



JANUARY / FEBRUARY / MARCH

- 2018 -

QUARTERLY REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS

\$134.4 million in Trust Funding + **\$65.4 million** in Third-Party Funding invested into **3,109** projects since 2005

\$29.7 million approved for **297** projects to date in 2018

\$69.6 million leveraged so far in 2018 as new project investment for the region

\$11.9 million invested into **366** First Nations projects since 2005

\$28.2 million approved for **332** projects to help communities recover from the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic since 2005

IN THIS ISSUE

State of the North Report **pg. 2**

New Funding Programs **pg. 6**

From Intern to CAO **pg. 8**

Downtown Revitalization **pg. 10**

Teeing Up for Success **pg. 11**

Business Training **pg. 16**

Connecting the North **pg. 19**

State ^{OF THE} North REPORT

JANUARY 2018

The State of the North report is an impartial third-party report with data collection and interpretation provided by MNP. The report is intended to provide community and business leaders with comprehensive sector-specific and regional data that will help shed light on opportunities and inform investment decisions in northern B.C.

Download the report at:
northerndevelopment.bc.ca/state-of-the-north



TRUST RELEASES FIRST ECONOMIC REPORT FOR THE NORTH

2018 ECONOMIC REPORT FOR NORTHERN B.C.

JANUARY 2018 — At the beginning of this year, Northern Development released the 2017 State of the North economic report, in partnership with MNP, to highlight the economic status of the entire central and northern B.C. region.

The State of the North economic report is intended to provide community and business leaders with comprehensive sector-specific and regional data that will help shed light on opportunities and inform investment decisions. It is designed to be a tool that communities, businesses and non-profit organizations can use as they develop and deploy strategies to create jobs, generate new wealth and advance northern communities.

“As the North’s economic development organization, it is important that we understand the data behind the decisions that are affecting the communities we serve,” said Evan Saugstad, board chair, Northern Development. “The State of the North report provides us with the economic context we need to better inform our own decisions, as well as those of our communities, businesses and non-profits, so that together we can build a stronger north.”

The report was designed with an easy-to-read format that includes supporting editorial context around each data set. Until now, region-wide economic data for Northern B.C. was hard to come by, making it challenging for decision-makers to use data to inform policy making and investment decisions. The State of the North report includes traditional economic indicator information, overviews of core economic sectors such as forestry, agriculture, mining and energy and regional profiles for the Northwest, Northeast, North Central and Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet areas.

“The data is clear that the decline in commodity prices in 2014 had a significant impact on the regional economy,” said Joel McKay, CEO, Northern Development. “The good news is that the data also shows that economic conditions in the region have stabilized more recently,

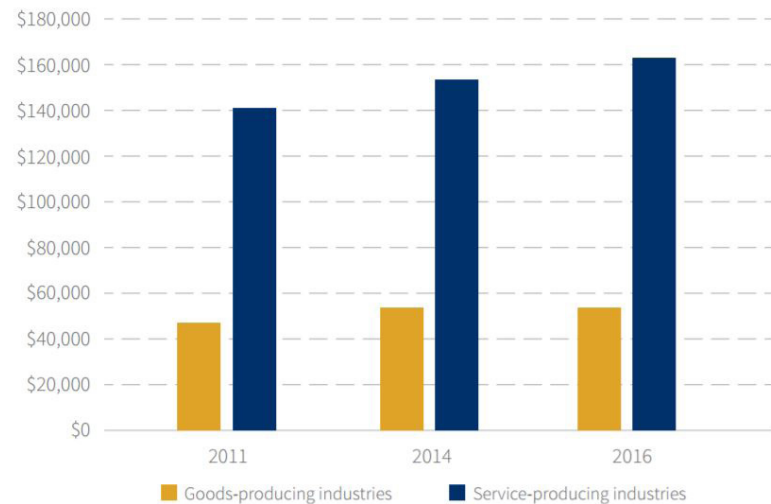
and major project activity across the region has created opportunities for new investment.”

The State of the North report is an impartial third-party report with data collection and interpretation provided by MNP. The report follows a similar model to the State of the Island report published annually by the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance.

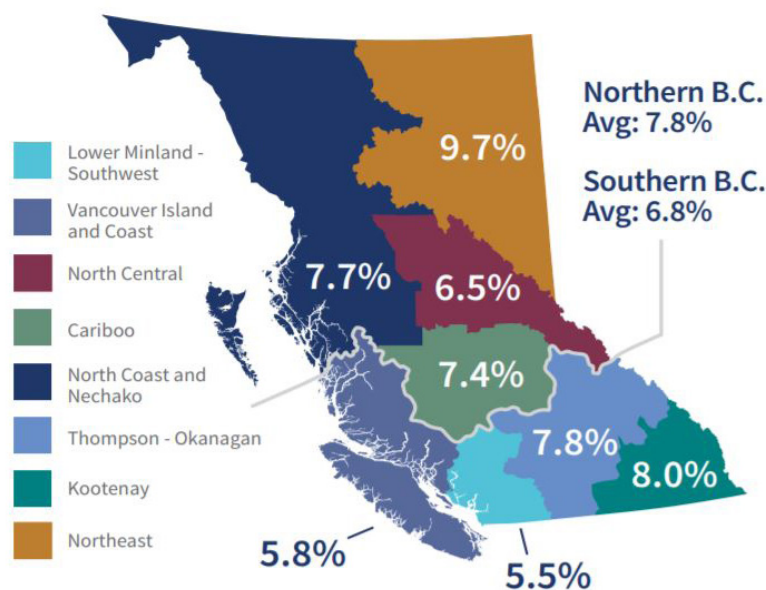
“The North is very large and geographically diverse, which has a significant influence on economic opportunities,” said Susan Mowbray, Senior Economist, MNP. “Rather than approaching it as a single entity it is best viewed as a collection of individual regions that are both economically distinct and inter-related. The State of the North report was designed to reflect this and provide meaningful data to support local and regional decision-making.”

