

Introduction to Northern Policy Institute

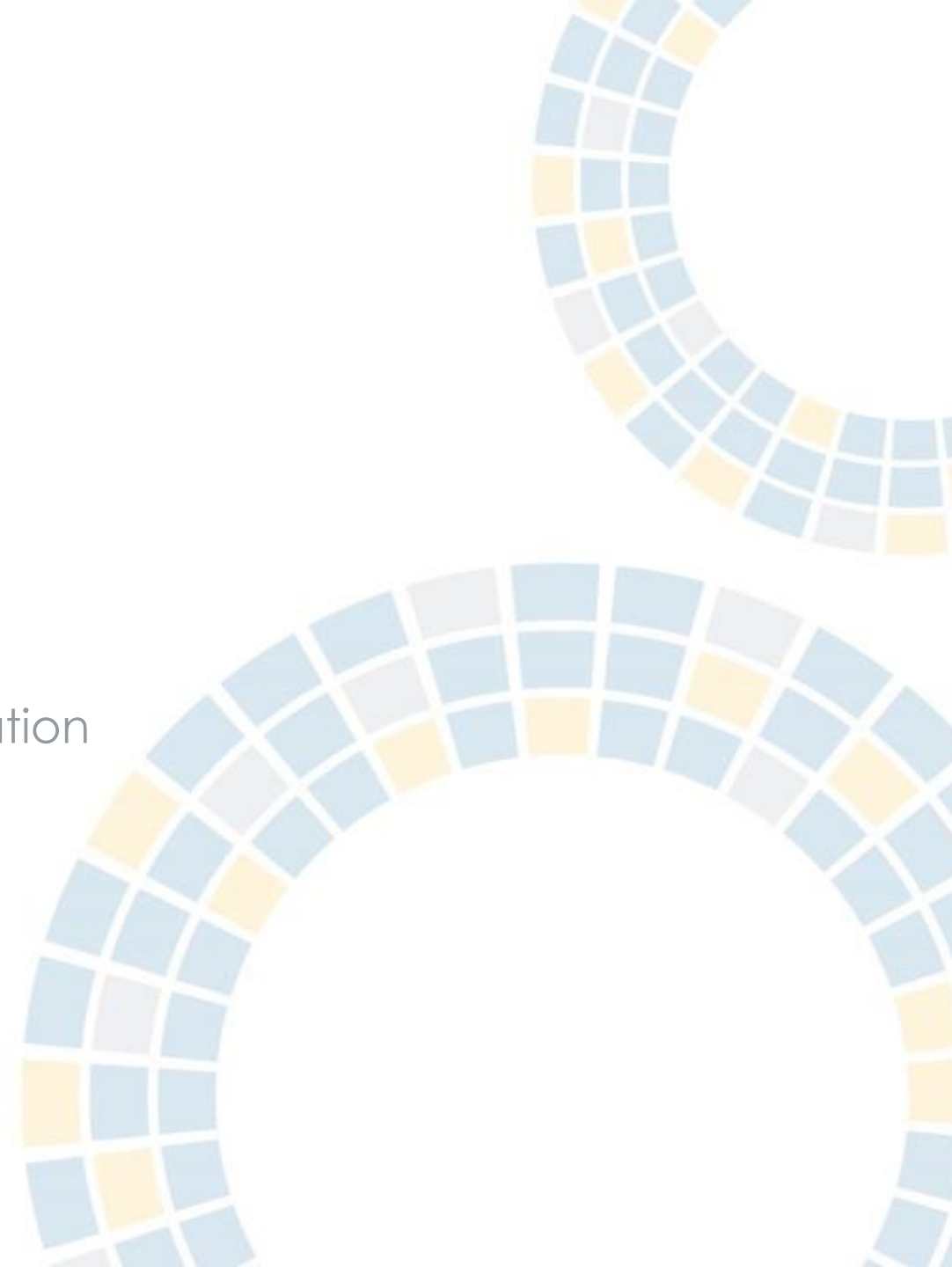
CAMNO

Emma Helfand-Green, Senior Policy Analyst
23 June 2017, Sudbury



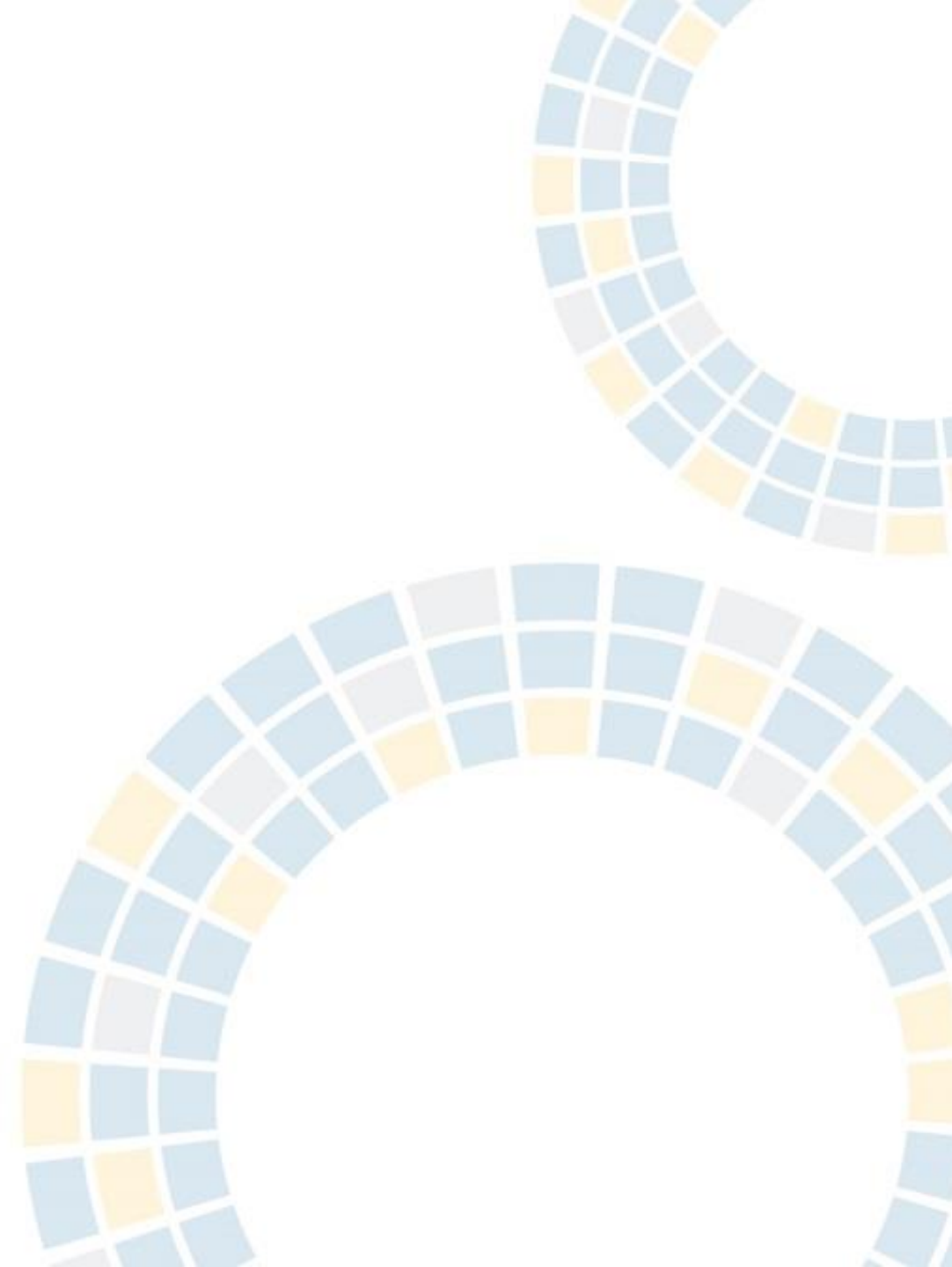
Agenda

- 1) History and vision: What is Northern Policy Institute
- 2) Publications: What we are focusing on
- 3) Other projects: What we do beyond research
- 4) Next steps: What matters comes after the presentation



History and Vision

What is Northern Policy Institute



What is NPI?

