

Summary - Northern Labour Market Committee (NLMC) meeting

June 11, 2008 in La Ronge, Saskatchewan

Mandate

Identify and assess emerging labour market and economic development issues in northern Saskatchewan and recommend or initiate actions that will enable residents to benefit from training, employment, and economic activities in their region.

Chaired jointly in 2008-2009 by

1. Northern Affairs Division, Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations, for the provincial government;
2. Athabasca Economic Development and Training Corporation representing Aboriginal training and economic development agencies; and
3. Northlands College, Western Region, representing training agencies/industry.

Attended by

Decision-makers in training, planning, and economic development including representatives from federal and provincial governments, school divisions, training institutions, training funders, economic development agencies, local and Aboriginal authorities, and private industry.

Agenda

1. Education, Training, and Employment Initiatives

- Northern Career Quest, a proposal submitted by Northern Apprenticeship Committee (NAC), with Advanced Education, Employment and Labour (AEEL), Cameco, Meadow Lake Tribal Council, Northlands College and other agencies was approved for funding under the federal Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership (ASEP) Program. The Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, Aboriginal and industry partners will provide a total of \$33M over 4 years to help approximately 1,500 Aboriginal people gain the skills and experience they need for long-term jobs in the resource sector. The new Quest Board is recruiting a CEO and staff and plans to begin training in the autumn. Five training institutes will be involved in training delivery.
- Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment (GDITE), a new arm of the Institute, was implemented last year to administer training funding for Métis people in post-secondary training. At Sandy Bay, 10 students took employment readiness training prior to 4 being hired by a construction company and 5 being hired by the village. Eight students took welding that began in Pinehouse and then moved to Buffalo Narrows. A childcare training program is planned for Pinehouse. GDITE is currently working with a health authority for health-related training for the region. GDITE is working with the Prince Albert correctional facility to deliver training and career counseling to inmates and 8 students are taking construction work preparation course through SIIT. GDITE provides a wage subsidy of up to 50% of minimum wage for workers employed by businesses and 100% subsidy of minimum wage for non-profit corporations. GDITE can fund students in university for 64 weeks and students in technical institutions for 36 months.
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIASST), Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT), and the northern partners manage the three mobile training

labs in the province. In 2007/08, level 1 and 2 electrical and industrial mechanic programs were delivered in the northern lab at Cigar Lake mine site and it had 43 graduates and 6 completions. For 2008-9, the northern partners are planning industrial mechanics training, probably in Cumberland House. The new Northern Career Quest could utilize the northern lab for its training over the next 4 years. The deadline for institutes to submit proposals to book the SIIT and Northern labs for 2009-10 is November 2008.

- This spring, Nortep had 17 students graduate with a Bachelor of Education and Norpac had 6 graduates with the three-year Bachelor of Arts degree. Of the 340 teachers that graduated up to September 2007, 91% are employed in northern Saskatchewan and 93% of those are employed in education. The institute has approved 66 applicants to start August 18, 2008. This past year and next year, Nortep is delivering a Masters program in curriculum and instruction through University of Regina. 24 students are enrolled. Starting July 2009, Nortep could offer a 2-year Masters in education administration through University of Saskatchewan (U of S). Nortep plans to expand its student accommodation facilities by constructing a four-plex targeted to students with large families.
- Northlands College participates in the University of the Arctic, an international network of universities and colleges. The University's partnership with U of S and Northlands College enabled the creation of a Bachelor of Arts in Northern Studies, which provides a three or four year degree with an advanced emphasis in Aboriginal Public Administration. The first students in North America to graduate with the Bachelor of Arts in Northern Studies will convocate this October at the University of Saskatchewan. The 8 graduates took the program through Northlands College in Buffalo Narrows, Creighton, and La Ronge.

2. Subcommittees' Training and Employment Work Plans

- The Mineral Sector Steering Committee administers the 5-year Multi-Party Training Plan (MPTP) now at the end of its third phase. Partners are planning to undertake a review to provide recommendations for the development of a fourth phase. In programs this year, 8 students graduated from the 2-year Mine Engineering diploma program – this was the first time this program had been delivered. The committee increased the MPTP scholarship from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for autumn 2008. Northlands College is having difficulty recruiting instructors for some of the mine-related programs for autumn.
- The Northern Apprenticeship Committee's (NAC) role is to indenture people to apprenticeship trades, support them as they proceed through their training, and link them to employment. NAC has selected two new co-chairs and in July, a new NAC coordinator will start working with apprentices. The NAC database of apprentices can be used to refer apprentices to employment. NAC has indentured 114 new apprentices this year. NAC provides about \$52,000 for cost of living support for apprentices while they are in school through the AEEL Northern Training Program.
- The Job Horizons 2 Subcommittee, which replaces the Oil Sands Subcommittee, was formed to administer the Job Horizons 2 project, an expansion of Job Horizons. The new program will be expanded to provide services to clients in most of northern Saskatchewan rather than just the northwest and will link clients to employment in Saskatchewan's oil and gas industry as well as Alberta's oil sands industry. The project has recruited staff in La Loche, Ile a la Crosse, Meadow Lake, and Cumberland House to help link people to jobs in the oil and gas

sectors, help with relocation costs, and provide career-counseling services. This project will work closely with Northern Career Quest to place trainees with employers.

