



INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL

The Power of Knowledge and Leadership

International Economic Development Council
734 15th Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 223-7800
Fax: (202) 223-4745
Website: www.iedconline.org

Media Release

For Immediate Release: October 23, 2013

Contact: Erin Way at (202) 942-9474

British Columbia Economic Development Association and the International Economic Development Council Sign Professional Certification Memorandum of Understanding

WASHINGTON, DC (October 23, 2013) - The [British Columbia Economic Development Association](#) (BCEDA) is the second Canadian provincial economic development association to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the [International Economic Development Council](#) (IEDC). The MOU commits both parties to developing and delivering training programs for Canadian economic development professionals wishing to become IEDC Certified Economic Developers.

After the signing, Geoff Millar, Chair of BCEDA and Economic Development Manager with the Cowichan Valley Regional District remarked; "This partnership with IEDC provides members of BCEDA the opportunity to achieve the international standard in professional certification for economic developers - the CEcD."

Paul Krutko, IEDC Chairman and President of Ann Arbor Spark in Michigan added that "IEDC is very pleased to partner with the BCEDA to offer their members the CEcD certification. It's great that BCEDA has joined with the Economic Developers Council of Ontario as Canadian partners with IEDC in professional development."

Jeffrey Finkle, President and CEO of the IEDC, is also very pleased with the new partnership, saying, "This is another important step in our continuing process to reach out to a globalizing economic development profession. We have committed to refining our course materials and examination to be relevant to Canadian practitioners while maintaining the high standards required to attain the CEcD."

Dale Wheeldon, CEO of BCEDA, is pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to BCEDA members, noting that there is a two year window for Canadian certified professionals to apply for the CEcD. "We would encourage all British Columbia EcDs in good standing to move quickly to apply for the CEcD. We know that there have already been twenty-five Canadians who have applied for the CEcD and now BC professionals have no reason to wait."

About the International Economic Development Council

The [International Economic Development Council](#) (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving

economic developers. With more than 4,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. When we succeed, our members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. www.iedconline.org.

About the British Columbia Economic Development Association

The British Columbia Economic Development Association (BCEDA) is the leading professional association of economic development practitioners in the Province of BC. BCEDA currently has over 280 members from communities throughout the Province. BCEDA provides services that help member communities grow and expand new and existing businesses, attract new business investments, and work towards strategic infrastructure investment, land use planning, and community enhancement. www.bceda.ca

###