

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER, 2017

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ABOUT MCDA'S IN-COMING PRESIDENT -

Stephen Dyer, P.E.

Steve is a Principal and Senior Project Manager with Ransom Consulting, Inc. with more than 25 years of engineering experience. Steve has been a member of MCDA for 20 years.

Steve's work experience is primarily designing, managing, securing funding and overseeing environmental, sanitary, civil and stormwater engineering projects for municipalities and utilities. Starting as the program manager for the City of Westbrook's original U.S. EPA Pilot Assessment Grant, Steve has been assisting Maine communities with Brownfield assessment and redevelopment projects for over 17 years. Overall, Steve has provided consulting services for over 100 U.S. EPA-funded Brownfield sites as well as many hundreds of privately funded sites. Steve also has experience with planning studies, treatment system design, and permitting for water and wastewater utilities. Mr. Dyer has managed and provided engineering services for over 30 infrastructure improvement projects for Maine communities.

Steve graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering, and is a Professional Engineer in Maine. Steve lives in Falmouth with his wife and 15 year-old daughter, and enjoys many outdoor activities.



MCDA Professional Development Workshop and Annual Meeting

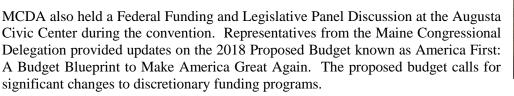
At the annual meeting held at Margarita's Restaurant in Augusta on October 5, 2017, the following individuals were duly nominated and unanimously elected to serve as Officers of MCDA.

President- Stephen Dyer, Senior Project Manager at Ransom Environmental Consulting, Inc.
Vice President – Tracey Steuber, Economic & Community Development Director, Town of Lisbon
Treasurer – Mathew Eddy, Economic Development Consultant
Secretary – Joella R. Theriault, Community Development Specialist, NMDC
Member at Large (2 Years) – Scott LaFlamme, Economic Development Director, Town of Yarmouth
Member at Large (2 Years) – Darryl Sterling, Economic & Community Empowerment Consultant
Member at Large (1 Year) – Thomas Martin, Executive Director, Hancock County Planning Commission

Other Executive Committee Members:

Immediate Past President – Gail Chase, Kennebec Valley Council of Governments Member at Large (2nd Year) – *Suzie Paradis*, Community Development Director, Town of Madawaska

Incoming President, Stephen Dyer, presented Gail Chase, Immediate Past President, with a plaque in appreciation for her years of service and as MCDA President from 2015-2017.







Congresswoman Chellie Pingree's field representative, Pam Trinward, reported that the 2018 budget is in limbo. Conversations will begin again in December to pass a budget. Congresswoman Pingree offered an amendment that would undo the proposed elimination of the TIGER grant program, a \$100 million cut to the CDBG program, a \$100 million cut to the HOME Investments Partnership Program, and also offered an amendment to increase funding for the Housing Choice Voucher Program by \$1.2 billion to a total of \$19.9 billion. Other proposed reductions/eliminations include –

- 30% cut in the Brownfields Program was proposed, but Congress rejected the proposed cut and requested the program funding to continue at least at the current 2017 level.
- The Community Development Financial Institute (CDFI) budget of only \$14 million was proposed, but the House passed a \$190 million budget for FY

2018, which is a decrease over FY 2017. The Senate has not yet voted on this budget.

• Congress is working to continue the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) funding at the same level funding as last year.

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Mark Winter, Senator Susan Collins' State Office Representative in the Augusta Office, provided an overview of the procedural process of presenting a bill to Congress, main function of the legislative branch and the executive branch, and term of office for U.S. Senators. There are no term limitations for Senators. An important fact he, as well as other representatives, stressed was that congressional representatives are not political people, they are constituents to help people in Maine.

Ben Tucker is one of U.S. Senator Angus S. King's regional representative also stressed that they are regional representatives that act as the "eyes and ears" on the ground. They provide weekly updates to their delegation regarding issues in Maine to keep them connected at the local level.

Congressman Bruce Poliquin's staff assistant is USN retired Timothy Gallant. Mr. Gallant primarily works for veterans and municipalities. Frequently they receive calls from constituents that concern issues at the state level, and not necessarily the federal level. These are issues that representatives are unable to assist with, but they do refer to state staff that can answer their concerns. He emphasized that Maine has four federal delegations and each work as a team putting Maine citizens first.

Three Winners Selected For The 2017 Houlton Entrepreneur Challenge

HOULTON – After a 5-month, 3-phase process, three winners have emerged in the 2017 Houlton Entrepreneur Challenge. Shiretown Stoves and Outdoor Living, Green Minnow Media and Raising The Bar will share over \$35,000 in prizes including forgivable loans and incentives from program partners.

