

## 2006 – REFLECTING.....

### **NEVER A DULL MOMENT!!**

- ▶ In response to the threat of closure of the Atikokan Thermal Generating Station and with the financial assistance of Industry Canada/FedNor, the Township of Atikokan engaged W. L. Lees and Associates and Quadra Consulting to undertake a Community Strategic Plan and a Community Economic Development Plan. These consultants were directed to give due consideration to the geographic area serviced by the AEDC in the development of the economic development plan.

Concurrent with the strategic planning, the province of Ontario established an inter-ministerial task force of some fifteen assistant deputy ministers to examine the situation in Atikokan and develop a plan to mitigate the economic and job loss that would result from closure of the Atikokan Thermal Generating Station. Funding from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines was used to engage a Community Advisor/Government Liaison Office to provide advice to the task force and a linkage to the community. Mr. Patrick Reid, a former member of provincial parliament for Atikokan, and the Past President of the Ontario Mining Association, was hired to fill the position.

These processes started at about the same time and very early on the consultants and Mr. Reid determined the best approach was for them to collaborate and pool their efforts. The consulting team quickly commenced direct consultation with a cadre of community leaders. They compiled information gathered from these folks and from previous reports and studies. The team met with a steering committee every four to six weeks and continually refined their recommendations. On two occasions they presented their findings at public meetings. The final report was delivered to the community on the afternoon of October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006.

The Atikokan Economic Development Corporation reviewed the findings and although there was no formal acceptance or approval of the report, there was general consensus among the board that the recommendations were appropriate. The AEDC was identified as being the lead on most of the initiatives and the staff will endeavour to proceed with them in a timely manner.



- ▶ Throughout 2006, FibraTECH has been successful in implementing a number of cost shedding measures. A new burner system that is fired by sander fines has resulted in a natural gas reduction of over ninety percent. Huge reductions in the North American production capacity have occurred that have allowed this company to become profitable in spite of the high Canadian dollar. A reduction in US housing starts could reduce the company's future performance. They are currently embarking on two value added activities in addition to developing a response to the Ministry of Natural Resources RFP process for surplus birch. Some time ago FibraTECH management identified the opportunity to utilize underutilized species to produce a high value engineered lumber product in Atikokan. With the assistance of Local Initiatives funding, a research project

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was undertaken to determine what the best technologies were and those skills were observed in northern Europe. Based on this research, funding was secured to prepare a feasibility study for the development of a Laminated Veneer Lumber plant in Atikokan. The feasibility was proven and the AEDC, with the support of the Township of Atikokan and their consultants, lobbied the province to commit the fibre to the project.

On October 6, 2006, the Ministry of Natural Resources announced a competitive RFP process for 300,000 to 400,000 cubic metres of surplus birch in Ontario, west of Lake Nipigon. At this time it appears that FibraTECH's sister company, Superior Laminated Lumber, is the leading proponent. The final proposal will be submitted in early 2007 and the successful company is to be identified by the Minister in mid-February. If Superior is successful, the synergies for FibraTECH will amount to between \$3.5 and \$5 million per year. Construction could commence as early as the fall of 2007 and post-construction employment will start at eighty and ramp up to one hundred and eighty at full production. These employment numbers will increase if building components are manufactured from the LVL.

- ▶ For many years, the AEDC has identified the mining and mineral sectors as an appropriate development prospect. As a result of the strategic planning process in the past year, we collaborated with the consultants to secure funding for the Atikokan Mineral Development Initiative (AMDI). This project will identify the specific information required to entice prospectors and developers to consider the area served by the AEDC as a viable target of their research. The objective of this exercise is to get more people in the bush looking at rocks in hopes that one or more mines will develop as a result.



Concurrent with the AMDI project, a number of specific mineral development projects are in the works. The most notable, at least in terms of potential employment and regional economic impact, is the Bending Lake Iron Ore Company (BLIOC). BLIOC is currently attempting to assemble the financing to develop the bankable business plan for a mine, railway, concentrator, and iron ore processing plant. If they are successful, the final plan is expected to enable them to debt finance the project on the international financial market. The magnitude of this project means it will be very difficult to bring to fruition but the economic impact for Atikokan, Ignace, Upsala, and Thunder Bay will be huge if it goes ahead.

