



Idaho Association of  
Commerce & Industry  
The Voice of Business in Idaho®



## 2011 Annual Conference Summary

Friday, June 24, 2011

We would like to thank all the members and legislators who joined us in Twin Falls for the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual IACI Public Policy Conference. This was the best attended conference in recent history, and the IACI staff greatly appreciates each of you!

**Congressman Mike Simpson** (R-ID) kicked off the conference on Sunday with an update on the numerous federal issues that Congress is currently grappling with. The Congressman specifically touched on



the budget debate and the potential impacts to Idaho. IACI also surprised the Congressman by awarding its inaugural *Prosperity Star Award* to him for his continuing hard work on behalf of the business community.

**Superintendent Tom Luna** and wife Cindy joined the opening reception to thank IACI members for their sup-



port during the last legislative session of significant education reform. The Superintendent asked for continued support and cooperation as the state works to implement the components of the legislation.

The first discussion panel on **Health Care Reform** was led by **Dr. David Pate**, President and CEO of St. Luke's Health Systems, and **Zelda Geyer-Sylvia**, Executive Vice President and



Chief Operating Officer of Blue Cross of Idaho. This panel discussed how the federal health care plan may affect our state's employers, as well as the state budget, and how a possible state insurance exchange would function. **Senator Chuck Winder** and **Rep. Mike Moyle** provided their per-

spectives on the legislative support needed to implement the reforms at the state level.

The second discussion forum was focused on **Redistricting**, as presented by **Secretary of State Ben Yursa**. He provided a good overview to the current redistricting process and indicated there will likely be significant changes in the current 35 districts due to the 2010 census results.



The Annual Meeting was also held, at which IACI board members were approved for new terms, and both the [2012 Statement of Public Policy](#) and [2012 Public Policy Priorities](#) were adopted.

**Legislative Leadership** provided an update to the IACI Board, which was open to all membership this year, reporting on this year's session, as well as expectations for the 2012 session.



**Governor C.L. 'Butch' Otter** was the featured speaker Tuesday morning. He complimented IACI membership for their hard work in supporting education reforms in Idaho. He also reported on his efforts to make sure the state recovers in a fiscally responsible manner within *Project 60*. IACI President Alex LaBeau said, "Governor Otter has demonstrated tremendous leadership in navigating our state through a sea of challenging times, always being mindful that it is business that creates jobs — not government. Unlike the financial disasters faced in many states, Governor Otter has managed to keep our state budget in the black by finding efficiencies and seeking new ways of enhancing the ways government does business."



### Pat Harwood Award

**Gregory S. Casey**, the current President and CEO of BIPAC and a former IACI President, was awarded the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Pat K. Harwood Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor given by the Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry.

"Greg was chosen for this award for his leadership, service, courage, political wisdom, integrity and sense of humor," said IACI Board Chair Mark Benson, Vice President with Potlatch Corp., in presenting the award. A very surprised Greg was awarded the honor just minutes before giving his keynote address at the IACI Annual Meeting. Read complete details in the [news release](#).



### Environmental Excellence Award

The IACI Environmental Excellence Award provides annual recognition to businesses which have achieved outstanding results in environmental protection and enhancement.

**Union Pacific Railroad** was recognized this year for decreasing pollution, more efficiently using natural resources, and implementing remediation and redevelopment projects throughout the state.



Full award details are included in the [news release](#).

### Many Thanks to Our Conference Sponsors!



### Golf Tournament

Congratulations to **Bob Naerebout**, **Rick Naerebout**, **Adrian Boer** and **Rep. John Vander Woude**, who won the scramble format tournament on a tie breaker with last year's winning team of John Eaton, Pam Eaton, John Revier and Jeremy Pisca! In third place were Mark Klompfen, Jason Kreizenbeck, Senator John McGee and Mike Reynoldson. Kudos also go to **Mark Benson** who won the individual gross competition, and **Jack Lyman** who won the net competition!