

Julie Anderson
Commissioner

www.Commerce.Alaska.Gov



Department of Commerce,
Community, and
Economic Development

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

19-012

Growing Our Alaska-Asia Relationships

Tuesday, September 3, 2019 (Anchorage) – The State of Alaska is open for business and continues to enjoy robust relationships with Asian trading partners. During the month of August, the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED) conducted discussions with His Excellency Ha Kim Ngoc, Ambassador of Vietnam to the United States; His Excellency Jose Romualdez, Ambassador of the Philippines to the United States; and His Excellency Yoon-Je Cho, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the United States, regarding the growth of existing trade and the expansion of new opportunities for mutual benefit.

“Alaska’s relationship with the Philippines, South Korea, Vietnam and other emerging Pacific Rim countries is more important than ever,” **said Governor Michael J. Dunleavy**. “It was my honor to meet with the delegates to discuss how we can forge even stronger ties between our countries and foster a greater understanding and appreciation of each other.”

The conversations covered the importance of existing and future resource partnerships for minerals and long-term, stable energy supplies, mutual opportunities for tourism, Alaska’s strategic location for air freight and logistics, and ongoing and growing trade in seafood and mariculture. Asia continues to be a key market for exports and economic growth for Alaska. During 2018, Alaskan exports to Asia totaled \$2.9 billion and included zinc, copper, precious metals, seafood, oil, and aircraft parts.

“We are grateful to Ambassadors Yoon-Je Cho, Jose Romualdez, and Ha Kim Ngoc for the opportunity to reinforce cultural and trading relationships,” **said DCCED Commissioner Julie Anderson**. “While at home or abroad, we value opportunities for cultural exchange and we appreciate our Asian residents who add to the depth, flavor, and richness of Alaska’s diverse melting pot.”

For additional information about the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and its other agencies, please visit commerce.alaska.gov.

###

Media Contact: Glenn Hoskinson, (907) 465-6466 or glenn.hoskinson@alaska.gov