


# Strategic Planning & Policy Group


Progress Report – October 2020

## Corporate Planning & Community Development (CPCD)


### CPCD - Funding

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)
	<p>93 applications for funding were processed in last 3 months, \$328,834 granted from Council funds (e.g. community boards, infrastructure grant fund, events investment fund, creative communities and rural travel).</p> <p>We sourced \$29,000 incoming funding opportunities</p>
Challenges / issues we experienced	Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>We receive more applications than we can fund. Event applications are down due to COVID-19.</p> <p>We expect more and more requests from community organisations that have a shortfall due to COVID-19. A similar challenge is occurring with Council owned community managed assets like community halls.</p>	<p>Focus on streamlining the funding process which includes a review of the Community Grant policy, updating collateral (including application forms) and completion and adoption of a Funding Strategy.</p>


### CPCD - Community Development

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)
	<p>COVID-19 has seen a shift in our communities' priorities with an increased focus on localism, community &amp; economic development and pride of place. With this has come an increase in demand for community development expertise.</p>
Challenges / Issues we experienced	Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>We expect pressure on community development to increase due to a new community mindset based around a new understanding of how placemaking can benefit the community. This conversation has been supported by documents like the NZTA Township Plans, the economic and social impacts of COVID-19 and the increase in delivery of Council infrastructure projects (e.g. Shovel Ready) which may not run smoothly due to a lack of community buy in which requires conflict resolution. The newly established Placemaking Team will aim to build a framework to address the root of the placemaking challenge, but it is expected that a more permanently funded approach will be required to continue this work and make change in the Community Development space. This is (and will continue to) putting pressure on the resourcing of this program.</p> <p>COVID-19 has negatively impacted on the youth work programme this year. The Tuia candidate has not been able to attend the wananga (some have been held virtually) and youth council meetings have been disrupted due to not being able to meet face to face and attendees having connectivity issues. We also lost a key staff member who held the youth portfolio.</p>	<p>The Team will continue to be available to assist with CAPEX projects where the community voice needs to be heard.</p> <p>SPP are setting up a placemaking unit (with internal secondments) to develop the framework required to address the missing middle (linking community aspirations, to structure planning and the LTP). The aim is to beta test the framework in a number of our communities, including the Hokianga, Kaikohe, BOI towns and Coopers Beach</p> <p>Renewed focus for the youth portfolio due to the team being back to full strength and youth council being able to resume face to face meetings. Opportunities working with the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs priorities are being explored.</p>

## CPCD – Annual and Long-Term Plans


Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>In the past six months the Annual Plan has been adopted and work has continued on the Long Term Plan (LTP). The LTP workshop series with Elected Members is now well underway.</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>COVID-19 lockdown and the need for late changes to the Annual Plan disrupted the LTP process to the extent where the workshop series started later than hoped.</p> <p>Planning is based on assumptions and COVID-19 disruptions are ongoing, causing shifting assumptions. It's a difficult climate to plan in.</p>		<p>By the Christmas break we will be audit ready with a draft consultation document and supporting information. January through to April will include audit activities, adoption of the consultation document, and formal consultation.</p>

## CPCD - Engagement


Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>Our new engagement team was fully formed until early in the lockdown period when we had a resignation. Recruitment has been ongoing, with a recent offer made.</p> <p>Despite the smaller team, excellent work has been carried out around engagement planning for FN2100 and LTP and setting up the Elected Members Lounge to enable digital collaboration outside of the workshop environment.</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>Insufficient resources have resulted in delayed early engagement on the LTP and potential changes to rates.</p> <p>Difficulty experienced in recruiting for the vacancy with a few offers declined.</p> <p>High work levels as a result of finally having expertise in this area – this shows how much the organisation needs this specialist skill.</p>		<p>Complete team in place consisting 1 x senior engagement specialist and 1 x junior engagement specialist.</p> <p>Focus on a substantial programme of engagement work and development of a toolkit and guidance to help the organisation improve engagement results. This will include a Maori Engagement Framework.</p> <p>Ongoing development of fresh new engagement tools such as Social Pinpoint and Open Cities.</p> <p>Oversight of the many Government economic stimulus projects from an engagement perspective.</p>

