IEDC’s DISASTER RECOVERY & PREPAREDNESS WORK

March 26, 2015
Outline

- About IEDC
- Timeline
- IEDC’s Expertise and Work in Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery
  - Organizational Management & Capacity Building
  - Small Business Assistance
  - Economic Recovery Assessments
  - Implementing Recovery Strategies
  - Training in Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery
  - Policy Forums & Papers
  - Information Dissemination of Lessons Learned & Best Practices
  - RestoreYourEconomy.org
About IEDC
About IEDC

World's largest membership organization serving the ED profession with 4,600+ members

- Public state, regional, city and county EDOs
- Chambers of Commerce
- Small business development orgs.
- Technology development agencies
- Redevelopment authorities
- Educational Institutions & Non-profits
- Consultants
- Utility companies
About IEDC

Expertise & Services:
- Conferences and Networking
- Professional Development & Certification
- Advisory Services & Research
- Economic Development Journal, EDNow Newsletter
- Legislative Monitoring and Economic Recovery Zone
- Accredited Economic Development Organization program
Timeline
Timeline

- **Pre-2005**
  - Worked on various projects in post-disaster economic recovery

- **2005**
  - IEDC Statement on Gulf Recovery (September 2005)
  - Lessons from National Post-Disaster Response & Recovery, Presentation to Baton Rouge, LA (October 2005)
  - Gulf Coast Business Reinvestment Forum (November 2005)
  - Strategic Planning Retreat for Greater New Orleans Inc. (December 2005)
  - Volunteer program for post-Katrina (2005-2008)

- **2007**
  - Technical Assistance for San Diego Wildfires
  - Organizational Plan for a New PPP in New Orleans
Timeline

2008
- Technical assistance - Cedar Rapids, IA – Post-Flooding
- Technical Assistance to Galveston, Texas – Post-Hurricane Ike

2009
- Capacity Support for New Orleans Public Private Partnership (PPP) For Economic Development
- Building Resilient Economies Workshop – New Orleans, LA
- Lessons Learned in Small Business Recovery Workshop - Lowe Foundation

2010
- Improved Federal Response to Post-Disaster Economic Recovery Report
- Economic Recovery Assessments for Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill
Timeline

2011
- Launched RestoreYourEconomy.org (January 2011)
- Regional Marketing Plan for Stennis-Michoud Tech Corridor in Southeast Louisiana & Southwest Mississippi region
- Technical Assistance in Developing a Regional Tourism Strategy - Greater Galveston Region

2012
- Launched 2012 Webinar Series on Disaster Preparedness & Recovery
- Technical Assistance in Strengthening Operations for a New Business Incubator - Lake Charles, LA
- Technical Assistance in Entrepreneurship & Commercialization – Beaumont, TX
- Public Officials Seminar for Leading Economic Resilient Communities – Houston & Lake Charles
Timeline

2013

- 2013 Webinar Series on Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery
- Workshop on Developing an Entrepreneurship Eco-system – Beaumont, TX
- Workshop on Capital Access for Entrepreneurs – Lake Charles, LA
- Rebuilding the Tourism & Fisheries Industries After A Disaster Reports
- Technical Assistance in Post-Tornado Neighborhood Revitalization – Springfield, MA
- Federal Disaster Recovery Funding: Minimizing Roadblocks to Maximize Resources Report (Waivers Report)
Timeline

2014

- Workshop: Developing the EDGE Center for Entrepreneurship – Tuscaloosa, AL
- *Case Studies: Small Business Finance Following a Disaster*
- 2014 Webinar Series on Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery
- Technical Assistance in Improving Business Retention, Expansion, and Attraction in Town of Union, NY
- Train the Trainer Event in Business Continuity – New Bern, NC
- Launch of Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery Toolkit
- Train the Trainer Event in Business Continuity – Puerto Rico
- Disaster Preparedness Workshop in Greater Houston, TX
- Economic Development Assessment - El Paso County, Colorado
Timeline

2015

- Workshops and Technical Assistance in Wilmington, NC and Conway, SC - Strategies for Business Continuity in the Face of Disasters
- Technical Assistance in Cumberland County to assist in Developing a Tourism Economy and Economic Resilience
- Technical Assistance in Pawtucket, RI to Redevelop a Historic Downtown for Economic Resilience
- Economic Development Assessment for the Johnson City MSA, TN
- 2015 Webinar Series on Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery
Organizational Management & Capacity Building
Organizational Management & Capacity Building