Northern Policy Institute is a **think tank** that conducts **independent** policy work, to provide **evidence-based solutions** to sustain and grow Northern Ontario.

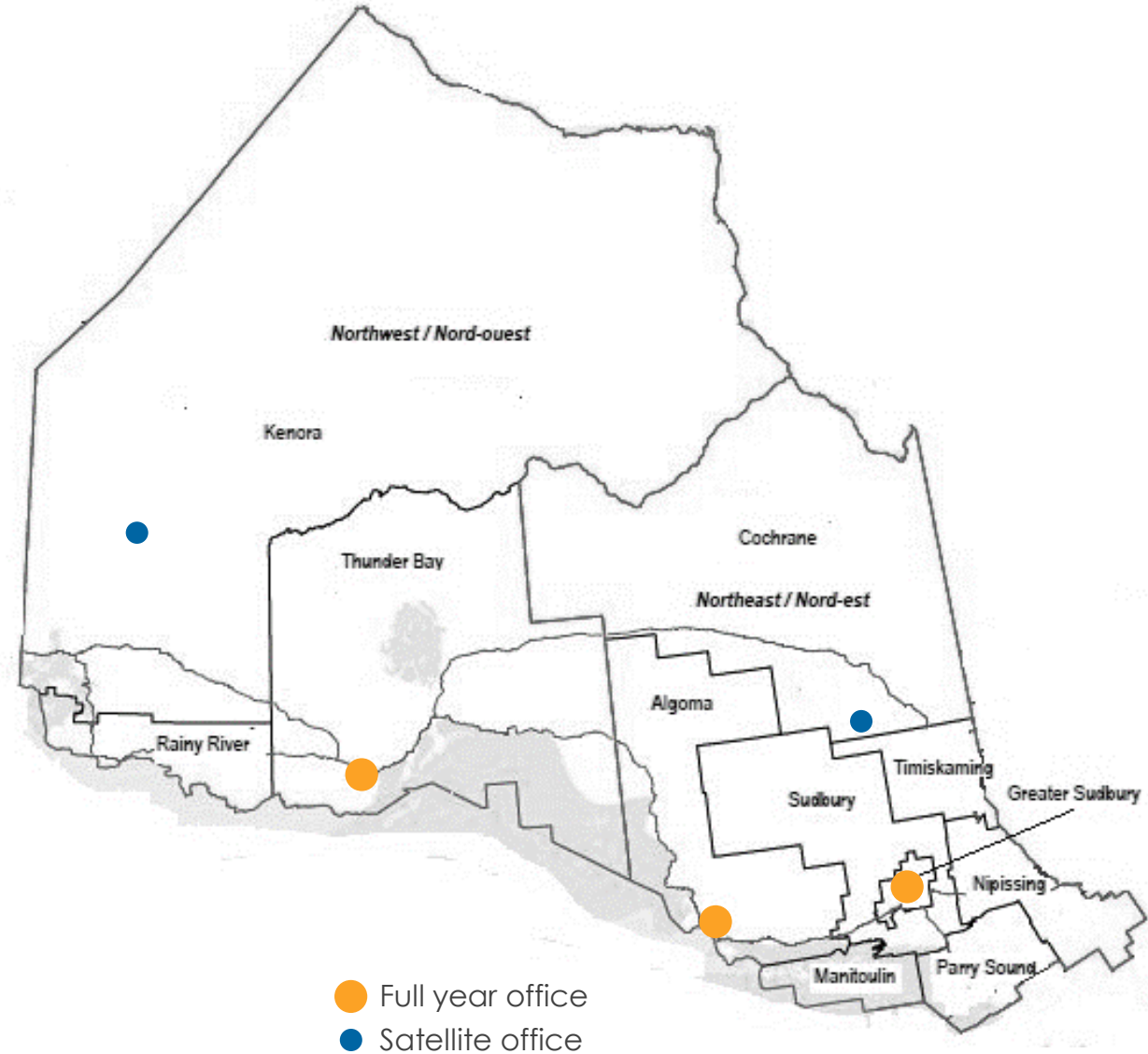
- **Independent** – authors are free from interference from everyone, including us
- **Non-partisan** – we do not take “sides”
- **Evidence based** – we collect, measure and interpret data
- **IN the North** – we deal with local, regional, provincial, national and international issues from a northern perspective

