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# information release



79-001

## NO DANGER SEEN FROM MINE SPILL

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 4) - The Territorial government's chief environmental official is satisfied that mine tailings spilled in a pipe break at Giant Yellowknife Mines are being cleaned up safely and satisfactorily.

"We're quite happy with what they're doing," Dan Billing said today about the clean-up activities. Mr. Billing is chief territorial environmental protection officer.

Liquid effluent totalling 60,000 gallons from the Yellowknife gold mine's milling operation spilled into a ditch Tuesday as the effluent was being transported by pipeline from the mill to a diked disposal area. The spilled effluent was discovered in a frozen state during the early morning hours of Jan. 3.

Mr. Billing explained that crews from the gold mine are simply chipping the frozen effluent and transporting it by truck to be dumped in tailings ponds. He added that anything left in the ditch will be recovered later in the year by pumps after spring break-up. The clean-up operation started this morning.

Mr. Billing said the 60,000 gallons that spilled contained a total of 3.1 pounds of arsenic and about six pounds of cyanide, both by-products of the gold-milling process.

"Both quantities are well within safe levels and we're not too worried about it," commented Mr. Billing.

more

NO DANGER SEEN FROM MINE SPILL - 2

"Removing the material in this manner (trucking the ice) is by far the safest, quickest and simplest way of disposal and the people at Giant Mines should be commended for their action."

He is confident that Giant officials have the equipment and the expertise to properly seal off any remaining material in the ditch "so there is absolutely no danger to the public."

- 30 -

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# information release

79-003



## FLYING FATHERS FLYING NORTH AGAIN

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 9) - The Flying Fathers are coming back.

Hockey teams in Frobisher Bay, Yellowknife, Inuvik, Hay River, Pine Point and Fort Smith had better start praying. Rumor has it that the Fathers have the Almighty on their side.

The Flying Fathers Hockey Club is a team made up of Roman Catholic priests who play for charity. Between Jan. 12 and 22 the team will be in the Northwest Territories. They played here last year.

Ray Goulet, chief of the recreation division of the Territorial government, is organizing the event. He says the team will play seven games.

In Frobisher, the Fathers will play the senior all-stars on the 13th and 14th; the Yellowknife oldtimers on the 16th; the Inuvik senior all-stars on the 18th; and the oldtimers and juniors in Hay River, Pine Point and Fort Smith on the 20th, 21st and 22nd respectively. The cost per ticket is \$5.

The Flying Fathers ask that the money they raise by their hockey antics go to a charitable cause and that only their expenses be covered.

(more)

FLYING FATHERS FLYING NORTH AGAIN - 2

Mr. Goulet says each of the six communities is paying \$1,500 to offset costs as well as providing lodging, meals and transportation in town. The Territorial government is providing transportation for the team from Frobisher to Yellowknife.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-004

FILM AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 9) - Labelling it "excellent", the Territorial government's recreation chief recommends the new 16 mm color film, Counter Attack, to anyone interested in the benefits of a regular program of physical activity.

Ray Goulet says the film, released by Participaction and the Sun Life Insurance Company of Canada, should be of interest to everyone. It deals with heart attack victims.

The film features the work of Dr. Terence Kavanagh of the Toronto Rehabilitation Centre. It shows how a number of heart attack victims improved their physical condition to such a point that they were able to enter a 26-mile marathon. And in the race they did better than most people who have never had a major illness.

The film may be borrowed, at no charge, by contacting any Sun Life agent or office.

Mr. Goulet suggests that groups and individuals promoting regular physical activity in the Northwest Territories obtain a print.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-005



## COMMISSIONER DECLARES YEAR OF THE CHILD

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - Commissioner Stuart Hodgson has proclaimed 1979 as the Year of the Child in the Northwest Territories.

The N.W.T. joins other areas of Canada and the world in supporting the United Nations' declaration of an International Year of the Child. The declaration was passed by a general assembly of the UN in late 1976.

The purpose of the Year is to place the child in the centre of world attention and, in so doing, encouraging action to improve the lives of children everywhere.

"Unlike recent 'Years', the Year of the Child will not focus on global conferences. Its intention is to direct interest and energy into local and national action which can be of direct benefit to children," says Trudy Usher, chief of family and children's services with the Territorial government's department of social services.

The Year of the Child is being co-ordinated in Canada by a commission made up of representatives involved with children in the territories and provinces. Ms. Usher is the acting representative for the N.W.T. on the Canadian commission.

(more)

## COMMISSIONER DECLARES YEAR OF THE CHILD - 2

Ms. Terri McPherson of the department of social services is helping Ms. Usher and will be co-ordinating activities for the year in the Northwest Territories. She hopes to circulate information from the Canadian commission to interested groups in the North. She'll be available to talk to groups about the Year and ways they can participate.

"She also hopes to put out a monthly newsletter which will include information on projects being undertaken in the Northwest Territories. I hope all people participating in the Year will let Terri know about their projects so she can get the information in her newsletter," says Ms. Usher.

She says the Year gives residents an opportunity to explore the role of parents, to encourage projects which will bring together children of different social and cultural backgrounds, to recognize the rights and needs of children, and to do things for children which will help them develop into strong and healthy adults.

There are many ways residents can get involved in the Year, notes Ms. Usher: start a young people's program at your place of worship; offer to babysit for a single parent; set up family social events that involve children of different ages; hire young people for jobs around the home; organize a field trip for children in your neighborhood; get children involved in volunteer work.

"The list goes on", says Ms. Usher. "One of the easiest ways to get involved is to make a commitment to your own children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews, brothers or sisters, to set aside extra time for them during 1979."

(more)

## COMMISSIONER DECLARES YEAR OF THE CHILD - 3

The Canadian Commission has grants to help people develop projects during the Year. Projects that will be considered for funding are those with children's direct involvement, projects for children such as advocacy groups and projects about children, such as media projects.

A press release issued by the commission says the criteria for funding are:

- . operating grants will be given community-based non-profit groups. No capital grants are available;
- . individuals can get grants if they are affiliated with a group that has a common interest.

Individuals can get a grant of up to \$1,500 while community groups are eligible for a grant of up to \$5,000. The commission will meet on two occasions to review applications for funding. The first deadline for applications is Feb. 15 of this year; the last March 30 of this year.

Applications and information on the Year are available from Terri McPherson, Department of Social Services, Government of the Northwest Territories, Box 1320, Yellowknife. Her telephone number is 873-7707 and her office is located on the sixth floor of the Precambrian building in Yellowknife.

Applications should be mailed directly to the commission's headquarters in Ottawa. The address is: The Canadian Commission 1979 - International Year of the Child, 323 Chapel Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 7Z2.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-006

## FINANCIAL HELP FOR HEALTH CAREERS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - Northerners interested in training for a health-care career are eligible for financial help from the Territorial government.

Each year the department of health offers professional training bursaries to help people go to school for more specialized training in the health-care field.

The bursaries help to cover costs for full-time diploma, degree or certificate courses at universities, colleges and other recognized institutes. The bursaries can also help cover costs for part-time extension or correspondence courses.

In the past, students have been sponsored to take courses in areas such as dental therapy, nursing administration, speech therapy and registered nursing.

This year the government is particularly interested in sponsoring northerners, especially registered nurses, who want to take training in mental health.

Janet Lindquist, in charge of the bursary program for the department of health, says there is a need for people in northern communities who are qualified to handle minor mental as well as physical health services.

(more)

## FINANCIAL HELP FOR HEALTH CAREERS - 2

The bursary will pay tuition fees, up to \$60 for books, travel expenses to and from school, and a stipend of \$200 a month for students enrolled in full-time courses. It covers tuition fees and travel expenses for students enrolled in part-time or extension courses.

In order for the North to benefit from the program, everyone awarded a bursary must work in their field in the Northwest Territories for a period of time at least equal to the length of the course for which they were sponsored.

For example, says Ms Lindquist, students who get bursaries to attend college or university for eight months - the length of the regular school year - must work in the north for a year.

The Territorial government can sponsor about eight students for full-time courses each year. It normally receives about 30 applications.

Anyone is eligible for the bursary but northerners already working in the health care field are given priority. As well, northern health care personnel who are self-employed, working for a private employer, the territorial government or a hospital are given priority over health-care personnel working for the federal government. However, federal government employees may still apply and many have been given bursaries in the past. Health-care workers in other parts of Canada may also apply.

(more)

FINANCIAL HELP FOR HEALTH CAREERS - 3

Applicants are selected by a committee of health-care workers. They are chosen on the basis of their past work performance, their ability to better the quality of health care in the North, and the demand in the Territories for their type of skills.

Information about the government's health-care bursaries is available from the department of health. As well applications can be obtained from and should be sent to: Chief, Health Programs and Standards, Department of Health, Government of the Northwest Territories, Bag 1320, Yellowknife.

The deadline for applications is March 31 of this year.

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# information release



79-007

## N.W.T. WILDLIFE OFFICERS MEET NEXT WEEK

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - All 42 Northwest Territories wildlife officers will be in town next week for the wildlife service's biennial conference.

The conference brings field officers up-to-date with developments in the wildlife service, allows them the opportunity to discuss mutual problems, introduces new officers to long-time employees and provides a forum for a general interchange of ideas.

Rupert "Shorty" Tinling, acting co-ordinator of technical services, says important issues such as the new wildlife ordinance will be brought up at the conference, set for Jan. 15-19, and discussed thoroughly.

The agenda calls for a session on humane trapping with N. Jotham, executive director of the Federation of Humane Societies. John Ross of the Hudson's Bay Company will discuss fur grading with the officers who run a fur marketing program for trappers. Jack Shaver of the Canadian Wildlife Service will talk on the Migratory Birds Convention Act and possible changes to migratory bird seasons.

Mr. Tinling says discussions on the changing roles of wildlife officers and the goals and objectives of the services will take place. He says officials of the Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg and of the federal Fisheries and Marine Service will be present as well.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-008

## TWO NORTHERNERS HONORED FOR ACADEMIC STANDING

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan 11) - William Gregory Frank from Hay River is one of two N.W.T. students to receive Governor-General's bronze medals for senior high school academic excellence from the 1977-78 school year. He earned the highest marks in the N.W.T. for Grade 12 examinations.

Ronald Peterson of Pine Point has been similarly honored. The awards were announced today by Commissioner Stuart Hodgson, on behalf of Governor-General Jules Leger.

Mr. Peterson's achievement matches that of his sister Linda May, who earned the second highest Grade 12 marks in the N.W.T. from the 1976-77 school year. Both Petersons are graduates of Pine Point's Matonabee School.

Another brother-sister combination, Gordon and Shirley Wong of Yellowknife, is among the ranks of previous Governor-General's bronze medal winners. The medals, awarded in the N.W.T. since 1971, were first distributed more than 100 years ago.

The Earl of Dufferin, one of Canada's first governors-general, initiated the awards in 1873 to encourage scholarship. There are three levels: gold for university, silver for classical college and bronze for senior high school.

No date has been set for presentation of the medals, but ceremonies are planned for whenever Mr. Frank and Mr. Peterson return to the N.W.T.

