

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MONTANA

Steve Bullock  
GOVERNOR



Mike Cooney  
LT. GOVERNOR

November 2, 2016

Dear Philanthropy Northwest:

I am pleased to recognize November 23, 2016 as the “40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Philanthropy Northwest” in the state of Montana.

Philanthropy — the act of giving one’s time or resources to make life better for others — has benefited countless Montanans and is part of Montana’s intrinsic value system. By working to solve problems at their root cause, philanthropic contributions have a far-reaching effect on Montana’s quality of life in our cities, towns and tribal nations.

Founded as the Pacific Northwest Grantmakers Forum in 1976 and renamed Philanthropy Northwest in 2000, this important network has spent four decades working with hundreds of family funds, foundations and corporate giving programs to ensure Northwest communities have vibrant, healthy futures that honor our past, our people and our cultures.

In 2015, Philanthropy Northwest convened more than 100 Montana funders and community partners in Big Sky to explore how problem-solving requires making connections across issues and seeing beyond boundaries. For its 2016 conference, *Under One Sky*, more than 200 philanthropy leaders from across our region met in Missoula for three days of learning and connecting with each other and our communities.

The horizon is bright for collaborative, innovative philanthropy in and for Montana, cultivated by Philanthropy Northwest members deeply committed to our state: First Interstate BancSystem Foundation, Montana Community Foundation, Montana Healthcare Foundation, Montana Nonprofit Association, the Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation and many more.

Congratulations to Philanthropy Northwest and its members who have had a remarkable impact on Montana communities and the nation. I encourage all Montanans to recognize November 23, 2016 as the “40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Philanthropy Northwest.”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Bullock".

STEVE BULLOCK  
Governor