

GoNorthMN



GoNorthMN promotes sustainable, fulfilling, prosperous and healthy living for residents, businesses and visitors to our five rural Minnesota Lake Communities.

- ✚ ECTC developed a strategic planning goal "to enhance economic development in the region".
- ✚ Three grant foundations came to ECTC board meetings. IRRRB and IF encouraged us to write grants as a five region group as this was a new concept for grants with these foundations. In order to receive the grants, we needed buy in from the five community boards with signatures and dollars.
- ✚ This was accomplished and the grants written. Public meetings were held, speakers arranged (Merritt Bousier, Ben Winchester) Region five did a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats analysis and a survey was taken to get public input.
- ✚ Grants were received from IRRRB and IF for training of team from the five communities and \$10,000 of seed dollars. Training was done by Initiative Foundation and three task forces (quality of life, marketing and economic) were formed with the steering committee as the governing agent.
- ✚ Quality of Life Task Force produced a "GoNorthMN kick off" in conjunction with Screen Porch Productions. The Economic Task Force is heading up a co-op vendor building and the Marketing Task Force is working on a trifold brochure with a map of the five areas with snowmobile, four wheeling and ski trails marked and a listing of all the local amenities will be included. We are looking for signage that ties the five areas together.
- ✚ A donation letter is going out to fund the above activities and any other projects the communities want to see. It would be wonderful if each of the five communities developed a project to tie into GoNorthMN.



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