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**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**September 25, 2018**

**“SMART WOMEN, SMART MONEY CONFERENCE”**

*Coming to Moscow, Idaho on September 28, 2018*

*Idaho Department of Finance to Sponsor and Participate in Free Women’s Financial Conference*

**Boise, ID**—Gavin Gee, director of the Idaho Department of Finance, announced today that the department will be a sponsor of the upcoming “Smart Women, Smart Money Conference” in Moscow.

The department is a long-time sponsor of the conference, which will be held on **Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at the University of Idaho Pitman Center - Student Union Building. The conference will run from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with doors opening at 7 a.m.**

“We are pleased to again be a part of this valuable and fun conference offering Idaho women an excellent opportunity to increase their financial knowledge and skills. While Idaho’s economy is improving, the uncertainty and challenges in the broader economy create an opportune time to participate in this popular conference,” said Gee.

The Smart Women, Smart Money Conference, organized and hosted by **Idaho State Treasurer Ron Crane**, has become an Idaho tradition for women seeking financial education. This conference is **FREE** thanks to generous donations from the Idaho and Washington business communities.

The conference will host top national and local financial experts providing interactive workshops, **free** financial education materials, motivational presentations, resources for continuing education credits for CPAs and teachers, and free breakfast and lunch for all participants. This year, **Maddie Zahm** is the keynote speaker for the Moscow conference. Maddie is a 20 year old singer/songwriter from Boise, Idaho. Last season she made it into the Top 48 of **American Idol** on ABC. After competing on **American Idol**, Maddie took a break from college where she was working to become a Special Educator and is attempting to turn her music into groceries.

The topic of **“Todays Mortgages-Navigating the Mortgage Process”** will be presented by **Dan Kline**, Mortgage Examiner with the Department’s Consumer Finance Bureau. Employees of the Department will also staff a booth offering **free** financial education materials. These materials include books, brochures and pamphlets with information about the basics of saving and investing, mortgages, credit cards, credit scoring, foreclosure avoidance resources, identity theft, and avoiding investment and financial fraud. Department staff also will be available to answer questions and assist consumers.

Registration is required for this event. Registration can be done online and additional information can be viewed at [www.smartwomensmartmoney.com](http://www.smartwomensmartmoney.com).

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*Department of Finance Press Releases and other information can be found on the Internet at [finance.idaho.gov](http://finance.idaho.gov) and may be obtained by contacting the department at (208) 332-8004 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.*