

ONWARD

PIERCE COUNTY MEANS BUSINESS

February 2023 | No. 273 | [ChooseTacomaPierce.org](https://www.choosetacomapierce.org)



Ready for impact: A message from Rachel Askew and Grant Twyman of NEXT

When the EDB contracted with [NEXT Consulting](#) last year to help enhance its work around DEI and serving BIPOC businesses, the seeds of transformation had already been planted. Over the last few years, the EDB Board has invested significant time to come up with big strategies that will directly and quickly impact people in the community. Now, we're ready to harvest the fruits of that investment.

Over the coming months, we'll work with the EDB's powerful team to further diversify and strengthen the organization's board and determine what BIPOC businesses need and what the EDB can provide. A big part of that will be doing the things the NEXT team enjoys most - making connections and helping folks build relationships.



EDB continues to refine work program around DEI

Tasks planned over the coming months will help the EDB diversify and strengthen its board and better serve BIPOC businesses.

[Read more](#)



Celebrate Black history (and businesses) in Pierce County

One of the most intentional ways to celebrate this month (and all year-round) is to support Black-owned businesses.

[Read more](#)



Chambers Bay resort development shelved, for now

Termination of the agreement doesn't change the fact that Chambers Bay is still an incredible Pierce County amenity.

[Read more](#)



New EDCPC board members help Pierce County businesses compete

The Pierce County Council recently approved the addition of three new members to the Economic Development Corporation of Pierce County board.

[Read more](#)

It's a date! 2023 EDB Annual Meeting is May 3

The 2023 EDB Annual Meeting will be held 11:30 am-1:30 pm, May 3, at the McGavick Conference Center on the Clover Park Technical College campus. Watch for more details in your email inbox and in future issues of Onward.

NEWSBRIEFS

Milgard Business Leadership Awards: Submit nominations by Feb. 15

The UW Tacoma Milgard School of Business is accepting nominations for its 2023 Business Leadership Awards. Among the categories are the women's leadership award and DEI community leadership award.

[Read more](#)

MBDA Capital Readiness Program grant competition: Apply by Feb. 28

A total of \$93.5 million from the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) grant competition will help minority and other underserved entrepreneurs launch and scale their businesses.

[Read more](#)

Hospitality & Lodging Grant portal opens in March

The Department of Commerce grant program will assist restaurants, bars, hotels, motels and other businesses negatively impacted by COVID pandemic. The application portal is set to launch the first week of March.

[Read more](#)

2023 Supervisory Academy: March 23

Invista Performance Solutions is partnering with the EDB to offer a full day of in-person training led by expert facilitators. Workshops offer tools, insights and practices to help supervisors and managers be more effective leaders.

[Read more](#)

Sold-out Horizons Economic Forecast offers 2023 outlook

More than 500 people attended the Horizons Economic Forecast on Jan. 26 to glean insights about the area's economic wellbeing. The 2023 Pierce County Economic Index dives deeper into what's ahead.

[Read more](#)

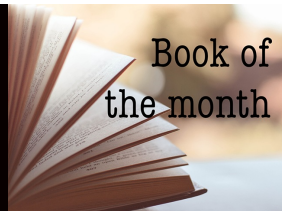
Tacoma Arts Live launches small business incubator

The Accelerating Creative Enterprise (ACE) incubator seeks BIPOC and women-owned/led small businesses to help transform the Tacoma Armory into a hub for arts, culture and community.

[Read more](#)

What are you reading?

Rachel Askew, Founder and Senior Partner of Strategy and Innovation for NEXT Consulting, recommends [The Waymakers: Clearing the](#)



Book of
the month

[Path to Workplace Equity with Competence and Confidence](#) by Tara Jaye Frank.

“If you’re serious about shifting equity and inclusion in your organization, this is the place to start.”

NEWS

[South Sound Business: Spotlight on Tacoma](#)

[Boeing poised to pass Microsoft on list of WA's largest employers](#)

[Chair of group siting new airport sees Pierce, Thurston locations as ‘low probability’](#)

[David Fischer: Arts groups must innovate to get people off the couch](#)

[Employers facing their biggest DEI test](#)

[Knutson Farms sells 72 acres of undeveloped land in Puyallup for \\$27.5M](#)

[Columbia-Umpqua merger gets final green light](#)

Team With Us

253.383.4726
info@edbtacomapierce.org
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Onward is a service of the EDB, a non-profit corporation focused on recruitment and retention of primary businesses in Tacoma and Pierce County, Washington, USA.
950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 410 | Tacoma, Washington 98402 | 253.383.4726
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