

B.7.

## Theresa Utton-Jerman - Fwd: Start Up Business Competition Committee update

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**From:** Michael Obuchowski  
**To:** Theresa Utton-Jerman  
**Date:** 9/15/2010 12:10 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Start Up Business Competition Committee update

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Please share with JFC. Thank you.

>>> "Brooks, Tayt" <Tayt.Brooks@state.vt.us> 9/15/2010 10:23 AM >>>

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Representative Obuchowski  
**FROM:** Tayt Brooks, Commissioner, DEHCD  
**DATE:** September 15, 2010  
**RE:** Start Up Business Competition Committee

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Dear Rep. Obuchowski,

On Friday September 10<sup>th</sup>, Steve Klein indicated to me that you would like a brief update on this committee's work.

The committee is comprised of the following individuals.

Prof. Jim Black	Johnson State College
Rocki-Lee Dewitt, PhD.	University of Vermont
John Evans, PhD.	VT Technology Council
Linda Rossi	VT Small Business Development Center
David Bradbury	Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies
Bruce Bowman	Norwich University
Charlie Nagelschmidt	Champlain College
Prof. Jessica Holmes	Middlebury College
Jeff Lewis	Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation

All of these individuals are directly involved in entrepreneurship programs, and many are currently involved in small business competitions throughout Vermont.

The committee met on September 1<sup>st</sup> at the Agency of Commerce and Community Development. A wide ranging discussion of existing models and general principles resulted in a number of consensus concepts for the committee going forward.

1. That this endeavor is at its core a "marketing effort" for doing business in Vermont
2. That we should keep growth, wealth creation and jobs as a key precept
3. Developing a statewide initiative that could be "fed" by the variety of existing

competitions might be attractive

4. The prize level should be in the \$100,000 range to have sufficient credibility and impact

5. The competition should attract from both within and outside Vermont if possible

The group was charged with sharing existing models of other states that hold competitions to discuss at the next meeting to be held on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any additional questions please let me know.

Best, Tayt

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