

# NW Regional Development Commission

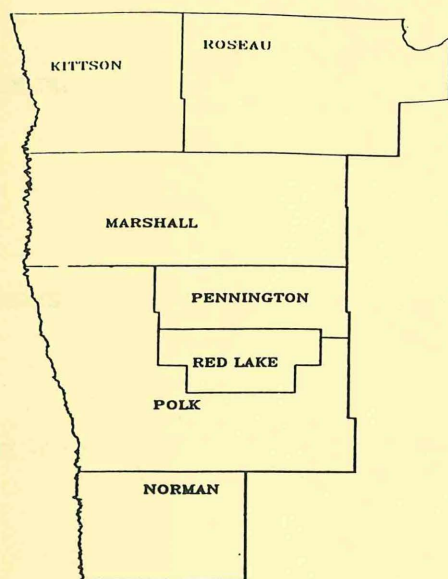


# ANNUAL REPORT

*Fiscal Year 1991*

Northwest Regional Development Commission, 525 Brooks Avenue South, Thief River Falls, MN 56701 Telephone #: (218) 681-2637

## Providing Professional services to:

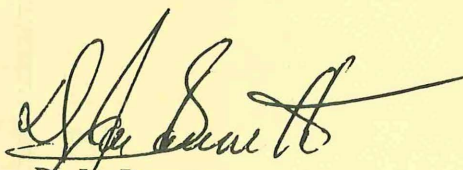


It seems hard to believe that the year has passed so quickly and, as usual, brought so many surprises and opportunities. We observed were some very positive trends during the year, such as the fact that employment increased in every County during the last reporting year. This is one of the best indicators of a strengthening and stabilizing economy and is certainly connected to all of the past rural development efforts in Northwest Minnesota. Activities in all the NWRDC programs also seemed to reflect a upbeat turn, with a great number of new ideas and approaches coming from our Committees and Staff.

There seemed to be a new strength in the thinking behind these new ideas and approaches with the addition of components which will benefit us on a long term basis. Senior Leadership, Operation Earmuff, Artist Mentoring, improving Canadian border traffic, the emerging vegetable industry, expanded tourism promotion and the local financial support shown for re-capitalizing the Enterprise Loan Fund are some of the best examples of projects which emphasize benefits far into the future.

We feel that the efforts of the NWRDC have contributed to improving the quality of life and the economic viability of the seven counties of Region One and look forward to the challenges and opportunities which will be presented by the upcoming year. We would welcome any comments from you on the activities of the Commission and would be happy to share a conversation about how we can all move ahead with our visions and plans.

I would like to give my thanks to the Commission and Staff members who served with us during the year but have moved on to new tasks. I also want to express my strong appreciation to all of those who have shared in supporting the promotion and improvement of Northwest Minnesota. These include our current staff, NWRDC Commission and Committee members, staff and board members of our allied service organizations, the local units of government that we serve and our State and Federal Legislators.

  
Dr. Joe Bouvette  
Chairperson, NWRDC



Operation Earmuff in action! An invention for the future

The Northwest Regional Development Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Pursuant to MS 462.393, sd 1



## COMMISSION BUDGET

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>FY'91</u>	<u>PROJECTED FY'92</u>
<b>FEDERAL</b>		
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMIN.	64,150	60,505
DHHS - AREA AGENCY ON AGING	442,807	453,000
USDA - NUTRITION FUNDS	118,733	118,000
NAT'L ENDOWMENT FOR ARTS	<u>5,500</u>	<u>5,500</u>
	631,190	637,005
<b>STATE</b>		
LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION	40,976	0
MN/DOT	30,000	27,000
STATE ARTS BOARD	52,844	60,237
MN RESOURCE CENTER FOR ARTS	16,770	14,360
STATE RED RIVER TRADE	30,000	0
STATE NUTRITION	<u>86,108</u>	<u>86,108</u>
	256,698	187,705
<b>PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS</b>		
MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION - ARTS	7,264	16,000
NWMIF LEADERSHIP PROJECT	6,116	0
NW FOUNDATION - RED RIVER TRADE	5,268	0
OTTO BREMER FOUNDATION	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	18,648	21,000
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL</b>		
LOCAL LEVY	115,741	116,887 *
MISCELLANEOUS LOCAL CONTRACTS	<u>8,686</u>	<u>17,150</u>
	124,427	134,037
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>		
NORTHWEST ENTERPRISE FUND	37,000	40,000
INTEREST	17,746	19,000
CONFERENCE REGIST./MISC.	<u>9,929</u>	<u>2,500</u>
	64,675	61,500
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<u>1,095,638</u>	<u>1,041,247</u>

\* Estimated - Actual levy to be determined on 7/23/91

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>FY'91</u>	<u>PROJECTED FY'92</u>
<b>SALARY/FRINGE</b>	256,395	254,548
<b>STAFF TRAVEL &amp; REGISTRATIONS</b>	25,833	22,275
<b>COMMISSION/COMMITTEE TRAVEL/PER DIEM</b>	33,405	34,615
<b>PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	72,693	32,756
<b>OFFICE EXPENSES</b>	<u>74,805</u>	<u>75,708</u>
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	463,131	419,902
<b>REGRANTED</b>	606,450	621,345
<b>FIXED ASSETS/RESTRICTED FUND</b>	14,130	9,800
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	<u>(9,800)</u>	<u>(9,800)</u>
	4,330	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>1,073,911</u>	<u>1,041,247</u>





