



July, 2014



MESSAGE FROM CHAIR PEARL CALAHASEN

On behalf of NADC, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce three new appointments to the Council. Jason Schulz from the Fort McMurray area, Brad Sakowich from Athabasca area, and Peter Braun from the High Level/La Crete area. The three new members joined the council in May of this year for a three year term each. Welcome aboard!

NADC continues to represent northerners by hosting roundtable events with local leaders and sharing their concerns with decision makers. NADC hosted a roundtable event in Fairview with MLA for Dunvegan-Central Peace-Notley, Mr. Hector Goudreau and local elected leaders from the Constituency.

Council has been very active this winter, attending functions like the Growing the North conference, Leading the North conference, and the Economic Developers Association AGM and annual conference. Further to the council's attendance at annual conferences and meetings, the NADC members have also been meeting with various local elected leaders throughout the NADC region as well as hosting roundtable events within the Constituencies in the NADC region. Roundtable events have been held in St. Paul, Bonnyville, Slave Lake and High Prairie, and council has been finding these events very helpful in keeping our 'finger – on – the – pulse' of what the current issues are to northern Albertans. Keep an eye out for us, we may be in your neighbourhood soon! This edition of NADC News provides more detail on what we have been hearing and doing.

NADC MEETINGS

On April 24, 2014 the Northern Alberta Development Council met in Edmonton to hold an Administrative meeting and Strategic Planning session. The council heard presentations from NADC staff and reviewed the proceeding report from the Northern Leaders' Summit to help establish the Strategic Plan moving forward.

Presentations:

Where do northern Albertans access health care?

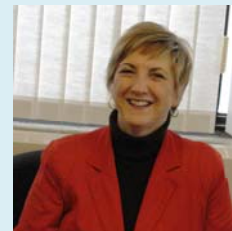
While investigating the development of bus services in the NADC region, research showed that access to healthcare in the NADC region is constrained by geographic distance, transportation options and limited local health care options. From 2005-06 to 2010-11, residents of the NADC region generated a total of \$5.6 million health service records outside of their home regions and had to travel approximately 32% of the time to access health services.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

NADC Meeting: September 11-12, 2013

Northern Alberta Elected Leaders (NAEL) Meeting: July 4, 2014

STAFF UPDATE



Cathy Goulet resigned from the NADC Executive Director position in April. Her last day with NADC was May 31, 2014. Cathy has moved on to pursue her goal of running a consultant business. Cathy good luck in the future, we wish you many successes!

Allen Geary will be the Acting Executive Director during the recruitment process for the permanent position. Allen Geary also celebrates 35 years this year (2014) of being a dedicated GOA employee. Congratulations Al!

Kim Pinnock returned from maternity leave to take on a new role as Acting Manager of Projects and Research during the recruitment processes for the Executive Director. Welcome back, Kim!

NADC meetings con't...

On May 21 & 22, 2014 the Northern Alberta Development Council met in Fairview to hold an Administrative meeting, a continuation of the Strategic Planning session and a roundtable dinner with local leaders of the constituency.

Presentations:**Improving the Recruitment and Retention of Instructors in High Demand Industrial Program (Clearinghouse report)**

In November 2013, the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC), in collaboration with four northern Alberta colleges (Grande Prairie Regional College, Keyano College, Northern Lakes College and Portage College), under the Northern Labour Market Information Clearinghouse joint initiative, commissioned a study to identify key factors impacting the colleges' ability to recruit and retain instructors in selected industrial and trades programs and to identify strategies to address these challenges. The project focused on five program areas (power engineering, steamfitter/pipefitter, welding, heavy equipment technician and crane operator/boom truck). The report concludes with a proposal to establish an ongoing mechanism for communication and collaboration among the four northern colleges at the dean/director level, to provide a mechanism through which joint action can be taken on a range of initiatives to address the challenges identified by this study, as well as other matters of common concern in industry and trades programming. To view the report, visit: <http://www.nadc.ca/clearing-house.asp>

Inventory of Major Projects: Summary for Northern Alberta

The Inventory of Major Projects (IMP) is a database run by the Government of Alberta (GoA) which helps us to understand the momentum of the economy in northern Alberta. The IMP contains projects with a dollar value of \$5 million or more in key economic sectors. NADC analyzed information from 2009 to 2013 for northern Alberta, utilizing 7 REIRs to approximate NADC zone. This information is a really good guide post to provide direction and should be considered as more of a 'compass' rather than a map. In short the database will push the user in the right direction but there are challenges if the user wants a more granular result. As evident by the data there is a strong appetite to invest in northern Alberta. This data gives the direction in which the investment is going.

