

**Northern Alberta  
Development Council**

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**Annual Report  
2001-2002**

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# NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## Operational Overview

The Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) consists of nine public members and one elected member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. Council membership reflects the geographic, cultural and vocational diversity of northern communities. In 2001-2002 Council was chaired by Gary Friedel, the MLA for Peace River, and private Council members were:

Art Avery, Fort McMurray

Sandra Cardinal, Kikino

Doris Courtoreille, Kinuso

Berkley Ferguson, Athabasca

Ernie Isley, Bonnyville

Gerald McIvor, Whitecourt

Pete Merlo, Grande Prairie

Michael Procter, Peace River

Al Toews, Fort Vermilion

## *Mission*

The mission of the Northern Alberta Development Council is to advance northern development through regional initiatives in partnership with the private sector, community-based organizations and other government agencies.

## *Core Business*

The mandate of the NADC, as set out in the Northern Alberta Development Council Act, is to “investigate, monitor, evaluate, plan and promote practical measures to foster and advance general development in northern Alberta.” The NADC supports government’s commitment to prosperity by facilitating the development of a thriving and progressive northern economy.

## *The NADC Region*

Northern Alberta has a diverse resource base and is a key contributor to the economy with 100 per cent of the province's oil sands production, 40 per cent of its conventional oil and gas development activity, 90 per cent of its forests, and about 20 per cent of its agricultural land. Yet, the region's population is slightly less than 10 per cent of Alberta's total population, approximately 250,000 people.

Northern Alberta has tremendous potential for growth, but geographical factors such as distances to market and transportation costs, low educational attainment, and a lack of training often prevent the people who live there from benefiting from these opportunities.

Diversification of the economy, investment in transportation and other infrastructure, and the development of community services will help remove these barriers.

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## RESULTS ANALYSIS

### **GOAL 1: To Receive Input Into, Identify and Share Information on Priority Northern Development Opportunities and Issues Through Our Consultation Process**

Northern Alberta Development Council members and staff discuss with northern stakeholders through a formal communication framework and conduct initial investigations of issues and opportunities to identify priority initiatives that will advance the development of northern Alberta.

#### **Leaders' Roundtables**

Throughout the year, the Northern Alberta Development Council meets with community and business leaders regarding northern development issues. In addition to these meetings, the NADC holds a series of regional Leader Roundtable meetings. This year, Leaders' Roundtable meetings were held in Grande Cache, Fort Vermilion, Swan Hills and Athabasca. These meetings provide regional leaders a chance to present issues or concerns to the NADC and to identify specific opportunities and/or barriers to development. Representatives from municipalities, Aboriginal groups, industry and business came together with Council to discuss issues such as: transportation; value-added production opportunities; water management; regional cooperation; housing; and diversification of the northern economy. The meetings are an excellent forum for face-to-face discussion of priority issues facing northern Alberta and afford all stakeholders the opportunity to contribute to possible suggestions for addressing those issues. These meetings help guide the NADC strategic planning process.

#### **The Northern Forum**

On October 29-31, 2001, the Government of Alberta hosted The Northern Forum General Assembly in the City of Edmonton. The Northern Forum includes membership from twenty-seven northern regions from ten countries, including the Province of Alberta. There were sixteen northern regions represented at the General Assembly held in Edmonton. The Northern Alberta Development Council planned and organized this successful international event.

The mandate of the organization is to promote cooperation and exchange information on northern-based socio-economic initiatives. The mission of The Northern Forum is to improve the quality of life for Northern peoples by providing Northern regional leaders a means to share their knowledge and experience in addressing common challenges; and to support sustainable development and the implementation of cooperative socio-economic initiatives. The Northern Alberta Development Council is the Province's Secretariat that supports the Province's role as a member of The Northern Forum. The State of Alaska will be the North American representative on the Executive Committee for the upcoming year with the Province of Alberta assuming this position in the fall of 2002.

At the General Assembly, The Northern Forum Governors adopted a Strategic – Financial Plan for the organization that will provide direction for its operations in the years ahead and the *Alberta Declaration*. The *Alberta Declaration* focused on advancing the socio-economic development of the North, as well as encouraging Aboriginal participation in the northern economy. As part of the General Assembly, a very successful *Northern Alberta Business*

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*Leaders Roundtable* brought together northern business and international leaders to discuss future opportunities for northern development.

