

# MAIN STREET MONTANA PROJECT

A BUSINESS PLAN *For Montana by Montanans*

## Key Industry Network Meeting Presentation

Main Street Montana Project  
(MSMP)  
Pillar & KIN Highlights



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## A Brief Overview

### The Montana Main Street Project

- Initial plan built on 5 Pillars
- The 104 Tasks identified in the sessions held across the state were assigned to State Agencies either in lead or support roles
- Key Industry Networks (KIN) were formed establishing a private-partnership to drive Montana's economy forward

### Technology and Innovation KIN



### KINS

- Food & Agriculture
- Health & Wellness
- Small Business & Downtown
- Tourism
- Housing & Construction
- Energy & Utilities
- Non-Profit
- Natural Resources
- Transportation
- Interconnectivity & Telecommunications
- Manufacturing
- Financial Services
- Innovation & Technology

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## Where are We Now?

Have accomplishments on all Pillar Tasks.

Eight KIN groups are meeting to provide recommendations to the Governor based on each KINs work.

The Governor's Peer-to-Peer Workforce Symposium is Oct 11-12 in Bozeman.



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## **Pillar 1 – Train and Educate Tomorrow’s Workforce Today**

### **Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results**

#### **Hiring of Industry Driven Workforce Development Partnerships Director**

In July, Dr. Kirk Lacy was hired as the Industry Driven Workforce Development Partnerships Director. Co-funded by the MT University System and the Department of Labor & Industry, Kirk’s charge is to align efforts in educating and training tomorrow’s workers. We believe this is the only such position in the country.

#### **Over \$40 million in Workforce Training Dollars**

- RevUp grant funded for \$25 Million from US Department of Labor for manufacturing and energy industrial workforce development.
- MT HealthCare Project funded for \$15 Million from US Department of Labor for healthcare workforce development.

#### **Over 1,000 Apprenticeship Programs**

Hundreds of additional Montana students are now entering apprenticeship and dual enrollment programs. Currently there are over 1,000 registered apprentices working in MT in 50 occupational fields including areas not commonly known for apprenticeships such as IT, healthcare, and research.

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## **Pillar 1 – Train and Educate Tomorrow’s Workforce Today**

### **Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results**

#### **More and Improved College Credits, Certificate and Degree Programs**

- 2014-2015 had 4,074 students from 107 different high schools were dual-enrolled and completed over 14,000 credits hours. The number of students was an increase of over 800 students from the previous year.
- A number of programs have been shortened to reduce the time-to-degree. A critical need being addressed is to increase available healthcare workers without diminishing the programs. The board of nursing, the state, and educators have come together to streamline the CNA, LPN and RNA degree programs – creating distinct programs allowing students to work at any level but still have a clear pathway to the more extensive degree.

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## Pillar 1 – Train and Educate Tomorrow’s Workforce Today KIN Related Action Items

- All active KINS are working on Career Awareness and Pathways for their industry sectors.
- KINS are working with the state on new specialized sector training programs such as the electrical lineman and aeronautic welding training and cybersecurity certification.
- Along with specific needs, the KINS are working to encourage STEM and soft skill training, find seasonal workers, recruit highly skilled managers and workers, and find solutions to looming workforce shortage issues particularly in rural areas of the state.



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## **Pillar 2 – Create a Climate that Attracts, Retains, and Grows Business** **Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results**

**State Agencies have made dozens of changes to make state government more efficient and responsive. Examples:**

- State-chartered banks no longer pay regulatory assessment saving the industry approximately \$1.4 million.
- Mortgage license renewal fees reduced by 50% for a savings to the mortgage industry of approximately \$700,000.
- Department of Revenue (DOR) developed an online system for applicants to apply for all liquor and some gaming licenses and for alcohol servers to take training via the web.
- To date, the Department of Commerce (DOC) has repealed 37 rules and streamlined 20 rules.

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## **Pillar 2 – Create a Climate that Attracts, Retains, and Grows Business**

### **Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results**

#### **The Department of Administration (DOA) has Improved Processes:**

- DOA is now forecasting, through the procurement website, all upcoming agency procurement needs and added contact information and award information.
- DOA added a feature to the Architecture & Engineering website to display all recent contract awards.
- DOA created websites to allow local governments to submit required reports to the State Financial Services Division electronically. Includes new tracking system to manage entity correspondence and reports.

#### **Improvements in Workers Compensation**

- The 2014 Oregon Premium Rate Ranking study reported Montana has improved from the state with the highest premium rates in 2010 to 11th highest or 119% above the median. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports an improvement in Montana's ranking from 3rd highest injury rate to 4th highest injury rates in the country.



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## Pillar 2 – Create a Climate that Attracts, Retains, and Grows Business

### KIN Related Action Items

- The Manufacturing KIN has compiled information on all the tax and non-tax incentives available to Montana Businesses
- The Health & Wellness KIN is working with the state epidemiology team and a private vendor to explore a system that provides predictive incidence of certain disease types as a way to reduce health costs and promote wellness



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## **Pillar 3 – Build Upon Montana’s Economic Foundation**

### **Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results**

#### **Examples of State Agencies working to Support Economic Activity**

- The State successfully worked with Congressional Staff to pass FAA funding and support essential air transportation. The Department of Transportation worked to maintain air service to the West Yellowstone Airport and hosted a statewide Aviation Conference to discuss issues and concerns.
- Community Technical Assistant Program (CTAP) housed at the Department of Commerce is providing technical land use planning training, advice and assistance to communities and the private sector.
- Fish, Wildlife and Parks completed a report depicting estimated economic value of hunting and fishing in Montana.
- The Department of Commerce completed an interactive Energy & Infrastructure Map to assist private industry. <http://ceic.mt.gov/Maps/EnergyApp/index.html>

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## **Pillar 3 – Build Upon Montana’s Economic Foundation** **KIN Related Action Items**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and an Energy KIN subcommittee are working on revisions to the MT Facility Siting Act (MFSA) for the 2017 session to make it more workable for industry and the Department.



