

Message from the Chair

As Chair of the NADC, it is my pleasure to share some of the great work that the NADC has been doing over the past few months.

In September, we released several reports on key topics of interest to our northern communities. Two of the reports captured the highlights, participant feedback, and recommendations coming out of the opportunity seminars on the emerging bio-fibre food industry and alternative and renewable energy. The Northern Health Update covered current initiatives in the region being advanced by our Northern Health Summit partners and participants, primarily Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services.

More recently, research led by the Northeast Alberta Information HUB (Alberta HUB), with the support of the NADC, Alberta Economic Development and Trade (EDT), and the five northern Regional Economic Development Alliances (REDAs) wrapped up with the public release of the Northern Alberta Broadband Preparedness Project. Adequate broadband infrastructure is a critical part of the future social and economic prosperity of our northern communities. Our Council will continue to share the northern perspective on broadband and advocate for necessary infrastructure in the coming year. I encourage you to check out the links to these reports below, or visit our website at www.nadc.ca.

Finally, it has been my pleasure to serve northern Albertans as Chair of the NADC since 2016, and I was thrilled to be reappointed this September to serve another term. I am delighted to welcome my fellow Council members, both new and returning, who have met and are actively pursuing conversations with key experts and northern leaders to determine NADC's priorities for the coming year. I look forward to continuing to represent the issues, opportunities, and interests of the north and welcome all new and seasoned members to the important work of supporting northern development.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season and all the best for a healthy and prosperous new year.

Debbie Jabbour, Chair
MLA for Peace River

New NADC Members

Meet to Discuss Northern Development



Councilors from left to right: (back) Karla Buffalo, Peter Cardinal, Alden Armstrong, Vice-Chair Ken Noskey, Cody Beairst; (front) Jeannette Danks, Sheri MacMillan, MLA Chair Debbie Jabbour, Paula Evans, Jason Shultz (absent).

The Council met October 24-25 in Peace River and December 4-5 in Edmonton. During these intensive meetings, returning and newly appointed members engaged in robust discussions around current issues, NADC's involvement in social and economic development, and initiatives the NADC currently champions.

The relationship between people, water, land and resources was discussed as Council explored many emerging issues and challenges impacting the region. Discussions touched on health services and prevention, education and workforce development, economic diversification, including entrepreneurship, small business, tourism and agri-food development, water and land use challenges, and diverse essential infrastructure priorities needed in the region, including broadband.

The value of hearing from and engaging with all northern communities, including First Nations and Metis peoples in the north, is an important focus for Council as they define and advance priorities and advocacy efforts.

Council hosted a roundtable with Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta (MLA) with constituencies in the NADC region and considered some emerging opportunities in tourism and small business development along with ongoing challenges in delivering training and education, health services and the development of transportation networks that can support and further develop the north's economy.

Information on geothermal potential in the north, water and wastewater technologies, attraction and retention of health professionals, and legalized cannabis legislation, was delivered to Council in consideration of their impacts on northern communities.

Annual Report

The NADC 2016/17 Annual Report is [here!](#)

The 2016/17 year was an exciting one for Council with numerous activities across the NADC region.

- We hosted the Northern Health Summit and Opportunity Seminars on Industrial Hemp and Flax and Alternative and Renewable Energies.
- We engaged with multiple stakeholders in the areas of forestry, health, transportation, education, water and more.
- We connected with government to share the issues and concerns raised by northerners on health and transportation, and we supported skill development through our bursary and practicum funding programs.

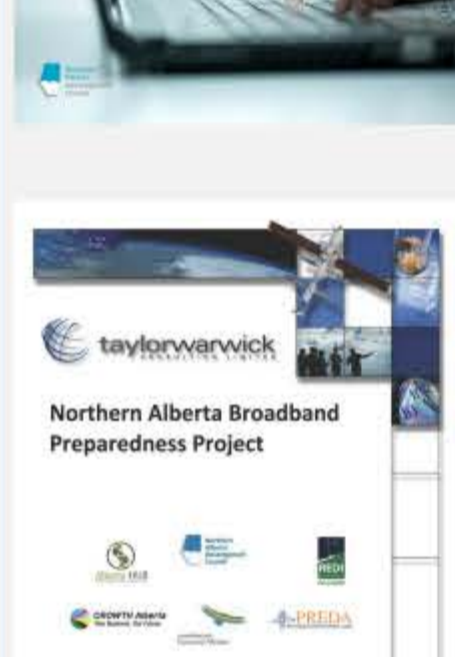


We are proud to continue building a stronger Alberta through a stronger north! Click on the link to read more about the great work our Council and staff are engaged in.

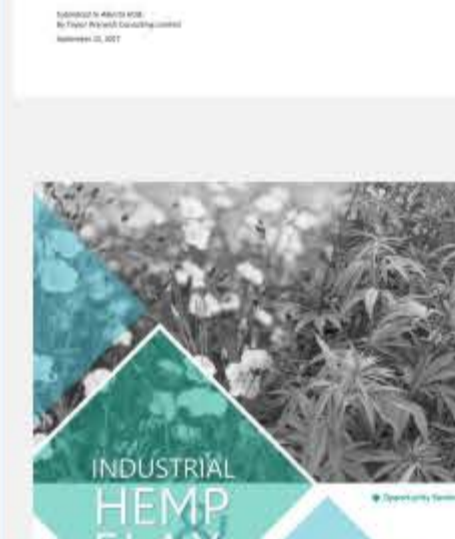
Research, Proceedings, Updates



The 2017 Workforce Scan identifies fields of post-secondary study in high demand. It also provides insights into recent hiring and retention experiences of employers across northern Alberta. To gather employer input, the NADC distributed an online questionnaire and invited organizations from all industries in the region to participate. The findings from respondents in 19 industries offer a collection of workforce experiences across Alberta's north.



The Northern Alberta Broadband Preparedness Project delivers a comprehensive assessment of the current state of broadband capacity and the related barriers towards economic growth, current usage, and requirements to support the emerging technology needs and demands. Moreover, it is a useful starting point for communities, sub-regions, and regions looking to enhance the availability and quality of broadband services in their areas.



Bio-Food & Fibre Industry



Update Northern Health



Alternative & Renewable Energy

Upcoming Meetings in 2018

Northern Alberta Elected Leaders January 19, Slave Lake
Water North Coalition January 25, Beaverlodge
Northern Alberta Development Council Meeting February 20, Grande Prairie

About the NADC

The Northern Alberta Development Council is a provincial government agency that investigates northern Alberta's social and economic development priorities, programs, and services as required by northern residents and provides advice and recommendations to the Government of Alberta.

Stay Connected

To keep up to date on all of the latest NADC news, events and activities like and follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

For more information about the NADC or the region please visit our website, or e-mail us at nadc.council@gov.ab.ca.

