

October 9, 2013

Chris Hadfield confirmed as first keynote speaker for 2014 Growing the North Conference

The fifth annual Growing the North Conference will be returning to Evergreen Park ENTREC Centre on February 19 and 20, 2014 with yet another impressive lineup of speakers including astronaut and former commander of the International Space Station Chris Hadfield. An autograph and book signing session with Hadfield has also been scheduled following his presentation at the conference.

“We’re really looking forward to Colonel Chris Hadfield sharing his many experiences as former longtime Commander of the International Space Station with us. We’re also delighted to announce that Col. Hadfield will be speaking to a group of school children while he is here for the Conference,” says Walter Paszkowski, County Economic Development Officer.

The rest of the speaker lineup consisting of experts in the areas of Energy, Transportation, Agriculture, Forestry, Community Branding, Business Solutions, and Research and Development will be announced in the near future.

“This conference provides a unique opportunity for the business community to come together to hear and meet experts in their fields and of such high quality and world business experience; and discuss economic development issues and opportunities relevant to our region all right here at home in the Peace Country,” says Dan Percy, Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce CEO.

“We’re confident that tickets to the conference will sell quickly, so we encourage everyone to get in on the early registration special,” says Paszkowski.

Tickets are available for purchase at www.growingthenorth.com at the early bird price of \$175 plus GST until December 31, 2013. The registration fee from January 1, 2014 and onwards is \$195 GST.

The County of Grande Prairie, City of Grande Prairie, Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce, Farm Credit Canada, Community Futures Grande Prairie & Region, and Grande Prairie Regional College Centre for Research & Innovation partner to host the conference each year – one of the largest economic development conferences hosted in the Province.

Last year, Growing the North Conference attracted nearly 500 attendees from all over Alberta, Northern British Columbia, and the Northwest Territories.

The conference will open with the Taste of the Peace on the evening of February 18, hosted by Farm Credit Canada and Community Futures Grande Prairie & Region.

To register for the conference, or for more information, please visit www.growingthenorth.com or contact Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce at 780-532-5340.

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