



National Minority Business
Enterprise Input Committee

OA23

OPPORTUNITY ACCELERATOR
IGNITING GROWTH

Sunday, October 22, 2023

1:00 to 4:00 pm

**Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor
401 West Pratt Street
Baltimore, Maryland**

REGISTRATION

Register now to join us for an afternoon packed with insights and inspiration. We'll be digging into the mindset, strategies, and opportunities that will support you now, grow your company tomorrow, and drive you toward a future filled with possibility.

Each year, prior to the official opening of the NMSDC Annual Conference & Exchange, the National MBE Input Committee presents the Opportunity Accelerator, a special event created by MBEs for MBEs.

The event is FREE and open to all minority businesses, NMSDC corporate members, and regional affiliate council.

Register today to save your seat at this must-attend event for all MBEs.

Registration closes Thursday, Oct. 19th, at 6 pm Pacific.

WELCOME

Carlton L. Oneal, National MBE Input Committee Chair and President, LightSpeedEdu

Ying McGuire, CEO and President, National Minority Supplier Development Council

SESSION 1 | Growth Mindset

Igniting Leadership in the Midst of Change

The pursuit of growth in the midst of unprecedented change is an act of resilience and commitment. A decision to move. To shift. To let go of the comfort and safety of where you are in order to embrace the unknown. We'll explore the critical role that leadership plays in igniting the change that's essential to activating a growth mindset, one that lives not only in the organization but also in its people and the possibilities they are capable of co-creating together. Our goal is to have you leave this session with a new awareness and sense of purpose as you head into the rest of the NMSDC conference.

John Henderson, Founder, The Pivot Mind;
Chairman and CEO, AEL Holdings; EVP, Walker Supply Chain Management

SESSION 2 | Growth Strategies

Creating a Sustainable Enterprise

To continue to develop and grow, each certified minority business needs a growth strategy to seize opportunities and overcome barriers in the market. A well-defined strategy enables you to leverage your unique talents and diverse offerings to attract employees, customers, partners, and investors as you contribute to the overall economic empowerment of your community. In this session, you will hear from peers who will share their growth strategy stories, the choices they made, and what they learned along the way. You'll also hear from experts who will share new perspectives on how to resource and fuel your growth. It's very likely you will walk away with at least one pearl of wisdom that can change your growth trajectory.

Larry Stubblefield, Deputy Associate Administration,
U.S. Small Business Administration

Sahra Halpern, President and CEO, Business Consortium Fund

Leon Richardson, President and CEO, The Chemico Group, LLC

Nasra Abdi, CEO, ACI Solutions

Carlton L. Oneal, *Moderator*

SESSION 3 | Growth Opportunities

HotOpps

At this highly popular session, you'll experience 50 full minutes of rapid-fire opportunities from 9 buying organizations looking for MBEs now, including **Volvo Group, CDW, International Paper, CVS, Construction Industry Advisory Group, The Weitz Company, Panther Group, DuPont, and NMSDC**. The goal is simple ... and critically important: Activate the power and value of the NMSDC Network and have everyone leave energized, excited, and ready to grow.