Season's greeting and best wishes for 2017

Northern Health Summit
June 16 & 17, Peace River AB

Hosted over one and a half days, the Summit brought together representatives from over 45 northern municipalities, First Nations and Metis communities; northern colleges, regional economic development alliances and provincial elected representatives, with senior leaders and staff from Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services to discuss priority issues.
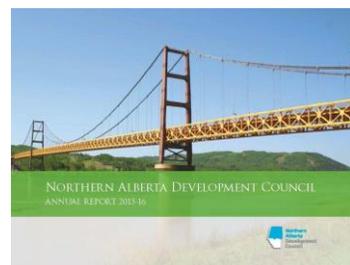
Breakout sessions were held in order to allow communities to discuss and respond to identified ministry and zone priorities for the north and share community perspectives, challenges and solutions on health services. The event was well received and a full proceedings report is now available on the NADC website at http://nadc.ca/docs/HS-Proceedings-Report.pdf. Council has committed to advancing the report with senior leaders within the Ministry of Health and will be providing an update to northern leaders in 2017 on progress of the following outcomes:

- *A mechanism to coordinate **ongoing communication and engagement** be developed with northern municipalities and Indigenous communities to ensure health policies and services for the north are inclusive of local northern community perspectives*
- *The use of **technology be explored** to better serve northern residents, minimize travel for health services where possible, and support patient advocacy and quality of care*
- ***Gaps in transportation infrastructure be addressed** to support patients requiring access to health services*
- *A **distributed service delivery and funding model for health services and education** that meets the geographical, cultural and vocational realities of the north and its residents be developed*
- *Municipal and Indigenous leaders be engaged to **actively***

Welcoming Debbie Jabbour

On September 28, 2016, Ms. Debbie Jabbour was appointed the Chair for the Northern Alberta Development Council. Ms. Jabbour is the MLA for the constituency of Peace River, and currently resides in High Level. She is the Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. She is a member of the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices as well as the Special Standing Committee on Member's Services. Welcome!

2015-16 Annual Report

The NADC annual report was tabled before the Legislative Assembly on December 13, 2016. The report contains a summary of Council's activities from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016. Electronic version of the report is available at http://nadc.ca/annual-report.asp.

support health promotion and healthy community initiatives in the north

- *A sustainable **northern health workforce strategy** be developed*

Northern Alberta Broadband Preparedness Project

Northern Broadband Preparedness Project

The NADC has partnered with the Entrepreneurship and Regional Development Branch of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade as well as the 5 northern Regional Economic Development Alliances to identify the current state of broadband within the NADC region. Throughout the second half of 2016, multiple information sessions were facilitated in northern communities. The project will come to a conclusion in March 2017, to be followed by seminars presented by each northern REDA regarding the final product.

The video about the project can be found on the NADC webiste.

NADC Area Profile

The NADC Area Profile was completed in order to provide information for investors and entrepreneurs when considering opportunities for doing business in the NADC region. This profile has the potential to serve as a basis or starting point for other regional economic analyses and can help to identify and address regional challenges.

Grey Matters 2016

The Grey Matters 2016 Conference was held September 20 – 21 in Grande Prairie. The NADC was a proud co-sponsor of this well-received event, held in northern Alberta for the first time ever. With a record setting attendance of 392, the conference was a great success!

NADC Bursary

Each year, the NADC administers over 1.5 million dollars to students who agree to live and work within the NADC region after completing their studies. Check out our website at www.nadc.ca for more information on a variety of bursary programs to see what may be right for you!

Photo Contest

The annual Capture the North photo contest collected over 75 entries and declared 4 winners and 4 runners –up across 4 categories. Congratulations all!

Flax Seed Research Project

The Northern Alberta Flax Research Project, a joint initiative between the NADC, University of Alberta and Alberta Innovates Technology Futures, aims to document the biochemical profile of selected lines and varieties of northern adapted flax and lay foundation for full utilization (both grain and straw) of northern Alberta flax and provide foundation knowledge to fully utilize Alberta's abundant agriculture resources. The most recent update on the status of the project was released on October 10, 2016. As of fall 2016, selected flax lines exhibiting early maturity traits have been planted at several sites in northern Alberta, and initial meetings with collaborating industries and other stakeholders have been accomplished.

Staff Changes

In August we said a temporary farewell to Senior Northern Development Officer Melonie Doucette in the Fort McMurray office as she goes on maternity leave until August 2017.

In June, we welcomed two new Senior Northern Development Officers to our Peace River office, Nicole Renaud and Victoria Zeppa. We also said farewell to Deborah Clarke, Administrative Assistant, as she moved into a new position with the Ministry of Environment and Parks in Edmonton.

In September, Audrey DeWit, Manager, returned to us from a 3 year secondment to the Slave Lake Wildfire Recovery Team.

In October, we welcomed a new Administrative Assistant, Anne Okaley.

In November, Sharon Mah, Research Officer, returned to us from her maternity leave.

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