



Administered by the
MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

INVITATION TO RENEW
Adopt-A-Benchmark

The Maine Economic Growth Council (MEGC) encourages your organization to renew your adoptions in our Adopt-A-Benchmark program.

As you may recall, this program was created to strengthen existing relationships with those organizations and agencies that play an active role in achieving the benchmarks established by MEGC. This is a way for your organization or agency to receive recognition for the good work that you are doing in promoting Maine's long-term economic growth. The benefits to your organization include:

- ◆ Framed certificate for your office wall;
- ◆ The opportunity to publicly demonstrate your commitment to making Maine prosper--to moving an issue forward;
- ◆ Recognition at MDF's annual meeting;
- ◆ Recognition in MDF's *Catalyst* e-newsletter which is emailed to over 7,500 people;
- ◆ Your organization will qualify to be considered for Gold Star Awards, which recognize demonstrated commitment to the benchmark(s) you adopted, thereby moving Maine towards the goal of economic prosperity;
- ◆ Receive recognition at MEGC events.

To renew an adopted benchmark, you must fill out and return the attached renewal papers along with a \$10 per benchmark adoption renewal fee. *The renewal fee is waived for Maine Development Foundation members.* **In order to be recognized at the Maine Development Foundation Annual Meeting being held at Point Lookout in Northport on September 16, 2011 please submit your renewal papers no later than August 31st.** Please note that the adoption is for one year from June 30th to June 30th, after which time you will have the option of renewing your adoption.

As well as renewing your current adoptions, you can adopt other benchmarks as you deem appropriate for your organization.

If your organization would like to be considered for a Gold Star Award at this year's annual meeting, we will ask you to prepare a very brief progress report of actions you have taken to move this issue forward **from June 30, 2010 to June 30, 2011.** The reports will need to be received by **July 29, 2011** in order to be considered in time for the annual meeting. Gold Star Awards will be presented to companies/organizations that have demonstrated exceptional performance on their adopted benchmark(s). Awards will be presented at the 2008 MDF Annual Meeting; Gold Star Award recipients will be notified prior to the Annual Meeting. Winners will also be showcased on the MDF website and in *The Catalyst*, MDF's newsletter.

Please fill out the accompanying adoption papers and return to:

Maine Economic Growth Council
295 Water Street, Suite 5
Augusta, ME 04330



Official Adoption Renewal Papers

Adopt-A-Benchmark

Name of Agency/Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Which benchmark(s) do you wish to renew? Please provide name(s) from the list on the last page.
(Please note that you may adopt benchmarks that you didn't previously adopt with this form as well as renew adoptions that you made the previous year.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this application with the \$10/benchmark adoption renewal fee (*Free to MDF members*) to:

Maine Development Foundation
295 Water Street, Suite 5,
Augusta, ME 04330
Fax: 207-622-6346
Email: rneale@mdf.org

____ Enclosed is my check for: \$_____ (Make checks payable to Maine Development Foundation)

____ Please bill my credit card in the amount of: \$_____

(circle one): MasterCard Visa

Credit Card #: _____ Expires: _____

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

2011 Performance Measures of the Maine Economic Growth Council

ECONOMY

Prosperity

- ≡ 1. Per Capita Personal Income
- + 2. Gross Domestic Product
- ⊖ 3. Employment
- + 4. Multiple Job Holding

Business Innovation

- ≡ 5. Research and Development Expenditures
- + ★ 6. International Exports
- ⊖ 7. High Speed Internet Subscribers
- ⊖ 8. New Business Starts
- + 9. Manufacturing Productivity

Skilled and Educated Workers

- + 10. Higher Degree Attainment
- ≡ 11. Fourth Grade Reading Scores

Business Climate

- ⊖ 12. Cost of Doing Business
- ⊖ 13. Cost of Health Care
- + 14. Cost of Energy
- ≡ 15. State and Local Tax Burden
- ≡ 16. Transportation Infrastructure
- ≡ 17. On-the-job Injuries and Illnesses

COMMUNITY

Civic Assets

- + 18. Affordable Housing

Disparities

- ≡ 19. Poverty
- ⊖ 20. Gender Income Disparity

Health and Safety

- ⊖ 21. Wellness and Prevention
- ≡ 22. Health Insurance Coverage

ENVIRONMENT

Preservation

- + ★ 23. Conservation Lands

Stewardship

- + 24. Sustainable Forest Lands

Access

- ⊖ 25. Population of Service Center Communities

KEY TO SYMBOLS

GOLD STARS & RED FLAGS

Determining which performance measures receive Gold Stars and Red Flags are judgments made by members of the Maine Economic Growth Council. These determinations reflect consensus of the group and are based on consideration of the best data available and the experienced perspective of Growth Council members. Generally, criteria are as follows:

★ Exceptional performance.

Very high national standing and/or established trend towards significant improvement.

⚑ Needs attention.

Very low national standing and/or established trend towards significant decline. In some cases, there is improvement, but it is still viewed as needing attention.

PROGRESS SYMBOLS

The progress symbols reflect movement toward or away from the benchmarks. The benchmarks are established by the Growth Council progress is determined objectively each year by reviewing the most recent trend. The Growth Council does not use a uniform methodology in creating benchmarks. Criteria for applying the progress symbols are as follows:

+ We have moved toward the benchmark since last available data.

⊖ We have moved away from the benchmark since last available data.

≡ No significant movement either way since last available data.