

NORTH CENTRAL NEWS

SPRING 2006

NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY FUTURES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

Discover Manitoba 2006 includes Manitoba Tourism Awards Gala celebration

Planning for the 4th Annual 2006 Discover Manitoba Conference and Expo is underway with some new features and partners to make this conference and expo an event you will never forget! The "Unforgettable Manitoba" Conference is to be held on April 6th and 7th with the Expo following on April 8th and 9th. Both events take place once again at the Canad Inns Polo Park in Winnipeg.

Travel Manitoba will be heading up the "Unforgettable Manitoba" Tourism Conference and it will surely be an unforgettable experience! Kicking off the conference will be featured keynote speakers Uchenna and Joyce Agu. The Agu's are the winning team from the 7th season of CBS' hit reality show The Amazing Race. Traveling from Long Beach, Calif., through South America, Africa, India, Europe and the Caribbean to their final destination in Miami, the Agu's faced numerous challenges and made large sacrifices to finally emerge victorious. Their presentation will re-create the excitement, adventure and spirit of the Amazing Race experience and highlight the most memorable parts of their journey and why those parts were memorable. Following our morning keynote session you are invited to literally "break out" of the Canad Inn and into a Manitoba tourism experi-

ence so you can see, hear, feel and taste what it takes that makes our province unforgettable. These unprecedented "mobile" sessions are being created to give conference participants like yourself the tools to build tourism experiences that you can bring home to your business, community or region.

On the second day of the conference, award winning author and humourist

Will Ferguson will offer insights into the Canadian character and what makes travel experiences memorable by drawing on his experience as a travel writer and his keen sense of observation.

A new feature of this year's Conference and Expo that we are pleased to announce is the Manitoba Tourism Awards Gala Celebration that will be held in conjunction with the conference and expo on Thursday, April 6th. The Manitoba Tourism Awards is an annual pro-

gram recognizing excellence and implementation of high standards in the promotion and delivery of

tourism experiences in Manitoba. Winners in several categories will be identified at this gala event!

The conference will wrap up

with Manitoba Tourism Education

Council's Recognition Luncheon. The Manitoba Tourism Education Council (MTEC) will be recognizing individuals and companies who have achieved excellence in their occupation or business. Join us in recognizing the unforgettable quality service commitment of our tourism industry at this luncheon event.

Following the conference and Manitoba Tourism Awards Gala, the Discover Manitoba Expo will provide Manitoba tourism businesses, attractions, communities and re-

gions an opportunity to target one of their most affluent markets, as Winnipeg families are the number one travelers visiting rural and northern Manitoba. Visitors of the show will walk into a setting of excitement and adventure as they discover the wonders of the province. We will showcase Manitoba at its finest with regional displays, live demonstrations and hands on activities for the young and the young at heart! The exhibition hall at the Canad Inn Polo Park will be transformed into an epic adventure for families, couples, seniors and other great explorers - who are planning their next vacation.

The Conference and Expo is a joint venture of North Central Development, Wheatbelt Community Futures, Travel Manitoba, Southwest Trails Association for Regional Tourism (START), Tourism North, the Economic Development Council for Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (CDEM) and Manitoba Tourism Education Council (MTEC). This year's event has built on the success of the past and promises to be an experience not to be missed!

Watch for more information Discover Manitoba at www.discovermb.mb.ca or www.travelmanitoba.com. We look forward to seeing you in April!



Face painting and entertainment are just a few of the activities for youth to discover at the annual Discover Manitoba Expo.

Thompson's Spirit Way Inc. nominated for 2005 Manitoba Tourism Award

Spirit Way Inc., a non-profit organization based in Thompson, run by a volunteer board of directors has been nominated for a 2005 Manitoba Tourism Award in the category of partnership.

The volunteer board is made up 12 directors and one project coordinator who represent a cross-

section of the community. The goal of this group is to literally redefine and rejuvenate the community by reinventing Thompson as a tourism destination point and centre for aboriginal art and culture.

