



# Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State

## Minnesota Public Benefit Corporation / Annual Benefit Report

*Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 304A*



Read the instructions before completing this form  
**Must be filed by March 31**  
**Filing Fee: \$55 for expedited service in-person, \$35 if submitted by mail**

The Annual Benefit Report covers the 12 month period ending on December 31 of the previous year.  
**Notice: Failure to file this form by March 31 of this year will result in the revocation of the corporation's public benefit status without further notice from the Secretary of State, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 304A.301**

- File Number
- Corporate Name: (Required)
- The public benefit corporation's board of directors has reviewed and approved this report.
- In the field below, enter the information required by section 304A.301 subd. 2 or 3 for the period covered by this report, (see instructions for further information): Note: Use additional sheets if needed. (Required)

5. I, the undersigned, certify that I am the chief executive officer of this public benefit corporation. I further certify that I have signed this document no more than 30 days before the document is delivered to the secretary of state for filing, and that this document is current when signed. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Signature of Public Benefit Corporation's Chief Executive Officer

Date (Must be dated within 30 days before the report is delivered to the Secretary of State for Filing)

**Email Address for Official Notices**

Enter an email address to which the Secretary of State can forward official notices required by law and other notices:

Check here to have your email address excluded from requests for bulk data, to the extent allowed by Minnesota law.

**List a name and daytime phone number of a person who can be contacted about this form:**

Contact Name

Phone Number

**Entities that own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed must register with the MN Dept. of Agriculture's Corporate Farm Program.**

Does this entity own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed?

Yes  No

**Print**

**Reset**



## **TRADE CENTER OF THE AMERICAS**

### **GENERAL PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION REPORT** **2022**

#### **Mission**

The Trade Center of the Americas is a general public benefit corporation that promotes sustainable and inclusive economic growth by fostering international trade and investment opportunities for women and minority owned businesses, small and medium size companies and startups across North, Central and South America.

In order to make our business model sustainable, a percentage of our profits are allocated to support women owned startups and women entrepreneurs.

#### **Vision**

In partnership with the Minnesota business community, our vision is to become leaders on bridging the geographical and cultural gaps between the Midwest and the rest of the Americas and vice versa. At the Trade Center of the Americas we aim to connect our members by developing business opportunities through establishing personable business connections across the regions.

We leverage our cross cultural and trade expertise in order to increase the to help build an inclusive and sustainable trade and investment ecosystem.

#### **Values**

The TCA's values are integrity, diversity and inclusion, sustainability and innovation. It was established on the principles of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals:

- #1 End poverty in all its forms
- #2 Zero Hunger
- #5 Gender Equality
- #8 Decent Work & Economic Growth
- #17 Partnerships for the Goals

#### **Four Pillars of Our Business Model**

Our four pillars of our business model are built to establish a community of trade actors by establishing the relationship and connecting them through:

A handwritten signature in black ink, located on the right side of the page, next to the Vision section.

- Four membership levels supported by a digital data platform that provides networking opportunities and business interconnectedness across regions.
- Cross-cultural business coaching, mentorship and consulting opportunities
- Matchmaking referrals to our members
- Public-Private-Partnerships (PPPs) established to facilitate open and transparent dialogues, between local and foreign governments, public and private sectors, corporations, grassroots organizations and all trade actors in the region.

These pillars are designed to build a diverse and inclusive international trade community based on trust, integrity, respect for diversity, innovation and sustainability.

#### Short term goals (2020-2022)

- Launch the Trade Center of the Americas through the event (***virtual trade mission- September 2021***)
- Establish the relationship with chambers of commerce, trade associations, trade representatives, business and government leaders from Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay
- Establish partnerships with Minnesota's organization(s) to establish the TCA as part of a Minnesota initiative to become a leader on trade and investment across the Americas based on the 2030 United Nations SDGs
- Develop the digital platform for the membership
- Hire 3 staff members (*bilingual cross cultural digital marketing specialist, membership recruiter, business development strategist*)
- Promote the Minnesota's business culture of commitment with corporate responsibility standards as well as the TCA's values in alignment with the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

#### Midterm goals (2021-2025)

- Virtual representations of the TCA in ten countries in the Americas
- Recruit representations from cities, foreign governments to promote their business agenda in Minnesota
- Recruit paid memberships in all the countries members
- Develop a platform that can provide reliable blockchain and supply-chain data access for all members.

#### Long Term goals(2030)

- Continue to develop and improve the short and midterm goals
- Expand markets and reach out to all countries in the Americas
- Minnesota leader of the Green Energy Initiative. logistical initiative to provide interconnectedness across the Americas (from the Patagonia to Canada).



### The virtual trade mission as part of the TCA:

As part of the public-private-partnerships, one of our four-pillars of our business model, the TCA has established the **virtual trade missions (VTMs)**. The VTMs' goal is to provide a space for accountability by fostering open and transparent dialogues among trade actors and across different sectors. Through the VTMs, the TCA aims to provide a forum to foster open dialogues based on transparency and accountability, in alignment with corporate and government responsibility principles.

The VTMs are a great platform for capacity building opportunities between local and foreign governments, local and international organizations, and local and international private institutions (NGOs, think tanks, etc.). The subject matters of these dialogues revolve around trade policies, free trade agreements, tariffs, and laws protecting international trade and investment, as well as trade and investment opportunities.

This event is organized under the leadership of the Minnesota Trade Office and the Trade Center of the Americas with the participation of countries members from the Andean Community of Nations: Bolivia, Colombia, Chile (associate member) and Peru, in partnership with the Minnesota-US EXPO 2027, Global Minnesota, Impact Hub, Minnesota Economic Development Association.

### 2022 Report:

1. Established the WeFairTrade Academy: An online academy for women and minority entrepreneurs that provides mentorship, coaching and financial-export-import literacy.
2. Develop the curriculum for the WeFairTrade Academy
3. Spanish-English curriculum and cross-cultural immersion programs.
4. Provide trainings to 250 Indigenous women and girls from Guatemala and Ecuador
5. Applied to 2 federal government grants
6. Participated in the Ascend-Program
7. Started the Foreign Exchange Entrepreneur Program. This provides opportunities for cross-cultural international business skills development for BIPOC young professionals.
8. Started the blog about the FEETP <https://www.tradecamericas.com/post/the-journey-of-a-foreign-exchange-latina-entrepreneur-in-minnesota>

Report prepared by:

  
Silvia Ontamedá,

C.E.O  
Founder and President.

Certified by Cobone Analytics





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*Steve Simon*

Steve Simon  
Secretary of State