## NWRDC Board of Directors

### Front Row L to R:

Joe Bouvette  
Harold Thomforde  
Kermit Finstad

### Back Row L to R:

Charles Lindberg  
Virgil Benoit  
Floyd Hovland  
Delray Larson  
Rudee Anderson

## NWRDC Commission Members

### Kittson County

County.....\*Charles Lindberg  
Municipalities.....George Wikstrom, Jr.  
Townships.....William Gatheridge  
Public Interest - Industry.....\*\*Joe Bouvette  
Public Interest - Financial Institutions.....John Carpenter  
School District.....Janice Hanson

### Marshall County

County.....\*Delray Larson  
Municipalities.....Bruce Anderson  
Townships.....Marville Magnusson  
Public Interest - Agriculture.....Norma Hanson

### Norman County

County.....Herb Mauritsen  
Municipalities.....\*Floyd Hovland  
Townships.....Cary Sip

### Pennington County

County.....Oliver Swanson  
Municipalities.....Karen Young  
Townships.....\*Kermit Finstad  
Public Interest - Minorities.....Geri Sollom  
Public Interest - Labor.....Ray Beauchamp  
Public Interest -  
Soil & Water Conservation.....Daniel Johnson

### Polk County

County.....Wallace Jorgenson  
Municipalities.....Duane Knutson  
Townships.....Gary Letness

### Polk County continued

Public Interest - Vocational Schools.....Mark Bohn  
Public Interest - Women.....Bernie Solberg  
Public Interest - Business.....\*Harold Thomforde

### Red Lake County

County.....\*Virgil Benoit  
Municipalities.....Harold Vathauer  
Townships.....Genevieve Knott  
Public Interest - Senior Citizens.....Roy Jorgenson  
Public Interest - Low Income .....Robert Melby

### Roseau County

County.....Glenn Darst  
Municipalities.....Bernie Burggraf  
Townships.....Donald Fast  
Public Interest -  
Watershed District.....\*Rudee Anderson  
School District.....Jon Heggedal

### Officers

Chairperson.....Joe Bouvette  
Vice-Chairperson.....Delray Larson  
Secretary/Treasurer.....Floyd Hovland

\*Board of Directors

\*\*Chairperson

### Members who no longer serve but did serve on the Commission during FY 91:

Eugene Mattson, Ralph Berg, Don Grabanski, Harry Sjulson,  
Vernon Gunderson, Don Anderson, Alvin Jensen,  
Gary Hendrickson



# AGING

The federal Older Americans Act (OAA) of 1965, as amended, provides the guidance and philosophical foundation for the NWRDC Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and the 669 AAA's throughout the United States. OAA funding for our Region is received through the Minnesota Board on Aging for the purpose of providing advocacy and supporting services which assist the older citizens of Region I in maintaining dignity and independence.

The services of the NWRDC AAA include regional planning, direct project funding, information and coordination, technical assistance and special projects. We have described the highlights of those services below.

**Planning:** Planning functions of the AAA include identification of needs and the regranting of funds to meet priority needs. Needs assessments questionnaires completed by seniors throughout the region were analyzed and compiled into a report for distribution to seniors and service providers in 1991. Preliminary results were used by the AAA for setting priorities and developing funding and program development goals and objectives.

Follow-up planning assistance was provided to County Committees on Aging in the development of 1991 plans, and will be ongoing, as requested.

**Project Funding:** The 1991-1992 Area Plan on Aging was approved for funding by the Minnesota Board on Aging and grants to local agencies were provided for nutrition, in-home, access, and legal services. (See listing page 9). Nutrition is a priority service and AAA staff work closely with LSS and the Nutrition Project Council.

**Coordination and Information:** Dr. Stanley Sahlstrom provided the keynote address to the 330 in attendance at the 16th Annual Fall Conference on Aging held at UMC August 28, 1990. He discussed seniors as a powerful, untapped community resource. "Granny", Dorothy Stager of Pipestone, entertained following the noon meal with her hilarious brand of aging humor. The theme of the Conference was:

## *"Sensational Seniors = Positive Force"*

**Policy:** Review of legislation and comment on policies that affect seniors were priorities of AAA advocacy activities in FY'91. A legislative forum featured all six area legislators and provided seniors with the opportunity to discuss issues of concern.

**Technical Assistance:** Trainings on how to write a life plan and organize one's personal records were provided and 350 "I Have Put My House in Order" brochures were distributed at Senior Option Showcase '91 in Fargo. "A Directory of Resources and Programs for Older Persons in Northwest Minnesota" was also distributed at Senior Options and throughout the region. "The

Caregiver", written and published by a coalition of service providers, was distributed with assistance from the AAA. Technical assistance, training, education and information coordination remain priority activities.

Workshops on Coya Knutson, Informed Charitable Giving, Seasoned Leaders, Stress Management, Music Therapy, Physical Fitness, Microwave Cooking, Planning Ahead, Legal Rights and Communication gave seniors additional information and service providers were able to obtain clock hours and CEU's. An expanded resource display and drawing for door prizes, a new feature, added interest and variety.