Shiretown Stoves and Outdoor Living is a new store being opened by Matt Donahue on Bangor Street. The retail outlet will sell wood, pellet, electric and gas stoves including installation and service. Other products available will be outdoor living fireplaces, outdoor kitchens and stamping on concrete patios. They will also be selling and installing pools.

Green Minnow Media is a new business owned by Steve Milligan who moved to Houlton with his wife who, is originally from the area. It is a full-service advertising agency that will provide personalized service for radio, tv, print material, web site, social media and other creative services. Green Minnow also does video production, VFX and web development as well as a unique service of providing 3D animation.

Raising The Bar will be a fitness business operated by Michelle Sprague that will affiliate with CrossFit. Sprague, who is CrossFit Level 1 certified, will offer classes, private training, nutrition discussions and support. The location for the business is anticipated to be on North Street and will be well equipped with some retail items available. There will be a focus on each individual client's journey with health and wellness. In selecting three winners, the Selection Committee determined they had a unique opportunity to assist 3 business dreams to become a reality. The three finalists have very different business models each with very specific needs to bring their ideas to fruition. They are all enterprises that will complement the existing business mix. Each of the businesses has the ability to expand and prosper in Houlton and are anticipated to be long lasting operations.

All three winners will receive forgivable loans for amounts based on their specific needs. Donated services from program partners are also being awarded. Included in their packages, Shiretown Stoves and Outdoor Living will receive funding for signage, computers and equipment for the new store; while Green Minnow Media will receive funding for an upgraded computer and specialized 3D and production software; and Raising The Bar will receive funding for equipment, franchise fees and initial rent.

"The caliber of contestants in this year's Entrepreneur Challenge was excellent!" stated Nancy Ketch, Houlton Community Development Director. "The Selection Committee narrowed the field down to three exceptional finalists and deliberated a long time before deciding on the winners," she added. "The generosity of our partners allowed us an increased pool of funds that was large enough to help all three businesses," said SADC Executive Director Jon McLaughlin. He continued saying, "as deliberations continued, the committee rallied

Continued on Page 4

around the opportunity to assist all three well-deserving contestants in an impactful way. They each had their strengths and weaknesses, but overall the rankings were quite even."

Upon learning of the win, Matt Donahue said, "I really appreciate the assistance and I'm looking forward to getting the store open for people to come in and see the stoves". Steve Milligan added, "I am so excited ... the challenge has been a great experience ... and, I look forward to creating employment opportunities right here in Houlton." "I am beyond thankful," expressed Michelle Sprague, also stating, "I am grateful for the entire process."

The Houlton Entrepreneur Challenge is a collaborative effort of the Town of Houlton and the Southern Aroostook Development Corporation with major financial support from Machias Savings Bank. There were also several other financial partners including Houlton Water Company, Buildings Etcetera, F.A. Peabody Company, J. McLaughlin Construction, MMG Insurance, S.W. Collins Company and York's of Houlton. Business partners that provided prizes for the program included Severson, Hand & Nelson, WHOU, Davis, Gates & Alward, The Idea Factory, OTT and Pioneer Broadband.

The program is designed to be an innovative approach to business recruitment and retention. It is a way to assist new or expanding businesses with expenses while also providing basic business knowledge and guidance in developing a business plan.

Chris Fitzpatrick, Executive Vice President of Business Banking for Machias Savings Bank said, "Machias Savings Bank has a history of supporting businesses as well as community projects. The Houlton Entrepreneur Challenge presented a unique opportunity for us to do both. We were happy to be the major financial partner in this exciting endeavor."

Further information on the Houlton Entrepreneur Challenge is available on the Town's web site at <u>www.houlton-maine.com</u> or SADC's web site at <u>www.sadcaroostook.org</u>. Information is also available by calling Ketch at 207-521-5938 or McLaughlin at 207-521-0157.

About Town of Houlton, SADC and Machias Savings Bank: The Town of Houlton's Community Development Department is charged with working with area businesses and assisting creating opportunities for business growth in the Town of Houlton. Houlton is the Shiretown of Aroostook County. The Town of Houlton has a population of over 6,000 and is the service community for the Southern portion of Aroostook County as well as parts of Northern Penobscot and Northern Washington Counties. More details about the Town of Houlton can be found online at <u>www.houlton-maine.com</u>.

Southern Aroostook Development Corporation (SADC) is an economic enhancement organization founded in 1998 to develop and expand the economic base of Southern Aroostook County. SADC gathers business and community leaders from throughout the area to work together to help coordinate, promote and guide new business creations. More details about Southern Aroostook Development Corporation can be found online at <u>www.sadcaroostook.org</u>.

