

# MOSCOW-PULLMAN DAILY NEWS

## Letter: Practicing win-win

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Pete Haug's Town Crier piece (Opinion, April 29) points out how competition (winning by any means) rather than cooperation (finding win-win outcomes) can lead to societal problems such as gridlock in government. His suggestions to overcome the "vitriol that obfuscates and pollutes important issues" include working to understand others, being courteous, and searching for common ground. His reasoned approach is one I wish more people would practice.

A non-partisan organization that applies the principles of cooperation Haug promoted is Citizens' Climate Lobby. CCL's goal is to enact market-based legislation to reduce atmospheric pollution by "creating the

political will for a livable world by empowering individuals to experience breakthroughs in exercising their personal and political power." The empowerment results from practicing and applying respectful, productive techniques. At monthly meetings, they may practice polite presentations about their proposed legislation or write respectful letters to members of Congress. They also invite speakers with a range of viewpoints to share their expertise. These talks are followed by thoughtful questions that seek to increase understanding of the speakers' perspectives. The group applies these techniques when meeting with legislators and their staff, building positive long-term

relationships. CCL members gain understanding from such activities and consider modifications to their proposals and actions based on what they learn.

Check out our local CCL chapter ([cclpalouse.org](http://cclpalouse.org)). The Palouse Region Chapter cooperates across state lines. We work with legislative offices in both Idaho and Washington, including those of Raúl Labrador and Cathy McMorris Rodgers. Set aside the "vitriol that obfuscates." Become involved with an organization focused on a win-win solution to global warming.

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