

RICHMOND ASSOCIATION FOR BUSINESS ECONOMICS

RABE

PO Box 2382
RICHMOND, VA 23218
BUSECONRABE@YAHOO.COM
WWW.RABEVA.ORG

August 2006

"ECONOMIC ISSUES" LUNCHEON

Mr. Vivek Kundra

Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Trade, Commonwealth of Virginia

Harnessing the Power of Globalization: Tobacco to Semiconductors

WHEN: Friday, September 8, 2006

WHERE: Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, 701 East Byrd Street

COST: \$15 for members or \$25 for non-members; Includes lunch!



Vivek Kundra is currently the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Trade for the Commonwealth of Virginia, he was appointed by Governor Tim Kaine in January of 2006. Prior to joining Governor Kaine's Cabinet, he was the CEO of Creostar, a company focused on cyber security and information warfare. Kundra served as the Vice-President of Marketing for Evincible Software, a technology startup that enabled trusted transactions for the government and the financial sector, which was sold to Exostar. Prior to that, he was the Director of IT for Arlington, VA, where he was responsible for the government's strategic technology initiatives and focused on protecting critical national assets under homeland security. He also served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Maryland teaching classes on emerging and disruptive technologies.

Before joining Arlington he was with SAIC, consulting at the Health and Human Services (HHS) focusing on growing SAIC's \$1 Billion business at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Prior to SAIC Mr. Kundra was the CEO of eRush.com a startup in next generation bot technologies. He is actively involved in the political process at the local, state, and national level.

Vivek Kundra has worked on the World Cities Alliance initiative to advance business and economic development in Arlington, Zurich, Paris, Berlin, and Wales. Within the private sector, he worked with multiple clients to build operations in the United States, Canada, and India.

He received his Masters in Information Technology and his Bachelors in Psychology and Biology from the University of Maryland.

LUNCHEON DETAILS

RESERVATIONS: Reservations are required! **The deadline is September 6 at noon.** We ask that everyone please register online at our website, www.RABEva.org. Simply go to the website and click the "Register" link that appears with speaker's photo and information. You may also e-mail your reservation to Kevin Hutchinson at kevin.hutchinson@rich.frb.org.

PAYMENT: Use your credit card www.RABEva.org. Members may pay in advance or at the door using on-line, check or cash. Non-members are requested to always pay in advance. Advance payments may be sent by check in postal mail or using the on-line system. All advance payments should be received by RABE at least 2 days before the meeting.

PARKING: We recommend the [RMA Expressway Deck](#) at 9th and Canal Streets, diagonally across from the Bank. Cost is \$2 per hour. Limited on-street parking may also be available nearby. Other parking options can be found at www.ridefinders.com. Simply go to "Commuter Guide" at the top of their site, followed by "Downtown Commuter Guide."

ENTRY: The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond is undertaking a major construction project and the lobby entrance will be closed indefinitely. All attendees will need to enter the building from 7th Street. The entrance is adjacent to the underground parking garage and labeled "**Pavilion 1 Entrance**".

SECURITY: Photo ID and Metal Detector. Please bring your driver's license or another government-issued photo ID with you. The Federal Reserve Bank requires that all visitors present a picture ID to be admitted into the building. Also, security procedures include passing through a metal detector upon entering the building.

MEMBER NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS: to Rebecca Rowland, RABE Secretary on the birth of her baby, Raegen Annissa Rectenwald!

OTHERS?: We are anxious to hear from you, our members, to celebrate your successes. Have you changed jobs, got a promotion or received special recognition? Please contact us with any of your personal member news.

CALLING ALL AUTHORS!: Help grow our Member News section in the coming months. RABE is interested in receiving articles from its members for publication. "Calling all Authors" – We encourage each of you to submit a short article. At the end of the year, the RABE Board will select the best article and give the writer a "RABE Award for Excellence".

Please follow these guidelines:

- Articles should be related to economics, business and/or Richmond.
- Articles should be concise and without grammatical errors.
- Only members can submit an article.
- RABE is a not for profit, non partisan organization. Writers should keep this in mind.
- RABE will reserve full editorial rights.
- The deadline is our next meeting, September 8.

