



Online News



July 2: [CyberSecurity Workshop](#)
July 8: MEDA Legislative Committee 10:30am
July 9: TSEP [Program Admin Workshop](#)
July 11: [SBDC Webinar: Basic Accounting](#)
July 16: [Reimagining the Rural West](#)
July 19-21: [RecCon Montana](#)
July 21-25: [PNWER Annual Summit](#)
July 30-Aug1: [NADC Procurement Conf](#)



Aug 2: Deadline for MEDA Award Aps
Aug 10: MEDA Scholarship Deadline
Aug 19-22: [Northwest Eco Devo Course](#)
Aug 26-29: [EDA Denver Regional Conference](#)

Save the date:

Sept 11 – 13: MEDA Fall Conference, Lewistown
[MNA Training Calendar](#)
[MMEC Training Calendar](#)
[MT Women's Biz Center](#)
[SBDC Training Calendar](#)

AWARDS! DEADLINE IS AUGUST 2ND.... SEND IN YOUR SUBMISSIONS



It is time to shine, MEDA! The MEDA Awards Committee looks forward to being buried with your [MEDA Innovation Awards](#) nominations. Kathie Bailey, Awards Chair, hopes to get at least one innovative project nomination from each economic development organization in Montana. In addition, it is time to honor one of our own with the [Anthony J. Preite Champion of Economic Development Award](#).

Here is the website that contains all the information: <http://www.medamembers.org/membership/awards>

MEDA BOARD UPDATE

The MEDA Board is planning a retreat July 15th – 16th to focus on several issues with the priority being: a strategy to identify the next generation of economic development tools for Montana.

MEDA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Why, oh why, would the MEDA Legislative Committee be meeting when the session closed in April? The

answer: Interim Studies. There are several interim studies legislators are undertaking and MEDA representatives will be at the table. If you would like to join the call it will take place July 8th, 10:30am.

MEDA MEMBERSHIP – What’s new?

Longtime MEDA Member, Anne Boothe, has retired from Triangle Communications and is now operating her own consulting business titled Rural Montana Freelance. Anne’s new email address is anneboother406@gmail.com; phone 406.390.2288

Welcome to a new member: Taylor McCabe. Taylor is with Island Mountain Development Group, in Billings.

Jim Davison attended his last board meeting on June 27th as the Executive Director for Anaconda Local Development Corporation. He served in this position for over 30 years. Jim is also the last of the “dirty dozen” who founded MEDA.



ALDC Board Members

MEDA WORKING GROUPS UPDATE

All partners, including MEDA Members and Non-Members, are welcome to join a Working Group.

- **MEDA i6 Challenge Grant Working Group** – This group met for the first time under the leadership of Ken Fichtler. Visit the [webpage](#) and read the [meeting summary](#).
- **MEDA RLF Working Group**– Tiffany Melby, Bear Paw Development, Chair. This group will meet in September and have a guest speaker regarding DownHome. [Notes from the call](#).
- **MEDA Opportunity Zone Working Group** - If you missed the MEDA Conference, here is the [O-zone presentation](#). A meeting is pending for this working group.
- **MEDA Remote Work Working Group** –The next meeting is pending. Review [the previous minutes here](#) and check out the interesting [Grow Remote](#) website.



If you have a community that is on the edge of making progress - but needs a little organization, encouragement, and resources boost - MEDA would love to work with you to make that happen via a **Montana Community Review**. For more information visit <https://www.communityreview.org/> and <http://www.medamembers.org/resources/community-reviews>



Poplar Phase 2 Community Review Team

MEDA SCHOLARSHIPS UPDATE –3rd Quarter Deadline August 10th

Plan ahead and apply for a Rick Jones Memorial Scholarship: [criteria and application](#).

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.

- The annual **Northwest Economic Development Course** is the premier event offering intensive training in the basic concepts, methods, and strategies of local economic development. A diverse and experienced faculty provides an excellent blend of theory and practice. Course content is oriented toward practical application. Practitioners new to the field as well as those with experience seeking new ideas and tools are encouraged to attend. August 19 – 22.

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

- **The Small Business Webinar Series: Basic Accounting for Successful Entrepreneurs**

Date: 7/11/2019 Time: 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (MDT)

Do you know to read your company's Balance Sheet? And more importantly, what it tells you and how you can use it to improve your business? Are you wondering why your cash has decreased but yet your reports show a profit? Or you have money in your bank but are showing a loss? In this month's webinar, [Certified Public Accountant Wendy Weissman](#) walks through the basics of accounting, and how the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Reports reflect the financial health of an organization.

This will help you manage your business more efficiently and more accurately because as they say if garbage goes in, garbage comes out. And if you're not managing the money and recording it correctly, the risk of failure goes up exponentially.

This training event will be presented online at: <http://www.msucommunitydevelopment.org/smallbusiness.html>



It is new! It is BIG! We are bringing together Montana's, outdoor retailers, manufacturers, overlanding enthusiasts, guide services, mountain bikers, fly shops, outfitters, summer and winter sports enthusiasts, non-profits, government agencies and public land owners from around the state and country to showcase the wide range of things you can do in the Great State of Montana.

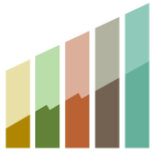
At RecCon Montana, guests will have the opportunity to participate in workshops facilitated by world class outdoor recreation professionals on a wide range of topics, intended to build skills and confidence as people head out to explore the front ranges and backcountry of Montana.

[Learn More](#)

- [New IRS Opportunity Zone Guidelines](#); [Implementation Plan](#); [Agency Partners](#)
- We invite you to join CEDAM & CDAD for our annual [Developing Vibrant Communities](#) conference August 22-23, 2019 in Detroit! The event is designed to inspire and equip practitioners and advocates with the **community economic development** and **financial empowerment strategies** needed to positively

transform their communities.

- May 2019 Economy at a Glance: **Where are the Workers?** Understanding Montana's Labor Force Participation Rate: Click here to View [Montana Economy at a Glance](#)



MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Montana has many business assistance tools [here](#).

⇒ **Treasure State Endowment Program Administration Workshop**

Staff with the Treasure State Endowment Program will be holding a grant administration workshop on **Tuesday, July 9, 2019 in Helena at 301 South Park (second floor, rooms 226-228)**, for projects awarded through House Bill 11 and House Bill 652 during the 2019 legislative process. [Full Information.](#)

⇒ **Registration is Open for *Economic Brilliance and Resilience*, EDA Denver 2019 Regional Conference**

Registration is open for *Economic Brilliance and Resilience*, an economic development conference for the EDA Denver region. The conference will be held from **August 26-29, 2019** at the **Grand Hyatt Hotel in Denver, Colorado**. [Click here](#) to register online.

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.
- ⇒ The **Montana Bioscience Cluster** is one of seven entities across the United states that the SBA selected to receive contract awards for innovation cluster development. This fund is designed for maximum flexibility in support of bioscience entrepreneurs. If you know of any bioscience companies in your communities who have infrastructure needs, workforce development needs, or have internship opportunities, please let us know (operations@mwtc.org). The MT Bioscience Cluster is ready to provide technical assistance, support, training, and mentoring. We are currently putting together internship programs for students and we also have some mini grants available from our "4th F Fund" for bioscience firms to apply for. Here is the link to the application: <https://montec.submittable.com/submit/140901/montana-bioscience-cluster-4th-f-fund-application>.
- ⇒ **USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program** – [new funding available!](#)