The NADC also supported the Youth Eco-Forum component of The Northern Forum by coordinating the attendance and involvement of half a dozen students from northern Alberta communities.

### ***Northern Developments* Newsletter and MLA Update**

The *Northern Developments* newsletter is produced quarterly and distributed to business, industry, municipal, Aboriginal, and community contacts across the Northern Alberta Development Council area. The newsletter provides updates on NADC projects, activities and meetings, and reviews any issues facing northern Albertans. Public and interested parties can access the newsletter on the NADC website.

As a result of a suggestion received at the annual northern MLA meeting, the NADC is also producing a more frequent, bi-monthly update designed to provide additional background on its projects and partnership initiatives to ensure northern MLAs are aware of NADC activities on a timely basis.

### **Meetings with Key Northern Stakeholders**

Throughout the year, the Northern Alberta Development Council's members and staff meet with key northern stakeholders during organized tours of northern Alberta. During the past year, meetings were held in the Smoky Lake area, the Grande Prairie area and Cold Lake regarding northern development issues. The Council also met with key northern industries to discuss resource management, northern highway development and skill development issues. The purpose of these meetings is to communicate with private and public organizations that have an interest in northern development to get their input on priorities, which help guide the NADC strategic planning process.

### **Challenge North 2003**

The Northern Alberta Development Council has commenced planning for the next Challenge North Conference to be held in Fort McMurray on April 9-11, 2003. The NADC hosts a major conference every three years to get input from northern stakeholders on strategic directions to advance development in the north.

The last conference, *Challenge North: Planning for Progress* was held in Grande Prairie in April of 2000. The Conference resulted in the NADC taking a number of actions, including the following, in response to comments from delegates:

- preparation of a proposed *Youth Apprenticeship Program* to create a greater awareness for northern youth in relation to career options in the trades;
- advancement of the development of northern highways through the adoption of a northern highways strategy;
- preparation of a study that looked at intensive agricultural development opportunities in northern Alberta;
- participation on a regional committee that looked at northern water management;
- leadership in the promotion of value-added agricultural production; and
- greater participation in the Northwest Corridor Development Corporation as a way to promote northern trade and transportation.

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## **GOAL 2: To Promote Opportunities and Address Barriers to Northern Development**

The Northern Alberta Development Council works with other jurisdictions, as well as within the region, to address barriers to economic growth, research information, and carry out strategic initiatives to promote emerging northern development opportunities.

### ***Interjurisdictional Initiatives***

#### **Alberta-Northwest Territories Memorandum of Understanding For Cooperation and Development**

The Co-Chairs for the Alberta-Northwest Territories Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation and Development met in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories in August 2001. The meeting provided an opportunity for the Co-Chairs, the Minister of Public Works and Services as well as Municipal and Community Affairs from the Northwest Territories, and the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development from Alberta, as well as the Chair of the NADC, to discuss initiatives under the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding such as inter-jurisdictional transportation connections, opportunities to advance northern skill development and northern tourism. The Co-Chairs provided input into the preparation of an Action Plan that will be reviewed and adopted at their next meeting. The NADC acts as the Alberta Secretariat for this Memorandum of Understanding.

#### **Northwest Corridor Development Corporation**

The NADC assisted with the development of a long-range strategy for the Northwest Corridor Development Corporation that will be used to guide the work of the organization over the next ten years. The NADC participated in and assisted with the organization of the Corporation's annual conference and meeting. The NADC assisted the Corporation with the implementation of its communication strategy that will generate a greater awareness of The Northwest Corridor. The NADC continued to act as an advisor to the Corporation's Board of Directors.

#### **Northern Development Ministers' Forum**

Northern Development Ministers from across Canada met for the second time in September 2001 in La Ronge, Saskatchewan as part of their annual Conference. The NADC prepared a presentation for the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development on the retention and recruitment of a skilled labor force in northern Alberta that was presented at the Conference. The NADC assumed the position of Chair for the Northern Development Ministers' Forum - Senior Officials Working Group, as Alberta will host and be the lead member jurisdiction for the 2002 Conference. The NADC acts as the Government of Alberta's Secretariat for the Forum.

#### **Transportation**

Northern rail, road and air transportation continues to be of major concern to the Northern Alberta Development Council. The NADC participated on an interdepartmental committee, led by Alberta Transportation that prepared Alberta position papers regarding the Canada Transportation Act.

