

NORTHERN POLICY INSTITUTE

3rd Annual Mining Ready Summit

Days Inn Hotel and Conference Centre

Timmins, Ontario

October 16 & 17, 2013

R. Martin Bayer, Chairman & Charles Cirtwill, President and CEO

Northern Policy Institute – Where Did We Come From?

- In March of 2011, Ontario released the “*Growth Plan for Northern Ontario*”

“The 25-year [Growth Plan for Northern Ontario](#) will help create a stronger, more diverse and sustainable Northern economy. This robust plan was developed with northerners for northerners. It will guide decision-making and investment planning in the region. *To move the plan forward*, the government will immediately:

- Establish a [Northern Policy Institute](#). The institute will play a key role in implementing and monitoring the growth plan...”

Northern Policy Institute's Objects

- ❖ **The development and promotion of proactive, evidence-based and purpose driven policy options that deepen understanding about the unique challenges of Northern Ontario and ensure the sustainable development and long term economic prosperity of Northern Ontario;**
- ❖ **the research and analysis of:**
 - ❖ **existing and emerging policies relevant to Northern Ontario;**
 - ❖ **economic, technological and social trends which affect Northern Ontario;**

Northern Policy Institute's Objects ***(cont'd)***

A silhouette of a northern landscape is visible on the left side of the slide, featuring a large evergreen tree in the foreground and a range of mountains in the background. A large, solid blue circle is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the slide.

The formulation and advocacy of policies that benefit Northern Ontario and First Nation communities;

Other complementary purposes not inconsistent with these objectives;

Northern Policy Institute's Board Members

- **Ms. Florence Bailey**

- Economic Development Officer

- Municipality of Sioux Lookout

- **Ms. Thérèse Bergeron-Hopson**

- Timmins and District Hospital

- **Dr. Harley d'Entremont**

- Nipissing University

- **Mr. Dominic Giroux**

- President

- Laurentian University

- **Dr. George Macey**

- Consultant, Dentist

- Marathon, Ontario



Northern Policy Institute's Board Members (cont'd)

- **Mr. Hal J. McGonigal**

- Retired

- Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

- **Mr. Doug Murray**

- Thunder Bay, Ontario.

- **R. Martin Bayer**

- Partner, Weaver Simmons LLP

- Sudbury, Ontario

- **Ms. Madge Richardson**

- Executive Director

- North Superior Workforce
Planning Board, Thunder Bay

- **Dr. Brian Stevenson**

- President

- Lakehead University

Northern Policy Institute

Where Are We At?

- Northern Ontario Heritage Fund (“NOHFC”) approved \$5 million in funding for the Northern Policy Institute (“NPI”) in August of 2012;
- NPI was incorporated in December 2012;
- Founding board was selected and appointed in February 2013;
- The funding contribution agreement with NOHFC was signed in July 2013;
- NPI received its first operating funds in August 2013
- A national CEO search process was conducted and the new CEO, Mr. Charles Cirtwill, was appointed in September 2013;

Northern Policy Institute

Broad Goals

- Over time, to be a financially self-sufficient institute;
- To think and operate independently from government;
- To develop and recommend policy options for Northerners that is evidence-based;
- To be relevant to the people of Northern Ontario;
- To make a difference that is measurable for the people of Northern Ontario;

Northern Policy Institute

Food For Thought

- ❖ **We must forge partnerships and collaborate with the people of Northern Ontario, including municipalities, businesses, resource industries, First Nations, Aboriginal organizations, Francophone organizations, Chambers of Commerce, colleges and universities in Northern Ontario;**
- ❖ **Part of the reason conferences like this are important is because we can learn what is going in the North, what are emerging issues for the people of Northern Ontario, and invite people like to reach out to us and share your ideas of how we can help each other.**

Northern Policy Institute

Food For Thought (cont'd)

- ❖ **NPI's role will be to measure whether we are collectively making a difference and advocating for policies that will help to improve the quality of life for the people of Northern Ontario – jobs, revenue growth, investment capital, profitability of small and medium sized firms in Northern Ontario;**
- ❖ **We must all strive to work better together as Northerners and not get ourselves caught up in regional divisions that we create for ourselves, Sudbury-Thunder Bay, Timmins-Cochrane, Sault Ste. Marie-Sudbury and so on.**

Northern Policy Institute

Food For Thought (cont'd)

- ❖ **We must all try harder to understand one another and our interests and recognize that we are all people of Northern Ontario and this means breaking down artificial barriers and working together;**
- ❖ **We have heard today about important lessons and best practices between the private sector and First Nations, NPI will be looking to profile these experiences and ask if they can apply to other relationships, like First Nations and municipalities who also share common interests;**

Northern Policy Institute

Food For Thought (cont'd)

❖ Challenges Facing the People of Northern Ontario:

❖ Explore ways, through policy examination and research, to ensure more of the resource based wealth extracted from Northern Ontario stays in Northern Ontario, but at the same time, make sure we remain a competitive and attractive place to invest in what is an increasingly competitive global business environment;

❖ Ensuring we have skilled and trained workers to fill jobs in Northern Ontario, especially in the resource sector;

Northern Policy Institute

Food For Thought (cont'd)

❖ Challenges Facing the People of Northern Ontario:

- ❖ Ensure we have the best transportation systems and energy and information technology infrastructure to attract investment and allow the people of Northern Ontario to participate more fully in the global economy;**
- ❖ We are resource based communities and we need to think about diversifying and how we can help each other when the resource runs out – can we use those same workers for export, for instance, but they can still live in their communities following their shifts?**

Northern Policy Institute

Food For Thought (cont'd)

❖ **Challenges Facing the People of Northern Ontario:**

❖ **A Need for Continuous Innovation** - two-thirds of all new jobs created are by small and medium, fast growing businesses, so we need to part of and feed into an ecosystem in Northern Ontario nr that enables them to grow and grow faster, in an increasingly competitive global economy;

❖ We are resource based communities and we need to think about diversifying and how we can help our communities to diversify when the resource runs out – can we export our talent and experience, for instance?



*Thank You, Merci,
Müigwetch,*