IEDC Volunteer Program for Post-Katrina Economic Recovery in Gulf Coast (2005-2008)

- Funded by $400,000 in grants from the EDA

- Deployed economic development professionals to key regions of the 2005 hurricane Katrina impact zone

- Over a three year period, IEDC facilitated deployment of 150 volunteer technical assistance visits to Economic Development Organizations, Chambers of Commerce and Business Assistance Centers across the Gulf Coast of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas
Organizational Management & Capacity Building

IEDC Volunteer Program for Post-Katrina Economic Recovery in Gulf Coast (2005-2008)

- Volunteers contributed 850 days of service to distressed EDOs and their constituent businesses.

- Service highlights include:
  - Consultations on economic development best practices,
  - Organizational assessments and strategic planning,
  - Organizational mentoring and capacity building,
  - Grant-writing and resource development assistance,
  - Disaster preparedness counseling.
  - And small business recovery counseling.
“From the very early, dark days of recovery from Hurricane Katrina, IEDC was on the ground with a network of economic development experts who were strategically deployed throughout the Gulf Coast to respond to the specific needs of communities and economic development organizations in the New Orleans area. As a result of its work, IEDC has emerged as a national resource in disaster response, management and resiliency.

The New Orleans metropolitan area has emerged as one of the most exciting stories of economic transformation and resiliency in this country. The economic development community along the Gulf Coast will always remember IEDC for its compassion, support and important role in rebuilding the economic infrastructure and capacity of the region.”

Barbara Johnson
Former Chief Operating Officer, Greater New Orleans (GNO), Inc.
New Orleans, LA
Organizational Capacity Building

IEDC received an EDA grant in August 2008 to provide the following support:

- Capacity building support for a new public private partnership (PPP) for economic development in New Orleans, LA.
  
  - Result: The New Orleans Business Alliance, a 501c3 organization was established in 2011 to provide the city with critical economic development functions and support.

- Technical assistance services to support regional marketing and encourage greater economic collaboration in Greater New Orleans.
  
  - Result: IEDC published a “A Marketing Plan for the Stennis-Michoud Technology Corridor” which is being used today by local economic development officials within the region.

- Deliver several forums on disaster preparedness and economic recovery topics.
  
  - Result: IEDC held a one day workshop with 200 attendees on how to effectively use disaster recovery and ARRA funds
In post-Katrina New Orleans, the Horizon Initiative gathered together those impassioned business and civic leaders who remained after the storm, to ignite a movement behind the formation of an economic development public-private partnership, to help guide our city out of turmoil and into long-term prosperity. The IEDC was there with us, side-by-side, in the trenches, providing insight and a viable best-practices framework upon which we could build and sell the concept of the New Orleans Business Alliance to stakeholders in the public and private sectors.

New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu embraced the public-private partnership for economic development when he came into office, and, today, eight and a half years after Hurricane Katrina, under the leadership of NOLA Business Alliance CEO, Rod Miller, New Orleans has been named "Americas New Frontier for Business Opportunity" by Forbes magazine, and "the #1 Growing Metro Area for Employment" by the Brookings Institution. I feel certain that, without Jeff Finkle and the IEDC, the NOLA Business Alliance would never have been created.

Pamela Senatore
Former Vice President of the Horizon Initiative
New Orleans, LA
Organizational Capacity Building

- IEDC provided organizational support to New PPP in New Orleans through best practice research and administrative support
  - Provided examples of job postings for senior positions
  - Provided salary information
  - Reviewed and processed job applicants for CEO & President of New PPP
  - Provided best practice research on strategic planning for economic recovery
  - Best practice info in non-traditional incentives
  - Trends in FDI & Business Attraction
Organizational Capacity Building

IEDC provided organizational support to New PPP through best practice research and administrative support cont.

- How to form a 501c3 foundation for economic development
- Reviewed process with community stakeholders on how to establish and strengthen a PPP
- Provided advice on city’s policy on tax-increment financing (TIF)
- Reviewed documents for 501c3 application
- How to develop a conflict of interest statement for board members
- Provided administrative support for review of board members
“New Orleans needed thoughtful guidance and support in establishing the first public private partnership for economic development in the City’s history. The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) worked alongside local leaders from day one, providing professional insight and expertise. In just three short years, the New Orleans Business Alliance has become a high performing EDO, leading the charge to implement ProsperityNOLA, a strategic plan that is guiding our transformative economic agenda over the next five years.