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## **Western Economic Partnership Agreement (WEPA)**

The Northern Alberta Development Council continues to be involved with producers, federal and provincial departments in a project researching bison management issues. The bison research facility at the federal agricultural research site in Fort Vermilion, co funded by the federal government and the NADC through the Western Economic Partnership Agreement, has been a great asset to the northern bison sector.

## ***NADC Projects and Initiatives***

### **Northern Alberta Highways Strategy**

The Northern Alberta Development Council, in cooperation with northern municipalities and industry, has prepared a proposed strategy for the funding of northern highways that relates to the implementation of the Northwestern Canada Integrated Road Concept Plan. In 1998, the Western Premiers adopted this plan, which provided a vision for the long-term integration of highways. The proposal is based on the use of special, one-time funding, not the use of Alberta Transportation's annual budget and/or committed project funding.

There are a number of benefits related to the building and/or enhancement of these northern highways including: increased resource development; access to remote communities; furthering inter-jurisdictional trade and commerce; and tourism opportunities. In light of current fiscal considerations, there will be challenges associated with the implementation of the proposed Northern Alberta Highways Strategy.

### **Opportunity North - Northern Recruitment Materials**

Health regions and post-secondary institutions offering nursing programs identified the need for high quality recruitment materials. With the guidance of a cross-sector employer committee consisting of representatives from municipalities, industry, health regions and post-secondary institutions, the Northern Alberta Development Council developed recruitment materials that offer an overview of community and work life in northern Alberta. A website, ***opportunitynorth.ca - your connection to Alberta's north***, features graphic images, statistics, and links to employers, communities and lifestyle information. The Opportunity North materials also include a CD-ROM, brochure and business card designed to support northern employers in their recruitment efforts. The materials will be distributed to northern employers.

### **Opportunities Seminars**

Two 'Regional Opportunity Seminars' were held in the 2001-2002 fiscal year. The first seminar was held in Valleyview on March 19, 2002, and the second was held in Athabasca on March 21, 2002. These one-day events were aimed toward Aboriginal communities, however, anyone seeking information regarding employment opportunities in each of the regions was welcome to attend.

Between the two seminars, more than 100 people were in attendance, representing industry, business development organizations, government and individuals seeking employment or business opportunities. The goals of the seminars were to:

- provide information on industry, government, and business and employment opportunities;
- identify and assist participants to take advantage of new or previously unrealized employment and business opportunities; and

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- provide a forum for networking among service providers and industry with those seeking opportunities.

Evaluations completed by attendees at both events indicated the majority of attendees were satisfied with the events and appreciated the information presented.

### **Confined Feeding Operations**

The Northern Alberta Development Council commissioned a study to identify potential and viable opportunities in this sector, as well as to identify barriers in local decision-making, land use planning, and issues relating to public acceptance of intensive livestock operations in northern Alberta. The study confirmed that increasing the production of livestock, and particularly intensive livestock operations, is a potentially environmentally and economically viable option for northern Alberta. This would add value to the agricultural production of the area and diversify the agricultural base. As follow-up to the study, the NADC has met with elected municipal officials and their administrators to discuss the findings. The study had a significant impact on identifying the need for water management studies. The NADC is assisting The Alberta Beef Team (producers and government) in preparing a strategy to attract beef producers to northern Alberta.

### **Water Management in Northern Alberta**

The Northern Alberta Development Council led a project about the Water Information Base in the Northwest Boreal Region. The project was a collaborative initiative that involved Prairie Farm Rehabilitation and Administration (PFRA), Alberta Agriculture Food and Rural Development, Alberta Environment, Alberta Economic Development, Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency, Keeweenaw Health Region, Municipal District of Fairview and the NADC.

The project's report highlighted the information that was available and the gaps that needed to be addressed. There was an increased awareness of the issues regarding water management. Prairie Farm and Rehabilitation Administration was able to secure funds to conduct groundwater mapping of the Northwest Boreal Region. An initial contamination risk map was prepared for the region. Further work in gathering data on water sources is continuing. The work of the committee on the Water Information Base in the Northwestern Boreal Region greatly assisted in the development of a paper on water management issues, which was submitted to Alberta Environment as part of the current review on water management.

