



## 2019 KEYNOTE SPEAKER



### **Bob Olson**

*CEO &  
Founder*

**R.D. OLSON**  
DEVELOPMENT

Bob Olson is the CEO & founder of R.D. Olson Development, a Newport Beach, California-based firm engaged in the development of commercial properties nationwide with a specific focus on hotels and resorts.

Mr. Olson guides the strategic vision for R.D. Olson Development. He works closely with his design and development teams providing valuable input for conception, marketing, investment analysis, capital structures, planning and entitlements, budgeting, and constructability, all with a focus on achieving guest satisfaction. R.D. Olson Development is recognized for its ability to identify and act on opportunities, delivering solid execution through all phases of entitlements, design and development while maintaining focus on the business strategy and the bottom line.

The majority of the firm's hotel developments have occurred in the Western U.S. and Hawaii, though Mr. Olson has built projects on a nationwide basis. A specialist in developing hospitality properties, the firm is also experienced in the development of office, retail, multifamily and recreational projects. Mr. Olson's longstanding experience as a builder has proven to be highly beneficial for development projects.

Bob Olson has been recognized as a business leader and entrepreneur on numerous occasions. Olson was most recently recognized as the 2018 Orange County Business Person of the Year by the Orange County Business Journal. He was selected as Marriott International "Developer of the Year" in 2017 and 2014, and was named the 2016 Robert Mondavi Wine & Food Award winner. He has also been the recipient of Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year award, Boy Scouts of America's Good Scout Award, Construction Financial Management Association's Construction Executive of the Year, and the Orange County Business Journal's Excellence in Entrepreneurship award. He was recognized as a 2012 Hotel Icon by Real Estate FORUM magazine, and is a frequent speaker at leading industry events. Mr. Olson is an MBA graduate of the University of Southern California.