The organization's goal is create a walkway through Thompson that highlights 18 unique points

of interest including Canada's largest rockface carving, the world's only Robert Bateman Mural and a lifesize sculpture honoring the unique fire-fighting capabilities in Northern Manitoba.

The awards will be held at the Discover Manitoba conference in Winnipeg April 6th to 9th.

CHAIRPERSONS MESSAGE

Tansi!

The Board of Directors welcomes you to the Spring edition of our Newsletter. It's been a busy time for North Central Development as you will see from the various program reports. Hopefully, your winter season was safe and productive as well.

The Board of Directors is very pleased to support the Newsletter and acknowledge the efforts of our staff in the success of the programs detailed and in getting our message out.

With Spring in the near future, a number of events appear on the horizon and I invite communities, entrepreneurs and all northerners to participate. April will see the Fourth Annual Discover Manitoba "unforgettable Manitoba" Conference and Expo take place in Winnipeg with a focus on promoting tourism in our province. May will feature the 10th Anniversary of the Vision Quest Conference "from vision to reality: A Decade of Excellence", with a focus on aboriginal economic, business and community development. June will feature the 9th annual North Central Development Annual General Meeting in Thompson. A busy spring!

I encourage you to review the Newsletter, which highlights some of the current and proposed programs. Please contact our office for further details and information as to how you can get involved.



Have a Great Spring!
All the best...

Glen Flett
Chairperson

What North Central Development can offer you & your community?

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Creating Wealth In Our Communities

- Aboriginal Business Canada
- Business Loans
- Canada/Manitoba Business Service Center
- Dare to Dream & Peer Lending
- Entrepreneurs with Disabilities
- Self Employment Assistance
- Youth Entrepreneurship & Junior Achievement

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Creating Strength In Our Communities

- Capacity Building
- Communications
- Consultation & Resources
- Environment
- Social Economy
- Tourism
- Transportation

North Central Development and Women's Enterprise Centre partner to offer unique opportunity to female youth

North Central Development has secured sponsorship from the Women's Enterprise Centre for three communities in the North Central part of Manitoba to attend the World of Choices Symposium on May 11, 2006. This fourth annual Junior Achievement event will take place at the University of Winnipeg.

World of Choices is an interactive career symposium about empowering young women to make decisions for their futures. Throughout the day, 300 young women will be able to learn about emerging career opportunities from 50 professional women, discover what it takes to reach their goals, and acquire some of the skills they will need to get there. The event provides young women with opportunity to hear keynote speakers and attend selected tracks on career options of their choice. Sixteen different tracks are offered from the trades, professional, health, technology, engineering, sales and education, to name just a few.

Groups of young women will attend the event from Helen Betty Osborne Ininev Education Resource Centre in Norway House, RD Parker Collegiate in Thompson and Mel Johnson School in Wabowden.

The trip will also include a tour of the Women's Enterprise Centre.

NCD continues to work on climate change issues

North Central Development continues to work towards climate change education and greenhouse gas emission reduction through the C4/OTC initiative. This project - C4 (Climate Change Community Challenge) and OTC (One Tonne Challenge) is jointly funded by the Provincial and Federal Governments and focuses on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. North Central Development with its partners, focus on three key areas: Fish Offal Composting, Community Greenhouses using diesel generator waste heat, increasing recycling efforts in Northern Manitoba and coordinating the One Tonne Challenge that encourages individuals to reduce their personal greenhouse gas emissions by one tonne.

A strong Regional Recycling Network has been created with the communities of Thompson, Cross Lake, Churchill, Lac Brochet, Gillam, Wabowden, Thicket Portage, Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids and Tadoule Lake participating in information sharing and resource exchange on a monthly basis. North Central is currently working on a best-practices manual by examination of regionally-shared challenges, strengths and opportunities for sustainability.

The fish offal composting project continues on contract to the Environmental Youth Centre of the Thompson Boys and Girls Club. Specific communities involved are Thicket Portage, South Indian Lake and Norway House.

