

The **INSTITUTE** for

Public Policy & Economic Development

A partnership among Keystone College, King's College, Luzerne County Community College, Marywood University, Misericordia University, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, The Commonwealth Medical College, University of Scranton, & Wilkes University

Release: Immediate

Date: April 21, 2010

Contact: Teri Ooms
The Institute
570.408.9850
ooms@urbanstudies.org

Fifth Annual Indicators Event: Three Keynotes Announced

(Northeastern Pennsylvania) The annual Lackawanna Luzerne County Indicators Report will be released on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at a forum held at the Scranton Radisson. The event will run from 8:30 a.m to Noon.

This year marks the 5th year of the initiative that began with the presentation of the first report followed by a regional visioning and planning session. Since that event approximately 100 volunteers work in four task forces have been trying to meet the goals established at the event.

Chairman, Tim Gilmour, President of Wilkes University, indicated that “two of the biggest benefits of the indicators initiative is the resulting dialogue and collaboration that has emerged as well as published, easy to read and access data in order to make informed decisions.”

In light of the latest report, The Institute thought it best to deviate from its standard format and include speakers and more audience participation. This year we have invited three individuals as keynote speakers: Brian P. McGowan, Dr. David Crowe, and Kathryn Klaber.

McGowan is the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, and Chief Operating Officer for the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). McGowan has economic development experience at all levels of government and created initiatives to support economic recovery in one of the world's largest economies – California.

Crowe is the Chief Economist at the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) will be keynote speaker at the symposium. Crowe's presentation will detail national, state, and regional housing outlooks.

Klaber serves as the Marcellus Shale Coalition's (MSC) first President and Executive Director. In this role, on behalf of the MSC member companies, she works closely with elected leaders, regulators and the civic community to realize the responsible development of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale geological formation and the enhancement of Pennsylvania's economy that can be realized by this clean-burning energy source.

Executive Director Teri Ooms said, "This is a great opportunity to provide northeastern Pennsylvania with not only the data, but with access to information and expertise to harness the opportunities to revitalize and sustain the region."

Event Sponsors for the 2010 event include: Luzerne County, Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs; Radisson Hotel, Scranton Area Foundation, and the Willary Foundation.

A brief summation of the report itself will be provided and each attendee will receive their own copy. Registration forms may be found at www.institutepa.org.

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