

# MAIN STREET MONTANA PROJECT

A BUSINESS PLAN *For Montana by Montanans*

## State Workforce Innovation Board

Sector Strategies Committee

Main Street Montana Project  
Highlights

Pillar One: Train & Educate  
Tomorrow's Workforce Today

Mary Craigle



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## A Brief Overview

### The Montana Main Street Project

- ❑ Initial plan built on 5 Pillars
- ❑ Tasks were assigned to State Agencies either in lead or support roles
- ❑ Key Industry Networks (KIN) were formed establishing a private-partnership to drive Montana's economy forward



Technology and Innovation KIN

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## Where are We Now?

Have over 130 accomplishments on the 22 Pillar One Tasks

Eight KIN groups are wrapping up their work and making recommendations to the Governor

The Governor's Peer-to-Peer Workforce Symposium is Oct 11-12 in Bozmean



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## **A Few Highlights and Results from Pillar 1 – Agency Activities Train and Educate Tomorrow’s Workforce Today**

### **Hiring of Coordinator**

In July, Dr. Kirk Lacy was hired as the Workforce Policy Director. Co-funded by the MT University System and the Department of Labor and Industry, Kirk’s charge is to align efforts in educating and training tomorrow’s workers. We believe this is the only such position in the country.

### **Over \$40 million in Workforce Training Dollars**

- RevUp grant funded for \$25 Million from US Department of Labor for manufacturing and energy industrial workforce development.
- MT HealthCare Project funded for \$15 Million from US Department of Labor for healthcare workforce development.

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## A Few Highlights and Results from Pillar 1 – Agency Activities Train and Educate Tomorrow's Workforce Today

### **More and Improved College Credits, Certificate and Degree Programs**

- 2014-2015 had 4,074 students from 107 different high schools were dual-enrolled and completed over 14,000 credits hours. The number of students was an increase of over 800 students from the previous year.
- Across the MT University System, campuses are working in partnership with businesses to develop new certificate and degree programs particularly in information technology allowing a more nimble response to a rapidly changing industry.
- A number of programs have been shortened to reduce the time-to-degree. A critical need being addressed is to increase available healthcare workers without diminishing the programs. The board of nursing, the state, and educators have come together to streamline the CAN, LPN and RNA degree programs – creating distinct programs allowing students to work at any level but still have a clear pathway to the more extensive degree.

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## **A Few Highlights and Results from Pillar 1 – Agency Activities Train and Educate Tomorrow’s Workforce Today**

### **Over 1,000 Apprenticeship Programs**

Hundreds of additional Montana students are now entering apprenticeship and dual enrollment programs. Currently there are over 1,000 registered apprentices working in MT in 50 occupational fields including areas not commonly known for apprenticeships such as IT, healthcare, and research.

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GOVERNOR BULLOCK PRESENTS

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### PEER-TO-PEER SYMPOSIUM SERIES

WORKFORCE + INNOVATION + MARKETING MONTANA

FIRST EVENT OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup> & 12<sup>TH</sup> | BOZEMAN, MONTANA

- Peer-to-Peer Conversations (not just listening to a bunch of out-of-state speakers)
- Facilitated by National Expert on Sector Strategy Work – Lindsey Woolsey
- MT Business Leaders presenting challenges and the solutions that worked in 4 areas:
  - Working with Millennials
  - Training & Apprenticeships
  - Workforce Pipeline
  - Recruiting and Retention

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## KIN Member Workforce Action Items

- All KINS are working on Career Awareness and Pathways for their industry sectors
- KINS are working with the state on new specialized sector training programs such as the electrical lineman and aeronautic welding training and cybersecurity certification
- Along with specific needs, the KISNS are working to encourage STEM and soft skill training, find seasonal workers, recruit highly skilled managers and workers, and find solutions to looming workforce shortage issues particularly in rural areas of the state