(more)

TWO NORTHERNERS HONORED FOR ACAD.MIC STANDING - 2

Mr. Frank, who attended Diamond Jenness High School in Hay River, currently is continuing his education at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ont. Mr. Peterson has travelled to Wales for further education. He is attending Atlantic World College.

His sister Linda May also is continuing her education with people from other parts of the world. She is enrolled at Lester Pearson College of the Pacific, Victoria, B.C.

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# information release



79-009

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION GROUP FORMS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 11) - Education officials in the Northwest Territories are getting ready to handle their own teacher licensing.

The newly-created N.W.T. Teachers Certification Board meets this week in Yellowknife to continue its organizing, which started when its five members met for the first time in December.

"The board was formed as a result of reforms brought in under regulations of the Education Ordinance," said Brian Lewis, director of the Territorial Government's department of education. He explained that until now the government has simply gone along with certification approved by other Canadian jurisdictions.

The Education Ordinance was approved by Territorial Council in January 1977, replacing the old School Ordinance.

The board includes three people from the department of education, one representative of the teachers' association and one from the N.W.T.'s school boards. The board's support staff includes a teacher registrar, appointed by the Commissioner, and a secretary.

The five-member board is chaired by Gerard Mulders, the department's assistant director. Members include department officials Ed Duggan and Fred Carnew, Al Wolitski of the N.W.T. Teachers' Association and Gordon Carter, who represents Yellowknife's two school boards. A registrar has yet to be named.

(more)

TEACHER CERTIFICATION GROUP FORMS - 2

Mr. Lewis explained the board will be looking at certification eligibility of graduates from the N.W.T.'s teacher education program as well as the qualifications of prospective teachers from programs in the Canadian provinces and elsewhere. Northern-based teaching preparation is developed mainly at the teacher education school in Fort Smith.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-010

## HUMANE TRAPPING TO BE DISCUSSED AT WILDLIFE CONFERENCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 11) - "People in the North don't realize how the voice of emotion can affect their lives."

So said Neal Jotham, executive director of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, in a recent telephone interview from Ottawa. Mr. Jotham will be in Yellowknife next week to talk about humane trapping at the Wildlife Service All Staff Conference.

The conference runs from Jan. 15 to 19 and will be attended by all 42 Northwest Territories wildlife officers.

The wildlife service's Ron Williams invited Mr. Jotham to attend the conference. "The reason, basically," he said, "is to make our staff aware of problems in southern Canada which may affect people in the N.W.T. in the future. We want our staff to be aware of what's happening in the controversial area of humane trapping."

Mr. Jotham said his Tuesday evening visit here will begin with a rundown on the history of the humane trapping issue. He said he will go into the various aspects of humane trapping using films and other materials to explain the concerns of humane societies across Canada.

Mr. Jotham, who is also vice-president of the Canadian Association for Humane Trapping, said the objective of his visit is to be a resource person to the wildlife officers.

(more)

He said he will talk about humane trap inventions and and show films of animals caught in leg-hold traps, as well as deal with the humane trapping research program of the federal/provincial committee for humane trapping.

He also hopes to discuss the importance of trapper education and provide information about the feelings of humane societies across Canada.

"I want to make sure they understand the thinking of people in southern Canada so that, if regulations are passed, it is not through great emotion."

He said he will also show footage of animals entering "so-called" humane traps.

"We want to promote a relatively humane system of trapping animals. We think the most humane traps available should be used."

Mr. Jotham has given such lectures all over Canada, including the Yukon. It all began in 1970 in Yellowknife when he made the first presentation to the Canada Fur Council here, he said.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-011

## KEEWATIN PEOPLE PULL TOGETHER FOR REPAIR JOBS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - 'Operation Replumb' is a project to restore full water services to homes and other buildings in the Keewatin community of Eskimo Point.

The territorial government's action to bring things back to normal, following a Christmas Day powerhouse fire and resultant water pipe freeze-up, is progressing with military-like precision.

Eskimo Point is an Inuit hamlet of 900, located on the western shore of Hudson's Bay 1,280 kilometres north of Winnipeg.

Materials were flown in from southern suppliers, technical reinforcements were recruited from other parts of the Northwest Territories. Extra hours of duty is the norm in a race against weather and time, and community personnel are pitching in. A control centre has been set up to co-ordinate systematic repairs, and the entire operation has an on-the-scene supervisor with a senior engineering adviser located nearby at a regional headquarters.

"It is going along as scheduled with only a few delays," stated regional engineer Dave Barnes.

(more)

KEEWATIN PEOPLE PULL TOGETHER FOR REPAIR JOBS - 2

The N.W.T. Government's regional headquarters in Rankin Inlet is overseeing the repair and clean-up operations, and Mr. Barnes says the work should be completed by the end of this week. "We have completed 55 buildings," he said in a Jan. 10 interview. "We're about 75 to 80 per cent complete and we expect to have the job wrapped up by January 12th or the 14th at the latest."

Mr. Barnes explained that the repair work has been a co-operative effort right down the line. Pipes, joints, valves and other material was flown in without delay from Winnipeg just before the new year. Territorial Government staff have travelled from the Fort Smith and Baffin regions to help out and the hamlet's own workers are also assisting.

The territorial regional engineer said repair crews are putting in 14-hour days, working through until 10 at night, to get the jobs done. Vic Hodges, area maintenance officer with the territorial public works regional staff, heads up a crew of 13 territorial employees from the control centre. He is working along with government liaison officer Patsy Owljoot, who goes on the air each day at the community radio station to keep residents informed of work progress.

Labor is being provided by Eskimo Point hamlet employees, housing association workers and local casuals, with locally-supplied vehicles in use.

Mr. Barnes said it is too early to put a final dollar figure on plumbing damage, but for now he is estimating it to be in the \$100,000 range.

(more)

There was some delay in repair work when a heavy snowstorm blocked access to the community's roads on Jan 4-5 and power was out for more than five hours Jan. 9 due to problems with a transformer.

Mr. Barnes commented there was good response from Eskimo Point residents when the power first went off on Christmas Day. Many pipes were drained of water, but others inside walls froze up, resulting in damage. He noted frozen pipes were found in most of the buildings, including churches, the community hall and the Inuit Cultural Institute. The nursing station and territorial school were unaffected since they were able to use standby power generators.

Mr. Barnes said he is pleased with the progress of 'Operation Replumb'. "It is a co-ordinated effort," he commented. "It's good to have support from community workers and people from the other regions."

Territorial Government regional director Al Zariwny of Rankin Inlet called the operation "another example of good working relationships being established between the Territorial Government, hamlet councils and other community groups."

The Christmas Day fire that destroyed much of Northern Canada Power Commission's powerhouse is still under investigation.

Chief territorial fire marshal Len Adrian of Yellowknife, Thursday was on his way to examine the fire damage in Eskimo Point.

# information release



79-012

## RENE MERCREDI NAMED WILDLIFE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - A Fort Smith man has been named 1978's 'Outstanding Wildlife Officer' by the Shikar-Safari Club International.

Rene Mercredi, a wildlife officer since 1964, will be presented a plaque by the club during a wildlife service conference in Yellowknife Jan. 15-19.

The Shikar-Safari Club is an organization formed in 1954 by a group of hunters to protect game around the world. The 200-member club participates in conservation programs.

In a letter to Mr. Mercredi, dated September 25, 1978, club president Alex Maddox says:

"May your example be an inspiration to the many fine wildlife officers in whose professional and capable hands the management of our wildlife depends. Among other Sportsmen of America and Canada, we want to thank you and let you know that we appreciate you, we support you, and we recognize that without your great dedication and love for wildlife, we soon might not have any."

Mr. Mercredi was born at Fort Smith of white and Chipewyan parents in 1915. He began trapping at an early age and continued the profession for 32 years with off-season work in carpentry and crewing on Hudson's Bay boats.

As a wildlife officer, he was posted in Fort Rae in 1965 where he remained for 12 years before transferring to Fort Smith.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-013

## NEW CHIEF NAMED FOR GOVERNMENT PROJECTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - The Territorial Government's department of economic development and tourism has a new chief of projects and marketing.

Bill Moore moved to Yellowknife from Winnipeg in December, bringing 13 years of sales and administrative experience to his new post. He succeeds Claude Bennett, who is currently on educational leave from the territorial public service.

As chief of projects and marketing, Mr. Moore guides the development of Programs designed to encourage growth of "cottage" and light industry in the N.W.T. He also heads up marketing strategy for the products of these programs, which include handicrafts, fur garments, jewelry and furniture.

Mr. Moore's 13 years of experience include work in the fields of marketing sales and management, financial and personnel administration.

Mr. Moore, who is married with one son, has spent much of his life in Western Canada. Born in Calgary, he was educated at Lethbridge, Alberta. He earned a degree in business administration from the University of Montana in the United States. He has recreational interests in skiing, swimming, badminton, fishing and sailing, as well as aviation and amateur radio.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-014

## N.W.T. COUNCIL TO STUDY SPENDING PROPOSALS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - Territorial Council convenes in Yellowknife Jan. 19 for the 67th session. It will be a last look at Northwest Territories' spending plans for some members.

The 8th Council's term of office expires Mar. 31. 1979.

The session is scheduled to last four weeks.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson will be outlining the government's 1979-80 spending plans at the opening, which is scheduled for a 2:30 p.m. start in the new gymnasium of Sir John Franklin School.

Arnold McCallum, council's caucus chairman, expects signs of caution in the spending proposals. "I do not expect them to be appreciably higher than last year because of general restraint."

He said the operating part of the spending plans will likely be up to match the rate of inflation, but thinks that capital spending will almost certainly be reduced. Main estimates for the 1978-79 fiscal year amounted to \$268.7 million.

(more)



Mr. McCallum, executive committee member responsible for the departments of local government and health, said the session likely will feature some reflection on the past and comments about the future as "it will be a swan song for some of the members".

He said some members might view the upcoming session as "a period of frustration" since there is no sign of when elections will be held to choose a new council.

Last October, councillors passed an ordinance changing territorial electoral boundaries to allow expansion from the present 15 to 22 members.

However, an amendment to the federal N.W.T. Act is needed to enact expansion, and councillors have been trying to encourage federal politicians to do this without delay. To date, the federal bill has received only first reading and the process could take a few months to complete.

Mr. McCallum said he does not expect the matter to be given high priority when Parliament reconvenes Jan. 22 in Ottawa.

He speculates that N.W.T. residents won't be voting for a new territorial council, should there be an expanded one, until next fall, or June at the earliest.

"I imagine we'll hear something from Ottawa before this session is over," Mr. McCallum said.

# information release



79-015

## FORT FRANKLIN HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION TO BUILD OUTPOST CABINS WITH SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 16) - Fort Franklin Hunters and Trappers Association has accepted an offer of \$11,330, under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program, to build three, 16 x 20 foot outpost cabins.

Announcement of the offer was made today by Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and Tom Butters, Territorial Government executive committee member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Built of logs and equipped with wood stoves, the cabins will be used as base camps for the association's hunting and trapping activities. Two of the cabins will provide accommodation for hunters to travel to the Hottah Lake area, a 200 mile trip which takes two days by power toboggan. One of these cabins will be built at the halfway point while the other will be constructed at Hottah Lake. The third cabin will be erected at White Lash Lake to accommodate trappers.

