



FAR NORTHEAST TRAINING BOARD (FNETB)
your Local Employment Planning Council

COMMISSION DE FORMATION DU NORD-EST (CFNE)
votre Conseil Local de Planification de l'Emploi

Date: February 20, 2017

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Don Curry, don@curryconsulting.ca , 705-475-6396

The North's New Entrepreneurs

(02/10/2017): Economic development officers in Northeastern Ontario noticed a trend in the past few years—as businesses came up for sale, many of the buyers were first-generation immigrants to Canada.

They had no idea where these newcomers were coming from, how they found out about the business opportunities, how many businesses they owned, how many people they employed, how they would fit in to their new communities, whether they planned to stay, or many other basic details about their newest entrepreneurs.

Working with the Timmins & District Multicultural Centre through a project commissioned by the Far Northeast Training Board, Don Curry, of Curry Consulting travelled to Latchford, Temiskaming Shores, Earlton, Englehart, Kirkland Lake, Matheson, Timmins, Chapleau, Cochrane, Kapuskasing and Hearst in the summer and fall of 2016 to interview as many newcomer business persons as possible.

In order to investigate this new phenomenon, Economic Development Officers operating in the catchment area of the Far Northeast Training Board were contacted and asked to identify all first-generation immigrant-owned businesses in their communities. The catchment area is bounded by Latchford in the south, Moosonee and Moose Factory in the north, Kirkland Lake in the east and Chapleau in the west. Based on that list one-on-one interviews were conducted with those business owners.

“It was time to find out who Northeastern Ontario’s new business owners were. Many local business owners were getting ready to retire and said that if they couldn’t sell their businesses they would simply close shop. The in-migration of newcomer business owners represents a new flow of entrepreneurs to maintain the region’s vitality” says Don Curry, author of the report.

The results of those interviews are presented in a report entitled: The North's New Entrepreneurs:

<http://www.fnetb.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/The-North-New-Entrepreneurs.pdf>

Far Northeast Training Board (FNETB)
800-530-9176 ou 705-362-5788