GDP

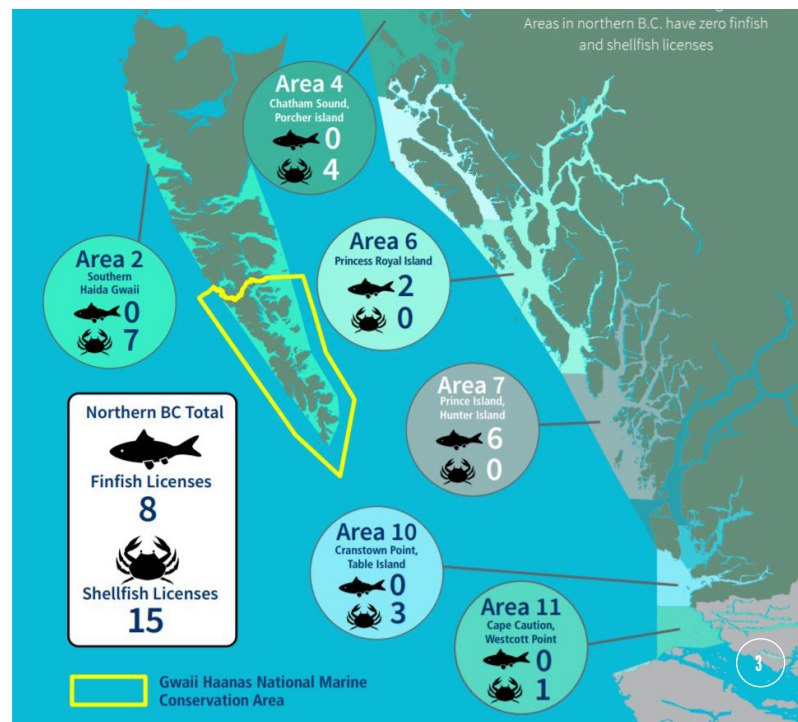
B.C. Real GDP
Millions of 2007 Chained Dollars



Unemployment Rate by Region 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey CANSIM Table 281-0123 and Table 282-0134



BUILDING A STRONGER NORTH

WRESTLING WITH THE NORTH'S RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RIDDLE *PUBLISHED IN BUSINESS IN VANCOUVER FEB. 28

By Joel McKay



FEBRUARY 2018 — You'd think we'd have this nailed by now given that the "rural picture" has remained largely the same for the past century: small, spread-out communities that are largely reliant on one or two industries and subject to transient populations, dramatic geography and shifting weather patterns.

Trouble is, those are the things that make it difficult to answer the question.

The region's continued reliance on resource industries means that it is more vulnerable to shifting global market conditions, commodity prices and exchange rates than are large metropolitan areas such as the Lower Mainland or Capital Regional District.

This has been the story of the north for as long as the settler population can remember and has resulted in communities that are regularly in flux and home to seasonal or transient workforces.

And it extends to the public sector.

When a one-industry town faces a major shutdown, the municipality is forced to reconcile a budget with far less industrial tax revenue and fewer residents, which translates into service reductions and staff layoffs.

These conditions create ongoing capacity and continuity challenges, and, in both the private and public sectors, make it difficult to innovate.

Layer on top of this some of the world's most challenging geography, climate and weather conditions and the answer to the question about how to develop the rural economy quickly becomes an exercise in frustration.

If you think this sounds like a reason to move away from the resource economy – think again.

Economies are built on the lowest-hanging fruit – business ventures that capitalize on the available expertise and assets that have the best chance of generating a return at the lowest risk.

In our part of the world, those assets are our natural resources.

These are our core industries for the foreseeable future; the trick is in building communities around them that have enough diversity in their local economy to be insulated from commodity cycle volatility.

This brings us back to the notion of rural economic development, which in practice looks more like community development.

Investment in capital assets that support new jobs and new revenue growth and diversify the local area economy – projects that make communities more sustainable, more desirable places to live – is the backbone of a strong community development strategy.

In practice, this tends to look like investments in airports, marinas, recreation facilities, arts and culture facilities and the like.

This might sound like soft stuff, but in small towns these facilities are critical community assets that support service and program delivery that's key in attracting and retaining families.

These amenities also make space available for small-business owners, artisans and craftsmen, which supports business retention and expansion.

Last year, we took a high-level look at the impact of our Community Halls and Recreation Facilities grant program, which provides \$30,000 grants for small-scale projects in northern communities.

A quick look at 40 projects we had funded over the past year showed that they generated more than \$1 million in new revenue collectively in the first year after the projects were completed.

That's not a lot of money by big-city standards but, in communities of fewer than 5,000 residents, it is.

More importantly, it demonstrates that more

money is being retained in small towns, which helps to address long-held concerns about economic leakages.

Ensuring that a portion of the money that's made in rural areas continues to circulate in rural areas is an important part of the equation.

The resource sector has been B.C.'s golden goose for a long time, generating first dollars in rural and remote areas that benefit small towns and the supply chain all the way to downtown Vancouver.

Those first dollars have created an economic baseline in our communities and translated into ongoing corporate support for community amenities, training programs and, in some cases, the establishment of endowments and foundations.

Rural B.C. has a leg up on other parts of Canada through a robust system of trusts and foundations. These non-profit entities, some established by the province, others through industry, non-governmental organizations or citizen groups, keep capital flowing into projects that make our communities more resilient.

All this is a long-winded way of saying that the resource sector and community development go hand in hand in our part of B.C. – the resource sector is the economic foundation that provides the opportunity for communities to develop and implement diversification strategies that smooth out the peaks and valleys inherent to commodity cycles.

So how do we best support rural economic development?