- ▶ In response to the community's pressure to address the impact of the closure of the Atikokan Thermal Generating Station, the Province of Ontario announced \$4 million for a Bio-Energy Research Centre at the generating station. The objective of the centre is to research alternate fuel sources for electricity generation. The Atikokan Economic Development Corporation is actively participating in the evolution of this project.

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- ▶ The Atikokan Chamber of Commerce has identified biotechnology as a key target for their efforts in the current board year. Bio-prospecting and bio-medical research are both being pursued vigorously at this time, the latter in concert with the Northern Ontario Medical School.
- ▶ The Atikokan Economic Development Corporation and staff continue to pursue strengthening the relationship with Seine River First Nation by attending their council meetings to discuss joint projects such as the Bio-technology initiatives and other projects that will benefit their community as well as the entire area. There is currently a member from the First Nation sitting on the AEDC Board of Directors. We continue to extend an invitation to Lac La Croix and Lac De Mille Lacs First Nations to also participate in joint discussions. Perhaps in time, we will see a strong relationship with the First Nations within our catchment area.
- ▶ The Executive Director attended a meeting in Upsala in order to promote our services to the residents of the community. There seems to be more community co-operation and participation in projects for the enhancement of tourism in the area. Some of the groups in the community have applied for Local Initiatives Funding from the AEDC for their events.
- ▶ Our office continues to offer support and participation in the Doctor Recruitment Committee as they work to entice a physician to relocate to our community. There are many benefits the community can offer and Atikokan features many outdoor recreational opportunities that seem to be what a physician is sure to enjoy.

## **WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS**

- ▶ Throughout the year, our staff organized many well attended seminars for the business community as well as the general public. They included:

### **Spring Workshops for Business & Non Profit Organizations**

- *Creating the Right Retail Atmosphere*
- *Customer Service Training*
- *How to Start/Expand Your Small Business*
- *Non-Profit Organizations: - Looking Ahead to Your Community's Future*
- *Job Readiness Seminar*
- *Funders Forum I For Non-Profit Organizations*  
Ontario Trillium Foundation  
Canadian Heritage Canada
- *Funders Forum II For Business & Non-Profit Organizations*  
FedNor/Industry Canada  
Ministry of Tourism & Recreation  
Other Provincial programs including Northern Community Investment Readiness,



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Enterprise North Job Creation and Energy Retrofitting among others.

- True Colors Seminar for Business & Non-Profit
- Wilderness First Aid Course
- Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS)
- Employer Expectations, Job Maintenance
- Skills Trade Seminar
- Funders Forum III For Business & Non-Profit Organizations

Sponsored by the Federal Government, workshops included Targeted Wage Subsidy, Job Creation Program & Skills Development Program

**Innovative Participation Project** was created as part of *ACTIVE2010*, Ontario's sport and physical activity strategy, an initiative of the Ministry of Health Promotion. Parks and Recreation Ontario has incorporated this resource into its training series to help get more people in Ontario physically active and to help community groups and departments plan more effectively. The day-long presentation was designed to benefit both professionals and/or volunteers – those individuals who deliver sport, recreation and health services.

Dave Clark, the facilitator, provides his services to the private, government, and not for profit sectors such as business and market planning, operational review, strategic planning, group facilitation, long term service planning and organizational effectiveness.



