



# Keep Washington Working Work Group Agenda

Friday, March 25, 2022 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Meeting Notes

**Attendees:** Keep Washington Working Work Group Members  
Rich Stolz, Kristin Kershaw, Eric González Alfaro, Julia Gorton, and Tim Warden-Hertz  
Commerce:  
Tammy Deets, Rick Anderson, Carolyn Busch

## Objective

Review 2021 work and look ahead in 2022

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## Introduction

- Reviewed the highlights of the [2021-2022 Keep Washington Working Report](#)
- Fragmented immigrant services and the recommendation of creating an inter-agency hub
  - Need to develop better strategies in immigrant workforce development
  - Immigrants are not homogeneous. Disaggregate workforce by race, ethnicity, geographic region, and social-economic profiles through data.
  - Continue to support agricultural workforce advancement and entrepreneurship

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## Work Group Structure

- Discussed recruitment of new members by setting up a shared file for suggested candidates  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1B65hXNrLKxkcoSAuU\\_V91sz8qe2xvRFNo2kTYjs2Tg/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1B65hXNrLKxkcoSAuU_V91sz8qe2xvRFNo2kTYjs2Tg/edit?usp=sharing)
- The Work Group will have a fulltime person to support its work. Members are welcome to weigh in on the qualifications of the candidates.

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## Priorities for 2022

- Small Business Support to Immigrants – shared the Small Business Assistance Grants administered by the Dept. of Commerce. (see attached)
- Workforce Development – Introduced Carolyn Busch, new Governor’s Sector Lead –Workforce & Innovations.
- New priorities – Washington State takes in a higher proportion of refugees than other states. The Afgan crisis gave us a glimpse of the needs. The Russian invasion of Ukraine could open another wave of refugees. Are we ready? If not, where are the gaps?

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## Next Steps

With much still to be decided, it was agreed that the next meeting should be in held in about a month.

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