

## Online News for December 2016



Dec 2: BEAR Training in Bozeman 10am – 12:30pm  
 Dec 2: MEDA Professional Dev Training Call 1:30pm  
 Dec 7: MEDA Legislative Committee Call 7am  
 Dec 7: [EPIC Pitch Competition](#) - Missoula  
 Dec 7-8: Ft. Benton Resource Team  
 Dec 8: [Tribal Development Training](#)  
 Dec 11: [MTA California Chapter Event](#) – all welcome  
 Dec 12: [Legislative Preview](#) 11:30am – 1pm  
 Dec 14: MEDA Legislative Committee Call 7am  
 Dec 15 Resource Team Working Group 9am  
 Dec 21: MEDA Legislative Committee Call 7am  
 Dec 28: MEDA Legislative Committee Call 7am



Jan 2: [2017 Legislative Session Begins](#)  
 Jan 2-3: [Business Days at the Capitol](#)  
 Jan 4: MEDA Legislative Committee Call 7am  
 Jan 11: MEDA Legislative Committee Call 7am  
 Jan 12: Resource Team Working Group 9am  
 Jan 17 MEDA Day in the Rotunda  
 Jan 17: MEDA RLF Working Group 10am  
 Jan 18: MEDA Legislative Committee Call 7am  
 Jan 25: MEDA Legislative Committee Call 7am  
 Jan 25: MDOC/MEDA Opportunity Call 10:30am

[Key Economic Development Tools Report](#)

### MEDA ROTUNDA DAY

Join us in the Montana State Capitol Rotunda, on January 17<sup>th</sup>, as we showcase to Legislators the impact of key economic development programs, an interactive project map, and a slideshow of success stories. Please contact [Gloria](#) if you are interested in sponsoring the lunch and/or obtaining ½ table for a display. Space is limited!  
[Registration](#)

### OPPORTUNITY CALL

**Next one is January 25th, 10:30am**

Thanks to our partners at Montana Dept. of Commerce, MEDA Members have a great opportunity to learn of program updates and dig deeper into featured programs during each call. We are taking a break for December, but back at it in January. [Meeting notes.](#)



### MEDA WORKING GROUPS UPDATE

- **MEDA RLF Working Group**– If you work with Revolving Loan Funds you will want to participate in this working group as participants discuss, learn and share their day-to-day tasks with RLFs. The next meeting is set for January 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. [notes](#)
- **MEDA Resource Team Assessment Working Group** – This working group will meet again on December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 9am to continue to fine-tune Montana's Resource Team process. Learn more about MEDA's assessments [here](#).

### MEDA COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **MEDA Scholarship and Professional Development Committee** – This committee is meeting December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1:30pm, to discuss training needs for economic developers. Wouldn't it be fabulous for Montana to have its own Economic Development training course? Anyone is welcome to join the call.

- **MEDA Legislative Committee** –Rick Edwards, Chair, has been leading this committee to prepare for the fast approaching 2017 Legislative Session. All MEDA members are encouraged to reach out to their area legislators and inform them of the value of Montana’s key economic development tools and programs. Everyone is welcome to join the weekly 7am calls on Wednesday morning.

## MEDA RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENTS

- Seeley Lake – The Seeley Lake Team returned to this beautiful area for a second Town Hall Meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup> to identify projects, prioritize them and form working groups to accomplish the tasks.



Seeley Lake  
Prioritizing Town Meeting

- Fort Benton – This Resource Team is set for December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Team members include: Tracy McIntyre, Alyssa Townsend, Brian Obert, Craig Carlson, and Cheryl Ulmer. Bear Paw Development Corporation and Triangle Communications are working with local leadership to ensure a great community turnout.
- Pending: Philipsburg February 28 – March 1<sup>st</sup>. Team members are still needed – contact [Gloria](#) for more information. An assessment is also pending for Poplar, MT.

# BEAR

montana business expansion and retention

## Highlights for November 2016

### NEW OUTREACH VISITS IN November

Nine BEAR visits were entered in the BEAR database in November: Gallatin County – 6, Park County – 1, Lake County – 1, Carbon County – 1.

Outreach specialists included: Warren Vaughan, Katie Weaver, Marissa Hauge, Sue Taylor, Lynn Lagerquist, Kristopher Schock, Carol Cunningham, and John Winegart. Thank you for your hard work!

### BEAR TRAINING UPDATE

- The Hamilton JSEC met on November 15<sup>th</sup> and learned about the mechanics of BEAR. The importance of business expansion and retention outreach was discussed as well as the various BEAR models around the state.
- Bozeman Job Service has requested a BEAR training for the first week in December.

### IWT UPDATE

Chris Wilhelm shared that between 07/01/2016 and 11/10/2016: (Remember funding is a moving target between cancelled modified and paid applications releasing funding)

- \$306,496 has been allocated for the 1st two quarters
- \$420,560 has been requested
- \$301,140 has been awarded
- \$ 5,356 is available

- \$ 23,216 worth of applications on the wait list – next application is requesting \$14,000

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- [Check these out! New Community Friendly Grants](#) *Extension Community Resources Program weblink*. Thanks to David Young, Professor, Community Resource Specialist Extension Service & College of Nursing, MSU, for providing this information.
- **GRANTSTATION:** [Click here to read the entire newsletter](#) or click on the section headings for specific grant opportunities and important announcements. Email [MEDA](#) for the username and password.

## TOOLS FOR YOU –Opportunities to learn or share in your area of expertise

- The revised [Tribal Nations in Montana: A Handbook for Legislators](#) is now available. First published in 1995, the 2016 Handbook is a joint publication between the Montana Legislative Services Division and the Margery Hunter Brown Indian Law Clinic at the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana. The Handbook's original authors, the Montana Legislature's Committee on Indian Affairs, described the publication as primarily educational. The committee believed that "accurate information provides a strong foundation for mutual respect and mutually rewarding relationships between people with different traditions, beliefs, and world views who nevertheless share common rights of citizenship and common aspirations for the state as a whole." To receive a printed copy, please reply to this email and include your name and address, or call [406-444-9280](tel:406-444-9280).
- [Brownfields Training Course](#) - Intro Brownfields Finance WebCourse *Register Today!* The [CDFA Training Institute](#) will be hosting the [Intro Brownfields Finance WebCourse](#) on December 14-15, 2016.
- [A great Apprenticeship Toolkit](#) – Apprenticeships are not just for unions any more!