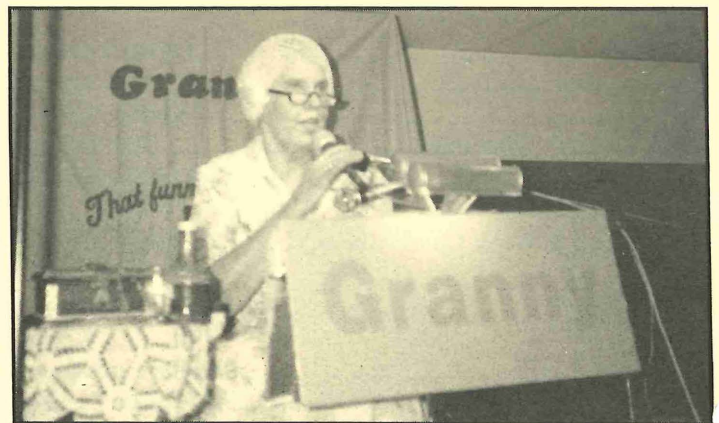
The day concluded with two short plays, "If You Live You Get Old" and "Running Away From Home" by the Prairie Wind Players of Barrett. The presentations involved audience participation on issues of aging and services available to seniors to help maintain independence.

**Special Projects:** The Aging Advisory Committee awarded Jane Crocker a plaque in appreciation her outstanding service in the Senior leadership Development Project and senior representatives shared their experiences with the project at the Fall Conference. The project, funded by the NWMIF, completed it's tasks in 1991.

A brochure of higher education opportunities for region I seniors was developed and distributed.

A series of Supplemental Security Income Seminars were organized and videotaped for distribution, through cooperation with the Grand Forks Regional Social Security Office and Northwest Minnesota Legal Services. The NWRDC AAA received an Outstanding Community Services Award from the Social Security Administration for the cooperative efforts.

Funds were secured from the Otto Bremer Foundation to enhance information coordination in the Bremer Bank communities of Region I.



Dorothy Stager of Pipestone (GRANNY) generated laughter!



# ARTS

Promoting, stimulating, and supporting arts activities are the goals of the multi-disciplinary Arts Council of the Northwest Regional Development Commission. Technical Assistance and financial resources are provided to non-profit tax-exempt organizations, schools, and units of government for art projects. The Council's mission to expand the skills and capabilities of arts organizations is supported by funding from the Minnesota State Legislature and the McKnight Foundation's Arts Funding Plan.

Matching grants of up to \$3,000 were provided to organizations for arts projects. In Fiscal Year 1991, Local/Regional Arts Development funds in the amount of \$12,926.00 were awarded to area arts organizations with funding from the State of Minnesota.

Grantee	Activity	Award
TRF Concert Assoc.	Make Believe Brass Concert	\$ 560
Crookston Civic Music League	Make Believe Brass Concert	290
Crookston Immaculate Conception	John Walker Concert	455
TRFArts Council	Mpls. Children's Theater, <u>Pippi Longstocking</u>	2,425
Crookston Community Theater	<u>Kiss Me Kate</u>	1,510
Northern Prairie Artists Assoc.	Marv Espe Workshops	187
Two Rivers Area Theater	<u>Bye, Bye Birdie</u>	2,900
Warroad Summer Theater	<u>Driving Miss Daisy</u>	904
ComPAC, EGF	"No People Like Show People"	1,445
Middle River Community Theater	<u>The Merry Widow</u>	375
Middle River Community Theater	<u>Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs</u>	465
Warroad Summer Theater	<u>Music Man</u>	1,410
TOTAL		\$12,926

The Small Arts Grant Program allows organizations to apply for up to \$500 for projects which do not exceed \$1,000 in total cost. In Fiscal Year 1991, three Small Arts Grants were awarded with funding provided by the State of Minnesota:

Grantee	Activity	Award
Fosston School District	Emiline Cook Residency	\$ 384
Winger Historical Arts Org.	"1920's Review"	500
Warroad Summer Theater	<u>The Princess and the Pea</u>	450
TOTAL		\$1,334

Funding from the McKnight Foundation's Arts Funding Plan in the amount of \$3,595 provided assistance with small capital expenditures to five organizations. Additionally, capacity build-

ing workshops were conducted and non-profit management resources were made available.

Grantee	Purchase	Award
Warroad Summer Theater	Set Construction Equipment	\$1,411
Crookston Community Theater	Sound Equipment	707
Middle River Community Theater	Storage Units	338
Crookston Civic Music League	Music for <u>Lord Nelson Mass</u>	602
ComPAC, East Grand Forks	Lighting Equipment	537
TOTAL		\$3,595

Twenty-eight students from nineteen schools participated in the 1990 Artist/Mentor Program for Performing and Visual Arts. The students studied with a practicing artist during the Summer of 1990, then presented a sample of their work at a "Summer's End Event". This project was supported by the Minnesota School and Resource Center for the Arts' MAX (Minnesota Arts eXperience) Program.

