## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rutland Young Professionals to host city mayoral debate

RUTLAND, VT (Feb. 5, 2015) — On Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. at the College of St. Joseph's Tuttle Hall, Rutland City's three mayoral candidates will participate in a debate hosted by Rutland Young Professionals. Incumbent Mayor Christopher Louras, City Board of Aldermen President David Allaire and Kam Johnson will face off on local issues and answer questions posed by the RYP community.

Vermont Public Radio reporter Nina Keck will serve as moderator. The debate, which is cosponsored by the College of St. Joseph and Stafford Technical Center, will be streamed live on STC's website at staffordonline.org, as well as broadcast on PEGTV channel 21.

"As Rutland's future leaders, our demographic has a vested interest in the continued growth and success of the Rutland community," says RYP President Katye Munger. "As such, we want to use this debate to hear these three candidates' visions for the future of the city."

"Hosting this debate represents the first step in our plan to apply RYP's energy to larger, community-based endeavors in 2015," Munger says, adding that the group is currently working with Castleton Downtown to host a statewide young professionals symposium in Rutland.

The group also intends to expand its website to include more resources for young professionals currently living in or considering moving to the area.

On Feb. 24, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., RYP will host its 20th monthly mixer Feb. 24 at Southside Steakhouse in Rutland. Learn more at www.rutlandyoungprofessionals.org.

Rutland Young Professionals brings together young professionals in the Rutland area to connect, grow and help build Rutland's future by creating social and professional networking opportunities, engaging with the community and building a Vermont that attracts and retains young professionals.

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