

Summit Brings State Leaders Together

Indiana's three most recent governors were among the featured presenters at the *Indiana Vision 2025* Statewide Summit: Advancing Our Future event on December 6 in downtown Indianapolis.

More than 300 business, government, community and non-profit leaders from throughout Indiana were contributors to the next step to helping ensure the state's long-term economic prospects. The participants not only received analysis on important issues within the economic development strategy for the state, but took part in discussion on how to move forward on some of the key goals within the plan.

"Bringing together so many people who are already doing great work in their communities was one of the goals of the event," says Kerry Stemler, president and CEO of KM Stemler Co. in New Albany and 2013 chairman of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

"I personally believe Indiana is on the edge of greatness. We have so many positive things that have happened in recent years, and we have all the tools to be one of the premier states in the country."

Mitch Daniels discussed his last eight years and the state's future, while Mike Pence focused his closing keynote address on the next steps required to move Indiana from good to great. Joe Kernan guided a portion of the discussion on objectives within the drivers of Attractive Business Climate and Superior Infrastructure.

Pence, in discussing the *Roadmap for Indiana* plan that was his playbook during the campaign, noted, "Imitation is the most sincere form of flattery, and we drew on ideas that came out of 2025." He said he hopes that he can "call on people in this room on a regular basis to sit around the table and think out loud about how we can tell the Indiana story more effectively."

Daniels gave added emphasis to the Outstanding Talent driver in *Indiana Vision 2025*. "We don't yet have the highly educated workforce to allow us to maximize our other opportunities. I'm so pleased to see you have this kind of meeting." Speaking about his two terms in office, he added, "If there's only one thing people remember, it's that we became a state intolerant of the status quo. We make history, not endure it."

Among the other presenters:

- Kevin Brinegar, Indiana Chamber president and CEO
- Kathy Davis, former Indiana lieutenant governor and owner of Davis Design Group
- Larry Gigerich, Ginovus managing director
- Mark Maassel, Northwest Indiana Forum president and CEO and *Indiana Vision 2025* regional partner
- Jamie Merisotis, Lumina Foundation president and CEO
- Bill Oesterle, Angie's List co-founder and CEO
- John Sampson, Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership president and *Indiana Vision 2025* regional partner
- Stemler, also an *Indiana Vision 2025* regional partner

In videos introducing the segments on Outstanding Talent, and Dynamic and Creative Culture, 10 additional leaders offered their perspectives. They were: Scott Dorsey, ExactTarget; Steve Ferguson, Cook Group; Scott Glaze, Fort Wayne Metals; Dan Hasler, Indiana Secretary of Commerce; Teresa Lubbers, Indiana Higher Education Commission; Michael McRobbie, Indiana University; Rae Pearson, Alpha Rae Personnel; Van Smith, Sherry Laboratories of Indiana; Mike Wells, REI Investments; and Alisa Wright, BioConvergence.

INFORMATION LINK

Resource: *Indiana Vision 2025* at www.indianachamber.com/2025



Mike Pence, Indiana's 50th governor, addresses the nearly 300 attendees at the *Indiana Vision 2025* statewide summit in early December.