

NORTH CENTRAL NEWS

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NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY FUTURES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

Affordable housing project nearing completion

The 06/07 fiscal year had North Central Development contracted by the Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre to coordinate the pre-development and development phases of an affordable housing project targeted at aboriginal families with students in post-secondary education in Thompson.

One 4-bdrm accessible unit and seven 3-bdrm units are contained in the two new 4-plexes being constructed on Fox Bay by the Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy/Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre. The TUAS Steering Committee includes urban Aboriginal community representatives, not-for profit organizations, the private sector and all levels of government.



North Central Development creates "Action Plan" for scrap metal removal in Northern MB and Nunavut

North Central Development recently completed the Northern Scrap Metal Recycling Pilot Project that focused on developing and implementing sorting, bailing and movement of scrap metal in three northern communities in Manitoba and Nunavut. The project generated interest in scrap metal removal from various other northern communities who want to implement similar recycling initiatives. In addition, 11 recommendations were determined for future considerations by communities and organizations that continue to recycle scrap metal in the north.

From the recommendations of the pilot project, geography was identified as a barrier in successful and profitable recovery of scrap metal stockpiles. The relative cost of mov-

ing scrap metal great distances proves to be costly. Therefore, it was recommended that larger northern centres such as Thompson or Churchill could benefit by operating as a permanent staging ground for scrap metal being transferred from the north.

Natural Resources Canada has recently approved a proposal submitted by North Central Development to continue to work at methods to improve the scrap metal recycling process in the north. The goal of Natural Resources Canada is to develop a long-term national plan for the northern provinces and territories for a sustainable scrap metal removal process to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The objectives of the recently

approved project include identifying where the large stockpiles of scrap metal exist and working with the transportation companies and communities to create a plan to remove and transport the metal to the south to be recycled. Currently, NCD is observing some of the Bay-line communities in northern Manitoba as they are accessible by train and communities along the Hudson Bay shore in Nunavut as they are accessible via barge.

The Action Plan is slated to be complete by March 31, 2007. If you have any questions about scrap metal in the north or in your community, please contact North Central Development at (204) 677-1490 or 1-888-847-7878.

Demand for daycare in Thompson critical

The current situation of available licensed daycare space in Thompson is under-serviced and in a growing need of concern. The community's population is increasing and expected to continue. Like other essential services and infrastructure in a modern city, available childcare is a necessary component in the community's socio-economic fabric. Without it, or lack of it, the community is not balanced causing stress on children, families, the community and region.

A dedicated focus and clear path is necessary to address these issues in childcare facility development in Thompson. In partnership with North Central Development, the Board of Directors for JPS Inc. (formerly Juniper Preschool) has begun work to address these issues. As a result, an Advisory Committee has been struck (Thompson Childcare Advisory Committee) to commence coordination and construction of two new daycare facilities in Thompson. Phase One will consist of a full time childcare facility for infant and children under the age of five years old. Phase Two will consist of a facility for school-aged children (6 to 12 years old).

The goal of the Advisory Committee is to open the doors to a new licensed childcare facility (Phase One - Full time daycare for Infant/Preschool-age) in 2008. To do this, they are seeking partnerships in the form of support and investment from stakeholders in the community. Support and investment are in the form of developmental funds, capital funds, staffing and land/location for the facility(ies).

Why is child care so important?

The childcare sector has significant

economic and social impact in Northern Manitoba. High quality and accessible child care is an essential service as part of the urban infrastructure and is a must for a modern city. Accessible childcare enables people and communities to develop and prosper. It allows parents to work, increasing family income and reducing poverty. Childcare services allow employers to recruit and retain staff. The childcare sector also employs citizens (primarily women) as Early Childhood Educators, Directors, Child Care Assistants and Child Care business owners. Lastly, it allows for gender equity as it eases the family-work obligations on mothers enabling the opportunity for higher lifetime earnings for higher old age pensions. Economists have estimated returns between two and seven times the original investment. For every one childcare job in Manitoba, 2.15 other jobs are created or sustained.

