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WASHINGTON POLICY CENTER

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



Former U.S. Secretary of Defense, General James Mattis with Admiral Tom Hayward at the Eastern Washington Annual Dinner in Spokane

Admiral Tom Hayward was the 2019 Champion of Freedom Award recipient

*"The organization [Washington Policy Center]... is one of those that just rolls up their sleeves, gets to work and fixes things in the finest tradition. They don't hide behind cynicism."
— General James Mattis*

Dear WPC supporter,

This year, we saw citizens take WPC recommendations to the ballot box and achieve victories that should inspire for years to come. The November results were an overwhelming reminder that while we live in an environment often hostile to free-market reforms, an informed public will embrace them. In Spokane, our state's second largest city, more than 70 percent of voters supported WPC's long-time recommendations of banning a local income tax and requiring transparency in government collective bargaining. Both issues serve as a reminder that the full results of our work are best seen in the context of a marathon, not a sprint. Thank you for being a part of that cause. On a personal note, I would also like to thank you and the WPC Board and staff for giving me the honor of serving as Board Chair. I look forward to continuing as a board member as I hand the gavel to my good friend, Mark Pinkowski. We are in good hands.

Sincerely,

John Otter, WPC board member and Chairman 2019

Dear friend of WPC,

I am proud to present Washington Policy Center's 2019 Annual Report. Within these pages you will see a snapshot of the changes you've made possible in our state. Our work is regularly used as a source for media and elected officials and provides a perspective that, in my view, would otherwise go unseen in our state. From the adoption of remote testimony in both chambers of the State Legislature, to the exciting new ban on local income taxes in Spokane, Spokane Valley, and Granger, to Seattle's move away from denying charter schools access to local levy funding and the exciting news that the first graduating class of charter school seniors had a 98% college acceptance rate, you can see WPC's work taking root. Our shared commitment to improving lives through free market solutions is even more important now with the challenges ahead for our state. We hope the following pages leave you inspired and hopeful.

Sincerely,

Dann Mead Smith, WPC President

KVI radio host John Carlson interviews Ambassador Nikki Haley at the 2019 Annual Dinner in Bellevue



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New Media Coordinator



Marisa Allison
Development Coordinator

Policy Victories

- WPC's long-time recommendation to require public collective bargaining transparency was made law (Prop. 1) with 77 percent voter approval in Spokane. It passed in every precinct in the city and was the first time voters have directly approved this policy.
- Three cities adopted WPC's recommendation to ban a local income tax. First, 72% of Spokane voters (and a majority in every precinct) adopted a ban on local income tax (Prop. 2). Then Spokane Valley and Granger's city councils unanimously adopted a local tax ban.
- We worked with Congressman Newhouse and the Senate Republicans to help secure a public hearing in the Tri-Cities on the governor's Snake River dam breaching study.
- The Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) moved to agree with WPC's recommendation that if a Road Usage Fee (mileage tax) were adopted, the money collected should be protected for highway spending only.
- WPC research was key to plaintiffs' arguments in their lawsuit against a graduated income tax imposed by the City of Seattle. The Court of Appeals unanimously ruled the tax unconstitutional. Bizarrely, in the same ruling, the court struck down the law prohibiting cities from imposing a local income tax, making victories like the ban in Spokane all the more important.
- The state House announced it is launching a remote testimony pilot project for the 2020 session with locations in Bellingham, Ellensburg, Spokane and Tri-Cities. This means both the House and Senate will now be acting on this WPC recommendation.
- Last fall, WPC criticized the Mayor of Seattle for possibly denying Seattle's public charter schools access to the \$637 million Families and Education levy passed by voters in November, 2018. The Mayor and City Council decided in early April of 2019 to include charter schools in levy funding.
- More than 20,000 public employees have claimed their Janus rights and left government employee unions in Washington state. In coordination with Freedom Foundation, WPC's marketing campaign, which includes radio ads, billboards, and social media advertising, educates public employees of their First Amendment Janus rights and where they can go to exercise those rights.

2019 MEDIA IMPACT

WPC's work appeared in over 250 publications in 2019 including:



... and many more local and national publications

PUBLICATIONS	
3,131	Total Media Hits
50	Research Publications
107	Op-Eds
400	Blogs

22,855
followers across social media platforms

37%
increase in Facebook followers

9%
increase in Twitter followers

26%
increase in LinkedIn connections

239,937
unique visitors to washingtonpolicy.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Events

Over 5,000 attendees enjoyed 55 WPC events held across the state.