Name	School	Discipline
Elizabeth Kitchell	Ada	Drawing
David Schmidt	Ada	Piano
Jessica Rybaski	Argyle	Saxophone
Holly Dostal	Badger	Piano
Margaret Foster	Badger	Poetry
Matthew Drevlow	East Grand Forks	Drawing
Jamie Nesbold	Fosston	Drawing
Jennifer Sundrud	Fosston	Writing
Kristin Anderson	Greenbush	Voice
Linda Smerek	Grygla	Voice
Shannon Berg	Hallock	Piano
Daniel Vagle	Hallock	Guitar
Jennifer Johnson	Hendrum	Writing
Minca Ruud	Karlstad	Dance
Tisa Schwalbe	Karlstad	Piano
John Lee	Newfolden	Drawing
Sally Schindler	Red Lake Falls	Piano
Amy Dieter	Roseau	Writing
Brent Toft	Roseau	Drawing
Deborah Schindelè	Stephen	Voice
Jacqueline Smith	Stephen	Voice
Nicole Stromgren	Strandquist	Voice
Holly Strandberg	Strathcona	Voice
Chad Lavalier	Thief River Falls	French Horn
Karla Ortloff	Thief River Falls	Drawing
Corey Allrich	Twin Valley	Trumpet
Nicole Skaurud	Twin Valley	Piano
Amy Baird	Warren	Painting



# ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of the Economic and Community Development Program of the Commission, is to assist both private and public sector efforts to create new jobs and to improve the quality of life in Northwestern Minnesota. Funding for these programs comes from the Federal Economic Development Administration, the local tax levy and contracts with local units of government.

The Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) is the document that contains the work program that guides staff throughout the year. Local input and direction for the OEDP is accomplished through contacts with local government officials, state legislators, government staff, business leaders, manufacturers and others through the Commission's Economic Development Planning Committee and NWRDC staff.

The Economic Development Planning Committee, which serves as the vehicle for local input, is made up of two persons from each County who are recommended for membership by their respective Board of County Commissioners.

The following is a summary of work activities carried out in 1991 using the major work program categories as established in the OEDP:

**Regional Planning:** The Overall Economic Development Program was updated and the County Summaries completed. Staff presented the 1991 update of the OEDP to each of the County Boards and each County approved the updated version. Staff is in the process of gathering information for a Directory of Manufacturers in the region. The purpose of this directory is to encourage better networking of industries and for use as a tool for marketing local industry outside the area.

**Local Planning:** Staff developed "Blueprint for Betterment" A Condensed Approach to Planning for Smaller Communities. The purpose of this program is to provide a planning approach that is designed to meet the needs of individual communities. An Economic/Community Development Video Library has been started to provide communities with a resource for leadership development and to motivate communities to take an active roll in determining their futures. Staff continued working on the Roseau County Growth Management Process, assisted North and Norden townships with township zoning, and had contact with over 80 units of government, individuals, and groups providing information on a variety of subjects.

**Grant Writing:** Assistance was provided to Thief River Falls, Warroad and Roseau on the preparation of pre-apps for EDA Public Works funding. The Roseau and Thief River Falls full applications were approved. Additional assistance was given to Roseau on the preparation of a State Economic Development Grant. Assistance was provided to Red Lake Falls, Shelly, St.

Hilaire, Crookston, Stephen, Strandquist, Halstad, Plummer, Warroad, Roseau, Warren and Crookston on Community Development Block Grant applications to serve a variety of community development needs. Successful applicants included Crookston and Strandquist. Seventy-one contacts were made with communities or groups on funding issues.

**Innovation:** The School Innovation Project was developed to foster the development of home-grown industry in the Region. "Operation Earmuff", encourages and teaches young people, parents and teachers to think innovatively. This project was launched in January with 12 schools participating. This ongoing project is a cooperative effort by three area agencies, namely the Northwest Regional Development Commission, Northwest Medical Center and the Northwest Educational Cooperative Service Unit.

**Financing Industry:** Fifty-nine contacts were made dealing with a variety of industrial and business concerns. Issues ranged from simply providing information to providing extensive assistance on the packaging and organization of an expansion or start-up. Initial work on the re-capitalization of the loan fund was completed. Commitments are in the process of being obtained.

**Agricultural Value Added:** The Commission entered into an agreement with the Mn Rural Development Board to assist in the allocation of approximately \$42,000 in state grant funds for the purpose of promoting agricultural value added and alternative crops. Seven groups or individuals were awarded grants of up to \$10,000 to help move their project closer to the financing and/or marketing stage. Staff have continued working with Northern Produce in terms of promoting the growing and processing of vegetables.

**Tourism:** The 1991 Edition of the Northwest Minnesota Visitor's and Recreation Guide was completed and distributed throughout the Region. Seven communities have been given information and/or assistance regarding Park and Recreation Grants. Staff met with the Riverland and Borderland Tourism groups providing them with information and marketing suggestions.

**International Trade:** The Commission received notice that the EDA Technical Assistance funding had been approved for the Red River Trade Corridor Project. Initial work on development of a data base and a marketing piece to promote the Corridor have been completed. Staff met with members of the Eastern Manitoba Regional Development Corporation in an effort to better understand each others programs.