### **Fall Workshops for Business & Non Profit Organizations**

An assortment of 10 different business seminars and program workshops were available to the business community of Atikokan such as the following:

- Potential Business Opportunities For Atikokan Businesses With Quetico Park*
- Bookkeeping, Record Keeping & Accounting Practices For Small Business*
- Tips on Marketing and Sales*
- Information & Services of Service Ontario*
- Self Employment Benefit Program—Is It For You?*
- Starting a Small Business, Business Plans & Financial Issues*
- PARO, The Women's Enterprise - Financial Issues For Small Business*
- "The Buck Stops Here!" Can You Recognize A Counterfeit Bill?*
- Small Business Tax Issues & Succession Planning*
- United Native Friendship Center Employment Programs-Benefits to the Individual and the Employer*

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**Gary Phillips**, from Northwest Training and Development came to the community to offer 2 workshops entitled *Motivating in Tough Times & Charismatic Leadership (For leaders and parents)*. The first workshop outlined tips on facing current realities, what your business/organization stands for, and the importance of role modeling, and re-visiting missions and visions. Learning to understand personal motivation and how to engage it in others will hopefully help identify how to master the power of influence at home and at work for increased effectiveness and retention. The second workshop included learning about personality traits and predicting behaviour, coping with “bad news” and the effects, dealing with teenagers at home, as well as grown up teenagers at work.

### SHARING OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES:

The Local Initiatives Program is funded by Industry Canada/Fednor for the purpose of supporting local economic community development projects that contribute to the Community’s Strategic Plan. Last year, it was our pleasure to disburse funds to the following groups:



**\$** The Atikokan Intergenerational Centre for Arts & Alternatives to assist with the costs of upgrading and replacing the boiler/heating system with a more energy efficient alternative heating system (a furnace energy retrofit). Industry Canada/FedNor approved the additional funding request which was over the individual limit of \$5,000. (\$8,614)

**\$** The Atikokan Public Library for equipment & furnishings for the Library Lounge to create a more enticing environment for visitors to enjoy while reading their books. (\$3,400)

**\$** The Beaten Path Nordic Ski Club for brushing & grooming equipment to clear and develop more cross country ski trails. (\$5,000)

**\$** The Atikokan Lady Voyageurs to create a 2 minute video depicting why Atikokan is Kraft Hockeyville. This Canadian contest revitalized the people in the community and helped Atikokan make it to the top 5 finalists. (\$2,490)



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**\$** The Seine River First Nations to provide a traditional healing program to provide workshops to their community and individuals directly or indirectly affected by the Residential School experience. (\$10,000)

**\$** The Motocross Club to purchase a water pump for the local motocross track which increases visibility and safety for the organization's events that bring economic benefits and opportunities to the community. (\$5,000)

**\$** The Atikokan Economic Development Corporation to conduct a White Birch veneer suitability trial to be used for Laminated Engineered Lumber applications. Hopefully this will provide the density and strength properties that will be required for the LVL project to become a reality and thereby establish an additional forest product manufacturing facility in Atikokan. (\$5,000)

**\$** Township of Atikokan to commission an identification of available industrial and commercial land, including an assessment of requirements to make said lands easily available for development. (\$2,500)

**\$** Literacy Northwest to enable 6 individuals from the Atikokan Reading Plus Program to attend a 2 day conference in Thunder Bay for Literacy training. (\$2,400)

**\$ FINANCIALLY SPEAKING...**

During 2006, our office disbursed new investment funds of \$603,024 towards new loans. In total, 22 loans were refinanced, amalgamated and/or disbursed.

**INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY  
AND BALANCE FOR CURRENT YEAR**

Sector	12 months ended 12/31/06		TOTAL	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
Hospitality	5	89,672	13	\$751,771
Mining	0	0	2	101,799
Service	1	6,704	10	445,145
Tourism	0	0	6	453,676
Manufacturing	2	125,000	6	462,624
Transportation	5	49,900	8	254,293
Retail	6	156,748	11	585,301
Forestry	3	175,000	12	460,807
Research & Development	0	0	1	62,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>603,024</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>\$3,577,917</b>

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The 7 Community Futures Development Corporations in Northwestern Ontario also formed a corporate pool for dispensing larger loans to clients in their communities with the help of the other CFDC's in the group. Atikokan currently has 8 of these regional investments totaling \$559,068 in their portfolio.