Machias Savings Bank is a Maine bank with 19 branches from Portland to Caribou. Based in Machias since 1869, Machias Savings Bank prides itself on exceptional banking, exceptional relationships, and exceptional customer service. More details about Machias Savings Bank can be found online at www.machiassavings.com.

News From City of Bath

The City of Bath was awarded a Maine Coastal Program Coastal Communities Grant in 2016 to complete a stormwater study for the downtown area with the goal of addressing effects of land use activity on water quality. Bath enlisted the involvement of the Kennebec Estuary Land Trust and Main Street Bath as project partners to accompany City personnel from the Public Works, Community and Economic Development, and Planning departments to sit on an Advisory Committee. Bath hired Ransom Consulting, Inc. to complete the stormwater study, prepare conceptual designs for stormwater quality mitigation measures, and present the results to the community. The products of this work will aid the City in making planning decisions that consider and reduce land use effects on water quality.

Jobs & Classifieds

Planning & Development Director Town of Camden

Applications and job description can be obtained by contacting the Town Manager's Assistant at 236-3353 ext. 101 or jesancy@camdenmaine.gov or visit Camden's website at

<u>www.camdenmaine.gov/employment</u>. The deadline for application is 3:30 p.m. on Friday, January 12, 2018.

Town Planner Town of Kennebunk

Visit Kennebunk's website at <u>www.kennebunkmaine.us/jobs</u> for further information. To apply for the position, mail or email cover letter and résumé to Jeri Sheldon, HR Director, Town of Kennebunk, 1 Summer Street, Kennebunk, ME 04043 or jsheldon@kennebunkmaine.us.

Augusta Housing Authority – HCV Occupancy Specialist

This full-time position is responsible for tasks associated with the HUD Housing Choice Voucher Program. To apply, submit cover letter and résumé to <u>HR@augustamaine.gov</u>. The position is open until a suitable candidate is hired.

Town Planner

Town of Eliot

The Town Planner job description is available at <u>www.eliotmaine.org</u>. Submit a cover letter and résumé no later than January 8, 2018. Mail to Eliot

Town Office, 1333 State Road, Eliot, ME 04903 or e-mail townmanager@eliotme.org.

RFQ Architectural Design – Wilton CDBG Façade Grant Program

The RFQ is available by contacting Rhonda Irish, Town Manager at 158 Weld Road, Wilton, ME 04294 or <u>manager@wiltonmaine.org</u> or 645-4961 or visiting the town's website at <u>www.wiltonmaine.org</u>. RFQ is due by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 28, 2017.

Director of Planning & Development Town of Kittery

Applications are available at <u>www.kitteryme.org</u> under Employment Opportunities. Submit cover letter and résumé and three professional references to: Town of Kittery, ATTN: Maureen Paro, 200 Rogers Road, Kittery, ME 03904 or <u>jobs@kitteryme.org</u>. The Town is accepting applications until the position is filled.

Economic Development Specialist City of Auburn

Send cover letter, Résumé, and list of references to Christine Mumau, HR Director, 60 Court Street, Auburn, ME 04210 or call 333-6601 ext. 1416 or email <u>cmumau@auburnmaine.gov</u>. The position will remain open until filled.

For more information on jobs listed, please visit the Maine Municipal Association website at <u>www.memun.org</u>.

Maine State Director, USDA Rural Development



Tim Hobbs has been selected by President Trump to serve as the new Maine State Director for USDA Rural Development replacing Virginia Manuel. Mr. Hobbs was the Director of Development and Grower Relations at the Maine Potato Board for 15 years. He also served as the Executive Director for the Central Soil and Water Conservation District.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvement, business development, homeownership, community services, and high-speed internet access in rural areas.

For more information, visit <u>www.rd.usda.gov.me</u>.

HUBZONE DESIGNATION OPENS NEW POSSIBITIES FOR AROOSTOOK BUSINESSES; FREE WORKSHOP OFFERED

AROOSTOOK COUNTY — Businesses in Aroostook County now have another tool to grow their sales. The federal government recently announced a change in the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) program, which should benefit northern Maine.

"The recently updated HUBZone Map now has all of Aroostook County in a qualified HUBZone," said Amy Bassett, District Director of Maine SBA. "While we understand the challenges Aroostook county small businesses are facing, we want to seize on the opportunity and benefits that the HUBZone program presents and help stimulate the region's economy by getting federal contracts flowing to eligible small businesses. The HUBZone Program can help with that, and by working with SBA and Maine Procurement and Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) counselors to apply, Maine small businesses will receive quicker decisions from SBA's HUBZone Program office."

