



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commissioner Taylor Caswell's Statement on the Passing of Tourism Icon Dick Hamilton

Concord, N.H. – (July 20, 2022) – Here at the Department of Business and Economic Affairs and the Division of Travel and Tourism Development, we are saddened to hear of the passing of Dick Hamilton on Tuesday. In many ways, the Division and the work we do promoting tourism day in and day out exists because of Dick and the work he's done over the past six decades.

Dick Hamilton was a true New Hampshire icon who dedicated his life to shaping the White Mountains into a destination that has attracted generations of visitors. His passion was tourism and he recognized its value to not only the local economy of the region, but to what has become the state's second largest industry.

From his early days in the industry, Dick's mantra was 'A rising tide lifts all boats' and we seek to embody that standard today in a sector that may otherwise be competitors — instead uniting and working together in promoting the entire region. Because of those alliances and relationships, the tourism industry, critical in the region, was able to withstand challenges such as the energy crisis in the 1970s, years when it didn't snow and leaves may not have been that colorful, up to the fall of the Old Man of the Mountains in 2003.

Through his leadership, more than a dozen attractions, some of which are over 60 years old, are generational destinations for visitors from around the corner and around the world. These same attractions have also shaped the work ethic of countless high school students as their first summer job and are the backbone of the economy throughout the White Mountains.

The White Mountains are a place that holds great affection and affinity for many and we owe that to Dick's vision and unabashed love of them.

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ABOUT THE NH DIVISION OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The Division of Travel and Tourism Development, as part of the New Hampshire Department of Business and Economic Affairs, works with the state's seven travel regions to increase visitation, travel and visitor expenditures in order to expand business activity and employment throughout the state. The division is responsible for domestic and international advertising and public relations, literature publication and distribution, www.visitnh.gov administration, grant administration and research to monitor and measure the impact of travel and tourism to the state. For more information about New Hampshire tourism, call 603-271-2665 or visit www.visitnh.gov.