Ensure that we continue to have an environment that allows the resource industry to operate responsibly and inclusively and generate profit, plug economic leakages where we can and develop diversification strategies.

If done correctly, non-profit foundations, endowments and trusts such as ours can continue to sustainably disburse funding into community projects that make those strategies a reality.

It's not a silver bullet; it's the long game, but it's one that will work.

RESPONDING TO REGIONAL NEEDS

Northern Development has a passion for growing the economy of central and northern British Columbia. Providing support to communities, organizations, First Nations and businesses through the Trust's funding programs helps ensure the economic sustainability and growth of the entire region. Our funding programs play a key role in our ongoing response to mitigate the economic impact of the mountain pine beetle epidemic throughout central and northern B.C.



NEW FUNDING PROGRAMS ANNOUNCED



SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT
OF RESILIENT AND PROFITABLE
BUSINESSES

NORTHERN INDUSTRIES INNOVATION FUND FUNDING PROGRAM



STIMULATING WELCOMING,
THRIVING COMMUNITIES

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FUND FUNDING PROGRAM



TRUST ANNOUNCES TWO NEW FUNDING PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JANUARY 2018 — Northern Development Initiative Trust announced two new funding programs this year that look to support innovation projects in traditional northern B.C. industries and key community-based strategic economic priorities. The Northern Industries Innovation Fund and the Strategic Initiatives Fund will provide up to \$1.65 million annually in grant funding for projects throughout central and northern B.C.

These funds are part of the Trust's ongoing response to mitigate the economic impact of the mountain pine beetle epidemic, with priority given to projects within the regions and communities most impacted by the pine beetle and decreasing timber supply.

Northern Industries Innovation Fund

Following the success of the Forest Innovation Fund, Northern Development has restructured the program with a commitment of up to \$750,000 annually to create the Northern Industries Innovation Fund and support innovation projects across a variety of northern industries.

The Northern Industries Innovation Fund will provide rebate funding up to \$50,000 to a maximum of 50% of a project's budget for small and medium enterprises deploying innovative technologies in industries such as mining, energy, agriculture, aquaculture and forestry.

By supporting applied research, the development of new or improved products /services and the testing of innovative equipment or technologies, the program will help the northern B.C. businesses improve their competitiveness, generate incremental revenue and create jobs.

Eligible companies must be privately owned, incorporated, have less than 500 employees, revenues less than \$100 million and be operating within the Northern Development Initiative Trust region.

Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until the annual allocation for the fund is exhausted.

Strategic Initiatives Fund

The Strategic Initiatives Fund is a new proposal-based program that allows local governments (municipalities and regional districts) and First Nations to apply for grant funding to support significant projects that focus on long-term economic transformation and sustainability.

The program is supported with a \$900,000 commitment from Northern Development with grant funding only limited by the annual funds allocated to the program, up to 80% of a project's value.

The program allows Northern Development to support strategic projects that may not otherwise fit into its suite of programs, but that are large in scale, regional in impact, enhance a community or multiple communities' ability to overcome economic challenges and will result in incremental capacity or strategic economic infrastructure within a municipality or First Nation.

Proposals are accepted to the Strategic Initiatives Fund on an annual basis. The 2018 intake has closed with funding decisions to be made in April.

Learn more about the Northern Industries Innovation Fund and the Strategic Initiative Fund programs on Northern Development's website.

More information available at:

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/northern-industries-innovation-fund
northerndevelopment.bc.ca/strategic-initiatives-fund

PARTNERSHIP OPENS PATHS TO SUCCESS

PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA EXTENDS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

JANUARY 2018 — The First Nations Government Internship program pilot project to support First Nations interships in northern B.C. received a significant boost this year, thanks to an ongoing partnership between Northern Development and the Government of Canada.

The pilot project, which was launched in 2017 between the Trust and the Department of Indigenous Services Canada, saw three interns successfully placed in the host communities of Kitselas First Nation near Terrace, Skidegate Band Council on Haida Gwaii and the Tsilhqot'in National Government in Williams Lake.

The intent of the internship program is to provide training for recent university graduates so that they may pursue a career in First Nations government administration beyond the internship. It is an opportunity to give recent graduates meaningful work experience and contribute to the host community through projects using their education. Thanks to this partnership, the program will continue to see four 12-month internships available each year in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

"The Government of Canada is proud to support the First Nations Government Internship program that provides youth with the tools and experience they need to launch their careers," said Jane Philpott, Minister of Indigenous Services Canada. "I am pleased to see this program extended for the next three years, and look forward to the continued success it brings for both youth and the participating communities."

The Trust and Indigenous Services Canada have together committed \$480,000 over the next three years to support First Nations Government Internships for First Nations and tribal councils located within the Trust's service area.

"I am pleased that Canada will work with Northern Development in support of building capacity and valuable experience for first nations within our area," said Gerald Wesley, vice chair, Northern Development. "This initiative will provide opportunity for talented graduates to experience and contribute to important community and area requirements both during their internship and beyond."

The goal of the program is to boost capacity in First Nations communities, support administrative excellence and create rewarding career opportunities for indigenous youth. The program also allows smaller population communities with challenging recruiting locations to offer competitive internship positions to recent post-secondary graduates.

"I want to thank the Government of Canada for their investment in this partnership," said Joel McKay, CEO, Northern Development. "It's extremely important that we continue to find innovative new ways to support capacity building, sustainability and career opportunities in northern First Nations communities. I'm confident that this project will generate the same positive results we've seen with our other internship programs."



Sam Harris - intern with Kitselas First Nation



Crystal Rain Harry - intern with Tsilhqot'in National Government



Rayne Tarasiuk - intern with Skidegate Band Council

FIRST TRUST INTERN BECOMES CAO



workforce and to help retain talented youth in the region. Interns in the program not only gain valuable experience and professional development to help them work toward high level positions, but also provide much needed capacity to local governments throughout northern B.C.