- The Health Sector Training Committee hired a consultant to undertake a survey of 30 northern health authorities and employers. She has submitted a comprehensive report on current employment, gaps in hard to recruit areas, high turnover areas, and recruitment needs. This is the basis for a multi-party, multi-funded, and multi-year training strategy that the subcommittee will negotiate with funders and partners over the next year. The subcommittee will hold a strategic planning exercise with stakeholders in September to decide how to proceed.
- Athabasca Economic Development and Training Corp. (AEDTC) for-profit arm recently purchased 50% of Team Drilling. The company successfully completed construction of the first 30 km of the Wollaston road with 90% employment participation from Wollaston. AEDTC is discussing a potential training facility in the Athabasca basin and will start a feasibility study and training strategy this summer as a rational. It is the company's 10th year anniversary and some events are planned in celebration.
- Gary Tinker Federation (GTF) helps all people with disabilities. GTF has reactivated its NLMC subcommittee with goals of meeting training needs of people with disabilities; using creative solutions at worksites to create jobs for the disabled; and determining the needs that have to be met for clients to gain employment. Next year will be the 20th anniversary of Gary Tinker's walk to Regina to raise awareness of the needs of disabled northerners, which led to this organization. The plan is to hold a conference to increase awareness of disabilities as well as a celebration of accomplishments in autumn 2009.
- The Education and Training Subcommittee will call a meeting in October to determine whether to go ahead with a planning session with a small group of decision-makers to look at options for closer integration of education systems to address transitions to employment. If the session proceeds, a facilitator would be hired to lead the session.
- Keewatin Career Development Corp. (KCDC) forms the core of the Career Services Subcommittee with members from Northern Lights School Division and GTF. The subcommittee is looking for members from among career services practitioners and industry in order to discuss career services and upcoming projects and issues. KCDC is becoming more of a commercial for-profit venture and now offers information technology training and services, computer hardware sales, media services, and cell phone service/dealership in northern communities

3. Industrial Sectors' Initiatives

- Woodland and Waterways Regional Development Corp. has a main goal of promoting tourism in an area from Weyakwin to Southend. Tourism boosts the provincial economy from revenue from tourism as well as sector employment. The Saskatchewan Tourism Education Council (STEC) trained 2,000 people in 2006/07 in hospitality programs. The Corporation promotes tourism in the region at 5 to 8 tradeshow each year in western Canada and the USA and maintains the La Ronge Visitor Information centre, which is open year-round.

- At its mine sites, Cameco has 1202 employees of whom 51% are Residents of Saskatchewan's North. Contractors employ 880 workers of whom 58% are Residents of Saskatchewan's North. Cameco will provide 46 positions for summer students. Cameco, which awarded \$50,000 in scholarships in 2007, will raise the amount to \$100,000 in 2008. Students in engineering, geology, and commerce areas are encouraged to apply. The deadline for scholarships is June 30.
- AREVA and its contractors employ 490 workers at its northern Saskatchewan mine sites. Cluff Lake has 21 workers on site: 60% of company employees and 73% of contractors are Residents of Saskatchewan's North. McClean Lake mine has 469 workers: 48% of company employees and 56% of contractors' employees are Residents of Saskatchewan's North. The deadline for scholarships is June 30. Northlands College students in Heavy Duty Mechanics program at Buffalo Narrows had work placements at the mine site. AREVA will provide 27 summer student positions. AREVA and Cameco jointly conducted the annual Northern Energy Tour around the northwest, central/east side, and Athabasca Basin.