# District Planning (DP)


## DP - Draft Policies

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	Draft Policy framework has been tested via a consultation process. Further refinement is ongoing to allow for a suitable cascade from objectives and policies to the draft proposed provisions for the new District Plan	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
A changing regulatory framework continues to impact on policy direction, including National Policy Statements on Urban Development landing in August 2020 and Highly Productive Land and Biodiversity scheduled to be gazetted April 2021.		Ensuring provisions have the right connections across the breadth of the new plan.


## DP - Monitoring

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	A report on the efficiency and the effectiveness of the operative district plan has been completed and presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee. This report which is necessary to compile under section 35 of the Resource Management Act (RMA) provides a snapshot on how the plan is performing and can be used as a platform for shifts in the new plan.	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
Data that is relevant to the reporting parameters is not always captured to the appropriate extent via resource consent processes. We are continuing discussions with District Services and Business Intelligence to ensure that data is available to evaluate plan performance for future reporting.		This report will be referenced via the Council website and in stakeholder discussion as a factor for consideration in the evaluation of the new district plan.


## DP - GIS and Quality Assurance

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	Council's enhanced capabilities in GIS has benefitted the making of the new District and broader transition to e plan formats, as required by the National Planning Standard. The operative plan has also been transitioned to the Isoplan digital format allowing for enhanced accessibility and efficiency of use of the operative district plan whilst the new plan is going through statutory processes.	
Challenges/Issues We Experienced		Looking Ahead (next 6 months)
Bringing the operative plan into the Isoplan format has allowed for a greater understanding of the process of integration of the GIS system with the digital plan elements. This approach has raised confidence levels with making the new district plan available in the Isoplan format by identifying obstacles and remedies.		A program to allow for use of the new Isoplan format will be deployed. This started with a soft launch at a Northland Practitioners Meeting on 23 September 2020.

## DP - Spatial Planning

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>Legislative changes in 2017 created new functions for regional and territorial authorities to match land use planning for housing and business land with infrastructure provision. These changes to the RMA prescribe that Councils need to ensure that there is enough development capacity in respect of housing and business zoned land and associated three water and roading infrastructure to meet the expected housing and business demands of the district.</p> <p>This new requirement requires that Council takes an integrated management approach with financial and infrastructure planning to demonstrate, on an ongoing basis, how this function is being met.</p> <p>This is one of the key elements of the new district plan and to date evaluation of the housing land has completed quantitative analysis with testing of spatial allocation of zones currently underway.</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>There is incomplete information available for the medium term on the overall capacity, coverage and condition of Council's infrastructure. There is a program in IAM underway to improve this body of knowledge.</p>		<p>For this tranche of district planning, the supply of zoned land for growth will work to ensure that there is sufficient development capacity for the short to medium term.</p>

## DP - Regional Policy Statements


Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>Council has recently undertaken a mapping project to identify Significant Natural Areas (SNAs), based on significance criteria from the Regional Policy Statement for Northland (RPS). These areas represent tracts of land that have high biodiversity values, and a large amount of indigenous species, some of which may be threatened. The mapping project has identified 685 individual SNAs covering 282,696 hectares, which equates to approximately 42% of the District. The aim is to protect and maintain these areas in line with the RPS and the RMA, which will be done through provisions in the Proposed District Plan. The requirements set out in the RPS are likely to be echoed and furthered by requirements of the future National Policy Statement Indigenous Biodiversity scheduled for gazettal in April 2021.</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>There are over 700 different SNA map sites affected approximately 10,000 landowners. Ensuring that the mapping and ecological evaluation is accurate has required some initial ground truthing.</p>		<p>Further ground truthing of around 40 separate sites will be necessary in October 2020, requiring an ecologist to visit sites. Notification to affected landowners will occur as part of the notification of the draft proposed plan.</p>

