

Background

The Pacific NorthWest Border Health Alliance (PNWBHA), established in 2009, is a cross border collation of: the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington; the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan; and the Yukon Territory. The PNWBHA goal is to provide leadership in the integration of health sector preparedness and response initiatives at all levels of government, which necessarily requires consultation and coordination among the many jurisdictions' laws. . The creation of the Alliance has provided the framework for expansion of such inter- jurisdictional and interdisciplinary collaboration in the Pacific North West.

Who We Are

PNWBHA Public Health Law Working Group is comprised of individuals and organizations engaged in the development of public health law and the legal representation of public health agencies in the Pacific North West

Membership may include representatives from:

- Washington State Department of Health
- Washington State Office of the Attorney General
- British Columbia Ministry of Attorney General
- Oregon Department of Justice
- U.S. Department of Justice
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Health
- US Department of Health and Human Services/ASPR, Region 10
- Canadian Federal Health Portfolio, BC Region
- Montana Office of Emergency Preparedness
- Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Oregon Health Authority
- Alaska Department of Public Health
- Yukon Health and Social Services
- British Columbia Ministry of Health
- Other partners and subject-matter experts as required.



**Public Health Law
Working Group**

Purpose

The PNWBHA Public Health Law Working Group (PHLWG) enhances ongoing cooperation and collaboration among public health jurisdictional partners by exchanging information about the laws in the partner jurisdictions and working toward the co-ordination of those laws so that they support integrated public health sector emergency preparedness and response among the partners in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

The Working Group is a collaborative forum where members share information and find solutions to legal impediments to preparing for and responding to emergency events affecting public health.



Tasks

Specific Working Group tasks may include:

- Drafting, reviewing and modifying cross-border agreements; and
- Identifying and advising on the removal of legal barriers to an integrated emergency response by the partner jurisdictions.

Scope & Deliverables

The PNWBHA Public Health Law Working Group will build on and incorporate existing knowledge to identify, recommend and prioritize short and long-term goals for the Working Group through a commitment to the following deliverables:

- Develop a work plan to be reviewed and updated on an annual basis, approved by Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC)
- Support and guide the activities of the JCC, consistent with the laws in the partner jurisdictions.
- Support and guide the activities of the other working groups, consistent with the laws in the partner jurisdictions.
- Participate in planning for the annual cross border workshops
Find opportunities to enhance cross border consultation among legal representatives for the jurisdictions which are members of the PNWBHA, and for jurisdictions which are members of other organizations with similar goals.