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## GREEN BUILDING INITIATIVE APPOINTS RICH MITCHELL AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Portland, Oregon** – Mackenzie’s Managing Principal, Rich Mitchell, has been appointed to Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Green Building Initiative (GBI) after serving on the board since 2014. He replaces Jay Thomas, the Chief Marketing Officer at Mats, Inc., and will serve a two-year term. Mitchell is the first architect to take on the role of Chairman since the founding of the Green Building Initiative in 2004. “I am deeply honored to take on this role and continue to support and develop the Green Building Initiative’s dedication to building sustainable communities,” said Mitchell. “GBI’s innovative green certification programs align with Mackenzie’s own integrated design approach because they are value-added by nature and are relevant to a wide range of project types. Mackenzie’s focus and commitment to market-responsive, high-performance design practices is shared with GBI’s approach and core principles. These commonalities, I believe, are the key reasons that I have chosen to actively support GBI and promote Green Globes.”

Mackenzie and the Green Building Initiative have recently collaborated on several campaigns to promote sustainable design and GBI’s Green Globes project certification processes. In addition to partnering on an in-depth webinar series, Mackenzie and GBI released two promotional videos in 2016 that detail the Green Globes Sustainable Interiors certification program: “Sustainable Interiors is a Great New Strategy” and “Green Globes Sustainable Interiors Certification: A Practical Solution,” which can be found on GBI’s website (<http://www.thegbi.org/about-gbi/press-room-content>). Mackenzie’s tenant space in The Hudson Building in Vancouver, Washington is one of only two spaces in the United States to receive a 4-Green Globes for Sustainable Interiors certification—the highest achievable in the category.

“GBI is fortunate to have had excellent volunteer leadership, and we couldn’t be more excited to have access to Rich Mitchell’s expertise as he takes the helm as Chair of GBI,” stated GBI Executive Director, Vicki Worden. “GBI experienced rapid growth in 2016 and we are looking forward to increasing our impact even more under Rich’s tenure in 2017.”

### **About Mackenzie**

Mackenzie is a provider of professional design services comprised of professionals in architecture and interior design; structural, civil and traffic engineering; land use and transportation planning; and landscape architecture. Anchored in the foundational elements of high performance and client focus, Mackenzie brings a deep expertise in commercial office, healthcare, community infrastructure, education, institutional, federal, high tech, public building, industrial, retail, community planning, economic development, and mixed use projects. For more information, please visit [www.mcknze.com](http://www.mcknze.com) or call 503-224-9560.

### **About Green Building Initiative**

The GBI is a nonprofit organization and American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standards Developer dedicated to accelerating the adoption of green building best practices. Founded in 2004, the organization is the sole U.S. provider of the Green Globes® and federal Guiding Principles Compliance building certification programs. To learn more about opportunities to become involved in the GBI, contact [info@thegbi.org](mailto:info@thegbi.org) or visit the GBI website, [www.thegbi.org](http://www.thegbi.org).