



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Sue Oxarart
Director of Communications
Phone: 909.937.3058
E-mail: soxarart@ontariocvb.org



FOCUS – San Bernardino County Forecast Conference Announced
May 1, 2018 at Ontario Convention Center

Ontario, California – (March 23, 2018) The Greater Ontario Convention & Visitors Bureau is pleased to announce and host the San Bernardino County Forecast Conference at Ontario Convention Center on May 1, 2018. The community is invited to attend this event starting at 7:30am with Registration and Networking opportunities, followed by an informative program from 8:30am to 11:00am. The program will be presented by UC Riverside School of Business Center for Economic Forecasting and Development. Keynote Speakers include the following:

- Michael K. Krouse – President & CEO of Greater Ontario Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Dr. Christopher Thornberg, PhD – Director of US Riverside School of Business Center
- Reg Javier – Deputy Executive Officer of Workforce & Economic Development for San Bernardino County
- Mark Thorpe – CEO for Ontario International Airport Authority

“We are happy to host this educational event” say Michael K. Krouse, President & CEO of the Greater Ontario Convention & Visitors Bureau. “This forecast is valuable for our business community and will affect our planning and vision for economic growth in our area.”

The program will focus on several topics including:

- 2018 will likely be a robust year for U.S. economic growth, but there are a number of imbalances that also may begin forming in the system as forces trying to speed up growth conflict with those trying to slow it down. How will this tension play out in the California and Inland Empire economies?
- The recently passed tax cuts should help boost business investment in the coming year, but the sharp increase in Federal spending could add over \$2 trillion in debt to the nation’s deficit. What does this mean for interest rates?
- As the labor shortage in the U.S. continues to grow, investment in labor-saving technologies will likely see a jump in 2018. Which San Bernardino County industries will benefit most?
- Now that China Airlines is flying directly to Ontario International Airport – is our hospitality industry prepared to greet visitors and how will this affect our local economy?
- What’s next for Ontario International Airport – an update on one of the most valuable assets in the region.

Tickets for the event will go on sale soon thru the Ontario Convention Center website at OntarioCC.org. Costs for the event, including breakfast is \$50 per person, or a table of eight (8) at \$300. Working in partnership with the Greater Ontario Convention & Visitors Bureau and UC Riverside School of Business Center for Economic Forecasting and Development is the Inland Empire Regional Chamber of Commerce. For more information on Sponsorship or promotional opportunities please contact the Inland Empire Regional Chamber of Commerce directly at ornelas@iechamber.org

GREATER ONTARIO CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

The Greater Ontario Convention & Visitors Bureau is the official destination marketing organization to promote the cities of Ontario and Rancho Cucamonga, California to visitors nationally and internationally. As destination experts we provide leisure, meeting groups and meeting professionals with an unbiased, comprehensive resource when booking a tour, convention, meeting or event within the cities of Ontario and Rancho Cucamonga, California. Ideal for leisure and business travel, the region boasts scenic mountains, deserts, vineyards and metropolitan areas that are both historic and cosmopolitan in character. Under the umbrella of the Greater Ontario Convention & Visitors Bureau is the California Welcome Center and several Signature Events to support the overall mission to drive visitors to the region. The Greater Ontario Convention & Visitors Bureau provides the necessary destination support tools to execute a successful experience. Visit www.discoverontariocalifornia.org.

UCR SCHOOL OF BUSINESS CENTER FOR ECONOMIC FORECASTING AND DEVELOPMENT

The UCR School of Business Center for Economic Forecasting and Development is the first world-class university forecasting center in the Inland Empire **servicing one of the most dynamic regions in the United States**. Together, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties make up an economic area that is larger than Seattle, San Diego, or Orange County and **twice the size of Silicon Valley**. The Center for Economic Forecasting and Development brings the full resources of the university to bear in creating **modern, first-rate economic forecasts and economic development products** that expand understanding and amplify interest in this vital region, one of the nation's fastest growing. The Center draws from **the business expertise, public policy experience, and deep academic training** of its seasoned economists to conduct path breaking research on the regional, state, and national economies—producing economic forecasts, public policy analysis, and economic impact studies for institutions, events, and public and private investments. As a hub of collaboration, **innovative economic development ideas** and strategies emerge from both researchers and business and government leaders. The Center not only delivers products and services that provide genuine insight into the economy, it also serves as an energetic community partner and resource to business and government leaders as well as the people of the Inland Empire. It is a **fertile meeting ground for new product development**, original research, and collaboration between industry, government, and the broader community. Visit: www.ucr.edu

INLAND EMPIRE REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Inland Empire Regional Chamber of Commerce is non-profit, membership driven organization supporting the interests of Commerce & Economic Prosperity throughout San Bernardino County & Riverside County. The IERCC primarily focuses on and caters to mid-large size businesses within Southern California's Inland Empire region. Visit: www.iechamber.org

###