The Historically Underutilized Business Zones program was enacted into law as part of the Small Business

News from the CDBG Program –

The 2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Proposed Program Statement was released by the Office of Community Development during the October 4-5, 2017 Maine Municipal Association's Annual Convention. Changes to the 2018 program included -

• Underground Storage Tank Grants: This program provides gap funding for petroleum tank replacement activities, which alleviates a threat to the health and safety of the general public. UST funds will be distributed through a set-aside of CDBG funds provided to the County of Aroostook as the lead community who will disburse funds to approved projects. Reauthorization Act of 1997. The program encourages economic development in historically underutilized business zones through the establishment of preferences. Those preferences to HUBZone qualified companies include competitive and sole source contracting, 10 percent price evaluation preference in full and open contract competitions, as well as subcontracting opportunities and the federal government has a goal of awarding three percent of all dollars for federal prime contracts to HUBZone-certified small businesses.

"The HUBZone program can help drive job growth and economic investment in Aroostook County because certified HUBZone businesses must have their principal office located in a HUBZone and at least 35 percent of their employees must reside in the HUBZone," said NMDC Executive Director Robert Clark. "NMDC will be happy to help any business that would like to become HUBZone certified."

To learn more about the HUBZone designation, contact Dana Delano at <u>ddelano@nmdc.org</u> or by calling (207) 521-1713.

- OCD will accept only one application per program.
- There will be only one round of funding for the Economic Development Program.
- Only housing activities will be the rehabilitation of occupied or vacant multi-family housing units and conversion of non-residential structures. Communities must have an identified multifamily project with a developer approved by OCD.

A complete listing of other programs available under the CDBG Program follows:

Program	Letter of Intent Due Date	Application Due Date-By Invitation Only
Downtown Revitalization	January 26, 2018	March 30, 2018
Economic Development	February 23, 2018	May 25, 2018
Housing Assistance	March 9, 2018	May 4, 2018
Micro-Enterprise Assistance	February 9, 2018	April 27,2 018
Public Infrastructure	January 19, 2018	March 30, 2018
Public Service	May 4, 2018	June 22, 2018
Underground Storage Tank	May 4, 2018	N/A
Special Projects/Urgent Need	N/A	TBD

(All applications and Letters of Intent must be received at the physical location of the Office of Community Development on or before 4:00 p.m. EST on the dates listed below.)

Upcoming Events...

Coming Soon – New MCDA Website Upgrade

Event	Date	Location
Maine Association of Planners	January 26, 2018	Gardiner Public Library
MCDA Meeting	February 8, 2018	Conference Call
Five on the Future	January 16, 2018	Holiday By The Bay, Portland
MEREDA-2018 Real Estate Forecast Conference	January 18, 2018	Holiday By The Bay, Portland

2017 Governor's Award for Business Excellence -

The 2017 Governor's Award for Business Excellence was presented to six Maine companies. This was the 27th annual awards presentation, which is administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development and sponsored by FairPoint Communication. The program recognizes Maine businesses that demonstrate a high level of commitment to their community employees and excellence in manufacturing or service provision. The six businesses are:

- <u>First National Bank</u> They are the 4th largest bank headquartered in Maine employing 237.
- <u>Caron Engineering</u> This firm develops advanced hardware and software solutions for more intelligent machining.
- <u>Rockport Automotive, Inc.</u> is an automobile service center committed to "Quality Service with Community Spirit". Each month \$5 from every oil changed is donated to an organization.

- <u>International Grant Investment Corporation</u> They purchased the pulp mill in Baileyville in 2010. Shortly afterwards they initiated a string of key capital investments to make the mill more competitive. Investments of over \$150 million resulted in the addition of 80 new, good-paying jobs in Washington County.
- <u>CRI-SIL Silicone Technologies, LLC</u> provides silicone elastrometic bases and compounds that serve industries worldwide in healthcare, automotive, military, aerospace, consumer, industrial and electronic/ electrical applications.
- <u>Vets First Choice</u> –The company partners with veterinarians to create insight into gaps in patient care. Its proactive prescription management tools increase client engagement and improve compliance while driving practice revenues and profitability.

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The findings of the study indicated that the density of land development in the Bath downtown contributes to disproportionately high pollutant loadings to the Kennebec River during storm events when compared to natural land cover and the entire Kennebec drainage area. The study also considered sea-level rise scenarios for the year 2050 and 2100. Based on storm simulations, flooding will increase in frequency and intensity such that a w-year storm in 2050 has the same effect as a 10-year storm at the current sea level. Ransom recommended that the City of Bath establish a stormwater utility to collect fees based on impervious areas and fund stormwater quality improvement projects. Ransom also recommended establishing stormwater quality goals of

treating the first inch of precipitation in the study area and reducing the effective impervious area of the downtown to 50%. Conceptual designs for Low-Impact Development measures were also provided for five locations.