Annual Dinner

WPC's Annual Dinner events were attended by more than 2,500 business and community leaders, elected officials and young professionals, and netted a record \$1.1 million to support WPC's work and increase the impact we are having in our state. Former Chief of Naval Operations (1978-1982), Admiral Tom Hayward was given the WPC Champion of Freedom Award. Ambassador Nikki Haley and BLEXIT founder, Candace Owens were the keynote speakers at the Western Washington Annual Dinner, while Eastern Washington attendees heard from Gov. Chris Christie and General James Mattis. Admiral Hayward was recognized at both events, with Gen. Mattis extending the tribute.

Solutions Summit Policy Conference

Over 300 community, business and policy leaders gathered in Spokane in May to have meaningful discussions about solutions to our state's most pressing policy issues at our statewide policy conference. Attendees

heard from Governor Scott Walker as well as many other speakers and top policy experts.

Farm to Free Market Dinner

We hosted our third annual Farm to Free Market agriculture policy dinner in the Tri-Cities. Attendees heard from Dr. Peter Kareiva, the director of the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA. Dr. Kareiva spoke about the importance of following science and data in creating environmental policy and detailed how research shows Puget Sound orca and salmon could be saved, but "ideological extremism" stands in the way.

Young Professionals University Debates

Over three hundred students joined our WPC Young Professionals college campus clubs last spring at Gonzaga and Washington State University for their Great Tax Debate: Who Should Pay and How Much? Expert panelists on both sides contributed to a lively debate over income, carbon, business, wealth, sales,

and gas taxes! Shockingly, our post-debate surveys revealed that 82% of students had never heard the free-market perspective presented on their campus.

WPC Legislative Reception

We held our third annual Legislative Reception in Olympia to increase our presence at the Capitol during the legislative session. More than 100 legislators, staff and WPC board members gathered to strengthen relations and exchange ideas.

Legislative Lunchbox Series

Through hosted lunch events held throughout Eastern Washington during the 2019 Legislative Session, we were able to connect more than 200 members and WPC supporters with legislators at the State Capitol via live video conferences.

13th Annual Evening in the Desert

More than 150 of our top supporters joined us for our annual reception in beautiful Palm Springs to hear from Chris Stirewalt, politics editor for the Fox News Channel, and Tracie Sharp, President/CEO of State Policy Network.

Young Professionals Summer Socials

Our annual Young Professionals Summer Socials brought together hundreds of young professionals and college students for drinks, food, lawn games, and networking. In the Tri-Cities, Young Professionals learned about the experiences of two speakers who had lived through socialism in Russia and Iran. In Seattle we heard from one of WPC's board members, Adam Wray. Adam is a serial entrepreneur who discussed the importance of free-market innovations in the world of tech.

Farm Hall Series

In 2019, WPC continued to host Farm Hall events in Eastern Washington, bringing together the agriculture community and industry experts. These events that were held in Yakima, Wenatchee, and Pasco allowed attendees to be involved in policy discussions and solutions geared toward agriculture in our state.

Our Support

Our annual budget of \$4.4 million, though impressive for a state-based think tank, is dwarfed by those of special interests. WPC relies on the generous support of our donors – people like you who understand that free-markets are superior to a government-rigged economy and liberty is the air that a free people must breathe.

About WPC's Pillar Society:

WPC's Pillar Society distinguishes donors who make a substantial three-year pledge to Washington Policy Center. Pledges start at \$15,000 over three years and go up to \$300,000. Each pledge includes VIP tickets or a table for 10 at the Annual Dinner, based on pledge level, as well as personalized support and event sponsorship plans.

About WPC's Legacy Partners:

The Legacy Partners program recognizes people who have made a bequest or indicated they have included WPC in their estate plans. Legacy Partners have all the same benefits as our highest levels of membership and the satisfaction of knowing their legacy will live on through WPC's important work.

Washington Policy Center is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. To preserve our independence, we accept no government funding, and we do not perform contract work.

Contributions are deductible for federal income tax purposes as allowed by law.

Our tax id # is 91-1752769.