# TRANSPORTATION & NATURAL RESOURCES

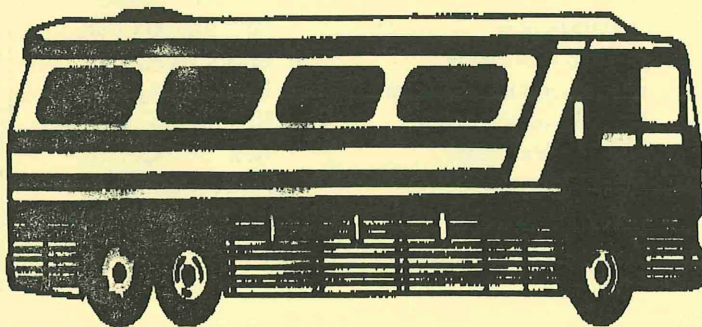
The NWRDC Transportation Program provides services to the local area and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MN/DOT) in relationship to local aspects of transportation planning. The Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) provides the policy input for those services by making recommendations on a variety of subjects. The following is a review of the major activities which took place during the year in the Transportation:

**Planning:** The Transportation Advisory Committee and staff completed the update of the Regional Transportation Plan. The Transportation Plan reviews all the available transportation modes and systems in the region and uses that information to determine where the region is lacking, needs improvement or should be left alone. The plan gives consideration to both local input by residents and factual information about the condition and use of highways.

The Plan includes a listing of the Regional recommendations for State highway construction projects as well as recommendations on facets associated with local units of government. The Regional Transportation Plan is available for review and comment.

The prioritization system which is used to rank state highway projects was given extensive review. This review resulted in modifications which will clarify the reasoning behind the system and increase the objectivity of the system.

**Technical Assistance:** Staff provided assistance to MN/DOT Department of Transit and a local service agencies with 16(B)(2) applications, participation on the 16 (B) (2) review committee to for 1991 grant applications, monitoring and reporting of Transportation Study Board Activities, and assisting in the creation of the Red Lake County Transit Task Force.



Assistance was provided to a variety of local groups in relationship to improving state highways. Highway 75 seemed to be the big concern this year both in the northern and southern parts of the Region but there were a number of new problem areas which were pointed out.

**Boarder Crossings:** The Transportation Advisory Committee worked with local groups to keep close watch and provide input concerning the issues surrounding the Ports of Entry in Noyes, Lancaster, Roseau and Warroad. The threat of a reduction of services at some of these ports seems to require a constant pressure directed towards documenting the importance of U.S./Canadian traffic.

**Air Services:** The quality of commercial air services was a topic of special concern during the year. Input from local residents and businesses was gathered and passed along to the air services and State with the goal of creating a system to provide good feedback to local commercial air carriers.

**Information:** Improved mapping for highway projects, a newsletter related to township transportation issues, contact with state legislators, working with county engineers and providing information on new programs in highway signage were all areas addressed during the year.

## Natural Resources

**Water Planning:** All seven counties in Region One have received grant funding for implementation of their Comprehensive Local Water Plans. The Northwest Regional Development Commission is assisting one county with implementation. The NWRDC will provide planning, coordination, and facilitation of meetings as well as assisting with finding additional funding sources for implementation.

The NWRDC staff is involved in a ground water study being conducted by the United States Geological Survey, Polk, Red Lake, Pennington, and Marshall counties. This is a four year project that began last summer by studying the surficial aquifers in the area, their interconnections, quality, quantity, recharge areas, and discharge areas.

**Solid Waste:** The NWRDC staff is involved in a multi-county Recyclable Materials Cooperative Marketing Technical Advisory Committee. The primary function of this committee will be to conduct a feasibility study to explore ways counties in Northwestern Minnesota can work together to reduce costs and increase efficiency of recycling operations. The ultimate goal of this committee is to develop a regional forum to address all solid waste issues and their economic development potential.

**Land Use:** Preliminary work was done on increasing the Commission's capacity in the areas of land use analysis and planning. This was in response to an increasing number of requests for services related to land use and increasing concern with protecting the quality of the natural resources in the Region. Plans are underway to improve NWRDC services in this area in upcoming years.



# COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

## Aging Advisory Committee Members

Charles Lindberg	Kittson County
James Wollin	Kittson County
Eunice Hoff	Marshall County
Cal Melgard	Marshall County
Francis Tangen	Norman County
Bette Gysland	Norman County
Kermit Finstad	Pennington County
Bill Penning	Pennington County
Emil Bagley	Polk County-MBA
Ione Olson	Polk County
Lorraine Strand	Polk County
Roy Jorgenson	Red Lake County
Phyllis Raebel	Red Lake County
Marie Comstock	Roseau County
June Hagen	Roseau County
Monica Douglas	Nutrition Project - ex officio

## Economic Development Planning Committee

Kim Kraska	Kittson County
Cindy Spilde	Kittson County
Scottie Peterson	Marshall County
Lawrence Sundahl	Marshall County
Dale Svaren	Norman County
Dennis Thorson	Norman County
Richard Anderson	Pennington County
Dr. Steve Levinson	Pennington County
Arvid Clementson	Polk County
Jim Richter	Polk County
Mark Berg	Red Lake County
Velma Oakland	Red Lake County
Milt Arneson	Roseau County
Glenn Darst	Roseau County

## Regional Arts Council Members

Erland Erlandson	Kittson County
Janice Hanson	Kittson County
LaDonna Trudeson	Kittson County
Mary Dye Moen	Marshall County
Kristin Woolcock	Marshall County
Gene Lysaker	Norman County
Bardulf Ueland	Norman County
Donna Myhrer	Pennington County
Margie Prestebak	Pennington County
George French	Polk County
Pat Jacklitch	Polk County
*Ric Sorenson	Polk County
Lowell Enerson	Red Lake County
Roy Jorgenson	Red Lake County
Carol Hallan	Roseau County
Jon Heggedal	Roseau County
Rev. Louis Hermansen	Roseau County