The AEDC's Investment Fund Portfolio has been busy over the past few years as clients amalgamated, refinanced or paid out their loans, leaving a current portfolio balance of \$3.5 million dollars with a total of 69 outstanding loans. The following chart shows the investment activity and portfolio for the past 10 years.

<b>LOAN ACTIVITY 1997 TO DEC. 31, 2006</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>Loans Is- sued</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Repayments</b>	<b>Portfolio Bal- ance</b>
1997	19	\$311,826	\$80,595	\$1,074,220
1998	19	\$512,810	\$142,285	\$1,307,769
1999	25	\$783,816	\$199,300	\$1,598,725
2000	15	\$470,013	\$109,947	\$1,794,593
2001	28	\$884,862	\$253,154	\$2,837,062
2002	26	\$550,434	\$182,942	\$3,040,681
2003	32	\$790,538	\$234,412	\$3,560,527
2004	39	\$722,462	\$591,362	\$3,977,548
2005	20	\$484,928	\$252,834	\$3,783,889
2006	22	\$603,024	\$314,722	\$3,577,917

The Self Employment Benefit Program offered by Services Canada is provided to the community by our office and is a very successful program. Each year, our office processes approximately 10 to 12 clients through the SEB program. During 2006, although there was considerable interest shown in the program, only 2 clients continued on with the process of participation in the benefit program and have since opened for business. Approximately 50% of the SEB clients in our area who started their own business are still in business today.

<b>SELF-EMPLOYMENT SERVICES</b>		
<b>Sector</b>	<b>12/31/06</b>	<b>Since Inception</b>
Hospitality	0	5
Service	0	46
Tourism	0	6
Aquaculture	0	2
Manufacturing	0	9
Transportation	0	4
Retail	2	17
Forestry	0	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>95</b>

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Job creation has played a huge part in the Atikokan Economic Development Corporation's activity throughout the years. Each year 10 to 20 new jobs are created with 5 to 10 new businesses being started. Most of these are small businesses with just 1 or 2 employees. The AEDC assists clients and businesses by helping them to prepare business plans, market their products, arrange training for their staff / themselves, and work together on joint efforts with other businesses. The AEDC has played a significant role in the creation and/or preservation of numerous jobs in Atikokan since 1986. The figures below take into account any jobs that were created and later lost.

<b>BUSINESSES/JOBS CREATED/MAINTAINED BY YEAR</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>Businesses Started</b>	<b>Businesses Maintained</b>	<b>Jobs Created</b>	<b>Jobs Maintained</b>
1997	10	4	28	10
1998	7	11	13	30
1999	10	13	21	49
2000	9	14	18	44
2001	6	22	10	80
2002	10	22	21	72
2003	5	32	6	69
2004	6	29	148	203
2005	2	20	8	191
2006	8	31	139	293
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>1,041</b>

### COMMUNITY PROJECT ASSISTANCE

- ▶ The Atikokan Economic Development corporation will occasionally act as a proponent for individual community groups and non-profit organizations. Often, they do not have the capacity (or the ability) to supervise and maintain an individual who has been employed by them under the Job Creation Program, through Services Canada or by funding secured from the Federal or Provincial governments. In 2006, the following organization took advantage of our services and facilities:

↳ Atikokan Sno Ho Snowmobile Club, with funding supplied by the FedNor Intern Program in 2005 and continued until May 2006, hired Leslie Yates to produce a marketing plan for the club and a new trail brochure encircling Quetico Park and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. The AEDC provided administrative support along with furniture and the use of equipment (ie telephone, fax, photocopier etc.)

- ▶ The Atikokan Economic Development Corporation hired **Mikael Mantyla** as a Community Development Advisor in September 2006. Along with **Linda Braun**, he



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works with clients and non-profit organizations to plan, develop and implement projects within the AEDC area that have economic, aesthetic or functional significance to the area. Helping to prepare business plans, researching products, and marketing products for clients keeps our staff very busy. Also in 2006, Linda Braun applied for the job of Northern Development Officer with the Ministry of Northern Development & Mines and won the contract. She left our office in October to take up her new duties there and will definitely be a welcome asset to that position.