During his internship in Quesnel, Pinchbeck got experience working with all levels of municipal staff while conducting comprehensive bylaw reviews, which led to recommendations to Council and improvements to community policies. When Pinchbeck arrived in Houston as the Corporate Officer after his internship, he attributed these experiences to providing him with the foundation necessary to excel in his new job.

“The internship program gave me a great boost when I really needed it,” said Pinchbeck. “Northern Development’s internship program was an excellent way for me to gain valuable real-world experience. The program challenges you in ways you couldn’t imagine but rewards you for your hard work.”

Pinchbeck’s reward came quickly in his new role in Houston, where he proved to be a quick learner. His dedication and work ethic caught the eye of then-CAO, Michael Glavin, who took on the role of mentor with Pinchbeck, to teach him the ropes.

“I had expressed an interest in one day becoming a CAO to Michael,” said Pinchbeck. “He used that opening to develop and mentor me for my current role.”

Pinchbeck didn’t have to wait long for his opportunity, as he was tasked with taking over the role of CAO when Glavin stepped down from the position last year, and officially assumed the position as CAO for Houston in January.

From intern to CAO within five years, Pinchbeck still has a hard time believing it.

“I just keep thinking back to the interview question I had with Northern Development when I was being considered for an internship placement,” said Pinchbeck. “I was asked if I saw myself as a CAO in five years. I remember saying that it would be great if it were possible. It’s funny to think back on that now. The feeling is quite surreal, but I look forward to this opportunity to lead and make real changes.”

As Pinchbeck continues along his career path, he knows that his time as a Northern Development intern played an important role in leading him to where he is now.

“The Local Government Internship program is a great opportunity for anyone looking for a successful career,” said Pinchbeck. “I highly recommend the program to anyone on the fence about it. You should apply to this program, it may lead you to places you didn’t think you would reach.”

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/local-government-internship

FROM INTERN TO CAO

JANUARY 2018 — The goal of Northern Development’s Local Government Internship program is to provide young, talented individuals with an opportunity to be successful — just how successful our interns will be, is up to them. For Gerald Pinchbeck, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the District of Houston, his path to success was a quick one thanks in part to a helping hand from Northern Development’s internship program.

Pinchbeck began his journey to success through his internship placement with the Quesnel Community and Economic Development Corporation. This opportunity enabled him to gain valuable experience at the municipal level and provided him with the chance to learn the ins and outs of working in local government.

“It was a really good learning experience for me in Quesnel,” said Pinchbeck. “As someone who was fresh out of university with no prior experience, I learned how valuable the role was for not only me but the community and its local government. The program played a vital role in providing me with the skillset needed to really progress along my career path.”

The Trust’s internship program was designed to offer university graduates with an opportunity to gain valuable work experience that will help them gain leverage on the ever-expanding competitive

PROJECT APPROVALS

Northern B.C. is home to many well-used and well-loved community facilities, important capital assets, and signature festivals and events. Improving, expanding and developing these regional assets can help to attract business and major industry, as well as increase the ability to host events and attract tourists to the region.

TRUST HELPS DRAW MAJOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

ENHANCED DOWNTOWN PRINCE GEORGE

DECEMBER 2017 — The end of 2017 saw some major changes being approved for the downtown core of Prince George, B.C. In October, Northern Development's board of directors approved the allocation of \$1.8 million in support of the development of residential housing downtown.

The Prince George City Council approved changes to the Downtown Incentives Program in December, which promised to help further revitalize the downtown area. The downtown incentive program offers 10-year municipal tax exemptions for eligible commercial and multi-family development in the downtown area.

With Council's approval, the amended agreement increased the total funding available, via a \$10,000 per door grant, in order to provide financial support towards the development of targeted projects such as affordable housing, seniors and student housing, mixed-use (residential and retail), market rental housing, and market condominiums.

The changes to the partnering agreement between the City and Northern Development will improve the existing program by providing further incentives for developers to invest in downtown housing, which will serve to attract residents to the city centre to live.

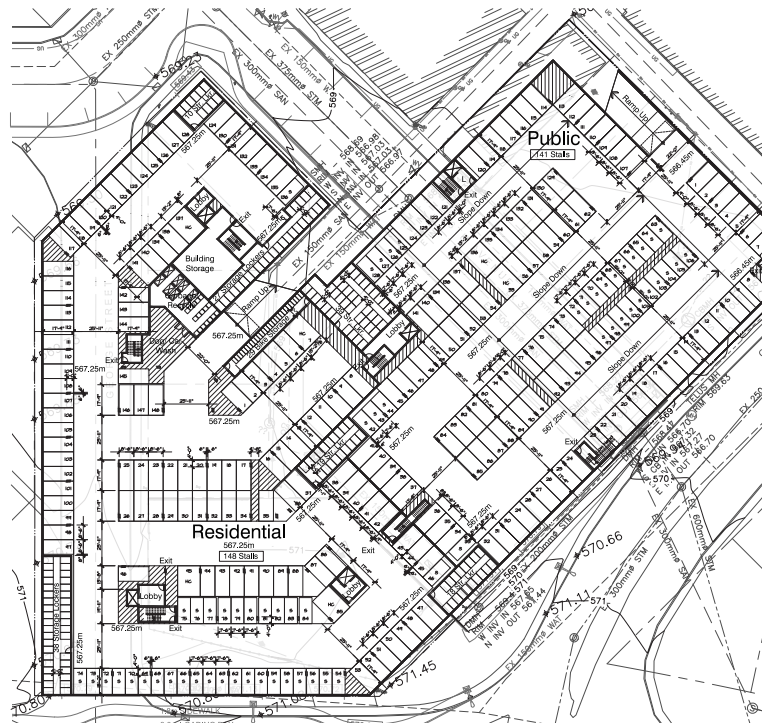
"The Downtown Incentives Program is a critical tool for the City of Prince George's on-going efforts to revitalize downtown, efforts that are now starting to really pay off," said Mayor Lyn Hall. "NDIT's role in this has been vital and they have been a great partner in providing this innovative program. On behalf of Council, I would like to thank NDIT for continuing to help the City to accomplish big things for Prince George and its residents."

