

**Vancouver Economic Commission-Greater Seattle Partners
Cascadia Economic Development Agreement**

Opportunity

The innovation economy within the Cascadia Innovation Corridor, spanning the cities of Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver, British Columbia, plays a significant role in our global impact and regional prosperity. With a history of collaboration between the public and private sectors from Oregon to British Columbia, the opportunity exists to strengthen important business relationships, increase trade and investment, and create a sustainable and prosperous economy for Cascadia. Our goal is that the Cascadia Innovation Corridor becomes one of the world's most dynamic regions that

- fosters innovation,
- provides opportunity for and develops a talented workforce,
- supports equitable and inclusive growth, and
- develops a sustainable economy that supports generations of families within Cascadia.

In recognition of our common geographic, social, and economic ties, we jointly advance this Initiative to identify and define areas of cooperation that will enhance the resiliency of our powerful economic region.

We hereby agree

To collaborate for the benefit of businesses and residents within the region by:

- developing and growing an inclusive, diverse, and talented workforce;
- championing opportunity for all through living wages, pay equity, affordability and access to good jobs;
- fostering a sustainable economy that benefits our residents while protecting our natural resources and the wild places throughout the region; and
- addressing urgent challenges that impact the ability for *all* people to share in the region's prosperity.

To enhance meaningful and results-driven cooperation in the following areas of our sustainable, innovative and creative economies, we will:

- facilitate trade and access to capital and foster stronger business ties between our cities;
- encourage partnerships that focus on our region's target industries, as well as pioneering sectors, such as smart cities, clean technologies, green buildings, ethical AI, secure 5G networks, virtual/mixed reality and other technology that streamlines trade and contributes to resilient regional commerce;
- foster collaborations in our creative, media and entertainment sectors;
- support business development across our economies and promote a thriving region;
- identify Cascadia's key trade and investment differentiators to best attract values-aligned global business opportunities;
- promote the Cascadia Innovation Corridor with common messaging as a destination for progressive business leadership and high-impact investment;
- advance the talent pipelines across the region for the benefit of Cascadia employers, universities and workers;

- jointly publish economic research and showcase new metrics for measuring economic prosperity;
- host joint trade missions to targeted regions for the benefit of Cascadia-wide business development and promotion; and
- raise the profile of economic development throughout the region to ensure that local governments, businesses and residents understand the value of investment attraction, trade, job growth and related activities to the economy and to community-building.

We invite other economic development stakeholders with missions aligned to the goals of the Cascadia region to join in this Initiative for an inclusive regional approach.

Funding & Limitations

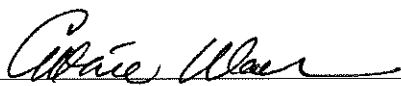
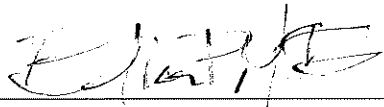
This Cascadia Economic Opportunity Initiative is not a legally binding document and does not require commitment of funds between signatories. This Initiative does not restrict future discussions of event sponsorship or partnership opportunities between the parties.

Term & Effect

This agreement shall come into effect upon signature by the parties and shall remain in effect for a period of five years and can be renewed or amended with the consent of the parties. Either party may decide to terminate the agreement by notifying the other party with three months’ written notice.

Signatures

This agreement is signed October 3, 2019 between Vancouver Economic Commission and Greater Seattle Partners.

	
<p>Catherine Warren Chief Executive Officer Vancouver Economic Commission</p>	<p>Brian R. McGowan Chief Executive Officer Greater Seattle Partners</p>

The Vancouver Economic Commission (VEC) is building a prosperous, inclusive and resilient economy for Vancouver, its businesses and its residents. As the economic development agency for the City of Vancouver, we strengthen communities by supporting local companies, attracting high-impact investment and promoting international trade in the world’s fastest-growing, low-carbon economy. VEC works collaboratively to position Vancouver as a global destination for innovative, creative, diverse and sustainable development. We respectfully acknowledge that Vancouver Economic Commission is located on the unceded ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Tseil-Waututh, and Squamish Nations.

Greater Seattle Partners is a regional economic partnership spanning Snohomish, King and Pierce counties working so that every person in our region has the opportunity to prosper. We will do that by:

- building a global identity to attract new investment and advance trade,
- growing our talent to strengthen regional competitiveness, and
- elevating regional economic development to achieve inclusive economic growth.