



BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE QUARTERLY REPORT FEBRUARY, 2023 (COVERING NOVEMBER, 2022 - JANUARY, 2023)

IWIB Business Engagement Committee Quarterly Summary Report (Nov. – Jan.)

- **CO-CHAIR TRANSITION:** From Tom Wendorf & Tom Hacker to Andrew Warrington & Jess Giudici completed during December meeting.
- **INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP WORKGROUP:** Has been at work in the quarter 1) Advancing the executive training deck to introduce business leaders to Talent Pipeline Management. 2) Further work on industry champion pilot managed by TMA for Manufacturing and 3) RACI worksheet to define roles for this initiative as it is rolled out to other sectors. Goal is a network
- **ACCESS TO BUSINESS SERVICES WORKGROUP:** Met once in November. Unified messaging project is now in implementation phase based around *“We provide sustainable no-cost and low-cost strategies to recruit, hire, train and retain the skilled workforce businesses need to thrive.”* Workgroup is also investigating video delivery of message. Workgroup Chair, Einar Forsman has retired from Rockford Chamber of Commerce and a new Chair is sought.
- **HIGH PERFORMING BOARDS WORKGROUP:** Working with DCEO to implement an interactive onboarding package through Work Net. Looking for new membership and on hold pending implementation of Workforce Commission recommendations.
- **BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT MEASUREMENT:** Currently does not exist or any measure that does exist seriously lags the status of the real world. BEC to work with e.g., IWP to define a measure that is close to real time and that can be easy to collect. Also, that can be included in the state’s quarterly dashboard. Several LWIBs have their own measures, and some are sophisticated (Salesforce.com etc.). However, first attempt should be simple.



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Charges and Priorities

Committee Charge

Charge 1: The mission of the BEC will be to provide guidance and direction to help bridge the gap between Illinois' important business sectors and employers, and the Illinois workforce development system.

Committee Priorities:

Priority 1: **Engage Illinois' business community in the development and direction of regional industry-led sector partnerships** that will convene employers, workforce development professionals, and other regional institutions and partners. These partnerships will seek to coordinate investments, align workforce and education systems, and promote economic growth across the state.

Priority 2: **Develop and improve communication mechanisms between employers and the workforce development system** in order to increase employers' awareness of the services that are designed to provide them with the skilled workforce they require.

Priority 3: **Assist the IWIB and Local Workforce Innovation Boards (LWIBs) with outreach, recruitment and engagement of business representatives to the board(s)**, that are representative of the geographic, demographic, and target industries of the state or local area, respectively.

Workgroups

Workgroup Title	Workgroup Co-Chair(s)	Workgroup Charge	Workgroup Priorities
Industry Partnerships	David Sabathne	Engage Illinois' business community in the development and direction of regional industry-led sector partnerships.	Identify Illinois Target Industries & Sectors. Increase awareness of and support existing sector strategies. Identify and support opportunities for additional sector strategies. Effectively communicate with and aid identified sector strategy projects.



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Access to Business Services	(Currently Vacant)	Develop and improve communication mechanisms between employers and the workforce development system.	Expand employer knowledge of the workforce and education systems. Engage employers in identifying and communicating training and workforce needs. Support the development of an employer information database. Support ongoing employer engagement. Explore, and if viable, promote an initiative to provide common messaging and shared branding across all system partners.
High-Performing Workforce Boards	Jennifer Serino	Assist the IWIB and Local Workforce Innovation Boards (LWIBs) with outreach, recruitment and engagement of business representatives to the board(s).	Assist IWIB/LWIB recruitment, engagement, retention, and accountability. Enhance IWIB/LWIB Communication.

Quarterly Updates

Committee Update

Committee Meeting

The full committee met on December 2, 2022, via Zoom. Major meeting agenda items and discussion included:

Leadership Succession Plans

Tom Wendorf began this item by noting that Andrew Warrington and Jess Giudici would be taking over as co-chairs of the BEC at the beginning of 2023. Tom Wendorf would continue on the IWIB for a short time, Tom Hacker would be leaving the IWIB entirely at the end of 2022.

Tom Wendorf noted that the other leadership succession issue is that Einar Forsman will be retiring from the Rockford Chamber of Commerce at the end of the year, thus leaving the Access to Business Services Work Group without a chair. Tom asked for any suggestions for a replacement



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chair, noting the need to find someone with connections to Chambers of Commerce and other business organizations that can assist in the goal of increasing access to WIOA business services.