4. Participants and Interested Parties

Agency	Community	Agency	Community
ABORIGINAL SKILLED WORKERS ASSOCIATION	SPRUCE HOME SK	MEADOW LAKE MECHANICAL PULP INC.	MEADOW LAKE SK
AREVA RESOURCES CANADA INC.	LA RONGE SK	MEADOW LAKE OSB LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	MEADOW LAKE SK
ATHABASCA ECONOMIC DEV. & TRAINING CORP.	WOLLASTON LAKE SK	MEADOW LAKE TRIBAL COUNCIL	MEADOW LAKE SK
ATHABASCA HEALTH AUTHORITY	BLACK LAKE SK	METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN	BUFFALO NARROWS SK
AURORA COMMUNICATIONS	AIR RONGE SK		CUMBERLAND HOUSE, ILE A LA CROSSE, LARONGE
BEAVER RIVER COMMUNITY FUTURES CORPORATION	BUFFALO NARROWS SK	METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN	LA RONGE, NORTH BATTLEFORD, PRINCE ALBERT, REGINA
BOREAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORP.	BEAUVAL SK	MINISTRY ADVANCED ED, EMPLOYMENT & LABOUR	REGINA SK
BUFFALO NARROWS ECONOMIC DEVEL CORP	BUFFALO NARROWS SK	MINISTRY CORRECTIONS, PUBLIC SAFETY, POLIC	BUFFALO NARROWS, LA RONGE, REGINA
BUFFALO NARROWS, VILLAGE/NEW NORTH CHAIR	BUFFALO NARROWS SK	MINISTRY FIRST NATIONS AND METIS RELATIONS	BUFFALO NARROWS, LA RONGE, REGINA
CAMECO CORPORATION	LA RONGE SK, Saskatoon	MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	LA RONGE SK
CENTRAL CREE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.	WEYAKWIN SK	MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES	REGINA SK
CLAUDE RESOURCES INC.	SASKATOON SK	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT	REGINA SK
CREIGHTON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORP.	CREIGHTON SK	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT- FOREST SERVICES	PRINCE ALBERT SK
CREIGHTON SCHOOL DIVISION #111	CREIGHTON SK	MINISTRY OF HEALTH	LA RONGE SK
CROWN INVESTMENTS CORPORATION OF SASK.	SASKATOON SK	MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS AND INFRASTRUCTURE	LA RONGE, PRINCE ALBERT
DUMONT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	SASKATOON SK		
FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CANADA	PRINCE ALBERT SK		
GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE TRAINING & EMPLOY	PRINCE ALBERT, SASKATOON	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES	LA RONGE, MEADOW LAKE, PRINCE ALBERT
GARY TINKER FEDERATION FOR THE DISABLED	LA RONGE SK	NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA, CAN. FOREST SERV	PRINCE ALBERT SK
GLR RESOURCES INC.	REGINA SK	NEW NORTH - SANC SERVICES INC.	LA RONGE SK
GOLDEN BAND RESOURCES INC.	SASKATOON SK	NORTEP/NORPAC	LA RONGE SK
ILE A LA CROSSE SCHOOL DIVISION	ILE A LA CROSSE SK	NORTHEAST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	DESCHAMBAULT LAKE SK
INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA	REGINA SK	NORTHERN APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE NAC	LA RONGE SK
KEEWATIN CAREER DEVELOPMENT CORP.	AIR RONGE SK	NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT BOARD CORP.	AIR RONGE SK
KEEWATIN YATHE HEALTH DISTRICT	BUFFALO NARROWS SK	NORTHERN HEALTH STRATEGY	PRINCE ALBERT SK
KITSAKI MANAGEMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	LA RONGE SK	NORTHERN HUMAN SERVICES PARTNERSHIP NHSP	LA RONGE SK
LA RONGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	LA RONGE SK	NORTHERN LIGHTS SCHOOL DIVISION	LA RONGE, SANDY BAY
LAC LA RONGE INDIAN BAND, EDUCATION BRANCH	LA RONGE SK	NORTHERN MINES MONITORING SECRETARIAT	LA RONGE SK
MAMAWETAN CHURCHILL RIVER HEALTH DISTRICT	LA RONGE SK	NORTHERN RESOURCE TRUCKING	SASKATOON SK
		NORTHERN SASK TOURISM INC.	LA RONGE SK

Agency	Community	Agency	Community
NORTHLANDS COLLEGE	BUFFALO NARROWS , CREIGHTON, LA RONGE	SASKATCHEWAN MINING ASSOCIATION	REGINA SK
JOB HORIZONS 2 OIL SANDS SUBCOMMITTEE	LA LOCHE SK	SASKPOWER CORPORATION	PRINCE ALBERT, REGINA
OILSANDS QUEST INC.	ALBERTA	SASKTEL, ABORIGINAL UNIT	SASKATOON SK
PETER BALLANTYNE CREE NATION	PRINCE ALBERT SK		LA RONGE, NORTH BATTLEFORD, PRINCE ALBERT, SASKATOON
PINEHOUSE BUSINESS NORTH CORP.	PINEHOUSE LAKE SK	SERVICE CANADA	
PRINCE ALBERT GRAND COUNCIL	PRINCE ALBERT SK	SHORE GOLD INC.	SASKATOON SK
SAKITAWAK DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	ILE A LA CROSSE SK	SIAST, KELSEY CAMPUS	SASKATOON SK
SASK. APPRENTICESHIP & TRADE COMMISSION	PRINCE ALBERT, REGINA	SIAST, PALLISER CAMPUS	MOOSE JAW SK
SASK. BUILDING/CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL	REGINA SK	SIAST, WOODLAND CAMPUS	PRINCE ALBERT SK
SASK. INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGIES	LA RONGE, PRINCE ALBERT, SASKATOON	SKILLS CANADA SASKATCHEWAN	SASKATOON SK
SASKATCHEWAN COMMERCIAL FISHERIES LTD.	LA RONGE SK	TOURISM SASKATCHEWAN- STEC	REGINA SK
SASKATCHEWAN CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION	REGINA SK	WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION CANADA	SASKATOON SK
SASKATCHEWAN FOREST CENTRE	PRINCE ALBERT SK	WOODLAND AND WATERWAYS REGIONAL DEV. CORP.	LA RONGE SK
SASKATCHEWAN LABOUR MARKET COMMISSION	REGINA SK	WOODLAND CREE ENTERPRISES INC.	AIR RONGE SK
		ZELENSKY BROTHERS SAWMILL	LA RONGE SK