Part-time work will be created for 12 people during the construction period.

The project also encourages traditional lifestyle by allowing families to spend longer periods of time at Hottah Lake to hunt and prepare greater amounts of dry meat.

Funds for the project will be provided by DREE. The fish and wildlife service of the Territorial Government's department of natural and cultural affairs is responsible for field work on the hunters, trappers and fishing portion of the Special ARDA program.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-018

## N.W.T. TO SEEK LOTTERY PARTICIPATION

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 18) - Athletes, coaches and sports administrators in the Northwest Territories may soon have another source of funding to help develop skills.

The Territorial Government's executive committee has authorized its officials to seek membership in the Western Canada Lottery Foundation and has empowered the Sport North Federation to look after the lottery's marketing in the N.W.T.

The lottery foundation, which is administered in Winnipeg, involves the sharing of revenue by sport organizations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon.

Ray Goulet, the Territorial Government's recreation chief, explained that funds from the Western Canada Lottery will assist the Sport North Federation in increasing its present level of service to members. Sport North is formed from 26 N.W.T. sport associations.

"It's a money-making situation," commented Mr. Goulet. "The dollars must be spent in the leadership area, upgrading the skills of coaches and sport executives, which in turn leads to development of the athlete at the local level. The dollars must be spent within the Territories and some funds from this source would be available for travel assistance to various territorial championships."

Mr. Goulet said he has been seeking N.W.T. involvement in the lottery foundation ever since it began about four years ago.

"Legislation is needed authorizing the lottery's presence in the N.W.T.," Mr. Goulet explained, adding that he hoped it would be discussed and passed during the 67th session of Territorial Council.

(more)

N.W.T. TO SEEK LOTTERY PARTICIPATION...2

He said the first step-should legislation and membership application be approved-would be formation of a committee to administer distribution of the lottery's revenue in the N.W.T. Appointments would include two people from the Sport North member associations, two from the general public and one Territorial Government representative. A Sport North member would chair the group.

"Once the dollars start rolling in, it will be up to this committee where they go," noted Mr. Goulet. He said it is difficult to guess how much more money could be generated for N.W.T. sport groups from this lottery, but "it could mean another \$50,000 a year, eventually."

"But first you develop a marketing base and let people know about what it can do for the people of the Northwest Territories," Mr. Goulet observed. "We've got to take one step at a time."

- 30 -

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LAKE HARBOUR WANTS LIQUOR PROHIBITION

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 19) - The list of communities in the Northwest Territories wanting an outright ban on liquor continues to grow.

Latest to join liquor prohibition ranks is the Baffin Island settlement of Lake Harbour. Most of the settlement's 98 eligible voters expressed their view Jan. 17, with a majority saying no to liquor.

Plebiscite results submitted to the Hay River headquarters of the N.W.T. Liquor Control System show 75 of the settlement's 98 eligible voters casting ballots for a 98 per cent turnout. There are 268 people in the mostly-Inuit settlement, located 120 air kilometres south of Frobisher Bay.

In response to the question: "Do you want liquor in Lake Harbour?", 51 voters (68 per cent) said "no" and 24 (32 per cent) said "yes". There were no spoiled ballots.

Liquor plebiscites require a minimum 60 per cent vote in order to enact prohibition or some form of control.

(more)

Ed Pugh, liquor control system general manager, said Lake Harbour would go dry officially once the paper work is completed and Commissioner Hodgson signs the order. The process takes about one month.

Mr. Pugh said the ban effects an area 25 kilometres in all directions from the centre of the settlement.

The vote in Lake Harbour increases the number of N.W.T. communities introducing liquor prohibition to 13, four of them in the Baffin. Liquor is also banned in the Baffin centres of Pangnirtung, Hall Beach and Sanikiluaq.

In addition to the 13 prohibition centres, five others ration liquor supplies or have some other form of local controls in effect.

There are no other liquor plebiscites scheduled. However, liquor control interest has been expressed by residents of several other N.W.T. communities, including Norman Wells and Eskimo Point.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-020

## STANGIER NAMED DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 19) - Gordon Stangier, 42, is the new director of the Territorial government's department of social services.

He has been acting director of the department since late last year when long-time director Ken Torrance retired to Alberta.

The department of social services administers the alcohol and drug program, social assistance, the corrections system, family and children's services and services to the elderly in the Northwest Territories. The department also has sections responsible for staff training and development, the development of a management information system and the planning and development of new programs.

Mr. Stangier's appointment was announced today by Commissioner Stuart Hodgson at the opening of Territorial council's 67th Session. He will report to Tom Butters, the executive member responsible for the department.

Mr. Stangier served for more than three years as assistant director of the department, which also included health services until last summer when health care became a separate department within the government.

He came North from Edmonton where he worked for three years as director of staff development with the Alberta department of community health and social services.

(more)

STANGIER NAMED DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES - 2

Mr. Stangier worked from 1971-73 with the Territorial government, developing social assistance programs. Before that he worked in Lac La Biche in northern Alberta, developing experimental projects in adult training for a private company. His first ten years in the social service field were also spent with the Alberta government in rehabilitation, staff development and adoption.

Mr. Stangier holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Alberta, a bachelor of social work from the University of British Columbia and a masters degree in social work from the University of Toronto.

He is married and has four children.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-021

## SLIGHT INCREASE IN SPENDING PLANS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Territorial councillors learned Friday that Territorial government spending for the coming 1979-80 fiscal year will be up \$25 million over last year.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson announced that main estimates proposals for the fiscal year starting April 1 amount to \$293.8 million. Main estimates for the previous fiscal year - which ends Mar. 31 - were \$268.7 million.

In addition to the main money bill, which is expected to take up most of members' time during the month-long 67th session, there are the usual companion bills necessary for fiscal planning.

These include the Supplementary Appropriations Ordinance to authorize unexpected spending in the current fiscal year; the Financial Agreement Ordinance; Loan Authorization Ordinance and N.W.T. Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance.

A half-dozen new ordinances will be placed before members for debate.

(more)

SLIGHT INCREASE IN SPENDING PLANS - 2

Subjects include all-terrain vehicles, lotteries, legal aid services, firearms controls, student grants and bursaries and medical consent of minors. A change is needed to correct parts of the Electoral District Boundaries Ordinance, which was passed last October.

Members are also planning to talk about management of caribou herds and national parks in the N.W.T. The session is scheduled to last until Feb. 16, with daily sittings Mondays to Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-022

## LET'S GET OUR ACT TOGETHER, HODGSON TELLS NORTHERNERS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Stuart Hodgson wants northern residents to face Canada's political and economic realities head-on.

Speaking Friday at the opening of Territorial Council's winter budget session, the commissioner offered both praise and criticism.

His audience of several hundred included invited guests from many of the N.W.T.'s 60 outlying communities.

Mr. Hodgson launched a 70-minute introduction to government plans for the 1980s by saying he intended to shock his listeners.

He said he was "sick and tired" of listening to unjustifiable complaints about government and that he had wanted to say so publicly for a long time.

The commissioner stated he is no longer willing to tolerate "the carping and unreasonable criticism" that often comes "from that minority of our population that has little or no idea what it's talking about and absolutely no experience in attempting to do it (governing) themselves".

(more)

He called them "the kind of people who come away from a picnic remembering sand in the sandwich and forget it was they that put it there".

Mr. Hodgson said people in southern Canada are starting to look upon demands from some N.W.T. residents and their southern-based supporters as unreasonable, and its residents as "spoiled brats". He said he is worried that Canadians are beginning to think the unreasonable elements "are us" and that "the majority of people in the Northwest Territories are malcontent and spoiled".

When that happens, he said, the Northwest Territories is in deep trouble.

The commissioner said northerners must be prepared to face today's economic realities and realize the extent of contributions from outside the N.W.T. He said about 80 per cent of money needed to help the north grow comes from the rest of Canada (about \$2.4 billion from federal sources over the past 20 years). Annual federal and territorial spending today amounts to more than \$7,500 for every man, woman and child in the N.W.T.

He pointed out this is probably more than what is spent per capita in heavily-populated Ontario, a province that has the political and financial clout to decide who forms the federal government.

"It's a sobering comparison", he observed.

Mr. Hodgson said it is important that N.W.T. residents recognize the contributions of other Canadian residents and even more important "that the rest of Canada knows we do".

(more)

He advised that northerners, along with other Canadians, must face the reality that government "is not a bottomless green pit, and that the money tap will not forever stay frozen open".

Concerning the performance of the Territorial government over the past 11 1/2 years since relocating in Yellowknife from Ottawa, Mr. Hodgson said the over-all achievement is not just a significant contribution, but "it is an operating miracle".

Mr. Hodgson talked about some of the lessons he had learned from listening to northern people during his extensive travels. He referred to six main points:

. "It is crucial to our future" in the next decade "that we bring co-ordination to all government affecting the north". The spawning of growing government agencies has developed from success. However, government would be much more effective if all this required co-ordination were under one central authority.

. "We have all kinds of responsibility, but not necessarily the authority to go with it." Mr. Hodgson urged council to make stronger efforts to seek additional powers. The desire for power has to be consistently expressed as "it is not simply going to be handed to us".

. "We must adapt or be left behind." The world is growing smaller. When the price of oil from the Middle East rises, it affects life in Grise Fiord as much as in New York. International money decisions have a bearing on residents of Rankin Inlet as much as those in Paris or Ottawa. "Science develops a thing called television, and the world has never been the same since," he said.

(more)

. "Poverty can only be cured by production." New ways must be found in the next decade to encourage northerners to become involved in job opportunities, both in the traditional and wage economy. The alternative is a welfare state, he said.

. "All outstanding native claims must be settled".

. Little can be gained by turning back the clock.

The past must be respected, we can learn from experiences and native culture and heritage should be preserved and encouraged. However, it is also important that native northerners be encouraged to participate in the growth of the N.W.T. and equally important that government administration remembers there is a difference between participation and assimilation.

Mr. Hodgson said he believes native people, who form the majority of the N.W.T. population, should be given more political power, "but it should be given from within the territorial system and not from without. And it should be earned."

- 30 -

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# information release



79-023

## BRAVERY, SERVICE EARNS COMMISSIONER'S HONORS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Public service to the Northwest Territories and bravery have earned honors for six people, including two long-time residents of Yellowknife.

Commissioner's Awards were announced Friday during Stuart Hodgson's address at the opening of Territorial Council's 67th session.

Silasee Alikatuktuk and Matta Poisey risked their lives rescuing five members of the Poisey family from a fire in a Broughton Island home. In recognition, Silasee and Matta will receive Commissioner's Awards for bravery.

Public service recognition goes to lawyer David Searle and community worker Barbara Bromley of Yellowknife, Vancouver publicist John Hecht and Father Theophile Didier, OMI, a priest from Churchill, Manitoba.

They will be honored formally at a later date.

Mrs. Bromley, who came north when Yellowknife was little more than a tent city almost 40 years ago, is recognized for her community involvement, notably in the health-care field.

