March 10, 2021

Council Launches “Future of Work” Roundtable Series

The Council is leveraging its C-level network and subject matter expertise to help leaders assess, understand and reimagine the future of work post-pandemic. “Reimagining the Future of Work after COVID-19,” our new virtual roundtable series produced with the support of Council member McKinsey & Company, will feature business leaders and public officials sharing actionable data and insights throughout March and April.

On March 8, the Council hosted the first in the series, “The Changing Massachusetts Economy” featuring an interactive discussion with Mike Kennealy, Secretary of Housing and Economic Development for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Mekala Krishnan, Partner at McKinsey & Co. and the McKinsey Global Institute. View a recording of the roundtable HERE and see McKinsey’s latest insights on the future of work HERE.

Council members should watch their email for invitations to upcoming member-only Future of Work roundtables, including sessions on:

- Hybrid Work
- Modern Leadership
- Universities and the Massachusetts Talent Engine
- Race in the Workplace and the Unequal Recovery

Council COVID-19 Recovery and Return to the Workplace Roundtables Continue with Vaccine-Focused Series

In February, the Council continued its acclaimed series of COVID-19 Recovery and Return to the Workplace Roundtables with three sessions moderated by Council Executive Committee member Steve Pagliuca, co-chair of Bain Capital and co-owner of the Boston Celtics.

Each presentation and discussion focused on vaccines and the status of vaccine distribution across the nation and in Massachusetts:

- February 25: US and Massachusetts Vaccine Distribution. Featuring: Marylou Sudders, Secretary, Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services and Christopher Teixeira, Principal...
Member Benefit Focus: COVID-19 PCR and Antigen Testing Services

With the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson gaining welcome momentum, Council members are actively developing revised strategies for a redefined and reimagined return to the workplace. A core component of these strategies will continue to be a variety of testing programs to ensure the safety of employees and visitors. Effective immediately, the Council is pleased to offer members two discounted testing programs to support their testing strategies.

Project Beacon will work directly with interested Council members to design and implement a testing strategy for its employees as part of their broader return-to-work strategies. Project Beacon offers a rapid, 24-hour, front-of-nose (anterior nares) RT-PCR test that is processed by the Broad Institute. Costs begin at $40 per test and can range depending on the scope of services involved.

Council members interested in learning more should contact Kevin Chu, Head of Enterprise Business Development, Project Beacon.

Prime Healthcare Distributors (PHD) will supply the Celltrion DiaTrust Rapid Antigen and Celltrion Rapid Antibody tests to Council members. PHD will make available to the MHTC membership relevant and best-in-class PPE and bring to members’ attention new products as they become available.

PHD’s distribution system will provide reliable, timely, and successful fulfillment of tests supporting national and international testing requirements.

Council members interested in learning more should contact John Marini, Prime Healthcare Distributors.

Massachusetts Recovery and Jobs Initiative: News you Can Use

To further our enduring mission to help make Massachusetts the world’s most attractive place in which to live and work, and in which to create, operate, and grow high technology businesses, the Council is continuing to lead and advance the Massachusetts Recovery and Jobs Initiative in collaboration with other business leaders focused on supporting Massachusetts’ sustained recovery from the economic impacts of COVID-19.
Beginning this month, the Council will be sharing curated digests of recent data, analyses and media coverage related to our MRJI efforts, along with relevant news stories from around the nation.

Watch your email next week for a Public Policy Update with further details on the Council’s emerging 2021-22 policy agenda and ongoing advocacy efforts. Contact Mark Gallagher to learn more.

**Recent MRJI News**

- *Post-Pandemic Prospects: Tech Leaders’ Prescription for Preserving a Healthy Economy* Council President Chris Anderson on Hubwonk, March 9, 2021
- *Pioneer Institute Report Helps Build Case Against the Massachusetts Top-earners’ Tax* Boston Globe, February 10, 2021 (Council quoted)
- *House Sponsor Favors Early Vote on Income Surtax* State House News Service, February 2, 2021
- *Connecticut Governor: It’s “Dumb” to Raise Taxes on Wealthy By State* CT Mirror, December 7, 2020