Thompson is the largest community in Northern Manitoba and is currently flourishing in economic growth with the expansion of CVRD, Inco Ltd. and major development in the hydro industry. These multi-million dollar developments coupled with an increasing growth in population has put an enormous strain on the service industry in Thompson.

Thompson's childcare sector is

comprised of only 18 licensed childcare facilities. Together, these 18 facilities provide 348 licensed spaces for children aged 12 weeks to 12 years old. All of these facilities are at full capacity and have long waiting lists. There are less than 5% licensed spaces for children aged 5-12 years old.

In 2004, the doors to one of Thompson's largest daycare facilities closed, cutting 80 licensed spaces. Due to overcrowding in the schools, the school division ended lease agreements with Juniper Preschool in 2006 and Kiddies Northern Preschool at the end of the 2006/2007 school year in June.

Currently, childcare services are not evenly distributed across Thompson. The majority of the facilities are clustered in only three neighborhoods. In addition, there are significantly less facilities in the mid to low income neighborhoods.

North Central Development is striving to assist this project and other child care Projects. Manitoba Competitiveness Training and Trades has recently approved a proposal submitted by North Central Development to assist groups to achieve their goals. This one-year term will commence April 1, 2007. If you have concerns about Child Care, please do not hesitate to call North Central Development at (204) 677-1490 or 1-888-847-7878.

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Disability Awareness workshop broadcast across Manitoba

North Central Development partnered with the Society for Manitobans with Disabilities (SMD) to secured funding from Community Futures Manitoba's Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program this year. This funding will be used to offer workshops to youth in schools and after-school programming as well as a workshop targeted towards Community Futures Staff and Board.

Youth Workshops

A number of youth workshops will take place during the month of March this year. In the hour-long workshop, Presenter Tammy Matheson from SMD focuses on teaching youth the importance of focusing on the person first before a disability with hands-on activities and discussions. One activity has the youth experience what having a disability might be like while another deals with the many forms of

accommodation for persons with disabilities.

Staff / Board Workshop

A workshop designed for Community Futures Staff and Board was broadcast from North Central Development via videoconferencing March 1, 2007 to nine CF's across the province. The workshop included general disability awareness topics such as interacting and communicating with people with disabilities, challenges and accommodations, and disability resources.

In-depth Manuals for both the youth and Staff/Board workshops are being created for future use.

If you are interested in having a youth workshop or for more information on this project contact Charlene Grant at 677-1490, toll free 1-888-847-7878 or by email cgrant@northcentraldevelopment.ca



Tammy Matheson, Training Coordinator with SMD presents *Disability Awareness: Rethinking Our Communities* to the YWCA's Girls Night Out program.

VIDEOCONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

All workshops are free of charge. In the North Central region, call 677-1490 or 1-888-847-7878 to sign up.

Intro to PST

March 13, 2007
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Understanding Small Business Financing

March 19, 2007
1:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Interactive Business Planner

March 20, 2007
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Customer Service Excellence

March 21, 2007
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Surviving When a Big Box Store Comes to Town

March 22, 2007
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Credit Scoring & Managing Your Personal Credit History

March 26, 2007
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Marketing Basics

March 27, 2007
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Market Research

March 28, 2007
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Survey Design for Customer Research

March 28, 2007
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Advertising & Promotion

March 29, 2007
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Developing a Marketing Plan

March 30, 2007
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

North Central Chairperson's Message



Tansi!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, welcome to the Winter 2007 edition of the North Central Development Newsletter. As you will see from the various articles contained in this edition,

North Central Development has been busy in both community and business development during the cold dark months of winter.

The Corporation has enjoyed some real success in a variety of programs including housing and day-care, along with continued work in scrap metal, Junior Achievement and disability awareness workshops. Please take the time to review the articles and consider if these programs can help your community as well.

With winter winding down, I want to remind

people of some important upcoming events including the annual Vision Quest Conference to be held on May 15 - 17, 2007 in Winnipeg. In addition, please remember to mark your calendars for the North Central Development Annual General Meeting scheduled to take place June 8 & 9 in Thompson. Hope to see you there!