Mr. Searle is honored for what Mr. Hodgson called "outstanding leadership" and the "exemplary manner" in which he has fulfilled his duties as Territorial Council's first Speaker.

(more)

BRAVERY, SERVICE EARNS COMMISSIONER'S HONORS...2

Father Didier served Keewatin region residents from his Roman Catholic mission at Churchill. Mr. Hodgson said the award recognizes his "significant contributions to Eskimo literature and linguistics", in addition to his work as a travelling missionary.

Mr. Hecht has served the N.W.T. in the area of international promotion and public relations. He has worked "in a very quiet and low-profile, but effective manner", the Commissioner said.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-024

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE 80s OUTLINED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Co-ordination, communication and co-operation are the three keys to success of Territorial Government programs and services in the 1980s, says the N.W.T.'s senior public servant.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson Friday outlined the directions in which the Territorial Government will move in the 80s as he opened the 67th session of the Council of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Hodgson told councillors that their examination of the government's 1979-80 spending plans will give them the opportunity to study, debate and question these long-term goals and priorities.

He said the three main issues facing the Territorial Government are, in order of importance:

- . constitutional development and land claims;
- . economic development and employment; and
- . cultural and local responsibilities.

Over the past 12 years, economic and social programs "have brought the N.W.T. from a huge backwater into the full flow of Canadian life".

He noted further planning is needed to react to changes as many young northerners enter the labour force.

Northerners have progressed over 12 years, Mr. Hodgson noted, but "it would be idle to imply we have no problems". He said there are none that cannot be overcome "if we can achieve that co-operation, co-ordination and communication".

(more)

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE 80s OUTLINED...2

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. Hodgson said all communities in the Northwest Territories will be asked in the coming year to pay a share of local service and program costs. He commented that people in communities who benefit from local improvements have a responsibility to help cover the cost as well as the right to say what those improvements should be.

The department plans in the future to develop a special ordinance for hamlets and settlements, separate from the existing Municipal Ordinance, in recognition of the special needs of smaller communities.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A general development agreement with the federal government would be introduced to form the base of financial support.

Work will be done to make the "traditional economy" of hunting, trapping and fishing a "primary" N.W.T. industry.

Tourism is viewed as a major activity.

### EDUCATION

A Grade 10 education will be available to most communities in the 1980s, with an N.W.T. junior high school diploma.

Each region will have its own secondary school centre with completion of one in the Keewatin. These centres will introduce college-type programs, including native language and cultural "folk institutes".

Where requested, children will be taught in the local native language up to Grade 3, with English introduced only as a second language.

(more)

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE 80s OUTLINED...3

### NATURAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Translated information on wildlife research will be available in the communities. The major wildlife service activity over the next 10 years will be finding out exactly how many food-supply and fur-bearing animals live in the N.W.T.

Funds will be available to help more communities conduct their own recreation programs and library services has a goal of extending its resources to all N.W.T. communities from the present 75 per cent. Native-language cassette tapes will be recorded and made available in community libraries.

### SOCIAL SERVICES

The major direction will be efforts to increase family and individual self-reliance. Child welfare legislation will be reviewed and, this year, permanent facilities will be built for the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre at Hay River.

### HEALTH SERVICES

Moves are under way to have responsibility for medical and health services now under federal control turned over to the Territorial Government.

Stanton Yellowknife Hospital is being expanded as a major referral centre and regional hospitals are planned for Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay. A modern communications system is planned to improve medical consultation services.

### PUBLIC WORKS

Efforts will be made to have highway construction authority transferred from federal to territorial hands. Preventive maintenance and energy conservation programs will be pursued. It is expected there will be more multi-purpose buildings erected in communities.

(more)

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE 80s OUTLINED...4

### INFORMATION

There will be a change in emphasis from written to audio-visual material in line with growing use of radio and television in the N.W.T. A direct-line telephone information system is being developed to better inform employees and the public about government activities.

### HOUSING

Pile foundations for houses will be introduced where possible to replace gravel pads. The Housing Corporation will be involved in a joint venture with private enterprise and the Town of Hay River is planning for a prefabricated housing component factory to serve the Western N.W.T.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-025

## PURSUE POWER, SEARLE ADVISES COUNCIL

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 23) - Speaker David Searle of Territorial Council wants future elected members to take over many of the powers now held by the commissioner and his two most senior administrators.

Mr. Searle (Yellowknife South) told his colleagues Monday that "getting real power from the commissioner" is "the name of the game" for members of the next Northwest Territories Council.

The political life of the 15-member N.W.T. Council ends Mar. 31, and legislation is in the works to expand the next council to 22 members.

Mr. Searle, first elected in 1967 and now completing his third term of office, said he won't be seeking re-election.

The Yellowknife lawyer, who has served the past four years as council's first Speaker, outlined his view of what lies ahead for the next council.

He advised future territorial politicians to work on advancing responsible government in the North by pushing for the transfer of provincial-type responsibilities from federal to territorial hands.

As well, he recommended that when Commissioner Stuart Hodgson retires the federal government be pressed not to appoint a deputy commissioner, that council itself do away with the post of assistant commissioner, and that it demand the creation of a five-person executive committee from the ranks of the 22 elected territorial councillors.

(more)

PURSUE POWER, SEARLE ADVISES COUNCIL - 2

He sees this committee being headed by an elected leader and each of its members holding responsibility for one or more government departments.

The executive committee is now made up of three council members and three members of the administration: the commissioner, deputy commissioner and assistant commissioner.

"True responsible government" is "where the executive of government is totally of and from" the council, Mr. Searle said.

Mr. Searle said he envisions a less-active role for the commissioner in the future, making him more like a lieutenant-governor.

"Do not let the commissioner sit as part of that executive committee," stated Mr. Searle. "Determine your own financial and legislative programs" and "exclude the commissioner from sitting in your House (council)".

Members should decide for themselves how much they should be paid and they should be paid more, said the retiring Yellowknife South member. He added he has changed his mind and now agrees that "the job of a member is now a full-time job".

Mr. Searle said the transfer of responsibilities from the federal authority is of little use if the power to make decisions remains in federal hands through the commissioner.

"The office of the commissioner, regardless of who occupies it, must become as prime a target as the (federal) minister (of Indian and Northern Affairs).

(more)

PURSUE POWER, SEARLE ADVISES COUNCIL - 3

"The powers of the commissioner must be systematically eroded by the next Legislature," stated Mr. Searle.

Mr. Searle referred to the present group of territorial councillors as one that has proven people from diverse origins can work together. He said the 8th Council failed to achieve the goal of "true responsible government", but conceded that is "the challenge left for the future".

"We have practised the art of the possible," the Speaker said of the present native-majority council, calling it "a monumental achievement."

He said "this single achievement" of working together "regardless of race, for the benefit of all our people" challenges the argument of those who "cry for a native state".

- 30 -

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# information release



79-026

## MEDICAL TREATMENT BILL RAISES QUESTIONS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jna. 23) - Territorial Council believes people under 19 years of age who marry should be considered adults by the law.

The view was expressed Monday even though present legislation (the Age of Majority Ordinance) is not under review. The age of majority - adulthood - in the N.W.T. is 19 years.

The matter came up as members studied details of proposed new territorial law - the Medical Consent of Minors Ordinance - which concerns situations where persons under the age of 19 need medical treatment and parental consent is not readily available.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), executive committee member responsible for the department of health, told his colleagues the proposed ordinance involves several aspects of medical treatment for N.W.T. residents.

He said the new legislation would give young northerners under the age of majority, married or unmarried, the power to agree to certain types of medical treatment without parental consent. It would also offer legal protection to medical practitioners who treat minors in specified emergency situations.

Mr. McCallum said the reason for bringing in the new law is the increased mobility of the N.W.T.'s young people, resulting in lack of immediate availability of parental consent.

(more)



MEDICAL TREATMEN BILL RAISES QUESTIONS - 2

The proposed bill provoked a variety of questions on the definition of treatment, prescription of drugs (including birth control pills) and liability of prescribing physicians. Members decided to seek medical and legal opinions and set the issue aside until later in the session. No date has been set for further debate.

As now worded, the proposed new law prevents a person under the age of 19 from consenting to a therapeutic abortion.

This drew attention to what was viewed as broader matters related to the age of majority, and council's two Yellowknife members took up the issue.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) pointed out a married woman under the age of 19 would be in conflict with the proposed new law should she grant consent to a therapeutic abortion in order to save her life - even though she has taken on adult responsibilities through marriage.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) observed that a person under the age of 19 who marries assumes the responsibilities of family and finance the same as anyone over 19 years who is married. He said the proposed medical consent law shows a shortcoming in an existing law which isn't even up for review. Under terms of the Age of Majority Ordinance, he pointed out, a person under the age of 19 is considered a minor regardless of marital status and in many cases needs parental consent to handle legal transactions.

The Yellowknife lawyer said it made little sense to him that a married minor "is unable to buy a home, unable to buy a car, unable to do so many things".

(more)

MEDICAL TREATMENT BILL RAISES QUESTIONS - 3

Saying that changing the Age of Majority Ordinance may also be needed, Mr. Searle proceeded to get council support in dealing with the contractual aspect of the proposed Medical Consent of Minors Ordinance.

Council voted to ask for changes to the proposed ordinance that would include married minors as adults in the area of consent. The changes are to be made before the matter is discussed again later in the session.

In other business Monday, council's committee of the whole completed discussion on the following bills:

- . the Firearms Control Agreement Ordinance, which authorizes federal-territorial cost-sharing of the paper work involved in enforcing the new federal gun control law;
- . The Council Amendment Ordinance, which corrects geographical errors contained in a bill passed last fall for the future expansion of Territorial Council;
- . The Loan Authorization Ordinance, a routine companion bill to the main estimates. This is passed yearly to cover acquisition of loan funds from the federal government.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-027

## TWO FROBISHER BAY AREA PROJECTS OBTAIN SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Amarok Hunters and Trappers Association in Frobisher Bay and the Allen Island Outpost Camp, located near Frobisher Bay, have been offered \$71,000 and \$13,000 respectively, under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, executive committee member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Amarok Hunters and Trappers Association will use the funds for a pilot project to study the feasibility of inter-settlement trade of country food (fish and meat from wild game). Plans call for the importing of surplus country food from various settlements on Baffin Island and offering it for sale in Frobisher Bay where demand is high and supply is low. Products for sale will include meats, muktuk and fish.

It is anticipated that two people will be employed full-time once the project is in full operation.

Allen Island Outpost Camp will use its financial contribution to purchase quarrying and transportation equipment to supply soapstone to artisans in Frobisher Bay. Equipment to be purchased will include a double-track power toboggan; materials to build a heavy-duty komatik; a 25-foot freighter canoe and outboard motor; cobra drill, chisels and bits.

(more)

TWO FROBISHER BAY AREA PROJECTS OBTAIN SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE - 2

Mining the soapstone and transporting the product will involve a year-round operation. Quarrying and digging will take place during the frost-free season. During winter, the soapstone will be loaded on the komatik and transported five miles from the mine to the coast. During the open-water season, it will be transported to the camp's longliner boat via freighter canoe and then shipped to Frobisher Bay for sale.