## DP - National Direction


Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)
	<p>The following national direction policy instruments have either recently been gazetted or are scheduled to be gazetted early in the new year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Proposed National Policy Statement for Urban Development (NPS-UD)</a> creating further direction setting for supply of zoned land and services to meet the district's needs for housing and business land, whilst focussing on the quality of urban environments – gazetted in July 2020 and operative 20 August 2020</li> <li>• <a href="#">Proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS IB)</a> creates additional responsibilities for District Councils in protecting and maintaining biodiversity in the District – April 2021</li> <li>• <a href="#">Proposed National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (NPS-HPL)</a> creates a stronger policy framework for the protection of the production capacity of highly productive land – April 2021</li> </ul>
Challenges / Issues we experienced	Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>Alignment with these national policy directions creates a dynamic space when developing a draft proposed district plan. There is a strong likelihood that once the draft proposed plan is made available for community feedback, further changes will be necessary to policy instruments being gazetted in 2021. To this end, the drafting of the new plan has considered likely directions and is reflecting policies and provisions that would render the plan as fit for purpose for the time.</p>	<p>Continual evaluation of the likely content of new national policy statements will be required.</p>

## Te Hono (TH)


### TH - Māori Land Rating

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)
	<p>Submitted to Whenua Māori Rating (Bill).</p> <p>Continued to develop better processes for the processing of applications.</p> <p>Provided information and direction to clients regarding Māori land that affect the rating of Whenua Māori – this work is constant and ongoing.</p> <p>Started to develop good relationships and processes internally especially with the rates team.</p>
Challenges / Issues we experienced	Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>The issues that affect our processes are outside of our control – Māori Land Court processes can impact applications, funding etc.</p>	<p>Recruit extra staff member.</p> <p>Create better streamlined process for applicants and for internal processes.</p> <p>Understand the peak periods where we are inundated with applications.</p> <p>Look for opportunities for land development.</p>

## TH - Whenua Māori Relationship


Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>Attending Whenua Māori workshops hosted by Te Puni Kōkiri and Māori Land Court.</p> <p>Developed relationships with Māori Land Court and co leading workshops internally.</p> <p>Maintaining relationship with iwi, through Te Hono support on numerous projects (capital works, PGF, Shovel Ready, FN2100, District Plan, etc)</p>	
Challenges/ Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>Māori Rates Remittance process has exhausted our resource and left very little time for our team to focus on Māori land development initiatives. In part this is due to significant legacy issues such as uncompleted longstanding applications and lease disputes. There is also an issue around incomplete applications which take time to chase, and an inefficient processing system, that we have and continue to work on and refine. All of this leaves little to no time for potential Māori land development opportunities.</p> <p>There are also issues that affect our processes that are outside of our control – such as Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK) or Māori Land Court processes and their impact on applications. For example, succession to land, ownership and trustee/management models and partitioning of land are Māori Land Court processes that have an effect on our ability to process applications or engage in land development conversations. Likewise, TPK offer training in governance, funding advice and are the lead agency when it comes to implementing reforms associated with the Te Ture Whenua Māori Land Act provisions.</p> <p>For rating and development, we were one staff member down for five months due to secondment to cover drought and COVID-19 CRT which reduced the effectiveness of the Māori Land Development Team.</p> <p>The Manager Te Hono has also been seconded to work on special projects (economic recovery).</p>		<p>Strengthen relationships with Te Puni Kōkiri and Māori Land Court via the region forum meetings of agencies.</p> <p>Work more closely with the rates team to achieve better flow of information knowledge and skills that will help our Māori clientele by building the capability of the rates team to interact with Māori clientele, our knowledge around general rate enquiries and the streamlining of our processes.</p> <p>Work closely with the rates team to refine and streamline a rates remission process and to implement changes that arise from the rating of Māori land reforms.</p> <p>Working with the Customer Services team on the gathering of information and the directing of RFS' to the correct team within council.</p>

