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Economic Development Summit Talking Points

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May-2000

Economic Summit

(select subject from controlled vocabulary, if your office has one)

05/28/2000
Q & A

Q1. Who will be coming to your economic development summit in Great Falls?

A1. We’re going to have people who have a national and international perspective on economic development. They are people who encountered some of the same problems Montana is facing right now.

They have experience helping to boost state, regional and national economies and creating good jobs.

For instance, we will have Larry Summers, who is the secretary of the Treasury, which oversees our national economy.

Former Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus, who helped make Boise an engine of economic growth and which continues to power the rest of Idaho.

Robert Krebs, chairman and CEO of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad.

Greg Rhode, assistant secretary of Commerce who oversees national telecommunications – important to bridging the Digital Divide in rural states like Montana.

Tony Preite, regional director for the Economic Development Administration and a Montanan.

Q2. Why is the summit so important to Montana?

A2. Because we need to turn our economy around – draft a road map so we all work together to boost our economy.

I want everyone to be involved in this summit and improving our economy. We need a public-private partnership. That’s key to boosting our economy.

Bringing these national leaders – and we’ll have more to announce soon – will add more ideas to the mix to improve our economy.

This is just the beginning. We’ve got to create that "CAN DO" attitude to turn our economy around.

I want to see hundreds of people in Great Falls on June 25 and 26 who are ready to work to get the job done.