

NEWS RELEASE:

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MAINE SBDC TO PRESENT “NO SNOW; LET’S GO” WORKSHOPS FOR BUSINESS OWNERS ADVERSLY IMPACTED BY MAINE’S LACK OF SNOW

Portland, Maine: Maine Small Business Development Centers (Maine SBDC) announced today that, in an effort to take the edge off of difficult times for existing small business owners, it is spearheading a collaborative program of workshops for businesses adversely affected by this year’s lack of snow. The workshops will be presented in Bangor on April 4th for businesses in Piscataquis county and northeastern Penobscot county and in Madison on April 5th for businesses in Somerset and northern/western Franklin counties. The Maine SBDC also plans to step-up its technical assistance activity at its outreach offices in Bingham, Rangeley, Dover-Foxcroft and Millinocket.

The workshop program, entitled *No Snow; Lets Go*, is a collaborative effort by the Maine SBDC in association with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) and local economic development agencies. The workshops and technical assistance are designed to equip entrepreneurs with immediate knowledge on options available as a result of Maine’s lack of snow business downturn.

Two workshops are being offered consecutively and include:

- ***Understanding Cash Flow*** (Part A) covers the basic components of business financial statements, and the inter-relationship of the income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow statement.
- ***Basic Financing Options*** (Part B) covers ways a small business can raise money as well as preparing a loan proposal for one’s business. Various lenders will be on hand as part of this workshop program.

Understanding Cash Flow starts each day at 2PM and *Basic Financing Options* immediately follows at 4:30PM. Each workshop will be held on April 4th at Eastern Maine Development Corporation’s Headquarters in Bangor and again on April 5th at Madison Area Memorial High School. Full workshop descriptions and information can be found on the Maine Business Works’ website: www.mainebusinessworks.org.

Those business owners planning to attend should register with Sarah Hutchins at the Maine SBDC State Administrative Offices, University of Southern Maine, by calling Sarah at 780-4420 or emailing one’s name, address and phone number to sarahp@usm.maine.edu, including the date and location one’s chosen. There is no cost to participants for the *No Snow; Let’s Go* workshops and resulting follow-up technical assistance.

About Maine Small Business Development Centers: *Maine Small Business Development Centers (Maine SBDC) and its tech-focus group, Maine Small Business & Technology Development Centers (Maine SBTDC) provide comprehensive business management assistance, training, resource and information services to Maine’s micro, small and technology-based business communities. Business assistance is provided at no cost to business owners by professional certified business counselors who meet rigorous education and business experience standards.*

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Maine SBDC/SBTDC is a partnership program of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in association with the SBA/OSBDC, Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (Maine DECD), the University of Southern Maine (USM), and leading economic and/or community development hosting organizations, including the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG), Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI), Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC), and the Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC); with support from the Maine Technology Institute (MTI), the University of Maine (UMaine), and other contractors, allies and stakeholders.

Accredited by the Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC) and administered by USM's School of Business, Maine SBDC/SBTDC operates a network of service centers and outreach offices located conveniently throughout the state. More information about the Maine SBDC/SBTDC can be found at www.mainesbdc.org.

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