### **Economic and Demographic Research**

Economic and demographic data relating to northern Alberta is gathered on an on-going basis. This information is made available to any organization or individual that requests it. Both public and private organizations have used this information for a number of purposes including marketing, business planning and assessing demographic trends.

## ***Cooperative Initiatives in Partnership with other Stakeholders***

### **Northern Alberta Recycling Initiative**

The Northern Alberta Development Council assisted Northern Coordinated Action For Recycling Enterprises (Northern CARE) with the preparation of a three-year business plan for the organization. The NADC played a lead role in the preparation of this document, which was adopted by Northern CARE's Board of Directors. The NADC assisted with the planning and organization of Northern CARE's annual workshop held in the High Prairie area. The NADC

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continues to work with municipal governments, industries and community organizations on activities that will advance the economic development opportunities associated with recycling in northern Alberta.

### **Tourism Industry Development**

The Northern Alberta Development Council continues to provide support to the northern tourism industry through Board participation with the Alberta North Tourism Destination Region. The NADC serves in an advisory role with Alberta North and uses that organization's close relationships with northern tourism operators and organizations to guide our role in northern tourism industry development. The NADC continues to support and work to improve northern and rural tourism development initiatives.

The NADC's follow up work is focused in the priority areas of product development, industry training and encouraging coordinated support for service delivery to the northern tourism industry. In 2001-2002 the NADC served as an active board member and increased its participation with the marketing committee.

### **Northern Alberta Tourism Research Centre Project**

NADC staff have been working on the steering committee with regional economic development and tourism stakeholders to plan and develop a tourism research centre in northern Alberta.

### **Deh Cho-The Mackenzie Connection**

The Northern Alberta Development Council chairs and provides organizational, administrative and technical support to Deh Cho-The Mackenzie Connection group, an interjurisdictional tourism marketing society, involving the Northwest Territories, Northeastern British Columbia and Alberta. The group's work focuses on the promotion of the circle tour route in this area of Canada.

### **Northern Tourism Summit**

The Northern Alberta Development Council worked with local partners to organize a meeting, agenda and tour for area and visiting tourism stakeholders. The group brought representatives from Economic Development Edmonton, the City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Regional Airports Authority to visit northern Alberta to view our many tourist attractions, as well as to discuss how our regions can partner to offer more quality tourism products to the marketplace.

### **Value-Added Agriculture Opportunities in the Peace Region**

The Northern Alberta Development Council continues to work with its many partners in the Peace Agriculture Value-Added Strategy working group on a long-term developmental initiative. This project focuses on an awareness and promotion strategy related to the value-added agriculture initiative (processing and diversification) in the Alberta and British Columbia Peace Region.

The actions associated with this project will raise awareness of the Peace Region's comparative advantages, and the benefits and opportunities for the region of adding value to agricultural production among regional entrepreneurs, investors and communities. The goals of this strategy are to: develop a stronger agriculture industry in the region; provide direction to commodity-based organizations and entrepreneurs to develop value-added opportunities; and to improve the sustainability of rural communities. It is a crucial first step in the long-term process of building a mature, self-sustaining value-added agriculture industry in the North.

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The Peace Value-Added Strategy Group along with project partners commissioned a study entitled the “*Peace Regional Value-Added Agriculture Opportunity Analysis*”. This project was completed in the Fall of 2001 and provides insight into the competitive advantages of the Peace River Region in terms of agricultural value-adding and identifies sectors with potential for growth. These findings were presented to the public and their input was sought in February 2002.

## ***Working with Regional Groups***

The Northern Alberta Development Council also participated in several regional working groups, providing input, feedback and support:

- Wood Buffalo Human Resource Management Committee to plan a second Human Resource Management Conference in Fort McMurray in October, 2002;
- Regional Infrastructure Working Group (RIWG), established by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, to address transportation issues that affect development of the oils sands industry;
- Regional Roads Committee – Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo in regards to a northeast road network to serve the Municipality;
- Healthy Lake Project in Lac La Biche that provided information to ensure people were aware of how to keep the lake environmentally healthy;
- Lac La Biche/Lakeland County Interpretive Centre regarding the development of an interpretive centre on the shores of Lac La Biche lake as both a tourist attraction and community amenity;
- Athabasca Landing Foundation regarding the development of a riverfront interpretative centre as both a tourist attraction and community amenity;
- Branding the Peace Project - Project partners include: producers; Western Economic Diversification Canada; and other Alberta and British Columbia departments. The project's objective is to produce a professional Peace Country Brand Business & Marketing Plan. When implemented, the strategy will contribute to adding value to commodities that are produced in the Peace Region of Alberta and British Columbia. The product branding and marketing will distinguish the regions' products from those produced in other areas of either province.
- Alberta New Crops Network (ANCN) was created in 1999 and is made up of the Flower and Herb Growers Association, the Ginseng Growers Association, the Alpine Herb Growers Association, the Native Plant Producers Association and the Peace Value-Added Ag Society. The NADC is supporting the network through staff and office assistance. Further NADC involvement is dependent upon the network's progress.
- Pembina Hills Economic Development Initiative (GROWTH) established to identify economic development opportunities for the region;

- Woodland Operations Learning Foundation (WOLF) a joint industry and government educational initiative to establish training and certification standards for forest equipment operators; and
- Canadian Circumpolar Institute (CCI), which promotes and supports research on northern Canada and other circumpolar countries.

### **GOAL 3: To Increase Northern Skill Levels**

The Northern Alberta Development Council works to increase students' financial capacity to access employment related post-secondary training and increase the availability of training programs that meet northern employment needs.

#### **Northern Alberta Development Council Bursary**

The Northern Alberta Development Council Bursary is a \$3000 return service bursary (\$1500 for a half year of study). In the 2001-2002 year, 114 Alberta students were awarded the bursary. Emphasis continues to be in the health and education fields. There was also an increase in numbers of bursaries offered to students in technical programs. A total of \$330,000 in bursaries were given to students in the following occupational categories:

<b>Occupational categories</b>	<b>Number of bursaries</b>
Health Care/Nursing	29
Engineering/Technical	27
Education	21
Natural Sciences/Environment	15
Business/Administration/Law	9
Humanities/Applied Arts	8
Social Services	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>

#### **Bursary Partnerships Program**

Through Bursary Partnerships, the Northern Alberta Development Council, industry, small businesses and community organizations co-sponsor bursaries for post-secondary students. This year, the number of co-sponsors increased by 10 to 48. Co-sponsors contributed \$163,300 and sponsored 143 bursaries. The total value of the bursaries was \$304,100.

<b>Type of sponsor</b>	<b>Number of bursaries</b>
Business/Industry	43
Community/Other organization	84
School Divisions/Colleges	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>143</b>

#### **Northern Student Supplement**

The Northern Student Supplement, a joint initiative between the Northern Alberta Development Council and Alberta Learning, is a bursary for first and second year northern post-secondary students with high financial need. It supplements the province-wide Alberta Opportunities Bursary. In this fourth year of the program, a total of \$719,940 was provided to northern students.

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### **Northern Alberta Access to a Social Work Degree Program**

The Northern Alberta Development Council provides organizational support to the Northern Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Council of Stakeholders and the Northern Distance BSW Planning Circle. These groups collaborate with the University of Calgary social work faculty's offering of the Access BSW. Through the efforts of these groups, students can now enrol in a social work baccalaureate degree in northern Alberta.

### **Northern LINKS**

Northern LINKS is a Northern Alberta Development Council administered funding source aimed at easing the transition from high school to post-secondary education. In response to Alberta Learning's research showing 75 per cent of students are choosing careers in Grade 9, the program focus shifted from Grade 12 and first- and second-year post-secondary students to students in Grades 9 to 12.

### **Northern Labour Market Information Clearinghouse**

This is a joint initiative between the Northern Alberta Development Council and five northern Alberta Colleges: Fairview College; Grand Prairie Regional College; Northern Lakes College; Lakeland College; and Keyano College. The project provides the Colleges with labour force and economic information to help them identify new training programs, or to modify or cancel existing ones. The Clearinghouse also serves as a potential forum for further communication and cooperation between the Colleges.

In 2001-2002 the Clearinghouse produced 15 reports that provided the Colleges with information concerning northern professions, industry trends, northern training needs and training methods offered by other institutions. In addition, the Clearinghouse coordinates an annual meeting between the colleges and representatives from various industry sectors.