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 Bill & Marilyn Conner
 Jim & Raeceil Day
 Patricia Edwards
 Len & Estelle Guyt
 John & Kathy Hennessy
 Judith M. King
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 Benjamin Petter
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 Ron & Heidi Stanley
 Joanne M. Stubbs
 Craig & Janet Williamson
 Len & Darcy Zarelli
 Anonymous (2)

President's Council

(\$10,000+)

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 The Bradley Foundation
 Udo Brossmann
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 Assn. of Washington
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 F. Parrish Foundation
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 Carol Quigg
 William G. Reed
 The Roe Foundation
 Rowley Properties

Patrick Schultheis
 Starbucks Coffee Company
 State Policy Network
 Tippet Company of
 Washington, L.L.C.
 TSC Services, Inc
 Washington State Farm
 Bureau
 Zirkle Fruit Company
 Anonymous (7)

Our Funding

Total **2018** Revenue - **\$3,934,671**

Total **2019** Revenue - **\$4,417,092**



34% Individual donors

21% Pillar Society

42% Special events

3% In-kind



77% Individuals

14% Foundations

9% Corporations
& Businesses

Pillar Society

\$225,000 +

Hon. Kemper Freeman, Jr.,*
Kemper Development, Inc.
 Terry & Jane Petter
 Phil Scott,*
Schlaepfer Family Foundation
 Silver Cloud Hotels

\$100,000 - \$249,999

Carol & Spike Anderson
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\$30,000 - \$49,999

Absher Construction Company
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 Matt McIlwain,*
Madrona Venture Group
 John* & Molly Otter
 Annette & Bob Parks

Phillips 66 Ferndale Refinery
 Puget Sound Energy
 Don & Karin Root - GMN
 Sense Lawn & Tree Care /
Washington Tree & Lawn Care
 National Electrical Contractors Assn.
 (NECA)

Ron & Heidi* Stanley,
Empire Bolt & Screw
 Martin & Dianne Stever,
Pacific West Land
 Janet* & Doug True,
Iron Springs Resort
 wafila
 Washington Federal
 Jim & Bev Williams
 Wayne & Terina Williams
 Adam* & Amanda Wray
 Robert & Ruth Wright,
Matthew G. Norton Co.
 John & Nancy Zevenbergen
 ANONYMOUS (2)

In 2019: 181 Pillar Society Members | 29 new members joined | \$1,583,000 raised

\$15,000 - \$29,999

John & Polly Addison
 Bryan & Brenda Alford,
Alford Farms, Inc.
 Alliant Employee Benefits
 Harvey & Mei Allison
 Dan Alsaker
 Duane & Andrea Alton
 Kent Angier
 Lorrie Baldevia & Jim Hartz,
AssuredPartners MCM
 Avara Construction
 Avista Corp
 Sam E. Baker, Jr.
 Judy Baratta & Thomas Pemberton
 Chuck & Linda Barbo
 Paul & Denise Beckstead
 Roger Belanich
 Gregg & Lauren Bennett
 James & Debra Blodgett
 Catherine Boshaw & Doug Edlund
 James Boulanger,
Patriot Fire Protection
 Roger* & Leslie Bowlin, *Real Estate
 Transition Solutions, LLC*
 Breier-Scheetz Properties
 Warren & Nancy Bryant
 Denis R. Bryant
 Sue & Artie* Buerk
 Nadine! Burgess,
Spokane Gymnastics
 Lee & Londi Burnett
 Gary & Catherine Bylund
 Joanna & Kevin Cable
 Mark & Tonyia Cairns
 Rick & Laura Carlson
 Peter & Lisa Carstens,
Carstens Management Co

James & Doris Cassan,
Cassan Enterprises
 Mike & Dr. Susie Cero
 Dr. Dennis & Sweelin Chong
 Randy & Judy Clark
 Herb & Lynn Clark
 Ron & Patti Cline,
Central Valley Helicopters
 Bill Coburn & Darlene Sobieck
 Columbia Bank
 Jim & Diane Coughlin
 Anne* & Stacey Cowles
 Bob & Fran Davidson
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 Hon. Barbara & Pat Fahey
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 Len & Estelle Guyt
 Dennis & Norma Jean Hanson
 Art Harrigan
 J.R. Hayes Corporation
 Admiral Tom Hayward
 Tom Herche
 Charles R. & Nancy Hogan
 Carl & Betty Hogan
 Douglas Howe & Robin DuBrin
 J.R. Simplot Company
 Mike & Linda Jones
 George & Sandy Kachlein
 Judith M. King & Gifford E. Thomas
 Gerry & Kathy Kingen
 Garith & Oretta Krause