\*Chairperson

## Transportation Advisory Committee

Dr. Joe Bouvette	Kittson County
Adrian Johnson	Kittson County
John B. Rusling Sr.	Marshall County
Leonard Stoltman	Marshall County
Ronald Rasmusson	Norman County
Cary Sip	Norman County
Donald Jensen	Pennington County
Wallace Jorgenson	Polk County
Harold Thomforde (Chair)	Polk County
Willard Purath	Red Lake County
Clarence Vathauer	Red Lake County
Glenn Darst	Roseau County
Bob Marvin	Roseau County



# REGIONAL FORUM

Regional Development Forum is the program of the Commission which supports the operation of the Commission itself and where efforts are made to address a variety of emerging issues in the Region. This activity is supported through discretionary funding of the Commission and is directed through the input of the NWRDC Commission and Board. The following is a summary of the main activities in the program during the past year.

**RRTC:** One of the most significant developments of the year was the passage of the Red River Trade Corridor (RRTC) Program to a new home. The RRTC effort has been a major thrust of the Commission over the past few years, with the goal of insuring a place for Region One in the international trade market. The leadership of the Commission in this project resulted in the development of an extensive system of international contacts and cooperative relationships with Canada and North Dakota. This program will now be moved forward for the area by the University of Minnesota.

**New Issues:** The Commission started the shift to new regional issues with efforts related to distribution of the 1990 Census information, operation of the Rural Rehabilitation Pilot Grant Program in conjunction with the State Rural Development Board and the Northwest Minnesota Initiative Fund, assistance with the

re-capitalization of the Northwest Regional Enterprise Fund Loan Fund, addressing the need for a dead animal service in the Region, planning for new relationships with the State Department of Trade and Economic Development, helping in the re-organization of Small Business Development services and the on-going task of establishing new cooperative programs with local units of government, State agencies and Federal agencies.

**Next Year:** The operation of our approach to regional issues for the next year will be greatly impacted by the legislative and executive decisions in Minnesota this year. We anticipate a demand for new approaches and cooperative relationships which will make for an interesting and busy year in 1992.

## Aging Continued....

### Aging Funds Granted

In FY 1991, the following aging funds were obligated to support community-based services:

#### Access Services - Title III B

Kittson Co. Sr. Transportation	\$ 2,800
Roseau Senior Medical Travel	\$ 7,000

#### Advocacy Services - Title III B

NW MN Legal Services- Region I	\$16,000
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#### In-Home Supportive Services - Title III B

Marshall Co. Home Health Aide	6,500
Norman Co. Home Health Aide	2,000
Polk Co. Home Health Aide	9,500
Roseau Co. Home Health Aide	2,260
Tri-Valley Housekeeping	31,700
Roseau Co. Housekeeping	6,000

#### In-Home Services - Title III D

Inter-County Home Health Aide	4,920
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#### Nutrition Services

Sr. Congregate Nutrition	\$190,000
State Nutrition Funds	
Home Delivered Meals	70,000



Seasoned Leaders share experiences



# Northwest Regional Enterprise Fund

In 1985, the Northwest Regional Enterprise Fund was established to operate a revolving loan fund in Region I. The goal of the Loan Fund is to strengthen and diversify the economy by providing a source of lower interest, gap financing to new and expanding businesses.

During Fiscal Year 1991 the following six businesses received financing assistance through the loan program:

- D&D Commodities, Ltd., Stephen
- E.G.F. Hardware, East Grand Forks
- Dee Inc., Crookston
- Terog Manufacturing, Stephen
- Lancaster Building Supply, Lancaster
- May Corporation, Grygla

To date, \$1,466,927 has been loaned out to assist 12 new businesses and 11 business expansions. Job creation is a major emphasis of the program with over 248 full time jobs created in our area. This number is even greater during the summer due to the seasonal nature of some of the businesses. The projects which have been funded show a good prepayment rate and as the loans are repaid additional funds become available for re-lending.

Financing for this program originated through federal funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) in the amount of \$975,000 with local matching funds of \$248,000. Efforts to secure additional funding through EDA have begun with the first step of raising the required local match. Contributions and support from the seven counties in this re-capitalization effort has been very good thus far and we hope to complete the re-capitalization effort in 1992.



