

SMART

GVERNMENT



FALL 2009

Inside this edition...

- SECRETARY OF STATE CONNECTS OUR HISTORY AND OUR FUTURE

-LCB EMPLOYEE MAKES THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE WASHINGTON STATE PRODUCTIVITY BOARD



DID YOU KNOW?

The first election returns for the Washington Territory were in 1853, and the first law was passed a year later.

State Government Calendar of Events

September 4
PRODUCTIVITY BOARD MEETING

Secretary of State

September 7
LABOR DAY

September 9
VETERANS JOB FAIR
AMVETS, Tacoma

September 10
LAURA DAUGEREAU:
FIRST WASHINGTON WOMAN IN THE IDITAROD
Washington State Library Building

October 2
PRODUCTIVITY BOARD MEETING
Secretary of State

October 12
COLUMBUS DAY

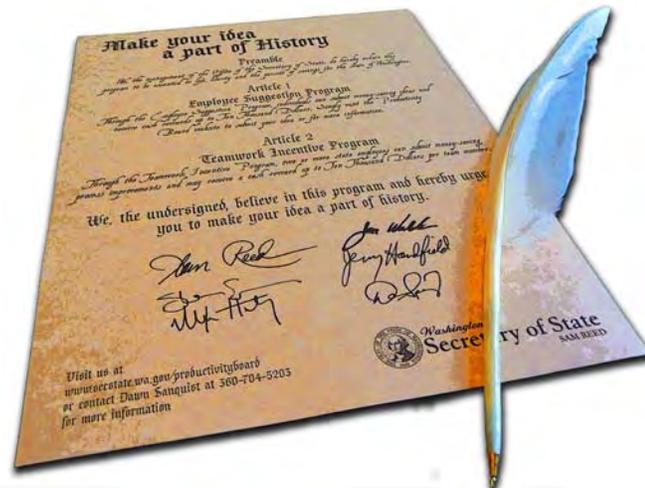
October 31
WASH. WORKFORCE CONFERENCE
Davenport Hotel, Spokane



Secretary of State connects our history and our future with innovative marketing campaign.

The Productivity Board recently embarked on a marketing campaign with the Office of the Secretary of State that focused on promoting both the Employee Suggestion and Teamwork Incentive programs.

The campaign tapped into the agency's specialty: its rich sense of history. The Office of the Secretary of State has long been in the forefront of recording and preserving the colorful history of Washington State.



This feather quill pen and the Productivity Board "constitution" were among just a few of the ways the agency promoted the programs to its employees.

The Productivity Board seized on this unique trait, developing a campaign around the them of "Embracing our Past and Planning our Future." All flyers, marketing giveaways and contests revolved around this thesis.

The results have already led to a number of suggestions, and with a contest now in full swing, the agency will surely reap the benefits of its innovative marketing campaign.

The Productivity Board is committed to excellence in public service by demonstrating leadership. The Employee Suggestion Program and Teamwork Incentive Program encourage public employees to create, innovate and apply first-rate ideas.

To learn more about the Productivity Board, or to submit your own suggestion, visit our website at www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard.

Look who's saving Washington money!

The Shooting Stars helped revise licensing forms used by the Liquor Control Board, and worked with their IT Department to include all forms online, leading to both savings and new revenue totaling \$37,493.00 for the agency.



Liquor Control Board Employee anchors two TIP teams

Megan Renick did something no one else had ever done when she was recognized for her work on two different Teamwork Incentive Program teams at the same board meeting.

The Productivity Board unanimously approved the applications for The Purchasing Team and the Customer Comment Card Team, both from the Liquor Control Board, and both led by Renick.

Between the two teams, Renick was able to help her agency save \$11,654.77 in the first year alone.

It was the first time in the Productivity Board's history that one employee had been recognized for his or her work on two different teams in the same month.

Suggestion expected to Save DOC \$250,000 Over 10 years

By Jose Cortez,
Communications Consultant
Department of Corrections

A Department of Corrections employee suggestion to the Productivity Board is expected to save the agency more than \$250,000 over the next 10 years.

Terry Brown, a Correctional Supervisor at the Washington Corrections Center for Women, recommended that DOC sell fluorescent light bulbs instead of incandescent light bulbs at inmate stores.

His idea came after he received one of the fluorescent bulbs that were sent to staff to generate ideas for the statewide productivity board last summer.

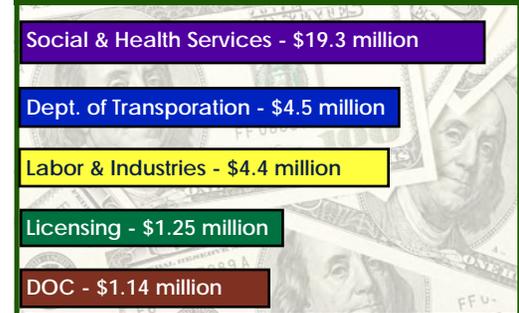
"When I got the light bulb, the light bulb went on," explained Brown. "It was easy to come up with, and when I got the bulb I said, I'll bet they don't sell these at the canteen."

