

North Country Regional Economic Development Council – Key Strategies

Page number in Regional Plan is listed after each strategy

1. Develop a strong workforce development system to support the needs of employers in the targeted clusters using a combination of new and incumbent worker training, certificate programs, degree programs, and recruitment assistance. (pg 34) **Melissa McManus**
2. Address the shortage of rental housing available for soldiers and their families in the Fort Drum area and, in turn, improve the quality of housing options for the community as a whole. (pg 38) **Tom Sauter**
3. Create a Business and Expansion Program for existing large manufacturers. (pg 39) **Erin Hines/Bill Murray**
4. Foster development of small businesses and entrepreneurial activities that add value to local resources. (pg 40) **Anne Merrell**
5. Recognize the North Country's higher education cluster and design and implement incentives for collaborative research and entrepreneurial activity among and between them. (pg 41) **Keith Tyo**
6. Put in place tools to attract private investment which will drive demand to revitalize and diversify communities and create a climate that will allow entrepreneurs to flourish. (pg 44) **Gary DeYoung**
7. Maintain, establish and expand the presence of storage, processing and distribution facilities in the region to promote the sales of value-added agricultural products that are sold locally and globally. (pg 45) **Matilda Larson**
8. Maximize North Country utilization of energy efficiency resources and programs to reduce total housing and energy costs. (pg 47) **Kate Fish**
9. Invest in large and small clean energy technology businesses, including lighting and biomass. (pg 48) **Kate Fish**
10. The North Country will lead initiatives to fully tap into the power of the dynamic international border by broadening and deepening the economic relationship with Ontario and Quebec,

building on the two existing corridor coalitions to build its economic connectivity with Ontario and Quebec. (pg 49) **Garry Douglass**

11. Support affordable broadband access throughout the North Country Region. (pg50) **Ann Melious**

12. Preserve and rehabilitate all surviving rail infrastructure in the Adirondacks, including the Adirondack Railroad from Remsen to Lake Placid. (pg 51) **Tom Plastino**