- ▶ The Atikokan Economic Development Corporation also submitted an application to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund for an intern to work in our office for a year. **Laura Thurier** was hired in June as a Community Tourism Co-Ordinator to work with community groups/businesses that have an interest in attracting visitors to Atikokan, and helping to improve services and information available on events and festivals to visitors. Some of the promotional material she developed consisted of the following:
  - “Things you can do when you can't canoe” poster
  - “Things you can do & view in under 20 minutes”
  - Atikokan Bass Classic events flyer
  - Monthly calendars in the community at the end of every month promoting our web site at [www.atikokaninfo.com](http://www.atikokaninfo.com).

Towards the end of the year, she had collected pricing quotes for a community brochure. There is a definite need for our community to have this marketing tool to highlight all the wonderful things that we have to offer.



- ▶ The Atikokan community website **atikokaninfo.com** is continually being updated with more and more information. People inquiring about Township services and amenities are constantly being referred to our website. Monthly statistics are continuing to grow. The following chart shows the increase in traffic to our site just during the past summer:

June 2005 - 8,857 hits - June 2006 - 23,860 hits - **Increase of 15,003**  
 July 2005 - 10,177 hits - July 2006 - 21,905 hits - **Increase of 11,900**  
 Aug. 2005 - 8,500 hits - Aug. 2006 - 18,464 hits - **Increase of 9,964**

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### **THE ATIKOKAN EMPLOYMENT CENTRE**

The Atikokan Employment Centre has again had a successful year. Our resource centre was quite busy. Clients really appreciate the fact that they have somewhere to go to get assistance with writing resumes, cover letters, job searching and career planning. There are many people who need assistance and are grateful that they are able to get it.

Skills Development remains our most popular program. Our staff helps clients secure funding through the program to return to school. In addition, we aided in the development of another Job Creation Partnership application, which created employment opportunities within Atikokan and also promoted community development. Through the Self Employment Benefit program, we also assisted clients in securing funding. We had a few clients interested in the Targeted Wage Subsidy program, however, when they discovered the paperwork involved, they seemed to shy away from the program.

The Atikokan Employment Centre once again hosted a Career Fair for the community. This project received funding assistance from the United Native Friendship Centre. The fair was held at the Atikokan High School. Attendees visited booths from various educational institutes, employment assistance agencies and other groups with the ability to assist unemployed or underemployed people. As part of the career fair, a True Colors seminar was offered by NCDS Career Works from Fort Frances to anyone interested. The career fair as a whole was very well attended last year, and we received positive feedback from the booth participants. We changed the location from the Atikokan Native Friendship Centre to the High School, which generated a much greater turnout for both students and general public.

In October, the Employment Centre, with assistance from the United Native Friendship Centre held a Networking Luncheon. The idea of this luncheon was for the local businesses and organizations to get together, enjoy a hot lunch and then each give a brief five minute overview of the products and services offered by their organization. Presentations were given by the UNFC, Atikokan Native Friendship Centre, Atikokan Economic Development Corporation, Reading Plus, and Atikokan and District Association for Developmental Services. There was a small turnout, but it gave the participants the opportunity to describe their organization in detail.



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The student office had a busy summer as well. Karena Thorburn, the summer student worker, had quite a few students register with her. The Odd Job Squad was a big hit with the younger students who wanted to start working. She received calls from clients who needed work done around their homes such as grass cutting, weeding, help with gardening, piling firewood, etc. She held a babysitting course, and several Health and Safety sessions throughout the summer, and all were well attended. She also had approximately 20 businesses and organizations advertise summer positions with her and she was able to fill them.

The Atikokan Employment Centre was asked to assist the AEDC as they helped organize the Atikokan Bass Classic. We were asked to make phone calls to gather up volunteers to help the fishermen by moving their trailers after they launched their boats.