ABOUT MCDA

MCDA's Purpose

TO PROVIDE FORUMS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND FOSTER COMMUNICATION RELATING TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND CONCERNS, AND TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING THROUGH WORKSHOPS.

MCDA Meetings

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION TAKES PLACE AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION. FOUR (4) REGULAR MEETINGS FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE HELD ANNUALLY THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT OR MAJORITY OF OFFICERS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

MCDA Newsletters

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS HIGHLIGHTING COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARTICLES OF SPECIAL INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

Benefits to Becoming a Member....

MCDA Funding Directory Training and Workshops Legislative Advocacy Affiliation with Other Agencies and Organizations Links to Funding and Business Agencies MCDA's ability to network with multiple partners

Who's Invited to Join????

ANY PERSON, MUNICIPALITY, OR FIRM EMPLOYED BY OR INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC AND/OR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

THE COMPOSITION OF MCDA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OFFERS NEW MEMBERS AN EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND AVAILABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES. THE TENURE AND EXPERIENCE OF THIS ASSOCIATION CAN PROVIDE NEW MEMBERS WITH A MULTIPLE RESOURCE BASE ON A VARIETY OF PROPOSED PROJECTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY. I AM/AM NOT INTERESTED IN SERVING ON ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

- ADVOCACY
- ✓ COMMUNICATIONS
- ✓ FINANCE
- ✓ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ Membership
- ✓ OFFICER/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DID YOU KNOW!!!



Austin Theriault, a native of Fort Kent, was honored as ARCA's 2017 racing champion. The ceremony was held at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

ARCA President presented Austin and car owner, Ken Shrader, with the traditional championship gold ring and a signed, congratulatory letter from Governor Paul LePage.

Austin is the first ARCA champion from Maine. He is also the only driver in ARCA history to win on a Superspeedway, Short Track, Dirt Track, Intermediate Track, and Road Course in the same year.

Congratulations, Austin Theriault!!!!!

ARCA is the Automobile Racing Club of America.

As an affiliate of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA), MCDA members staffed a booth at the Augusta Civic Center during the MMA Annual Conference. Conference attendees dropped their business cards for a chance at a one-year free membership of MCDA. There were 35 cards submitted and the winner of the drawing was Kevin N. Black, Director of Operations, Town of Brownville. Congratulations, Kevin!



2017-2019 MCDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Maine Community Development Association

Local Government Center 60 Community Drive Augusta, ME 04330-9486

> (207) 623-8428 or 1-800-452-8786

www.mainecda.org

MCDA Subcommittee Members:

> <u>Advocacy</u> Vacant (Chair) Tony Levesque

Communications Joella Theriault (Chair) Tony Levesque

Finance Mathew Eddy (Chair) Executive Committee

Professional Development Tracey Steuber (Chair) Jennifer Peters Tony Levesque Linda Smith

Membership Tony Levesque (Interim Chair)

> Nomination Tony Levesque (Chair)

Vice President:

President:

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Past President:

Ransom Environmental Consulting 400 Commercial Street, Suite 404 Portland, ME 04102 (207) 772-2891 Term Expires: October, 2019

Stephen Dyer

Tracy Steuber Town of Lisbon 300 Lisbon Street Lisbon, ME 04250 (207) 353-3000 Term Expires: October, 2019

Mathew Eddy 45 McKeen Street Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 729-9694 Term Expires: October, 2018

Joella R. Theriault Northern Maine Development Commission 1519 St. John Road St. John Plantation, ME 04743 (207) 543-1802 Term Expires: October, 2018

Gail Chase Kennebec Valley Council of Governments 17 Main Street Fairfield, ME 04937-1119 (207) 453-4258 Term Expires: October, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS

Darryl Sterling Economic & Community Empowerment Consultant 1 Tulip Street Richmond, ME 04357 (207) 807-9062 Term Expires: October, 2019

Scott LaFlamme City of Bath 55 Front Street Bath, ME 04530 (207) 443-8332 Term Expires: October, 2019 Suzie Paradis Town of Madawaska 328 St. Thomas Street Madawaska, ME 04756 (207) 728-3612 Term Expires: October, 2018

Tom Martin Hancock County Planning Com 395 State Street Ellsworth, ME 04605 (207) 667-7131 Term Expires: October, 2018

2017 MCDA MEETING CALENDAR

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