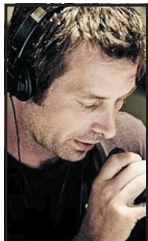


Despite downturn, Crestwood's \$1M gift shows the Bakken is a long term play

It was a beautiful day in Mandaree where hundreds gathered for a special announcement and feed hosted by



JASON SPIESS
For Bakken Breakout
Weekly

Crestwood Equity Partners.

"We announced the kick off of a capital campaign for a new Head Start facility there in Mandaree," Robbie McDonough, Vice President, Land and Government Relations, Crestwood Equity Partners LP, said. "We gave the lead naming rights gift of one million dollars to the tribe in order to support that project."

In addition to the capital investment, Crestwood will be donating corporate resources and relationships to help raise any additional funds that are necessary to complete the project.

McDonough said he believes \$200,000 to \$500,000 more will be needed to finish the building which will be called the Crestwood Mahgiddashada Center. Mahgiddashada means "children" in Hidatsa.

It is tradition to celebrate community news with a feed, according to McDonough, and since it was meant to be a building for the people, a feed seemed like the appropriate venue for an announcement.

"Since this is going to be the community's building, where their future leaders, the children, start their education," McDonough said. "We felt the best way to get the word out was to invite the community under a big tent where we could all break bread together, have a meal and make this exciting announcement."

McDonough estimated around two hundred people showed up for the announcement and feed, including community members, tribal leaders, state officials and representatives from North Dakota's senate and congressional team.

"The Mandaree community is about

400-500 people total," McDonough said. "We had a few hundred people there, which we felt was a pretty great showing. Everyone was pretty positive about this project and what it is going to do for the Mandaree community."

In regards to the bigger picture and the symbolism of investing in a community building during the downturn, McDonough sees these are statements of reassurance.

"We think it is a critical statement. By no means do we want to downplay the seriousness of the downturn," McDonough said. "Crestwood, like all other companies, has taken austerity measures to respond to the downturn. But we have a longer term view."

McDonough continued, saying the majority of the companies in the Bakken have a longer term view and understand the ebb and flows of the industry.

"We are not parachuting in and parachuting out," McDonough said. "That's not Crestwood's way or the industry's. So yes, buildings like these should be a statement that roots are being planted into the ground of local communities."

The timeline of the new Mandaree Head Start facility is expected to be complete by the fall of 2017, according to McDonough.

"So we are anticipating breaking ground very soon," he said.

Crestwood is a midstream company that starts of the wellhead and connects crude oil and natural gas to the interstate pipelines.

"We get the product to market," McDonough said.

Crestwood is also providing the Bakken is crude by rail and trucking services.

"We also have the largest crude-by-



rail facility in Ebbing, North Dakota, as well as a trucking operation out of Watford City" McDonough said. "But our operations are not limited to North Dakota; we're also located in 37 states across the nation."

On the Reservation, Fort Berthold, the pipeline system in North Dakota, our gathering system, is 100% in the Mandaree segment.

"We felt that was a particular community we wanted to give back to because we have such a concentration of operations there," McDonough said. "It's a corporate pillar of ours that we give back to the communities where we operate and where our employees live."

Having a major capital announcement and building project in a community the size of Mandaree is another example of the industry's commitment to the longevity of the Bakken oil play, especially during the downturn in production and prices.

"It's undeniable the economic impact that the industry has had on North Dakota, and in this case the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation," McDonough said. "Not only do we bring new revenue streams for government and individual landowners, but we also bring out generosity with us as well."

McDonough was quick to point out many other projects energy companies have funded, supported and allocated resources toward.

"If you go down the list of all the

companies in the Bakken, you will find one project after another of the generosity our industry has," McDonough said.

Energy companies giving and donating has a deep history well outside of North Dakota and the Bakken. One of the underlying reasons these capitalists continue to give back is simple psychology: they want to continually prove, with their actions, that they want to be a part of the community and have good intentions towards the future.

"We don't want to be outsiders. We want to be a part of the community and embed ourselves," McDonough said. "This building is a statement to North Dakota, the MHA Nation and particularly the people of Mandaree: we are going to go through the booms, through the busts, we are still going to be here because we have work to do and this is the community we are invested in."

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