Three projects have already benefitted from the downtown incentives program so far, including townhomes on Victoria Street, Crescent Townhomes on 7th Avenue, and Ketso Yoh on Quebec Street.

In total, the program will provide just over \$2.5 Million in funding over six years. Full utilization of the program would result in about 250 new residential units in downtown Prince George.

"This enhanced partnership with the City of Prince George is a great example of what the Trust was created to do. Supporting community-led initiatives that make a real difference is at the foundation of Northern Development's mandate," says Evan Saugstad, Northern Development board chair. "We've already seen success with the program and we're excited for the new opportunities that it can result in for downtown Prince George."

One of the first developers to be eligible to benefit from the enhanced Incentives Program will be A & T Developments. Council also approved the partnering agreement with that company, which allows its proposed four-phase condo development to be built downtown next to City Hall.



TEERING UP FOR SUCCESS



GOLF COURSE UPGRADES HITTING THE GREEN

MARCH 2018 — Situated along the world famous Alaska Highway, the stunning Lone Wolf Golf Club in Taylor, B.C. is more than just a recreational facility — it's a community hub.

The municipally-owned club is an 18-hole, par 72 championship course, which was built as part of an initiative to provide residents of Taylor with recreational facilities.

"The municipality wanted to build these recreational facilities, such as the arena and the golf course, to be regional assets not just for Taylor but for everyone else as well," said Dave Callum, General Manger, Lone Wolf Golf Club.

Being an integral asset to the community, maintenance of the course remained a priority for the District of Taylor. The need for upgrades arose as the population grew larger due to an expanding natural resource sector, and the popularity of the golf course steadily increased. Through Northern Development's Community Halls and Recreation Facilities (CHRF) program, the District was able to access \$60,000 in funding support for three major projects.

Beginning with upgrades to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system, these improvements were required in order to keep operating costs down and to enable more efficient working conditions for staff.

"Before the HVAC system was upgraded our kitchen wasn't air conditioned," said Callum. "It would get up to 40-45 degrees back there and it was almost unbearable for the kitchen staff. Having the system put in really helped us to not only retain staff and keep them happy, but it allowed us to provide better service for our customers."

Following the HVAC system upgrades, the club's irrigation system was in need of an overhaul. This included repairs to the existing system and new additions, which allow for better maintenance response and water management.

"Being able to manage and control our water usage has been crucial," said Callum. "It's a valuable natural resource and you want to manage it correctly, especially on a golf course where certain areas need different amounts for the grass to flourish. This helps us present a course that people want to use."

Nice grass can also lead to you some major recognition as well. The Lone Wolf Golf Course currently holds the award for the best manicured course in northern B.C. by Inside Golf Magazine.

"We're really proud of that achievement," said Callum. "But it

wouldn't have been possible without the support from Northern Development. Before the irrigation system upgrade this was only a dream, so we are very appreciative of this achievement, thanks in part to the Trust."

As the upgrades and accolades have helped the course grow in popularity, with it came the challenge of accommodating more tournaments and events. With only 50 golf carts available in the fleet, the course did not have the sufficient resource to attract bigger tournaments and was losing out on potential revenue not just for the course, but the community as well.

"We just were not able to accommodate the number of people who would come to these events," said Callum. "We would have 150 people come to a tournament and only 100 could ride and the other 50 would have to walk. It wasn't an ideal situation."

The club was able to expand their fleet thanks to funding support from the CHRF program, which allowed them to add 20 more carts.

"Having the extra carts really helped us dramatically," said Callum. "We are able to host bigger tournaments, provide better accommodation during peak hours, and just be better prepared overall for events and league nights."

It isn't only about the upgrades for the course, as the club sees themselves as a gathering place for members of the community to get outside and enjoy the recreational facility on a daily basis.

"I'd call us a recreational hub for the community," said Callum. "With all the other things offered here I think we are more than just a golf course and that is very important to us and the region."

As the community continues to grow, so does the golf course. The Lone Wolf Golf Course provides steady economic growth for the community of Taylor and the surrounding region.

"We'll continue to do our best to provide our community with an excellent recreational facility for years to come," said Callum. "When you come here, it's like we are all a big family and it's important for us to keep that going."

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

COMMUNITY HALLS & RECREATION FACILITIES

This program provides local governments, First Nations and registered non-profits with a maximum of \$30,000 in funding (\$50,000 in the Northeast region) to improve, expand or develop facilities throughout the region.

[northerndevelopment.bc.ca/
community-halls-and-recreation-facilities](http://northerndevelopment.bc.ca/community-halls-and-recreation-facilities)

NEW = Newly funded projects this quarter

Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region

NEW Nordic Ski Lodge Upgrade	100 Mile House	\$15,127
NEW HUB Facility Improvements	Ashcroft	\$10,000
NEW Ashcroft Indian Band Community Gathering Space	Ashcroft	\$30,000
NEW Ice Rink Improvements	Bouchie Lake	\$15,000
NEW Hall Improvements	Barlow Creek	\$20,437
NEW Community Hall Revitalization	Loon Lake	\$4,289
NEW Cayoose Campground Revitalization	Lillooet	\$30,000
NEW Desous Mountain Recreation Site Development - Phase Two	McLeese Lake	\$15,000
NEW Baker Creek Skate Park Upgrade and Expansion	Quesnel	\$30,000
NEW Dragon Mountain Trail Network Development	Williams Lake	\$30,000
NEW Ranger Park Upgrades	Williams Lake	\$10,717
	11 projects	\$210,570

