

For Immediate Release

Northern Policy Institute hits the ground running

October 15, 2014, Thunder Bay, ON – Northern Policy Institute is well positioned to become a leader in policy research in the North after only its first year of operation. Northern Policy Institute’s First Annual Report (2013-2014) outlines the accomplishments of the newly formed think tank and its direction for the future.

Throughout the year, Northern Policy Institute established the stepping stones for operations, research, and community outreach. Some of the highlights from 2013-2014 include:

- Northern Policy Institute Board chosen and appointed (February)
- President and CEO, Charles Cirtwill, appointed (June)
- Contract with Northern Ontario Heritage Fund signed (July)
- Offices opened in Thunder Bay and Sudbury (September)
- First projects commissioned (September/October)
- Staff hired and website launched (November-January)

“In our first few months we have already given over a dozen presentations and talks to key stakeholders in Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Timmins, and North Bay,” Northern Policy Institute President and CEO, Charles Cirtwill, writes in his Message from the President. “We have held two public information sessions and we have already started to commission papers and research projects.”

Going forward, Northern Policy Institute’s first priority will be adding additional staff to the team, including a series of project coordinators as well as launching an internship program. Research will also be expanded, with additional papers and research projects to be commissioned in the upcoming year.

“While we may have hit the ground running, we still have to stretch our legs to make sure we can go the distance,” Cirtwill writes. “[. . .] We will continue to provide evidence-based research and solutions for public policy challenges that impact us all. You may not always agree with the findings, but our job is to present the facts that will move policy in the most sensible direction.”

The First Annual Report is available on Northern Policy Institute’s website www.northernpolicy.ca.

Media Interviews: Northern Policy Institute president and CEO, Charles Cirtwill, is available for comment. To arrange an interview, please contact:

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About Northern Policy Institute:

Northern Policy Institute is Northern Ontario's independent think tank. We perform research, collect and disseminate evidence, and identify policy opportunities to support the growth of sustainable Northern Communities. Our Operations are located in Thunder Bay and Sudbury. We seek to enhance Northern Ontario's capacity to take the lead position on socio-economic policy that impacts Northern Ontario, Ontario, and Canada as a whole.

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