



## PRESS RELEASE

Karsten Rodvik  
External Affairs Officer  
907.771.3024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 28, 2017

### **International Economic Development Council Elects New Board Members**

*AIDEA's Michael Catsi, CEcD to Sit on Board for Two-Year Term*

(WASHINGTON, DC) – The Nominating Committee of the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) has elected Michael Catsi, CEcD Business Development & Communications Director Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA), to its Board of Directors for a two-year term. The election took place during IEDC's 2017 Annual Conference, held September 17-20, 2017 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Michael Catsi, CEcD will begin his two-year term in January 2018.

"We are honored to nominate Michael Catsi, CEcD as a new member of the IEDC Board of Directors, and look forward to his leadership and service," said Jeffrey Finkle, CEcD, President and CEO of IEDC.

Mr. Catsi pursues business development opportunities, and oversees communications for the Authority. He serves as the Chair of AIDEA's Project Suitability Committee, and as a member of AIDEA's investment review committees.

Prior to joining the Authority, Mr. Catsi led economic development organizations as executive director of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference and the Skagway Development Corporation. He currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Launch:Alaska business accelerator. Mr. Catsi has served as President of the Alaska Partnership for Economic Development, and of the Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership. He was elected to the Skagway City Council and served on the board of the Alaska Municipal League.

Mr. Catsi is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD), and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Geography from the University of New South Wales, Australia.

**About the International Economic Development Council**

*The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 5,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. IEDC's members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities and improve the quality of life in their regions. [www.iedcONLINE.org](http://www.iedcONLINE.org).*

The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority is a public corporation of the state. AIDEA's purpose is to promote, develop and advance the general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of Alaska.

###