

Kyle Bergman Talk at Jeju Fourm
May 29, 2019

Good Afternoon - It's an honor and privilege to attend and participate in the 14th Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity. I want to thank the Jeju Special Self-governing province for organizing this important international conference. I want to also thank Professor Ko Seong Joon for being such a dedicated and important member of the Pacific Rim Network and Moon Chung-In for his vision and ongoing support of the efforts of the Pacific Rim Park. Finally, I would also like to acknowledge PRP Co-President and founder James Hubbell who wanted to let everybody know that he is here with us today in Jeju in spirit and he says hello to everyone and wishes he could go to the ocean with all of here us in Jeju.

The Pacific Rim Park network is held together by some common beliefs. We are held together by our commitment to know, understand and respect all of the people who share the Pacific. We are held together by our commitment to making the world a more peaceful and harmonious place. We are held together because our environment doesn't stop at our political borders. We are held together because as humans we are much, much, much more similar than we are different. We are held together because we want to create opportunities for young citizens of the world to come together and build strong, respectful and peaceful relations. Being part of creating a park that eventually will circle the Pacific, like a string of pearls, is a strong reminder that we share the Pacific together and it effectively connects this part of the world.

Since 1994 , with the creation of eight sites around the Pacific, we have been working together to secure these important relations. We have always worked together with a simple handshake and hug being enough of a commitment to make all of these parks. As our network grows we never want to lose sight of that simple handshake as our bond and good will. But as we grow these commitments need to be made in a more formal way. A more formal understanding does not replace our passionate commitment to working together , but rather, it is an opportunity to expand these commitments to a wider range of PRP members.

Since our initial meeting in 2012 at the Jeju Forum we have been working towards these formal agreements. Recently, each of our cities has reviewed, and today signed, our guideline for how our Pacific Rim Park city members will continue to work together.

I would like to share some of the key points of the **Operations Regulation for the Pacific Rim Park City Members** agreement. Our Purpose is to promote goodwill and mutual understanding among the communities of the existing and future Pacific Rim Parks as well as advancing the cause of development, prosperity, and peace, through greater exchange and cooperation. We are agreeing to actively promote and support international cooperation among our current and future members. Together we are looking to expand our Pacific Rim Park network of cities. We are committing to advancing the opportunities of cooperation that is a necessary in making parks together. By building parks together we are also building peace.

We are also committing that we will continue to try and gather together as a group with the goal of sharing our local stories of how we are fostering PRP objectives at the parks. This exchange of ideas from the different sites, and working together to create future exchange opportunities, will be an important outcome of our annual meeting. It is a great effort to physically come together and not just further our conversation and objectives with electronic communications. This act of actually coming together is important. One of the core Pacific Rim Park beliefs is the process of making anything together is stronger when we can do this in the same room or same park or same beach together. Let's value and honor this time we take to come together and use these opportunities to further strengthen our connections and commitments in connecting the pearls that we are building around the Pacific.

I want to thank everybody who has signed onto this agreement and look forward to expanding our PRP member cities.