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Abbie Hollins, Executive Editor

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### **NCEDA**

North Carolina Economic  
Developers Association, Inc.

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*If you have an idea or article of  
interest for the newsletter, please  
submit it via e-mail or fax, prior to  
publication of  
Developments.*

## **AMENDMENT ONE PASSES!!**

by Mac Williams

In the October issue of Developments, two choices were possible for a headline for this space; and, I promised, win or lose, it would be whichever one fit the moment. I am certainly glad it is the one above.

I also promised, the headline in this issue would also constitute the entire President's message because, win or lose, at this point, nothing more could be said.

Okay, so I'll only be good for keeping one promise out of two; but frankly, it is impossible not to have more to say given the historic nature of the event (changing the state constitution) and the fight (the legislative and referendum campaigns) required to make it happen. So, please indulge me this opportunity for a few comments.

First and foremost, the citizens of North Carolina are the ultimate winners in this as they have entrusted the leadership of their local communities with another powerful economic development tool with which to attract jobs and opportunities. May that trust be respected and, through the use of self-financing bonds, rewarded.

Speaking of using SFBs, though the law is effective immediately, what, if any, additional mechanisms or procedures are needed, at the state and/or local levels, to facilitate implementation are unknown (at least to me at this writing). NCEDA (and others) will be working to provide more information about that as soon as possible. Certainly expect some professional development opportunities on the subject in the future.

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## NCEDA Officers

2004-2005

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**Bud Cohoon**

NC Electric Membership Corp.

**Jim Fain**

N.C. Department of Commerce

**Robert Stolz**

The Hardwood Group

**Tony Copeland**

N.C. Department of Commerce

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(con't from page 1)

Second, this space is too limited to adequately recognize all who deserve our kudos for a job well done. Beginning with the various grassroots efforts to build momentum for this third try, through the legislative phase where the bill was ratified and the referendum approved, through the campaign phase, to the successful vote on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the list of people involved and their expertise, dedication, and passion for the cause was an amazing thing to witness; and, as Leslie Coman, NCJP Steering Committee chair noted, it took EVERY SINGLE BIT of effort from everyone to bring the victory home.

Third and finally, it is appropriate to give kudos to you, the members of NCEDA. The support from our organization and you, individually, in all the phases noted above, was critical to the success of this effort. Much has been done in previous years to position NCEDA as the state's leading voice for economic development. We can be proud that our voice, as well as those of many others, was heard and heeded on Amendment One.

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## Mark Your Calendars

### NCEDA Professional Development Seminar

"The Times They Are A Changing!"

The HR Group

November 15, 2004

10:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Grandover Resort

Greensboro, NC

### NCEDA 2005 MidWinter Conference

March 10 -11, 2005

Pinehurst Resort

Pinehurst, NC

### NCEDA 2005 Legislative Reception

May 18, 2005

NC Museum of History

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

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## Meet Your Board

*This month we feature Stephen J. Gosselin, P.G., RSM.*

Steve Gosselin is a Principal Hydrogeologist and Vice President of Business Development for the Greensboro Branch of ECS, Ltd.

Steve is a Licensed Geologist in North Carolina and Virginia and a Registered Site Manager certified by the State of North Carolina Voluntary Cleanup Program to perform environmental assessment and remediation. He is responsible for managing a variety of environmental projects including underground storage tank (UST) removal, soil and groundwater investigation/remediation, solid and hazardous waste management and industrial environmental compliance. Steve is a board member of the Triad Chapter of NAIOP and is currently chairing the Economic Development Forum for the American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina (ACEC/NC). He is a member of the Association of Engineering Geologists and the Society of American Military Engineers.

Steve and his family live in Kernersville where they attend Fountain of Life Lutheran Church. His wife, Karen, is a geologist as well and performs research for environmental assessments for ECS, Ltd. His daughter, Danielle, is a junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill majoring in Spanish and Economics. His son, Gregory, is a senior at East Forsyth High School and captain of the varsity soccer team.

Steve graduated with a BS in Geology from Texas A&M University in 1977.

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## Patron Sponsor Profile

*This month we feature patron sponsor ElectriCities of NC, Inc.*

ElectriCities of NC, Inc. is a non-profit government service organization representing cities, towns and universities that own electric distribution systems. Today, ElectriCities represents 100 members in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

Formed in 1965 to protect the interests of public power customers, and to provide a unified voice to speak out in the North Carolina legislature, ElectriCities continues today to serve public power communities.

ElectriCities provides customer service and safety training, emergency and technical assistance, communications, economic development assistance, government affairs and legal services.

Through consolidation of these services, members save their customers the expense of administering these functions locally.

ElectriCities also provides management services to the state's two municipal power agencies: North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1 (NCMPA1) and North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency (NCEMPA).

For more information about ElectriCities, please visit: [www.electricities.com](http://www.electricities.com).

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## **2004 Fall Conference Wrap-Up**

The theme for the 2004 Fall Conference was "Decision 2004 - Will the Voice of Economic Development Be Heard?" With the successful passage of Amendment One, it is safe to say that the answer to our question is "Yes!!"

A record-breaking 225 NCEDA members gathered on October 5-6, 2004 at the beautiful Grandover Resort in Greensboro, NC for the 2004 NCEDA Fall Conference. Guests enjoyed beautiful weather upon arrival, had the option of participating in the traditional conference golf tournament, and enjoyed a packed program on Wednesday morning.