Compared to traditional incandescent light bulbs which have a 1,500 hour life span, fluorescent light bulbs have an 8,000 hour life span. Because fluorescent bulbs are more efficient than incandescent bulbs, it is estimated that annual kilowatt/hour usage would decrease from 868,189 to 35,517, saving DOC \$27,111

in electricity costs per year.

"I read the packages of the fluorescent bulbs that were handed out to each staff member at our facility, stopped by a Kmart, Fred Meyer, and Lowe's, and discussed this with an electrical specialist at Lowe's," said Brown.

The 5 agencies that have saved the most money since the Productivity Board was founded in 1982 are...



SMART GOVERNMENT



Suggestions Across the U.S.

These are just a few examples of what other states are doing, and how their employees are taking advantage of their Suggestion

New York



A Tax Compliance Representative from the New York State Department of Labor proposed utilizing the Western Union Quick Collect as a tool to collect taxes for the agency. His suggestion earned him \$1,000 and a Certificate of Merit.

Missouri



Daniela Heppard, an employee with the department of Natural Resources, suggested the use of the Missouri X shuttle as a lower cost transportation option to the St. Louis and Kansas City airports. This idea also eliminated airport parking fees and freed up fleet for other staff throughout the week.

Virginia



Linda Plevyak, an employee with the Virginia State Police Department, suggested that the agency use e-mail instead of the United States Postal Service for certain communications between State Police and the Employment Commission. She was rewarded 2 days of paid leave.



Highlighted Suggestions



SUGGESTER: Ben Shaw
SAVINGS: \$12,200.00

The Trans Systems Tech with the NW Region Bridge Maintenance Department suggested that the agency decommission space heaters in the machinery areas of moveable bridges to conserve energy. The agency modified their adoption of the idea, opting to reduce the thermostat settings rather than eliminate the heaters entirely.



SUGGESTER: Ray Carson
SAVINGS: \$15,928.00

The Property Sergeant with the Washington Corrections Center suggested that the agency create a notification system to clearly identify for offenders the process of claiming abandoned or unclaimed merchandise.



Employee submits suggestion from thousands of miles away.

Michelle Huffman, a Revenue Auditor with the Washington State Department of Revenue, helped her agency by making a suggestion while working for the department in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

She proposed that the state no longer pay for long distance phone and fax lines that weren't being used by out-of-state auditors, instead encouraging employees to scan and e-mail all items.

Her suggestion saved the agency \$15,081 in the first year alone.

Labor Day Word Search



B	B	E	T	A	B	S	E	D	S	E	S	D	P	E	N	D	I
A	O	P	O	U	F	A	N	J	L	A	A	C	R	R	N	E	N
R	Y	A	S	T	C	A	S	N	T	E	L	T	H	E	E	O	M
B	S	R	I	U	B	O	O	S	T	R	C	A	K	O	I	E	A
E	C	A	R	M	W	I	O	H	D	D	I	E	R	T	O	G	N
Q	O	D	O	N	T	H	Y	K	R	R	E	P	A	Y	I	L	U
U	U	E	B	A	A	E	I	A	O	W	U	P	E	C	N	N	F
E	T	M	C	A	N	G	U	T	T	U	U	M	I	R	D	I	A
M	S	A	O	O	T	G	I	E	C	T	N	R	H	U	T	C	
R	V	W	M	N	R	O	H	R	C	C	H	P	O	S	H	T	
E	N	P	O	O	D	E	N	O	L	I	O	I	E	L	T	M	U
S	D	R	L	R	H	A	O	R	P	S	H	L	D	I	R	A	R
O	W	O	I	R	K	E	Y	H	I	R	C	E	L	D	Y	R	I
U	C	F	A	C	T	O	R	I	E	S	D	O	A	A	U	C	N
R	I	B	S	P	E	E	C	H	E	S	E	U	U	Y	R	H	G
C	B	C	A	L	A	B	O	R	H	U	M	A	N	T	G	I	R
F	I	D	O	B	L	U	E	C	O	L	L	A	R	A	S	N	E
E	P	A	I	D	A	N	Y	F	A	L	L	M	E	M	G	T	

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|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| BAND | WHITE COLLAR | SCHOOL |
| BARBEQUE | LABOR | OCCUPATION |
| AUTUMN | MARCHING | TRIP |
| COLOR GUARD | MONDAY | SPEECHES |
| FACTORIES | BLUE COLLAR | PARADE |
| SALARY | PAID | GIRL SCOUTS |
| MANUFACTURING | INDUSTRY | PICNIC |
| WORK | BOY SCOUTS | COOKOUT |
| VACATION | FALL | MONEY |
| HOLIDAY | WEEKEND | RESOURCES |

Productivity Board Members:

- Governor Christine Gregoire - Ex-Officio
- Secretary of State Sam Reed - Chair
- State Auditor Brian Sonntag
- Department of General Administration Director Linda Villegas Bremer
- Department of Social and Health Services Appointee Kathleen Brockman
- Private Sector Representative - Retired Mike Kerschbaum PEMCO Financial Services
- Speaker of the House Appointee George Masten
- Office of Financial Management Appointee Roselyn Marcus
- Federation of State Employees Appointee Wanda Riley
- Department of Personnel Assistant Director Scott Turner
- Council of College Presidents Executive Director Terry Teale

Smart Government is a quarterly publication of the

WASHINGTON STATE PRODUCTIVITY BOARD

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