

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New York's New Climate Act Takes Center Stage at ANCA Annual Meeting

Two State officials — Energy and Environment Secretary Amanda Lefton and DEC Climate

Policy Analyst Mark Lowery — will speak at September 20 event

RAQUETTE LAKE, NY — Amanda Lefton, New York State's First Assistant Secretary of Energy and the Environment, played an instrumental role in the development of the State's new Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). North Country community members can hear her speak about the ambitious act and its economic significance for the region at the Adirondack North Country Association's annual meeting on Friday, September 20 at Great Camp Sagamore.

The Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) also announced that New York Department of Conservation (NYSDEC) Climate Policy Analyst Mark Lowery will join Lefton to discuss the CLCPA and how it will affect the region's energy economy. The annual meeting will take place at The Barn at Great Camp Sagamore in Raquette Lake on Friday, September 20, 2019 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

"We're honored to welcome Amanda and Mark to this beautiful spot in the Adirondacks to speak with us about such a timely topic," said ANCA Executive Director Kate Fish. "Their extensive knowledge and experience with the CLCPA will offer important perspectives about the State's ambitious energy goals and how these will benefit communities here in the North Country."

Amanda Lefton was appointed First Assistant Secretary of Energy and the Environment by Governor Andrew Cuomo in January 2019. Former Deputy Policy Director for the Nature Conservancy in New York, Lefton is responsible for advancing the governor's Green New Deal, a clean energy agenda for New York State that focuses on carbon neutrality, green jobs creation and investment in large-scale renewable energy projects across the state.

"The CLCPA implements the Governor's Green New Deal and sets the most ambitious climate change goals in the country. New York is leading the way," Lefton said. "The Governor is focused on fighting climate change and harnessing the opportunities that can come along with it to create new jobs and increase access to clean energy for all New York residents, including our communities in the North Country."

"As a strong voice in the North Country region, we look forward to working with ANCA on CLCPA implementation and bringing this important conversation to their constituents," she said. "I look forward to learning how we can partner with northern communities to leverage opportunities to participate in a clean energy economy."

The CLCPA, called "one of the world's most ambitious climate plans" in a recent <u>New York Times article</u>, sets specific targets for reducing carbon emissions and adopting clean energy technologies statewide. The State has pledged to eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and to transition all of its electricity consumption to renewable and carbon-free energy sources.

"The passage of this act is an ambitious step forward for the State's clean energy efforts," said Fish. "It also gives a major boost for the North Country economy, where a growing clean energy sector will increase opportunities in renewable energy and clean energy access for low and moderate income residents."

The September 20 event will take place at Great Camp Sagamore's historic barn from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., with registration opening at 1:00 p.m. Registration costs \$15 for students, \$20 for ANCA members and \$35 for non-members. Online registration is appreciated.

For more information about the meeting and to register, visit ANCA's Annual Meeting website at www.adirondack.org/2019AnnualMeeting.

Date: Friday, September 20, 2019 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm; Registration: 1:00 p.m. **Location:** The Barn, Great Camp Sagamore, 1105 Sagamore Road, Raquette Lake, NY

Cost: \$15 for students; \$20 for ANCA members; \$35 for non-members

Optional walking tour of Great Camp Sagamore: 12:30-1:30 p.m. for reduced cost of \$10 **Optional dinner cruise of Raquette Lake:** 5:30 p.m.; limited tickets available for \$65

Online registration: https://adirondack.org/2019AnnualMeeting

<u>ANCA</u> is an independent nonprofit organization growing the New Economy in northern New York. Using an integrated approach to sustainable economic development and prosperity where economic health, community vitality and ecological stewardship are equally important outcomes, ANCA focuses on creating opportunity for people with diverse backgrounds, experience and education levels.

Attached: one (1) PDF document and one (1) photo Photo courtesy of Amanda Lefton.

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