The success of the new New Orleans cannot be celebrated without recognizing the responsive and pointed assistance we received from our great partners at the International Economic Development Council.”

Rodrick T. Miller
President & CEO of The New Orleans Business Alliance
New Orleans, LA
Small Business Assistance Following a Disaster
Case Studies on Post-Disaster Small Business Finance Programs (2014)

- Briefing highlights six case studies of how American communities have utilized public, private, and a mix of public and private funding to aid small businesses to return to operations and thrive following a disaster
- Downloaded 2,500+ times
Small Business Assistance Following a Disaster

- Highlights the challenges that businesses, particularly small businesses face in their local community following a major disaster;
- Identifies capacity, resource and regulator constraints imposed on local communities after a disaster;
- Presents a series of recommendations on how federal partners could better assist communities in their recovery effort.
- The report was funded by a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).
“When Hurricane Katrina hit, IEDC was one of the most responsive resources we had as a Chamber of Commerce. When we opened the first business assistance center on the Mississippi Coast, they were there with us every step of the way, supporting, encouraging and offering the best technical assistance found anywhere in the country through their experienced members and staff.

Much of what IEDC volunteers recommended for economic development recovery has now been put in place. They were there as a think tank to help us through the nation’s worst natural disaster. We will be forever grateful to IEDC and all of the volunteers and federal agencies who came to help and gave us so much hope. Together, they made a lasting impact on our community and our business recovery.”

Tish H. Williams, Executive Director
Hancock Chamber of Commerce & Community Development Foundation
Mississippi
Small Business Assistance Following a Disaster

- Free Webinars: Emergency Bridge Loan Program, Establishing an RLF, Effective Delivery of Small Business Assistance

  - IEDC conducted an interactive workshop on small business financing strategies for economic recovery
  - Focused on setting up a revolving loan fund and using CDBG-DR grants to support small businesses
“As a hurricane impacted community (Ike 2008), Galveston has worked tirelessly to respond, rebuild and recover. Along this path, the Horizon Oil Spill of 2010 created an additional event that impacted Galveston on its road to recovery. Throughout this journey, the Galveston Economic Development Partnership (GEDP) has received the benefit of support, encouragement and technical assistance from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

According to the President of the GEDP, Jeffrey Sjostrom, “Galveston’s economic recovery was enhanced as a result of the IEDC’s leadership in providing guidance and professional technical assistance during our time of greatest need. The IEDC responded to our needs of having meaningful feedback in efforts focused on rebuilding our community and connecting us through their network of other communities that experienced similar events and what their lessons learned were that could be applied in our community.”

Jeffrey Sjostrom
President, Galveston Economic Development Partnership
Galveston, TX
Economic Recovery Assessment Immediately Following a Disaster
Economic Recovery Assessment

- Economic Development Assessment - El Paso County, Colorado (2014)
  - Formed an Economic Development Assessment with Team NOVACES, LLC.
  - Undertook a four-month study and met with public and private sector officials of the region to discuss their economic recovery efforts and key challenges.
  - Highlighted recommendations include strategies for bolstering tourism and encouraging entrepreneurship
Economic Recovery Assessment

Northeast & Southeast EDA Regions Needs Assessments for Fiscal Year 2011 Disasters

- develop a deeper understanding of southeastern and northeastern communities’ and regions’ needs related to post-disaster economic recovery
- Based on:
  - A review of federal and other national data sets;
  - An electronic scan distributed to the Team’s member networks;
  - Outreach to communities and regions to conduct personal interviews.
Economic Recovery Assessment

NE Grant Area With Property Damage and SBA Apps Issued Per County for Fiscal Year 2011

Sources:

Business Assistance Applications for Fiscal Year 2011. U.S. Small Business Administration, Department of Commerce.
Economic Recovery Assessment

Per Capita Estimates: Total Damage + SBA Applications Issued

Damage Per Capita
- 0 - $810
- $810 - $4,500
- $4,500 - $12,300
- $12,300 - $39,400
- $39,400 - $94,000

