



News Release  
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## **Williston Economic Development wins Bronze Award from International Economic Development Council**

Williston Economic Development (WED) received a Bronze Award for its "Economic Development Week" project in the category of Innovation in Economic Development Week from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

The project was recognized at an awards ceremony during the IEDC Annual Conference this fall in Indianapolis, IN.

"It's always an honor when you are recognized by an organization such as IEDC. They are the gold standard in the economic development world," said Wenko.

WED's "Economic Development Week" promotional campaign was held in conjunction with the 2019 International Economic Development Week (May 6-11). The week-long event included an open house with live radio remote, letters to the editor, a professional video featuring economic development, extensive social media campaign and a celebratory awards and appreciation ceremony.

"It's important to continue to promote the profession of economic development and the value our efforts can bring to a community. Across the globe, there are 20,000 developers out there doing what we do daily and selling their communities to potential investment. It's important that the City of Williston and the region is positioned well to attract future growth and prosperity," Wenko said.

The IEDC's awards process is a thorough, non-biased and multi-layered process that recognizes accomplishments that can be modeled in other communities.

WED is in the heart of the Bakken Shale oil and gas play. The community has seen significant growth over the past several years. It had been labeled by the U.S. census bureau as one of the fastest growing micropolitan areas in the nation for several years in a row.

**About the International Economic Development Council**

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 5,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. Among many activities which benefit the economy, IEDC's members create high-quality jobs and develop vibrant communities. [www.iedcONLINE.org](http://www.iedcONLINE.org).