## TH - Te Oneroa a Tohe Beach Board (TOATB)

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>4 x Board meetings and 4 x Board workshops.</p> <p>Over 20 Technicians meetings.</p> <p>Finalised a Draft Beach Management Plan, including 4 Reserve Management Plans.</p> <p>Workshop with Council.</p> <p>Agreed and signed off a consultation plan for the Draft Beach Management Plan.</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>Covid-19 meant we had lots of virtual meetings which one of our members found it hard to connect into.</p> <p>Little socialisation and knowledge across the organisation.</p> <p>Need a better process to ensure compliance requirements around Local Government meetings.</p> <p>FNDC have benefited from NRC assisting with administration and agenda preparation.</p>		<p>Consult on the Plan and then hold hearings.</p> <p>Implementation of actions such as bylaws, education and beach initiatives such as dune protection, driver education.</p> <p>Continued relationship via Board representation and participation.</p> <p>Eventually the funds will run out and councils will need to consider how we normalise the Board into our business as usual.</p>


## Strategy Development (SD)

### SD - Bylaws

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>First tranche of speed limit bylaw changes adopted by Council.</p> <p>Public Places related bylaws (public places, freedom camping, beaches) and related polices - being analysed.</p> <p>Vehicles on Beach Bylaw being analysed, will be done conjointly with Speed Limits on Te Oneroa a Tohe as part of the implementation of the beach management plan.</p> <p>Parking and Traffic Bylaw, Animal Control Bylaw, Onsite wastewater, water supply– work for the review being planned.</p> <p>Reserves Bylaw issues and options stage has been completed.</p> <p>Vehicle Crossings Bylaws being prepared for public consultation.</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>Most of bylaw suite is interrelated which means that when one is analysed or reviewed many others need to be analysed and considered at the same time. This is lending itself to a rationalisation of much of the current suite of bylaws (revoked and current) into a more concise set of bylaws. This process is time consuming, complex and requires many levels of expert and legal advice. The current focus of this wider review is in the 'public places/spaces' area.</p> <p>Resourcing continues to be a challenge, as the volume of work required far exceeds the resources available. In addition, internal secondments to the drought CRT and the Placemaking Team has refocused key members of the Strategy Team to other important areas of work. As a result, of the complexity and size of the bylaw program, and lack of resources, the bylaw program is likely to be unable to meet planned deadlines.</p>		<p>Public consultation on a Vehicle Crossings Bylaw is forecast to start in November 2020.</p> <p>A paper on the Water supply bylaw is scheduled for the December Council meeting.</p> <p>The first tranche of speed limit changes is scheduled to become enforceable by the Police in the Okaihau – Kaeo -Waimate North Review areas on 25 January 2021.</p> <p>Vehicles on beaches and the speed limit review on Te Oneroa a Tohe / Ninety Mile Beach will commence a review on the first quarter of 2021.</p> <p>Options Papers for Parking and Traffic and Animals are scheduled to be bought to the Strategy and Policy Committee in February 2021.</p>


<p>As well as addressing the revoked bylaws, the bylaw work programme is now being influenced by review dates that have passed for a number of bylaws. The clock to automatic revocation starts counting down from 2 years when a review date passes</p> <p>There are no standard practices, processes, templates and definitions for how we go about the development of a bylaw within the organisation. These have had to be designed on the go. We are building the plane as we fly it.</p>	<p>Public Consultation on a Reserves Bylaw is forecast to commence in February 2021</p> <p>Options papers for onsite wastewater, trade waste and solid waste are scheduled to come to the Strategy and Policy Committee in April 2021.</p>
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## SD - Policies


Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>A detailed policy register of all existing policies has been developed. This includes review dates and department ownership. This has informed the SPP work programme for the policies that are owned by SPP.</p> <p>The Strategy and Policy Committee in July approved the revision of the current reserves policy. Staff commenced a review of the equity and access policy.</p> <p>The Community and Recreational Loan Scheme Policy has been reviewed. Staff have commenced a review of the Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy.</p> <p>Investigation into the requirements for a review of the Psychoactive Substances Policy and the Gaming and Gambling Policy have been completed.</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>There is limited resource commitment to the policy reviews due to the focus on the bylaw work programme and secondments.</p> <p>Many policies will be drawn into the wider bylaw review as part of any rationalisation of the bylaw suite. As communicated above this is complex and requires expert advice.</p> <p>There was no centralised register of policies containing review dates (both self-imposed and legally required under specific legislation and the Local Government Act). This has now been addressed.</p>		<p>A remuneration of non-elected members policy is required for the Climate Change Joint Committee of Council.</p> <p>A revised reserves policy is scheduled to come back to the Strategy and Policy Committee in February 2021.</p> <p>Option papers for equity and access, gaming and gambling and psychoactive substances are scheduled to come to the Strategy and Policy Committee in February 2021.</p> <p>An options paper on dangerous and insanitary buildings is scheduled to come to the Strategy and Policy Committee in March 2021.</p> <p>With a wider review of policies and bylaws focusing on rationalisation and standardisation there is a high chance that the programme of work will be revised.</p>



## SD - Climate Change

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>Council adopted the Far North District Climate Change Roadmap in May 2021 and directed Administration to employ a Climate Change coordinator.</p> <p>Existing strategy staff have commenced the implementation of the Roadmap with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The continuation of the carbon footprint for the Council that commenced in 2019</li> <li>• The continuation of collaboration with Northland Councils on the development of a regional climate change adaptation strategy</li> <li>• The commencement of the development of a Climate Change Assessment Policy that will be used to inform Council decision making on climate change</li> <li>• In July, the Strategy and Policy Committee approved the creation of a Joint Committee of Council for climate change adaptation.</li> </ul>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>Work on the Climate Change program has stalled as a Climate Change Coordinator position has yet to be advertised.</p> <p>The lack of a committed resource for climate change means that the implementation of the climate change roadmap is being delayed. This is putting the future work for mitigation and adaptation at risk of not making its way into the LTP budgeting process that is happening now.</p>		<p>A regional climate change adaptation strategy is scheduled to be taken to the newly formed Joint Committee of Councils in April 2021.</p> <p>The following is on hold awaiting a committed resource to climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The completion and implementation of a climate change assessment policy</li> <li>• A review of current strategies and plans for potential reduction in the carbon footprint</li> <li>• The development of an online carbon footprint/environmental dashboard.</li> </ul> <p>The completion of the regional climate change adaptation strategy is at risk due to a lack of commitment to this regional initiative.</p>


## SD – FN2100 and Area Structure Planning

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>Far North 2100 was moved to an online version of transformation opportunities.</p> <p>Councillors were presented with the transformational opportunities in June 2020 for feedback.</p> <p>The Community board were presented with the transformational opportunities in June 2020 for feedback.</p> <p>With the support from Te Hono, engagement with Te Kahu o Taonui (TKOT) commenced in August 2020 for input and codesign on Far North 2100.</p> <p>A project to develop an Area Plan for Kaikohe has commenced.</p> <p>Discussions with SPP on the reimagining of local area planning, as the missing link between community vision and capex projects in the LTP has started. A project to develop an Area Plan for Kaikohe has commenced, and a concept for Kerikeri (and the Bay of Islands towns) is being framed.</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>The bylaw programme and other commitments and priorities outside of the strategy development work programme continue to draw on staff time resulting in time delays putting the strategy development work programme at risk.</p> <p>Attempts to re-engage with iwi and hapū after a long hiatus delayed the timelines for FN2100 (which has flow on effects on the District Plan and LTP). Despite being unable to reconnect with Iwi and Hapū after COVID-19, the team are building the policies and objectives within the draft FN2100 strategy to address the matters of interest to Māori (as identified in earlier FN2100 consultation and engagement. We have advised TKOT,</p>		<p>A draft FN2100 strategy is scheduled for the December Strategy and Policy Committee meeting.</p> <p>Public Consultation on FN2100 will be part of a wider consultation that includes the LTP an District Plan commencing in February 2021.</p> <p>The FN2100 strategy is scheduled to be adopted by Council in April/May 2021. This will include the adoption of an implementation roadmap.</p>