SBA Apps Per Capita
- 0.000 - 0.007
- 0.007 - 0.020
- 0.020 - 0.044
- 0.044 - 0.091
- 0.091 - 0.241

International Economic Development Council

Economic Recovery Assessment

Economic Recovery Assessments for Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill (Summer 2010)

- IEDC worked closely with National Incident Command’s Economic Solutions Team (NIC-EST)
- Partnership Between IEDC, NADO and US Chamber of Commerce’s BCLC
- Assisted 21 counties in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida
- Teams comprised of federal agency representatives, economic development organizations and experts in economic recovery
- Spent one week in each county and met with 50 to 70 local stakeholders
- Provided observations and preliminary feedback and presented a report
Economic Recovery Assessment

  - Retained by US Chamber of Commerce’s Business Civic Leadership Center to assist in economic recovery post-floods
  - Addressed the recovery needs or gaps and who can fill the gaps (corporate citizens, federal government, etc.)
  - Provided specific recovery recommendations.
Economic Recovery Assessment

  - Addresses the storm’s impact on the local economy
  - Includes specific recommendations on:
    - Small business recovery;
    - Business retention and expansion;
    - Economic impacts;
    - Workforce;
    - The city’s leadership role;
    - The downtown district;
    - Strategic planning;
    - Communications strategy;
    - Emergency management planning;
    - Organizational issues;
Economic Recovery Assessment

- 2007 California Wildfires Economic Recovery Recommendations
  - In cooperation with the US Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center
  - Performed an Assessment of Economic & Business Recovery
  - Evaluated the nature and scale of damage
  - Identified critical needs
  - Consulted on next steps
“Over the course of the past eight years, IEDC has emerged as one of the top organizations you want to have on your side when recovering economically from a disaster. Not only do they deploy experts who have a lot of experience with past disasters, but they bring fresh insights and continuously improving methodologies to every new project they take on. I definitely count on them as a strategic ally.”

Stephen Jordan
Partner, IO Sustainability
Washington, DC
Implementing Recovery Strategies
Implementing Recovery Strategies

   - Technical assistance to provide specific recommendations on how to improve the Town’s BRE and attraction efforts to ensure resiliency for future disasters.

   - Workshop convened the city, university, and chamber of commerce to discuss goals, roles and strategies around the development of a new facility for the EDGE Center for Entrepreneurship
   - Provided information on best practices in business incubation and key factors and strategies for consideration
Implementing Recovery Strategies

- Neighborhood Revitalization in Springfield, MA (2014)
  - Technical assistance to city of Springfield for neighborhood revitalization of two neighborhoods that experienced an EF-3 tornado in 2011.
  - Provided recommendations and case studies on how to revitalize the neighborhood. The focus of the assistance was on how to implement strategies that have been previously identified.
  - Recommendations included:
    - Community planning & engagement
    - Redevelopment initiatives
    - Financing for neighborhood redevelopment
    - Town/gown relations and cooperation
    - Removing blight
    - Public safety
Implementing Recovery Strategies

- Developing a Regional Tourism Strategy for Greater Galveston Region (2010) (Hurricane Ike)
  - Tourism recovery strategy for four counties in TX.
  - Recommends key opportunities, challenges, and action steps.

  - Complete analysis of the region’s observed entrepreneurship strengths and challenges.
  - Provides a comprehensive set of recommendations for the Commercialization Center and the Beaumont region.
Implementing Recovery Strategies

1. Rebuilding the Fisheries Industry Following a Disaster (2013) (Hurricane Ike)
   - A web page of resources and links for rebuilding the industry.
   - Outlines ten challenges faced during recovery.
   - Provides fifteen strategies to rebuild a stronger thriving fisheries industry.
“The IEDC, its staff as well as their economic development and financial volunteers from across the country, were critical components in Jefferson Parish’s rapid recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. IEDC’s professional individual counseling to so many small businesses devastated by the storm, was instrumental in JEDCO’s business recovery efforts. As a direct result of IEDC’s assistance, JEDCO was able to respond to all business owners who asked us for help during a very chaotic time. JEDCO and Jefferson Parish owe a great deal of gratitude to IEDC for their expert technical assistance and prolonged commitment to our community’s economic well-being.”

