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Avi Nevel, President & CEO

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The Rhode Island-Israel Collaborative (RIIC) has launched as a non-profit organization to strengthen the relationship between Israel and Rhode Island and benefit both the economy and the people of each by connecting businesses, academia and research.

Providence, Rhode Island, August 7, 2017 – The Rhode Island-Israel Collaborative (RIIC) has launched as a non-profit organization to strengthen the relationship between Israel and Rhode Island and benefit both the economy and the people of each by connecting businesses, academia and research. The organization plans to drive growth by providing business planning assistance and connecting Israelis and Rhode Islanders through events such as business missions to Israel, speaker series and seminars. Mr. Avi Nevel, Israeli born and Rhode Island resident business leader, will serve as the organization’s President and CEO.

To date, partnerships between Israel and Rhode Island produced exceptional outcomes and the RIIC will build on these successes. Examples of success include three business missions from Rhode Island to Israel since 2011 that resulted in multimillion-dollar sales for Rhode Island companies, over two million dollars in grants and prizes awarded to RI/Israeli companies, business partnerships and academic partnerships between universities in Rhode Island and Israel and research funds for companies and organizations in Rhode Island and Israel.

“Together we have achieved significant results, but I believe the time has come to formalize these activities so that we can take our impact to the next level and maximize the benefits for both Rhode

[RIIC - Your Anchor for Rhode Island-Israel Business, Academia and Research](http://www.theriic.org)



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Island and Israel” said Avi Nevel, CEO & President of the RIIC and CEO of Nevel International.

"We have established a very distinguished board which is actively involved in supporting the organization with members from both Rhode Island and Israel."

The RIIC plans to focus on high impact industries prevalent in both Israel and Rhode Island: Energy alternatives, biotech, pharma, defense, cyber security, neuroscience, marine science, materials, food tech and services, the service sector and infrastructure.

The RIIC has received endorsements from the Rhode Island Department of Commerce, the Israel Economic Minister to North America and the Israeli Consulate in New England.

"We are eager for Rhode Island to be the start-up state, in partnership with the start-up nation and plan to continue reaching out to Israeli counterparts and companies to build this relationship." - **Stefan Pryor, Rhode Island Secretary of Commerce.**

*"I am honored to endorse the creation of **The Rhode Island-Israel Collaborative for the Promotion of Commerce, Academics and Science**. With full knowledge of its mission and its leadership, I believe this collaborative will be very successful and I look forward to working closely with them in the future."* - **Inon Elroy, Israel Economic Minister to North America**

*"I am proud to endorse the creation of a new, nonprofit organization, **The Rhode Island-Israel Collaborative (RIIC)** in an effort to bring together the best of Israel and Rhode Island to benefit both communities and economies."* - **Yehuda Yaakov, Israel Consul General to New England**

An inaugural event will be held in January 2018 to celebrate the launch of the organization. For news updates and membership information please visit www.theriic.org or send an email to info@theriic.org.

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