Northern Alberta

- 60% of Alberta’s landmass
- 12 provincial constituencies
- 10% of Alberta’s population
Northern Alberta’s Population

- 31% in Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, and Cold Lake
- 32% in smaller urban centres
- 37% in rural areas

- Over 50% of Alberta’s Aboriginal population
Challenges

• Northern reality
  – Small and sparse population
  – Transportation infrastructure
  – Increased skill levels needed

• Resource-based economy
  – Housing and community infrastructure
  – Policing, addictions and health care
  – Uneven growth and decline
NADC’s Mission

To identify and implement measures that will advance northern development, as well as advise government on opportunities and issues
The NADC Team

• NADC Team
• 10 Member appointed Council
• Chair Robin Campbell, MLA Wets Yellowhead
• Offices in:
  – Peace River       12 FTEs
  – Lac La Biche     3 FTEs
  – Edmonton         1 FTE
• A total of 16 FTEs.
NADC Budget

- Overall budget of 2.4 million dollars
- Additional $475,000 Advanced Education and $150,000 Employment and Industry for Bursary Program
- Northern Links $500,000
- $1.7 million to salaries and operational
- $100,000 council
NADC beyond our boundaries

- Northern Alberta Elected Leaders
- Branding the Peace
- Commuter Air Access Network Association
- Northwest Corridor Development Corporation

- Alberta/NWT MOU

- Northern Development Ministers’ Forum

- Northern Forum
NADC Reports & Studies


- Analysis of the Economic Contribution of the Northern Alberta Development Council Region to Alberta and Canada (2006)
  - 29% Alberta Exports
  - 26% Investment in Alberta
  - $73 billion from 2006-2010 in Northern Alberta
  - Over the next five years

Northerners Working Together

Northern Alberta Development Council
Peace River - Phone: 780-624-6274
Lac La Biche – Phone 780-623-6982
Dan Dibbelt, Executive Director
Email: dan.dibbelt@gov.ab.ca

www.nadc.gov.ab.ca
www.opportunitynorth.ca
Shadow Populations in Northern Alberta

Part 1 - Quantification

Aylward Research Services

Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation
June 20, 2008
What is a Shadow Population?

Collective term for all transient workers

“who resides in a municipality on a seasonal basis for a given period of time but has residence elsewhere”

Alberta Municipal Census
Purpose of the Research

To quantify the shadow population of the rural municipalities within the boundaries of the Northern Alberta development Council.
Application of the Research

The design of a quantification process which can be replicated by local government authorities seeking authorization to include a shadow population in their municipal census and calculation of per capita funding.
Research Project - Methods

1) Primary methods - Direct contact (phone calls, emails, surveys) with municipalities, government services, and industry

2) Secondary methods - Review of GOA acts, regulations, and policies; topic literature
Key Point 1 - Quantification

Alberta Municipal Affairs
Guidelines for Shadow Populations

- Collection period is April - June
- Must be 10% of permanent population
- Must be conducted annually
- Must apply for authorization to include
- 30 day / 6 month residency requirement

NOTE: Above guidelines are not stated in the MGA or any of AMA regulations. Above is matter of policy only.
Challenges

Peak Period for industrial activity is October to March

Individual vs. company rotations
Key Point 2 - Quantification

ASSUMPTION

Impact is local oriented however there is a radius of impact that is reciprocal
Key Point 3 - Quantification

No one data source that records transient workers individually or shadow population collectively

Government tracks activity not individuals
Key Point 4 - Quantification

Back to Basics

Eat and Sleep!
Key Point 5 - Quantification

Five Data Sources

- Industry Camps
- Hotels / Motels
- Camp Sites
- Municipal Land Use Permits
- Public Health Records
Challenges:

- Identifying all camps - participating
- Not all camps are 12 month operations
- Hotels / camp sites service more than industrial
- Municipalities not always informed
- Public Health Records not shared with Municipality
Key Point 6 - Quantification

Shadow Population cannot be calculated

1:1

For Example - 200 hotel rooms does not mean 200 for shadow population
Key Point 7 - Quantification

Things to Consider

- Campgrounds do not operate 12 months
- Hotel industrial bookings are not 100%
- Industrial camps are temporary / permanent

HENCE

REQUIRES CONVERSION FACTORS
Key Point 8 - Quantification

Conversion Factors

**HOTELS**
- # of rooms
  - 1 room = 2 persons
  - Annual Occupancy = 72%
  - Annual Industrial = 57%

**CAMPS**
- # of sites
  - 1 bed = 1 person
  - Average 150 days
  - 40% of Full-Year
Key Point 9 - Quantification

Industrial Camps

Temporary = 50% of #

Vs

Permanent = 100% of #
Challenge

Records overlapping

Hence sources could be simply added
Key Point 10 - Quantification

Culling the Data

Keep hotels

Keep campsites

&

Select the highest of the three remaining for each municipality

(health, municipal, industrial)
EXAMPLES

Application of Conversion Factors

Calculating the Shadow Population
Example 1

MD of Mackenzie

2005 Population = 9,687

Sources for Quantification

Hotel Usage Statistics
Campsites
RHA - Food License Permits
# MD of Mackenzie

2005 Population - 9,687

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Conversion Factors</th>
<th>Magnitude</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hotels</strong></td>
<td>660 Rooms</td>
<td>Double Occupancy</td>
<td>2158</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>78% Annual Occupancy</td>
<td>1030</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>59% Industrial Bookings</td>
<td>607</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Campsites</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1320</td>
<td>607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RHA</strong></td>
<td>2305 beds</td>
<td>50% of Year Operating</td>
<td>1508</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>711 permanent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1508</td>
<td></td>
<td>1508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Shadow Population</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percent of Permanent Population</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example 2

Northern Sunrise County

2005 Population = 2,354

Sources for Quantification

Hotel Usage Statistics
Campsites
Municipal – Development Permits
## Northern Sunrise County - Quantification of Shadow Population

### 2005 Population - 9,687

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Baseline</th>
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<td>414 Rooms</td>
<td><strong>Double Occupancy</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Becomes</strong></td>
<td>= 828</td>
<td>= 646</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Municipal Permits</strong></td>
<td>668 beds</td>
<td>88 Permanent</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Becomes</strong></td>
<td><strong>378</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Shadow Population</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percent of Permanent Population</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Urban Centers

Cities of Grande Prairie and Cold Lake

Calculated separately

Impact from numerous municipalities
Government departments do not have the same catchment regions (Tourism, Census divisions, Health etc..)

Concern for safety of workers in camps in the event of a disaster, need for evacuation.
NADC Use of the Research

To assist the Northern Alberta Development Council in its advocacy for more resources for Northern Communities.
Thank-you

Mary Joan Aylward
Aylward Research Services
Grande Prairie, AB

Full report available through the
Northern Alberta Development Council