



May 22, 2019
Leon Levine Hall
Boone, NC



Presenting Sponsors

TENATIVE AGENDA (Revised 4/24)

Confirmed speakers are listed and additions will be made throughout the spring

Welcome Keynote Session

- 8:00 am – 9:00 am – Registration, Continental Breakfast, Networking at Levine Hall
 - Free parking available at Levine Hall. Registration will take place inside the back entrance on the main floor. *Sponsored by PeakGroup.insure*

- 9:00 am -10:00 am – **Opening Remarks & Morning Keynote**
 - Lecture Auditorium on Main Floor
 - Welcome to Boone – David Jackson, President/CEO, Boone Area Chamber of Commerce
 - Welcome to Northwest North Carolina – Skyline/Skybest
 - Welcome to Appalachian State – Dr. Marie Huff, Dean of Beaver College of Health Sciences
 - Morning Keynote: Chris Chung, President/CEO, Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina

 - 10:00 – 10:30 – **Break** – *Sponsored by Appalachian Regional Healthcare System*

Breakout Panel Discussions (attendees broken into groups and will have opportunity to attend each panel)

- 10:30 am – Noon – **Breakout Panel Discussion 1**
 - *Beyond Borders* –
 - *May the Force Stay with You*
 - *Build Your Future*

- Noon – 12:45 – **Lunch** – *Sponsored by Appalachian Commercial Real Estate & Watauga County EDC*

- 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm – **Afternoon Keynote** – Embracing the Next Generation

- 1:45 pm – 2:15 pm – **Break - Sponsored by LifeStore Bank**
- 2:15 pm – 3:45 pm - **Breakout Panel Discussion Session 2**
 - *Beyond Borders*
 - *May the Force Stay with You*
 - *Build Your Future*
- 3:45 pm – 4:00 pm – Closing Remarks
- 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm – Networking Reception – **Sponsored by PeakGroup.insure**

Beyond Borders: Lessons learned, and opportunities shared from development-minded leaders in the region and beyond.

- [Tonya Triplett](#) – Community Development Coordinator, Town of Abingdon
- [John Ward](#) - Manager, Town of Boone
- [Bob Boyette](#) - Manager, City of Marion
- [Brantley Price](#) - Manager, Town of West Jefferson
- [Deborah Murray](#) – Caldwell County Economic Development

May the Force Stay with You: Discussion regarding workforce development trends, employee retention and benefit strategies in the NW prosperity zone.

- [Sara Chester](#) - Project & Communications Manager – Work in Burke
- [Becky Gosky](#) – Relocation & retention coordinator – App State Human Resources – Dual career family placement
- [Jimi Combs](#) – Tsuga – culture breeds longevity / human capital

Build Your Future: Focus on talent development and trends in training/education of the workforce of tomorrow.

- [David Bennett](#) – President/CEO, EJ Victor
- [Kevin Baxter](#) – Director of Western Campus Planning, NC School of Science & Math