Our Region

Northern Ontario consists of (Census, 2011):

- 2 Economic Regions
- 11 Districts
- 278 Census Sub-Divisions (communities)
 - 144 Municipalities
 - 118 First Nation Reserves or Settlements
 - 16 Unorganized CSDs

~ 780,000 individuals



Our Vision

A **growing, sustainable**, and **self-sufficient** Northern Ontario.

One with the ability to not only **identify opportunities** but to **pursue** them, either on its own or through intelligent partnerships.

A Northern Ontario that contributes both to **its own success** and to the **success of others**.



Achieving the vision:

Measurement - Capacity - Self-sufficiency

Publications

What we are focusing on



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

- inclusion
- collaboration
- shared decision making
- local control



Infrastructure

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

Research Agenda Setting Process

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 an issue is shared by community members, it will likely get onto our to-do list.

2. Single Window on Northern Issues:

Organizations or individuals do the work, commission the study, and 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 the partner will like the answer.

Up to Here

Publications of Northern Policy Institute

48

Research Papers
& Commentaries

121

Blogs

18

Videos &
Podcasts

2

Maps

45

Presentations



- 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

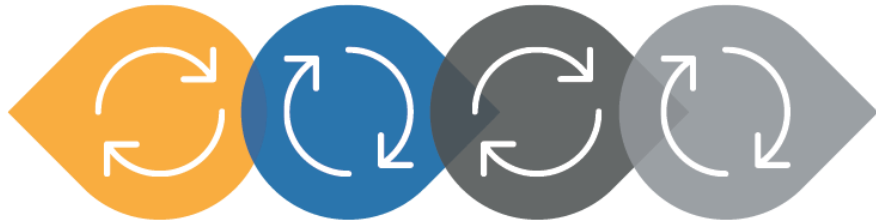


- Does the Spring Bear Hunt 'make cents'?
- From Resource to Revenue: Dryden Mill Lessons for the Ring of Fire

Other Projects

What we do beyond research





NORTHERN ONTARIO DATA CONSORTIUM
CONSORTIUM DE DONNÉES DU NORD DE L'ONTARIO



Sharing Data Providing Information Developing Knowledge
Partager des données Fournir des informations Développer des connaissances





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.

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

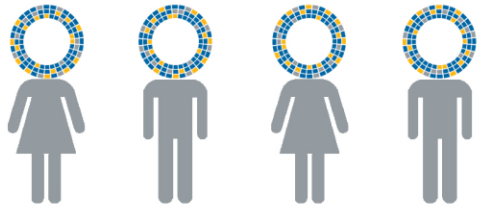
Format:

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

Together we:
Get People TALKING!



experience



NORTH

NPI summer placement program

4 months May to August

Summer 2017 – 7 placements

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

Summer 2016 – 10 placements

- 2 in Timmins
- 2 in Kenora
- 2 in Sault Ste. Marie
- 2 in Thunder Bay
- 2 in Sudbury

