

North Country Council Regional Commission & Economic Development District Report

I would like to thank all of you for your support of the North Country Council (NCC) this past year. We have made a number of positive changes and completed a number of projects throughout the region. Once again, we reaffirmed the Council's commitment to serve community and regional needs.

During the past year we have continued to deliver planning services throughout the region as you will see in our annual report on file in your town office. We have and will continue to adjust our capacities to respond to the needs of the communities, which will be evident in the programs being introduced in the coming years. Our strong relationship with the Department of Commerce and Economic Development Administration (EDA) continues and has brought funding and project development into the region. The Sustainable Economic Initiative and the Coos Economic Adjustment Strategy continue to be major programs funded by the EDA. Our Community Outreach program, targeted at helping our planning boards in the difficult tasks of managing the planning activities in their communities, is ongoing. NCC has been awarded an additional grant from EPA for Brownfields assessments and will be looking for sites and communities where these assessments can be utilized. These programs as well as the traditional programs in master planning, solid waste management, grant writing, natural resource planning, hazardous mitigation planning and transportation planning will continue to be the focus of North Country Council. If you would like further information on any of these programs, please do not hesitate to call us at 444-6303.

Please take time to look over our annual report (on file in town office) and give us some feedback as to where you think the Council could improve and how we might better serve our communities.

Again, thank you for all your support of the Council. The Council is here to serve you. It is your organization. Our staff and Board are committed to responding to community need. If there is a project or a need in your town, please call us. We are dedicated to both supporting our individual towns and promoting regional unity in the North Country.

Michael King, Executive Director