

# SPEARFISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

## FUEL THE GROWTH COURSE RECEIVES ACCREDITATION FROM INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



The annual Fuel the Growth economic development course, a collaborative effort between Black Hills State University (BHSU) and the Rushmore Region Alliance (RRA), has received accreditation from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

Fuel the Growth has been providing valuable training for economic development professionals, board members, community leaders, businesspersons, and elected officials for the past three years. Led by experts, the multi-day training held at the BHSU-Rapid City campus incorporates presentations, panel discussions, and case studies to cover key topics in economic development, including business retention and expansion, entrepreneurship, community and real estate development, strategic planning, organizational management, and ethics. Several SEDC staff, Board members, and investors have participated in the course, with SEDC Executive Director Kory Menken serving as a presenter and panelist.

This prestigious endorsement solidifies the course's reputation as a leading program in economic development in the country. Congratulations to BHSU and RRA on this tremendous accomplishment!

SEDC  
SPOTLIGHT



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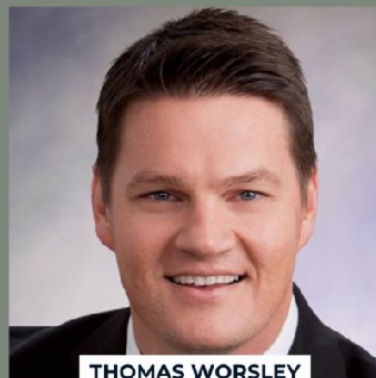
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**SEDC IS FORTUNATE TO HAVE A  
TALENTED GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS WHO  
VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND EXPERTISE  
TO LEAD THE ORGANIZATION.  
THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS!**



**LIVE MUSIC BY JAY BAR & ADDA  
BOYD**

April 12 | 6 PM  
Spearfish Brewing Co.  
Spearfish, SD  
[Learn More](#)

**PEN THE WEST**

April 13 | 1 PM  
High Plains Western Heritage Center  
Spearfish, SD

**EARTH DAY FESTIVAL**

April 20 | 11 AM  
Black Hills State University Campus  
Spearfish, SD  
[Learn More](#)

**SDCEO WOMEN IN BUSINESS  
LUNCHEON & AWARDS**

May 2 | 8:30 AM - 1:30 AM  
Holiday Inn Spearfish Convention Center  
Spearfish, SD

[Learn More](#)

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**THE AXELBEE GANG & THE  
GUNFIGHT AT STONEVILLE, MT**

April 20 | 1 PM  
High Plains Western Heritage Center  
Spearfish, SD

[Learn More](#)

# THE MORE YOU KNOW...



## 10 Best Interviewing Techniques for Employers

### Mike Dalley

#### HR and Learning Development Expert

Conducting a job interview can be just as nerve-wracking as being interviewed. Interviewing effectively is an important leadership skill and does more than just enabling managers to find the right candidates; good interview practices can have long-lasting benefits for organizations.

- Listen actively
- Ask open ended questions
- Be consistent
- Build rapport
- Conclude effectively
- Follow the 70-30 rule
- Know the basics of human psychology
- Manage time effectively
- Probe into responses
- Seek examples

Read  
Article



## BY THE NUMBERS

## SPEARFISH CITY REPORTS:

BUILDING PERMITS	2024	2023	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
New Residential	6	6	11	13
New Commercial	0	3	0	5
Total Permits	29	42	63	62
Total Dollars	\$6,587,407	\$7,027,435	\$10,716,681	\$33,151,801

SALES TAX	2024	2023	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
2nd Cent Sales Tax	\$438,490	\$420,546	\$1,432,946	\$1,341,484
Hospitality Tax	\$53,986	\$53,851	\$176,567	\$154,683

BUILDING PERMITS AND SALES TAX ARE BASED ON THE MOST RECENT CITY OF SPEARFISH REPORTS FROM MARCH 2024



## SD DEPT. OF LABOR REPORTS:

### Labor Force 2024 2023

#### CITY OF SPEARFISH

Total Labor force	6,6737	6,499
Total Employed	6,582	6,361
Total Unemployed	155	138
% Unemployed	2.3%	2.1%

#### LAWRENCE COUNTY

Total Labor force	14,436	13,917
Total Employed	14,076	13,604
Total Unemployed	360	313
% Unemployed	2.5%	2.2%

#### NORTHERN HILLS

(BUTTE, LAWRENCE, MEADE, & PENNINGTON COUNTIES)

Total Labor force	93,019	92,452
Total Employed	90,657	90,845
Total Unemployed	2,362	2,147
% Unemployed	2.6%	2.4%

LABOR FORCE DATA IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT SD DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & REGULATION REPORT FROM FEBRUARY 2024

# IN THE NEWS

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

[Black Hills State Gets \\$926K More In BOR Budget](#)

[DUNE: Looking At 'Ghost Particles' 5,000 Feet Underground Lead In The Black Hills](#)

[605 Stops By The Original Breakfast Houses](#)

[2023 City Of Spearfish Drinking Water Report Available](#)

[New 142-Unit Senior Living Facility In Spearfish Nearly Complete](#)

[Alder Grove Dog Boxes Finds New Home In Spearfish](#)

[Opportunities At The Sanford Underground Research Facility Published In Proceedings Of Science](#)

[Spearfish Monument Health Hospital Named In Top 20 Hospitals In The US](#)

[Fermilab Drive Economic Growth In Illinois And South Dakota](#)

## LEGISLATIVE:

[Global Issues, Local Impacts: New SD Group To Push Trade](#)

[Johnson's Ocean Shipping Reform 2.0 Passes U.S. House](#)

[Johnson Welcomes Governor Noem To House Ag Committee](#)

[Rounds Introduces Legislation To Provide Fairer Market Prices For Livestock Disaster Assistance Program](#)

[Thune Leads Colleagues In Demanding Increase In Agricultural Exports](#)



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