Northwest Region

NEW R.E.M. Lee Theatre Sound and Lighting Upgrade	Terrace	\$29,794
NEW Haida Access at Hiellen		\$10,000
NEW Burdette Cabin Construction	Atlin	\$30,000
NEW Community Hall Acoustic Upgrade	Masset	\$10,705
NEW Trout Creek Hall Storage Addition		\$10,593
NEW Community Hall Restoration	Gitsegukla	\$19,326
NEW Tourist Information Centre Roof Replacement	Granisle	\$15,000
NEW Fall Fairground Upgrades	Tlell	\$15,174
NEW Commercial Dishwasher	Smithers	\$4,339
NEW Community Centre Upgrades	Thornhill	\$30,000
NEW New Beach Campground Improvements	Granisle	\$30,000
NEW Wistaria Hall Foundation		\$15,000
NEW Museum Pavilion and Storage Shed Enhancement	Port Clements	\$24,103
NEW Earl Mah Aquatic Centre Improvements	Prince Rupert	\$15,000
	14 projects	\$259,034

Prince George Region

NEW Community Hall Upgrade	Stellat'en	\$30,000
NEW Community Hall Bathroom Renovation	Cluculz Lake	\$24,812
NEW Waterfall Trail Connector	Mackenzie	\$24,000
NEW Bike Park Trail Development	Valemount	\$30,000
NEW Weight Room Upgrades Phase 2	Mackenzie	\$30,000
NEW 1919 Community Hall Kitchen Renovation	Prince George	\$30,000
NEW Paddle Board Aquisition	Fraser Lake	\$3,360
NEW Music Makers Theatre Renovation	Fort St. James	\$17,060
NEW Caledonia Nordic Centre Lodge Accessibility Improvements	Prince George	\$30,000
NEW Mackenzie Indoor Climbing Centre	Mackenzie	\$30,000
NEW East Twin-Chalco Trail Upgrade - Phase One		\$30,000
NEW Go Zone Community Facility	Mackenzie	\$18,573
NEW Golf and Country Club Building Upgrades	Mackenzie	\$17,300
NEW Range Upgrades - Phase Two	Mackenzie	\$30,000
NEW Cross Country Ski Trails Storage Facility	Mackenzie	\$30,000
NEW Community Bike Park Trails and Trailhead Development	Mackenzie	\$30,000
NEW Recreation Centre Accessibility Upgrades	Mackenzie	\$30,000
NEW Youth Soccer Field Development - Phase Two	Vanderhoof	\$30,000
	18 Projects	\$465,105

Northeast Region

NEW Little Prairie Community Forest Nordic Centre Development	Chetwynd	\$9,773
NEW Golf and Country Club Cart Replacement	Dawson Creek	\$30,000
NEW Beatton Park Stadium Construction		\$26,043
NEW Curling Stone Replacement	Fort St. John	\$50,000
NEW Community Hall Deck Extension	Toad River	\$50,000
NEW Snowmaking Pipeline Replacement	Dawson Creek	\$50,000
NEW Community Facility Flooring Upgrade	Pouce Coupe	\$4,764
	7 projects	\$220,580

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

MARKETING INITIATIVES

This program provides up to \$20,000 in grant funding to support marketing initiatives that promote assets and products within the region in order to increase local revenues generated from outside the region.

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/marketing-intiatives

<i>2018 as of March 31</i>	# Communities	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	7	\$92,570
Northwest Region	6	\$97,049
Northeast Region	6	\$75,309
Prince George Region	5	\$39,245
Cross-regional	2	\$75,000
Total	26	\$379,173

BUSINESS FACADE IMPROVEMENT

Northern Development provides annual grant funding for municipalities and regional districts throughout central and northern B.C. to encourage private sector investment in local business improvement. Visual improvements such as facades, signage, murals, architectural features, siding, lighting and awnings can enhance economic viability and the vibrancy of northern communities. The improvements can support the recruitment of new businesses and/or residents, and even increase the tax base as a result of increased assessed values of improved properties.

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/business-facade-improvement

<i>2018 as of March 31</i>	# Communities	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	5	\$95,000
Northwest Region	11	\$210,000
Northeast Region	2	\$40,000
Prince George Region	3	\$60,000
Total	21	\$405,000

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION MATCHING GRANT

This program provides communities with up to \$50,000 to assist with the establishment of a dedicated endowment within a registered community foundation. The funds can then be used to provide grants for community and social enhancement in the community area.

<i>2018 as of March 31</i>	# Communities	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	2	\$100,000
Northwest Region	-	-
Northeast Region	-	-
Prince George Region	1	\$25,000
Total	2	\$125,000

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION INFRASTRUCTURE

This program provides up to \$250,000 in funding for municipalities, regional districts, First Nations and non-profit organizations in the region for projects that significantly strengthen the local economy via a major capital investment. The program specifically targets funding for public multi-use facilities or capital investments that drive revenue and job creation and provide a long-term asset for the community.

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/economic-diversification-infrastructure

<i>2018 as of March 31</i>	# Projects	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	-	-
Northwest Region	2	\$399,000
Northeast Region	2	\$289,920
Prince George Region	2	\$500,000
Total	6	\$1,188,920

FESTIVAL SEASON

SNOW MUCH FUN

FABULOUS FESTIVALS & EVENTS

This program provides non-profit organizations with up to \$2,500 in grant funding to support unique events and festivals throughout the region that generate destination tourism-based service sector revenues for the local economy.

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/fabfestivals



The cold of the winter can't keep you indoors forever. These winter festivals look to heat things up for the community with great music, games, activities and food.

Festivals across northern B.C. this winter were firing up the fun for the locals. From the Coldsnap Music Festival to the Bridge River Valley Winterfest, there was snow much fun to be had. Northern Development's Fabulous Festivals and Events program was proud to support the many events that highlighted the unique communities around our region.