**Recent MRJI Partner Reports/Analyses**

- *The Graduated Income Tax Amendment- A Shell Game* Kevin Martin/The Pioneer Institute, March 2021
- *How a 2012 Income Tax Hike Cost California Billions of Dollars in Economic Activity* Pioneer Institute, February 2021
- *Do the Wealthy Migrate Away from High-Tax States? A Comparison of Adjusted Gross Income Changes in Massachusetts and Florida* Pioneer Institute, February 2021
- *Barriers to Exit Lowered in High-Cost States as Pandemic-Related Technologies Changed Outlook* Pioneer Institute, February 2021

**Third Party Reports and Analyses**

- *States with the Most Outbound Migration Include Worst Performing States in Business Tax Climate Index* The Tax Foundation, January 13, 2021

**Upcoming Council Events**

March 23: MHTC Directors Meeting

By invitation to Council Directors and primary members.

March 24: Graduated Income Tax- A Barrier to Economic Growth

The Pioneer Institute and the Council invite you to join us Wednesday, March 24th at 2:00 PM for an upcoming webinar, "Graduated Income Tax: A Barrier to Economic Growth," featuring remarks and commentary from Jane Steinmetz, Office Managing Principal of Ernst & Young, and Joshua Rauh, Professor of Finance at Stanford University.

Moderated by Doug Banks, Executive Editor of Boston Business Journal, our panel will discuss the graduated income tax proposal in Massachusetts and the impact of differential taxation on high earners in different states. At the end of the discussion, our speakers will open the floor to questions from our viewers. Click HERE to register.

March 25: Council Policy and Government Affairs Roundtable with MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak

Join fellow Council members at 8:00 AM on March 25 for a Council Policy and Government Affairs
Roundtable featuring MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. Steve will share the latest on the MBTA’s ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic and efforts to plan for future commuter demand and MBTA services as employees return the workplace in the months and years ahead.

Widely respected as one of the sharpest minds in state government and an expert on state budgeting and fiscal issues, Steve has led the MBTA since January 2019. Steve has served as the Vice Chair of the MBTA’s Fiscal and Management Control Board and, since 2015, as a Director of the MassDOT Board. He previously served as Executive Director of the Rappaport Institute for Greater Boston at Harvard’s Kennedy School and in senior roles at the Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research and in the Commonwealth's Executive Office for Administration.

Council members should watch their email for registration information and details about this virtual event or contact Mark Gallagher to learn more.

April 8: MHTC Diversity, Equity and Opportunity Initiative- Jumpstarting Your DEO Journey

MHTC is excited to kick-off our Diversity, Equity, and Opportunity (DEO) programming series with the first panel on April 8: Jumpstarting Your DEO Journey, moderated by Rob Ruffin from Bain & Company.

This first webinar will feature a discussion where our panelists will speak about their DEO experiences and share their learnings. Key topics of the event include:

- Understanding your point of departure and setting an ambition that is inspiring, measurable, time-bound, and achievable
- Translating ambition into actions
- Tips, tricks and requirements for building early momentum

The topic of this series is important to the MHTC members and to our community. Thus, we are excited to announce that, in addition to members-only programming, the series will also feature open-to-the-public webinars featuring business leaders in our communities.

Look for your invitation soon, or check back on our Events webpage for updates. We hope you’ll join us.

June 29: SAVE THE DATE- Council Annual Meeting

The Council will celebrate its 44th anniversary with a Virtual Annual Meeting on the morning of June 26. This year’s annual meeting will again be hosted and produced by MilliporeSigma, the host and producer of our 2020 Annual Meeting. Watch your inbox for more details and registration information, and contact Chris Anderson to learn more about how your organization can benefit from our unique Annual Meeting sponsorships.

The Massachusetts High Technology Council, Inc. is an organization of CEOs and senior executives representing technology companies, professional services firms, and research institutions who are dedicated to creating and sustaining conditions that support investment, job growth and improved quality of life in Massachusetts. Our members are growth-oriented, knowledge-intensive employers and institutions that develop, deliver and depend on technology products, services and innovations to advance their organizational objectives—a definition which covers just about all business enterprises in Massachusetts today.

Our mission is to help make Massachusetts the world’s most attractive place in which to live and work, and in which to create, operate, and grow high technology businesses.

For more information visit our website.