

Defining the Road to Economic Recovery

Wed, 06/01/2011 - 19:08 — Administrator



As the first panel of the 2011 Mackinac Policy Conference, Defining the Road to Economic Recovery, kicked off today, Wednesday, June 1 at 3:45 p.m. Sandra Pierce, president and CEO, Charter One, Michigan Midwest Regional Executive, moderated the session with panelists Tim Bryan, chairman and CEO, GalaxE.Solutions; Mark Davis president and CEO, Instar; Mark Murray, president, Meijer, Inc.; and William Parfet, chairman and CEO, MPI Research.

Bryan inaugurated the session with enthusiasm on how he saw tremendous opportunities within the city of Detroit and how it will continuously grow as an alternative to outsourcing jobs, but rather outsource in Detroit.

As Murray responded to Pierce's question, he stressed the importance of Michigan to continue it's economic development effort and how Meijer has sustained it's success, which lies in three words; relentless, positive and action. With the new tax reform, Murray sees the potential of creating a stablized and more competitive market.

Parfet expressed how his company stays successful within the healthcare field because we, in Michigan, have the know how and the talent. When looking to stay competitive, Parfet pointed out that Michigan needs to create production, which creates incentives through exporting.

Pierce posed the question to panelists regarding their opinion on the Governor's actions, either positive or negative, Davis agreed with Governor Snyder's acknowledgment that, it's ok that we are in a crisis, while seeing it as an opportunity to put it in the past. With that mentality, Davis remarked, we can only look to the future.

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