Funds for both projects will be supplied by DREE. Field work for both activities is being carried out by the Territorial Government's wildlife service.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-028

## AKLAVIK BUSINESSES TO RECEIVE SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 25) - David Storr of Aklavik, owner of Buck Construction Ltd. (a company to be incorporated), has been offered \$13,250 in special ARDA assistance to assist in the purchase of a caterpillar tractor from another Aklavik resident.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion, and Tom Butters, Territorial Government executive member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Storr, a local municipal services contractor, will use the machine for such projects as airstrip development for the municipal government, and road construction.

The machine will continue to provide two seasonal jobs. Storr already has a heated storage and repair facility which will accommodate the machine.

Information regarding commercial aspects of the Special ARDA program in the N.W.T. can be obtained by contacting the Territorial Government's economic development and tourism offices in Fort Smith, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-029

NICKERSON SEES BETTER DAYS AHEAD FOR N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 25) - In the near future, says Dave Nickerson, there will be "such an explosion of human energy in the Northwest Territories as will astonish the imagination".

The Yellowknife North territorial councillor told his colleagues Wednesday that many young northerners will be graduating from school "well-educated, thoughtful, knowing what they want, and prepared to work hard".

"I would hope that our economy will be able to accomodate these people," Mr. Nickerson said in reply to Commissioner Stuart Hodgson's Jan. 19 opening address to the 67th Session of Territorial Council.

Although he noted disappointment at what he called the current slow pace of economic and political development, Mr. Nickerson stated he saw better days ahead for N.W.T. residents.

But he cautioned that increased political responsibilities must be available to encourage the growing number of energetic human resources.

The Yellowknife mining engineer is completing a four-year term and has indicated he will not seek re-election. He said the next group of councillors "will certainly have their work cut out for them".

"They must pursue the goals of responsible government," he urged. "I wish them well."

(more)

The life of the current 15-member Territorial Council expires on Mar. 31, 1979.

Referring to Mr. Hodgson's Jan. 19 opening address, which included plans for the 1980's and criticism of Territorial Government critics, Mr. Nickerson said the commissioner should be congratulated for "his courage in telling it like it is". He said Mr. Hodgson reflected the "consensus of informed opinion held by the whole population of the Territories".

The Yellowknife mining engineer commented he hoped the federal government would now be willing to encourage more resource development in the N.W.T.

He predicted at least one of the several natural gas and oil pipeline proposals will materialize, leading to prosperity in northern communities due to increased service industry demands.

But, he cautioned it is essential to have a more responsible political system in place "if there is to be this bursting forth of human endeavour". He said he is disappointed the present council has not made as much political progress as he has hoped.

He did point to one piece of legislation that he considers "a landmark on our road to responsible government". He said the Income Tax Ordinance, which authorizes direct allocation of revenue to N.W.T. coffers, makes Territorial Council answerable to taxpayers. He said this step was "absolutely necessary" if the N.W.T. "is ever to assume any measure of autonomy and self-government".

In other business Wednesday, members spent most of the afternoon listening to a report on the current state of health of the N.W.T.'s eight major caribou herds.

(more)

Dr. George Calef, a Territorial Government wildlife biologist who's area of expertise is caribou, was on hand to answer member's questions. Dr. Norm Simmons, superintendent of the territorial wildlife service, was also on hand.

Dr. Calef told members it is his view that no caribou herd in the Territories is strong enough to be considered invulnerable.

Members had asked for a report following concerns expressed over the Kaminuriak caribou herd, which roams the Keewatin region of the Territories west of Hudson's Bay.

Dr. Calef said much work had to be done in studying wolf-caribou relationships, but biologists recognize that careful management of caribou herds is necessary.

Members are interested in these studies because the issue of continuing organized community caribou hunts is to be debated later in the session.

Council was also told Wednesday that musk-oxen surveys will be conducted later this winter in the Central Arctic. Wildlife service staff will be consulting with Inuit hunters in the areas of Pelly Bay, Spence Bay, Gjoa Haven, Bay Chimo and Bathurst Inlet. This study could lead to increased musk-ox hunting quotas for these communities.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-030

## COUNCILLORS ENDORSE ORGANIZED CARIBOU HUNTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 26) - Organized community caribou hunts received a stamp of approval from territorial council Thursday as members decided not to go along with the suggestion of one of their number.

Bill Lyall (Central Arctic) introduced a motion calling on council to discourage government funding of the hunts.

The Cambridge Bay businessman said he believes organized community hunts contribute to depletion of caribou herds, especially the Bathurst herd that ranges from the Arctic coast to north of Great Slave Lake. He further contends more animals than needed are shot in the hunts.

But no one involved in the debate agreed and the motion was defeated. Territorial wildlife officials, councillors from areas involved in community hunts and Dene witnesses all defended the program.

The Territorial wildlife service's regional offices have funds available to supplement costs of community hunting expeditions into caribou grazing grounds. Since the caribou herds migrate in varying patterns, one of the largest expenses is transportation.

(more)

COUNCILLORS ENDORS ORGANIZED CARIBOU HUNTS - 2

Leaders from Rae-Edzo, the largest of the N.W.T.'s Dene communities with 1,400 people, participated in the debate.

Rae-Band sub-chief Joe Migwi, band councillor Jim Erasmus and Chief Joe Charlo of Dettah Village appeared as witnesses. Through Dogrib interpreter Peter Liske, territorial councillors heard a prepared statement on the issue. The statement was signed by Rae Band Chief Charlie Charlo.

The brief suggested opponents to organized hunts were not fully aware of the Rae Band's needs which are different from other areas of the Territories.

It pointed out wage employment accounted for 40 per cent of Rae-Edzo's total income and the remaining 60 per cent came from welfare, unemployment insurance, family allowance, pensions and fur sales.

"It should be made abundantly clear that, with all these combined incomes, the majority of our people live well below any acceptable Canadian standard and at the poverty line," the brief stated.

Council learned that hunters from Rae-Edzo must travel as far as 300 miles to reach the caribou and this requires aircraft. The meat is distributed equally to anyone who wants it, the hunters told council, and older people are given a larger amount.

It was pointed out hunters pay \$75 each to participate and government support helps cover the cost of travelling to the herd. "All we are asking for is an increase in the transportation subsidy," the delegation said.

(more)

COUNCILLORS ENDORSE ORGANIZED CARIBOU HUNTS -

Mr. Lyall said people should be encouraged to "fend for themselves", saying government money invested in Great Slave Lake area organized hunts has increased from about \$2,000 to more than \$13,000 since 1965. "It could be up to \$100,000 or more in 10 years," he speculated.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) said the important issue is whether or not organized hunts have an adverse affect on the caribou herd hunted by Rae-Yellowknife area people.

Dr. Norm Simmons, territorial wildlife service superintendent, said studies show organized hunts take "a relatively small portion of the kill from the Bathurst herd" with other factors accounting for herd loss. He added the biologists "only suspect" the Bathurst herd is declining.

Mr. Erasmus said he has not noticed a decrease in the caribou herd in the many years he has hunted. "I cannot say that if we stop hunting this summer or the following summer there would be no caribou coming back ... there is always meat there every year... I am sure they are there to hunt and this is how we survive here in the North."

In other business Thursday, council approved a motion from Mr. Nickerson urging the Northern Canada Power Commission to rebate moneys the auditor-general had found illegally collected from customers over a six-month period in 1977.

Members dug into the details of the Territorial Government's 1979-80 spending plans, starting off with the department of local government's main estimates, which amount to almost \$43.3 million. The total includes almost \$21 million in capital costs and \$4 million in loans to municipalities.

(more)

COUNCILLORS ENDORSE ORGANIZED CARIBOU HUNTS - 4

Council learned that a study paper on raising funds locally by hamlet councils may be available before the session is completed.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-031 P

## COUNCIL'S ROLE MUST BE STRENGTHENED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 26) - Deputy Commissioner John Parker says that one of his thrusts as head of the Territorial government will be directed towards strengthening the role of the legislature and its elected executive committee members.

Mr. Parker, 49, was named Thursday to succeed Stuart M. Hodgson as commissioner of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Hodgson will be a commissioner of the International Joint Commission, a body that examines International water policy.

The appointments, announced by Prime Minister Trudeau, are effective April 15.

Mr. Parker said he certainly intended to continue with the patterns set by the government and legislature in the North. He had helped to shape them during the past 12 years as deputy commissioner.

"But, obviously I will have some refinements to suggest."

Mr. Parker's main concern is that the "Territories is in a time of transition and that the legislature must be given an even stronger role to play in its political and economic evolution."

(more)

The legislature has been pressing for increased responsibilities and for an expansion of its size from 15 to 22 members. There have also been suggestions that the government's executive committee should eventually be made up of five elected councillors, each with responsibilities for one or more departments.

The executive committee currently has three elected and three appointed members. The commissioner is chairman.

Mr. Parker said he is in agreement with council's direction on constitutional change and its bid for increased fiscal and administrative muscle.

"It's a matter of timing and it's a matter of members taking on the jobs and living up to their own expectations."

Deputy Commissioner Parker was born in Didsbury, Alta. His experience with the North goes back 28 years when he worked in northern Saskatchewan and the N.W.T. with the exploration department of Eldorado Mining and Refining.

He graduated from the University of Alberta in 1951 with a bachelor of science in engineering geology (mining pattern) and moved to Uranium City, Sask., where he worked for the late Norman W. Byrne as a geologist and managing engineer.

In 1954, he moved to Yellowknife and was employed by the Byrne Companies in the Territories as geological engineer and later as manager of Fayrock Mines.

(more)

Two years later, he became chief engineer for Norman W. Byrne Ltd. and then in 1964 a partner and president of Precambrian Mining Services Ltd., an associated company.

Mr. Parker began his career in public service when he was elected to the Yellowknife Town Council in 1958. He was elected mayor in 1963 and was returned to office by acclamation for a second, two-year term in 1965.

In June of the same year, he was appointed a member of the Carrothers Commission on the development of government in the Northwest Territories.

The findings of that commission set the stage and framework for constitutional development in the Territories and, among other things, resulted in the naming of Yellowknife as capital of the N.W.T. and the transfer of the Territorial government from its headquarters in Ottawa to the newly-created capital.

Mr. Parker was appointed deputy commissioner of the N.W.T. in 1967.

He is married to Helen A. Panabaker of Calgary. They have two children - Sharon, 22 and Gordon, 18.

# information release



79-032

## FAULKNER EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 26) - Northern Affairs Minister Hugh Faulkner has expressed his fullest confidence in John Parker, the next Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Faulkner said in Ottawa Thursday that Mr. Parker has all the administrative qualifications, enriched knowledge of the Territories and the necessary personal qualities to guide the NWT through a unique phase in its political and economic evolution.

"At the same time," said the Minister, "there will be a lingering sense of loss in the hearts of all Northerners once Stuart Hodgson has taken his leave."

Mr. Hodgson, who has been Commissioner since 1967, "is without doubt one of this country's most eminent statesmen. He brought to the office of Commissioner a stature of the highest order and his wisdom and his gentle wit will be missed but not forgotten," the Minister said. "Mr. Hodgson's loyal counsel has been a source of strength and insight to me as Minister."