Summer 2015 – 8 placements

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

Summer and Fall 2014 – 10 placements

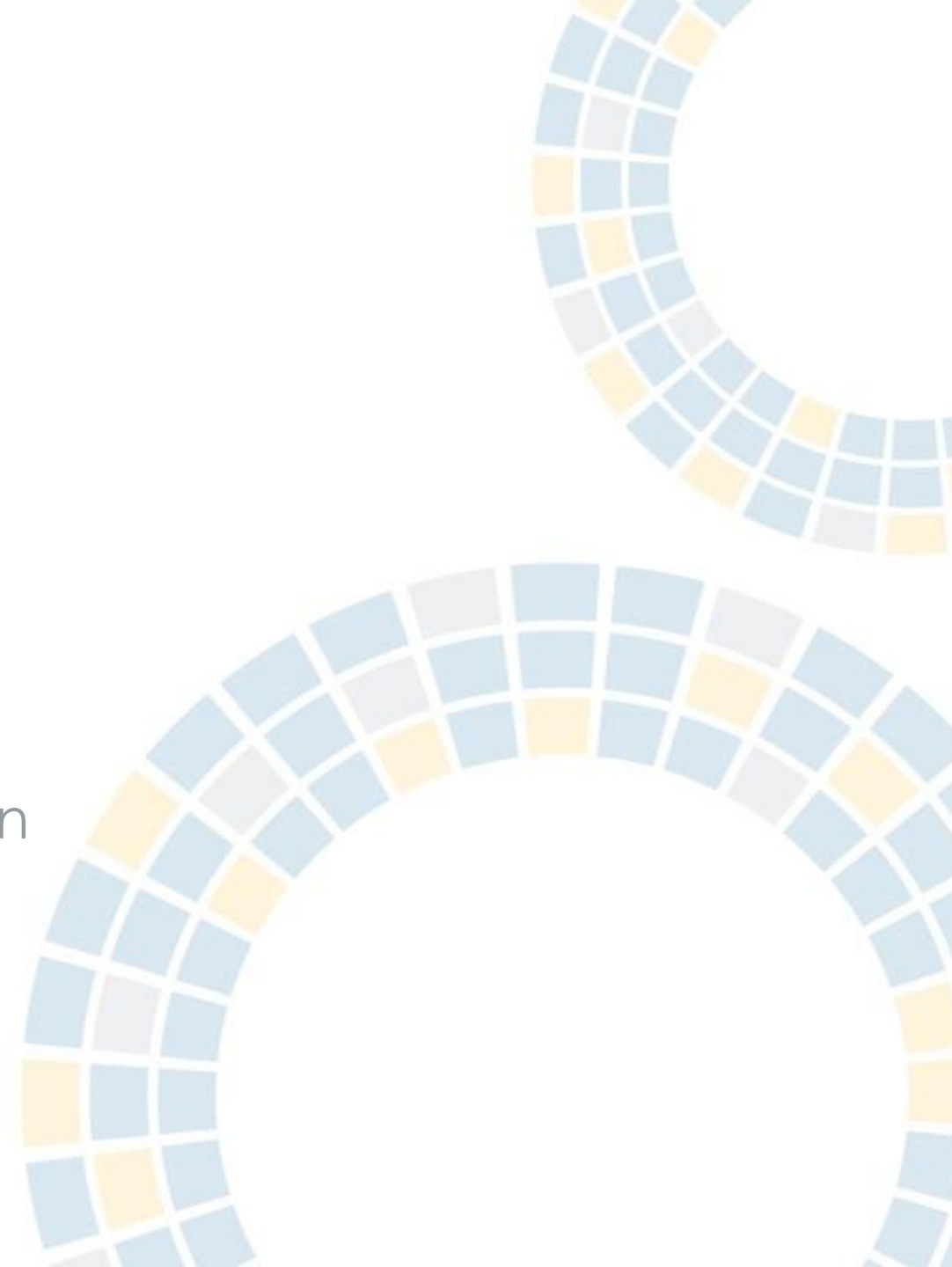
- 7 in Thunder Bay
- 3 in Sudbury

Research, communications & public relations.

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

Next steps

What matters comes after the presentation



Coming Soon

- **Basic Income** – series of papers on delivering a basic income in Northern Ontario, conference presentations already available online www.northernpolicy.ca
- **Education Options** – our people need it: college, university and on the job
- **Migration** – we are the future of the people trapped in the GTA
- **State of the North** – report card on growth
- **Northern Directions** – analysis of strategic plans of key community organizations in the Northern communities to assess alignment of priorities

Get involved!

Participate

Invite Northern Policy Institute to speak

Visit us at northernpolicy.ca

Request a meeting

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Advisory Council

Research Advisory Board

Paid

Author

Reader

Researcher

Thank you. Merci. Miigwetch.

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