



# WESTERN COLORADO ECONOMIC SUMMIT

**\*\*AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\***

**APRIL 18**  
**VIP KICK-OFF RECEPTION**  
*By Invitation Only*

April 19 | Colorado Mesa University

**7:30-8:00 a.m. CHECK-IN AND REGISTRATION**  
*University Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lobby*

*Pastries and coffee served*

**8:00-9:15 a.m. WELCOME & MORNING PLENARY SESSIONS**  
*Meyer Ballroom*

**Welcome & Introductions**

Todd Conklin

*CEO and President, Coldwell Banker Distinctive Properties*

Kevin Brooks

*Managing Partner, Venture Advocates*

Doug Simons

*President, Enstrom Toffee & Confectionery*  
*Chairman, Board of Directors, Grand Junction Economic Partnership*

**Plenary Speakers**

Mike O'Donnell

*Executive Director, Colorado Lending Source*

Erik Mitisek

*President, Imagine Analytics*

**BREAK 9:15-9:30 a.m.**  
*Change rooms*

**9:30-10:15 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS I**

**MESA COUNTY REAL ESTATE TRENDS by COLDWELL BANKER**

Room 213

Moderator: Todd Conklin, *CEO and President, Coldwell Banker Distinctive Properties*

Panel: Mike Foster, *Realtor, Coldwell Banker Commercial Prime Properties*; Kelly Maves, *Realtor* and Jen Pedersen, *Realtor, Coldwell Banker Distinctive Properties*

**BUILDING A TECH COMPANY IN MESA COUNTY**

Room 221

Moderator: Erik Mitisek, *President, Imagine Analytics*

Panel: Aaron Young, *Founder, Kaart*; Page Tucker, *Founder & CEO, ProStar Geocorp*; and Allison Blevins, *COO, Proximity*

**CONNECTING EMPLOYERS WITH THE WORKFORCE: ENGAGING COLLEGE STUDENTS AND RECRUITING RECENT GRADUATES**

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lounge

Moderator: Curtis Englehart, *Executive Director, Mesa County Workforce Development Center*

Panel: Mike Sneddon, *Owner, Wren Industries*; Darcy Weir, *Workforce Development Coordinator, Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce*; and Derek Wagner, *Vice President, Intergovernmental & Community Affairs* and Alecia Dembowski, *Coordinator of Career Services, Colorado Mesa University*

**ENERGY IN WESTERN COLORADO**

Room 222

Moderator: Eric Carlson, *Executive Director, Western Slope Colorado Oil & Gas Association*

Panel: Matt Wurtzbacher, *President & COO, Caerus Oil & Gas*; Robert Boswell, *CEO, Laramie Energy*; and Shawn Brennan, *EHS Manager, Terra Energy Partners*

**BREAK 10:15-10:30 a.m.**

**10:30-11:15 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS II**

**TAXES, FIRST RESPONDERS, TRANSPORTATION: WHAT'S AHEAD FOR GRAND JUNCTION**

Room 213

Moderator: Kelly Flenniken, *Area Manager, Community and Local Affairs, Xcel Energy*

Panel: Rick Taggart, *Grand Junction City Councilmember*, Greg Caton, *Grand Junction City Manager* and Ken Watkins, *Grand Junction Fire Chief*

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 51: LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE**

Room 221

Moderator: Angela Christensen, *Executive Director, D51 Foundation*

Panel: Diana Sirko, *Superintendent*, Tom Parrish, *School Board President* and Eric Nilsen, *Director of Maintenance and Operations, Mesa County Valley School District 51*; John Potter, *Director of Project Management, Blythe Group + co*; and Jane Pizem, *Controller, Asset Engineering*

**BUSINESS VALUATION BASICS: THE ART AND SCIENCE OF UNDERSTANDING AND THEN  
MAXIMIZING BUSINESS VALUE**

Room 222

Presenter: Eric Payne, *Managing Partner, Venture Advocates*

**BREAK 11:15-11:30 a.m.**

*Return to ballroom*

**11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. KEYNOTE LUNCHEON**

*Meyer Ballroom*

**Welcome**

Todd Conklin

*CEO and President, Coldwell Banker Distinctive Properties*

Kevin Brooks

*Managing Partner, Venture Advocates*

**GJEP Annual Update**

Robin Brown

*Executive Director*

*Grand Junction Economic Partnership*

Robin Brown will present an overview of GJEP activities in 2018 and key efforts to date to support the organization's mission to enhance the economic vitality in Colorado's Grand Valley.

**Awards Presentation**

Doug Simons

*Chairman, Board of Directors, Grand Junction Economic Partnership*

*President, Enstrom Toffee & Confectionery*

Doug Simons will present the Spirit of Economic Development Award presented by Charter Communications and the Joseph C. Prinster Leadership Award to a business and individual respectively that have had significant impact on local economic development efforts.

**Keynote Presentation**

Stephanie Copeland

*Managing Partner, Four Points Funding*

*CEO, the Governance Project*

**1:00 p.m. SUMMIT ADJOURNS**

**1:15 p.m. CMU STUDENT SHOWCASE**