"His vision and his personal concern for the well-being of Northerners, as well as all Canadians, has caused all of us to be proud of him," Mr. Faulkner said.

Mr. Hodgson is a former labour organizer and executive member of the Canadian Labour Congress. He joined the Government of the Northwest Territories as Deputy-Commissioner in 1965.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-033

## SOCIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES SHOW GROWING NATIVE INVOLVEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 29) - A variety of concerns ranging from suicide prevention and regional corrections services to native employment caught the eye of Territorial Councillors Friday as members began their examination of 1979-80 spending plans of the department of social services.

Inuvik member Tom Butters, who is executive committee member responsible for the department, said projected main estimates of \$22,861,000 are up from last year's \$19,145,000.

But he stated the increases reflect inflation and are mainly non-discretionary or fixed operating costs in such areas as patient transportation and per diem allowances.

He said capital spending in 1979-80 sees virtually no increase with three major programs planned: permanent corrections facilities in Hay River and two group homes for Yellowknife, one for psychiatric patients returning from treatment and one for retarded adults.

The Inuvik member observed that 40 per cent of the department's staff are bilingual native northerners including most of the field staff at 12 locations and at the corrections facilities in Hay River and Frobisher Bay. In addition, there are 24 communities with social assistance appeal committees and seven with juvenile court committees.

(more)

SOCIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES SHOW GROWING NATIVE INVOLVEMENT - 2

"It is the department's belief that involvement of native people is absolutely essential," noted Mr. Butters.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) commented the social services' approach to native involvement "is the example that other departments should follow".

Referring to the village of Frobisher Bay's move, in co-operation with the department, to participate in delivery of social services, Mr. Pearson said he hoped the department is encouraging other communities to get similarly involved.

Mr. Pearson, the mayor of Frobisher Bay, said he sees a need for more funds to combat social problems in the N.W.T. Referring to his own community's expressed concerns, Mr. Pearson said he felt Frobisher Bay's incidents of juvenile delinquency, drug use and suicide "is just the beginning of what could occur across the North".

Don Stewart (Hay River) stated that he considers tight economic conditions a big factor. "People with no tomorrow" turn to crime and drugs, he noted.

Mr. Butters responded the government is very concerned over growing suicides and drug use and is responsive to community action requests. He said two measures taken include the creation of a psychiatric social worker position for Frobisher Bay and funding for a "Helpline" listening post in Yellowknife.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) and Mr. Pearson both commented they understood the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre in Hay River was intended to remain an "outward-bound"-type portable facility that could be moved about the south Great Slave Lake area.

The present facility, which Mr. Butters said is being replaced, consists of trailers that once were located at the mouth of the Yellowknife River as a corrections "bush camp".

(more)

SOCIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES SHOW GROWING NATIVE INVOLVEMENT - 3

Mr. Pearson repeated his belief that emphasis should be placed on alternatives to incarceration.

Mr. Butters replied that work release programs are stressed in Hay River along with outdoors training activities such as a bush camp and a fishing boat. He said the existing trailers have been condemned and the program south of the lake justifies construction of a permanent facility. He said the \$1.3-million facility will be modest in construction, but large enough to handle 35 people.

Debate on social service plans continues.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-034

## LOOSEN LAND TITLE REINS, N.W.T. COUNCILLORS SUGGEST

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 29) - Land acquisition procedures must be simplified in the Northwest Territories.

The request came Friday as Territorial Council debated the department of local government's 1979-80 spending plans.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), executive committee member responsible for local government, agreed.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) had commented on procedural difficulties faced by individuals who want to purchase land in the N.W.T. from senior levels of government.

The Yellowknife lawyer said people believe a person "cannot acquire land in the Northwest Territories at any price, except if you are prepared to bash your head against the wall year after year".

Mr. McCallum said that less than one per cent of federal land in the N.W.T. is territorially-controlled.

He said the Territorial government continually presses federal authorities to transfer crown land to the territories.

(more)

"The department of local government encourages the transfer of land from senior government to the local municipality," stated Mr. McCallum.

"We encourage private land ownership," he added. "Community councils are encouraged to participate in the disposition of lands."

Mr. Searle said the department's principles "are lofty", but that he was not satisfied with present procedural demands.

"People believe you have to go through the worst experience in your life to obtain land" in the N.W.T., stated Mr. Searle who said he has had personal experience. "Just try to get a recreational lease from the feds," he commented.

He said people now have to plan years in advance to go through all the steps. "If you want a viable economy, title has to be easily obtained."

The Yellowknife South member asked Mr. McCallum what he intended to do about cutting the red tape.

Mr. McCallum said he agreed with Mr. Searle.

"The feds are bad, but we're not clean ourselves. We in turn have to make land more easily accessible."

Mr. McCallum said he intended to draft a policy proposal on land buying for the people of the Territories.

(more)

In other Friday business, Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) suggested a portable gravel crusher is needed especially in the Eastern Arctic, where the gravel supply is scarce.

Mr. McCallum said gravel crushers are expensive (over \$250,000), but his department is looking at leasing one that could be shared by those municipalities and federal departments that would have use for one in the North.

Meanwhile, members supported a motion by Mark Evaluarjuk (Foxe Basin) asking for changes to the Municipal Ordinance that would allow hamlet residents to elect their mayors on a separate ballot.

Voters now choose a hamlet council on a single ballot and the successful candidates vote amongst themselves to pick a mayor.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-035

## DEADLINE COMING FOR ALCOHOL PROJECT FUNDING

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 29) - Groups in the North seeking funding for alcohol projects have only two weeks to get in a proposal.

The deadline for proposals for funding of alcohol education, treatment and prevention projects is Feb. 12. The proposals will be reviewed by the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council (ADCC) at its next meeting March 13-14 in the Gold Room of the Yellowknife Inn.

Proposals arriving after Feb. 12 won't be reviewed until the council meets in the summer.

The ADCC is an independent body that meets four times a year to discuss alcohol and drug programs in the Northwest Territories and to review proposals for funding of community alcohol projects. It co-ordinates funds from the Territorial government, the Non-Medical Use of Drugs Directorate and the National Native Alcohol Abuse Program.

Proposals should be mailed to: ADCC, Box 1769, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X0E 1H0

- 30 -

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# information release



79-036

## N.W.T. COUNCILLORS WANT NORTHERN NATIVE POLICEMEN

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - The time has come to examine creation of a police force staffed by native people familiar with the community needs and customs, say territorial councillors.

The suggestion came Monday as members looked at Territorial Government spending plans related to a working agreement that exists with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

It was pointed out that a northern native constabulary, if developed, would work together with the RCMP in the N.W.T.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) commented that police service costs continue to grow in the N.W.T. while the level of local services decreases. He referred to the RCMP's declared intention to gradually stop providing "traditional" community services, such as driver testing and registering legal documents, to concentrate on police investigations.

Members commented that young RCMP officers who come north from southern Canada are less-willing to perform local duties such as helping with dog control and consequently are becoming more remote from community involvement.

It was noted the N.W.T.'s share of RCMP service costs to the north is expected to increase by about \$600,000 in the new fiscal year, from \$5.5 million to \$6.1 million. The Territorial Government pays 55 per cent of the total operating costs.

(more)



N.W.T. COUNCILLORS WANT NORTHERN NATIVE POLICEMEN - 2

The department of public services, which plans to spend \$11.39 million in 1979-80, handles Territorial Government liaison with the RCMP.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) commented the need for local police services grows as municipalities grow. The Frobisher Bay mayor said bylaws in his community are virtually unenforceable because RCMP officers are unwilling to act.

"The logical step is a Territorial police force using native people who understand the community and the language," stated Mr. Pearson, who commented the modern RCMP officer in the North does not have the same rapport with local people as once existed.

He observed that many young RCMP officers come north and rely heavily on the expertise of the native special constable.

"We have seen many specials do a good job and retain the local respect," said Mr. Pearson.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) supported Mr. Pearson, saying the Frobisher Bay representative saw the need for a native force 10 years ago.

"There's no reason why we can't have a northern police force," said Mr. Nickerson, "but don't think for a moment we should get rid of the RCMP."

He said he sees the RCMP operating out of larger N.W.T. centres and supporting local police when it comes to Criminal Code matters such as murder or drug peddling.

(more)

N.W.T. COUNCILLORS WANT NORTHERN NATIVE POLICEMEN - 3

Members agreed that setting up a northern force would be costly, but the groundwork had been laid with the success of the RCMP's native special constables and the government should at least study the idea.

Responding to questions about other department of public services spending plans, department director Vic Irving told members he hopes the N.W.T. Gazette will start up some time this summer.

Mr. Irving explained the Gazette, which is now published informally in northern newspapers, would be a formal record of territorial ordinances, regulations, commissioner's orders and other legal documents.

In other Monday business, councillors passed a motion seeking an end to the practise of insurance policy cancellation without notice.

Mr. Nickerson said southern-based insurance firms have unilaterally cancelled various forms of insurance taken out by northerners and other Canadians without advance notice and before the policy expires.

Review of public services spending continues.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-037

## SOCIAL SERVICES PRIORITIES QUESTIONED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - Two territorial councillors said Monday they are unhappy with the amount of money spent by the Territorial Government in support of community anti-alcohol and drug projects.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) and Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) both feel that \$800,000 does not go far enough in the Northwest Territories to combat alcohol-related social problems.

Mr. Pearson called the amount "a paltry sum" to invest in "trying to come to grips with the worst disease problem the North faces - the abuse of alcohol".

Mr. Lafferty questioned the priorities, saying council approves \$6 million in welfare payments "and we treat the cause of that budget to the tune of \$800,000".

"This does not make sense," said Mr. Lafferty. "We pay them not to work."

The comments came during continued study of the department of social services' \$22.86 million spending proposals for 1979-80.

(more)

SOCIAL SERVICES PRIORITIES QUESTIONED - 2

Tom Butters (Inuvik), the executive committee member responsible for social services, told council the \$800,000 represents the Territorial Government's share of contributions to community alcohol and drug abuse organizations, paid through the N.W.T. Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council (ADCC).

Mr. Butters said the funds are enough to maintain 12 existing community projects, but admitted there would be little scope for new ones.

But he noted the limitation reflects general restraint.

Peter Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear), the ADCC chairman, noted federal participation adds another \$200,000.

Mr. Pearson commented he was alarmed to note liquor sales in the N.W.T. have increased from \$3.98 million in 1969 to \$12.1 million in 1978. Even with inflation, "the amount of money is incredible", he commented.

He said more money, people and facilities are needed to combat "the scourge of the North" and there will be more suicides, accidental deaths and alcohol abuse until the people of the North can come to grips with the problem. And that, he said, "cannot be done with miniscule amounts of money".

Members were told community alcohol project funding approval is carried over into the next fiscal year in many cases. The local organizing groups are required to submit quarterly progress reports on their activities to ADCC and they are paid periodic visits by Jim Anderson, the alcohol and drug program chief with the department of social development.

Despite the objections of Mr. Pearson and Mr. Lafferty over funding shortages, the item was approved.

# information release



79-038

## YEARLY HEALTH CARE RENEWAL COMING

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - Residents of the N.W.T. will soon be asked to renew their coverage under the Northwest Territories Health Care Plan.

