

# AGENDA

## Building Economic Resilience to Disasters in the Buffalo Niagara Region

A training workshop for business owners and economic developers

Conference & Event Center, Niagara Falls, NY

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**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.

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**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**