



IDA's Emerging Leader Fellowship Program Attracts the Industry's Brightest in its Inaugural Year

WASHINGTON, DC, June 8, 2016 – The International Downtown Association has selected 26 of the industry's brightest professionals for the inaugural year of the Emerging Leader Fellowship Program. These senior staff members hail from three countries and 18 provinces or states, including Atlanta, Auckland (New Zealand), Denver, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Salt Lake City, Toronto (Ontario, Canada), and Winnipeg (Manitoba, Canada).

The Emerging Leader Fellowship is a week-long experiential program in June that will bring together a cohort of IDA professionals from within the urban district management industry. The fellows will learn essential leadership and place management skills, and gain practical tools in the areas of place-based economic development, the live-work-play experience, and public-private partnerships.

“The International Downtown Association is looking to build the future of our industry, and these accomplished executives are the shining stars of our profession,” said David Downey, President and CEO of IDA. “Until now, there was no education program of this kind available specifically for urban place management professionals. With this program, we’re educating and inspiring the next generation of leaders.”

The program features intensive instruction delivered by professors from Baruch College –The City University of New York (CUNY), the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), the Coro New York Leadership Center and technical in-the-field training from IDA professionals within several BID organizations across the city. The event takes place at the ICSC Leadership Center in New York City, with field visits provided by several local business improvement district leaders throughout the city. This program has been made possible with the support of the International Council of Shopping Centers and Larisa Ortiz and Associates.

Congratulations to Beth, Bianca, Brian, Dominic, Frederick, Gary, Jason M., Jason S., Jeff, Jennifer B., Jennifer L., Jenny, Jessica, Jordan, Judith, Kate, Miranda, Pegg, Randy, Samantha, Sara, Teneka, Tim, Todd, William, and Winfield for being selected for this honor! Read below for a full list of this year's fellows and their organizations.

| <i>First Name</i> | <i>Last Name</i> | <i>Title</i> | <i>Organization</i> | <i>City/Town</i> | <i>State/Province</i> |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Jeff | Burton | Deputy Executive Director | Bethesda Urban Partnership | Bethesda | Maryland |
| Jason | Mathis | Executive Director | Downtown Alliance SLC | Salt Lake City | Utah |
| Jessica | Hoang | Community Liaison | Downtown Yonge BIA | Toronto | Ontario |
| Winfield | Davis | Executive Director | Town Green Special Services District | New Haven | Connecticut |
| Jennifer | Lindley | Economic Development Coordinator | Town of Queen Creek | Queen Creek | Arizona |



International Downtown Association

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---|--|--------------------|----------------|
| Dominic | Tartaglia | Executive Director | San Luis Obispo Downtown Association | San Luis Obispo | California |
| Beth | Macdonald | Executive Director | Downtown Somerville Alliance | Somerville | New Jersey |
| Gary | Holmes | Manager | Uptown Business Association | Auckland | New Zealand |
| Bianca | Shoneman | President & CEO | Uptown Greenville | Greenville | North Carolina |
| Miranda | Edwards | Director of Messaging | Downtown Tempe Authority | Tempe | Arizona |
| Jennifer | Ball | VP, Planning & Economic Development | Central Atlanta Progress, Inc. | Atlanta | Georgia |
| Tim | Kelly | Planning Manager | Downtown Grand Rapids Inc. | Grand Rapids | Michigan |
| Pegg | Gustafson | President & CEO | St. Cloud Downtown Council | St. Cloud | Minnesota |
| Judith | Veresuk | Executive Director | Regina Downtown Business Improvement District | Regina | Saskatchewan |
| Teneka | James | Associate Director | West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority | West Palm Beach | Florida |
| William | Matthews | Business Development Officer | Central Houston, Inc. | Houston | Texas |
| Frederick | Rendfrey | Director of Downtown Economic Development | Downtown Mobile Alliance | Mobile | Alabama |
| Sara | Berns | Executive Director | Discover Pacific Beach | San Diego | California |
| Kate | Barton | Senior Manager, Executive Office and Special Projects | Downtown Denver Partnership | Denver | Colorado |
| Jenny | Starkey | Director of Marketing and Community Relations | Cherry Creek North BID | Denver | Colorado |
| Todd | Dangerfield | Projects Manager | Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority | Fort Collins | Colorado |
| Samantha | Jackson | Vice President - Operations | Downtown Phoenix, Inc. | Phoenix | Arizona |
| Brian | Kurtz | Director of Economic Development | Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership | Pittsburgh | Pennsylvania |
| Jordan | Polon | Executive Director | Hartford Business Improvement District | Hartford | Connecticut |
| Randy | Pshebylo | Executive Director | Riversdale Business Improvement District | Saskatoon | Saskatchewan |
| Jason | Syvixay | Managing Director | Downtown Winnipeg BIZ | Winnipeg | Manitoba |



About the International Downtown Association

The International Downtown Association is the premier organization for urban place professionals who are shaping and activating dynamic city center districts. Our members are downtown champions who bring urban centers to life, bridging the gap between the public and private sectors. We represent an industry of more than 2,500 place management organizations, employing 100,000 people throughout North America and growing rapidly around the world. Founded in 1954, IDA is a resource center for ideas and innovative best practices in urban place management. For more information, visit www.ida-downtown.org.

###

Media Contact:

Rachel L. Davis
Director of Communications & Marketing
International Downtown Association
Cell: 202-510-1450
rdavis@ida-downtown.org