The final draft of a feasibility study involving greenhouses being built to use residual heat from diesel generators in the communities of Shamattawa, Brochet, Lac Brochet and Tadoule Lake is expected by month-end. Community consultations have taken place as well as Climate Change and One Tonne Challenge presentations in schools. Very positive feedback has come from the youth, expressing interest and the desire to grow their own produce.

Michelle Pruder has recently moved into the environmental portfolio, and brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the C4/OTC Project. Please feel free to connect with Michelle about climate change issues or any of the C4 Projects at 677-1495.



Students in Shamattawa embrace the idea of growing fresh vegetables.

Reducing your greenhouse gas emissions

Passenger road transportation - take the bus, walk or carpool instead of driving your car, drive at the posted speed, use a block heater on a timer, keep your vehicle well maintained, check tire pressure once a month, remove roof racks when not in use.

Space heating and cooling - use weather stripping and caulking to seal air leaks around windows and doors, when purchasing new windows or doors look for the energy

star label, these are energy efficient products, keep your furnace well maintained, upgrade your insulation, lower your thermostat

Water heating - don't be wasteful of hot water, avoid running the tap when brushing your teeth or shaving, take a quick shower or install a low-flow shower head

Appliances - turn off when you're not using them, look for energy star labels when purchasing new appliances, rinse clothes in cold water,

wash in warm, avoid over-drying clothes, increase the efficiency of your fridge or freezer - keep them away from heat sources that make them work harder to stay cool, put your computer on its energy saver option,

Lighting - turn off lights when you're not using them, use compact fluorescent lights bulbs, install outdoor automatic timers for lights

Waste from landfills - recycle, compost, pay attention to goods and

packaging - evaluate your purchases and consider how they contribute to your household waste. Buy more durable goods and re-usable products.

For more information on how you can do your part to halt climate change, check out North Central Development's website at www.northcentraldevelopment.ca and click on the One Tonne Challenge button.

North Central offers variety of youth workshops

North Central Development is happy to announce additions to the list of youth workshops available to communities in our region.

Workshops include Junior Achievement programming, Climate Change workshop and Working With Disabilities workshop.

Junior Achievement:

Junior Achievement is business-based programs delivered to school age youth, most often during class time, and in some cases, during special events. It is the goal of Junior Achievement Manitoba and NCD that by introducing business at a young age, entrepreneurship will be considered an option, no matter what community they call home. North Central Development offers three Junior Achievement workshops:

Business Basics: This introduction to business is often delivered to grade five and six students and goes over the organization, management, production and marketing of a business with hands-on group activities.

Dollars With Sense: This Junior Achievement program is typically targeted at grades seven and eight and covers money management through activities and group discussions.

Economics of Staying in School: this program can be delivered anywhere from grade nine to 12. Students have the opportunity to consider how education and career choices will affect them by playing a game and then working on a monthly budget.

Each Junior Achievement workshop is designed for a maximum of 30 youth per class and works with a timeframe of 1.5 to 3 hours.

Climate Change Workshop:

This workshop is based on the federal 'One Tonne Challenge' campaign. Students learn how greenhouse gases are created and how to reduce their own personal greenhouse gas emissions in an effort to halt climate change. Workshop consists of video, discussion and group ac-

tivities. Can be delivered in one hour.

Working with Disabilities:

An informative and interactive disability awareness workshop presented by Society for Manitobans with Disabilities. Participants will learn about attitudes and environmental barriers that handicap and how we can all work to promote the equality and full participation of people with disabilities. Employment options for people with disabilities will be highlighted. The workshop is approximately 1 1/2 hours and can be customized for age and particular interests of the group.

This year NCD has visited schools in the communities of Nelson House, Split Lake, Gillam and Wabowden. Visits are planned for Norway House, Cross Lake and Ilford.

If your community, school or youth group is interested in any of these workshops, contact Charlene Grant, North Central Development at 677-0203 today!



