

Change is inevitable. Or at least that's what they tell me. Over the past couple months we have experienced a few changes ourselves; one of our hardworking and committed member of our Pacific Northwest Regional Council National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (PNRC-NAHRO; I know it's a mouthful), Pam Thompson has decided to redirect her energy and will be attending her final PNRC-NAHRO and National NAHRO events this year (unless we can convince her otherwise), and regionally we are moving into new terms of services for those who have been elected regionally, and those who's election period is forthcoming within the next couple months; change is definitely on the horizon.

During all this change, I want to be sure to take a moment to thank each one of you for something that has remained constant during this time; your commitment to the mission and the values of PNRC-NAHRO.

Some HUGE thanks go out to the local PNRC-NAHRO members who attended our Portland 2019 regional conference; also, to those who were unable to attend, but insured they sent staff – thank you. A special thanks to those who participated in one of our local or national standing committees, or shared insights on one of our regional panel discussions or volunteered their time to make sure our conference went forward smoothly; it's your efforts that make PNRC the success that it is. And I look forward to moving our work forward in the future.

Over the next couple of months, you will see PNRC-NAHRO focus many of our efforts on three primary areas:

1. Small housing authorities and working to better understand the support they need and the critical services they provide to many of our communities in the Pacific Northwest.
2. Advocacy for the work that we do; making sure we are utilizing all the tools national NAHRO provides in making sure our representatives understand the issues in our communities and are well advised on the needs and what to advocate for on our behalf.
3. Continued training on the critical areas of our business to ensure that all our regional partners continue to be high performing agencies.

Though this list is not exclusive or comprehensive, the goal is to continue to work together as a region and to move forward with what our members need, and how we can help to create value.

I invite any new ideas, new focus areas, or areas of interest that you as a member or as an organization have seen successful, or think would be beneficial for our region. We are preparing to begin planning for our 2020 conference and look forward to any new energy or ideas that may provide exponential value to our PNRC NAHRO members.

In closing, I must again show immense gratitude for the spirit of collaboration I have witnessed in the Northwest. And though something changes, our commitment to high quality affordable housing and services remains the same.

Cupid Alexander

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