The program aims to promote destination tourism and the service sector across central and northern B.C. These events help generate increased revenue for the communities and the region.

Photos (clockwise) Bridge River Valley Winterfest - Gold Bridge, B.C., Coldsnap Music Festival - Prince George, B.C., Interlakes Outhouse Races - Interlakes, B.C.



2018 as of March 31	# Events	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	7	\$20,000
Northwest Region	6	\$25,000
Northeast Region	3	\$12,500
Prince George Region	6	\$27,500
Total	22	\$85,000

NEW = Newly funded projects this quarter

2018 Funded Fabulous Festivals and Events

NEW Cold Snap	Prince George	Jan 26-Feb 3
NEW Winterfest	Bridge River Valley	Feb 11-12
NEW Interlakes Outhouse Races	Logan Lake	Feb 11
NEW Downtown Winterfest	Prince George	Feb 11
NEW Gold Country Geocache Event	Cache Creek	May 11-13
NEW Invisible Migration Event	Burns Lake	May 15
NEW Little Britches Rodeo	100 Mile House	May 19
NEW 2 Rivers Remix	Lytton	May 18-19
NEW Clinton Annual Ball	Clinton	May 19
NEW Walhachindig	Walhachin	Jun 16
NEW Midsummer Music Festival	Smithers	Jun 29-July 1
NEW BMO Kidz Art Dayz	Prince George	Jul 6-7
NEW Summer Cruise	Dawson Creek	Jul 13-15
NEW Billy Barker Days Festival	Quesnel	Jul 19
NEW Bella Coola Music Festival	Bella Coola	Jul 19-22
NEW Terrace Riverboat Days	Terrace	Aug 3-12
NEW Vanderhoof International Airshow	Vanderhoof	Aug 4
NEW Desert Daze Festival	Spences Bridge	Aug 10-11
NEW Skeena Valley Country Country Music Festival	Terrace	Aug 10-12
NEW South Cariboo Summer Festival	100 Mile House	Aug 11-12
NEW Nechako Valley Exhibition	Vanderhoof	Aug 17-19
NEW Emperor's Challenge	Tumbler Ridge	Aug 11
NEW Fraser Heritage Festival	McBride	Sep 1
NEW Lakes District Fall Fair and Music Festival	Burns Lake	Sep 7
NEW Culturefest	Fort Nelson	Oct 20

BUSINESS SUPPORT

Northern Development offers a wide range of business development programs suited to a diverse set of economic development priorities in central and northern British Columbia. These programs seek to provide support and resources to the many businesses operating across our region.

PARTNERSHIP GIVES UNLIMITED ACCESS

PARTNERSHIP WITH SMALL BUSINESS BC PROVIDES UNLIMITED WEBINAR ACCESS



JANUARY 2018 — Small businesses who participate in the Love Northern BC shop local program and the Supply Chain Connector procurement platform now have unlimited access to educational webinars, thanks to a one-year partnership between Small Business BC and Northern Development Initiative Trust, which began on January 1st, 2018.

The partnership provides nearly 4,000 eligible businesses unlimited access to close to 300 small business webinars covering more than 40 business topics.

The partnership follows a four-month pilot project in late 2017 that saw more than 50 businesses register for 481 seminars at a value of more than \$21,000.

Accessing practical business education can be a challenge for small businesses throughout the region as many who require the training may not have the financial resources to access it. In-person training is often delivered in the lower mainland requiring both time and money to attend, which many small businesses in northern B.C. can't afford.

This partnership between Northern Development and Small Business BC will help businesses in the region access premier practical education via webinar, which reduces the need for costly travel and provides increased flexibility for busy business owners via live recordings of the sessions.

Small Business BC webinars provide up-to-date information and tactics on current business trends and strategies designed to help small businesses improve, succeed, and remain competitive, which can have an immediate impact on business operations.

Northern Development is dedicated to supporting the economic growth of small businesses across the region. Through this partnership with Small Business BC, businesses in the north will be able to continue being leaders in job creation, new revenues and the improvement of the quality of life in the region.

Eligible businesses will be able to register for the webinars through the Small Business BC website using special codes provided by Northern Development. Members can participate in the webinars from home via Adobe Connect and will have access to live recordings of the webinars for up to seven days.

Access to this program will run through to **December 31, 2018** and will be reviewed in an ongoing basis. For a complete list of current webinar offerings, please visit smallbusinessbc.ca.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

APRIL 18, 2018 3:30PM - 4:30PM

PLEASE JOIN US | WOOD INNOVATION & DESIGN CENTRE | PRINCE GEORGE | LIGHT RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

We welcome you to join us for Northern Development Initiative Trust's 2018 Annual General Meeting. We'll showcase how the Trust has helped build a stronger north in 2017 and recognize 13 years of Trust service to the Northern B.C. region. Elections for executive positions on our board of directors will also take place.



RSVP

www.facebook.com/NorthernDevelopment

Light reception to follow.

UPDATE: WILDFIRE BUSINESS AMBASSADORS

WILDFIRE RECOVERY SUPPORT PROGRAM ON TRACK

MARCH 2018 — The Community Futures Wildfire Recovery Business Support program began working with businesses in January of this year. The program provides support for businesses and non-profit organizations in communities that were impacted by B.C. worst wildfire season, in the Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet area of the province.

The Wildfire Recovery Support Program, which is working cooperatively with several wildfire recovery agencies including the Red Cross, has surpassed expectations for both volume and success rates. To date, 550 businesses have been assisted through the program in various capacities.

Clients who have applied to the Red Cross are beginning to receive their funding and many clients are finding out about the Wildfire Recovery Business Support program from friends and business acquaintances who are making program referrals.

It was recently announced that the Red Cross has extended their original deadline to May 4th, 2018. This was a highly anticipated extension and one that will be very helpful to those businesses who reside in more remote locations and do not have access to technologies. Wildfire Recovery Ambassadors are available to provide assistance to businesses who require assistance completing their application.