Andrew commented that he has been impressed with the high degree of business involvement and engagement in the committee and work group meetings he has attended over the past months. He noted that sometimes a concentration on the machinery of workforce development can miss the important concentration on fulfilling the needs of businesses to find the talented workforce that they need. He pledged to continue to build upon the strong foundation that Tom² has laid for the BEC.

Jess followed by noting her passion for this work, and her desire to keep the work of the BEC moving forward in order to make a difference and not get stuck in the weeds.

BEC Quarterly Report

David Gallagher briefly discussed the BEC Quarterly Report that was provided to the IWIB on the Committee's behalf, and which covered May, June and July of 2022. Gallagher did not review in detail, but the report had been provided to the Committee prior to the meeting, so Tom W. asked for any questions regarding the content of the report. None were offered.

Work Plan Priorities

In keeping with a desire on the part of BEC leadership to take a small portion of BEC meetings to return to the committee work plan and discuss those priorities, David Gallagher walked the committee through the priorities, goals and activities of the groups. The three priorities of the BEC map to the three work groups that have been developed: to encourage industry sector partnerships, to increase business access to WIOA services, and to improve the performance of workforce boards at the state and local level.

He recounted that the Industry Partnerships Work Group has been mostly working on the industry champions pilot project and the executive level industry partnerships training deck project. Tom Wendorf followed this by noting the importance of the industry champion pilot in developing means to increase communication with business through engaging "one of their own" as the messenger. This increases both the validity and the scalability of the communications to businesses.

Kim Kuchenbrod then mentioned the upcoming Talent Pipeline Management (TPM) boot camp kicking off on December 17 that will include 22 Illinois representatives. She also recounted several stats and measures from the recently completed National Apprenticeship Week activities. The State of Illinois led the nation with 162 separate events related to apprenticeships. More information is at apprenticeship.gov and apprenticeshipillinois.com. This info will also be sent "up the line" to the



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Governor's Office through DCEO's communication staff. Tom Wendorf noted that this is part of a larger problem of accumulating and making this type of business engagement information easily available. He suggested that perhaps a Task Force of the BEC might be the best place to look deeper into this issue, as it is not just an apprenticeship issue, but lack of easily accessed information of this type (through dashboards or some other mechanism) is a system-wide issue.

Adam Levine noted that World Business Chicago (WBC) has been working on a statewide workforce ecosystem map that will bring together information about projects and programs around the state. He said that it currently does not include sector partnerships, but this would be an important item to include.

In response to a question from Kraig Kistinger, Kim discussed the data available through the RAPIDS system, which is USDOL's apprenticeship tracking program and which includes data down to the individual level. A recent check of this resource found over 18,000 individuals in Illinois registered apprenticeship programs.

Also, Kim noted that as the economy puts the pandemic behind it there is a new outlook from both employers and workers to be more collaborative in an effort to meet workforce needs and that she expects workforce collaboratives and partnerships to continue to grow throughout 2023 across all sectors.

Work Group Project Updates

Einar and David Sabithne gave brief updates on the current projects being undertaken by their respective Work Groups. Einar mentioned the projects to encourage deployment of the unified workforce message and to develop a series of employer-focused videos. David mentioned the development of a RACI worksheet to help define roles and responsibilities around the industry champion pilot project, and the executive training deck project. Tom W. briefly described some of the work of the High-Performing Workforce Boards Work Group, including the development of materials to assist business representatives newly joining a board. The lack of recent IWIB appointments has hampered the deployment of those materials, but they are in waiting for when needed.

Asked for comments, Adam noted the recent trends towards focusing on quality of job efforts in all publicly funded workforce programs. He did not draw a direct line to the current work of the BEC, but just that it should be kept in mind as work goes forward on all fronts.

Business Engagement/Services Measurement Update



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Tom Wendorf, Kraig and Andrew took up this discussion initially. Kraig noted that the focus of any attempt to gather more detailed measurements of business engagement would need to be on the local American Job Centers (AJCs) and would also need to involve DCEO. Andrew agreed with that, while noting that currently measurement practices vary widely across local areas throughout the state, but that in general measurement of these services have lagged very far behind measurement of services to job seekers. Andrew further suggested that the BEC work with the IWP to determine what might be a *practical* measure of employer engagement that might be useful as a measurement, but not overly burdensome to the local areas (including all four of the titles).