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## Pillar 4– Market Montana

### Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results

#### **Examples from Department of Commerce to Promote Montana and the State Brand**

- The Department of Commerce, with Federal State Trade & Export Promotion Program funding, hosted 7 Montana Pavilions at international trade shows, promoting 34 Montana companies' products and services.
- With Federal State Trade & Export Promotion Program funding, the Department of Commerce provided 103 marketing grants to Montana companies for exhibiting at international trade shows, translating marketing materials, and participating in business matchmaking activities.
- The implementation of the WebDAM has allowed DOC to provide other agencies with the proven brand principles through imagery and consultation. Staff have provided over 30 Brand Use workshops around the state to over 500 participants.

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## Pillar 4– Market Montana

### Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results

#### Examples from the Governor's Office of Economic Development

- This September 2015, the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) will launch its "Choose Montana Campaign" and "Come Home Campaign" to encourage businesses to locate in Montana and former residents to return.
- GOED launched a renovated *innovatemontana.com* website, featuring entrepreneurial resources and successful Montana entrepreneurs.

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## Pillar 4 – Market Montana KIN Related Action Items

The Governor's Office of Economic Development has developed a Business Portal as a "one-stop" location for businesses to interface with state government. The Small Business & Downtown KIN has partnered with GOED to review and improve the business portal site as well as the innovation portal



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## **Pillar 5 – Nurture Emerging Industries and Encourage Innovation** **Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results**

### **Dollars for Research**

- \$15 million request in Governor Bullock's Biennial budget for research was passed by the 2015 Legislature.

### **More Examples of Research Activities**

- With mining industry support Montana Tech has developed the Underground Mine Education Facility on campus--one of the few underground facilities for mine education and research located on a college campus. CAMP has attracted \$2 million in new federal money and is supporting a broader range of industrial needs
- A partnership between the Bitterroot Economic Development District and business incubator MonTEC resulted in \$100K job creation grant for FilmSpur.
- The State finalized an agreement with CareHere and the Anaconda Hospital for a one-day-a-week employee Health Center in Anaconda. This is a unique partnership with the private sector. The center opened in March

## **Pillar 5 – Nurture Emerging Industries and Encourage Innovation** **Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results**

### **Commercialization of Research Products**

- University of MT (UM) Professors received patent and licensing support for a traumatic brain injury project as part of an international team
- At MT Tech, two new patents were issued; licensing and commercialization progress is advanced for a battery-related technology, in collaboration with Idaho National Lab
- Agile Data Solutions launched in 2014 by faculty member Joel Henry, now selling software product derived from UM research.
- HopLite, a Bozeman-based company to pilot a patent-pending network security system which began March 2015



## **Pillar 5 – Nurture Emerging Industries and Encourage Innovation** **Agency Activities: A Few Highlights and Results**

### **The State has greatly increased resources for entrepreneurs**

- MSU's Jake Jobs Center for Business and Entrepreneurship and the Blackstone LaunchPad (BLP) are developing entrepreneurial skills in students with the goal of enabling students to create future job opportunities in Montana.
- Blackstone LaunchPad partnered with organizations around the state to sponsoring Butte Start-up Weekend. This provided a platform for entrepreneurs to spend three days building a business idea in a collaborative format
- AT MT Tech, the Business and Information Technology Department started (in March, 2014) a monthly Executive Lecture Series entitled "First Fridays." The first lecture highlighted a group of inspiring entrepreneurial speakers
- Innovation Initiative (a partnership between Missoula Economic Partnership, business incubator MonTEC and Hellgate Venture network) coordinated and hosted 20 free workshops and seminars in the Fall of 2014 on a range of start-up topics

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## Pillar 5 – Nurture Emerging Industries and Encourage Innovation KIN Related Action Items

- Innovation and Technology KIN members are exploring Training Certificates available currently with the MUS – especially in Information Technology disciplines
- Tourism KIN members are working with Department of Commerce staff to coordinate and consolidate promotional spending



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- Peer-to-Peer Conversations (not just listening to a bunch of out-of-state speakers)
- Facilitated by National Expert on Sector Strategy Work – Lindsey Woolsey
- MT Business Leaders presenting challenges and the solutions that worked in 4 areas:
  - Working with Millennials
  - Training & Apprenticeships
  - Workforce Pipeline
  - Recruiting and Retention

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GOVERNOR BULLOCK PRESENTS

MAIN STREET MONTANA PROJECT

PEER-TO-PEER SYMPOSIUM SERIES

WORKFORCE + INNOVATION + MARKETING MONTANA

FIRST EVENT: OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup> & 12<sup>TH</sup> | BOZEMAN, MONTANA

Current Registrations: 234

KIN Members: 49

Please indicate which industry you represent.

Answered: 221 Skipped: 13