<p>that we are looking forward to receiving their submissions to the notified FN2100 next calendar year and will pay particular attention to matters they raise.</p> <p>There is a significant need to design and frame placemaking (the 'missing middle') within the district. The diversion of resources to address bylaws has resulted in a two-year delay in starting this work. The need for this work is likely to exceed the available resources.</p>	<p>A project scope for an Area Plan for Kaikohe is scheduled for the December Strategy and Policy Committee Meeting.</p> <p>The Placemaking team will focus on the redesigning of the Area Structure Plan framework to fit the missing middle between FN2100/community vision and LTP.</p>
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## Special Projects (SP)


### SP – Economic Development & Recovery

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)
	<p>Staff have been seconded to cover economic development and recovery for the organisation</p> <p>Environmental Scan undertaken of economic recovery collaborations</p> <p>Tracking Provincial Growth Fund, Shovel-ready and jobs being created through infrastructure builds and planned long-term employment</p> <p>Considering Council strategies, policies and bylaws through an economic recovery lens</p> <p>All the above points have been compiled into a report to Strategy and Policy Committee</p>
Challenges / Issues we experienced	Looking ahead (next 6 months)
The trickle of funding from central government over a very long period and at the time of report closing, announcements are still being made.	Using the basis of the report to update Council in June 2021. Updating any significant milestones in the CEO report.

### SP – Regional Economic Development Service Delivery (CCO)

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)
	<p>Strategic Planning and Policy have just taken over this work (starting in September 2020).</p> <p>Previous report for the Annual Plan 2020/21 sets the platform for the project.</p> <p>Report written for October 29, 2020 Council meeting with proposed changes to participants and the formation of a working party.</p> <p>Attended the first of ongoing fortnightly staff meetings (FNDC, Northland Regional Council and Kaipara District Council) to support the project and the working party.</p>
Challenges / Issues we experienced	Looking ahead (next 6 months)
Changing the participation in the proposal from 4 Councils to 3 Councils with the withdrawal by resolution of Whangarei District Council.	<p>Supporting the Working Party to develop a Statement of Intent for Northland Inc.</p> <p>Preparing a Statement of Proposal for the Regional Economic Development Delivery Service to consult on as part of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan</p>

## SP – Northland Inc & Te Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan (TTNEAP)

Traffic lights ahead	Progress (over last 6 months)	
	<p>National Government initiative – Northland Economic Strategy (very high level). The plan delivers on this strategy.</p> <p>Have attended most meetings over the last 5 years</p> <p>Have attended all monthly meetings since being out of level 4 lockdown (4 meetings)</p> <p>Most PGF projects began their genesis in the TTNEAP</p> <p>Multi-agency approach to collaborating and reporting on economic activity</p> <p>Recovery, especially jobs and skills, is a focus of the group</p>	
Challenges / Issues we experienced		Looking ahead (next 6 months)
<p>TTNEAP was looking to become a less important vehicle for economic activity, due to lack of funding for coordination and support of projects. However, \$750,000 has been allocated from PGF to support TTNEAP continuance.</p>		<p>TTNEAP sits underneath Northland Inc. It will be an integral mechanism to direct focus onto Far North along with the Regional Economic Development Service Delivery.</p>