



NAABA NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Newsletter

April - June 2015

Membership statistics

January

Total of 271 Members (119 Full Members, 152 Associate Members)

Approved Full Members:

- Golosky Services Ltd. o/a G-Sky Aviation
- Fort McKay Savanna Energy Services Limited Partnership
- 1154374 Alberta Ltd. o/a Mudd Ox Canada

Approved Associate Member

- Prairie North Constr. Ltd.

February

Total of 276 Members (122 Full Members, 154 Associate Members)

Approved Full Members:

- Casman Oil Sands Ventures Ltd.
- Tatonka North Contracting Ltd.
- Moose Lake Construction & Restoration Inc.

Approved Associate Members:

- Align Personnel Ltd.
- Integral Containment Systems Inc.

March

Total of 283 Members (124 Full Members, 159 Associate Members)

Approved Full Members:

- NorthPine Contracting Ltd.
- Adrenaline Cats Ltd.

Approved Associate Members:

- Emeco Canada Inc.
- William Scotsman
- NEC Contractors (2012) Inc.
- Government of Alberta (Human Services) Lac La Biche
- Petrowest Corporation

“Aboriginal Business in partnership with Industry; enhancing opportunities by supporting economic development of Aboriginal people in the Wood Buffalo Region”

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General Meetings

January

Sponsored by MMM Group. Full Member presentations were held by Half Breed Films and Shott Earthworks Inc. 47 Full and Associate Members attended.

February

Sponsored by URS. Full Member presentations held by Golosky Services Ltd. o/a G-Sky Aviation and Wapose Medical Services Inc. 43 Full and Associate Members attended.

March

Sponsored by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. Full Member presentations held by MXC Automotive Services, Water Pure and Simple (Fort McMurray) Ltd. 41 Full and Associate Members attended.

2015 RARA Lifetime Achievement Award



Michael Cardinal, owner of Lakeshore Helicopters Ltd. received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 27th Regional Aboriginal Recognition Awards.

Michael has been a driving force in the Aboriginal Community in the Wood Buffalo area for over 40 years. He started school at age 9 and didn't even speak any English nor did he know his English name at this time. Michael only had grade 7 because he needed to work to help his grandmother. He worked with forestry in his youth and trapped for many years and spent a period of time at Syncrude Canada. Then Michael pursued his dream of owning his own business. He started off with a tiny small engine repair shop in Fort Chipewyan and through his determination and hard work he built it into a skidoo and marine dealership which evolved into a successful contracting business.

In 1986 he built a winter road from Fort Chipewyan to Fort McMurray with just a cat and a pick up truck and an employee. It took him four days. Michael has never forgotten his roots and still supports his community in Fort Chipewyan. He donated money to fix the roof of the church, he contributes to the youth and education and through his love of traditional music he supports Aboriginal Musical Events throughout Western Canada.

Michael Cardinal was one of the founding fathers of NAABA, along with Archie Gladue, Dave Tuccaro and Emilie Girard. They came up with the idea of an Association to represent all Aboriginal companies in Northern Alberta. This grass roots idea has become one of the strongest organizations of its kind in Canada. Michael has been featured in Readers Digest, the Windspeaker, Alberta Native News and he has been on CBC North on the TV Show Selling Big. He also has won awards for entrepreneurship and leadership.

His message to the Aboriginal people is to believe in yourself, believe in your family and your Aboriginal roots. Work hard, stay in school for it is an opportunity to go further. And most importantly, to never give up on your dreams.

Other NAABA members received an award:

The Bouchier Group received the Entrepreneur Award

Chief Ron Kreutzer, owner of Gregoire Lake General Contracting Ltd. received the Leadership Award

Kelton Stepanowich, owner of Half Breed Films received the Arts Award