



Colorado Workforce  
Development Council

**CWDC**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**WINTER 2014**

# 2013: What a Year!



Thanks to all of you and your continued support and engagement, 2013 was an outstanding year for the Colorado Workforce Development Council! We accomplished so much together. Here are just a few highlights from the end of the year.

***We are excited for what's to come in 2014!***



## Engagement from Newly Appointed State Legislators to the Colorado Workforce Development Council

Representative Brian DelGrosso and Representative Crisanta Duran were recently appointed to serve on the Colorado Workforce Development Council by the Speaker of the House. Both attended the entire in-person meeting in Fort Collins, and were very interested in the work that the Council is doing and how they can be more engaged and involved in supporting industry partnerships that inform the development of career pathways. Thank you to both Rep. Duran and Rep. DelGrosso!

## Appointment of Representative of Community-Based Organization Serving Veterans

In October, Governor Hickenlooper appointed Annie Davies, Director of Communications & Development for Rocky Mountain Human Services, to serve as a representative of a community-based organization serving veterans on the Colorado Workforce Development Council.

**Welcome aboard Annie!**

## Colorado Workforce Development Council In-Person Meeting

*On October 17-18, the Colorado Workforce Development Council held an in-person meeting in Fort Collins, which was attended by business Council members from across the state, as well as other state and local partners.*

The meeting was held at the Rocky Mountain Innosphere and included approval of the updated CWDC Strategic Plan; work sessions on industry partnerships, education and training, and advocacy; a panel on STEM initiatives, with panelists representing industry, K-12 education, higher education, and the Governor's STEM Roadmap; a presentation from the Larimer County Workforce Investment Board on its initiatives; a presentation from Mrs. Colorado on women in the workforce; and a panel of state legislators to discuss upcoming legislative session. The Council also toured the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery and New Belgium Brewery. Feedback on the meeting from Council members was very positive; they found it interesting, engaging and valuable to their roles in their communities and as members of the Council. Thank you to our partners in Fort Collins and Larimer County for being AWESOME hosts!

[Click here to view the meeting summary](#)

## Coordination of Manufacturing Career Pathways Initiatives

The Colorado Workforce Development Council has been working closely to align the efforts of House Bill 1165 to create a manufacturing career pathway for Colorado with the efforts of the \$25 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant award from the U.S. Department of Education to the Colorado Community College System for the Colorado Helps Advanced Manufacturing Program (CHAMP). In particular, the work has focused on: 1) aligning industry engagement strategies across these two efforts through sector partnerships, and 2) ensuring alignment with Colorado's broader career pathway work, and creating a template so that the work is replicable in other industries.

## Governor's STEM Action Plan

CWDC's partnership with the Colorado Legacy Foundation to lead the development and implementation of the Governor's STEM Action Plan is moving forward at record pace. Alignment of this effort into the broader career pathways work and with other education and training initiatives is a key focus of CWDC's Education and Training Committee. It is rewarding to see the work of all of our partners coming together. If you know of STEM (or STEAM) initiatives that should be included in this plan please contact us.



CWDC Executive Committee, staff, and Senator Linda Newell touring the Union Station redevelopment project. Thank you to Jay Hardy and McWhinney for hosting us!

## CWDC Executive Committee Discusses 2014 Legislative Agenda

Senator Linda Newell joined the CWDC Executive Committee at their November meeting, which focused on the upcoming legislative session. There is a great deal of interest in workforce development this session. The success of establishing occupation-specific career pathways and industry-specific regional sector partnerships in implementing the Colorado Blueprint and the CWDC Strategic Plan have laid the foundation for meaningful workforce development to meet business' needs for skilled talent. The CWDC is working with all partners and legislators to align new initiatives with this foundation and to encourage support of existing opportunities. For more information, please email us.

## Back by Popular Demand...



Leveraging Colorado's Sector Partnerships to ensure industry-driven talent development.

In order to prepare Coloradans for the jobs of today and tomorrow, the Sectors Summit II will focus on:

1. Continuing to grow and expand sector partnerships across Colorado.
2. Utilizing sector partnerships as the vehicle to develop industry-driven career pathways in Colorado.

For workforce, education, industry, and economic development professionals, as well as any partners focused on the talent needs of a particular industry. This includes anyone involved in or wanting to be involved in a regional sector partnership or career pathway development.

**Date: May 20-21, 2014 (Tuesday/Wednesday)**

**Location: TBD (Denver Metro Area)**

Hosted by the Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC)

In partnership with: Colorado Community College System (CCCS),

Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE),

Colorado Department of Education (CDE),

Colorado Department of Labor & Employment (CDLE),

Colorado Legacy Foundation (CLF)

Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade (OEDIT)

### **What are Sector Partnerships?**

Industry specific regional partnerships, led by business in partnership with economic development, education, and workforce development.

### **What are Career Pathways?**

A Career Pathway is a series of connected education and training programs, work experiences, and student support services that enable individuals to secure a job or advance in a demand industry or occupation.

Look for Registration in February 2014. Visit [www.sectorssummit.com](http://www.sectorssummit.com) for more information.

Visit the CWDC website at [www.colorado.gov/cdle/cwdc](http://www.colorado.gov/cdle/cwdc) for more information.

Send questions, comments, or ideas for future newsletters to [cwdc@state.co.us](mailto:cwdc@state.co.us).



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