

PRIORITIES

Economic Development

What types of business or industry sectors do you see as crucial to promote growth in the region?

Work-at-home friendly
Micro manufacturing (Hi Tech)
Technical and precision manufacturing
Health care, especially for elderly
Health care services
Manufacturing

What do you see as the priorities in infrastructure upgrades needed in the region?

Roads/bridges/natural gas
Broadband
City water/sewer
Consolidated schools
Broadband
Affordable housing

What do you feel keeps entrepreneurs from considering northwest Wisconsin as a place to locate and grow? How can we best market our region to attract new businesses?

Cultural amenities/entertainment
Cell service
Educated workforce
Quality of life: beyond "country living/outdoors". Younger person activities, cost of living in rural area, arts culture
Quality of life, educating the workforce
Incentives

Education

What can the region's educational institutions do to more effectively support innovation and provide opportunities for educational attainment and career preparation?

K12 higher education infrastructure/B & I connections

Support services models (family, childcare)

Transitional education with exposure to good-paying technical jobs, hands-on, on-the-job training apprentice programs, fab labs, career fairs, funding for these programs

Career – education alliances/partnerships. Get young people interested in the trades.

Connecting education with business partnerships

Soft skills - education

Workforce Development

What do you see as our biggest workforce concerns? What keeps you awake at night when you think about the workforce of the future?

Regional brand – celebration of our assets rather than shortcomings

Pride in “craft”

Increase labor force (increase number of those that want to work, pay taxes, make a contribution)

Retention of young people in area/region

Retiring workforce

Entitlement soft skills

How can we get youth excited about work and the future of the region?

Positive role models

Create a vision (students and parents)

Community pride/involvement in rural life

Teach soft skills in K-12; work ethic, conflict resolution, communication skills, appearance

Show benefits, experience sooner in life

Quality of life including benefits (wages, hunting, work where you live)