



March 2008

NTRPDC update



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

Sixty Attend Regional Summit



Regional Summit participants worked in groups to help develop strategic choices to help guide future projects to enhance the region.

Approximately sixty key leaders from across a wide range of industry sectors throughout the Northern Tier gathered in Sayre on February 29th, to provide input for the Land Use, Transportation and Economic Development (LUTED) regional action plan.

In preparation for the summit, information gathered from previous outreach sessions, one-on-one interviews, regional business surveys, and socio-economic projection data was combined together and presented together as regional profile and a framework to decide and evaluate our

economic development and transportation strategies going forward.

The regional summit was an inclusive and interactive working meeting of key stakeholders, interested members of the community, business leaders, and local officials who worked together to discuss priority project and polices, and determine project investment criteria for the Northern Tier Region.

This strategic planning process is a rare opportunity for everyone to work together as a region to help decide our future.

Upcoming Events

Making Sense of Your Dollars and Cents

Lunch & Learn series for small businesses. Learn how to improve your financial savvy.

April 16, Mansfield
\$10 without lunch \$20 with,
12noon—2pm

LTAP Training—Drainage

Training for municipalities. Covers types of facilities, materials, structures, uses, installation and maintenance.

April 24th, 8am—2pm
Silver Lake Township Building

Upcoming County Outreach Meetings:

May 2—Susquehanna County

June 6—Tioga County

June 27—Wyoming County

Call **1-888-868-8800** or e-mail **bartholomew@northerntier.org** for more information and to register for all events.

Information Technology Tip

Want to promote your website presence after hours? Make sure your voice mail mentions your website. For example, "No one from the Waterfall Bed and Breakfast is available to take your call right now, however check us out on-line at www.waterfallbandb.com."

New Workforce Program Starts Strong

Training grants help the healthcare industry enhance the skills of their employees.



Participants include:

- **Ashton Healthcare**
- **Memorial Hospital**
- **Bayada Nurses**
- **Smith's Personal Care Home**
- **Guthrie Clinic**
- **Guthrie Healthcare System**
- **CareGiver's America**
- **Martha Lloyd Community Services**

The Healthcare Incumbent Worker Training program, as a part of the Northeast PA Healthcare Industry Partnership, has committed more than \$70,000 to ten separate companies and 23 different trainings.

The Partnership is a twelve county consortium of four workforce investment boards.

After only three months with training dollars, the partnership, funded through Job Ready PA, has been active and popular with healthcare providers.

The companies participating in the program range from the largest healthcare system to the smallest long-term care homes while the training has ranged from infection control to supervisory development. The grant pays for 75% of the training with a 25% cash match from the employer.

For more information contact Deb Mathers or Sherry Felten toll free at 888-868-8800.



“The grant pays for 75% for the training with a \$25% cash match from the employer.”

Grants Awarded

\$103,000 in grant/low interest loans were awarded in January and February to help with municipal projects.

- \$8,000 PennStep grant to Dushore Borough, Sullivan County, to help with their waterline improvement project.
- \$30,000 DCED Community Revitalization grant to Davidson Township, Sullivan County, for a new cinder shed.
- \$10,000 DCED Community Revitalization grant to Richmond Township, Tioga County, for high band radios.
- \$25,000 DCED Local Government Loan (2%) to Laporte Township, Sullivan County, to purchase a truck.
- \$20,000 DCED Community Revitalization Grant to Susquehanna Depot Borough, Susquehanna County, to purchase a police car.
- \$10,000 DCED Community Revitalization grant to Richmond Township, Susquehanna County to purchase land.

Our Community Development Program provides free grant writing services to municipal governments and non-profit organizations. For more information, contact Tom Schill at 888-868-8800 or e-mail schill@northerntier.org

Loan Program

Microloan helps agribusiness improve their technology.



Taurus Services, Inc. helps their clients build a better herd of cows.

Taurus Services, Inc, located in Mehoopany, received a \$25,000 microloan to help them purchase a special laser printer to improve the accuracy of their product labeling.

The company markets and distributes frozen bovine semen from bulls with "profitable genetics".

Founded in 1971, the company distributes the best of

traditional dairy breeds domestically and to most countries of the world with major dairy cow populations.

The new equipment allows for the printing of their bar codes onto tiny collection straws so that the artificial insemination process can remain sterile and precise.

For more information on our Loan Program, contact Paulette Potter at potter@northerntier.org.



“Most public buildings are open for business less than 25% of available time .”

Learn to Manage Your Energy Usage

Energy 101 and Strategic Energy Planning workshops to are planned to help public officials manage their energy usage.

Most public buildings are open for business less than 25% of available time yet lights are on, and buildings are heated or cooled 100% of the time.

Energy 101 will help public officials gain a better

understanding of their energy bills and will identify practical activities to get their usage under control.

Strategic Energy Planning will introduce methods of creating a plan to foster energy management.

Energy 101
Wednesday, May 28th
8 a.m.—12 noon
American Legion, Towanda

Strategic Energy Planning
Wednesday, June 11th
8 a.m.—12 noon
American Legion, Towanda

Visit www.palocalgovtraining.org to register on-line

Helping Dislocated Workers

Faced with loosing their jobs, workers receive immediate assistance through the rapid response team.

The rapid response team is a collaboration of NTRPDC’s Workforce Investment Board and the CareerLink system. It provides immediate information and assistance with filing for unemployment compensation, training, and job search assistance. Recently, 68 workers were dislocated when Ranger Industries and Brunges Pallet from Montrose and Summit Ridge BioSystems of Wyoming County either closed or downsized.



Workshop Dates

Monday, May 5th
9a.m.–3p.m.
Vittles Restaurant
Tunkhannock

Monday, May 12th
9a.m.–3p.m.
Riverstone Inn
Towanda

Pennsylvania Pride

Customer service workshop to help front line employees.

The hospitality industry is a growing industry in the Northern Tier Region. With the tourism season fast approaching, a workshop is being held for anyone who has direct contact with the public.

The session consists of three core components to help you provide your customers with old fashioned, down home hospitality.

You will learn about local and regional tourism initiatives and attractions and how to improve your

customer service skills.

This program is made possible through grants from the Rt 6 Heritage Corporation, Endless Mountains Heritage Region, Endless Mountains Visitor's Bureau, NTRPDC, and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

It was developed by the PA Heritage Corridor, the Potter County Education Council, and PennState Cooperative Extension. For more information and to register call us toll free at 888-868-8800 or e-mail Heather Bartholomew at bartholomew@northerntier.org.



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