Lampson Somerville Family
 Emily & Benjamin Ling
 Jeff & Olivia Lippens
 Bruce & Barbara Lippke
 Paul Locke
 Chuck & Karen Lytle
 Chris & Susan Marker
 Kirby & Diane McDonald
 McDougall & Sons, Inc.
 Dr. Blake & Joan McKinley
 Ryan Neal
 Roger & Kathy Nelson
 Don & Melissa Nielsen,
Lumenal Lighting
 Northwest Farm Credit Services
 Kurt & Gayle Orton
 Nancy & Doug Overturf,
Overturf Properties, LLC
 Chris & Dalene Patterson
 Perrault Farms Inc
 Wayne & Christine Perry
 Ken & Claudia Peterson
 Mark* & Andria Pinkowski
 Tom & Lonna Power
 Chris Randall
 Bruce & Gail Richards
 Dr. John Thomas & Joyce Rulon
 Peter Saladino, *Charter Construction*
 Susan Schwasnick
 Matt & Jamie Scott
 Irene Song* & Stefan Sharkansky
 Northwest CFO, Julie Shiflett
 Principal
 Anne Simpson & Charlie Conner
 Alex & Ange Smith
 Robb Stack
 Eric & Kay Stelter
 Doug & Carlie Stewart

Russ & Tricia Stromberg
 Michael Swindling
 Tyrus & Kathy Tenold
 Robert M. Tippet*,
The Tippet Company
 TRICO Companies, LLC
 Robert & Betsy Tutland
 Dr. Francisco & Mrs. Mary Velazquez
 Wallace Properties
 Jon DeVaney,
Washington State Tree Fruit Assn.
 Western Integrated Technologies
 Western Wood Preserving Co.
 Steven & Linda Wilhoit
 Bill & Judi Williams
 Craig* & Janet Williamson
 Daniel Wilskie & Meghann Good,
UBS Financial Services
 Len* & Darcy Zarelli
 ANONYMOUS (6)

