

Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce and the Tri-Lakes Economic Development Corporation; Announce Strategic Partnership

Monument, Colo. - June 23, 2016 – – Today, the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce and the Tri-Lakes Economic Development Corporation (EDC) are pleased to announce their agreement to form a strategic partnership to incorporate and manage the EDC's operations through the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber and the EDC have worked together to promote the business and economic development of the Tri-Lakes area for several years. This formal partnership will create an increased capacity and efficiency to support Tri-Lakes businesses, recruit new businesses, and retain existing businesses by consolidating and combining resources and management. The boards of directors for both organizations voted unanimously to approve the formal strategic partnership. The agencies will operate from the Tri Lake Chamber's office located at 166 2nd St, Monument, CO 80132.

Through this initiative, the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce and the EDC will be better equipped to focus on their collective missions to increase economic development in the Tri-Lakes area, including job attraction, job growth, local industry and business retention, capital investment, and community development for the Tri-Lakes area. While the EDC and the Chamber will maintain their separate functions and missions, this consolidation of resources and management will enable both to perform their functions and missions more efficiently.

Leadership, however, will remain the same. "Combining the resources and management of the organizations means, on the EDC side, a more effective atmosphere for economic development projects, initiatives and service within our region," said Terri Hayes, who assumes the new title of President and CEO of the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, which includes oversight and management of the EDC. "The Chamber, as it has grown and become known as a proponent of all businesses in the region, large and small, will remain its vibrant self. Overall, we are thrilled to increase our capacity to serve the Tri-Lakes region businesses and community well into the future."

"Bringing the two groups together will enable both agencies to pool their resources to better serve the needs of businesses in the Tri-Lakes region," said Danette Lilja, former Board Chair of the EDC. Going forward, Mrs. Lilja will hold the hold the new position of Chair of EDC Advisory Committee within the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce. "I am energized by this announcement and look forward to our increased capacity to serve our neighbors and grow the Tri-Lakes business community into a model of continued success that our entire state can be proud of."

About Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce:

The Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce provides leadership to support, improve, and promote existing and new business. We do this by providing services, information and programs that enable our member businesses to be successful. We achieve this through shared resources such as networking, communication, small business development, demographic information, providing seminars and training.

In an effort to maintain the quality of life in the Tri-Lakes area, the Tri-Lakes Chamber is involved with, and plans events within the community that celebrate the character of the Tri-Lakes area and enhance the quality of life of its members and residents.

We strive to represent the members of the Chamber and the Tri-Lakes community regarding local affairs, government and education interests by being a point of contact for each of the areas in which communication regarding issues, discussions and representation can occur. Several hundred businesses serve our growing region of over 35,000 residents. The small town ambiance and historic flavor of Palmer Lake and Monument are the very best "getaways" for shopping, relaxation, exploring, hiking and biking in our region. <http://www.trilakeschamber.com/home.htm>

About Tri-Lakes EDC:

Tri Lakes EDC serves as a liaison between local and regional stakeholders to help current primary employers expand their presence within the region. Working with local and regional stakeholders to identify, recruit and help relocate new primary employer businesses to the area. Creating and fostering relationships between local and regional stakeholders through annual outreach programs and community events. <http://trilakesedc.com/>