

News Release
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Contact: Carrie Bourdages
Communications Specialist
Voice: (231) 929-5038
Email: carriebourdages@nwm.cog.mi.us

Governor Snyder Appoints Northwest Michigan Council of Governments' CEO to Talent Investment Board

TRAVERSE CITY — Gov. Rick Snyder appointed Elaine Wood, CEO of the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments (NWMCOG), to a newly-created Talent Investment Board, with the goal to focus on job creation while developing and connecting the state's talent.

"I'm pleased to be a part of this statewide endeavor to develop a strong talent base at this important time for Michigan's economy," Wood said.

The 47-member board replaces and streamlines the former Council for Labor and Economic Growth, which had 71 members. The board, comprised primarily of business leaders, is housed within the Workforce Development Agency in the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. It is charged with advising and assisting the governor regarding compliance with the federal Workforce Investment Act and overall talent development.

"One of the ways we will reinvent Michigan is to create an environment of job growth and talent and development," Snyder said. "I am confident these individuals will use their diverse backgrounds and expertise to help meet these key goals."

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NOTE to Media: UPDATED PHOTO INCLUDED WITH RELEASE.

Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Tom White at tomwhite@nwm.com.mi.us and stating preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5044. Check our online Media Room at: <http://nwm.org/media.asp>

The Northwest Michigan Council of Governments, founded in 1973, facilitates and manages services and programs for ten counties in the region. These programs include Regional Planning and Community Development; Northwest Michigan Sustainable Business Forum, Northwest Michigan Works, Workforce Development Board, Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center Region 2, Hospitality Skills Alliance, the Procurement Technical Assistance Center program, KAL-TEC, Healthcare Skills Alliance of Northwest Michigan, and the Regional Repository for US Census data.

Some services of NWMCOG are in direct support of the counties, some are independent services provided to the public and businesses at large. NWMCOG is able to leverage several collaborative partnerships to extend limited resources and provide economies of scale for projects that operate on a regional basis. NWMCOG's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.