*Denotes WPC Board Member

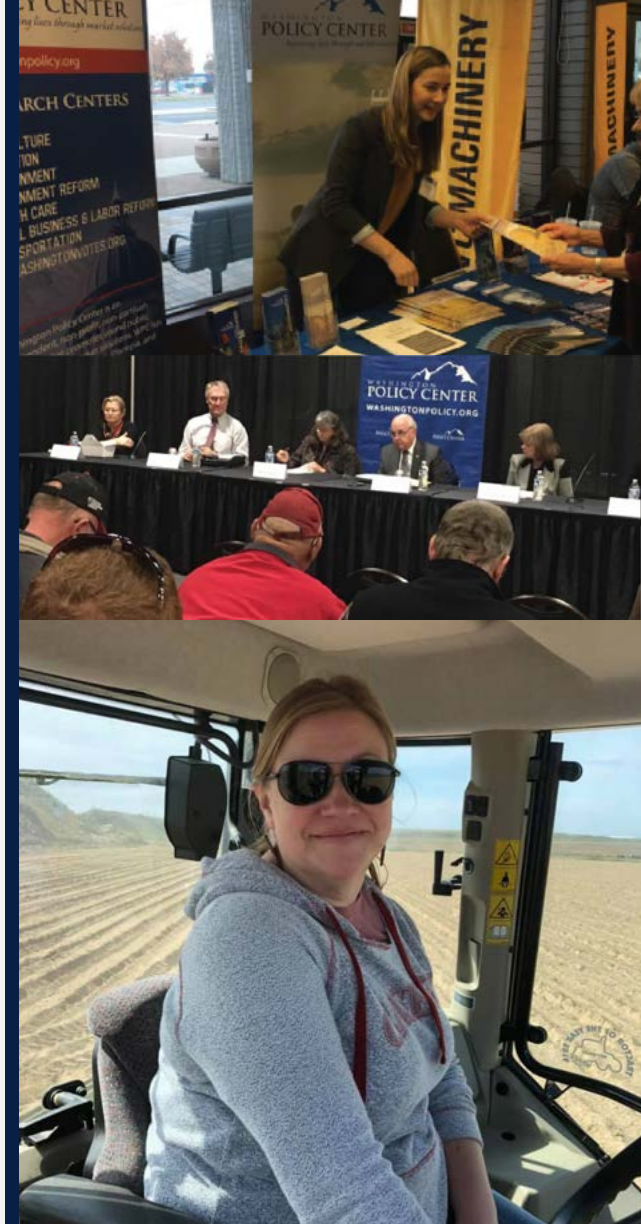
Initiative on Agriculture

Pamela Lewison, Director

The new director of WPC's Initiative on Agriculture, Pam Lewison, took over on the first day of the 2019 legislative session. WPC spent much of the session researching and releasing publications on the H-2A temporary work visa program that many of our state's farmers are reliant on to provide a stable work force and specifically highlighting a proposal that would limit user fees that would have made an already expensive program cost prohibitive. At the conclusion of the legislative session, WPC recommendations, including abandoning a plan to assess additional fees for the administration of the H-2A program in Washington state had been adopted.

Absurd and ill-informed assertions of modern-day slavery in the agricultural supply chain, the lethal removal of gray wolves in cattle grazing territory, and a close monitoring of the livestock identification program, were additional issues of focus during the legislative session.

As influence continues to centralize in urban areas, it will be ever more important to offer persuasive facts and research through publications, social media, and events such as our annual Farm Halls explaining the how and whys of agriculture to urban lawmakers and consumers not entirely in tune with where their food comes from.



Top: WPC's Rosemary Harris speaks with attendees at the WPC booth at an agriculture trade show.

Middle: Panelists speak at WPC's Farm Hall.

Bottom: Ag Initiative Director Pam Lewison on her farm in Moses Lake.

Center for Education

Liv Finne, Director

The Center exposed the state's policy of funding discrimination against charter schools in a guest column published by *The Seattle Times*. Similar guest columns appeared in other publications across the state. Our research showed that charter public schools provide better learning results for students and are more accountable to parents. We also highlighted the five new charter schools due to open in the fall of 2020. We published a legal analysis showing that the Blaine Amendment in the state constitution is an expression of anti-religious bigotry against private education. We are the only state-wide policy organization to do so, and we find that education reform opponents have largely stopped citing the Blaine Amendment when trying to argue that school choice is "illegal" in Washington.

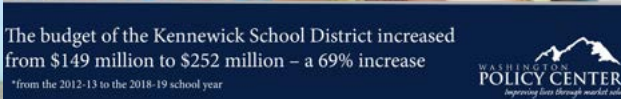
At the 2019 Solutions Summit the Center for Education featured Arizona State Senator Sylvia Allen to describe her state's leadership in offering family school choice programs and to show how choice programs would benefit children in Washington state.

Lastly, the Center for Education continued to release school district budget information, showing that schools are amply funded and that teachers now make more than most of the taxpayers who pay their salaries. The reports provided detail on the tax burden, spending, pay, and benefits in the 40 largest school districts in the state, while showing that promised academic gains for students have not materialized.

Top: Center for Education Director Liv Finne speaks at WPC's Solutions Summit.

Middle: A WPC ad on school districts that increased their budgets.

Bottom: A still from a WPC video highlighting why charter schools serve different communities.



Center for the Environment

Todd Myers, Director

From testifying on climate policy before the Canadian parliament to a panel on the Snake River dams with Congressman Newhouse, 2019 was a consequential year for the Center for Environment. Todd was invited by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation to testify in Ottawa on Washington state's experience with carbon taxes. Meanwhile, his testimony to the Washington State Legislature exposed the high cost of the proposed low-carbon fuel standard bill and helped defeat the legislation.

On salmon recovery, WPC worked with regional leaders and tribal members to focus Washington's recovery efforts on Puget Sound, where they are most effective, and not on the Snake River. We successfully encouraged the Legislature to provide more funding for salmon recovery in Puget Sound. For our Young Professionals program, we hosted Governor Inslee's former salmon policy advisor who argued that tearing down the Snake River dams would be expensive and counterproductive. We produced research on the proposal to destroy the Snake River dams, highlighting how it would take resources away from more effective salmon-recovery projects and how it would harm our economy and the electricity supply.

