



# STATE OF UTAH

GARY R. HERBERT  
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH  
84114-2220

SPENCER J. COX  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 26, 2019

Dear Guest,

I am pleased to welcome you to the National Governors Association Summer Meeting in Salt Lake City, where you will walk in the footsteps of pioneers.

The Salt Lake Valley has been a place of discovery for centuries, beginning with the Ute Indians who called the valley and encompassing mountain range the "low place in high mountains." In 1847, pioneers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints led by Brigham Young, were the first non-Indians to settle permanently in the Salt Lake Valley. They numbered 148, consisting of 143 men, three women, and two children.

And exactly 150 years ago this year, Utah literally became the crossroads of America when the transcontinental railroad was completed at Promontory Point, Utah, a remarkable moment we will celebrate on May 10, 2019.

Salt Lake's history is as rich as its vistas, surrounding mountains, and beautiful lake-enhanced sunsets. In addition to being home to the Winter Olympics in 2002, our city's nearby mountains are widely known to be the home of "The Greatest Snow on Earth." Whether you mountain bike, hike across their slopes, or simply admire them from afar, our mountains provide an incomparable backdrop to what you are sure to find an educational and enriching series of meetings with governors and other leaders here in Salt Lake.

However, there is more to our valley than the natural surroundings. You will also find a vibrant tech scene – between that and the other booming businesses in the city, Utah has been brought to life like never before. From a top-shelf performing arts scene to award-winning dining, craft beer, and distilling culture, this city is one of America's emerging urban hubs. It is an ideal place for governors and their families and guests to get to know each other in a relaxed yet vibrant setting.

I hope you will bring your families and make time to see the beautiful Temple Square, sample our award-winning gastronomic scene, see a Broadway play, or just walk through our clean and historic city. And of course, I hope you stay a few extra days to get out of the city and explore some of our five stunning national parks and forty-four magnificent state parks. Enjoy your visit.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Herbert  
Governor