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Colleen McAleer Announces Resignation as Executive Director of Clallam County EDC

The Clallam County Economic Development Council (EDC) announced today that Executive Director Colleen McAleer will step down from her role later this year, concluding a transformational seven-year tenure leading the organization.

McAleer will begin a new professional chapter by rejoining her brother, Michael McAleer, as part of Team McAleer, a successful real estate brokerage firm serving the North Olympic Peninsula.

“It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve Clallam County at the helm of the EDC,” said McAleer. “I am incredibly proud of what our team has accomplished together and deeply grateful to the many public and private partners who helped make this work possible. I’m excited to return to the family business and bring my experience in economic development to this arena, as I will always be committed to the success of both the EDC and this community. I will also continue serving the public in my role as a Port Commissioner, and I would never allow any circumstance that could create a conflict involving Port property or Port-related matters.”

During McAleer’s tenure, the EDC experienced unprecedented growth and impact, expanding the organization tenfold. Under her leadership, the EDC successfully spearheaded major federal and state investments, including the federal Recompete grant, which brought more than \$35 million to the region, as well as an additional \$5.2 million for the Clallam Forest Products Innovation Program.

Over the past six years, McAleer and the EDC team delivered more than \$54 million in contracts and resources to Clallam County businesses while launching dozens of new initiatives that reshaped the county’s economic development landscape. These efforts strengthened key industry sectors, advanced workforce development, supported entrepreneurship, and helped hundreds of local businesses navigate the economic challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Colleen’s leadership has been nothing short of extraordinary,” said Sean Worthington, Chair of the EDC Board of Directors and General Manager of Clallam PUD. “She elevated the visibility and effectiveness of economic development in our region and consistently delivered measurable, lasting results. Her strategic vision, collaborative approach, and relentless work ethic have positioned Clallam County for long-term economic success.”

Dr. Suzy Ames, President of Peninsula College and Vice Chair of the EDC Board, added, “Colleen has been an exceptional partner to Peninsula College and a tremendous advocate for workforce and economic development across the Olympic Peninsula. Her collaborative leadership style and unwavering commitment to this community have created opportunities that will positively impact students, businesses, and families for years to come.”

The EDC Board of Directors has initiated a search for the organization’s next Executive Director. The position description and application materials are available on the EDC’s website at www.Clallam.org.

McAleer will continue serving in her role into the fall to support a smooth and orderly leadership transition.