The outreach program has been active in the entire fire-affected region and the Ambassadors have recently returned from Bella Coola with positive results. It is anticipated that the continued outreach will bring in the majority of business from the region who are in need of financial and other assistance.



THIRD-PARTY FUNDING MANAGEMENT

Northern Development administers a variety of programs on behalf of other organizations. These partnerships play a vital role in providing valuable support and much-needed infrastructure development across central and northern B.C. These partnerships leverage Northern Development's expertise in fund and program management to ensure maximum impact and benefit of funding opportunities are realized across northern B.C. and beyond.

FUNDING FOR HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ANNOUNCED



PROVINCE ANNOUNCES FASTER CONNECTIVITY FOR RURAL & FIRST NATIONS & INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

MARCH 2018 — The B.C. government's work to connect all British Columbians to high-speed internet continues with more than \$38 million in federal, provincial and partner funding for five major connectivity projects in rural and First Nations and Indigenous communities announced on March 13, 2018 by Minister of Citizen's Services, Jinny Sims.

"This is not just an investment in high-speed internet," said Sims. "It's an investment in the future for those living in rural, First Nations and Indigenous communities, so they have access to cutting-edge emergency services, high-quality health care, world-class education and improved ability to participate in the growing digital economy."

Of the total amount, the Province is contributing more than \$11.3 million in key foundational funding to four major connectivity projects through the Connecting British Columbia program. This will mean better and more reliable, high-speed internet connections to 32 communities throughout B.C., including 12 Indigenous communities.

The provincial contribution includes:

- \$1.9 million to CityWest Cable and Telephone Corp. for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako;
- \$400,000 to Gwaii Communications for communities on Haida Gwaii;
- \$1.9 million to Shaw Communications for fibre-optic cable along Highway 99 between Whistler and Cache Creek; and
- \$7 million to Shaw Communications to build fibre-optic cable along Highway 97 between Prince George and Dawson Creek.

"By working with our federal and local partners, we are leveraging relationships to give people in these communities the same internet access as those living in major urban centres," said Sims.

This announcement was part of an event hosted by Canada's Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Navdeep Bains (pictured above and at right), as the federal government committed a further \$19,748,063 to these four projects, plus a fifth project with

the Sts'ailes Band. The funding for these five projects is through the federal Connect to Innovate program.

"Access to high-speed internet is not a luxury, it's essential," said Bains. "High-speed internet service is a basic tool that all Canadians should have access to, regardless of their postal code. Canadians need this service to do business, upgrade their education and build stronger communities."

In total, with federal and provincial funding, these five projects will receive \$38,265,697 as local partners contribute an additional \$7,151,757.

"We are pleased to see British Columbia and its partners moving swiftly to bring reliable, high-speed internet access to communities across the province," said Joel McKay, CEO, Northern Development Initiative Trust. "Connecting communities with limited or non-existent internet access provides a swift and substantial boost to regional economies."

Connecting British Columbia is a program funded by the Province, and administered by Northern Development Initiative Trust, to expand and upgrade broadband connections in rural and remote communities throughout B.C.

This investment builds on the B.C. government's \$11.4-million commitment to the Connected Coast project, announced on January 17, 2018. Connected Coast is a \$45.4-million joint investment by the federal and provincial governments to bring high-speed internet to 154 rural and remote coastal communities, including 56 Indigenous communities.

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/connecting-british-columbia





BC Hydro

BC HYDRO DONATES \$48,000 TO SUPPORT PEACE REGION NON-PROFITS

MARCH 2018 — BC Hydro is providing \$48,000 in grants to support five non-profit organizations in the Peace Region through its Generate Opportunities (GO) Fund.

Award recipients include programs in support of palliative care, vulnerable seniors, vulnerable youth in sport and restorative justice. One of the five recipients, the Fort St. John and District Palliative Care Society, received \$10,000 to expand palliative care support in the North Peace Region.

“This grant will allow the Palliative Care Society to continue supporting clients and families throughout the Peace Region during a very difficult time,” said Joanne Young, treasurer of the Fort St John and District Palliative Care Society. “Funding will be put towards improving client care in our available hospital rooms as well as ongoing training provided for new volunteers.”

Other recent recipients include:

- \$10,000 to the Fort St. John and District Hospital Foundation to increase care and comfort for vulnerable seniors.
- \$10,000 to the North Peace Justice Society’s restorative justice program.
- \$10,000 to Fort St. John and Area Senior’s Care Foundation to provide support for seniors.
- \$8,000 to the Josh Lequiere Society to support vulnerable youth in sport.

The \$800,000 GO Fund was established in September 2016 as part of Site C mitigation measures to help support Peace Region non-profit organizations providing services to vulnerable groups, including children, families and seniors. This is the fifth time grants have been awarded from the fund and a total of \$196,645 has been distributed to 22 projects to date.

The GO Fund, which is administered by Northern Development Initiative Trust on behalf of BC Hydro, is being distributed over an eight-year period. Applications for funding are accepted on an ongoing basis with funds distributed on a quarterly basis.

For more information on the fund:

Past recipients: sitecproject.com/GoFund.program

Application details: northerndevlopment.bc.ca/bc-hydro-go-fund



NEXT FUNDING INTAKE CLOSES

- **MAY 11** -
2018

UPCOMING DATES

APRIL 18, 2018

Northern Development Board Meeting and Annual General Meeting

MAY 11, 2018

Spring Quarterly Funding Intake Deadline

JUNE 8, 2018

Prince George Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

JUNE 15, 2018

Northwest Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

JUNE 19, 2018

Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

JUNE 29, 2018

Northeast Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

JULY 18, 2018

Northern Development Board Meeting

AUGUST 10, 2018

Summer Quarterly Funding Intake Deadline



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