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Schneider honored for pivotal role in promoting Gateway Cities movement

Nov. 16 — Boston — John Schneider, Mass Insight Education’s Director of External Affairs, was honored at MassINC’s fifth annual Gateway Cities Innovation Awards and Summit on Wednesday. Schneider, the former executive vice president of MassINC, was a pioneer in recognizing the vital role Gateway Cities play in the state’s economy.

Schneider received the 2017 Gateway Cities Champion Award, along with Congresswoman Niki Tsongas and Bob Rivers, chairman and CEO of Eastern Bank.

During his time at MassINC, Schneider authored multiple studies and reports on the state’s Gateway Cities on topics such as transportation, workforce development, the arts and economic development in these cities.

Schneider is a Gateway City resident himself, calling Lowell home for over 20 years. He is also a native of Pittsfield. He’s been a longtime advocate for Lowell and Pittsfield’s advancement and similar initiatives across the Commonwealth.

“John’s commitment to these communities was the spark leading to the development of the Gateway Cities movement, as we know it today,” said Ben Forman, research director at MassINC.

There are 26 Gateway Cities in the Commonwealth: Attleboro, Barnstable, Brockton, Chelsea, Chicopee, Everett, Fall River, Fitchburg, Haverhill, Holyoke, Lawrence, Leominster, Lowell, Lynn, Malden, Methuen, New Bedford, Peabody, Pittsfield, Quincy, Revere, Salem, Springfield, Taunton, Westfield, and Worcester.

“I am honored to receive this award from MassINC. Supporting and improving Gateway Cities is important to the state’s wellbeing,” said Schneider. “I’m proud to be a part of this movement and to work with so many talented people creating opportunities in our Gateway Cities.”

About Mass Insight Education:

Founded in Boston in 1997, Mass Insight Education (MIE) is a national nonprofit at the forefront of education reform. It is dedicated to improving student achievement and increasing college success through bold district restructuring and rigorous academic programs. To close the achievement gap and prepare the leaders of tomorrow, MIE inspires students to go to college, and gives them the academic tools and training they need to thrive and earn a degree. For more information, visit www.massinsight.org.