



NEWS RELEASE

New West Opportunities Proud of Recognition for Inner Cities Community Development

“We must stop trying to cure the inner city’s problems by only focusing on increased social investment and, ultimately (fingers-crossed), hoping for economic activity to follow. We also need to identify, nurture and leverage the competitive strengths, advantages and economic potential which exists in our inner cities.”

Michael E. Porter, Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) Founder and Chairman

Chicago, Illinois/January 4, 2018 – New West Opportunities (NWO) fully and passionately endorses the vision of the *Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC)*, as outlined above by ICIC Founder and Chairman Michael E. Porter. Of the 328 cities in the United States with “inner cities,” which together are home to about 32 million Americans, we also see communities rich with opportunity and potential to transform themselves, providing a better and more economically- and socially-sustainable future for all.

“NWO’s Recognition for Excellence in Community Economic Development by the American Inner Cities Partnership...for our recent work in Chicago, Cleveland, Buffalo and Milwaukee...is something we are incredibly proud of,” said Tanya-Mae Brown, Senior NWO Associate, Community and Economic Development.

“But all we have done in talking with the over 4,800 community leaders, residents, business folks, organizers and activists in these communities over the past 12 months is – without any pre-determined outcomes – **LISTEN** and **REFLECT THE NEEDS AND PRIORITIES OF INNER CITY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES**. Then – working closely and together with our community partners, as we have done from Day #1 – to be there with you to help advocate and ensure that your communities, your residents, your businesses and business start-ups can all access the required resources, investments and supports to make it happen!”

Ms. Brown added, “A special shout-out to Shane Pospisil, Shaun Green, and to the entire New West Opportunities USA and Canadian-based Community and Economic Development Team for its passionate and dedicated work on this project. Your detailed research and best practices economic development templates and business plans are already driving real and meaningful community transformation initiatives. But a real special shout-out to all of our community partners for your valuable and insightful participation...together, and every step of the way. **THANK YOU** and we look forward to continuing to work with all of you in the months ahead!”

New West Opportunities (NWO) is a cross-border U.S.-Canada Business Strategy and Community Development consulting firm. The firm continues to expand – in the U.S., Canada and internationally – and now includes 8 Partners and 57 Associates, located in 10 major North American business centres, in addition to a new international office in Cape Town, South Africa.

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