



**Governor's Office of  
Economic Development**

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State of Utah

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**News Release**  
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**GOED announces program re-alignments to accommodate expanded responsibilities**

*STEM Action Center, Outdoor Recreation Office and Economic Cluster Programs will experience staffing adjustments and integration into the state economic development office*

**Salt Lake City** – The Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) received new responsibilities following the recently completed legislative session. Under GOED's direction two new program offices and expanded responsibilities will be established at the economic development agency.

When Spencer Eccles, executive director of GOED announced the changes he noted that they will allow the state economic development office to better focus on the key demands in growing our economy in the coming years.

The new STEM Action Center will be established in GOED to help with the state focus on Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) programs in Utah. The new office is going to be announcing a new director in the coming weeks.

GOED will see a new Outdoor Recreation Office established in the agency. The new office was mandated and funded by the legislature in the recently completed session. The new office will require the re-alignment of the current outdoor products and recreation cluster position. While the new office in GOED is being established, each of the other strategic industry cluster offices in GOED are being adjusted to meet their new responsibilities. Aerospace & Defense clusters have been combined, the Life Science and IT cluster offices will see new director's added in the coming months.

Vincent Mikolay will continue to oversee the strategic economic clusters and the International Trade and Diplomacy Office (ITDO) and State Science Advisor, which will have a new director announced in the near future. He will also oversee the Broadband program and activities related to Business Resource Centers (BRC). The newly created

## **AGENDA ITEM # IV. (Continued)**

Outdoor Recreation Office and the STEM Action Center will also fall under Mr. Mikolay's purview.

Christopher Conabee will continue to oversee Corporate Recruitment and Incentives, Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC), and the Private Activity Bond (PAB) authority. Mr. Conabee will also take on the responsibility of overseeing the Rural Development Office which will also see a realignment and enhancement of the rural service programs.

Specific staffing changes will be announced as the interview process for each position is completed, which the agency expects will take a number of weeks.

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### **About the Governor's Office of Economic Development**

**Web:** [www.business.utah.gov](http://www.business.utah.gov)

The Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) charter is based on Governor Gary Herbert's commitment to economic development statewide. Utah's economic development vision is that Utah will lead the nation as the best performing economy and be recognized as a premier global business destination. The mandate for this office is to provide rich business resources for the creation, growth and recruitment of companies to Utah and to increase tourism and film production in the state. GOED About the Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) accomplishes this mission through the administration of programs that are based around targeted industries or "economic clusters" that demonstrate the best potential for development. GOED utilizes state resources and private sector contracts to fulfill its mission. For more information please contact: Michael Sullivan, 801-538-8811 or [mgsullivan@utah.gov](mailto:mgsullivan@utah.gov).