Twenty-Fifth Regular Session of the
Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council
June 26-27, 2018 | Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, United States

Briefing Document for Administrator Pruitt

Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council Session

Date: June 11, 2018
Location: Administrator's Office
Meeting Time: 9:45-10:30am
From: Luis Troche, OITA

Agenda:

1. CEC Overview - objective, bodies, funding
2. Role of the Council Chair
3. Theme of the Council Session
4. Delegations and other participants
5. 2018 Council Session – Key Engagements
6. Press and social media
7. Update on NAFTA negotiations

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Overview of Commission for Environmental Cooperation

CEC Objective, Bodies, Funding

- Objective:
  - International organization created in 1994 by Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. through the North American Agreement for Environmental Cooperation, a side agreement to NAFTA
  - "To promote cooperation among the countries to protect and improve the environment in the territories of the Parties for the well-being of present and future generations."
- Bodies:
  - **Council** – You, Canadian, Mexican Environment Ministers.
    - All decisions of the Council/Alt Reps are made by consensus unless otherwise allowed by the NAAEC.
  - **Joint Public Advisory Committee** (JPAC) - trilateral advisory committee with five members from each country.
  - **Secretariat** - led by an Executive Director (ED), the Secretariat provides technical, administrative and operational support to the Council.
  - **Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Expert Group** (TEKEG) – created by the Council to advise on how to incorporate TEK in the work of the CEC.
- Funding: by equal financial contributions from Canada, Mexico and the U.S. pursuant to the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation.

Role of the Chair in the Council Session

- Host Ministers McKenna and Pacchiano for Council-only events of Oklahoma City
- Participate in the official Opening Session and host the Welcome Reception
- Participate in the events at the National Weather Center and Tom Love Innovation Hub
- Chair the Council's private (In-camera) meeting with JPAC and delegations
- Participate in Council's public session and roundtable discussion with experts
- Participate in signing ceremony of Ministerial Statement and closing remarks
- Participate in Ministers' gift exchange and family photo
- Host closing dinner for Ministers and delegations

Theme of the 2018 Council Session

- Theme is Innovations and Partnerships for Green Growth
- Promotes CEC 2015-2020 Strategic Plan priorities on Green Growth and Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems
- Advances Administrator's priorities on innovation, partnerships, green growth
- Events at the University of Oklahoma National Weather Center and Tom Love Innovation Hub are unique and will add value and showcase U.S. leadership in advancing youth engagement, entrepreneurship, partnerships and innovation.

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Composition of delegations and other participants

- Delegations - US, Canada, Mexico government experts, members of JPAC and TEKEG. U.S. delegation includes representatives from USTR and State Department and members of U.S. National and Government Advisory Committees (NAC/GAC).
- Public participants - Registered members of the general public and press.

Key Engagements

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Ministers' private events to get acquainted (Ministers +3)

1:00 – 2:15 pm	**Lunch with Ministers at Cheevers Cafe**
	Host the lunch; welcome ministers to Oklahoma and get acquainted.
2:30 – 3:30 pm	**Tour of National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum**
	Guided tour where you can share Oklahoma and U.S. history, Native American Art and your perspectives.
3:45 – 4:45 pm	**Visit to Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum**
	Guided visit to share a life-changing experience in Oklahoma and U.S. history and your perspective.

25th Council Session- Official Events

5:15 – 5:40 pm	**Official Opening of the Council Session**
	As Council Chair, open the session, welcome the Ministers and delegations to Oklahoma and get them excited about the session on the next day.
6:45 – 8:30 pm	**Official Council Session Opening Reception at Chickasaw Ballpark**
	As Chair, host the opening reception and network with delegations from Canada, Mexico, United States, the CEC Secretariat, the Joint Public Advisory Committee, the US National and Government Advisory Committees. Registered members of the public and press are also included. This is informal, there are no speeches (it is off-the-record).
8:30 pm	End of scheduled events on day 1

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

8:30 – 9:45 am **Innovations and Partnerships on North American Resilience to Extreme Events – National Weather Center (NWC)**

Event to showcase academic-public-private partnerships and capacities for preparedness and resilience to extreme events. The ministers will tour of the storm prediction center, the hazardous weather testbed, and the radar innovations lab. The delegations will participate in technical meetings to explore trilateral collaboration on extreme events (drought, wildfires, extreme temperatures) and links to agriculture, infrastructure and sustainability.

10:00 – 10:05 am **Innovation and Partnerships for Green Growth –Tom Love Innovation Hub and Ronnie K. Irani Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth**

Event to showcase academic-public-private partnerships and how innovation hubs cultivate future leaders for green growth through innovation, technology, market, legal, and sustainable design capacities. The ministers will tour the Innovation hub, while winners of the Youth Innovation Challenge and delegations have technical discussions on fabrication, software, sustainable design and value/functions of innovation hubs to cultivate innovation and entrepreneurship.

11:45 – 1:00 pm **Ministers' private lunch and office time**

1:00 – 2:15 pm **Council In-Camera Session**

This is the official Council meeting with the CEC Secretariat, Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) and the Traditional Ecological Knowledge Expert Group (TEKEG).

Run of show:

- *Chair (YOU) and Council members provide remarks*
- *Secretariat Executive Director provides update and You and Council members respond*
- *JPAC Chair and four members of the JPAC/TEKEG provide remarks and YOU and Council members respond*
- *Chair (YOU) ask other Council members to give closing remarks followed by your remarks.*
- *YOU close the In-Camera Session and invite everyone to visit CEC Exhibit and attend Council public meeting.*

2:30 – 5:00 pm **Council Public Session**

This is the official public meeting and engagement with the public. It is structured to showcase how partnerships (federal-provincial-academic-private sector), innovation, and entrepreneurship can work together to advance green growth.

Run of show:

- *Executive Director, as master of Ceremonies, welcomes everyone and introduces the Council members*
- *Short video of CEC Accomplishments*
- *Ministers' remarks on Innovation and Partnerships for Green Growth*
- *JPAC Chair moderates dialogue with the Ministers and three experts from academia, state government, and private sector on Innovation and Partnerships for Green Growth*
- *Executive Director introduces the Youth Innovation Challenge winners and Innovation Hub Director*
- *Ministers congratulate winners and give remarks on Youth Innovation Challenge*
- *Ministers sign the Ministerial Statement/Council Resolutions*
- *Ministers give closing remarks and Council Chair is passed to Mexico*
- *Ministerial Gift Exchange and Photos*

6:00 – 8:00 pm **Closing Dinner at Oklahoma Governor's Mansion**

This is the closing dinner hosted by the Chair (YOU) for the country delegations, Secretariat, JPAC, TEKEG to thank everyone for a successful Council Session.