Tony Fuhrman provided a local program perspective, noting that local business engagement should be coming through Business Services Teams that encompass all of the WIOA partners. He also noted that the wide majority of business services actually take the form of activities that are not currently tracked – he provided the example of posting job openings for employers – other than internally (if the local area chooses to do so). Current business engagement tracking is largely confined to those activities that are directly funded, which is a small part of the services provided to employers.

Teresa Cherry echoed Tony's concerns, stating that the lack of a uniform system of tracking generally means that important employer engagement activities are either not reported or not tracked at all. Tom W. noted that this is a national problem, not just in Illinois. He noted that Florida has engaged to develop a unified system to track this type of data, so models do exist. Todd Lowery briefly discussed the current system to track and report employer engagement data required by the Department of Labor. He also mentioned a pilot project in Lake County to develop an experience tracking project to identify how customers actually interact with the workforce system, and perhaps this could be widened to include employers.

Tom Wendorf noted that the Workforce Commission's recommendation for a Workforce Commissioner would help provide a venue to draw the partners together to solve problems such as this. Jess noted, however, that we need to be realistic about what we propose to solve this. Implementation of a statewide CRM such as Salesforce might solve the problem, but it is unrealistic to believe that the resources necessary for that implementation would ever actually be available. We have to be realistic. Get the right people into the room and ask for a realistic, implementable solution.

Andrew suggested that the BEC take the first step of identifying a small but potent set of data that needs to be collected, and then take the second step of identifying – in conjunction with the state and local partners – how we can utilize existing methods of data collection to actually collect that



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data. Tom Wendorf suggested that a BEC Task Force might be a suitable mechanism for attempting to do this. Todd noted that the federal reporting staff from each partner should be involved with this in order to realistically assess that data collection step. David Sabathne agreed that simpler is better and more realistic in the short term, but in the longer term there needs to be a realization that no resources means no results.

Business Engagement/Services Measurement Update

Stephanie Veck thanked Tom and Tom for their tireless efforts on behalf of business with regard to workforce. Tom Hacker noted the tireless efforts of all the people around the state who work to make the workforce development system work for everyone.

Industry Partnership Work Group Update

The Industry Partnership Work Group met three times during this quarter, once each during November, December and January. The focus of this work group during this quarter remained on two projects. One was the continuing development of an executive-level training deck in order to introduce a wider audience of business decision-makers to the concepts, uses and advantages of Talent Pipeline Management (TPM) sector strategies. As discussed in previous quarterly reports, at the executive level -- the C suite at companies -- they don't have the time and the ability to really dig in deep and learn all the nitty gritty the ins and outs of these concepts. But they need to understand when we say "public private partnerships," when we say "sector partnership," or we talk about "talent pipeline management." This led to a desire to create a roughly 16 minute training at the highest level, with limited depth, regarding what we mean when we talk about sector strategies across the state of Illinois.

The other focus of this work group has been to establish and build-out a pilot project to identify sector strategy "champions" in each of Illinois' target industries. Specifically, the Industry Partnership Work Group seeks to create a network of sector-based champions, and a community of practice for each target industry to ensure the alignment of publicly funded workforce development investments and efforts with the workforce needs of critical industries across the state. This concept is being piloted in the Manufacturing sector, and the identified champion is the Technology & Manufacturing Association (TMA).

The BEC and this work group wants to ensure that this effort to establish a network of industry champions will assist in outreach to business within targeted industries, will respect existing industry leadership, will leverage existing relationships and will bring additional value to the champions and the businesses within their industry. As such, the work group seeks to partner with TMA to pilot this approach, learn more about workforce needs directly from industry leaders, and ensure that sector partnership activities deliver a clear return on investment for businesses in the industry.