Jerry Bologna, CEcD
Executive Director, Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission
New Orleans, LA
Training in Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery
Training in Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery

Building a Stronger Entrepreneurship Ecosystem - Beaumont, TX (2013) (Hurricane Ike)

Two sessions within this workshop:

- Connecting to Capital
  - For entrepreneurs and small business support organizations.
  - Provided strategies for building organizational capacity to connect entrepreneurs to capital.
- Organizational Management and Finance for Business Incubators
  - provided practical strategies and best-practice case information for building sustainability in the operations and financial structure of a university-based business incubator.

- Interactive workshop for small business support organizations, funders, and entrepreneurs.
- Provided practical strategies and best-practice case information for connecting entrepreneurs at all stages, from start-ups to long-established companies seeking opportunities for growth, to public and private sources of capital.
Seminar- Leading Economically Resilient Communities: What Public Officials Need to Prioritize Before & After a Major Economic Disruption (2012) (Hurricane Ike)

- Held in Houston, TX and Lake Charles, LA
- Focused on how public officials can support critical economic preparedness and recovery activities within their community to protect key economic assets and encourage resiliency among local businesses in the event of a major disaster.
Training in Disaster Preparedness & Economic Recovery

- Lessons from National Post-Disaster Response & Recovery, Presentation to Baton Rouge, LA (October 2005) (Hurricane Katrina)
  - Provided overview of Katrina and comparison to other hurricanes
  - Provided example of disaster recovery efforts and strategies from three major disasters
  - Outlined optimal recovery strategies for economic recovery
“IEDC assembled an outstanding and experienced peer review team to advise us as flood waters receded. The assistance was timely, incredibly helpful, and made a significant difference in our disaster recovery.”

Allen Merta
Former Vice President, Priority One
Cedar Rapids, IA
Policy Forums & Papers
Policy Forums & Papers


- Guidance on which federal agencies assist communities and states in economic recovery
- An overview of how federal disaster recovery funding works
- Information on how to navigate the requirements of different federal disaster recovery funding programs
- Guidance on obtaining waivers of specific funding requirements
Recreating Destinations: Rebuilding the Tourism Industry after Disaster (2013) (Hurricane Ike)

- Guide for economic development practitioners in the recovery of the local tourism industry after a disaster.
- Highlights key partners in the preparedness and post-disaster economic recovery stages, specifically for the tourism industry.
- Provides an overview of strategies to implement during the immediate and short-term recovery stages.
- Outlines long-term strategies to aid in rebuilding a stronger, more vibrant tourism industry.
Policy Forums & Papers

Lessons Learned on Small Business Recovery Workshop – Cassopolis, MI (December 2009)

IEDC, NADO and BCLC convened a group of 27 economic recovery stakeholders to discuss the subject of post-disaster economic recovery

- Identified 20 recommendations for improving the federal response and assistance to disaster-impacted communities for the economic recovery process
- From this workshop, developed the report “Improved Federal Response to Post-Disaster Economic Recovery”
The Gulf Coast Business Reinvestment Forum (November 2005)

IEDC, with the US Chamber of Commerce, convened 130 economic development, business and policy leaders into focus groups.

Forum facilitated regional networking and pooled experiences to develop strategic recommendations on:

- Enhancing region’s position on the federal legislative agenda
- Infrastructure priorities
- Workforce development
- Financial tools for large and small businesses
- Image building and crafting a regional media message
“Jeff Finkle, his team, and the IEDC network were critical first responders to the New Orleans community to help the business community set priorities, review best practices, provide ‘experts’ as advisors, and act as a neutral broker/advisor when our community was in total disarray in the aftermath of Katrina. Critical resources from SBA, EDA and other economic development organizations were laser directed to New Orleans’ leaders through IEDC. New Orleans is forever grateful for their support, leadership and vision.”

