

NADC Communiqué

November 15, 2011



Government
of Alberta



Members of the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) met in Edmonton on November 8, 2011.

NADC Meeting

At its November meeting, the NADC welcomed presentations from Community Futures St. Paul-Smoky Lake Region, the Métis Settlements General Council and Alberta Health Services. The meeting was facilitated by Vice Chair Williard Strebchuk who thanked the presenters for taking the time to bring information on their initiatives and issues Council.

Presentations

- Buy Local – Get It Fresh! Community Futures (CF) St. Paul-Smoky Lake introduced Council to the recently formed Northeast Alberta Food Marketers Association (NAFMA) and the NE Alberta Regional Food Branding Strategy. NAFMA is working with CF St. Paul-Smoky Lake to ensure that Local Food is easily recognizable and readily available to the consumers of the region. The brand identifies the Northeast Region of Alberta and its abundant supply of locally grown, raised and processed food. www.nafma.ca
- The Métis Settlements General Council (MSGC) is developing a Métis Apprenticeship Program and is working with Careers: The Next Generation, Northern Lakes College, Women Building Futures and ACTI to promote trades within their membership. They hope to build a database of skilled workers for industry.
There is some successful economic development partnering between Aboriginal groups, Métis Settlements and Industry, and MSGC would welcome the opportunity to foster more effective partnerships.
- Dr. Chris Eagle, President and CEO of Alberta Health Services (AHS), along with a team of northern managers, provided NADC with an overview of the Five Year Health Action Plan and strategies being developed to address health care issues in the north. Specific topics included medical professional recruitment and retention, specialist availabilities, travel and access issues unique to northern Alberta, telehealth opportunities and prevention strategies. NADC looks forward to working with AHS to identify and address specific regional and community issues.

AWARDS, BURSARIES & SCHOLARSHIPS

Northern Student Teacher Bursary Program Update: NSTB Recipients will be selected on December 7th with successful candidates being informed by January. The bursary team thanks Alberta Education and Alberta Scholarship Programs for all their hard work making this year the success it was!

Staff Updates

- The NADC welcomes Erin Tordoff to our team. Erin comes from Ottawa, where she was working at Transport Canada as a Research Assistant. She holds a B.Soc.Sc in Political Science and a M.A. in Public and International Affairs, both from the University of Ottawa. Her key areas of research focus are water policy, access to education in rural and remote areas, and transportation.
- We are pleased to welcome Karilee Wadman back from maternity leave.
- Congratulations go out to Natalie and Aaron Butler, and Lydia and Frank Zilahy. Both couples welcomed baby girls over the summer.
- NADC will miss Jan Mazurik, who has retired from the Executive and Council Assistant position in Peace River after more than 20 years of service. Jan – you were an integral part of the team. We thank you for everything and wish you health and happiness in your retirement!!

Physician Attraction & Retention Conference

The NADC and the Alberta Rural Physician Action Plan (RPAP) hosted a sold out conference event Oct. 26-28, 2011 in Edmonton. Sixty communities from across the province were represented at the 4th Annual Rural Alberta Community Physician Attraction and Retention Conference. Northern communities gained information on how to be more welcoming and inclusive, updates on rural health, tips on working with the media and physician retention, and personal accounts from physicians practicing in rural Alberta communities.
The NADC looks forward to partnering with RPAP again in 2012 to bring northern communities information to enhance their efforts in physician attraction and retention.

Capturing Northern AB Photo Contest

We had a great response to our Photo Contest which closed on August 31, 2011. We had over 300 entries in our four categories; Capturing the Wild Side; Working the North; Community Spirit and Northern Micro-Life. We would like to thank everyone who submitted photos. They beautifully showcase what northern Alberta has to offer. We will be putting together a photo album on our website soon. Check out the winning photos on our website at www.nadc.ca.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The **Forest Opportunity Seminar** originally scheduled for October in LaCrete has been rescheduled to December 13, 2011. For more information or to register, go to www.nadc.ca

The Leading the North conference in Fort McMurray on January 25-27 will be the conference to attend in 2012!! For more information or to register go to our website!



Follow NADC's Twitter feed for our live tweets during events and Council meetings: @NADCCa.

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