



Northern Alberta Development Council

2022-2023 Annual Report





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Message from the Chair



On behalf of the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC), I am pleased to present the 2022-23 Annual Report that highlights our key activities covering April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023.

Over the past year, Council members have focused on communicating and engaging with northern partners to inform Council's advice to government on the needs of the north. Members have continued to identify challenges in areas such as needed infrastructure and shortages of critical occupations.

The Council worked to secure letters of support from northern Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) for development of an east-west corridor (Highway 686) between Fort McMurray and Peace River. I am excited to say that the government has further advanced this project in 2022-23. Council members also played a significant role in serving on selection committees for the NADC Bursary and First Nations, Métis and Inuit Bursary.

Council membership remained mostly stable during the year but saw the departure of a long-time member. Peter Cardinal's term expired in September 2022, and I would like to thank Peter for five years of service to the Council. I am happy to report that the appointments of four existing Council members were extended by two years in 2022-23, ensuring stability of membership.

I look forward to continuing to lead the Council in working towards "a stronger Alberta through a stronger north."

David Hanson
Chair, NADC

Meet the Council



Chair

David Hanson

MLA for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St.

Paul (until May 2023)

Reappointed on November 18, 2022



Vice-chair

Jason Schulz

Reappointed on Sep 14, 2022



Jacquie Bateman

Reappointed on
February 28, 2023



Cody Beairsto

Appointed to a further term on
February 28, 2023



Omer Moghrabi

Appointed to a further term on
February 28, 2023



Shelly Shannon

Reappointed on
February 28, 2023

Note: Peter Cardinal's appointment as member expired September 13, 2022.

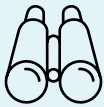
Mandate

The mandate of the council, as outlined in the Northern Alberta Development Council Act, is to investigate, monitor, evaluate, plan and promote practical measures to foster and advance general development in northern Alberta and to advise the government accordingly. The Council may investigate the requirements of residents in northern Alberta and make recommendations with respect to:

- social and economic development,
- development of communities and service delivery, and
- development of government services and programs.

Vision, Mission, Key Strategies

Vision



A stronger Alberta through a stronger north.

Mission



To identify sustainable measures that will advance northern development, and to advise government on opportunities and issues for the benefit of Albertans.

Core Approaches



Communication



Engagement



Advise Government

Key Strategies



Build partnerships among key stakeholders to establish priorities and pursue northern opportunities.



Support initiatives to increase northern skill levels, in partnership with northern communities, business, industry, learning providers and students.




Foster economic strength and diversity by supporting development in transportation, value-added agriculture, tourism, health, and other areas.



Increase awareness about northern Alberta's employment and lifestyle opportunities.

The NADC region

 **60%**
of Alberta's
landmass

Home to
374,572
Albertans

 **150**
Communities

 **52**
Municipal authorities

 **32**
First Nations

 **112**
First Nation
Reserves

 **8**
Metis Settlements

- The north makes significant contributions to the provincial and national economies through principal industries such as oil and gas, forestry, and agriculture.
- There is tremendous potential and work underway to develop emerging industries such as petrochemicals, geothermal, Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), and hydrogen.
- NADC members are important contributors in the selection process for the Northern Alberta Development Bursaries, which attract and retain skilled professionals to grow and diversify the northern economy. The bursaries are funded through Jobs, Economy, and Trade (JET), Education and Advanced Education.



2022 NADC Region Indicators



Population

2022

374,572

Year over year change
0.8%

% of Alberta total
8.2%



Housing starts

2022

348

Year over year change
66.5%

% of Alberta total
1.0%



Building Permits

2022

2,667

Year over year change
-0.9%

% of Alberta total
4.1%



Business Counts

2022

14,788

Year over year change
-0.91%

% of Alberta total
9.4%

Top 5 Industries



Construction

2022

2,124

Year over year change
-2.6%

% of Alberta total
10.4%



Other services (Except public administration)

2022

1,711

Year over year change
1.2%

% of Alberta total
11.5%



Retail trade

2022

1,606

Year over year change
-1.3%

% of Alberta total
6.8%



Professional, scientific and technical services

2022

1,331

Year over year change
0.1%

% of Alberta total
7.9%



Transportation and warehousing

2022

1,168

Year over year change
-5.1%

% of Alberta total
7.9%

By Business Size



Small (1-49)

