

JAY INSLEE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 17, 2015

The Honorable Xi Jinping
President
The People's Republic of China
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
No. 2 Chaoyangmen Nandajie
Chaoyang District, Beijing 100701
China

Dear President Xi:

On behalf of the people of the state of Washington, I want to personally extend an invitation for you to visit Seattle this autumn when you are traveling to Washington, D.C. and New York.

From our earliest days as trading partners, which date back to the 1820s when ships from Columbia River ports sailed to Guangzhou, to our modern day commerce, China and Washington have a long and mutually beneficial relationship. Currently, Washington exports more products and services to China than any other U.S. state

Over the years, Washington companies have developed strong ties with China, and hundreds of millions of your citizens use products from Boeing, Microsoft, Starbucks and other Washington companies on a daily basis. We also greatly value our cultural exchange activities with China. We particularly applaud your work to establish sister city ties between Fuzhou and Tacoma in 1994. This was an important milestone and helped further strengthen our relationship.

I believe the most important reason to consider visiting Washington is our opportunity to work together in making this a cleaner and healthier planet. In addition to the environmental and human health benefits, these efforts would support our mutual growth and cooperation.

The agreement on greenhouse gas emissions and clean energy development that you made with President Obama is already showing signs of producing benefits for Washington and China. For instance, we are currently working with the Chinese Academy of Sciences to develop industrial plants in Washington that will convert our abundant natural gas into methanol that, once shipped to China, will be made into plastic products while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by up to 70 percent. This endeavor will likely represent the largest Chinese investment in the United States to date and will help China to meet its impressive greenhouse gas reduction targets.

We know that our ties with the Chinese Academy of Sciences are just the beginning of a relationship that will allow the carbon pollution reduction goals you and President Obama recently established to become a reality. We invite you to Washington, in part, to celebrate this great success.



The Honorable Xi Jinping

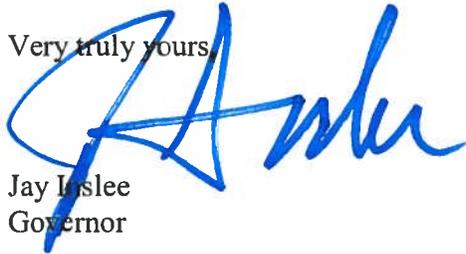
April 17, 2015

Page 2

I want to assure you that Washington has the capacity to properly host a significant international event such as your visit. Our recent hosting of the first Boao Conference in North America is just one example of our expertise. I will appoint a high level organizing committee consisting of top international business and government leaders to ensure the success of your visit, and I will personally work with representatives of your government in this regard.

I look forward to a successful visit that will reaffirm our historical ties and lay the foundation for an even more prosperous relationship in the future.

Very truly yours,



Jay Inslee
Governor