### **Youth Apprenticeship Program**

With assistance from Alberta Learning, the Northern Alberta Development Council continued to promote northern apprenticeship training through a variety of ways, including the advancement of its proposed Youth Apprenticeship Program (YAP). The NADC funded a feasibility study for the purpose of investigating the potential implementation of the project in three northern communities. An initial version of the feasibility study has concluded the program could be implemented, as there is a high level of support from schools, municipalities, business and industry for the proposal. The NADC will continue to work with Alberta Learning to find ways to fund the implementation of the pilot projects.

## **Performance Measures**

### **Effective Community Consultation**

Seventy-nine participants at the Leaders' Roundtables were asked to submit evaluations. Sixty-two were received. Of the participants who expressed an opinion on the effectiveness of the meeting for sharing information and informing the NADC of development issues and opportunities, the average rating was 87.8 per cent. 2001 results were 96 per cent for two of four meetings held and 80 per cent for the other two meetings. The performance target was 90 per cent for both 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.

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## **Opportunities for and Barriers to Northern Development**

The Northern Alberta Development Council undertakes projects and initiatives aimed at promoting northern development opportunities. It also addresses barriers that may hinder northern development.

An independent consultant conducted a random telephone survey of 103 of 123 identified project partners. The survey was conducted between May 27 and June 12, 2002, and covered fiscal year 2001-2002. Results are reliable to within 5 per cent at a 99 per cent confidence interval. Of those respondents who expressed an opinion, 98 per cent indicated they believed that the NADC's project work promoted an opportunity or addressed a barrier to northern development (2001 - 99 per cent). The performance target was 90 per cent for both 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.

## **Enhance skill development for students in northern Alberta**

The Northern Alberta Development Council coordinates a number of programs and projects aimed at encouraging skill development for students in northern Alberta. Programs enhance students' financial capacity for post-secondary education, encourage return service to northern Alberta, and provide funding for northern education option initiatives.

## **Northern Alberta Development Council Bursary Return Service Rate**

As part of the Bursary Program, students are required to work in the north upon completion of their education. The return service rate measures compliance toward this obligation. Monitoring return service among bursary recipients is an ongoing activity. Annual return service rates are based on recipients who graduated in the previous three years. The current rate of NADC bursary recipients who have fulfilled or are in the process of fulfilling return service obligations is 74.39 per cent. The target was 75 per cent. The slight decrease could be a reflection of the strong job opportunities across the province.

## **Bursary Return Service Rate**

Reporting Year	Return of Service Target	Return Service Rate	Years Used In Calculation
1995/1996	no formal target	71.49	93, 94, 95
1996/1997	72%	72.47	94, 95, 96
1997/1998	74%	76.54	95, 96, 97
1998/1999	75%	76.44	96, 97, 98
1999/2000	75%	73.77	97, 98, 99
2000/2001	75%	77.61	98, 99, 00
2001/2002	75%	74.39	99, 00, 01

(Source: NADC Bursaries database)

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### **Bursary Partnership Program**

The target for the Bursary Partnership Program (BPP) was to confirm \$130,000 in matching funding from partners. The actual amount committed was \$163,300 as indicated in the table below.

Reporting Year	Partner Contribution Target	Number of Bursaries	Partner Contribution Received	BPP Portion
1995/1996	no formal target	80	\$ 93,000	\$73,600
1996/1997	\$110,000	83	\$105,200	\$86,805
1997/1998	\$130,000	113	\$122,050	\$100,050
1998/1999	\$150,000	116	\$122,636	\$106,430
1999/2000	\$120,000*	129	\$125,950	\$120,450
2000/2001	\$125,000	132	\$135,700	\$136,450
2001/2002	\$130,000	143	\$163,300	\$140,800

\*Target adjusted based on actual trends of sponsor contributions.  
(Source: NADC Bursaries database)

### **Northern Links**

The performance measure for Northern LINKS was the percentage of students planning to pursue post-secondary/trades education who expect their participation in the program to ease their transition and encourage program completion.

In 2001-2002 Northern LINKS funding was approved for 35 projects. One thousand thirty-five (1035) students provided evaluation feedback. Of these 930 (90 per cent) indicated they planned to pursue post secondary education. Eight hundred twenty-nine (829) respondents provided an overall rating of 79 per cent in response to a question on how the project helped them in planning their post secondary education (2001 - 77 per cent). The target was 85 per cent for both 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.