



Economic Development & Workforce Council Newsletter

2025| April

Our Top Story: Registration Open for Upcoming EDWC Workshops

CRITICAL & STRATEGIC THINKING
Workshop with Bill Welter, MBA
April 21st, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Critical and Strategic Thinking

Problem → Analysis → Decision

Estes Valley Community Center Chiquito Room

EDWC is hosting a new SPRINT
Bill Welter, facilitator of our BASE
program will facilitate a special session
on "Critical & Strategic Thinking"

DATE: April 21st
TIME: 8:30a.m.-10:30a.m.
LOCATION: Estes Valley Community Center

The work involved with keeping up with business evolution is found in a cycle that we refer to as the Sense-Response Cycle™ (SRC). This cycle is composed of



EDWC will be hosting Welcome learning receptions for Seasonal and J1 students

SESSION 1: May 20th
TIME: 10:30a.m.-1:30p.m.

SESSION 2: June 16th
TIME: 1:00p.m.-4:00p.m.

LOCATION: Both sessions will be at the Estes Valley Library - Hondius Room

four interconnected and repeating phases of work:

- Sense the signals of change that will trigger the reality of tomorrow.
- Make sense of these signals considering current and evolving reality.
- Decide on the changes that are needed and prepare a course of action.
- Act to implement the needed changes and learn from the consequences of the changes.

The underlying skill set for planning and executing this work is referred to critical and strategic thinking.

[Register Now](#)

Join us at either session to hear from community leaders sharing general knowledge on Estes Park with both seasonal workforce and J1 students.

These sessions are designed to prepare our workforce to engage with our visitors and be able to answer questions about Estes Park.

[Register Now](#)

Larimer County & Northern Colorado Latest



Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce Talent Summit

At the Talent Summit, you will learn about the latest trends, strategies, and practices for attracting and retaining top talent, addressing the most pressing HR and workforce development challenges of the current and future workforce.

DATE: April 23, 2025

TIME: 7:30 am – 2:30 pm

LOCATION: Pedersen Toyota Center
5280 Arena Cir Loveland, CO

[Learn More](#)



Contractor Academy classes open for registration

From sharpening Excel skills and mastering blueprint reading to optimizing every aspect of your contracting business, our Contractor Academy offers practical, hands-on classes designed exclusively for contractors. With expert instructors and focused sessions, you'll gain the tools to enhance your projects, improve efficiency, and grow your business. Classes are offered online and in person, in both English and Spanish, to meet your needs.

Upcoming Classes in English:

Optimization of Your Contracting Business April 15th and 17th, 3-7pm on Zoom - \$150/person

HR and Managing Your Contracting Team May 6th and 8th, 3-7pm on Zoom - \$150/person

HR: Navigating Legal Issues June 3rd and 5th, 3-7pm on Zoom - \$150/person

Colorado State Updates



Colorado Small Business Learning Opportunities

The State of Colorado offers free online educational business courses to support the lifecycle of Colorado small business owners. Our courses are organized into four business lifecycle pathways. Each pathway consists of courses to elevate your skills and knowledge in planning, launching, growing, and exiting your small business. Throughout each pathway, small business owners will have the opportunity to connect with their local Colorado Small Business Development Center to schedule free, confidential, 1:1 business advising.

[Learn More & Register](#)

2025 Northern Colorado Workforce Symposium

Mark your calendars for September 30, 2025 for a day of valuable insights, meaningful connections, and innovative solutions to shape the future of our regional workforce.

Opportunities Available:

- **Become a Sponsor:** Showcase your organization's commitment to workforce development while gaining visibility with key regional stakeholders
- **Share Your Expertise:** Submit your speaker proposal to present on emerging workforce trends, successful case studies, or innovative strategies
- **Reserve Exhibition Space:** Connect directly with attendees and demonstrate your services or resources

[Learn More](#)



Colorado Secure Savings Program

Planning for retirement just got easier for Colorado workers. The Colorado SecureSavings Program (CSSP) provides a straightforward way to save for the future, designed for employees without access to employer-sponsored retirement plans. With no cost to employers and automatic enrollment for employees, this program empowers Coloradans to take control of their retirement savings. Workers can contribute through simple payroll deductions, and their money grows tax-free in an individual Roth IRA.

EDWC Council Members

Christina Kraft, Bank of Colorado, Market President Estes Park, EDWC Chair

Diane Muno, White Orchid, Owner, EDWC Secretary

Bill Brown, Estes Park Town Trustee

Jason Damweber, Estes Park, Deputy Town Administrator

Adam Crowe, Larimer County, Economic Development Manager

Rebecca D. Gelsinger, Visit Estes Park, Director of Operations

Nick Smith, Lumpy Ridge Brewing, Owner

Ingrid Bush, The Barrel, Owner



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