Ben Johnson
President & CEO, New Orleans Chamber of Commerce
New Orleans, LA
Information Dissemination of Lessons Learned & Best Practices
Information Dissemination of Lessons Learned & Best Practices

Disseminate Lessons Learned & Best Practices – What We Do

- Sessions at IEDC Conferences
- Free webinars
- ½, one, and two day long workshops to convene economic recovery practitioners and public officials
- Case Study Research on over 20 Communities
- Maintain RestoreYourEconomy.org, a portal of disaster preparedness and economic recovery resources
Developed models and best practice info on:

- How EDOs and Chambers can better prepare
- Post-disaster strategic planning
- Policies & actions for improving federal programs for disaster recovery
- How to build a business recovery center
- Identified critical recovery efforts for small business assistance
- How to navigate federal programs & request waivers
- Community branding following a crisis
“The International Economic Development Council has a well tested and proven track record of accessing a wealth of talent and expertise both among its more than 4,300 economic development professionals and its staff to respond to all forms of disasters. [They help] assist individual communities and regions build back better and stronger than before a disaster through on the ground economic development, technical assistance, and business service support, working with local governments and EDOs in assessing needs, identifying resources, and preparing long term community recovery strategies.”

John Zakian, CEcD
IEDC Volunteer & Senior Advisor from Hagerty Consulting
New Bedford, MA
Provide economic development professionals with practical guidance and info to assist in disaster preparedness and post-disaster economic recovery

Serves as a one-stop shop for:
- Best practice information
- Reports/publications
- Case studies
- Tools
- Event announcements
RYE saw over 167,464 visitors in 2013 and 2014
  o With over 505,491 pages of website viewed
  o From over 180 countries and territories
Well linked to as a resource
  o Over 1,000 links connect to the website
Features over 100 free webinars, reports, publications, and presentations available for download
2015 Disaster Recovery Webinars

- February - Diversifying Your Economy Post-Disaster – Identifying Emerging Industries
- April - Bolstering Workforce – Adapting to Changing Economic Landscapes
- June - Strategies to Retain Businesses After a Crisis
- July - Keeping the Lights On: Energy Planning and Recovery tools
- August - Developing an Entrepreneurship Ecosystem for Resiliency
- October - Identifying Economic Recovery Priorities
2014 Disaster Recovery Webinars

- January - Lessons from the Field: Small Business Recovery Strategies After a Disaster
- February - Preparing for the Unexpected: Is Your Organization Ready?
- March - Establishing a 501c3 for Economic Development and Recovery
- April - Long-Term Recovery: Addressing Business Failures in Years 2-5
- May - Asset Mapping and Data Collection Before a Crisis
- July - Addressing Blight in Disaster-Impacted Neighborhoods
2014 Disaster Recovery Webinars

- August - Fundraising Strategies for Economic Transformation
- August: Creating Successful Partnerships with the Private Sector
- September - Navigating Federal Resources for Long-Term Recovery in Rural Communities
- November - How to Write a Winning Grant Application
- December - ‘Open for Business’: Crisis Communication
- December: Using Business Retention and Expansion to Mitigate the Effects of Disaster
2013 Disaster Recovery Webinars

- January – Financing Critical Infrastructure and Redevelopment Projects
- March – Developing a Post-Disaster Economic Recovery Plan
- April – How to Prepare for the Next Major Economic Disruption
- May – Building Organizational Capacity for Disaster Recovery in Small Communities and Rural Places
- August - Establishing a Small Business Emergency Loan Fund Program after a Disaster Webinar
- September - Effective Communication Methods Before and After a Disaster
- October - How to Successfully Collaborate with Federal Partners in Disaster Recovery
- November - Developing Workforce Training Programs
2012 Disaster Recovery Webinars

- May – Entrepreneurship for Post-Disaster Economic Recovery
- July – Strategies to Spur Disaster Recovery in Rural Communities
- September – Financing Tools for Retention of Small & Medium-Sized Businesses After a Disaster
- October – Initiatives to Protect Community Assets From Disaster
- November – Prioritizing Economic Recovery Actions Following a Major Disaster
- December – How to Engage Local Businesses in Critical Disaster Preparation Activities
“As an organization that has worked with IEDC’s disaster recovery group, I was most impressed by their willingness to assist us as we dealt with record flooding in communities throughout Alberta in the summer of 2013. They immediately provided us with advice, resources and support as we developed our Economic Disaster Recovery Project.

I know that without their support, we would not have been able to respond in such a quick, targeted and impactful way. No doubt, this type of support will be more and more important as more communities are forced to deal with economic disruptions whether they be natural or manmade disasters in the future. Thank you IEDC for the visionary work you are doing in this regard.”

Leann Hackman-Carty,
CEO, Economic Developers Alberta
Canada