

## WORLD TRADE CENTER ALASKA NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **World Trade Center Alaska's 2008 Statewide Economic Forecast to be Conducted in Alaska's Three Largest Cities**

(Anchorage) World Trade Center Alaska (WTCAK) announced today that its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Economic Forecast Luncheon will be conducted this year in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau, the state's three largest cities. One of the largest business gatherings each year, the forecast luncheon features an industry-by-industry forecast by one Alaska's leading economists as well as an important look at the international picture and how it impacts Alaska. The event is sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank.

The 2008 events will take place on 22 January in Fairbanks at the Carlson Center, in cooperation with the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce; on 23 January in Anchorage at the Egan Convention Center; and, on 24 January in Juneau at the Baranof Hotel in collaboration with the Juneau Chamber of Commerce and the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce. Each of the luncheons get underway at 12 Noon and conclude at approximately 1:30 p.m.

"We are very excited that we will be able present the Statewide Economic Forecast in Alaska's three largest communities this year," said Greg Wolf, the executive director of the Trade Center. "Thanks to the support of Wells Fargo, this event has grown to become one of the biggest business events of the year and now it is truly a statewide event," he said.

"Wells Fargo is proud to continue our lead sponsorship of the World Trade Center's economic forecast luncheons," said Richard Strutz, Wells Fargo regional president for Alaska. "It is truly among the premier business events of the year in Alaska."

Pat Burden, the president of Northern Economics will present the 2008 statewide economic forecast. His forecast will cover Alaska's major industries, state and federal spending and how this will affect communities and jobs. Sanjiv Sanghvi, the president and CEO of the Wells Fargo-HSBC Trade Bank, headquartered in San Francisco, will provide a Pacific Rim update focused on the economic rise of China and India. Greg Wolf, the executive director of World Trade Center Alaska, will report on Alaska's international trade economy.

More information and registration information is available by calling World Trade Center Alaska at 278-7233, or by visiting WTCAK's website: [www.wtcak.org](http://www.wtcak.org)