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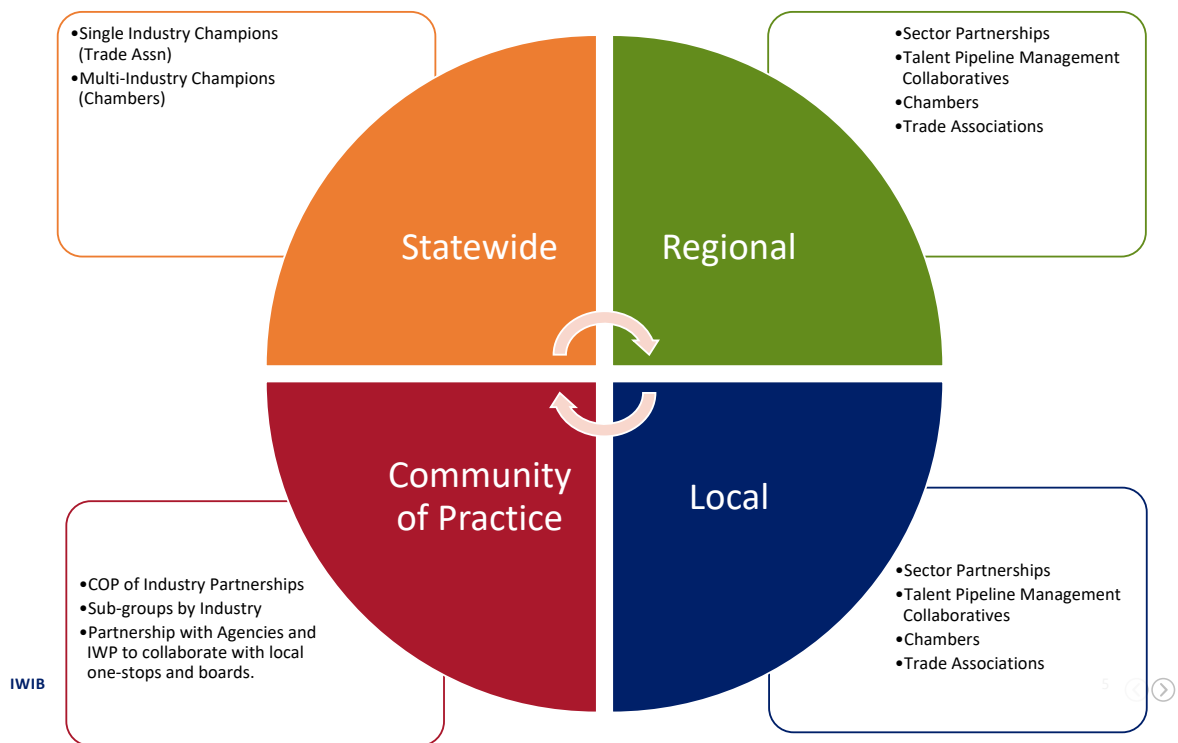


Notes from the November meeting of this group include:

- The meeting began with a discussion of the Industry Champion engagement project, and in particular with a discussion of the structures needed to support Industry Sector Partnerships.
- Stephanie Veck began by walking the group through a visual developed for this purpose:

STRUCTURE TO SUPPORT INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Prototype for Future Discussion



- Next, Stephanie led a discussion around the importance of identifying and uplifting the existing sector partnerships around the state that could be brought forward as examples and could provide details for how partnerships can be developed and sustained in the future.



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- One example discussed, on the basis of information that Kraig Kistingner had provided to the group, was the Chicago Metro Metal Consortium (CMMC).
- The final part of this agenda item was a brief discussion of the status of the compendium that has been developed of existing sector partnerships and associated organizations that might either provide the basis for a partnership going forward, or provide support to an existing or developing partnership.
- As a final step in this process, Stephanie discussed the creation of a RACI (Responsible, Accountable, Collaborator & Informed) document that is meant to clearly delineate the roles of various partners and others in the accomplishment of goals and activities under the Industry Champions project, particularly regarding the pilot project with TMA. She noted that a small group would form and begin this project with an eye toward the December work group meeting.
- As a final major agenda item, David Gallagher led the group through an updated version of the executive training deck regarding Industry Partnerships (noted above). One key comment following this walk-through was from Kraig Kistingner, who noted that this presentation really needs to include language regarding how this type of partnership is distinguished from any other types of business associations in which the manufacturer might already be participating. What is the extra value this gives you?
- Other comments included the need to understand the evolving nature of a sector partnership – including how does evolve from a discussion to something tangible – along with the nature of the convener and the means for finding administrative and funding support.

