

City of Riders



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: City of Sturgis Receives Excellence in Economic Development' Award from the International Economic Development Council.

The City of Sturgis won a Gold 'Excellence in Economic Development' Award for its *Winter Storm Atlas Recovery & Catalyst of Growth Campaign*, a project in the category of Multi Year Economic Development of the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

The honor was presented at an awards ceremony on Tuesday, Sept. 19, during the IEDC Annual Conference, held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

"On behalf of the IEDC board of directors and Excellence in Economic Development Awards Advisory Committee, congratulations to the City of Sturgis. Not only did they work to provide a necessary service to their community; but also, their participation in the awards program sheds light on their stellar projects which other communities can now use as a benchmark." - Michael Langley, FM, CEO of GREATER MSP, Minneapolis–St. Paul, MN, and 2017 IEDC Board Chair.

Throughout Oct. 3-5, 2013, Sturgis and the surrounding Black Hills region experienced Winter Storm Atlas. The storm began with a large heavy rainfall and developed into up to 4' of heavy wet snow being dumped on the community. The immediate aftermath saw hundreds of thousands of cattle killed, dozens of buildings partially or completely collapsed and weeks of snow plowing and debris removal.

During this recovery period, the City of Sturgis partnered with the not for profit Sturgis Economic Development Corp. (SEDC) to ensure that every affected business was able to temporarily relocate and eventually rebuild. The reconstruction effort led to significant expansions and no fewer than 6 new retailers opening in our rural community. This significant expansion caught the attention of the local media which in turn helped to catalyze more residential, commercial and industrial expansions. In the time following the Presidentially declared disaster, the community has continued to see the largest economic expansion in its history. With sustainable growth in all sectors.

"The awards process is a thorough, non-biased and multi-layered process. These are

extraordinary accomplishments for all winners, and an overall great effort by all participants. We look forward to next year's awards competition," Langley said.

About the International Economic Development Council

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 5,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. Among many activities which benefit the economy, IEDC's members create high-quality jobs and develop vibrant communities.
www.iedcONLINE.org.



Toronto, Ontario, Canada - SEDC President, Pat Kurtenbach receives the 'Excellence in Economic Development' award on behalf of the City of Sturgis.

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