



---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 26, 2024

Contact: Rich Grogan, Executive Director

[rgrogan@nbrc.gov](mailto:rgrogan@nbrc.gov)

(603) 369-3001

---

## Maine Governor Janet Mills Elected as Third State Co-Chair for the Northern Border Regional Commission

During the 2024 NBRC Winter Commission Meeting, Maine Governor Janet Mills was elected as State Co-Chair by her fellow governors. As State Co-Chair, Governor Mills will work alongside the NBRC Federal Co-Chair, Chris Saunders, to provide leadership in support of the continued growth and development of the NBRC as it serves communities within the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York.

Maine Department of Economic & Community Development Commissioner Heather Johnson will continue to serve as the Governor's Alternate, representing Governor Mills at Commission meetings.

The State-Co-chair position is emblematic of the NBRC's Federal-State partnership, as the combined roles of Federal Co-Chair and State Co-Chair function similarly to an Executive Committee of a Board of Directors, working together on policy matters before they reach the full Commission. Each State Governor and their Alternate have the freedom to bring their own approach to the role, resulting in a dynamic partnership with the Federal Co-Chair and NBRC team during each new term.

"We are incredibly excited to welcome the leadership of Governor Mills as State Co-Chair of the Commission. The Governor has a well thought out vision for economic growth in Maine and our region will benefit from the creativity and dedication of her and her team," **said Federal Co-Chair Chris Saunders.**

"In Maine, we've grown our economy at a faster rate than much larger states by investing in our people and the things they need to succeed. I look forward to applying lessons from our success as I work with my fellow Governors and our federal partners to spur economic growth throughout the Northern Border region," **said Governor Janet Mills.** "I extend my gratitude to Governor Sununu for his dedicated work as State Co-Chair over the last four years and thank the Maine Congressional Delegation for its continued work to provide federal resources for this vital organization."

Since January 2020, the State Co-Chair position has been filled by New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu and his Governor's Alternate, Commissioner Taylor Caswell.

\*\*\*

### About the NBRC

Created in 2008, the Northern Border Regional Commission is a federal-state partnership whose mission is to help alleviate economic distress and encourage private sector job creation in Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.