Spirit Way helps youth take pride in neighbourhood



This past summer, Thompson's youth had a chance to express themselves through art. Led by Sharon Cordell with guidance by Jasyn Lucas, the Cliff Park Youth Mural project saw murals created by students of the Boys and Girls Club of Thompson which are now complete and depict the season of fall in the north. The murals were completed on nine plywood panels that run along the south side of Cliff Park fencing and will be the focal point of Site #7 on the Spirit Walkway.

The hope for this project was to lead to a greater sense of neighbor-

hood pride for youth in Thompson. Phase two will be the completion of 500 feet of murals in the summer of 2006, for which a grant has been awarded from the Burntwood Parent Child Centered Coalition. Further funds are being raised. A permanent display marker is being planned to mark the site and recognize the artists.

The Cliff Park Youth Mural project is one of several attractions currently underway for the Spirit Way walkway, a unique project in Thompson that when completed, will include 18 points of interest, each featuring

a unique asset of this Northern Manitoba city. Other points of interest along The Spirit Way will include the restoration of the Bailey Bridge, Canada's largest rock face sculpture, a tribute to Northern Aviation, and a tribute to the firefighters of Northern Manitoba.

The goal of Spirit Way Inc.'s volunteer board of directors is to reinvent Thompson from its tough northern mining town image. The group continues to work with several partners including Manitoba Hydro to position Thompson as a world-class center for tourism, mining, winter

weather testing, boreal forest research and Aboriginal art.

It is expected that the majority of the Spirit Way project will be completed in time for Thompson's 50th anniversary celebrations this summer.

For detailed photos of the Cliff Park Youth Mural Project, or the other points of interest along the Spirit Walkway, please visit www.thompsonspiritway.ca.

Spirit Way Inc., a not-for-profit organization driven by volunteers and has admin support provided by North Central Development.

What is customer service?

Customer Service is a term widely used to indicate a customer's satisfaction with a business's product or service. The Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council defines it as, "service that is delivered by a competent individual with a positive attitude".

There are many occupations that deal directly with customers. Good customer service practices go a long way in making a business more successful and to an employee by increasing their job satisfaction. You can make a difference in each customer experience.

The following are some guidelines or tips that you can practice to im-

prove your customer service skills:

- Make the customer feel welcome:
- Use your personal style
- Greet customers with a smile and say "hello"
- Be sensitive to:
- Customers needs and desires by observing visual clues and body language
- Cultural differences
- Represent customer's needs and follow up to make sure they are met
- Be honest and clear about your products, services and policies
- Take pride in your workplace
- Take pride in your personal appearance

- Ensure your workplace is a clean and safe environment for yourself and your customers

- Correct problems as soon as they arise

In the world of customer service, customer expectations are rising. Adding little personal touches can mean a lot to your customer, the success of your business and your job satisfaction on the job.

When you meet or exceed customer expectation, you contribute to the growth of your business, your community and to yourself!

These tips are brought to you by: The Manitoba Tourism Education Council (MTEC) and Tourism North.

North Central Development is here to help with art and craft loan program

Did you know North Central Development offers crafting / artist loans? If you are an artist or crafter and need a loan for tools or supplies call North Central Development today, you may be eligible for a \$500, \$1,000, \$1,500 or \$2,000 loan!

Loans are for artists or crafters in the North Central region looking to broaden their opportunities. You could borrow money and pay it back in monthly installments over 12 - 24 months while improving your credit rating and increasing your profits!

North Central not only will provide you with the capital needed to start up or expand your business, we offer support to help you learn more about business, financials, marketing and networking. North Central can also set you up with business cards and provide information about crafting circles, trade shows and art shows.

North Central Development is here to help, call our Business Development Department today for more in-

formation (677-1490) or stop by and pick up a brochure (3 Station Road, Thompson).

