



City of Seattle



## NANTES SEATTLE Joint Declaration

### to mark the 40th anniversary of twinning

12 FEV. 2021

We,

Johanna Rolland, Mayor of Nantes (France)

Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor of Seattle (WA, United States)

wish today, faced with the major health crisis facing our populations, to reaffirm the importance of the links established between our two cities.

For Nantes and Seattle, the year 2020 was intended to celebrate 40 years of an innovative and creative relationship with a wealth of cultural, educational and economic achievements that inspires our fellow residents, and provides them with experiences and a window into other ways of doing things, but also elevates our shared values.

The events planned for this symbolic anniversary have had to be postponed, like so many other events, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consequently, we'll gather around a common message as we are unable to meet in person. We will continue to innovate, and work together to find creative, inventive solutions in the digital age, new ways of doing things, the development of new approaches to fight against this pandemic which threatens our economies and our residents.

In celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nantes-Seattle Sister City relationship, we reaffirm our commitment to the following values:

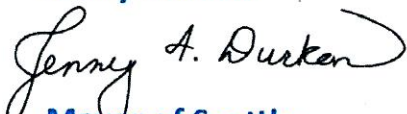
- To continue to fight against the populism and extremism that threaten our democracies,
- To respond to the urgency of climate challenges and initiate an environmentally-friendly and ecological energy transition,
- To prevent situations of exclusion and poverty which affect our residents,
- To affirm our values of freedom and respect for human rights and cultural diversity.

Our cities are places of experimentation and knowledge, as well as incubators of creativity. They can be a driving force for innovation in many fields.


**We, the Mayors of Nantes and Seattle,**  
are committed to sharing our experiences, fostering constructive dialogue and working together in the framework of our public policies up to 2030,

and to developing partnerships between Nantes and Seattle in all areas that can contribute to the well-being of our communities, and to the respect and protection of the fundamental values of freedom and equity that inspire us.

**Jenny Durkan**

  
**Mayor of Seattle**

**Johanna Rolland**

  
**Mayor of Nantes**