



## Online News



- Oct 1: [MT Food Show](#)
- Oct 2 – 4: [MT Nonprofit Annual Conf](#)
- Oct 4: [Small biz webinar: Crowdfunding](#)
- Oct 5-6: [Badlands Women's Expo](#)
- Oct 13-14: [NADO Annual Training](#)
- Oct 18: MEDA RTA Working Group Call 9am
- Oct 23: [W2ASACT Meeting](#)
- Oct 25-26: [MT Chamber Annual Meeting](#)



- [SBDC Training Calendar](#)
- [MNA Training Calendar](#)
- [MMEC Training Calendar](#)

Coming in December:

- [The Business of Outdoor Recreation Summit](#)
- [December 4 - 5](#)

## MEDA UNCONFERENCE SUMMARY AND PHOTOS



Thanks to the 107 people who joined us for the first-ever MEDA UNConference. This great event was held in Missoula and included a 25<sup>th</sup> MEDA Anniversary Celebration. Yes, there was cake for breakfast. [Check out the conference summary.](#)

If you attended, don't forget to share feedback on the [evaluation form.](#)

Photo: Guy Gregory, MCDC

## 2018 MEDA AWARDS

Tony Preite was present to honor Karyl Tobel as the 2018 Anthony J. Preite Champion of Economic Development. Karyl was nominated by Paul Tuss and supported by a host of others. There were two MEDA Innovation Awards presented: 1. Creekside Marketplace and Pavilion, Snowy Mountain Development, Lewistown and 2. Kalispell Core and Rail, Flathead County EDA and Montana West Economic Development.



Karyl Tobel and Tony Preite  
[Video Clip](#)



[Video from Snowy Mountain Development Corporation](#)



Kalispell Core and Rail Partners

## MEDA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



Lorraine Roach

Lorraine Roach is back! Lorraine was a member of MEDA some time ago and is now back working with her consulting firm Hingston Roach Group as well as serving as Executive Director for Stevensville Main Street. Welcome back, Lorraine.

## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS AND 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER ROUND NOW OPEN

The winners of the MEDA Rick Jones Memorial Scholarships for the Third Quarter: Gypsy Ray and Adam Benson. Fourth Quarter applications are due December 15th. [Application](#)

## MEDA COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Legislative Committee:** Rick Edwards, Chair. As we all know, MEDA and partners are gearing up for a critical Legislative Session. As with MT Department of Commerce, MEDA's top priority is to extend or remove the "sunset" of funding for Montana's key economic development programs. Members are encouraged to meet with legislators and local officials to share the value of these programs and the work of economic developers and partners across the state.
- **Membership & Marketing Committee:** Chris Cerquone, Chair. This committee continues to be very busy and recently provided great assistance in launching MEDA's updated webpage. The committee

shared recommendations for a major change in MEDA's by-laws and is working with the Nominating Committee to fill new board seats. Chris went all out during the MEDA UNConference and persuaded others to join MEDA.



Another project of the MEDA Membership Committee was to have a video room at the UNConference. Individuals were asked to provide testimonials and/or share success stories on the value of Montana's key economic development programs. Twenty-three people participated; Newfields provided the prize for a drawing which was won by Jen Kreiner.

Left: Chris Cerquone, Newfields, presents prize to Jen Kreiner, Sanders County Community Development.

Thanks to Guy Gregory, MCDC, for serving as our videographer.

- **Nominating Committee:** Tracy McIntyre, Chair. Tracy will soon be holding a Nominating Committee meeting to work with the Membership Committee to recommend new board members for MEDA.

## MEDA BOARD MAKES HISTORIC CHANGES



For the first time in its 25 year history, MEDA Board Members voted to change the by-laws regarding the number of permanent and rotating seats on the board. This decision will provide greater geographical representation of economic development across the state. In addition, with the board expansion at least three new rotating positions will need to be filled. [View the MEDA Board website](#) for progress to date.

## MEDA WORKING GROUPS UPDATE

- **MEDA RLF Working Group**– Tiffany Melby, Bear Paw Development, Chair. This group met September 18<sup>th</sup> and is taking on the task of exploring options for a potential statewide contract to provide loan management software. The next meeting will be December 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10am. [Notes from the call.](#)
- **MEDA Resource Team Assessment Working Group** – This group will meet October 18<sup>th</sup> at 9am to learn of updates and provide input on the new Montana Community Review process. [More info](#)

## TOOLS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Check out the information below to learn of new tools and opportunities for you as you work in the field of Economic Development.

- **NADO's 2018 Annual Training Conference**, *Investing in the Future of Regional Development*  
October 13 – 14 [Register today.](#)
- Maury's new book is out: [The Wit and Wisdom of an Economic Developer by Maury Forman](#)

### SMALL BUSINESS CERTIFICATIONS PLUS CONTRACTS WHAT DO THEY REALLY MEAN

<b>Dates &amp; Locations</b>		<b>Time 8:30 to 12:30</b>
<b>October 10th</b> Holiday Inn 1100 5th St S Great Falls	<b>October 23rd</b> Miles City Country Club S 4th & Eagle Miles City	<b>October 24th</b> 1st Interstate Op Center 1800 6th Ave N Billings
<b>October 25th</b> BW Gran Tree 1325 N 7th Bozeman	<b>October 31st</b> Holiday Inn 200 S Pattee Missoula	<b>November 1st</b> Red Lion Hotel 20 N Main St Kalispell
<b>November 7th</b> Wingate Hotel 2007 N Oakes Helena	<b>November 8th</b> Northwest Energy 11 E Park Butte	<b>November 15th</b> Sherman Inn 200 E Main St Wolf Point

[Small Business Certifications: Want more information?](#)

- **The Small Business Webinar Series: Crowdfunding Isn't Just Free Money** (but this webinar is free)  
Date: 10/4/2018 Time: 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (MDT) Registration Deadline: 10/4/2018 8:00 AM (MDT) Fee: No Fee [Sign Up](#)
- [CEDS Central](#) – a website for all things CEDS.

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- ⇒ Check out the updated website from **MSU Extension** and their great list of grants!  
<http://msucommunityresources.org/GrantOpportunities.html>

⇒ MEDA is a member of [GrantStation](#). Email [gloria](#) if you would like the username and password.

⇒ **Montana Department of Commerce Secures Federal Grant to Increase Montana Exports**

"International sales are a major part of Montana's economy, as exports last year hit a record \$1.6 billion," said Commerce Director Pam Haxby-Cote. "The STEP grant funds programs to help small businesses tap into the incredible potential for growth that exports can provide."



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