NADC Bursary Program and Review of Aboriginal Students and First Nation Education

The NADC conducted a review to identify successes and challenges for Aboriginal students accessing the NADC Bursary Program. The review includes a statistical component, analyzing data from self-identified Aboriginal students who have accessed the NADC Bursary Program from 2000-2013 and a summary of information gathered from 17 Aboriginal student recipients of the NADC Bursary Program. Of the 17 recipients spoken to, only 2 of them were not from northern Alberta. 15 of the recipients continued to live and work in the north. In addition to the telephone interviews, the recipients were asked if they would act in a 'role model' or 'ambassador' role to potential Aboriginal recipients. Of those interviewed, 9 individuals were agreeable to the proposal. In addition to the NADC Bursary Program presentation, there was also a presentation to council on Bill C-33 First Nation Control of First Nation Education Act. The Canadian Government's proposed Bill C-33, First Nation Control of First Nation Education Act (FNCFNEA), the Alberta Education Memorandum of Understanding for First Nations Education Long Term Strategic Action Plan 2013 and the Northlands School Division First Nation Métis Inuit Working Committee Action Plan 2013-2014 will impact First Nation and Métis students in Northern Alberta. As part of the NADC engagement strategic NADC will stay up-to-date of any developments regarding Bill C-33.

Crude by Rail

The report is meant to provide an overview of why there is a surge in the movement of crude by rail and the issues and opportunities facing northern Alberta today. Culminating with the current opposition to pipeline expansions and new developments there are critical factors inter-playing that are feeding the surge of oil-on-rail in Alberta. Global demand for oil is increasing. Oil export opportunities to the United States are expected to decline in the long run due to increased oil production in the United States. Railways are the only export infrastructure that Alberta can use today to get its oil to tidal waters and onto the international markets.

STAFF UPDATE con't...

Natalie Butler will continue on as the Acting Manager of Programs and Coordination in Audrey DeWit's absence. Keep up the fantastic work Natalie!

CAPTURE THE NORTH 2014

The Capture the North photo contest for 2014 has begun! Follow the link for more information on the contest and how to enter: <http://www.nadc.ca/photo-contest.asp>

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow NADC's Twitter feed for our live tweets during events and Council meetings @NADC.ca, and join Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) on Facebook for great information and news.

REPORTS

NADC's Annual report for 2012-13 was released. The report can be viewed at: <http://www.nadc.ca/annual-report.asp>

NADC also released the report '[Developing Sustainable Transit Options for Small Communities](#)', this report defines small communities as having a population between 5,000 and 50,000. The report brings together a range of best practices used to develop transit systems in small communities by citing numerous online and academic sources.

NORTHERN LEADERS' SUMMIT

The Northern Leaders' Summit was held on March 14, 2014 in Athabasca, and it was a great success. The proceedings report from the summit has been published to the nadc website, it can be viewed here: <http://nadc.ca/Docs/Northern-Leaders-Proceedings.pdf>

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NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS



Brad Sakowich is a valued member of the business community in the Athabasca region, having spent a number of years in the oilfield service industry. His responsibilities included coordinating day to day operations, reporting and banking for Athabasca Pipelines Ltd. (2003-2005) and more recently, Lincoln County Oilfield Services Ltd. (2005-2014). He also spent two years as the Chief Executive Officer of Alberta's Best W-T Group, one of the largest diversified livestock operations in North America. Prior to that, he worked for more than ten years with Alberta Treasury Branches in various capacities. He holds a diploma in AGRI Business from the Lakeland College in Vermilion, as well as a Certificate in Environmental Resource Management from the U of A. Mr. Sakowich's commitment to his community and region make him an ideal candidate for the Northern Alberta Development Council.



Jason Schulz has lived in the Fort McMurray area since 2006. During his residence he has been active in the community by being on the Board of Directors for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Alberta (August 2012–December 2013) and for Child and Family Services Alberta (March 2011–December 2013). Mr. Schulz was also a member of the Wood Buffalo Real Estate and Zoning Development Appeals Board (2006–2007). Mr. Schulz currently is the Business Instructor at Keyano College and has a multitude of experience working with diverse groups. Mr. Schulz's background in business and community involvement would be a strong asset to the NADC.



Peter Braun has lived in La Crete his entire life and has been a Mackenzie County councillor since 2004. He is active with a number of community organizations, including the Regional Economic Development Initiative, the La Crete Co-op Board and the La Crete Recreation Society. His past work experience includes a total of 20 years as a petroleum agent and manager, first with the La Crete Co-op and then with the United Farmers of Alberta, and 18 years as an owner-operator, first of an automotive parts store and then of a mobile home park and apartment rentals. His background in regional government, retail and business would make him a welcome addition to the NADC.

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