The Fall Conference speakers presented a variety of information for attendees to think about: Sec. Jim Fain gave an informative update on North Carolina's Department of Commerce and discussed some of the projects and tasks that lay ahead for the department, followed by NCEDA Legislative Committee Co-chairs Donny Hicks and Scott Hamilton who shared the findings of the NCEDA William S. Lee Act survey. Their presentation covered some of the changes that the membership would like to see made to the Lee Act, as well as some of the memberships ideas on what to include in the 2005 NCEDA legislative agenda.

The Fall Conference also featured two out-of-state speakers: Mark Farris, who offered insight on how self-financing bonds have been effective in York County, South Carolina; and Harding Stowe, who shared his perspective on the state of manufacturing in the United States.

"Based on our feedback survey results, our members who attended the 2004 Fall Conference were very pleased," said John Peterson, executive director for NCEDA. "It is always NCEDA's goal to put on excellent programs, while giving attendees the chance to network, and more importantly, continue to develop professionally."

## **THANK YOU TO OUR 2004 FALL CONFERENCE SPONSORS!!**

**WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE**

**PSNC ENERGY**

**ECS, LTD.**

**CARTER & BURGESS**

**GREENSBORO EDP**

**KOURY CORPORATION**

**ARCADIS**

**DAVIDSON COUNTY EDC**

**HIGH POINT EDC**

**NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD COMPANY**

**PARKER POE**

**R.N. ROUSE & CO., INC.**

**TRIAD DESIGN GROUP**

## **AND OUR 2004-2005 PATRON SPONSORS!!**

**BellSouth**

**CSX Transportation, Inc.**

**Duke Power**

**ECS, Ltd.**

**Electricities of NC, Inc.**

**NC Electric Membership Corporation**

**NC Department of Commerce**

**Norfolk Southern Corporation**

**NC Electric Membership Corporation**

**Piedmont Triad Regional Partnership**

**Progress Energy**

**PSNC Energy**

**S&ME, Inc.**

**Sprint**

## **Professional Development Seminar**

### **“The Times They Are A-Changing!!”**

As professionals interested in economic development and job creation, members of NCEDA need to fully understand the dynamics of the rapidly changing face of today's workforce. This highly interactive and fast-paced seminar will open your eyes and help you understand that truly “The Times They Are A-Changing!”

#### **Topics to be discussed include:**

- **Creativity and innovation are the keys to a successful business.**
- **Understanding means profit, while not understanding can hinder success.**
- **Five fundamentals of living well with others-illustrated with hilarious stories from presenter Frank McNair's own life**

Many of you met the HR Group at their booth at the Business Showcase at our recent Fall Conference. They will be discussing a group that is essential to the success of any of our projects – the American workforce, the basic fabric that makes up every organization - and the changes that are occurring within that directly affect our success in economic development. Human Resource professionals make it their business to understand this population and the trends that drive it. I believe you will find this a useful addition to our customary discussions of incentives, policies and amendments — and perhaps this is the most important topic, because with all the incentives in the world, no company can make it without good people!

*Deadline to register for this event is Wednesday, November 10, 2004. Registration forms can be downloaded from the NCEDA Web site: [www.nceda.org](http://www.nceda.org) or you can register over the phone by calling the NCEDA office: 1.888.246.2332.*

## **NCEDA UPDATES**

### ***NCEDA Membership Renewals***

NCEDA Membership renewals have come to a close for the 2004-2005 year. At this point, all members who completed the member information sheet and returned it to the NCEDA office with their membership dues have been activated for the 2004-2005 year and will be included in the membership directory. The NCEDA 2004-2005 membership directory will be mailed out at the end of the month. If you have any questions regarding your membership, please contact Abbie Hollins at the NCEDA office: 1.888.246.2332.

### ***NCEDA Committee Sign-ups***

Thank you to all NCEDA members who expressed interest in signing up for one of NCEDA's committees for the 2004-2005 year. We received many requests to participate on the various committees, and over the next two weeks will be firming up these committees and contacting interested folks with more information. As you know, some committees only meet at conferences.

### ***NCEDA Board Nominating Process***

NCEDA is now accepting nominees for the 2005-2006 NCEDA Board of Directors. Directors serve staggering three year terms. Nominations are due on or before April 16, 2005.

You are encouraged to discuss your interest in board service with the NCEDA past presidents. Please also feel free to contact any current NCEDA Board member if you have any questions about serving on the Board of Directors. For more information about past presidents, the NCEDA Board of Directors, or to fill out an application, please visit the Web site: [www.nceda.org](http://www.nceda.org). Thank you!

**Expression of Interest  
2005-2006 Board Service  
NCEDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Applicant Information**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Describe your current and historical professional experience:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How long have you been a member of NCEDA? \_\_\_\_\_**

**List all current and past involvement with NCEDA:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**List any activities/memberships/awards, etc., in or related to economic development:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**What would your priorities be if you served as an officer to the NCEDA Board of Directors?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

To express interest in board service, please complete the following form and send it, along with an accompanying letter, to:

John Peterson  
Executive Director  
NCEDA  
1201 Edwards Mill Road, Suite 102  
Raleigh, NC 27607