### **NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

□ We are pleased to have worked with the following clients who opened their doors for business during this past year:

☞ Gary Blair Logging  
 ☞ Sensual Elegance  
 ☞ Ken Kabatay Logging  
 ☞ Boreal Resources Strategies  
 ☞ The Cottage Bistro  
 ☞ Organic Highway.com



(Gary Blair)  
 (Lisa Dron)  
 (Ken Kabatay)  
 (Mike Shusterman)  
 (Jonathon Wynn)  
 (Nancy Pitura)

### **LOOKING AHEAD...**

- Although there has been some movement on the provinces dogmatic anti-coal position, the future of the Atikokan Generating Station is by no means secure yet. The AEDC will play a key role in the Atikokan Ad-Hoc Energy Committee as they continue to battle for a secure future for the plant. Concurrently, the AEDC and the committee will continue to work with a number of partners working on the development of alternate energy projects. Projects currently under investigation include wind, hydraulic, pump storage, co-gen, and bio-energy.
- In the first quarter of 2007, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources will identify the successful proponent to develop a manufacturing facility to utilize 300,000 to 400,000 cubic metres of white birch. The AEDC is confident that the successful proposal will be an engineered lumber plant proposed for construction in Atikokan. If we are correct, the development process will require a great deal of AEDC time and support

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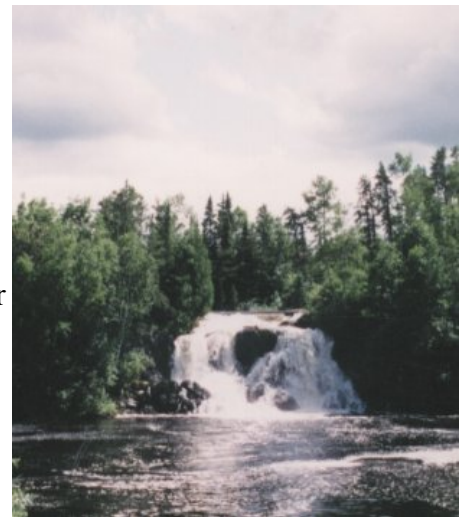
- We expect the Atikokan Mining Development Initiative to move to Phase Two in 2007. As this initiative progresses, additional AEDC participation will be required. There is a good chance that some mine and mineral development will take place in this region prior to the completion of the project. The AEDC will work with prospectors and developers as these projects continue.
- We seem to run out of year before we deplete the list of work to be undertaken. In 2007, by the end of April, the AEDC will complete a strategic planning process for the board, committees, and staff. This process will include the development of an investment, recruitment, succession and accessibility strategy, in addition to developing a five-year plan for CED, business technical and advisory services, and investment services.
- With the assistance of the tourism intern, the AEDC will produce a tourism development plan. This plan will outline strategies for partnership engagement, product development, community and enterprise promotion, events planning, etc. The development of a tourism lure brochure will be a key task of the tourism intern early in 2007. This will be accomplished with the support of the balance of the staff, and with the participation of the industry in the region.
- The relocation committee will convene to revisit the notion of finding a more suitable location and to attempt to determine a cost estimate for the options. Sources of funds for the relocation of the corporate offices will be investigated and funding applications submitted, if appropriate.
- The greatest challenge the AEDC will face over the next few years is to collaborate with Township of Atikokan on the implementation of the Atikokan Strategic plan. This will be a challenge not only because of the magnitude of the task, but also because there has been very little collaboration between the AEDC and the Township of Atikokan over the past few years. Perhaps the gravity of the current economic situation will force a closer working relationship.
- Chamber of Commerce engagement and renewal will be the objective of a joint AEDC/Chamber future directions workshop and planning project. The Chamber has been fading over a number of years in spite of the continued efforts of the AEDC. There has been a great deal of turnover on the Chamber board this past year and that could be just the opportunity needed to reinvent the organization.
- The new labour market partnership agreement between Canada and Ontario will mean employment and skills development services may be delivered differently after January 1, 2007. As the AEDC is the contract delivery agent for both of these services, it is the



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ideal time to evaluate how we can best accomplish delivery for the benefit of the community. Staff will attempt to establish an employment centre advisory committee to review the operations and make recommendations for changes to the delivery of these services.

