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IDA's 2017 Emerging Leaders Fellowship Program Attracts Top Urban Champions *Fellows to learn essential leadership and place management skills in New York City*

WASHINGTON, DC – The International Downtown Association has selected 28 of the industry's brightest professionals for the 2017 Emerging Leaders Fellowship Program. These senior staff members hail from 4 countries and 17 provinces or states, including London (UK), Dartmouth (Nova Scotia), Washington DC, Salt Lake City, Louisville, Dallas, Santa Monica, and Malmö (Sweden).

The Emerging Leader Fellowship is a week-long experiential program 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. "With this program, we're educating and inspiring the next generation of leaders."

The program, which takes place June 11-16 in New York City, features intensive instruction delivered by IDA partners at Baruch College, City University of New York, International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), and Coro New York Leadership Center. Technical in-the-field training will be provided by professionals within several business improvement district organizations across the city. The event takes place at the ICSC Leadership Center in New York City, with field visits provided by several local BID leaders.

"The smashing success of our inaugural Fellowship program in 2016 underscored how critical this training is to our growing industry," said Downey. "This is the only program of its kind created specifically for urban place management professionals. IDA is looking to further illustrate the importance of our industry by raising up leaders with the necessary skills to champion inclusive city building."

Congratulations to the 2017 cohort!



IDA's next event will be the 63rd Annual Conference & Tradeshow September 13-15, 2017 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. For more information visit www.idaconference.org.

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.downtown.org.

About the Coro New York Leadership Center

Coro New York Leadership Center is New York's premier leadership training organization and a community of over 2,300 alumni across business, government, schools, and non-profits that is shaping our city's future. Coro training helps individuals hone their visions for change and learn how to exercise leadership with greater self-awareness, intention, and effectiveness. We work with leaders, both seasoned and emerging, from many different fields who come to Coro to discover how cities really work and how policy is shaped, while also learning how to collaborate across differences, build culture and community, and make progress on shared challenges. From commissioners and city councilmembers to activists, executives, and entrepreneurs, those who come to Coro build the skills, knowledge, and networks to help them pursue their visions for change with greater effectiveness and impact.

Through a series of three leadership training sessions, Coro will provide participants in IDA's Fellowship with a set of frameworks and strategies to help them develop best practices for leading change. Focusing on the personal, interpersonal and systems-level, each session will examine change-making from a different lens and provide new tools, along with experiential activities to test out these new ideas in action.

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