I extend my congratulations to Thompson Spirit Way for receiving the Travel Manitoba award in the category of Partnership. North Central Development is

pleased to have been a part of the success and will proudly display the award in our boardroom.

In closing, a reminder that starting in April 2007, North Central Development, will be adopting the common branding strategy for the Community Futures program across Canada, and will be known as Community Futures North Central Development.

Till the spring, All the best...

Glen Flett
Chairperson

Transportation and trades focus of conference

On September 27th and 28th, 2006, The Mid Canada Industry and Business Conference took place in Thompson.

The Mid-Canada Industry and Business Conference is an expansion of the former Mid-Canada Mining Corridor Conference. It was found in former conferences, many of the challenges in the mining industry were challenges faced by most industry in the north.

The focus for the 2006 conference was on transportation and the need for trades-qualified and skilled labour throughout the north. The Mid-Canada Industry and Business Conference goal was to result in resolutions to be presented to the appropriate government departments or other agencies, so that the north can start to effect positive change and sustainable growth in the region.

The conference focused on transportation the first day, with ministerial presentations in the morning, fol-

lowed by a plenary session with representatives from the Thompson Regional Airport Authority, Gardewine North, Perimeter Aviation, Hudson Bay Rail and CVRD, Inco Ltd. Breakout sessions followed to develop recommendations. On the second day, the focus was on the need for trades qualified and skilled labour. Again, the day began with ministerial presentations in the morning, followed by a plenary session with representatives from the University College of the North, R.D. Parker Collegiate Aviation and Power Mechanics Department, CVRD Inco Ltd, Tolko and Manitoba Hydro. Breakout sessions followed.

Other special presentations, tours and demonstrations topped off the conference. Highlights include special keynote speakers Dr. Barry Prentice and Dr. Carl von Gablenz. Dr. Prentice and Dr. von Gablenz discussed the airship industry and how it is a marketable and sustainable

solution for transportation barriers in northern Manitoba.

In addition, Marcus Chambers of the Immigration Promotion and Recruitment Branch of the Department of Labour and Immigration spoke about the Provincial Nominee Program and how this has helped build communities.

Lastly, Rob Slinger joined the delegates for a networking banquet to inspire us on best practices in economic development through his experiences as a leader in business development of the Synchrotron Research Facility in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Other interesting insights, challenges and solutions were offered up on the topics of transportation and trades and skilled labour throughout the two days.

For a copy of the Conference Report and Recommendations, contact the Nor-Man Regional Development Corporation at 1-800-665-4774.



Spirit Way presented with partnership award

Spirit Way Inc. received a Travel Manitoba award in the category of Partnership this past February. This award recognizes partnerships and alliances that demonstrate the power and value of cooperative approaches to tourism promotion, development or delivery in Manitoba.

Spirit Way Inc. is a volunteer board made up of 12 directors and one project coordinator who represent a cross-section of the community. The goal of this group is to literally redefine and rejuvenate the community by reinventing Thompson as a tourism destination point.

The organization is in the third year of a 3-year plan to develop a unique walkway through Thompson including 18 points of interest that will highlight Thompson's unique people, natural landscape and history.

Eleven points of interest are currently completed, with September 2006 seeing the official opening of the walkway. Sites include Canada's largest photo-real mural, Wolves Along the Way (24 - 7' tall hand-painted wolf statues), a restored seaplane as a tribute to northern aviation and the largest rockface sculpture in Canada.

Spirit Way partners include: the Rotary Club of Thompson, Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre, Manitoba Keewatinook Ininew Okimowin (MKO), the Manitoba Metis Federation, Heritage North Museum, United Steelworkers, Thompson Chamber of Commerce, City of Thompson, North Central Development, Aviation Group and Thompson Labour Committee.

The Manitoba Tourism Awards is an annual program recognizing excellence in the promotion and delivery of tourism experiences in Manitoba.

Vision Quest Conference May 15 - 17

The 11th annual Vision Quest conference, happening this May 15, 16, 17 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre focuses on Aboriginal Business, Community and Economic Development. Plan to attend if you are an Aboriginal business owner or youth, are a community

leader or economic development officer or are interested in doing business with the Aboriginal community.