Dee, Inc. - a project expansion - Enterprise funds at work

## Member

## Representing

*Richard Anderson, TRF	Thief River Falls
**Orville Botner, TRF	Pennington County
John Carpenter, Hallock	Kittson County
*Harlan Charon, Hallock	Cities
Steve Czeh, Roseau	Roseau County
*Carolyn Eeg, Greenbush	Women
Fred Grant, TRF	Econ. Dev. Org.
*Rusty Hastad, Halstad	Busienss
Eric Hoberg, Ada	Norman County
Roy Jorgenson, Oklee	Red Lake County
Gary Letness, Crookston	Townships
*Calvin Melgard, Warren	Marshall County
Steve Mercil, Crookston	Crookston
Mike Moore, Fertile	Econ. Dev. Org.
*William Muldoon, RLF	Red Lake Falls
Wayne Oberg, EGF	East Grand Forks
Roger Phillip, TRF	Banking
Larry Roed, Fosston	Polk County
Brenda K. Ross, Fisher	Women
Robert Sobolik, Crookston	Banking
Ruth Stukel, Warroad	Econ. Dev. Org.
Terry Wells, Grygla	Business
*Jerry Wendorff, Crookston	Polk County
Karen Young, St. Hilaire	Women
*Board Member	
**Board Chairperson	

## Budget Summary

The following budget summarizes the capitalization and lending activity of the Enterprise Fund:

EDA Grant Funds	\$975,000
Local Match	184,000
MWMIF Match	64,000
Interest Earned/Fees	111,600
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$1,334,600</b>
Loan Balance Outstanding	1,120,348
Loans Committed*	75,000
<b>Balance Available</b>	<b>\$ 139,252</b>

\*May Corporation, Grygla

The Fund's Administration budget for the year is \$37,000. One-half the interest earned on the loans and on the account can be used for covering administration costs in addition to the loan fees collected.



## Enterprise Fund Projects Funded

### Loan Recipient Business Type

### Loan Amount

#### KITTSOON COUNTY

Lancaster Building Supply Lumber Yard  
Lancaster RLF Funds: \$ 30,000  
Total Cost: \$ 97,000

#### MARSHALL COUNTY

D & D Commodities, Ltd Wholesale Caged &  
Warren Wild Bird food RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 275,364

LeBlanc Clinic Health Care Clinic  
Warren RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 300,000

May Corp. Mfg. Posture Control  
Grygla Seating Devices RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 250,000

Mischel Grain & Seed  
Warren Commodity Processing  
& Marketing RLF Funds: \$ 13,000  
Total Cost: \$ 39,000

Valley Spuds, Inc. Ag Processing  
Stephen RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 455,000

Terog Manufacturing Manufacture Steel Parts  
Stephen RLF Funds: \$ 37,500  
Total Cost: \$ 250,000

#### PENNINGTON COUNTY

Amundgaard's Sausage  
Thief River Falls Potato Sausage &  
Meat Processing RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 73,132

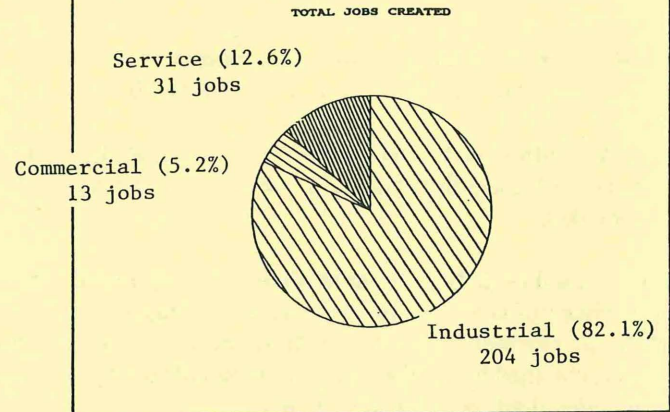
Northern Pride Turkey Processing  
Thief River Falls RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 250,000\*  
Total Cost: \$2,600,000

Sorvig Partnership Wholesale Plumbing  
St. Hilaire & Marketing of Tanks RLF Funds: \$ 36,600  
Total Cost: \$ 110,000

TIC General Market/Mfg. Antenna  
Thief River Falls Rotor System RLF Funds: \$ 50,000  
Total Cost: \$ 110,000

#### POLK COUNTY

Dee Mfg., Inc. Aluminum Casting  
Crookston 1986 Project RLF Funds: \$ 65,000  
Total Cost: \$ 219,000



### Loan Recipient Business Type

### Loan Amount

Dee, Inc. 1991 Project RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Crookston Total Cost: \$1,075,000

Don's Machine Co. Remanufactures Engines  
Fosston & Diesel Motors RLF Funds: \$ 30,000  
Total Cost: \$ 80,000

EGF Hardware Retail Hardware Store  
East Grand Forks RLF Funds: \$ 25,000  
Total Cost: \$258,575

Fashion Haus Retail Women's Clothing  
East Grand Forks RLF Funds: \$ 30,000  
Total Cost: \$ 94,000

Miller Building Center  
Fosston Lumber Yard RLF Funds: \$ 58,000  
Total Cost: \$ 175,000

Mr. Carrot, Inc. Carrot Dehydration  
Fosston RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 815,000

Northern Quilters Mfg. Draperies,  
Crookston Bedspreads/Quilts RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 275,000

Red River Recycling Garbage Recycling  
East Grand Forks RLF Funds: \$ 30,650  
Total Cost: \$ 92,000

Reliance Telephone Telephone Systems  
East Grand Forks RLF Funds: \$ 38,000  
Total Cost: \$ 114,000

S & S Development Ag Processing Plant  
Trail (Vegetables) RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 395,840

V & V Sales, Inc. Assembles Farm  
East Grand Forks Machinery/Sales RLF Funds: \$ 25,000  
Total Cost: \$ 295,000

