



ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS
OF NORTHWEST COLORADO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

10th Annual Economic Development Summit

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE FOR TODAY'S PIONEER

AGNC's 10th Annual Economic Development Summit

TUESDAY, 9 AM - 4 PM
26 AUGUST 2025

GRAND RIVER HEALTH EVENT CENTER
RIFLE, CO

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Mark C. Perna
Speaker | Author | CEO

9:00 AM – Welcome & Opening Remarks (15 min)
Emcees: Camron Wyatt & Nicolette DiPietro – Colorado River BOCES

9:15 AM – Keynote Address: Unlocking Your Competitive Advantage (90 min)
Mark Perna – National Expert on Workforce & Generational Strategies

10:45 AM – Networking Break (15 min)

11:00 AM – YouthEntity: Building the Next Generation of Local Talent (20 min)
Kristina Freeman – Executive Director, YouthEntity

11:20 PM – Youth Panel: What Today's Students Need from Tomorrow's Economy (40 min)
Moderated by YouthEntity, featuring student leaders from across the region

12:05 PM – Homegrown Pathways: Empowering the Next Generation of Pioneers (20 min)
Colin Lacy – Founder & CEO, Homegrown Pathways

12:25 PM – Lunch & Networking (40 min)
Networking Lunch hosted by Downtown Colorado, Inc. and Outgrow Your Garage with support from USDA Rural Development



1:05 PM – Economic Forecast: The Outlook for Northwest Colorado (90 min)
Nathan Perry, Ph.D. – Professor of Economics, Colorado Mesa University

2:35 PM – Networking Break (15 min)

2:50 PM – Startup Colorado: Cultivating Rural Entrepreneurship (20 min)
Brittany Romano – Executive Director, Startup Colorado

3:20 PM – Colorado Apprenticeship Hub: Forging Futures for Today's Pioneer (30 min)
Marcus Weathersby – Registered Apprenticeship Consultant, Colorado Apprenticeship Hub

3:55 PM – Closing Remarks: Trail's End & the Road Ahead (5 min)
Tinker Duclou – Vice President & Campus Dean of CMC Rifle

4:00 PM – Adjourn

Scan or [Click Here](#) to
View Full Speaker
Biographies



Thank you to our 2025 ED Summit Sponsors!