Visit the Vision Quest website for more information or to register: www.visionquestconference.com.

NORTH CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEMBERS

Roxanne Chan
CHURCHILL

Darlene Beck
CROSS LAKE C.C.

Ryan Castel
CROSS LAKE F.N.

Albert McTavish
GILLAM

Jim Chomoby
ILFORD

Marcel Moody
NELSON HOUSE C.N.

Wayne Spence
NELSON HOUSE C.C.

Glen Flett
NORWAY HOUSE C.C.

Norman Flett
SPLIT LAKE C.N.

Angeline Flett
PIKWITONEI

Frank Dorion
THICKET PORTAGE

Judy Kolada
THOMPSON

Frances McIvor
WABOWDEN

Philip Morris
WAR LAKE F.N.

Sam Saunders
YORK LANDING

Vacant: Fox Lake F.N.,
Norway House F.N.

VOLUNTEERS:

Dennis Dwyer
WABOWDEN

Craig Hanley
THOMPSON

Mayor Reg Meade
WABOWDEN

Junior Achievement planned in schools across the north

The 2006/07 year proves to be busy with a target of 100 Junior Achievement workshops to be delivered by June 30, 2007. So far 51 workshops have been presented or scheduled from schools all across the North. JA workshops are available to be delivered from community volunteers and teachers who have been trained in the delivery of the JA programs or the JA coordinator through North Central Development. This year to date schools or after-school programs in the following communities have participated or are scheduled to receive JA workshops:

Cross Lake, Churchill, Gillam, The Pas, York Landing, Thompson, Norway House, Poplar River, Flin Flon, Thicket Portage, Pikwitonei and Lynn Lake. There have also been workshops scheduled for "Girls Night Out", a program organized through the YWCA Thompson and the School District of Mystery Lake's Mini-Winterfestival.

There are a total of 5 workshops that can be presented which include: Business Basics, Dollars with Sense, Economics of Staying in School, JA Titan - Computer simulated program and The Company

Program. These workshops are targeted for students in grades 5-12. Please find listed below contact information should you wish to be provided a more in-depth description of each presentation.

Should you wish to have a JA presentation in your school or community or for information on becoming a volunteer, please call Leann Brown, JA Coordinator at 677-1493, toll free at 1-888-847-7878, or e-mail lbrown@northcentraldevelopment.ca.

North Central Development welcomed Bree Self and Mona Bates this quarter. Bree is working in Community Development on the Spirit Way project and Mona is coordinating the Self Employment Assistance program. Welcome to the team Bree and Mona!

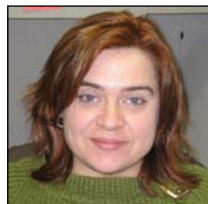
-- ADMINISTRATION STAFF --



Tim Johnston
Manager



Tamy Burton
Administrative Officer



Leann Brown
Bookkeeper / JA



Tara Ellingson
Administrative Assistant

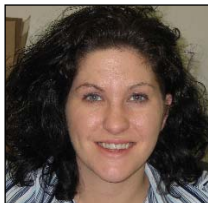
-- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STAFF --



Leslie Tucker
CEDO



Charlene Grant
CEDO



Bree Self
CEDO



Corey Spence
Social Work Student

Leaving NCD this quarter are:



Michelle Pruder
Mike Alguire
Laura Finlay

Good Luck!

-- BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT STAFF --



Liz Sousa
BDO



Nick Nimchuk
BDO - Loans



Mona Bates
BDO - SEA Program



Peter Rosenfeld
Aboriginal Business Canada

NCD Mission Statement

The North Central Community Futures Development Corporation Inc. will endeavor to bring together to support, develop, and promote communities, individuals, organizations, business and other appropriate stakeholders within the north central region (of Manitoba) to encourage self reliance and viability of the social and economic quality of life.



North Central Development



Western Economic
Diversification Canada

Diversification de l'économie
de l'Ouest Canada

Canada