- After completing a review of the Atikokan Employment Centre (AEC), the advisory committee will be asked to consider strategic opportunities to work with the Northwest Training and Adjustment Board (NTAB). There is potential to work with NTAB to address skills shortages that are anticipated as the community benefits from strategic plan implementation developments.
- The Northwestern Ontario Technology Centre (NOTC) is an underutilized asset in this part of the province. AEDC will increase our interaction with the NOTC in an attempt to develop an innovation culture in the area and to encourage greater use of technology in local businesses.
- We were also active partners in the development of the Corridor Plan. The intention is to develop a strategy for increasing commercial activity along a stretch of Highways 11 and 622 that would bring economic growth to the region. Undoubtedly, the AEDC will be required to readjust and refocus repeatedly throughout the year.
- We will continue our support of the Friends of White Otter Castle as they continue to preserve, protect and promote the castle. The Friends and the Township of Atikokan will have our support as they lobby to elevate the status of the Turtle-White Otter Parkway to an operating park, with park headquarters located in Atikokan.
- The staff will complete an environmental scan of winter tourism activities and opportunities. By identifying and marketing regional opportunities to operators and potential visitors, we will continue to provide mentoring and support to new off-peak tourism enterprises.
- The AEDC Board & staff will actively support and participate in the private sector's initiatives to develop cottage lot opportunities in the area. We will continue to actively lobby for government support for cottage lot development as an economic development opportunity for Northern Ontario.



***LOOKS LIKE A BUSY, CHALLENGING YEAR AHEAD!!!***

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### **BOARD OVERVIEW**

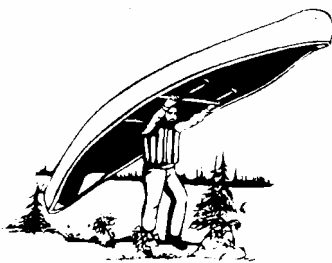
The Board Members of the Atikokan Economic Development Corporation are a diverse and dynamic collection of men and women. Our current Chair is Dave Bjorkman, Vice Chair is Dave Elder, and Secretary/Treasurer is Elvin Rydberg. Directors at large are Miles Brown, Bill Beyer, Dennis Brown, Wayne McAndrew, Jeremy Larson, Vic Prokopchuk, Dr. Ken Sawchuk, Jan Lewis, Sally Burns, Andrew Johnson from Seine River First Nation, Dan Syncox from Upsala Regional Development Association and Bud Dickson and Charlie Viddal as the two representatives from Township Council.

### **COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND COMMITTEE**

This committee is comprised of 3 members from the community at large consisting of Elizabeth MacKay, Robin Johnson and Cecil Leif. The balance of the committee is comprised of Dr. Ken Sawchuk as Chair, Elvin Rydberg and Sally Burns.

### **STAFF**

We have 4 full time staff positions in the office: Garry McKinnon, our Executive Director; Dawn Hayes, Administrative Assistant; Mikael Mantyla, Community Development Advisor and Marg Thurier, Office Administrator. Paula Sanders joined the office as a part time worker until the end of 2006. The Corporation also contributes half the wages of the Chamber of Commerce Office Manager in return for receptionist duties and other help as required. The new office manager is Missi Haw who joined the office in November 2006. Our office also administers the Atikokan Employment Centre with a contract from Services Canada. Our contract with Services Canada allowed us to have 2 full time positions there in 2006. Jodi McAllister and Annette Bryk were on staff at the Employment Centre. Lisa Marusyk will return from Maternity Leave on June 1, 2007.



Canoeing Capital of Canada: Atikokan, Ontario

If you have suggestions or comments about  
The Atikokan Economic Development Corporation or our website [atikokaninfo.com](http://atikokaninfo.com),  
we would love to hear from you! Please call us at 597-2757,  
or email us at [aedc@atikokaninfo.com](mailto:aedc@atikokaninfo.com).