; Alberta
APEGGA,
Private Sector Co-Chair

Jan Romerdahl, Washington,
US Bank,
Private Sector Co-Chair

*Partial listing

January 16, 2012

Ms. Fran Ulmer
Chair
U.S. Arctic Research Commission
420 L Street, #315
Anchorage, AK 99501

Mr. Bernard Funston
Chairperson
Canadian Polar Commission
Suite 1710, Constitution Square
360 Albert Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1R 7X7

Dear Colleagues,

The Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Arctic Caucus requests your consideration to have a caucus representative attend and participate on behalf of the PNWER Arctic Caucus to the joint Canadian Polar Commission and U.S. Arctic Research Commission meeting at the 2012 International Polar Year Conference in Montreal, QC on April 27-28, 2012.

At the Arctic Caucus meeting in Yellowknife, NWT August 16 – 19, 2011, it was agreed to reach out to the U.S. Arctic Research Commission and Canadian Polar Commission on ways to support development of Northern Research and potential collaboration with sub-national governments on further development of post-secondary education, training and research opportunities across the North.

The Arctic Caucus was formed in 2009 to provide a forum within PNWER for sub-national jurisdictions and others to discuss their mutual interests in cross border policies and regional economic development. The Arctic Caucus is chaired by the governments of Yukon, Northwest Territories, and the State of Alaska on a rotating basis and includes representatives from across the PNWER region. The purpose of the Arctic Caucus is to identify shared issues that have cross border implications and to collaborate among the territories and the State of Alaska to support the needs of northern communities.

Founded in 1991, PNWER is the only statutory, non-partisan, bi-national, public/private partnership in North America. PNWER is the forum for collaborative bi-national planning involving both the public and private sectors and was chartered in statute in 1991 by the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and the western Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

The Arctic Caucus looks forward to your response and consideration to join the discussions in April.

Sincerely,

Senator Lesil McGuire, Co-Chair, PNWER Arctic Caucus
Past PNWER President 2009-2010
Alaska State Senate

The Honourable David Ramsay, Co-Chair PNWER Arctic Caucus
PNWER Vice President
Government of the Northwest Territories

The Honourable Currie Dixon
Government of Yukon

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Morrison". The script is cursive and fluid.

Matt Morrison
Chief Executive Officer
PNWER

cc: