

Northern Policy Institute Introduction

Kenora Rotary
31 October 2016, Kenora



What is NPI?

- Northern Policy Institute is a **think tank** that conducts **independent** policy work, to be used as **evidence-based** analysis for **effective** decision making to sustain and grow Northern Ontario.
- **Independent** – authors are free from interference from everyone, including us
- **Non-partisan** – we do not take “sides”
- **Evidence based** – we collect, measure and interpret data
- **IN the North** – we deal with local, regional, provincial, national and international issues from a northern perspective
- **Not an advocacy group**

A detailed map of Northern Ontario, Canada, showing various geographical features, cities, and administrative boundaries. The map is overlaid with text and a list of statistics. In the top left, there is a small legend with symbols for Adventure Site, rail, Lake depth, and 177 meters. Below the legend is the website address www.explorenorthernontario.com. The word 'ONTARIO' is printed in large, bold, grey letters across the center of the map. The word 'James Bay' is written in white text on the eastern coast. The word 'Lake Superior' is written in white text at the bottom center. The words 'MANITOBA' and 'QUEBEC' are written in white text on the western and eastern borders respectively. A compass rose is located in the bottom left corner, and a scale bar is below it. The text 'Algonquin' and 'Thunder Bay' are visible in the top left corner.

Our Region

Northern Ontario consists of (Census, 2011):

- 2 Economic Regions
- 11 Districts
- 278 Census Sub-Divisions
 - 144 Municipalities
 - 118 First Nations
 - 16 Unorganized CSDs

~ 780,000 individuals

Areas of Focus



Communities

- volunteerism
- housing stock
- poverty
- capacity



Demographics

- human capital
- health
- education
- population (immigration, replacement, engagement)



Economy

- GDP
- employment
- income
- private investment



Environment

- size of green economy
- water & air quality
- investments in R&D & conservation



Indigenous Peoples

- inclusion
- collaboration
- shared decision making
- local control



Infrastructure

- age
- quantity
- quality, impact (build and operate)



Up to Here

Publications of Northern Policy Institute

12

Research Reports

15

Commentaries

7

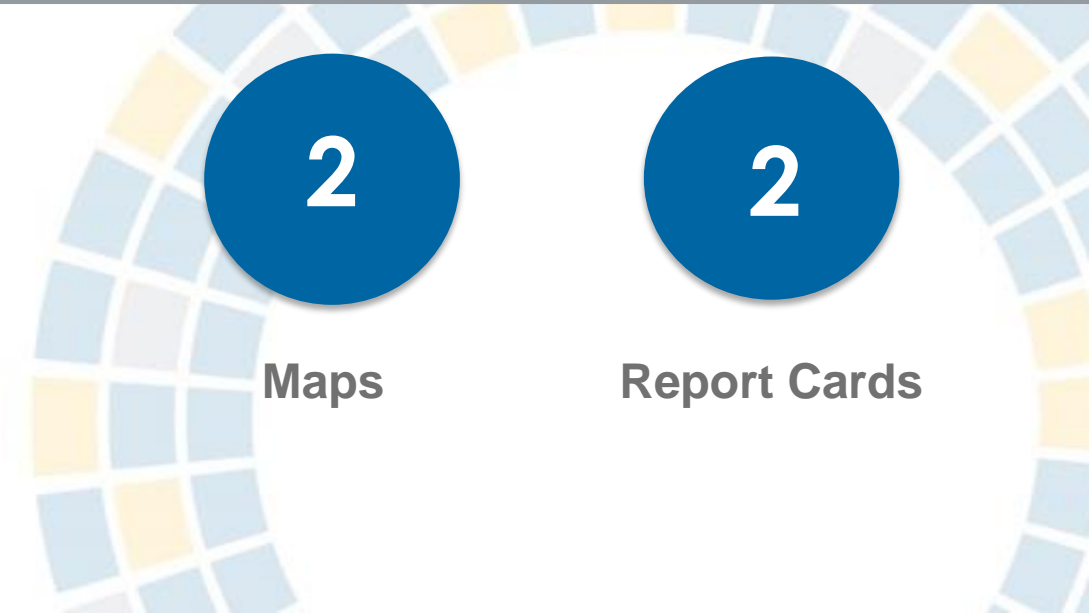
Briefing Notes

2

Maps

2

Report Cards





- Making the Grade? Education Trends in Northern Ontario
- Setting Priorities for Northern Ontario's Health Policy Agenda



- Northern Projections: Human Capital Series (11 Districts)
- It's what you know (not where you can go) Human capital and agglomeration effects on demographic trends in N. Ontario



- Food for Thought: Access to food in Canada's Remote North
- Health Care Priorities in Northern Ontario's Indigenous Communities



- Minimum Wages: Good politics, bad economics?
- A Federal Economic Agenda for Ontario



- Roads, Rail and the Ring of Fire
- Is the North being Grounded? The Case of Intergovernmental investment in Northern Ontario's Airports



- Does the Spring Bear Hunt 'make cents'?
- From Resource to Revenue: Dryden Mill Lessons for the Ring of Fire

Three ways **YOUR** issue gets on **OUR** to-do list

1. Top Ten Northern Issues:

Northern Policy Institute is the **ONLY** Think Tank in Canada that sets its research agenda based on feedback we receive from our stakeholders, all 780,000 of them. If your issue is shared by your friends and neighbours, it will likely get onto our to-do list.

2. Single Window on Northern Issues:

YOU do the work, commission the study, and you send it to us for re-publication or dissemination. Big parts of our job involve avoiding wasteful duplication of effort and getting the word out about what has already been done.

3. Willing to Partner – but no guarantees:

NOT a consulting service, but will partner – in cash, or in kind – to expedite needed work. We just can't promise you will like the answer.



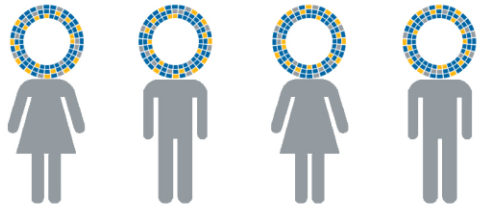


Up to Here

Projects of Northern Policy Institute



experience



NORTH

NPI summer internship program

4 months May to August

Summer 2015 – 8 interns

- 3 in Thunder Bay
- 3 in Sudbury
- 2 in Sault Ste. Marie

Summer 2016 – 10 interns

- 2 in Timmins
- 2 in Kenora
- 2 in SSM
- 2 in Thunder Bay
- 2 in Sudbury

Research, communications & public relations.

- NFP management
- Policy research
- Community engagement
- Student blogs

KNOWLEDGE NORTH

Online searchable library

- Reports
- Policy statements
- Formal submissions
- Research papers
- Discussions papers
- Position papers

Sorted into our six areas of interest:

- Communities
- Demographics
- Environment
- Economy
- Indigenous
- Infrastructure

Over **1200** documents collected already
Assessing platforms now to make the
material available online.



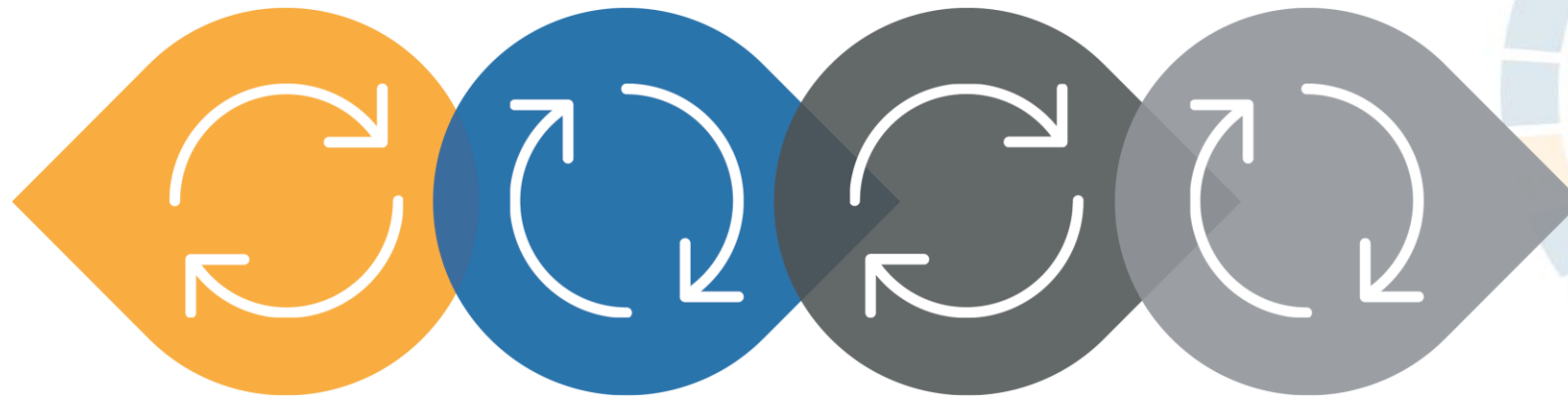
NORTHBYNUMBERS.ca

EXPLORING NORTHERN ONTARIO'S COMMUNITIES

Northern Ontario data is now just a click away. Northern Policy Institute, North Superior Workforce Planning Board, and the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre are pleased to launch **Northbynumbers.ca**, an **interactive data tool** that displays Northern Ontario census data from between 2001 and 2011.

Identity, income, housing, education, employment, mobility, age and population statistics – at the District, community and even neighborhood level!*

* - where available



NORTHERN ONTARIO DATA CONSORTIUM

Northern Policy Institute has made it easier to access **data at the community level**. As a consortium lead with the Canadian Council of Social Development's Community Data Program, NPI is now able to make important **social and economic data** available to communities and organizations throughout Northern Ontario.

The NODC and allows municipalities, indigenous organizations, and community groups to purchase data at **significant savings by sharing the costs with each other**.

Data sets include Census/ National Household Survey target group profiles, Census/ National Household Survey custom cross tabulations, Canadian Business Patterns, Taxfiler Data, Environics Envision, and Citizen and Immigration Canada permanent residence statistics.

Policy

IN A

PUB

Inspired by The Mowat Centre

All you need:

- An informal setting
- A serious issue

We provide:

- Data on the problem
- Evidence based solutions

Format:

- Network
- Have a drink
- Some nibbles
- 5-10 minutes of “warm up”
- Open discussion
- Then see what happens...

Together we:
Get People TALKING!



The art of not getting lost:
Road signage in Northern
Ontario

Eliminating Homelessness:
Northern Ontario as the next
Medicine Hat?

Weathering winter roads
- What is the best route?

Preserving Coop housing:
Proposing concrete action

NPI Blog 'PolicyBytes'

you can write for us

Labour Market Alignment:
Education in the North

Want good public policy?
Be prepared to be a
guinea pig!

Health care does not mean health

Public Transportation not just an urban concern

Partnership Opportunities

1. Northern Ontario Data Consortium (NODC)

- Combine resources to share data purchase costs and lower barriers for everyone

2. No.communityaccounts.ca

- Combine resources to expedite platform implementation and expedite stage 2 (move to lower levels of reporting)

3. Knowledge North (data and research sharing)

- Maximize value of online research library by working together

4. Northbynumbers.ca

- Public standing open invitation to suggest new measures to include
- Open to discussing financial contribution towards stage 2 (new census data and expanded local measures) in exchange for partner level recognition

5. Data Usage Workshops

- (Labour Market 101, how to sessions for NODC/Northbynumbers, communityaccounts, knowledge north – note sessions are 1hr to full day)
- Looking for partners to host training sessions – you run event, we provide session and materials

6. Key Indicators of Growth

- Improve balance and quality of measures by working together to identify, track and share

Get involved!

Participate

Invite Northern Policy Institute to speak

Visit us at northernpolicy.ca

Request a meeting

Volunteer

Board of Directors

Advisory Council

Research Advisory Board

Paid

Author

Reader

Researcher

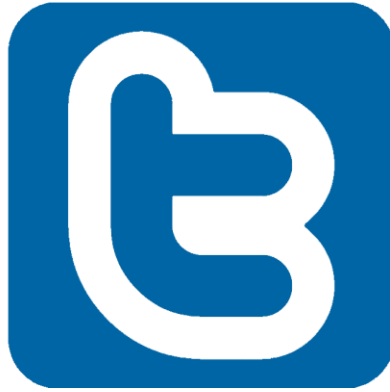
Stay informed. Join the Conversation.



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Monthly e-newsletter

www.northernpolicy.ca

Thank you. Merci. Miigwetch.

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