

## ***“North Country First – Creating Opportunities for Sustainable Growth”***

### **Action/Research Team Instructions**

This part of the symposium is where you have an opportunity to reflect on what you’ve heard and seen so far and discuss how your team can make a contribution over the coming year to initiatives in the North Country. Refer to the *Synopsis of New Initiatives in the North Country* and please complete the following steps:

#### **1. Identify which initiative(s) your team can best support –**

Based on the presentations this morning, discuss ways in which your team (i.e., your sector of the economy) can contribute. For the purposes of the afternoon, identify the one initiative for which you really can make the greatest contribution and focus on it. (If your team believes that it can create or contribute to more than one initiative, check it too. If you team believes that it can create or contribute best to an entirely different initiative, list it as “other.”)

#### **2. Set manageable goals for your team –**

What goals can your team accomplish in the coming 6-12 months to contribute to the success of the selected initiative(s)? List your team’s goals carefully. Avoid making your goals unreachable or trying to set too many for the coming 6-12 months. Set realistic goals.

#### **3. Identify groups, organizations, people, and resources with which your team can connect to help accomplish your goals –**

This can be a “beginning list.” Brainstorm about possibilities, and refine the list to make it realistic and useful. Be sure to consider the possibility of individuals or groups that can contribute *research skills* to gather data and follow trends, whether social, economic, ecological, or educational.

#### **4. Develop a plan to get started –**

Begin to outline a plan to accomplish the goals your team set in #2 above. Who will contact the resources listed in #3 above? Create a timeline to accomplish the *first steps* in accomplishing your goal(s). Determine when your team will meet again. Decide how your team will keep in touch with one another.

#### **5. Identify who will serve as convener(s) for the team –**

Identify one person (at least) to serve as a clearinghouse for communication with the rest of you, Symposium staff, and the Chamber of Commerce. A convener does not necessarily have the role of leadership for the team. The convener simply convenes meetings and keeps in touch with others on the team. Allow leadership to evolve as appropriate for the team.

**6. → Be prepared to have one person provide a 5-minute (max.) report during the closing session of the Symposium today. Complete the *Response Sheet* and the *Team Participant Sheet* and hand them in to the Symposium staff before leaving today.**