



Pacific Coast Collaborative Leaders' Summit Communiqué

Today, the Premier of British Columbia, the Governors of Oregon and Washington, and the California Secretary for Environmental Protection, on behalf of the Governor of California, met to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Pacific Coast Collaborative and identify opportunities to further strengthen collaboration on issues and priorities of interest to all four jurisdictions. The Pacific Coast Collaborative was formed in 2008 as a forum for cooperative action, leadership and information sharing. The PCC is a common voice on issues in the Pacific North American region. Together the jurisdictions represent the world's fifth-largest economy and fifty-five million people.

The Premier and Governors discussed further cooperation on climate change and the environment, as well as new action to tackle the overdose crisis. They also discussed the strong Canada-United States partnership and the importance of mutually beneficial trade.

Climate Change and the Environment

The Premier and Governors reaffirmed their commitment to meaningful action on climate change. They discussed how carbon pricing can effectively, efficiently, and fairly reduce carbon pollution. They also recognized that climate change disproportionately affects low-income and vulnerable populations, and discussed the importance of ensuring all our climate policies provide support to these vulnerable groups.

In addition, the Premier and Governors discussed the importance of standing up together to protect our coastal communities and shared marine ecosystem. Building on the success of the PCC-led Ocean Acidification Alliance, and the integration of ocean health to the international climate agenda, the Premier and Governors stand together in opposition to expanding oil exploration off the Pacific Coast.

The Premier and Governors discussed the unique opportunity that the Global Climate Action Summit, September 12 – 14 in San Francisco will present and the importance of encouraging more ambitious climate action.

Overdose Crisis

The Premier and Governors discussed how their jurisdictions are each working to support people experiencing mental health disorders and addictions so that they can return to healthy living in their communities. They also discussed research opportunities and innovative programs for treatment and prevention. West Coast jurisdictions are dealing with this crisis and are committed to a coordinated cross-border effort to interrupt the toxic drug supply.

The Premier and Governors agreed to create a forum to share best practices, data and information to identify emerging trends and develop better strategies. They also committed to a joint campaign for the purposes of increasing diversion from the criminal justice system, reducing stigma and finding creative alternatives to incarceration.

Mutually Beneficial Trade

Canada and the United States enjoy an enduring partnership. Our trade relationship is mutually beneficial and supports workers on both sides of the border. The Premier and Governors discussed how trade between the U.S. and Canada creates and supports jobs in all four jurisdictions and noted specifically that nearly 1.5 million jobs in California, Oregon and Washington depend on trade and investment with Canada. They are committed to further strengthening their cross-border trade relationships and strongly encourage the U.S., Canada and Mexico to develop mutually beneficial approaches to NAFTA.