AGENDA

Building Economic Resilience to Disasters in the Buffalo Niagara Region
A training workshop for business owners, chamber representatives, and economic developers
Conference & Event Center, Niagara Falls, NY

Tuesday, February 25  
Governors Amphitheater

5:00-6:30 pm  
Opening Keynote: The Role of Economic Developers and Business Leaders in Regional Resilience
Patricia Moulton Powden, Executive Director, Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
After refreshments and networking, hear from an economic development leader whose region has dealt with severe flooding about the key roles economic developers and business owners can play in disaster preparedness and recovery.

Wednesday, February 26  
Porter/DeVeaux Rooms

8:00-8:30 am  
Registration and Breakfast

8:30-10:30 am  
Training for Business Owners: Developing a Business Continuity Plan
Gail Moraton, Business Resiliency Manager, Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety
This session will walk business owners through the process of creating continuity plans, a critical step to minimize disruption from flooding and other unexpected events and to protect facilities and records. Local government and Chamber staff are encouraged to observe this training.

10:30-10:45 am  
Break

10:45 am-12:00 pm  
Train-the-Trainer for Local Government and Chamber Staff: Helping Businesses Develop Continuity Plans
Gail Moraton, Business Resiliency Manager, Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety
Following up on the morning training, this session will equip local economic developers and Chamber staff to work with business owners in their communities to develop continuity plans.

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| 12:00-1:30 pm| Lunchtime Presentation and Discussion: What do you need to know about natural hazards in your community?  
Josh Human, Director, University of Louisville Center for Hazards Research and Policy Development  
Over lunch, learn from a hazard mitigation expert about risks in your region, how to assess them in your location, and where to find further information. |
| 1:30-3:30 pm| Taking Advantage of Funding for Disaster Preparedness and Recovery  
Crystal Abers, Director, Cattaraugus County Economic Development, Planning, and Tourism  
Susan McCartney, Director, Buffalo State College Small Business Development Center  
Patricia Moulton Powden, Executive Director, Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation  
Hear from economic development practitioners experienced with flooding about where to find funding for mitigation and recovery and how to be ready to access it quickly when disaster strikes. |
| 3:30 pm      | Adjourn                                                               |