

Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation Quarterly Newsletter



All,

Even though we are still squarely in the middle of winter, we have had a few hopeful glimpses of what is to come: Clouds and gray have given way for several days of clear, blue skies. Likewise, we are optimistic about the future of our workforce and the vibrant, resilient economy they help make. In this aim, please find our latest set of resources below. We wish you all happiness and health as we enter the spring.

Yours, Frank, Sam, Curt, and Alex

Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center (VMEC) Training

OSHA Compliance 101: February 21, 2024 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Whether you're a small business owner, safety manager, or on the front lines of workplace

health and safety, this essential session is designed to guide you through the intricacies of OSHA's inspection process, help you maintain a safe work environment, and achieve compliance with OSHA regulations.

Register here.

VEDA Seeking SSBCI Fund Manager

The Vermont Economic Development Authority (VEDA), in its capacity as the implementing entity for the State of Vermont, is seeking proposals to support the management of venture capital funds allocated to the State of Vermont through the federal State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) intended to provide greater access to capital for Vermont entrepreneurs and small business startups.

VEDA is currently requesting proposals from organizations that have the capability and desire to serve as a Venture Capital Program fund manager. These funds are intended to increase the amount of investment capital provided to new Vermont companies or to existing firms for the purpose of expansion. These funds are viewed as a catalyst to leverage private investment, increase business development, and the diversification of Vermont's economy.

VEDA may select more than one fund manager to manage up to \$12.5 million of remaining funds for the Venture Capital Program.

Interested parties can view the request for proposal (RFP) <u>here</u>. Questions about the RFP will be accepted until **February 16, 2024** and should be sent via email to Thad Richardson of VEDA (trichardson@veda.org). The deadline for proposal submission is **March 1, 2024** at **1:00 PM EST**.

Homes for All Toolkit Launch and Training Summit: March 14

Join the VT Department of Housing and Community Development and statewide partners for the <u>Homes for All</u> Toolkit Launch and Training on March 14! This interactive event is for novice and emerging small-scale home builders seeking to start developing new and renovated homes in Vermont, community development professionals and local leaders looking for new housing tools to support Vermonters, and anyone interested in innovative solutions to Vermont's housing crisis. Learn more and register here.

Permit Obtainment Assistance (POA)

Are you aware of property subject to the 3-acre permit? Vermont's 3-acre permit requirements pose a challenge to those who are unaccustomed to regulatory matters. Cost of compliance is also a concern. The POA program is a beneficiary program that provides

financial assistance to eligible sites seeking to obtain permit coverage. <u>Visit the website</u> and learn more by Oct 31st, 2024.

Flood Recovery Rebates Increased for Businesses

The Efficiency Vermont Flood Recovery program has been enhanced to include more incentives for qualifying equipment losses. Businesses with heating, cooling, refrigeration, or commercial kitchen equipment damage can receive a flood recovery rebate of 100% of costs up to \$4,000 per product (up to four products), in addition to standard offers. Learn more here.

VTrans Electrify Your Fleet Program

The <u>Electrify Your Fleet</u> incentive program was authorized to accelerate the retirement of internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles and help Vermont municipalities and business entities enjoy the benefits of cleaner transportation options. Combined with other potential federal, state, and electric utility incentives, eligible fleet owners have an opportunity to save thousands of dollars on clean transportation alternatives.

The total incentive pool of \$500,000 is equally available to all Vermont commercial, municipal, and nonprofit fleet owners on a statewide first-come, first-served basis. Forty percent (40%) or \$200,000 of the available funds will be available on a first-come, first-served basis to applicants who are from, or who primarily serve, historically underserved communities.

Please find more information on the program here.

UVM Annual Spring Job + Internship Fair: February 28

The February 28 event is the largest career fair of the semester at UVM and includes organizations from all industries who want to recruit Catamounts. <u>Learn more here</u>.

VT Chamber Business Survey

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce has launched their annual economic survey of smallto-medium-sized businesses. The results will be shared with state media and legislators. Please take a few minutes to complete the brief survey and provide valuable feedback. Click <u>here</u> for the survey. The results from the previous two surveys are here: <u>2023</u>; <u>2022</u>

Burlington South End Redevelopment Process Survey

Following an open house public meeting in December, Burlington is seeking public feedback on design concepts through an online survey that will be available through the

end of February. Learn more about the South End Coordinated Redevelopment Process and take the survey <u>here</u>.

About GBIC:

As the certified non-profit economic development corporation serving Chittenden County, GBIC is dedicated to implementing our vision of a thriving Lake Champlain region. This includes an economic environment providing meaningful employment consistent with an uncompromised natural environment, enabling present and future generations of Vermonters to live, learn, work, and play in the Champlain Valley.

GBIC strives to attract, retain, and expand environmentally sensitive high-paying jobs in the Champlain Valley, and to initiate and support advocacy, education, and collaborative programs in promoting our Vision.

Visit gbicvt.org

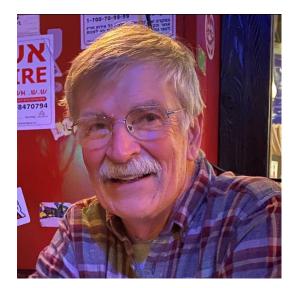
GBIC Staff:



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Sam Andersen Executive Vice President



Curt Carter Senior Vice President



Alex Demoly Economic Development Specialist

Partners:

- <u>Agency of Commerce and Community Development</u>
- Department of Economic Development
- <u>Vermont COVID Information</u>
- Vermont Labor Market Information
- <u>Vermont Economic Development Authority</u>
- Vermont Employment Growth Incentive
- Vermont Training Program
- Vermont Community Development Program
- <u>Vermont Center for Emerging Technology</u>
- Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center
- Procurement Technical Assistance Center
- Efficiency Vermont
- <u>Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission</u>

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