



Michael Schirling

Mike Schirling was appointed to Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) in December 2016 by Governor Phil Scott. ACCD's portfolio includes the Departments of Economic Development, Housing and Community Development, and Tourism and Marketing as well as the VT Center for Geographic Information. Immediately prior to serving as Secretary, Mr. Schirling served as executive director of BTV Ignite, an economic development and technology accelerator initiative, where he oversaw the organization's efforts to expedite growth of the local tech sector to strengthen the economy by driving innovation. Schirling led projects and initiatives focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning opportunities, career coaching and workforce training programs, and development of innovation hubs. He has also worked as a contractor conducting worldwide trainings for the U.S. State Department's Anti-Terrorism Assistance Program Cyber Division. Schirling also served in the Burlington Police Department for 25 years, including seven years as Burlington's chief of police. As chief, he was committed to innovation, collaboration, community engagement and systems change. He led efforts to enhance the Department's technology platforms and received recognitions from the International Association of Chiefs of Police for Civil Rights, and awards for excellence in victim service and community policing.