



November 2008

# NTRPDC update



SERVING BRADFORD, SULLIVAN, SUSQUEHANNA, TIOGA, AND WYOMING COUNTIES

## Workforce Investment Board Receives Award



*Deputy Director of Workforce Development, Frank Thompson*

After meeting rigorous High Performance Standards, the Northern Tier Workforce Investment Board (WIB) has been designated a "Pennsylvania High Performing Local Workforce Investment Board" by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

The WIB has met or exceeded all nine federal common measures for its programs. Accomplishments include establishing and operating the Northeast Pennsylvania Healthcare Industry Partnership and the development of training partnerships and opportunities with local employers in the

advanced manufacturing/diversified manufacturing, electronics, logistics and transportation, energy and oil and gas fields. The WIB also piloted a project to help address the statewide nursing shortage and a program for on-line training.

"This designation was possible thanks to the hard work of our staff and board members and their commitment to continued improvement of our workforce development programs". Said Frank Thompson, Deputy Director.

NTRPDC has received a \$100,000 incentive grant from the state for their achievement and to enhance future operations.

## Upcoming Events

### **Intergovernmental Cooperation Workshop**

December 4—Wyalusing Fire Hall, 5-8 p.m.

### **SBDC "The First Step" seminars**

December 4—NTRPDC Conference Room 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

January 8—NTRPDC Conference Room 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### **Upcoming County Outreach Meetings:**

December 5—Wyoming County

January 30—Bradford County

*Call 1-888-868-8800 or e-mail [bartholmew@northerntier.org](mailto:bartholmew@northerntier.org) for more information and to register for all events.*

## Did you know...

...that locally owned businesses generate 3.5 times the local economic activity as chains? According to the Pennsylvania Downtown Center, spending your money locally puts it directly to work helping your local economy.

## Loan Program

Six loans totaling \$580,000 were awarded in September and October



*Pag-Omar Farms Market, Inc. plans to use their First Industries Fund loan to develop a farmers market in Wellsboro.*

- \$25,000 micro-loan to **Bloss Holiday Market** in Blossburg for the purchase of a grocery store.
- \$75,000 First Industries Fund loan to **Kline Acres Dairy Farm** in Springfield Township, Bradford County for expansion.
- \$200,000 First Industries Fund loan to **Glenn Gorell Dairy Farm** in Milan for expansion.
- \$25,000 micro-loan to **Rakoski Enterprises, Inc. (d.b.a. NAPA)** in Blossburg for equipment purchase.
- \$145,000 First Industries Fund Loan to **Plouse Family Farms LLC Organic Dairy Farm** in Gillett for the purchase of a farm.
- \$110,000 First Industries Fund Loan to **Pag-Omar Farms Market, Inc.** in Wellsboro for retail sales of their farm products.

These loan funds will help create or retain a total of 44 full time jobs and 3 part time jobs and will help leverage \$858,000 in private



“Loan funds will help leverage \$858,000 in private investment.”

## Community Development

Three awards totaling \$185,000 were approved in September and October

- \$25,000 PA DCED Local Government 2% loan was approved for **Hamilton Township** to purchase a backhoe.
- \$150,000 PA DCED Safe Water grant to **Laceyville Borough** for water system improvements.
- \$10,000 PA DCED Community Revitalization Grant to **Westfield Borough** for a generator.

The Community Development Program has direct on-going contact with a variety of funding sources to help you assess your project needs and organize your goals and objectives to target the most appropriate funding sources for your community or non-profit organization. For more information, contact Tom Schill at [schill@northerntier.org](mailto:schill@northerntier.org).

## Staff Update

### Personnel Changes Information Technology and Export Development Programs

Two staff members are now working in different departments within the agency. Cynthia Krise has moved to the Export Development Program Manager position. She was previously the Information Technology Program Manager, which is now being managed by Jeff Field.

The Export Development Program helps businesses with the basics of global trade helping with regulation issues, linking to Pennsylvania’s overseas offices, exhibiting at international trade shows, and networking with other companies that are already successfully exporting.

The Information Technology Program helps businesses and municipalities through internet assistance, website assessments, workshops, and micro-grants for municipalities to purchase computer software and hardware and website development for businesses.

For more information, please contact Jeff Field at [field@northerntier.org](mailto:field@northerntier.org) or Cynthia Krise at [krise@northerntier.org](mailto:krise@northerntier.org).



“This workshop will help county and municipal governments enhance their services by working together .”

## Intergovernmental Cooperation Workshop

### There is still time to register by December 1st

This workshop will help county and municipal governments plan for the future and enhance their services by working together. Topics include the Land Use Technical Assistance Program, the Shared Municipal Services grant program, the Capitol Project loan and other loan and grant programs. Also successful intergovernmental cooperative efforts, mergers, and consolidation examples will be discussed.

The workshop will be held December 4, 2008 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Wyalusing Fire Hall. Register by December 1 by calling Heather Bartholomew toll free at 888-868-8800 or e-mail [bartholomew@northerntier.org](mailto:bartholomew@northerntier.org)

*The isochronal map of drive times below shows the region's relationship with four of the primary economic centers that surround it. The figure demonstrates that—with the exception of Sullivan County and western Tioga County—most of the region is within a 45-minute drive of a major economic center. This also demonstrates the region's labor shed.*

## Transportation

### Long Range Transportation Plan approved



The region's transportation system is a significant resource that provides the people and businesses of the Northern Tier with access to their neighbors and the nation. Demographic and economic trends directly affect transportation demand and, likewise, transportation can affect the economic vitality of the region.

The trends and implications outlined in the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) will bring continuing challenges as the region works to meet the travel needs of people and goods. The region's transportation systems will have to respond to growing travel demands on roadways and bridges; the special travel needs of an older, more diverse population; the growing importance for reliability and predictability in transportation services; and expanding international markets.

To learn more about the Long Range Transportation Plan or to receive a copy, please visit our website at [www.northerntier.org](http://www.northerntier.org) or contact Rick Biery by e-mailing [biery@northerntier.org](mailto:biery@northerntier.org) or calling toll-free at 888-868-8800.



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