



Economic Summit
by **alamance** chamber™

12th Annual Economic Summit
Workforce Challenges Panel Led by Ted Abernathy

October 17th, 2017

4pm-6pm

Elon University

Ernest A. Koury Sr. Business Center

Ted Abernathy
Managing Partner, Economic Leadership LLC



Born in Dallas, NC, Ted received his bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; his Master's from Johns Hopkins University, is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute and is an Eisenhower Fellow for global economics.

Ted is the Managing Partner of Economic Leadership LLC, a consultancy that is currently working in more than a dozen states to develop economic strategies. Ted has 35 years of experience in directing economic development and workforce development programs.

Ted's current projects include developing a new rural economic strategy for the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, helping the Missouri Chamber Foundation implement their 15-year competitiveness strategy that Economic Leadership developed,

assessing the State of Technology in North Carolina and assisting the Delta Regional Authority to Reimagine Workforce Development.

As a nationally known economic futurist, Ted speaks to about 100 groups annually on topics ranging from global trends to state and community economic competitiveness.

Panel Participants



William (Will) H. Collins Jr.

NC Commerce: Assistant Secretary of Workforce Solutions

Executive Director NC Works

Will Collins has more than 40 years' experience in human resources, manufacturing, and workforce development with an extensive background in international business.

He began his career in the textile industry with Burlington Industries, working at locations in North Carolina and Georgia. Will has served as Assistant Secretary of

Commerce responsible for the Division of Workforce Solutions since December, 2013. He is also Executive Director of NCWorks, a collaborative program bringing NC Commerce, and workforce development partners together to strengthen the state's commitment to North Carolina's businesses and job seekers.

Kellie Covington

Human Resource Manager, Walmart Distribution

Kellie Covington is the Human Resource Manager for the new Walmart Distribution Center in Mebane, NC. She has 10+ years of Retail management experience, with a mix of operational and multi-unit human resource leadership roles. Kellie joined Walmart in 2012 on the Sam's Club side of the business supporting 24 clubs across the state of NC. In her current role, she has responsibility for championing associate engagement, talent acquisition and development, and building partnerships with business leaders within the communities that we serve.



In addition to her retail experience, Kellie also has 6 years of construction and project management experience in the power industry, including 3 years as Field Cost Manager in Thailand. Originally from Ferguson, Missouri and a graduate of the Missouri University of Science and Technology, she now resides in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.



Thank you to our
sponsors!

Glen Raven, Inc.
LabCorp
Cone Health Alamance Regional
Prime Personnel Resources, Inc.
Alamance Community College
American National Bank & Trust
Burlington Pediatrics, P.A.
BB&T
Bank of North Carolina
First Bank
Gilliam Coble & Moser, LLP
Duke Energy
Ethos Creative Group
Kingdown, Inc.
Oertel, Koonts & Oertel, PLLC
Samet Corp
Select Bank & Trust
Wells Fargo