Notes from the December meeting of this group include:

- David Sabathnie began the meeting by reviewing the documents transmitted prior to the meeting and thanking the small group members that worked on each for their work. He then turned to Stephanie Veck to discuss the revised RACI document produced following the small group meeting that worked on it.
- Stephanie began by noting the revision that distinguished between roles attendant to an individual industry champion and the roles attendant to building an overall statewide infrastructure that will contribute to that organization succeeding. Kraig Kistingner commented that this clarifies both the range of goals in the project and the roles needed to fulfill those goals. David Sabathnie noted that populating this will also help to better understand what needs to be done.
- Tom Wendorf noted that much of this implementation process will depend upon interpersonal relationships as well as organization relationships, so there will need to be enough flexibility in this process to account for that.
- Kim Kuchenbrod noted that under the Apprenticeship Illinois project there will be some marketing funding available that might be able to intersect with some of the activities detailed in the RACI doc. She also noted that as the Apprenticeship Navigators' roles are evolving they will have their title changed to Sector Specialists. Tom highlighted the importance of this intersectionality between projects, etc.



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- Kim also noted that part of that AI marketing project will be to develop “tool kits” both for apprenticeship and for industry partnerships. Stephanie noted that part of this RACI process is to identify which of the detailed activities are already happening and who is doing them.
- Kim questioned the item related to funding, asking what exactly are we suggesting should be funded? Kraig responded that we are talking about all aspects and phases of an industry partnership strategy, and how we can fund them. Stephanie noted that this definition of “funding” is expansive and is not limited to state funding but might include any number of available funding streams. Part of the RACI process is to determine what those available funding streams are. Tom noted that one outcome of the Workforce Commission process was a recognition of the importance of industry partnerships, and the possibility of funding for them to be included in the 2023 budget.
- David Sabathne wrapped the conversation, and Stephanie noted that she and Leigh would take the lead (with the help of others who are interested) in updating and filling out the “Industry Champion” tab before the next work group meeting and that she, Kim and David Gallagher would take the lead (again, with the help of others who are interested) in updating the “Statewide Cross Industry” tab before the next meeting.
- Moving on to the next agenda item, David Gallagher walked the group through the slides in the executive training deck. He particularly concentrated on the notes section of each slide, as these had been updated and expanded per the direction of the small group that had reviewed this deck in late November. Slides and notes (including changes during this meeting) are appended to these meeting notes.
- Kim suggested that the slide regarding “The Value to Businesses...” be moved higher in the deck in order to accentuate it. Kraig and Tom agreed with this. It is now slide #5.
- David S. asked that slide #9 (Illinois’ Targeted Industry Sectors) should also note that new and emerging sectors may also be added to this list as they grow in importance.
- The final discussion of this topic was the “examples” slide. Kim noted that as it is completed we should try to diversify those examples to include partnerships outside of manufacturing. Tom noted that we should ultimately try to collect enough examples from each of the target industry sectors that this page can be varied in focus on the basis of the audience for a particular presentation. Kraig suggested that, if we do not have case studies to reference, we should not include that phrase in the presentation. Tom noted that there is a case study on the U.S. Chamber of Commerce site that could be linked here.
- Moving on to the final agenda item, the compendium of active sector partnerships. Kim noted the importance of using this as a mechanism to keep partnerships themselves aware of other projects that might be ongoing in other parts of the state, and which might be sources of best practices for each other.
- A conversation ensued regarding the importance of sustainability planning for these partnerships. They need to be able to weather changes in leadership and personnel.



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- Stephanie noted that the meeting was coming up on its ending time, and asked what action items were needed out of this meeting (re: the deck and compendium) looking towards the next meeting of this group. David Gallagher will make suggested changes to the deck and send back out with notes from this meeting. Kraig suggested that we try to utilize the TMA Education & Training Committee as a test audience for a dry run of the presentation, followed by a dry run with the full BEC. David G. will update the compendium to include additional partnerships identified by Kim.

