



BUSINESS IS A FORCE FOR GOOD



ICYMI: COBRT Hosts Virtual Briefing with U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright



On Wednesday, July 2, leaders representing state business roundtables from coast to coast joined the Colorado Business Roundtable for a virtual briefing with U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright. COBRT partners were also invited to listen in on the conversation, gaining valuable insight into the Department of Energy's current priorities. Secretary Wright highlighted efforts to expand domestic energy production, modernize infrastructure, and drive innovation through DOE's national laboratories. He emphasized an "all-of-the-above" strategy, balancing traditional and emerging energy sources to strengthen reliability, affordability, and energy independence.

The session featured an engaging Q&A with questions from presidents of state business roundtables. Participants raised timely questions on regional challenges and opportunities, from pipeline development in the Northeast and biofuel innovation in the Midwest to nuclear energy expansion and California's refining capacity. Secretary Wright offered practical insights on how business leaders can partner with DOE to meet rising energy demand and build a more resilient national energy future. COBRT was proud to host this high-level dialogue at the intersection of business and policy.

SAVE THE DATE: 2025 View from the Top on October 22

THE BUSINESS OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS



VIEW FROM THE TOP
October 22, 2025
Denver Museum of Nature and Science



Tickets will go on sale in late July. Contact [COBRT here](#) for information on event sponsorship.

North Capital Forum

North American Cooperation: The Private Sector's Role in Building a More Competitive and Resilient Region

When you think of North America, what comes to mind? Perhaps vast natural resources, technological innovation, cultural vibrancy, and economic strength. Today, we must also think of this region in strategic terms: as a shared economic ecosystem that needs constant nurturing, smart leadership, and bold private-sector action.

At last year's North Capital Forum in Mexico City, I joined colleagues from the U.S., Mexico and Canada to examine how business leaders can help shape the future of North America's economy. Our panel, "The Business: The Role of the Private Sector in Strengthening Regional Economies," explored a simple but profound question: how can businesses lean in to make our continent more competitive, resilient, and prosperous for all? [READ MORE](#)

COBRT

Colorado's Business Leaders Call for Smarter, Faster Workforce Solutions Amid Rapid Change

In a fast-moving economic landscape shaped by AI, demographic shifts, and talent shortages, Colorado's top employers are speaking out — and they're calling for bold, forward-thinking action. A new report from the Colorado Business Roundtable (COBRT), *Looking Around Corners: Insights from Business Leaders on the Future of Colorado's Workforce*, captures the perspectives of executives representing companies that collectively employ over 150,000 Coloradans.

The takeaway? Colorado is at a crossroads, and adapting faster to evolving workforce needs is the only path forward.

The [report](#), based on executive interviews and a targeted survey across nine industries, provides a behind-the-scenes look at how leading employers are responding to the forces reshaping work — and what they need from policymakers, educators, and workforce partners to stay competitive. [READ MORE](#)

The Colorado Sun

Colorado's quantum Tech Hub partners with IBM to train 3,500 workers

A Colorado quantum technology consortium backed by a \$40.5 million federal grant doesn't plan to spend a dime on its next workforce development program. Instead, Elevate Quantum has partnered with IBM to roll out the company's curriculum to local colleges and universities and set a goal to train 3,500 workers in quantum-related careers by 2030 — no Ph.D. required.

"With quantum, the idea is this is a tool for computational science," said Bradley Holt, IBM's lead for workforce development partnerships and who is on Elevate's workforce advisory board. "This is a tool for exploring scientific problems in many different domains. We don't want to limit ourselves to just computer science, to just physics. It really is about getting outside the physics department." [READ MORE](#)

Business Roundtable

Business Roundtable CEO Economic Outlook Index Declines Further in Q2

Business Roundtable released its Q2 2025 CEO Economic Outlook Survey, a composite index of CEO plans for capital spending and employment and expectations for sales over the next six months.

The overall Index dropped by 15 points from last quarter to 69, well below its historic average of 83. The decline is the result of decreases in all three subindices, driven by a downward shift in CEO plans and expectations, most notably in the employment subindex.

“The quarter’s survey results signal that Business Roundtable CEOs are approaching the next six months with caution,” said Business Roundtable Chair Chuck Robbins, Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Cisco. [READ MORE](#)

Podcast

New Episode!
Fueling Innovation: BPX Energy’s Vision with CEO Kyle Koontz

Kyle Koontz is Chief Executive Officer of BPX Energy, headquartered in Denver. In September 2018, BPX Energy formally opened its 160,000-square-foot headquarters in Denver. From there, BPX manages world-class assets in the Permian and Eagle Ford basins in Texas, and Haynesville Basin in Texas and Louisiana. BPX supports more than 1,900 jobs throughout the state and has spent more than \$1.5 million within local communities in support of education, the environment and Denver homeless shelters since 2019.



[Listen Here](#)

Upcoming Events

Speakeasy Gala

September 6, 2025 | 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM | Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel

Join A Precious Child for their 2025 Speakeasy Gala. An unforgettable evening with live and silent auctions, casino games, and heartfelt stories.

This special event helps raise critical funds to support children and families in need across Metro Denver with access to basic essentials, educational resources, and long-term stability.



[Register](#)

Cleo Parker Dance
Dancing with the Denver Stars

Saturday, August 23, 2025



The Dancing with the Denver Stars Gala is the premier fundraiser for CPRD. This year’s Gala funds will be used to support community programs including education and well-being. 100% of proceeds from this event will support our work in the community, including offering paid internships, and funding health, movement and well-being events not only in Denver Metro but numerous rural areas around Colorado.

With a little encouragement from fellow COBRT Board members George Sparks and Brian Fitzpatrick, Debbie Brown, President of the Colorado Business Roundtable, will take the stage in this year’s Dancing with the Denver Stars gala to support Cleo Parker Robinson Dance.

This will be the 15th anniversary of Dancing With the Denver Stars where we will be Celebrating Girl Groups: from Doo-Wop to Hip-Hop. This year’s DWTDS will be held on August 23rd, 2025 at a new location! To celebrate this special milestone we are moving to the Sheraton Downtown Denver Hotel from 6p -10p.

For the past 6 years this has been a SOLD-OUT event! We hope you purchase your ticket or table soon and join us for what has been called “The very best, and most fun, fundraising event in Denver.”

Tickets

Get Involved

Colorado Business Roundtable engages with elected officials, business and nonprofit leaders, and other strategic allies to strengthen Colorado’s economic vitality by unapologetically amplifying the voice of business in Colorado. Inquire at contact@cobrt.com for partnership opportunities.



Colorado Business Roundtable (COBRT) leverages the experience of executives from Colorado’s leading employers representing academia, business, community, and government. Together, we examine state challenges through a long-term, global lens, and we bring forward solutions to strengthen Colorado’s economy and improve quality of life.

COBRT is the state affiliate of the Business Roundtable, an association of chief executive officers of leading U.S. companies working to promote sound public policy and a thriving U.S. economy. Learn more and get engaged at cobrt.com.



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