



For Immediate News Release:

Northern Policy Institute Announces First Advisory Council

May 13th, 2014, Thunder Bay, ON – The President and CEO of Northern Policy Institute, Charles Cirtwill, is pleased to announce the members of Northern Policy Institute’s inaugural Advisory Council. The six Advisory Council members are: Ron Arnold, Murray Coolican, Barbara Courte Elinesky, Brian Davey, Tony Dean and Don Drummond.

Northern Policy Institute’s first Advisory Council members have been strategically selected for their experience, knowledge and connections in key sectors across the entire Northern Ontario region. The Advisory Council provides invaluable communication and access to sector-specific researchers and key stakeholders. Members also provide support and strategic guidance on the overall organizational direction of Northern Policy Institute. Further appointments to the Council are expected as candidates make their interest known and any identified gaps in representation and experience are filled in.

Specifically, the six Advisory Council members are:

- Ron Arnold is the President of a Sudbury-based construction company, Dalron Construction Limited; a position he has held since 1969. He has also served on many local boards.
- Murray Coolican, a former Senior Ontario public servant, is the Deputy Minister of Energy for the Province of Nova Scotia. He has held numerous leadership positions in the not-for-profit, government, political and private sectors.
- Barbara Courte Elinesky is the CEO of two drilling companies; Cobra Diamond Drilling and North Star Drilling. She is also a Board Member on Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC) and the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce.
- Brian Davey is Executive Director of Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund (NADF) and was previously Economic Development Manager for Matawa First Nations Tribal Council. He has worked for over 28 years on First Nation issues mostly related to economic and business development.
- Tony Dean, former Secretary to the Cabinet and head of the Ontario Public Service, is a Professor at the School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Toronto. In 2010, he was appointed Senior Research Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School’s Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation.



- Don Drummond was appointed to the Donald Matthews Faculty Fellowship on Global Public Policy at Queen's University in June 2010 and to Co-Chair of the C. D. Howe Institute's Fiscal and Tax Competitiveness Council in March 2011.

Charles Cirtwill, President and CEO of Northern Policy Institute, says; "I am delighted to welcome these highly talented and well respected members to the Northern Policy Institute Advisory Council. Individually and collectively, these individuals bring an incredible wealth of knowledge in their respective fields, and their contributions will be vital for supporting Northern Policy Institute's overall organizational direction and strategic actions."

Northern Policy Institute is Northern Ontario's first think tank and provides evidence-based research and recommendations to government and industry on policies and programs that have the potential to strengthen Northern Ontario economies and communities.

To learn more about Northern Policy Institute and to read the full biography of each member of the Northern Policy Institute Advisory Council, visit www.northernpolicy.ca.

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Notes to the Editor:

Northern Policy Institute is a not-for-profit organization, funded by Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and with offices in Thunder Bay and Sudbury. NPI provides proactive, evidence-based and purpose driven recommendations to government and industry on policies and programs that strengthen the regional economy and create a more competitive and productive Northern Ontario.

NPI has six key strategic areas of focus:

- Aboriginal peoples
- Communities
- Demographics
- Economy
- Environment
- Infrastructure

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