Notes from the January meeting of this group include:

- David Sabathne began the meeting by discussing a series of opportunities that he and Leigh McConnell would have to utilize the Executive Level Sector Partnership training deck that has been developed by this group. These would be opportunities to road test the deck, see where it flows, where it doesn't, etc. The first will be on February 2nd at DuPage Airport, the second will be February 7th in Carol Stream, and the third will be the week of February 13th at the Technology & Manufacturing Association (TMA) in Schaumburg.
- David Sabathne then turned the meeting over to Stephanie Veck to discuss updates to the RACI chart discussed at the previous work group meeting. Stephanie reminded the group that the chart had been expanded to include three tabs. One would be a RACI chart for the TMA manufacturing industry champion project, the second would be a RACI chart for a statewide cross industry network for this work, and the third would be a glossary of terms related to this work.
- Leigh then took the lead in describing the current state of the first tab, which covers the manufacturing project. An initial question came from Kraig Kistingner, who wondered if the BEC – shown as being “accountable” for most of the goals shown under this tab – truly has the ability to hold anyone accountable? Leigh responded that her understanding of “accountable” in this instance is that the BEC’s accountability consists of a responsibility for making sure that TMA has those things that they need in order to actually get the job done.
- David Sabathne noted the important role of the sector project conveners, and that many of the questions raised can't be fully answered until those roles are filled. Kim Kuchenbrod responded that we need to remember that the Apprenticeship Illinois Navigators are undergoing a role change to more fully embody this convener role as sector business specialists. Kim and David Gallagher both mentioned that what we are discussing is only one layer of the overall state strategy for sector partnerships, and David Gallagher noted that this first tab is focused specifically on the role of TMA as an industry champion in Manufacturing.
- Stephanie, David Gallagher and Kim also discussed the idea of “levels,” one level being the statewide cross-industry infrastructure to support partnerships, another level being that of the industry champion to help coordinate projects within an industry, and another level being that of individual industry partnerships at a local or regional level where the convener (or navigator, or sector specialist) really takes the lead role.
- Leigh continued by noting some of the specific additions made to tab 1 since the last meeting, particularly as regards TMA understanding the available services to businesses, and the current and innovative methods for disseminating that information.



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- In response to a question from Kim, Leigh noted that marketing materials developed under these auspices might well be specific to engagement in a sector partnership, but they may also be targeted more generally to the availability and use of training funds or business services.
- Stephanie then guided the discussion towards the second tab of the RACI chart, noting that one of the intended purposes of the statewide network embodied in tab 2 is to avoid reinventing the wheel as new industry champion projects and as new local/regional sector projects are established. That there will be a consistent, available library of materials and activities for these new projects to draw from.
- David Gallagher led the discussion of this second RACI chart, noting that the goals and responsibilities here are at a higher and broader level than the industry champion RACI. How do we knit together an overall state strategy that leverages the resources under the state workforce plan to meet that plan's priority given to sector strategies. All of the activities listed on that statewide network RACI are a mechanism to implement this priority in an active way.
- In particular because what is being proposed is that somewhere in state government (in DCEO, the Governor's Office or elsewhere) there needs to be a single nexus for all of the activities that are going on under the umbrella of sector partnerships. And that's what this industry champions coordinator will be. And the key collaborations will be between the industry champions coordinator and each of the individual industry champions.
- David Gallagher then discussed some of the goals and activities in some detail.
- Some discussion followed regarding the proper geographic reach of an individual sector partnership project, Kraig noting that it should not be "hyper-local," but Andrew Warrington averring that "regional" may be outstripping the reach of the "local" partners that have to do the nuts-and-bolts work. Stephanie noted that one of the advantages of the sector strategy model is that it is industry led, and the industry members of that partnership are the ones that determine the appropriate range for the project, in conversation with the other partners and the convener.
- Kim noted that – based on existing examples and the reach of workforce needs in common – the geographic reach of a project could extend to all the way to statewide. David S. agreed, noting that what we really want to do is develop a model and an infrastructure that can support sector projects at whatever geographic level the partners agree on.
- David Sabathne then closed the meeting by again discussing some of the particulars of the three presentations in February that he and Leigh would be leading.

Access to Business Services Work Group Update

The Access to Business Services Work Group met once during this quarter, in November. The group continues to work on a Unified Messaging project, which has now moved to an implementation phase. The BEC has found that a lack of uniform messaging between Illinois WIOA partners has led to low levels of engagement by the business community. This limits delivery of important economic services to the business community. Illinois needs to create perception in the business community that the Illinois



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Workforce System is a powerful partner, speaking with one voice, easy to access and helps businesses thrive by accessing and building the talent they need to do so. Integration of business services has become an important focus under WIOA but has a long way to go. Common messaging will help drive this integration.

In response, the BEC gathered a diverse group of employers and workforce practitioners to develop a common message to business that will succinctly identify the advantages of utilizing Illinois' workforce partners. A message that can preface more detailed and partner-specific information, but communicates quickly the principal value of connecting:

We provide sustainable no-cost and low-cost strategies to recruit, hire, train and retain the skilled workforce businesses need to thrive.