The Territorial government's department of health is introducing health care re-registration on an annual basis. The Plan pays for many medical and hospital services and is administered by the department.

Arnold McCallum, executive member responsible for the department of health, says that under the current system, in which residents need only register with the Plan once, records become quickly outdated. Many people fail to notify the Plan when they move or change their name. It's hoped an annual registration will keep the Plan's records up-to-date.

People who fail to re-register won't be denied medical or hospital services. But, explains Mr. McCallum, they may end up paying initially for health services the government could pay for them.

During the month of March a personal renewal package, containing all the necessary material to re-register, will be available to everyone now registered with the Plan.

(more)

## YEARLY HEALTH CARE RENEWAL COMING - 2

In most cases northerners who live in a small community can pick up their personal renewal package at their local nursing station. But in some small communities such as Tuktoyaktuk (where there are post office boxes) the packages will come by mail. In the larger centres such as Yellowknife, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay the renewal package also will arrive by mail.

People who don't receive their package by late March should contact the department of health.

The renewal package will contain:

- . an explanation and instructions on how to complete the renewal;
- . a form containing a new health care card (everyone's registration number will remain the same) and space on which to supply information and make corrections;
- . a return envelope with pre-paid postage.

Mr. McCallum says up-to-date records - hopefully provided through the annual re-registration - will make it quicker and easier to process claims for insured medical and hospital services. As well, he says, good records can help in the planning of new health care programs, services and facilities.

"To help us detect disease trends in communities early, we require more accurate records of who is using our services and where. This information will help us more effectively plan for local health needs," says Mr. McCallum.

The department of health is trying to make as many northerners as possible aware of the annual registration through a variety of mediums. Some of these include posters, newspaper advertisements and letters.

# information release



79-039

## KITS CAN HELP YOU PICK A HEALTH CAREER

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 31) - Considering a career in the health care field?

Your choice isn't limited to a doctor, nurse, dentist or their professional assistants. There's more than 20 other health service careers you might want to consider too. Physiotherapists, homemakers, x-ray technologists and dietitians are but a few of the other health-care specialists who work in the Northwest Territories.

To help people decide what health-service career they'd pick, the Territorial government's department of health has prepared a slide-tape show and careers kits.

The kits contain more than 30 career profiles that tell what each worker does and what you have to do to learn the job. It also lists the people you can contact to get more information about each career.

The career profile on an ambulance operator, for example, will tell you the job involves more than transporting a patient in an ambulance. The operator also assesses emergency situations, decides on immediate care and provides the accident victim with a safe, smooth trip to the hospital.

(more)

You'll learn through the package that university degrees or college diplomas aren't always a necessity for a career in the health field. You'll learn that nurses in the North not only work in hospitals but also in nursing stations, doctors' offices, health centres and health-care programs.

Some of the health career kits will be sent to schools, hospitals, nursing stations and other key centres throughout the North. If these agencies want more, or for individuals or groups, copies are available from the department of health. As well, the slide-tape show can be borrowed from the department. Requests for the material should be sent to: Health Programs and Standards, Department of Health, Government of the N.W.T., Yellowknife, N.W.T., X1A 2L9.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-040

## HEALTH-CARE TURNOVER SOON?

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 31) - Arnold McCallum is hopeful that in a few weeks the federal government will begin preparations to turn over some of its health-care responsibilities to the Territories.

The executive member responsible for health told Territorial Council Tuesday the Territorial Government has been trying for several years to gain control of all N.W.T. health services.

The federal department of health and welfare operates all nursing stations in the North and hospitals at Edzo and Inuvik, as well as being responsible for the physicians' services and patient transportation associated with them.

It is the two hospitals and related physicians' services Mr. McCallum says the federal government is now ready to start turning over to the N.W.T. Government.

The territorial department now operates the Territorial Health Insurance Services (T.H.I.S.) program, professional training, medicare and supplementary health programs.

Discussion of the turnover came up during council's study of the department's 1979-80 spending plans, which amount to \$26.45 million.

(more)

HEALTH-CARE TURNOVER SOON/ - 2

Expecting the turnover to occur in stages, Mr. McCallum commented the turnover in the remaining areas in which the federal government is involved would "take a little longer". He said he hoped the transfer of personnel from federal to territorial public service could start within a year.

Other members were not so optimistic.

"We have been chipping away at this ever since I can remember," observed David Searle (Yellowknife South). "I hope the matter concludes within the term of his (Mr. McCallum's) life."

- 30 -

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# information release



79-041

## BUREAUCRACY WORRIES COUNCILLORS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan 31.) - Territorial councillors are concerned that there's too much bureaucracy involved in getting some drivers' licences.

As well, they are worried about the confidentiality of the medical information some people must provide.

They want the department of public services, which issues drivers' licences, to drop a two-page medical examination form in favor of something simpler that states the only thing the government needs to know from a doctor - whether or not the individual is fit enough to drive.

During Tuesday examination of the department's 1979-80 spending plans, Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) brought up the issue. It concerns operators' licences for such vehicles as school buses and taxis.

Councillors weren't objecting to the need for medical exams. What concerns them is the licensing system's need to have all this medical information in government files, and how secure it is in their filing cabinets.

As a result, the department will now try to come up with a simple form.

(more)

## BUREAUCRACY WORRIES COUNCILLORS - 2

More paperwork "is the price you pay for having a better system", said Vic Irving, director of public services. The N.W.T. introduced a new medical form in 1978. It is patterned after Alberta's.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) also objected to the fact the medical examination forms include an individual's Social Insurance Number (S.I.N.). He called for its removal.

When asked why the government has to have two pages of medical information on file, Mr. Irving said the form is there simply as a check list to help doctors and that there is no legal requirement to fill it out. He said the same applied to the S.I.N. number. The director noted the most important item on the medical form is the doctor's signature.

He agreed with Mr. Nickerson that the department could easily use a simplified form signed by a doctor that states only that a person is healthy enough to qualify for a licence.

In other Tuesday business:

. Bill Lyall (Central Arctic) gave a short reply to Commissioner Hodgson's opening address. He said a priority in his area is finding ways to resolve disputed proposed boundaries involved in Western Arctic Inuvialuit land claims. The Cambridge Bay businessman indicated he planned to seek re-election.

. Members learned that a herd of 75 reindeer, transplanted last year from outside Tuktoyaktuk to the Belcher Islands in southern Hudson's Bay, is healthy and multiplying.

(more)

BUREAUCRACY WORRIES COUNCILLORS - 3

. One of several airlines invited to appear before council at this session to discuss the state of air service in the North is reluctant to do so. Council learned that Nordair takes the position it reports only to the federal Air Transport Committee. Northward Airlines has agreed to appear, but no date has been set.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-042

## PARKS CANADA ATTACKED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 1) - Territorial Council rejects Parks Canada's proposal to create national parks in the Northwest Territories mainly for preservation and wants future parks set up under Territorial legislation.

Al Davidson, assistant deputy minister of the federal government's department of Indian and Northern Affairs, appeared before Territorial Council Tuesday to explain the federal government's proposal to set aside national parks in areas that represent each of the natural regions of the country. Parks Canada, which is part of the department, hopes to establish 18 new national parks. Ten of them would be in the N.W.T.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River) said he's concerned that parks lately "are being conserved for everything except people".

About a year ago the federal government proposed national parks be set up in five areas of the N.W.T. - in the Mackenzie Delta, on Banks Island, on Ellesmere Island, at Bathurst Inlet and at Wager Bay. Sometime over the next decade it will propose an additional five parks be set up in the N.W.T.

(more)

Mr. Davidson explained that the 10 national parks would represent five per cent of the land in the N.W.T., an amount far less than that used for national parks in Alberta and Alaska.

"Five per cent sounds in one sense like a considerable area but if one talks about a balance in the use of lands between preservation and development, that leaves 95 per cent of lands with the possibility of development," he told council. Mr. Davidson explained that his visit to council was part of the consultation the federal government promised to carry out with the people of the North to see whether the proposed five national parks in the N.W.T. should be set up.

The assistant deputy minister explained that the chief purpose in setting up national parks is to preserve an area that represents a natural region of the country. He said the use and enjoyment of the parks is a second priority.

"...Five per cent of the Northwest Territories' lands are to be devoted to pristine parks, parks that are going to be preserved for somebody, God knows who, because we will not be able to get into them," said Mr. McCallum. "And yet the total land mass that is turned over to the (territorial) government by the federal government is 50 times less. We have 1.1 per cent of the land mass and parks will get five per cent."

Mr. McCallum wondered aloud why Parks Canada is the only group in the country allowed to conserve lands for the education and enjoyment of Canadians. "I come from a province in Canada that for years was run by absentee landlords and quite a while ago they rose up against this..."

(more)

He feels the Northwest Territories would be in a better position to handle land in the Territory and to decide what should be done with it. Mr. McCallum suggested that Parks Canada isn't consulting with the people of the North in its plans for national parks but rather "telling us what is going to happen."

"I think it is time that we have to tell the government of Canada to listen to what we are saying. Simply coming down and telling us what is going on cannot be the basis of any consultation," said Mr. McCallum. Mr. McCallum believes that if the federal government had its wish "with all their vested interests that are ambiguous" the entire N.W.T. would be conserved.

"In fact," noted an angry Mr. McCallum "I wish that Parks Canada would drive out and let us take over ourselves."

John Steen (Western Arctic) echoed Mr. McCallum's comments on the reluctance of the federal government to turn over the control of land to the elected people of the North.

"It goes to show how little the federal government recognizes our ability to take care of our own resources, our own lands," he said.

Peter Ernerk (Keewatin) wanted assurance that the native people of the North would be allowed to pursue their traditional use of the land - hunting, trapping and fishing - in national parks. Parks Canada responded they would.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) pointed out that the National Parks Act makes it quite clear that parks should be set up not only for preservation purposes but for the use and enjoyment of people as well. He said the proposed parks in the N.W.T. will exclude their use by people.

(more)



"That exclusion is obtained in all kinds of subtle ways, by there being no access, by there being no camping grounds, by there being prohibited flying in and prohibited this and that... Unless these parks permit intelligent use and enjoyment by the public, I am 100 per cent personally opposed to any further creation of them," he said.

"I do not see the purpose of setting aside areas where people cannot now, nor in the foreseeable future ever have, reasonable access to them or enjoyment of them."

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) said the people of the North have learned to distrust Parks Canada more than any other part of government.

"I sometimes think the idea of these wilderness parks is an attempt by the government to tie up as much land as possible at minimum expense... These wilderness parks become very much the personal domain of people within the employ of the (federal) Parks department."

- 30 -

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# information release



79-043

## STEEN REJECTS ALL LAND CLAIMS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 2) - John Steen says he'll personally reject any land claims agreement because he doesn't feel Canadians should have to "pay twice" for their native people.

"All I demand, as any other Canadian, is to be treated equally," said the native from Tuktoyaktuk who represents the Western Arctic.

He was speaking Thursday in reply to Commissioner Stuart Hodgson's opening address to Territorial Council.

"I am not saying that natives should be forgotten. All I am saying is that natives desire a special interest, but (let's) not overdo it," he cautioned.