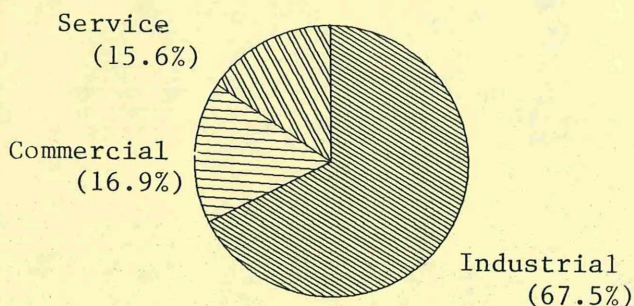
#### RED LAKE COUNTY

Homark Co., Inc. Mobile Home Mfg.  
Red Lake Falls RLF Funds: \$ 75,000  
Total Cost: \$ 6,700  
Total Cost: \$1,419,700

#### ROSEAU COUNTY

DeMolee Communications FM Radio Station  
Warroad RLF Funds: \$ 47,077  
Total Cost: \$ 150,582

\*Funds received from Sudden Severe Economic Development



### TYPES OF BUSINESSES FINANCED



# NWRDC Publications and Special Reports

**FY'90 Annual Report** - Highlights activities of the Commission and budget information for July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989.

**1991 Amendments to 1991-1993 Area Plan for Aging Programs** - AAA goals and objectives, needs description and budget are included.

**Arts Council 1992-1993 Biennial Plan** - The Arts Plan describes the services offered by the Regional Arts Council to enhance artistic development in northwestern Minnesota. Program information contained in the plan describes the application process for local/regional arts development grants.

**Artist Directory** - As a directory of artists and arts organization in Region One this registry lists artistic disciplines, specializations and services of those registered.

**Northwest Arts** - newsletter for arts organizations and individuals concerning arts events and information.

**Directory of Local Units of Government and Service Agencies in Region One** - Updated on a yearly basis.

**Directory of Resources and Programs for Older Persons in Northwest Minnesota** - A directory of services and programs in Region One for older persons and service providers.

**NWRDC Newsletter** - The Commission's Newsletter The Commission Chronicle, is published quarterly to keep units of government and agencies informed of Commission activities and funding sources.

**"Northwest Minnesota Visitor and Recreation Guide"** - A directory of tourism and recreation attractions, activities and events. Updated on an annual basis.

**Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP)** - Economic and community development plan prepared for the seven county area of the Northwest Regional Development Commission and the Minnesota Region One Federal Economic Development Planning District. Plan contains an extensive statistical look at the economy of the area and the project areas being pursued by the NWRDC to create jobs and improve the local quality of life. The plan is updated each year in June.

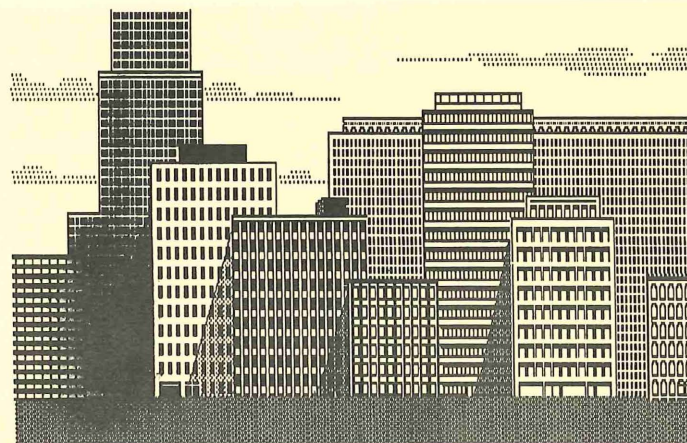
**County Economic Summaries** - An individual summary of the economic data for each of the seven counties. Also contains comments on statistical trends and the economic characteristics of each county.

**FY'92 Work Program** - Outlines work activities, goals and objectives of the Commission in each of the program and planning areas.

**Transportation Plan** - Review of all available transportation modes and systems in the region. Recommendations on area regional needs presented to MN Department of Transportation.

## NWRDC Staff

Executive Director.....Leon Heath  
 Financial Officer\  
 Regional Enterprise Fund.....Donna Christianson  
 Financial, Economic Development  
 Regional Forum.....Carol Sorensen  
 Secretary/Receptionist.....Rose Carriere  
 Aging Program Director.....Faith Rud  
 Regional Arts Council Director.....Linda Nelson  
 Community/Economic Development  
 Planner.....Joan Abercrombie  
 Transportation/Natural Resources  
 Planner.....Sandy Warner



During FY 91 these people were also on the staff of the NWRDC but took employment elsewhere during the year:

Jerry Nagel, Suzan Kozojed, Heidi Baumen, John Wynne





MARK B. DAYTON  
STATE AUDITOR

# STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR  
SUITE 400  
525 PARK STREET  
SAINT PAUL 55103

296-2551

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S OPINION

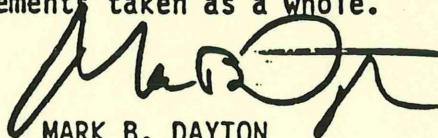
Board of Directors  
Northwest Regional Development Commission

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Northwest Regional Development Commission, as of and for the year ended June 30, 1990, as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Northwest Regional Development Commission at June 30, 1990, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as whole. The individual fund statement listed in the table of contents is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Northwest Regional Development Commission. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

  
MARK B. DAYTON  
State Auditor

October 26, 1990