

January 16, 2012

To the Members of the 68th General Assembly:

Our first and only priority remains the retention and creation of jobs across the State. Analysts have said that Colorado has endured the recession better than most states across the country. Many economists have said we are poised to recover faster and more robustly than other states. Our mission at the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) is to expedite our economic recovery in every corner of the state.

With the recent unprecedented announcements of two new Fortune 500 companies calling Colorado home, and the growth of local companies adding jobs and investing in our State, we know that we have only begun to see Colorado's economic growth in the new millennium.

On behalf of OEDIT, we want to extend our gratitude for your continued dedication to serving the people of Colorado and for your ongoing support of our mission at OEDIT.

Since joining OEDIT in August, we have invigorated a team of talented professionals with an extraordinary commitment to building Colorado's economy. We have realigned our resources to become more efficient and more effective in the execution of our plans. These efforts are already paying dividends.

With the Colorado Blueprint as our map, we have made great strides in building a more competitive Colorado. The Colorado Blueprint forms the basis of a first-ever statewide strategy focused on six core objectives:

- Build a Business-Friendly Environment
- Retain, Grow and Recruit Companies
- Increase Access to Capital
- Create and Market a Stronger Colorado Brand
- Education and Train the Workforce of the Future
- Cultivate Innovation and Technology

Our goal is for everyone – business-people, workers, elected officials, community leaders and the people of Colorado – to understand how we are working together to grow jobs, our economy and our State. As part of our efforts, we have committed to being more transparent and more accessible to our many partners; as part of this commitment, we will be providing more regular reports to communicate our efforts. We hope this letter serves as the first of many updates we will be sharing with you in 2012.