Please submit your articles to Jackie Hudson, immediate past-president, by email at jackie.hudson@vec.virginia.gov.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear RABE members,

I am delighted to inform the members of RABE that we have been recognized by the IRS as a tax exempt organization under section 501c3. The RABE executive committee and Board have been busy taking actions to strengthen our organization. On July 11, we met to discuss our agenda for the rest of the year. We had productive discussions in a number of areas such as membership, finances, success stories, future speakers, and organizational direction.

Our membership base is strong. We are eager to attract Richmonders who have an interest in business, economics, finance or public policy. I ask that if you have not already, mention RABE to your colleagues. The basic pitch is that RABE is a way to continue one's education in economics with a focus on current issues relating to our businesses. We have great programming, motivated leadership, and an outstanding VP membership, My Lan Tran. Without members though, we are nothing.

The issue of the financial wellbeing of our organization was discussed. I am glad to report that our balance sheet is strong. Board member, David Tysinger, and Treasurer, Ann Battle, will be reviewing the figures to propose a financial "floor" to ensure a long term existence for our association.

Future luncheon plans are developing. If you have suggestions, let us know! As you know from attending our events, our luncheons attract speakers who are recognized for their contributions in business economics and are recognized both locally and nationally. Rick Chess, Vice President for Programming, has been doing a great job as evidenced by the well attended luncheons. Kevin Hutchinson has been instrumental in making sure that each luncheon is a successful event.

Our organizational direction is strengthening. I thank Billy Kinsey for his efforts to redesign our website to make it more appealing. He has also volunteered to arrange some time with a consultant in Washington who specializes in non-profit organizations. Dr. George Hoffer has been instrumental in inviting reporters to our luncheons to help spread the valuable information being discussed. Aileen Watson has made sure that our current Board has all of the background on past decisions and successes to guide us. I hope that everyone steps up to make use of our new status as a 501c3 organization to expand the reach of RABE in providing economic education to the community.

I owe a special thanks to Jackie Hudson for continuing to mentor me. Thanks also to Rebecca Rowland, Bill Mezger and Rainer Uschner for their time volunteering for RABE. In the coming month, I am planning to attend the national conference in Boston where I can share some of our successes with leaders from other cities. Keep up the good work RABE. ■

Sincerely,

Adam

Adam J. Haller

President, RABE

UPCOMING EVENTS

John Luke, Jr.

CEO, MeadWestvaco Corporation

Economic Issues Luncheon

Tentative: October 17, 2006

Jeffrey M. Lacker

President,

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

Economic Issues Luncheon

Tentative: November 21, 2006

Retail Sales Panel Discussion

Economic Issues Luncheon

Tentative: December 5, 2006

DID YOU KNOW ???

that the Richmond Region Has Recently Received the Following Rankings:

- * 41st Best of the Nation's 200 Large Metro Areas
- Places for Business and Careers.
(Forbes magazine)
- * 14th Best Large Metro Area for Business
- Employment base of 450,000 or more.
(Inc. Magazine)
- * 26th of the Nation's "50 Smart Places to Live"
- based on good value in home prices,
- a reasonable cost of living,
- and a great quality of life.
(Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine)
- * Five Greater Richmond companies are on
- FORTUNE magazine's 2006 list of
America's Most Admired Companies.
(FORTUNE magazine)

Source: "River City News,"
Richmond Metropolitan Convention and
Visitors Bureau, Summer 2006.

EXECUTIVES:

President

Adam J. Haller

Adam.Haller@frit.frb.org

1st Vice President

Richard Chess

rchess@hockorkaplan.com

2nd Vice President

Kevin Hutchinson

Kevin.hutchinson@rich.frb.org

3rd Vice President

My Lan Tran

tranml@ci.richmond.va.us

Secretary

Rebecca Rowland

Rebecca.Rowland@dpb.virginia.gov

Treasurer

Ann Battle

abattle@yesvirginia.org

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bill Mezger

(804) 786-5669

David Tysinger

David.Tysinger@vec.virginia.gov

George Hoffer

gehoffer@vcu.edu

Aileen Watson

Aileen.Watson@rich.frb.org

Jackie Hudson (ex officio)

Jackie.Hudson@vec.virginia.gov

ADVISORS TO THE BOARD:

Billy Kinsey

bwkinsey@vcu.edu

Rainer Uschner

rgusch@worldnet.att.net