Agenda

The Northern and Remote Infrastructure Environment: Evolving Construction, Partnership, and Financing Approaches

November 23, 2017

Meeting Location: Grey Eagle Hotel (3777 Grey Eagle Dr., Calgary, AB)
Dinner Location: The Living Room Restaurant (514 17th Ave SW, Calgary, AB)
Accommodations: Grey Eagle Hotel (3777 Grey Eagle Dr., Calgary, AB)

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Meeting objectives:
- Discuss current and upcoming Centre for the North research;
- Enjoy an interactive session with Ken Coates which will explore an exciting, prospective research series on innovative practices, technologies, and concepts for remote environments entitled “Cool Ideas”;
- Receive an overview of the National Summit on Indigenous Youth and Natural Resource Development by the Summit's Co-Chair, Paul Robitaille;
- Learn about existing and potential infrastructure financing options;
- Discuss the practices, challenges, and changing landscape facing Northern supply-chain management models;
- Learn about key issues and policy surrounding Northern and remote transportation infrastructure.
**Wednesday, November 22, 2017**

**18:00**  *Meet in lobby of Grey Eagle Hotel to travel to The Living Room Restaurant together.*

**The Living Room Restaurant – Private Dining Room**

**18:30**  **Networking Dinner (Sponsored)**

**Thursday, November 23, 2017**

**Grey Eagle Hotel – Crow Flag Room**

**08:00 – 08:30**  **Networking Breakfast (Continental)**

**Grey Eagle Hotel – Eagle Robe Room**

**08:30 – 08:45**  **Opening Address**

- Audrey Pipestem  
  Elder  
  Tsuu Tina Nation

**08:45 – 09:00**  **Welcome Remarks and Introductions**

- Stefan Fournier  
  Associate Director, Northern and Aboriginal Policy  
  The Conference Board of Canada

**09:00 – 9:30**  **Session 1: Centre for the North Research Update**

- Stefan Fournier  
  Associate Director, Northern and Aboriginal Policy  
  The Conference Board of Canada

- Cameron MacLaine  
  Research Associate  
  The Conference Board of Canada

Stefan and Cameron will provide a brief overview of recently released research on the part of the Centre for the North and the Northern and Aboriginal Policy group, in addition to offering an update on newly launched research initiatives. This interactive session, and the two that follow, are designed to set the context and background for the morning’s last session: “Where Do We Go from Here?”

**09:30 – 10:00**  **Session 2: Recap and Discussion of “Our Land, Our Future: National Summit on Indigenous Youth and Natural Resource Development”**

- Paul Robitaille  
  Chair  
  Métis Nation of Ontario Youth Council

Paul will briefly discuss what was learned through the development and delivery of “Our Land, Our Future: National Summit on Indigenous Youth and Natural Resource Development”. An
emphasis will be placed on the findings from the Summit’s breakout sessions, including lessons learned and recommendations made regarding the concerns, opportunities, and role of Indigenous youth in the natural resource development sector. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions and share their perspectives on how the findings from the Summit might help to direct the CFN research pillar on Indigenous youth.

10:00 – 10:30  Networking Break

10:30 – 11:30  Session 3: “Cool Ideas” – Discussion on a Prospective Innovation Research Series

Dr. Ken Coates
Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation
University of Saskatchewan

This interactive session with Ken Coates will explore an exciting, prospective research series on innovative practices, technologies, and concepts for remote environments entitled “Cool Ideas”. Ken will discuss specific examples of newly emerging innovation that might be used to target pivotal issues that confront communities and organizations in northern and remote environments. He will work with the meeting’s participants to determine which ideas might be the most compelling and useful for a CFN research series.

11:30 – 12:00  Session 4: Facilitated Discussion: “Where Do We Go from Here?”

Facilitator:
Stefan Fournier
Associate Director, Northern and Aboriginal Policy
The Conference Board of Canada

This session will offer an opportunity to revisit any of the themes, issues or questions that surfaced during the morning’s earlier sessions. An emphasis will be placed on opportunities for future investigation, with the objective of teasing out areas for research and analysis that would result in a genuine value add for the Centre’s members and key northern and remote stakeholder and rights-holders, including public, Indigenous, and private sector organizations.

Grey Eagle Hotel – Crow Flag Room

12:00 – 13:00  Networking Lunch

Grey Eagle Hotel – Eagle Robe Room

13:00 – 14:00  Session 5: Infrastructure Financing in Challenging and Remote Contexts

David Sharpe
Chief Executive Officer
Bridging Finance Inc.

There is widespread recognition that Canada’s Indigenous communities and remote regions face significant deficits with respect to the quality and availability of key infrastructure. One of the key challenges to ensuring these deficits are addressed is identifying options for financing infrastructure construction and maintenance – a challenge that has proven particularly acute within the context of Indigenous communities and across Canada’s north more generally, where traditional financing models have not been effective. David will explain how Bridging Finance provides a range of Canadian companies and organizations with alternative financing options to those offered by traditional lenders. For Indigenous groups and communities, these options are helping to address critical barriers that have historically made it difficult to access capital.
14:00 – 14:15  Networking Break

14:15 – 15:15  Session 6: Transport Canada – Towards the Development of an Arctic Transportation Policy Framework

Janice Festa
Manager/Senior Policy Advisor, Innovation Policy
Transport Canada

This presentation will illustrate current and emerging pressures that are unique to the territorial North. Drawing on Transport Canada’s roles and responsibilities, Janice will provide insight to game-changing federal initiatives.

15:15 – 15:30  Networking Break

15:30 – 16:30  Session 7: Northern Supply-Chain Management Models

Heather Stewart
President
BBE Expediting Ltd.

Dr. Amy Kim
Associate Professor of Transportation Engineering
University of Alberta

In this presentation, Heather will discuss the practices, challenges, opportunities, and changing landscape that BBE faces as it provides logistics and supply-chain services across Canada’s North. She will share a bit about BBE’s history and structure, and discuss how the organization has evolved to address a unique and shifting operating environment. She will also highlight the importance of relationships by discussing a progressive partnership that BBE has established with Kitikmeot Corporation.

For her part, Amy will focus on her project entitled: Rethinking Business-As-Usual: Mackenzie River Freight Transport in the Context of Climate Change Impacts. The Mackenzie River is changing significantly, leading to increased uncertainty for waterway transport. Amy will discuss her research looking into how shipping patterns can evolve, in order to efficiently adapt to future climate conditions. She will also discuss other research initiatives currently ongoing.