



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEWIS-CLARK VALLEY

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## **Season of Change is the norm at Valley Vision**

**Lewiston, ID:** (February 16, 2023) – Change is in the air for Valley Vision, Inc., an economic development organization, as it enters its Silver anniversary. Later today at the Nez Perce Casino, the Valley Vision Board will gather from noon to 4:00 pm to conduct a work session and have an expanded dialog on policy and the direction for economic development in the Valley.

“In nearly nine weeks since the arrival of Jerry Chavez, our new president/CEO, Valley Vision has experienced a boatload of administrative changes,” says Troy Ledgerwood, Chairman of the Board. “Jerry was hired to implement changes and to leverage his extensive knowledge in economic development”. Ledgerwood added, “The Board is excited to engage in the upcoming work session and dialog that will set the course for Valley Vision’s economic development programming which is expected to be launched later in the year.”

Outcomes of the work session, often referred to as a board retreat, will include further changes related to policy guiding how the board operates and how these changes are documented in the by-laws. “I’ve enjoyed meeting a lot of influential people in the past couple of months as I seek to in ground my impressions of the Valley and how Valley Vision is viewed by the community.” says Jerry Chavez. “This listening session and then work shopping process has served me well throughout my career by aiding the development of new programs.”

Beyond the policy discussion, the Board will preview how each new strategy is implemented and how each tie together to formulate an economic development strategic plan. Typically for Chavez, this work comes together in about nine to twelve months. For the Lewis-Clark (L-C) Valley, the goal is to reduce turnaround time so that the new program will be launched by summer. Elements that will contribute to making the economic development program a success include having leadership at all levels and community-wide support committed to economic development. Next is implementing a plan that matches the community strengths while leveraging adequate financing. Valley Vision needs to conduct economic development operations and to close deals. Finally, the most important element is working together throughout the L-C Valley to create success.

### ***About Valley Vision***

Valley Vision Economic Development Lewis-Clark Valley is a bi-state economic development organization servicing the communities of Lewiston ID., Clarkston, WA., and Nez Perce County, ID., and Asotin County, WA. for 25 years. Valley Vision’s mission is to improve regional economic development through business recruitment, local business retention and expansion, and improvement of the overall business climate in the Valley. Visit Valley Vision on the web at [www.lewis-clarkvalley.org](http://www.lewis-clarkvalley.org), like us on [\(link\) Facebook](#) and follow us on [\(link\) Twitter](#).