Also available at North Central Development: Business Loans, Proposal Writing assistance, Business Planning, Referrals, Assistance assistance, Resource Library, Public Use Computers, Dare to Dream - Youth Loan Program, Self Employment Assistance Program and Community Workshop opportunities.



NORTH CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEMBERS

Roxanne Chan
CHURCHILL

Darlene Beck
CROSS LAKE C.C.

Ryan Castel
CROSS LAKE F.N.

Albert McTavish
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Jim Chornoby
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Phillip Morris
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Sam Saunders
YORK LANDING

Vacant: Fox Lake F.N.,
Thicket Portage

VOLUNTEERS:

Judy Kolada
THOMPSON

Patti McIntyre
THOMPSON

Dennis Dwyer
WABOWDEN

Craig Hanley
THOMPSON

Mayor Reg Meade
WABOWDEN

BUSINESS / RESIDENCE FOR SALE

Lot 235 Railway & Building 2x6 structures, Gillam, MB ROB 0LO

RESTAURANT: 2,700 SQ. FT.

RESIDENCE: 1,000 SQ. FT. W/ 700 SQ. FT. OF STORAGE

Restaurant features: newly renovated, new roof & shingles, Chester Fry signange, commercial air conditioner, Hussman ice cream freezer, Coldmatic 2 door stand up cooler, Pepsi 2 door stand up cooler, Coke stand up cooler, slush machine, ice maker machine, Chester Fryer, pizza oven, Garland Conventional Oven, Moffat Grill, 2 small fridges, 2 commercial freezers, potato chip & wedge cutters, Moffat microwave oven, plus much more!

CONTACT:

OLIVE BEEBE

(H) **652-2060**

(W) **652-5050**

Northern School of Social Work students get down to work at North Central Development

North Central Development was happy to welcome two Northern School of Social Work students to the team this January for their fourth year work placement.

Brenda Paziuk grew up in Thompson. She attended Brandon University after graduating from RD Parker Collegiate, and in 2001 left Canada to backpack overseas in Australia and Thailand for 10 months. Upon her return, Brenda enrolled in the U of M Northern School of Social work program, and began working as the Alternative Of-

fender Management worker at Community and Youth Corrections in Thompson. Brenda has also been working as a Respite worker for Child and Family Services over the past few years. She did her third year Social Work practicum at Juniper Elementary School, where she acted as student counselor for grades k-3.

Laurie Irving was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia and moved with his parents to Thompson 1975. He has called Thompson home ever since. Laurie is the proud father of three daughters; Amanda, Jes-

sica, and Vanessa. Laurie is also in his fourth year with the Faculty of Social Work. Last year he did his placement at the Environmental Youth Centre where he worked with young men ages 18-29 years of age. It was definitely a learning experience.

Brenda and Laurie are kept busy working on the Community Development side of North Central in the Youth, Housing, Environment and Tourism portfolios. Both are looking forward to graduating from the Social Work program this May.

NORTH CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT STAFF

-- ADMINISTRATION --



Tim Johnston
Manager



Tamy Burton
Administrative Officer



Leann Brown
Book Keeper



Tara Ellingson
Administrative Assistant

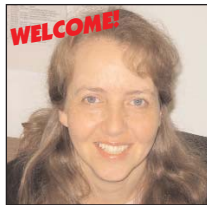
-- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT --



Laura Finlay
CEDO



Charlene Grant
CEDO



Michelle Pruder
CEDO



Laurie Irving
Social Work Student



Brenda Paziuk
Social Work Student

-- BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT --



Craig Saunders
Small Business Counsellor



Liz Sousa
BDO



Leslie Tucker
SEA Program



Peter Rosenfeld
Aboriginal Business Canada

NCD Mission Statement

The North Central Community Futures Development Corporation Inc. will endeavor to bring together to support, develop, and promote communities, individuals, organizations, business and other appropriate stakeholders within the north central region (of Manitoba) to encourage self reliance and viability of the social and economic quality of life.



North Central Development

AGM
THOMPSON
SAT., JUNE 10/06