





#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Contact:

Janet Fritz, Director, Marketing & Communications 303-453-8516

# Adams County Economic Development Participates in StartUp North, First-Ever Adams County Pitch Competition

Westminster, CO – Adams County Economic Development, in partnership with 13 other Adams County municipalities and community organizations, are hosting the first-ever business pitch competition – StartUp North – and inviting Adams County Startups to apply for the grand prize.

On Thursday, August 9, community leaders from each of these 13 Adams County municipalities will officially start accepting applications during a kick-off event at Satire Brewery in Thornton.

StartUp North is designed to bring together the top entrepreneurial talent from across the communities in Adams County to showcase the latest and most innovative business ideas. The mission of the group is to foster the development of entrepreneurs by providing an immersive experiential program that includes business plan development, pitching, and real-time feedback. The competition winners will receive a sizable monetary award and support services that will aid in their venture.

Any startup or small business located within Adams County that has 25 or fewer employees and has been in business five years or less is eligible to apply. To find other rules and eligibility for applying, businesses can explore: <a href="mailto:startupnorth.biz">startupnorth.biz</a>.

## **Important StartUp North dates:**

- Kick-off event & applications will be live on website: August 9, 2016 at Satire Brewery
- Applications are due: September 30, 2018
- StartUp North Pitch Competition: November 8, 2018

## Special Thanks to the StartUp North Sponsors:

StartUp North Title Sponsor: mindSpark Learning

StartUp North Sponsors: 1<sup>st</sup> Bank, Guaranty Bank, Shop Thornton First, Front Range Community College and the City of Westminster.

StartUp North In-Kind Sponsors: Lewis Brisbois and Honest Films

Steering Committee members include: Adams County Economic Development, Adams County Education Consortium, Anythink Libraries, Arvada Economic Development Association, The town of Bennett, Colorado Lending Source, Commerce City Economic Development, Brighton Economic Development, Colorado Enterprise Fund, The Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce, The Metro North Chamber of Commerce, the City of Thornton Economic Development, City of Federal Heights, City of Westminster, Northglenn Economic Development, Westminster Chamber of commerce, Northglenn High School STEM, and the North Metro Small Business Development Center.

## **About Adams County Economic Development (ACED)**

ACED is a 501(c) 6 public/private, nonprofit, full-service economic development agency serving Adams County, its 10 municipalities, more than 10,100 businesses, and nearly 500,000 residents. ACED is committed to attracting and retaining primary employers by offering support in business development, workforce development, and real estate opportunities to create a pro-business community. For more information, follow us on <u>Twitter</u>.

#### **About Adams County**

Adams County, located in the northeastern quadrant of the Metro Denver region, offers a rich diversity of communities, lifestyle, employment, and business opportunities. It surrounds Denver International Airport and is served by multiple highways and two railroads. Major employment sectors include aerospace and aviation, healthcare and life sciences, energy, logistics, manufacturing, and wholesale/trade. Boasting diverse housing opportunities, a highly educated workforce, and close proximity to the region's major colleges, universities and research facilities, Adams County offers a strong pro-business climate and outstanding quality of life for employees and companies. For more information, follow the County on Twitter.

To learn more about StartUp North visit startupnorth.biz or email info@startupnorth.biz