2022

14,098

Year over year change
-1.07%

% of Alberta total
6.7%



Medium (50-199)

2022

548

Year over year change
4.18%

% of Alberta total
9.0%



Large (200+)

2022

142

Year over year change
-3.40%

% of Alberta total
11.0%



Total Apprentices Registered

2022
4,947

Year over year change
17.3%

% of Alberta total
12.7%

Top 5 Trades



Heavy Equipment Technician

2022
1,324

Year over year change
16.5%

% of Alberta total
13.8%



Electrician

2022
773

Year over year change
2.1%

% of Alberta total
8.0%



Instrumentation and Control Technician

2022
703

Year over year change
21.0%

% of Alberta total
7.3%



Steamfitter-Pipefitter

2022
619

Year over year change
38.1%

% of Alberta total
6.4%



Welder

2022
597

Year over year change
27.8%

% of Alberta total
6.2%



Oil Production

2022
203.4M m3

Year over year change
2.6%

% of Alberta total
92.3%



Natural Gas Production

2022
66.7B m3

Year over year change
5.71%

% of Alberta total
49.0%



Incorporations

2022
2,551

Year over year change
13.2%

% of Alberta total
6.0%



NADC Key Accomplishments

From April 2022- March 2023 – Stakeholder Engagement

- The Chair met with the then Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation (JEI) to discuss the outcomes from the previous year and priorities for 2022-23. This included discussions on the role of NADC and member recruitment.
- The NADC Chair and members engaged with the Minister of Transportation, northern municipalities and other stakeholders, including health professionals, on issues affecting the region, including retention of physicians and highway improvements.
- NADC members agreed at their June 2022 meeting to collaborate with JEI on creating diverse marketing tools aimed at engaging important stakeholders, including school divisions, and gain their support in promoting the bursary programs.
 - The initiative was expected to generate increased interest from potential applicants and contribute to the expansion of the pool of qualified individuals.
- JEI received an increase to the bursary budget as part of Budget 2023 (from \$150,000 to \$300,000) and the Ministry will be expanding marketing in 2023-24.
- On February 28, 2023, Cabinet approved the reappointment of four Council members.

Results and Contributions

The NADC is accountable to the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade (JET) and is responsible for providing advice and guidance regarding northern development.

JET staff provide NADC with secretariat services to support the council's vision, mission, goals and strategies. Below is a summary of Council's activities and performance in 2022-23.

NADC Participation in Bursary Selection Committees

NADC members contributed to the Northern Alberta Development Bursary Program by serving on the selection committees for two bursaries—the NADC Bursary and First Nations, Métis and Inuit Bursary.

Bursary Program Highlights

>150
applications reviewed by
NADC bursary selection
committee



NADC Bursary
78
recipients

>170
applications reviewed by
FNMI bursary selection
committee



First Nations, Metis
and Inuit Bursary
67
recipients



Medical & Dental
2
recipients



Nurse Practitioner
2
recipients



Pharmacy
2
recipients



Veterinary Student
1
recipient

The largest number of bursaries awarded supported education in health care, education, social work and science.



Meetings, Stakeholder Engagement, and Communication

Council meetings give members the chance to have strategic discussions about northern residents' needs. NADC held one Council meeting during 2022-23, in Edmonton. The council meeting addressed the administrative affairs of the Council and members deliberated on their primary objectives for the year as delineated in their action plan.


The Chair attended a meeting with the Honourable Doug Schweitzer, Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation, in May 2022 to discuss results achieved in 2021-22, suggested objectives for 2022-23, the functions of the NADC and the advice it provides. The NADC Chair also worked with northern MLAs to confirm their support for development of an east-west connector (Highway 686) in northern Alberta and forwarded their letters of support to the Minister in June 2022.

NADC Website

Apart from above engagement opportunities, the NADC continues to use its website to inform northern stakeholders about the agency and its activities.

NADC Website
www.nadc.ca





Responsibility for Reporting

The NADC is a provincial government agency that investigates northern Alberta's economic and social development priorities, programs, and services. It advises the government on supports needed to meet the needs of northern residents.

Section 8 of the *Northern Alberta Development Council Act* stipulates: "The Council shall prepare an annual report of its activities that shall be laid before the Legislative Assembly not later than 15 days after the opening of the session next following the preparation of the report."



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