The BEC's intention is to ask partners across the state and at all levels to implement this message as an entry point of their outreach materials to businesses. The "we" in this message applies to each of the workforce development partners, and particularly to *all* of the partners working in concert to meet the needs of business.

The end of December saw the resignation of this work group's Chair, Einar Forsman, as he retired from his position as Executive Director of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce. A new Chair has yet to be named, and so only one meeting of this group was held.

A second project – discussed during the November meeting described below – will be the development and deployment of video success stories meant to describe business services available from the Illinois workforce development system. Preliminary discussions began during this quarter with Dawn Mushill, Executive Director of the Troy/Maryville Chamber of Commerce, to act as a Task Force Leader to lead this project.

Notes from the November meeting of this group include:

- David Gallagher discussed the implementation of the unified message as a header to the IWIB page on Illinois workNet, as well as the employer-focused BizHub page on the same site. These were proffered as examples of how this message might be utilized as a lead statement to employers seeking assistance.
- Tom Wendorf reiterated that, since employers are the target audience for this message, it is vital that it be deployed on websites and elsewhere that are specifically focused on business.
- Andrew Warrington also noted that social media feeds that business might favor would also be appropriate venues to include this message.



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- Regarding the letters that had been developed with an eye towards encouragement of adding this message to web sites, we should be quite ruthless in editing them to be as short and direct as possible, with an emphasis on the actions that we are requesting be taken.
- Andrew also gave his opinion that any request such as this should come via postal mail, rather than e-mail. It is much more likely to be read and reacted to that way, since receiving mail is a comparatively rarer phenomenon. Tom Wendorf agreed with that opinion.
- Also discussed was the possibility of using intermediaries to “run interference” on these mailings. Individuals or organizations affiliated with the IWIB (e.g., Laz Lopez is active on the Apprenticeship Committee, but is also the Chair of the ICCB) that could give a “heads-up” that this request is upcoming from the IWIB.
- Discussion then moved to the video project (described above). Tom Wendorf averred that this project needed to be intentional, and suggested that a Task Force be created to work specifically on this project, with an eye towards making recommendations for how to proceed. Tom had two suggestions for the focus of that group: that they look to keep the resulting videos short (~2 minutes max) and direct. A further suggestion was that – at least initially – they focus on the four action verbs contained in the unified message: recruit, hire, train and retain.
- Kim Kuchenbrod suggested that a starting point might be to look at success stories developed through Apprenticeship Illinois and determine if any of those employers might be suitable candidates to pursue for videos relevant to one or more of those “actions.”
- The meeting concluded with a discussion around inviting Dawn Mushill to lead this effort (see above).

High-Performing Boards Work Group Update

This work group continues to work with DCEO to implement a interactive onboarding package, available through Illinois workNet, for use in accommodating new IWIB members as well as new LWIB members (should local areas choose to utilize it). In large part, however, the work of this group continues to be stymied by the lack of new IWIB member appointments and the adoption of revised IWIB by-laws. Actions proposed by the Illinois Equity & Access Workforce Commission will hopefully break this log jam and bring those materials into useful action.

This work group is seeking new members before it is likely to meet again, however, this group’s Chair, Jennifer Serino, has agreed to act as Task Force Leader for the Business Engagment Measurement Task Force described in the December BEC meeting notes included above. This Task Force will also include representation from LWIA and LWIB staff from across the state.

Workplan Updates

Committee Workplan:



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Alignment with Unified State Plan

- Which activities in the Unified State Plan does your committee work align with?

Activity 2.1: Promote Employer-Driven Regional Sector Partnerships

“IWIB Business Engagement Committee is charged with expanding the statewide policy framework that operationalizes the goals and guiding principles of employer-driven sector partnerships that were developed through the national Sector Strategies Technical Assistance initiative.”

Activity 2.2: Promote Sector-Based Business Services and Employer Initiatives

“The BEC will be to provide guidance and direction to help bridge the gap between Illinois’ important business sectors and employers, and the Illinois workforce development system.”

Areas of Collaboration

One of the BEC co-chairs, Andrew Warrington, continues to serve on the CIC, and provides ongoing updates to the BEC and shares areas of collaboration as relevant.

Relevant Attachments



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