



KIC prepares for changing of the guard Executive Director Jon Duval leaving to start new company

By Peter Jensen, Sep 20, 2017

After three years of leading the Ketchum Innovation Center, founder Jon Duval is departing to start a new company. Kathryn Kemp Guylay, a business owner who benefited from KIC's help, will take over as the center's new CEO.

The business incubator is located in downtown Ketchum and hosts startup companies, the KDPI-FM radio station, programs and other ventures.

Duval will remain with KIC until the end of October, and his new company will be devoted to adventure travel. He will continue to live in the Wood River Valley, he wrote in an email.

Guylay started a company called Healthy Solutions of Sun Valley, which is devoted to publishing services, through the KIC. She worked in management consulting prior to publishing; she published her first book, "Mountain Mantras: Wellness and Life Lessons from the Slopes," in 2015. She wrote five more books devoted to nutrition, children's nutrition and publishing in 2016 and 2017.

“As an entrepreneur myself, I understand the importance of community support, networking and educational opportunities, all of which the KIC provide,” Guylay said in a news release. “I am excited to expand our services and reach in order to demonstrate the unique work/life balance that our very special community provides.”

Duval founded the KIC in the spring of 2014, when it was located in a converted residence in the light-industrial area. KIC moved into a new building last summer at the corner of Sun Valley Road and First Avenue.

He became the head of the Ketchum Community Development Corp. in 2010, after working for several years as a reporter for the Idaho Mountain Express. The KCDC operates KIC, using funding from the city of Ketchum and the Ketchum Urban Renewal Agency.

Prior to the KIC, Duval worked to help construct Town Square and the affordable-housing development Northwood Place.

“I couldn’t be happier to have Kathryn stepping into this role,” Duval said. “She not only brings an immense amount of experience to the KIC, along with a deep understanding of the mission, but also has the skill set to take the KIC to the next level, and bring more visibility and participation to this project.”

The KIC has more than 115 entrepreneurs and 50 volunteer mentors, and helped create \$1.25 million in investment into local startup companies, according to the news release.

“I’d like to congratulate Jon for his incredible service to the community, not only in his role as the head of the KIC but also for his service to the KCDC,” KCDC board President Neil Bradshaw said in the news release. “The KIC has built community around entrepreneurship and Jon has been a key component in its success. We wish Jon well and look forward to the leadership that [Guylay] will bring.”