

## Governor's Economic Recovery Committee

[The Governor's Economic Recovery Committee](#) was appointed by Governor Mills on May 6, 2020 through [Executive Order 51](#).

The Committee is engaging economic experts and industry and sector representatives from across Maine to develop specific policy recommendations to stabilize the state's economy and build a bridge to future prosperity in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Based on the framework of the [state's 10-year Economic Plan](#), the committee's work will focus on two strategies regarding Maine's economy:

- **Stabilize and Support**

This strategy will consider what resources and strategies the different sectors of Maine's economy will need to survive the COVID-19 crisis, how they can be well positioned to compete for federal stimulus, and what immediate challenges around workforce, regulation, infrastructure or other economic issues should be addressed.

- **Sustain and Grow**

This strategy will consider how to bridge the COVID-19 economic crisis to Maine's 10-year economic plan, prepare Maine's economy to thrive, and evaluate what actions are needed to remove barriers and seize market and stimulus opportunities to grow the state's workforce, improve its regulatory environment, and support key infrastructure and innovation initiatives.

The committee does not have a mandate to advise on the public health response to COVID-19 or the re-opening plan.

Six broad sectors of the economy will be highlighted by the committee's work. For each sector, working groups will consider the following questions:

1. What is the status of the industry right now?
2. What (if anything) does this sector need to survive the current crisis?
3. How do we prepare this sector to thrive as envisioned by state's 10-year economic development strategy?

### Timeline

The Committee's work will come in two parts, recognizing that sectors may work on different timelines depending on their status:

- An initial report by **July 15, 2020**, for stabilization and support recommendations in response to the current economic emergency.
- A final report on **Dec. 1, 2020**, for sustainability and growth recommendations that bridge the COVID-19 response to the [State's 10-year economic development strategy](#) released last year.

The Committee may also continue to meet after delivering its final report if requested by the Governor.

## **All Members and Subcommittees**

### **Committee Co-Chairs:**

**Laurie Lachance:** A native of Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, Laurie Lachance is Thomas College's 5th President and the first female and alumna to lead the College in its 126-year history. From 2004-2012, Laurie served as President and CEO of the Maine Development Foundation. Prior to MDF, Laurie served three governors as the Maine State Economist.

**Josh Broder:** A native of Cumberland, Maine, Josh Broder serves as CEO of Tilson, a leading information infrastructure development firm which under his leadership has grown from less than 10 employees to more than 500. Prior to joining Tilson, Josh served as an Army Signal Office on missions in Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia where he was awarded a bronze star for his service.

### **Hospitality, Tourism, and Retail**

**Chair:** Bob Montgomery-Rice, President and CEO of Bangor Savings Bank  
Luke Holden, Founder and CEO of Luke's Lobster  
Meredith Strang Burgess, President and CEO of Burgess Advertising and Marketing  
Curtis Picard, President and CEO of Retail Association of Maine  
Jean Ginn Marvin, Owner of Nonantum Resort, Board Chair, Maine Community College Board of Trustees  
Senator Michael Carpenter, D-Aroostook  
Adam Lee, Chairman, Lee Auto Malls

### **Education and Workforce**

**Chair:** James Herbert, President of the University of New England  
U.S. Rep. Jared Golden Designee  
Dana Connors, President of the Maine Chamber of Commerce  
James Myall, Policy Analyst for the Maine Center for Economic Policy  
Representative Joshua Morris, R-Turner  
Angela Okafor, Councilor, City of Bangor  
Joe Cassidy, President of Southern Maine Community College

### **Infrastructure (Transportation, construction, broadband, and banking)**

**Chair:** Susan Corbett, Founder and Director of the National Digital Equity Center  
U.S. Sen. Susan Collins Designee  
Kevin Raye, Realtor and Former Senate President  
Senator Lisa Keim, R-Oxford  
Jessica Masse, Partner, Design Lab  
Lee Umphrey, President & CEO of Eastern Maine Development Corporation  
Lincoln Jeffers, Economic Development Director for the City of Lewiston

### **Innovation (Life sciences, tech, energy, start-up ecosystem)**

**Chair:** Betsy Biemann, CEO of Coastal Enterprises Inc.  
U.S. Sen. Angus King Designee  
Vaughan Woodruff, Owner of InSource Renewables  
Deanna Sherman, President and CEO of Dead River Company

Representative Brian Hubbell, D-Bar Harbor  
Ben Waxman, Co-Founder American Roots  
Tim Agnew, Masthead Venture Partners  
Chanel Lewis, Head of Global Diversity & Inclusion, IDEXX

**Healthcare, nonprofits, childcare & support services**

**Chair:** Bill Burke, Chair of the MaineHealth Board of Trustees and the Portland Sea Dogs  
Tae Chong, Councilor, City of Portland, and Social Enterprise & Workforce Development  
Manager for Catholic Charities Maine  
Jennifer Hutchins, Executive Director of the Maine Association of Nonprofits  
Rebecca Wyke, President of the University of Maine at Augusta  
Barbara Crowley M.D., Executive Vice President, MaineGeneral Health  
Wick Johnson, President of Kennebec Technologies

**Manufacturing and Natural Resource-Based Industries**

**Chair:** Larry Shaw, CEO of MMG Insurance  
U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree Designee  
Sam May, Maine Harvest Federal Credit Union Board Chair  
Steve Schley, Board Chair, FOR Maine Initiative  
Bob Dorko, Utilities & Recovery Manager at Sappi North America  
Susan Hammond, Executive Director, Four Directions  
Alan Perry, Owner, Farm Technologies Network  
Matt Schlobohm, Executive Director of the Maine AFL-CIO