WPC also had an impact nationally. In June, Todd briefed Congressional staff on environmental policy and in July, he attended the president's press conference on environment efforts at the White House. In addition, Todd spoke on Earth Day at EarthX, the nation's largest environmental conference.

Top: Todd Myers prepares to testify before the Canadian Parliament.

Middle: A still from WPC's animated video "Save the Puget Sound orca! Keep the lower Snake River dams."

Bottom: Todd Myers featured on TVW's *The Impact*.



Center for Government Reform

Jason Mercier, Director

In 2019 Spokane voters overwhelmingly adopted two WPC recommendations during the election. First, 77 percent of voters approved a ballot measure that requires public-sector unions to be transparent about the contracts they negotiate with government agencies. The same day, 72 percent of voters passed a ban against imposing a local income tax. Voters wanted to prevent the Spokane city council from doing what Seattle has done – impose its own income tax.

These popular measures received majority support in every precinct in the city. Several other Washington cities are now considering implementing similar reforms.

In addition, WPC won a complete victory in court to get the City of Seattle to release its secret analysis of the legality of local income taxes. Seattle agreed to settle the lawsuit and pay our full attorney fees. The internal memo showed that Seattle councilmembers knew the income tax was illegal and voted to impose it anyway. As a result, *The Seattle Times* published a front-page story, “Seattle city attorney, in settling records suit, discloses memo advising council that income tax was illegal.”

At the state level, we launched a successful marketing campaign to educate lawmakers and the public about why a capital gains tax is an income tax. Once again the Legislature did not pass a capital gains income tax during the 2019 legislative session

Top: Jason Mercier moderating a Pasco Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

Middle: A WPC ad that ran in publications informing about the capital gains tax proposal.

Bottom: Jason Mercier speaking at the Eastern Washington Annual Dinner in Spokane.

What is a capital gains tax?

“It is an income tax.”



There is no debate.

A capital gains tax is an income tax.

Keep Washington income tax free.



Center for Health Care

Dr. Roger Stark, Health Care Policy Analyst

The political left continues to advocate for imposing an involuntary, single-payer health care system on the United States. WPC's Center for Health Care Reform researched and wrote a major publication on health care systems in other countries. Although the details vary, every other industrialized country has a top-down, government-controlled delivery system in which demand for health care far out weighs the available supply.

The Center continued to highlight the problems with government-managed medicine with an in depth examination of the Canadian system for the 2019 Solutions Summit. Overall, our research showed socialized systems lead to rationing, higher costs and lower-quality care for patients.

We contributed to the ongoing debate over the direction of health care in Washington state as well as in the United States. We were gratified to have our work published both regionally and in several national publications.



Top: WPC's Center for Health Care's signature 2019 study
Middle: Advertising for WPC's October Eastside Breakfast, which featured a panel discussion on solutions to the opioid crisis.
Left: An op-ed by Dr. Roger Stark in The American Spectator

Center for Small Business

Mark Harmsworth, Director

Two big issues dominated the attention of WPC's Small Business Center in 2019: State mandated minimum wage increases and a surprise protest from more than 1,000 hair stylists and beauty practitioners over proposed regulations.

WPC research highlighted how state-mandated minimum wage increases forced some vulnerable employers to close while others had to lay off workers, cut employee hours, shift to automation, and eliminate jobs.

Senate Bill 5326 proposed burdensome regulations on independent hair stylists and beauty practitioners which sparked a dramatic public uprising with beauty workers packing the legislative hearing room and overflow spaces. WPC testified as to our findings that the bill would deny immigrants and low-income people work opportunities. The bill ultimately failed.

Center for Worker Rights

Erin Shannon , Director

WPC conducted a statewide marketing campaign to inform public employees of their Janus rights and where they can go to exercise them. Now, more than 20,000 public employees have claimed their right to opt out of public employee unions.

The Center also released a study on the use of government-mandated Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) on publicly funded infrastructure construction projects in the state and showed how they restrict competition and increase costs by hundreds of millions of dollars.



Top: Mark Harmsworth on 590 KQNT talking about the possibility of a mileage tax.

Bottom: As part of a combined effort between the Freedom Foundation and WPC's Center for Small Business, these billboards throughout Washington state help to educate workers on their Janus rights.

