

2011 & 2012 Board Members

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Term Ends January 2016

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Term Ends January 2016

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Term Ends January 2015

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Term Ends January 2015

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Term Ends January 2016

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Term Ends January 2017

Message from the Chair

Dear UPEDA Members and Friends:

Let me start by thanking the UPEDA membership and our other Board members for their vote of confidence reelecting me as Chair

A big Kudos goes out to Ted Penn for his service for the past six years and to Joe Esbrook for returning to serve on the Board again.

I am looking forward to working with everyone this year to move UPEDA in to a position of recognition by the economic community both in the government and private enterprise. Our recent alignment with Operation Action U.P. is a big step in the right direction in helping us with Public-Private partnerships, but once again I am asking you to step up and let us know what we can do to be of value you our membership.

The year ahead is going to be a tough road to follow and we will need everyone's help making the road map that will take us in the right direction. Collaboration has always been the key to success but now it is a must to move us forward. Together we need to strive to make it a "new day" in doing business smarter and forging public-private relationships that create jobs and private investment.

The Uplink project which UPEDA has supported since the 2009 Regional Innovation project which has now become a part of the Upward Initiative is gaining support from both the State and the Federal government. Senator Casperson has just promoted the project again with a Public Hearing brought from Lansing to five locations in the Upper Peninsula for residents to voice their opinion on the ATV legislation being introduced.

To all our members, please help support the U.P. by continuing your membership in the UPEDA organization and making your voice count by attending the meetings whether it's the full membership meeting or join the UPEDA Board at the meetings held the night before the regular meetings. Together we ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE. Thanks again for your support.

Kim Stoker/UPEDA President

About the UPEDA

The Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance (UPEDA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) economic development organization, incorporated in 1999. The membership consists of private companies, utilities and local and regional economic development agencies throughout the Upper Peninsula. Our marketing campaign and information systems were initially funded through a matching-fund grant through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, however we have been self sustaining since 2001. We are the primary economic development organization in the region including the Upper Peninsula, North East Wisconsin and Canada actively marketing the region for business attraction, expansion and retention as well as providing ongoing professional development for our over 70 member organizations.

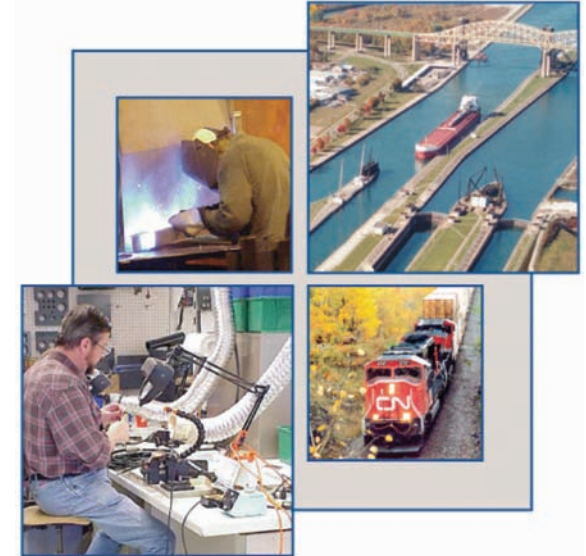
UPEDA Mission

The mission of the Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance(UPEDA) is to enhance, link and promote the unique aspects of Michigan's Upper Peninsula as the superior location in which to invest and conduct business.



2950 College Avenue
Escanaba, MI 49829

www.upeda.com



ANNUAL REPORT

2011-2012

UPEDA 2011/2012 Accomplishments

In January we met at the NMU University Center. We heard from Doug Smith, Vice President at MEDC. He discussed the MEDC's role in the state of Michigan particularly in the U.P. We also heard from Kevin Korpi from the Michigan forest Products Council about their efforts on behalf of the industry. Kim Stoker, Eric Smith, NMU and Carlton Crothers gave us an update on efforts relative to UP Link. Barb Walden and Holly Peoples provided the results of the member survey and Jim Lundberg gave us an overview and update on the Michigan MERIT projects.

In May we met at the Island Conference Center in Harris. David St-Onge opened the day with an informative presentation on assisting businesses in their planning in terms of their plans around the retirement of an owner. We had a great panel of mining representatives from Rio Tinto Eagle Mine and Hud Bay Minerals Back Forty Project. The day wrapped up with Alan Hooper, Rural Partners of Michigan with Strategies for Sustainable Small Town and Rural Development.

In October we had a two day conference focused on Bi-National collaboration as a key to prosperity in the global economy. We partnered with the sister cities of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, USA and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada, on October 24 and October 25 featuring events on both sides of the border.

"Bi-national regional cooperation and collaboration are becoming more and important to successful economic development," stated Kim Stoker executive director of UPEDA. "Our conference highlighted economic areas that have high potential for enhanced bi-national collaboration and future initiatives."

