



**For Immediate Release:** June 14, 2011

**Contact:**

Warner Johnston (ESD) | [wjohnston@empire.state.ny.us](mailto:wjohnston@empire.state.ny.us) | (800) 260-7313

Jola Szubielski (ESD) | [jszubielski@empire.state.ny.us](mailto:jszubielski@empire.state.ny.us) | (800) 260-7313

## **ESD ANNOUNCES NEW NORTH COUNTRY REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

*Roseanne Murphy will serve as Director for both the Watertown and Plattsburgh regional offices*

Empire State Development (ESD) today announced Roseanne Murphy as the agency's new North Country Regional Director. Ms. Murphy, a 23 year veteran of ESD and a certified economic developer, will oversee both the Watertown and Plattsburgh regional offices effective immediately. The Watertown office includes St. Lawrence, Lewis and Jefferson counties, while the Plattsburgh office, where Ms. Murphy will be based, includes Franklin, Clinton, Essex and Hamilton counties.

"Roseanne brings a wealth of experience to the agency, both as a veteran employee and as a skilled economic developer," said Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Kenneth Adams. "She is well-respected in the Plattsburgh and Watertown communities and across the North Country. With Ms. Murphy's expertise and passion for economic development, we will continue to move forward, working to advance our goals of improving the state's business climate and driving private sector growth."

In her most recent role as Deputy Director of the North Country Region, Ms. Murphy supervised the administrative operations of both offices, conducted extensive site location work with an emphasis on Canadian and aviation prospects and focused on business retention with existing regional companies. She worked closely with local economic development partners to build capacity for successful development in rural New York State.

Ms. Murphy began her career at ESD in 1988 in Utica as a Program Specialist. Throughout her tenure, she has held several positions in the ESD North Country and the Mohawk Valley regional offices and has been integral to several key projects, including the first New York State rail car manufacturing facility of Bombardier, Inc. and the location of Laurentian Aerospace in Plattsburgh.

Previously, Ms. Murphy served as Assistant Director at the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District and at the former Canton, New York-based Black River-St. Lawrence Economic Development Corporation and Regional Planning Board.

As the new North Country Regional Director, Ms. Murphy will work under the leadership of Kenneth Adams, managing daily operations of both North Country offices in concert with long term strategic goals. She will continue to engage in pro-active planning and management of staff and resources and work to promote economic development practices that both retain and attract businesses and create jobs in the area.

“I’m honored and proud to be taking on this new role as the North Country Regional Director,” Murphy said. “While the North Country faces unique challenges, it has incredible assets such as its proximity to Canada, superior quality of life and a growing transportation manufacturing industry. I am excited to continue to work toward growing jobs and securing economic prosperity for the region.”

Former North Country Watertown Regional Director Jim Fayle retains his position as Director of the Central New York Regional Office. Former North Country Plattsburgh Regional Director Peter Wohl retains his position as Director of the Capital Region office.

Jim Fayle said: “I have worked closely with Roseanne for a number of years and appreciate her dedication and attention to detail. She has been an integral part of the North Country in solving issues and creating successes. I can’t think of a better person to represent the region and work with our businesses than Roseanne.”

Peter Wohl said: “Roseanne’s leadership and understanding of local and regional issues have greatly aided me during my tenure as North Country Plattsburgh Regional Director. She certainly has the experience and enthusiasm to help our local businesses grow and succeed. She’s a tremendous asset and I wish her all the best.”

North Country Chamber of Commerce President Garry Douglas said: “Roseanne Murphy is a consummate professional who has been one of the pillars of economic development in the North Country for many years. This is an excellent appointment which duly recognizes talent and ability while giving us a leader who is already personally involved in all of our regional strategies, from the Quebec-New York Corridor to Plattsburgh International Airport to the Pfizer and Lyon Mountain transitions. Among other collaborative roles, Roseanne has been a crucial part of the Chamber team that has been working in Quebec and attracting Canadian business for years now. As the Governor develops a region by region approach to economic development, with the new Regional Councils expected to be launched soon, it is especially important that each region has a knowledgeable and respected director, and we now know we will have just that in the person of Roseanne Murphy. We congratulate her on this well deserved promotion and we thank the administration for choosing so well. Onward and upward!”

NBT Regional Commercial Banking Manager and President of the North Country Alliance Brian Gladwin said: “Roseanne Murphy has a long term and successful history of contributing to the economic growth and vitality of our region. The North Country Alliance is extremely pleased and excited that she will continue to serve our region in the position of North Country Regional Director. We look forward to continuing our work with ESD and Roseanne as we focus on job creation and investment in our region. This is an exciting time for our region, and we thank Commissioner Adams for his leadership and vision and can think of no one better positioned to lead us into the future than the new North Country Regional Director.”

Ms. Murphy is a Certified Economic Developer, an international professional credential issued by the International Economic Development Council, and is an Economic Development Professional with the North Eastern Developers Association.

Empire State Development is New York’s chief economic development agency and administrator of the statewide business resource portal New York First ([www.NYfirst.NY.gov](http://www.NYfirst.NY.gov)). The mission of Empire State Development is to promote business investment and growth that leads to job creation and prosperous communities across New York State. ESD also oversees the marketing of “I LOVE NY,” the State’s iconic tourism brand. For more information on Empire State Development, visit [www.esd.ny.gov](http://www.esd.ny.gov).



###