



January 23, 2018 - RACOG Report

NY Alerts Update – Jason Willetts from NY Alerts has been very busy recently with the extreme weather patterns and the alert system. He did say that if the RACOG board would like to do a group training, he could do that at the next RACOG board meeting if that was the preference of the board. The next potential RACOG board meeting would be February 20th, 2018 at 6pm.

Website – The current draft of the new website is located at www.racog.org/wp. Please feel free to continue giving me input and changes you would like to see. Upon approval from the board, I will start working with Brian Phelps in switching it to the www.racog.org domain.

Internships – There were two internship applications submitted to Pratt-Northam Foundation within the RACOG area. The village of West Carthage was the primary applicant for one, which will also be shared with the town of Champion if they should have a need on a project. The town of Wilna was the other primary applicant and their intern would be shared with the villages of Carthage and Deferiet. Both of these will be dependent upon their applications being approved by the Pratt-Northam Foundation.

QGIS Training – The Tug Hill Commission has coordinated a hands-on QGIS training at the Carthage Central High School on February 23, 2018. Keith Jenkins from Cornell University will be presenting. I will also be presenting for about a half hour of that training. Currently, we have seven people coming from within the RACOG area. As of today, we have 19 people total attending, not including the presenter. *GIS stands for geographic information system.*

Individual Community Support – I have been providing assistance to individual communities. The most recent assistance was needed by the village of Carthage DPW in getting access to their data, especially during these winter months.

IT (Information Technology) Services Contract – We have an IT services contract for Brian Phelps being proposed for the upcoming year. It needs to be reviewed by the board and approved if acceptable.

Bylaws – There has been some discussion on changing the bylaws, so that each member community gets one vote. It won't matter if there is just one or two representatives from that community at a meeting. This is done with other COGs to help ensure that there is a quorum at meetings.

Tug Hill Local Government Conference - March 29, 2018: Registration is now open and you can register online at <http://www.tughill.org/lgc2018/> or by filling out the registration form, which also can be found at this website address.

Black River Watershed Conference - June 12, 2018: The conference will be held at Camp Turk, with the keynote speaker being David Eichorn. His presentation is titled "Changing Weather in a Changing Climate".