Keynote speakers Roy B. Norton, the Consul General of Canada at Detroit, and Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley kicked off the program Wednesday, October 24. The welcome for the day was given by Jeff Holt, the Chair of the Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

A panel of experts and business leaders discussed Alternative Energy. Panelists included representatives of N-Sci Technologies, Kinross Cellulosic Ethanol, and Cloverland Electrical Cooperative. Immediately following, a reception sponsored by Cloverland, was held at the Cislser Center open to the public.

Phil Becker, Executive Director of the International

Bridge Authority, delivered the keynote for the second day. Expert panels on Multi-Modal Transportation and Bi-national Collaboration in Higher Education to Support Regional Economic Development contributed to greater understanding of potential opportunities. A bi-national business roundtable with Heliene Photovoltaic Modules, Ellsin Environmental, Aggressive Manufacturing Innovations and Hoover Precision Products discussed exporting experiences, collaborative relationships they have developed to penetrate foreign markets, and the power of problem solving relationships. The panel also discussed the roles of various entities play in the exporting process – including universities, businesses, economic development organizations, and finally where they anticipate exporting opportunities over a two year trajectory.

Conference sponsors in addition to the hosting organizations included the U.S. Economic Development Administration, Eastern Upper Peninsula Regional Planning and Development Commission, Lake Superior State University, and the Michigan State University Center for Community and Economic Development, MSU Canadian Studies Center, MSU Institute of Public Policy and Social Research, and the Great Lakes International Trade and Transportation Hub (GLITTH).

We partnered with the UPWard Initiative to distribute the University and Community College Entrepreneurial Asset Inventory and the Report: Passenger Air Service in Michigan's Upper Peninsula: Overview and Analysis by Fred Kotler. We also partnered with the UPWard Initiative and Michigan Works! To post and distribute the 2012 State of the Workforce Report and worked closely with NMU to update, post and distribute the most recent community profiles.

2012 was a big year for collaboration with our formal alignment with The UPWard Initiative and with Operation Action UP. Some alignment activities we continue to participate in and grow include:

- Hanging UPEDA banner at UPWard and OAUP events.
- Endorsing educational information for legislators and other stakeholders related to UPWard committee work and OAUP priorities.
- Co-Branding meetings and other events.
- Encouraging members to participate on UPWard Committees.
- Forwarding information on initiatives and events in member's communities to be shared in UPWard constant contact.

- Communicating with colleagues and friends about the UPWard Initiative and its benefits as well as Operation Action UP priorities.

The UPEDA Board has supported through resolutions and letters of support as well as financial contributions, many regional efforts that support our region including:

- Adequate timber harvesting in the Ottawa and Hiawatha National Forest
- EPA treatment of Non-Point Water Sources
- UPWard Business Plan Competition
- Annual Economic and Workforce Summit
- University President's Whitepaper
- Wells Fargo Grant for I-Pad Learning Labs for Jobs for America's Graduates
- MEDA Whitepaper
- MDOT 35 Year Plan
- UP Link
- Operation Action UP Non-Profit Award of Excellence

Financial Statement

As of December 31, 2012

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings	
Checking	49,205.18
Total Checking/Savings	49,205.18
Total Current Assets	49,205.18

Fixed Assets

Accumulated Depreciation	-13,383.79
Property & Equipment	13,383.79
Total Fixed Assets	0.00

TOTAL ASSETS 49,205.18

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Fund Balance	55,748.04
Net Income	-6,542.86
Total Equity	49,205.18

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY.... 49,205.18

Membership Listing

Bay de Noc Community College
 City of Manistique
 Cloverland Electric Cooperative
 Coleman Engineering Company
 Common Ground Community Solutions
 Community Foundation of the Upper Peninsula
 County of Houghton
 CUPPAD
 Delta County Economic Development Alliance
 DeTour Area Economic Development Alliance
 Dickinson Area Partnership
 Eastern UP Employment & Training Consortium
 Eastern UP Regional Planning & Development Commission
 Greater Munising Bay Partnership for Commerce Development
 Iron County Economic Development Corporation/ County of Iron
 Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance
 KPBIznet LLC
 Lake Superior Community Partnership
 Luce County Economic Development Corporation
 Marinette Co. Association for Business & Industry
 Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center
 Michigan Works! The Job Force Board
 Michigan Tech Enterprise Corporation
 Michigan Technological University
 Northern Initiatives
 Northern Michigan University
 Ontonagon County Economic Development Corporation
 Peninsula Fiber Network
 Procurement Technical Assistance Centers of Michigan
 Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation
 Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation
 Semco Energy Gas Co.
 Thomas Baldini
 Upper Peninsula Power Company
 Village of L'Anse
 WE Energies
 Western UP Planning & Development Region
 Wisconsin Public Service