



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

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Contact: Erin Way at (202) 942-9474

Jerry Sucharyna First in British Columbia to Receive CEcD

WASHINGTON, DC (October 25, 2013) - Jerry Sucharyna, Business and Economic Development Manager for the City of Merritt, British Columbia, is the first BC-based economic development professional to receive the CEcD certification from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

Jerry became an economic developer in 2001, after thirteen years as an entrepreneur, and is currently an EDAC-certified EcD (F), one of only 35 to have obtained his fellowship in Canada. He has worked in the private, not for profit, and municipal government sectors.

Jerry has been the recipient of several prestigious awards including the Economic Developers Association of British Columbia's Economic Developer of the year in 2010, Economic Development Association of Canada's President's Award in 2012, and the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013.

On being granted his CEcD, Jerry said: "I began my economic development training with IEDC when I received my Northwest Economic Development Certificate and have since been fortunate to lead economic development in communities that have received IEDC awards. When I heard that EDABC had signed the MOU with IEDC I wanted to be part of building the future of economic development. To be the first in BC to get the CEcD is a great honour. I look at this as a great opportunity to collaborate globally and create partnerships across borders."

For more information please contact:

Emily Bell: ebell@iedconline.org

About the International Economic Development Council

The [International Economic Development Council](http://www.iedconline.org) (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 Economic Development Association of British Columbia

The Economic Development Association of British Columbia (EDABC) is the leading professional association of economic development practitioners in the Province of BC. EDABC currently has over 280 members from communities throughout the Province. EDABC 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.edabc.com

About the Certified Economic Developer (CEcD)

The [CEcD designation](#) recognizes qualified and dedicated practitioners in the economic development field and sets the standard of excellence within the profession. Candidates must pass a rigorous and comprehensive three-part, two-day examination, which tests a practitioner's knowledge, proficiency and judgment in the key areas of economic development, including business retention and expansion, marketing, finance, workforce development, community development, real estate, strategic planning, and management.

As highly competent economic development practitioners, Certified Economic Developers work with public officials, business leaders and community members to create leadership to build upon and maximize the economic development sector. Excellence in the economic development profession improves the well being, quality of life and opportunities for individuals, businesses and communities. There are over 1,000 CEcDs in North America.

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