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Adirondack North Country Association Welcomes Three New Board Members

Cathy Dove, Katie Malinowski, and Brendan Owens Join ANCA's Board of Directors

Saranac Lake, NY - The Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) has announced the recent addition of three new board members to their board of directors. The new board members are Cathy Dove, president of Paul Smith's College; Katie Malinowski, Executive Director of the New York State Tug Hill Commission; and Brendan Owens, Associate with Stafford, Owens, Piller, Murnane, Kelleher & Trombley, PLLC.

Dove, Malinowski and Owens are joining ANCA as the independent non-profit begins tackling goals outlined in its five-year Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan, which was released by ANCA in May of this year, emphasizes three primary goals for economic development: advocating for the region to attract investment; accelerating the emerging innovative local economy; and driving a more resilient and localized energy economy.

ANCA's executive director Kate Fish said the addition of these three leaders to the ANCA board represents an important opportunity for increasing the organization's outreach and community engagement throughout its 14-county region. "From my view, there are four keys to successful outcomes for nonprofits: talented staff, engaged board, exceptional partners, and having fun while doing important work. ANCA is fortunate to have all four in place," said Fish. "We are grateful that Brendan, Katie, and Cathy are able to offer their unique strengths and talents to our organization. They share our passion for helping the Adirondack North Country thrive, and their professionalism and leadership skills will help ANCA move forward with our goals for the region. Their involvement on the board adds to the momentum that has been building in our organization and across the North Country."

Dove expects her board involvement will strengthen the relationship between Paul Smith's College and ANCA, both of which have long histories in the Adirondacks and common goals toward sustainable development. "I am excited to be part of a team that's undertaking such an ambitious and forward-looking plan for economic growth in the Adirondacks and in the North

Country," Dove said. "ANCA and Paul Smith's share a vision of working across profit and nonprofit sectors to face the economic challenges in our region. We believe an approach based on small businesses, entrepreneurship, and diversity can help our communities thrive."

Dove assumed leadership of Paul Smith's College in 2014, after serving as Vice President of Cornell Tech's NYC campus. She held several senior leadership positions in the Cornell University administration, including Associate Dean of Cornell's College of Engineering and Associate Dean for M.B.A. Programs and Administration at Cornell's Johnson Graduate School of Management. Prior to leadership roles in academia, Dove held positions in the private sector and in city administration. Dove earned an MBA from Cornell University's Johnson Graduate School of Management and a doctorate in Higher Education Management from the University of Pennsylvania.

Katie Malinowski is pleased to be partnering with ANCA in a shared mission for economically and environmentally sustainable growth in the North Country. "Our region is unique," she said. "The people who live here also recreate here and work off the land. It is important to solicit feedback and input from the people who live here, and ANCA is effective in doing that." ANCA's Strategic Plan, she pointed out, was informed by feedback from over 500 people from all over the region who responded to a stakeholders' survey designed by ANCA staff.

Malinowski was recently appointed Executive Director of the New York State Tug Hill Commission, non-regulatory state agency charged with helping local governments, organizations, and citizens shape the future of the region. Prior to becoming Executive Director, she served the Commission as Director of Natural Resources and as a natural resource and GIS specialist. Malinowski has significant experience in organizational development, grant-writing and fundraising, public policy, and program development. She received a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from SUNY Binghamton and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science from Indiana University at Bloomington, IN.

Brendan Owens, who grew up in Plattsburgh, moved back to the North Country in 2012 because of the allure of the Adirondacks and Lake Champlain. "This region is truly special," said Owens. "I'm eager to work with ANCA to explore the challenges and opportunities we face in the North Country and to flesh out practical strategies for invigorating towns and villages in Northern New York."

Brendan Owens is an associate with Stafford, Owens, Piller, Murnane, Kelleher & Trombley, PLLC, a Plattsburgh law firm serving Northeastern New York State. Brendan represents individuals; for-profit and non-profit companies in legal areas such as healthcare, trusts and estates; and corporate transactional issues. With his firm, Brendan specializes in representing unique issues facing Canadian companies seeking to relocate or diversify into the United States.

He received a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Middlebury College and a doctorate in law from University of Connecticut Law School. Besides ANCA's board of directors, Owens also serves on the boards of the Clinton County Community Services and the Miner Institute.

Since incorporation in 1955, <u>ANCA</u> has developed and managed programs across all 14 counties in Northern New York State, successfully "investing" millions of dollars from federal and New York State grants as well as private funding, to support community economic development across the region. ANCA's portfolio of programs, as well as its strengths in fostering dialogue and effective partnerships, bring together the many components that are needed to build stronger, more self-reliant and localized economies throughout the 14-county region.

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