

# ONWARD

PIERCE COUNTY MEANS BUSINESS

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## Furthering our work: A message from Lisa Goodman, EDB Board Chair and Benaroya Company Executive Team

I'm honored to take the reins as chair of the EDB board and continue the organization's work to attract companies in an equitable way. We've already begun to expand diversity within the organization and better serve Pierce County's BIPOC and diverse-owned businesses. Building upon this work will help us better reflect the community and make the South Sound a better place to live, work and do business.

Companies choose Pierce County because of its abundant amenities and benefits that help businesses thrive. I am proud to count the [Centeris South Hill Data Center](#) among them. Since receiving certification in September 2022 that enables our eligible customers and tenants to participate in the state's [urban sales tax exemption program](#), we've seen an increase in interest from companies of all sizes from across sectors, both locally and globally, from gaming to health care to the military to disaster recovery.

What we do is just one small piece of what makes Pierce County a business destination and an inclusive community for all.



## Women who lead

The EDB recently asked some of region's prominent female leaders to share their thoughts for women seeking similar paths.

[Read more](#)



## The EDB is out there

EDB staff members have been making the rounds (and future plans) to connect, network, share and learn the latest.

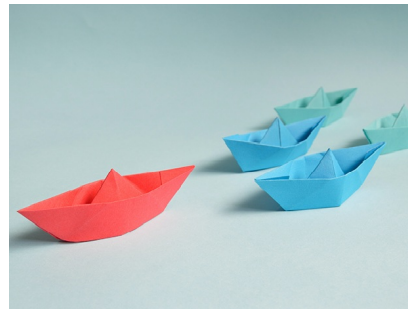
[Read more](#)



### Milgard Women's Initiative helps leaders grow

The program offers a robust mentoring program, community speaker series, and a high school program designed to help girls envision themselves as leaders.

[Read more](#)



### Invista Supervisory Academy: March 23

Invista Performance Solutions is partnering with the EDB, City of Tacoma and South Sound Business to offer a day of training for supervisors and managers.

[Read more](#)



### Register for the 2023 EDB annual meeting

Registration is now open for the 2023 EDB Annual Meeting, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, May 3, at the McGavick Conference Center. Reserve your spot today! **Advance tickets are required.**

[Register today!](#)

## NEWSBRIEFS

#### PreCycle Innovation Challenge: Apply by March 13

PreCycle is looking for products, services or ideas that address waste reduction and solutions in Washington. The virtual pitch competition offers workshops, mentorship and cash prizes.

[Read more](#)

#### Update: Washington Hospitality Grant portal slated to open March 14

The Department of Commerce grant program will assist eligible restaurants, bars, hotels, motels and other businesses negatively impacted by the COVID pandemic.

[Read more](#)

#### New tech assistance program for Tacoma business owners

The Digital Sales Access Program aims to bridge the digital divide that impacts immigrant, minority and small businesses, particularly those operating as cash-only or in need of financial management tools.

[Read more](#)

#### 'Achieve More' grants for women and minority-owned businesses: Apply by March 19

Grants offered through the Washington Minority Business Development Agency Business Center aim to help businesses offset infrastructure improvements or employee tech/systems training.

[Read more](#)

#### Tacoma Creates accepting 2023-24 applications: Apply by March 27

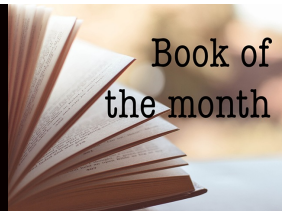
Funding will support programs and events in Tacoma that broaden access to arts, culture, heritage and science. Comprehensive Organizational Support applications are due March 13.

[Read more](#)

#### Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract program

Joining the WOSB Federal Contract program makes a business eligible to compete for federal contracts reserved for the program's certified participants.

[Read more](#)



## Book of the month

Herb Simon, partner with Simon Johnson LLC, EDB Executive Committee member and past chair, recommends [Putin](#) by Philip Short.

"Incredible biography that includes background history about Russia and how it shaped Putin's character and approach to other countries. Russia's war on Ukraine is a direct extension of his dangerous world view."

## NEWS

[Inslee's 'Tacoma Day' includes visit with small-business grant recipients](#)

[Washington's child care shortage is a business issue](#)

[Tehaleh adds industrial lots into the mix](#)

[Tacoma's office-to-residential trend gains momentum](#)

[Puyallup Tribe of Indians plans entertainment district](#)

[Boeing wins massive order from Air India in deal worth up to \\$46B](#)

### Team With Us

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