22 Coles Center for Transportation

Mariya Frost, Director

In 2019, the Transportation Center continued to fight for transportation policies that promote mobility for everyone, including prioritizing traffic congestion relief, rather than officials simply managing congestion through tolls or mass transit. When WSDOT officials released a manipulative opinion survey to justify making traffic congestion worse, we revealed the weaknesses of the survey and highlighted its flaws on our blog.

Within a week, WSDOT officials took the survey down because, as we had shown, it “did not invite objective feedback.”

We also uncovered a major error in Sound Transit’s defense in a \$500 million class action lawsuit filed by taxpayers regarding the unfair collection of car tab tax overcharges. The state Attorney General’s office acknowledged the error and declined to take Sound Transit’s side in the case, pulling out just one hour prior to a scheduled hearing before the State Supreme Court.

Last but not least, the Coles Center’s policy recommendation that any future money from a Road Usage Charge (mileage tax) be constitutionally protected under the state’s 18th amendment (requiring expenditures for highway purposes only) was included in the final recommendations from the Washington State Transportation Commission to the Legislature.

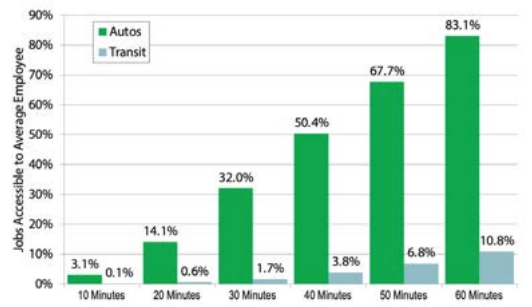
Top: Center for Transportation director Mariya Frost speaks at the Eastern Washington Annual Dinner in Spokane.

Middle: Chris Cargill and Mariya Frost host a press conference presenting the release of WPC’s comprehensive study on Ben Franklin Transit in the Tri-Cities.

Bottom: A graph as part of Wendell Cox’s transit accessibility study for WPC.



Employment Access by Time: Auto & Transit
SEATTLE METROPOLITAN AREA



Derived from University of Minnesota

Figure 15

Eastern Washington

Chris Cargill, Director

By hosting events across Eastern Washington and by continuing to tackle major Eastern Washington issues, Washington Policy Center proved again that we are the go-to-source for Eastern Washington media on public policy topics. We held three major news conferences in Eastern Washington to announce the findings of our study on the Tri-Cities' Ben Franklin Transit, the results of a new survey on small business recommendations and the findings of a new poll on the Snake River Dams.

Our opinion-editorial “Legislators may cause a mass exodus, starting in the East” was printed in seven state newspapers and was the most read blog on our website in 2019. Our research team is on the radio weekly east of the Cascades in Yakima, Tri-Cities, Wenatchee and Spokane to give legislative and policy updates. We added 200 new supporters in Eastern Washington in 2019 and in October, more than 1,200 people attended our record-breaking Annual Dinner event in Spokane which featured former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and former Defense Secretary, General Jim Mattis.



Top: Chris Cargill speaks at the Eastern Washington Annual Dinner.

Middle: Attendees at WPC's Spokane Valley Legislative Lunchbox forum video conference with Rep. Mike Volz and Rep. Jacquelin Maycumber in Olympia.

Bottom: Chris Cargill, Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rogers, and Senator Mark Schoesler speak at WPC's Eastern Washington small business recommendations conference in Spokane.



Young Professionals Washington Policy Center

WPC's Young Professionals (YP) experienced unprecedented growth, now serving a constituent base of 3,500 supporters and contacts. YP hosted 24 events with attendance of more than 1,600 students and young professionals 18 to 40 years of age.

YP added a fifth college club. The YP campus clubs are now at Gonzaga, Washington State University, University of Washington, Seattle University, and our newest, University of Puget Sound.

WPC created a new scholarship program for Summit Sierra Charter school in Seattle and presented it to the two recipients during a special YP event at the school that was open to all students. To emphasize WPC's commitment to investing in the next generation, we also launched our first-ever mentorship program to connect YP members with WPC's top supporters and help them build networking relationships with our most experienced members. YPs "Policy + Action" events also put some of our core policy principles into action through volunteer service.

In 2019, we created new ways to interact with YP members through social media, events and relationship building, and we expect the program to reach even greater heights in 2020.



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