

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Commissioner Al French, Chair
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S3R3 SOLUTIONS HIRES CHRIS PENGRA AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(Spokane, WA) S3R3 Solutions, a leading business recruitment and expansion oriented public development agency dedicated to driving economic prosperity in the West Plains/Airport Area, is pleased to announce the hiring of Chris Pengra as Executive Director effective September 1, 2023. Mr. Pengra was selected following a national executive search and recruitment process conducted by the S3R3 Solutions Board of Directors assisted by Korn Ferry and their Talent Acquisition Services team.

Mr. Pengra brings over a decade of economic development experience, during which he has demonstrated exceptional leadership and strategic vision. Prior to joining S3R3 Solutions, Mr. Pengra served as the Economic Development Director for a municipality in the Salt Lake City metro area. His accomplishments include spearheading initiatives that attracted new businesses to the region, fostering partnerships with public and private stakeholders, and implementing business retention and expansion programs to strengthen local workforce resources. Mr. Pengra previously worked in economic development for a regional utility company and served in the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. Pengra will report to the S3R3 Board of Directors, chaired by Spokane County Commissioner Al French, with top areas of focus to include relationship building, client engagement and recruitment as well as strategic marketing/communications. Mr. Pengra will oversee and direct all economic development activities of S3R3 Solutions with the primary goals of partnering with the public and private sector to drive new capital investments and advancing sustainable job and income growth in the West Plains/Airport Area.

In announcing Mr. Pengra's hiring, Board Chair Al French indicated "Chris brings a proven track record of success in economic development and an understanding of our region's unique opportunities and challenges. We believe his energy, expertise and vision will be instrumental in maximizing the positive impact that S3R3 Solutions has on the regional economy." Mr. Pengra added, "I am honored to have the opportunity to lead S3R3 Solutions in its mission to drive economic prosperity in the West Plains/Airport Area. I am firmly committed to building strong public-private partnerships and leveraging the region's strategic advantages to attract businesses and create long-term growth opportunities."

Mr. Pengra holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Maryland and is also a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) through the International Economic Development Council.

S3R3 Solutions is a collaborative partnership between Spokane County, the City of Spokane, and the Spokane International Airport, dedicated to driving economic prosperity through business recruitment and business expansion in the West Plains/Airport Area. The organization provides business recruitment and expansion advisory services and facilitation; develops, plans and invests in infrastructure projects; and advocates for state and federal policy and funding support.