

# ***Annual Report***



2019-20

## Northern Maine Development Commission

The Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC) is a membership organization comprised of participating communities and counties in the Aroostook-Washington Economic Development District.

NMDC provides federal and state services at the regional and local levels. NMDC also provides management and support for Aroostook County Tourism (ACT), Aroostook Municipal Association (AMA), and Aroostook Partnership (AP).



### Designations

NMDC maintains these designations to ensure northern and eastern Maine are eligible to participate in the many federal and state programs designed to benefit the region's businesses and communities.

Rural Empowerment Zone  
and USDA Great Region  
(US Department of Agriculture)



Small Business Development Center and Northern Border Regional  
Commission Designated Local Development District



**Northern Border  
Regional Commission**

Economic Development District  
(US Department of Commerce Economic  
Development Administration)



Community Development Financial Institution

Micro Enterprise Development Organization



Maine Dept. of Ag, Conservation and Forestry  
and Regional Planning Commission  
(State of Maine)



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Intermediary Lender  
(Rural Development and US Small Business Administration)  
(FAME, Finance Authority of Maine)



Procurement Technical Assistance  
Center  
(Department of Defense,  
Eastern Maine Development Corporation)



US Census Data Center Affiliate  
(US Census Bureau)



## Aroostook Partnership

- Lead the "Education to Industry" Initiative to expand student job awareness, job shadow and internship opportunities and promote programs such as Junior Achievement.
- Maintains OpportunitiesAroostook.com job posting board to attract a workforce to northern Maine.
- About 80 Aroostook County and statewide businesses represented.
- Leads the Northern Forest Products Industry Cluster to expand the potential for "value-added" processing in Aroostook. Also, aggressively marketed region to forest products manufacturers and assisted the Ashland Area Economic Growth Committee.
- Worked with folks around the state to create a 10-year statewide economic development plan.



## Letter from the Executive Director

It is my pleasure to present this annual report to the Executive Board of Directors and Member Representatives. The annual report illustrates the numerous activities and services provided to our communities and businesses in Aroostook and Washington counties, but also looks to the future as NMDC begins helping businesses and municipalities recover from the economic shock of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Like most, NMDC staff became very comfortable with Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and the world of remote work. Luckily, our office is large enough to socially distance in the workplace and staff had the option of where to work.

Whether working from home or in the office, NMDC was able to accomplish much in the fiscal year. The Business Finance Division was awarded \$500,000 in Community Development Financial Institution funds, which loan officers quickly got out to needy businesses. The Small Business Development Center worked with more than 150 clients and became especially busy when the Paycheck Protection Program loans were announced. The new international bridge project in Madawaska will open up new government contracting opportunities for northern and eastern Maine businesses, of which our PTAC counselor is keeping tabs. NMDC continues to promote tourism to Aroostook County, in partnership with the Maine Office of Tourism. Our Senior Planner also spearheaded the effort to create a federally designated bicycle route from Bangor to the Allagash.

I am also pleased to report the Economic Development Administration is supplying NMDC with COVID-19 recovery and resiliency funds to support municipalities in community-based efforts and maintain and grow small businesses.

Information on all these efforts can be found within these pages, further information is always available by contacting the dedicated staff at NMDC or at [www.nmdc.org](http://www.nmdc.org). We continually look to develop new programs to meet your future needs. This is only possible because of your involvement with, and support for, NMDC's programs and services. From all of us at NMDC, thank you.



Robert P. Clark  
NMDC Executive Director



**Northern  
Maine  
Development  
Commission**

Working for Northern Maine's future, today.



# NMDC Staff

## Administration



Robert Clark  
Executive Director



Mary Dahlgren  
Finance Director



Judy Dinsmore  
Office Manager

## Planning and Economic Development Division



Jay Kamm  
Senior Planner



Joella Theriault  
Community Development  
Specialist



Dana Delano  
PTAC Counselor



Jon Gulliver  
Director of Investor &  
Community Relations

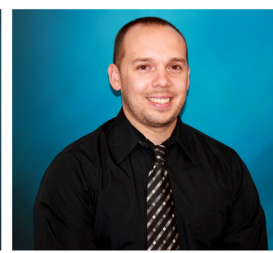
## Business Finance Division



Julie Corey  
Loan Officer /  
Closing Agent



David Spooner  
Business Development  
Dir./Loan Officer



Josh Nadeau  
Loan Officer



Ken LeTourneau  
Business Counselor



Brandon McDonald  
SBDC Business Advisor



Jared Tapley  
SBDC Business Advisor



Brandon Hussey  
Portfolio Manager

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## Federal, State and Foundation Partners



## Local and Regional Partners



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