

# CASCADIA INNOVATION CORRIDOR

INVENTING  
TOMORROW  
TOGETHER



## Efficient Cross-Border Movement of People & Goods Committee

Co-Chairs: Dr. Laurie Trautman, Director, Border Policy Research Institute at Western WA Univ., & Matt Morrison CEO, Pacific Northwest Economic Region

### Committee Members:

Michael Brown	BC	Port Director, Vancouver Preclearance, U.S. Customs & Border Protection
Hugh Conroy	WA	Director, International Mobility & Trade Corridor Program
Ron Pate	WA	Director, Rail, Freight and Ports Division, Washington State Dept. of Transportation
Bruce Agnew	WA	Director, Cascadia Academy
Hana Doubrava	BC	Corporate Affairs Director, Microsoft Vancouver
Gerry Bruno	BC	Vice President, Federal Government Affairs, Vancouver Airport Authority
Craig Windrim	BC	Manger, U.S. Relations of Government of British Columbia
Lina Halwani	BC	Director of Planning, BC Ministry of Transportation
Ellen Kief	BC	U.S. Immigration Law Practitioner, Dentons Canada
Michael Freeman	WA	Assistant Director, Border Security & Facilitation, Seattle Field Office, U.S. Customs & Border Protection

### Action Plan:

#### 1. List & briefly explain your committee's 1-3 "Big Ideas":

##### a. *Improve efficiency of border crossing for all legitimate travel and trade*

Improving the cross-border flow of people and goods is essential to the growth of our regional economy. We will explore ways to reduce wait-times and expedite cross-border travel through the use of new technologies, such as mobile passport applications and facial recognition. This includes developing a pilot to streamline TSA processes at SeaTac and YVR (Vancouver airport) to reduce or eliminate all lines and wait times for trusted travelers.

##### b. *Increase facilitation, integration, and expansion of trusted trader and traveler programs*

Trusted trader and traveler programs (i.e., FAST and NEXUS) have been hugely successful in improving the efficiency and predictability of cross-border movements, but there is room to expand and refine these programs in order to produce greater benefits. We will work to expedite a pilot for an advanced protocol 'will call' app that will expedite travelers at the land border.

##### c. *Advance preclearance for passengers in the marine and rail modes*

The process of preclearance (currently only in airports) is expanding to marine and rail modes. We will help to facilitate this expansion to increase the efficiency of our region's cross-border rail and marine networks, thereby improving our cross-border connections.

These big ideas all contribute to making the border as seamless as possible to support legitimate trade and travel, and improve the ability of business, tourism, and individuals to excel in a cross-border region.

**2. Describe the context in which your Big Ideas will be implemented (current state of the industry, challenges being faced by organizations, how our region currently operates in this field, etc.)**

Although current challenges exist, our region remains a leader both in cross-border collaboration and in innovation. We have strong cross-border networks, engaged state and provincial governments, and a burgeoning tech sector. We are and will remain the site for innovation solutions that will solve the dilemmas that not only we are up against but that the rest of North America is facing too.

The ‘Beyond Preclearance Coalition’ a group of airports, seaports, on both sides of the border have developed 10 working groups to implement pilots on advancing new technologies to streamline security processes in airports, utilizing AI and facial recognition. Seattle and Vancouver are designated locations to test these new processes with support of both federal governments.

We also have quarterly meetings with all cross-border carriers (Amtrak Cascades, Cruise Terminals, airports, seaports, Victoria Clipper, Kenmore Air, Harbor Air, CBP and CBSA, etc.) to implement the new preclearance agreement, which is fully operational as of July, 2019.

**3. Briefly describe how the realization of your ideas would impact life in Cascadia:**

A more efficient and seamless border crossing experience brings benefits to businesses, families, and the overall climate for collaboration in the region in terms of time savings, productivity, and predictability.

For businesses looking for partners on the other side of the border, having more predictable and convenient methods to cross the border and meet, will enhance the super cluster concept that the region is seeking to develop to attract talent, capital, and innovation. These border innovations will become even more important as plans for ultra-high speed rail are developed.

**4. What major milestone can be accomplished by 2021 and announced/recognized at the centennial celebration of the Peace Arch? What interim milestones must be reached between now and 2021?**

Milestone	Description/notes	Timeline
<i>Milestone 1</i>	Facilitate implementation of preclearance in rail and marine modes. <i>Requires involvement from U.S. CBP, CBSA, Amtrak, Blackball Ferry, Washington State Ferries, Victoria Clipper, and Vancouver based cruise ship industry.</i>	Fall 2021 (Peace Arch Celebration)
<i>Milestone 2</i>	Work with stakeholders to develop pilot projects on the following: 1. an expansion of NEXUS 2. potential for land preclearance for cargo 3. testing new security processes at YVR and SeaTac 4. assessing improvements for cross-border business travel <i>Both CBP and CBSA need to be involved, as well as relevant port authorities and business stakeholders</i>	Fall 2021 (Peace Arch Celebration)
<i>Additional milestones</i>	Based on findings from pilot projects, improve the cross-border travel experience by supporting implementation of the following: 1. Mobile apps at land and sea border 2. A trusted employer program 3. Advanced passenger manifest system for buses and ferries 4. Alignment of trusted traveler and trader programs 5. Full passenger and cargo preclearance implementation across modes 6. Get airports back to the future by using current technology to eliminate long lines and enable trusted travelers to avoid the current TSA process	2035