"I think it is wrong to have the Canadian public pay us twice for our land claims, pay us twice to keep us alive."

Mr. Steen said the Canadian people through their government are already providing well for northern natives.

(more)

"One only has to look at what we get already. We get free medical care, free dental care and free schooling. We use your airplanes and your buses to go to hospitals and schools. We get subsidized housing. In many cases it is free. We get our water hauled and our sewage hauled away for free. You will not allow us to starve because you have a relief program. You allow us to hunt all our game. You look for us when we are lost; you provide police services when we are in danger. What else do we want?", commented Mr. Steen.

Mr. Steen commended his native colleagues for sticking to their beliefs and staying with Territorial Council during the "Berger day" when, says Mr. Steen, native councillors were threatened by native organizations in the North.

"It proves that natives in this Assembly cannot be blown around in the wind," he said.

Mr. Steen feels much of what Territorial Council has been saying over the years was endorsed by Commissioner Hodgson during his opening address to Council.

"He (the Commissioner) was around when we needed him most, but his time of glory has gone. I am only saying that the position of the Commissioner is no longer needed and that he has served in an era when in my opinion no one other than Stuart Hodgson could have done it and done such a magnificent job."

He also congratulated Deputy Commissioner John Parker on his appointment as the next Commissioner.

In other business Thursday, council looked over the spending plans of the department of health for the next fiscal year beginning April 1. The department is seeking council's approval to spend an estimated \$26.45 million in 1979-80.

# information release



79-044

## BUREAUCRATS TRYING TO SPLIT N.W.T., SAYS McCALLUM

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 2) - Bureaucrats in the federal government's department of Indian and northern affairs are trying to divide, conquer and control the Northwest Territories through the settlement of native land claims, Arnold McCallum told Territorial Council Thursday.

"We are in danger of becoming a balkanized territory, a huddle of reservations, a multitude of ghettos. We will never become one unified political entity," said the member responsible for constitutional development in the N.W.T.

He said the people of the N.W.T., native groups included, must now band together and convince the minister of Indian and northern affairs and the Cabinet of "this federal folly and deceit."

Mr. McCallum talked for close to an hour in reply to Commissioner Hodgson's opening address to the 67th Session of council. He labeled his 33-page speech the "most important I have ever made in this House."

Near the end, Mr. McCallum called for a special session of Territorial Council in March to begin planning the N.W.T.'s drive to responsible government. He says council will also be able to discuss at that time their paper on constitutional development to be presented to 'Bud' Drury, the prime minister's special representative for constitutional development in the North.

(more)

BUREAUCRATS TRYING TO SPLIT N.W.T., SAYS McCALLUM - 2

"This special session should be a turning point in the development by northerners of responsible government, and posterity will, I hope, remember it as the beginning of a dramatic cure for the social and economic disaster we and the native people may very well be facing in the negotiations of native land claims."

He spoke of this potential "disaster".

"It now appears - contrary to the wishes of both the Minister (of Indian and northern affairs) and of the Cabinet - that by policy the bureaucrats of the department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) are taking deliberate steps through the settlement of native land claims to erode the jurisdiction of the Government of the N.W.T. and fragment this Territory and its peoples into opposing and competitive groups," he said.

He referred to the recent agreement-in-principle on land claims reached between the federal government and the Committee for Original People's Entitlement (C.O.P.E.), the native group representing the Inuvialuit - the Inuit of the Western Arctic.

Mr. McCallum says that although the Inuvialuit are regarding the agreement-in-principle "as a step towards their liberation" they are, in effect, setting up a direct relationship with the federal government.

"It (the agreement-in-principle) guarantees the Inuvialuit's servitude to the federal bureaucracy, binds them to it more than ever before. It is an instrument, not of liberation, but of repression. It puts them in the same position as the native peoples on reserves in the south: the victims of an unresponsive and dehumanizing bureaucratic machine called DIAND (the department of Indian and northern affairs), a monolith that doesn't encourage change and original thinking, but fights it," he said.

(more)

"I now agree with the Indian Brotherhood (Dene Nation) of the N.W.T. I now agree with Inuit Tapirisat of Canada. I don't agree that the federal government is the culprit. As I've said, I believe the federal bureaucracy is. But I do agree with these groups as to what is happening: divide the people of the Northwest Territories and, by so doing, conquer and control the peoples of the Northwest Territories."

Mr. McCallum says the federal government has repeatedly stated its belief in the development of strong government in and for the North.

"And it naturally follows that if these aims are reached their power (the power of the bureaucrats) will be reduced, and that DIAND will loose its traditional hold on the political jugular vein of the N.W.T."

Mr. McCallum said the C.O.P.E. agreement-in-principle "is not a progressive document for social change. It is, potentially, a bog that will ensure that change for the Inuvialuit comes only with painful effort".

He referred to a speech made last October to Territorial Council by member Tom Butters(Inuvik) that emphasized Council's desire to see an early and fair settlement of legitimate claims of native northerners. Mr. McCallum said council has been pressing that point since 1972.

He said Mr. Butters, in his remarks to council that day in October, had identified four principles which he saw as being key elements in any claims settlement in the Northwest Territories. Mr. McCallum says those principles are:

(more)

. that the N.W.T. government, as constituted under the N.W.T. Act, is the senior government in the N.W.T., representing all northern residents. And that the settlement of native claims would not erode any power of the Territorial government,

. that the federal government, through the settlement of native claims, will not give any group power and responsibility that has not yet been delegated to the Territorial government.

. that the settlement of native claims in the N.W.T. will not prejudice the continued development of strong democratic government at the community level; and

. that the traditional use of land and resources by native peoples, including Metis who are not included in a land claim settlement will be preserved.

"The native claims advanced to date include demands for political control, the setting up and delivery of social programs, preferential treatment in economic activities, and control of land use and wildlife.

"All of the elements aside from land and money impinge on the Northwest Territories Act which is the constitution of the Northwest Territories. Who better than this legislature(council) to deal with our own constitution?" he said.

Mr. McCallum pointed out that the office of native claims, part of the federal government, had asked for council's participation in the claims process. However, says Mr. McCallum, council hasn't been involved.

(more)

BUREAUCRATS TRYING TO SPLIT N.W.T., SAYS McCALLUM - 5

He said that while federal policy is to reach a settlement which includes social, cultural and economic programs for development "it defers constitutional development of the N.W.T. pending Mr. Drury's recommendations. (Mr. Drury is the Prime Minister's special representative studying constitutional development in the North.)

"This is the essence of the strategy of divide and conquer," Mr. McCallum emphasized.

Mr. McCallum went into detail on the four principles Council feels must be followed in reaching any claims settlements in the N.W.T. "to show just exactly how these principles have been ignored."

He pointed out that the Inuvialuit, through the settlement of their claims, will own 37,000 sq. miles of land in the Western Arctic, while the land controlled by the Territorial government in the entire N.W.T. is 1,209 sq. miles.

He said the Territorial government has been assured that the eastern boundary of the land C.O.P.E. is claiming wouldn't pose a problem and that the residents of Coppermine and Cambridge Bay had agreed to the boundary. (Coppermine and Cambridge Bay natives will be covered under a claims agreement drawn up the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada.)

"The people of Coppermine, and of Cambridge Bay, are now rightfully disturbed and worried that some of their traditional hunting lands are within C.O.P.E. lands and that access to these lands will be denied them," noted Mr. McCallum.

(more)



BUREAUCRATS TRYING TO SPLIT N.W.T., SAYS McCALIUM - 6

He fears non-Inuvialuit who have traditionally used lands within the area claimed by C.O.P.E. will be deprived of the benefits resulting from the development of the land.

He feels the "bureaucrats" failure to recognize the four principles laid out by council will be detrimental to the future of all N.W.T. residents.

"If this is a precedent for other agreements, it is the beginning - potentially - of a legal, constitutional, administrative and jurisdictional maze that could envelope us all and shatter our fragile union as effectively as dropping a jigsaw puzzle off a 10-storey building."

- 30 -

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# information release



79-045

## COUNCIL WANTS RESIDENT REQUIREMENT DUMPED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 2) - Territorial Council wants a section removed from proposed territorial regulations that would force big game outfitters to become year-round residents of the N.W.T.

A motion introduced by Pete Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear) and passed by Council asks that the residency requirement be removed from sections dealing with guides and outfitters in the proposed regulations on the management and conservation of wildlife.

Mr. Fraser argued that many of the outfitters who don't live permanently in the N.W.T. would find it impractical to become residents and would be forced to close down their operations. He said this would deprive some people in his constituency from the benefits of business the outfitters provide.

Only three of eight persons currently licensed to operate big game hunting operations live in the N.W.T., said Peter Ernerk (Keewatin), the executive member responsible for the Territorial government's department of natural and cultural affairs.

Mr. Fraser said because most outfitters only operate during the three months of summer they must have other jobs to keep them going. He said with the current economic state of the Mackenzie area the outfitters from the South would have difficulty finding work.

(more)

Mr. Ernerk said the proposed residency requirement for big game outfitters was recommended to the government by the N.W.T. Game Advisory Council and many hunters' and trappers' associations during consultation with them on the new Wildlife Ordinance. He said, however, that the government would be prepared to take the advice of council as well.

He said some northerners are unhappy with southern outfitters because some don't make contact with local people or provide them with any business such as purchasing supplies locally.

"If the outfitters which are licensed now decide to sell out rather than comply with the residency requirement then the industry will not certainly collapse," he noted.

Bill Moynihan, an outfitter, appeared before council as a witness and representative of the outfitters association.

He argued that some years ago the government encouraged people from outside the N.W.T. to become outfitters as nobody in the North was qualified to do so. He said on that basis it would be unfair for those outfitters who had invested to be told they could no longer operate in the North unless they became permanent residents.

The debate wound up with six of the 10 councillors who voted favoring removal of the residency requirement.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-046



## COUNCIL WANTS STUDY OF SUBSIDIZED MEDICATION PROGRAM

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - Territorial Council wants the administration to look into a new approach of subsidizing northerners for drugs needed to treat medical conditions.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) won approval of a motion asking the Territorial government to study the feasibility of paying for drugs to treat all medical conditions once an individual or family has already paid a certain amount for medication each year.

Mr. Nickerson made it clear that he was not proposing the government look into the possibility of providing free medication for all northerners but rather a system he labelled "catastrophe insurance".

He said that such an approach would be in line with the approach the government now takes in subsidizing northerners for the cost of travel to another community for needed medical care.

The motion was introduced during Council's study of the spending plans for the department of health's supplementary health programs. Under the supplementary health programs, the government will pay the costs of medication needed to treat 11 medical conditions not covered under hospital insurance or medicare.

(more)

## COUNCIL WANTS STUDY OF SUBSIDIZED MEDICATION PROGRAM...2

Mr. Nickerson wanted to know what rationale the government used in determining which conditions it would cover for free drugs under its supplementary health programs. He said he couldn't understand why those particular 11 medical conditions were covered when several others were not.

Arnold McCallum, executive member responsible for the department of health, said each of the 11 medical conditions are covered for a specific reason. He said some are covered because they are highly contagious diseases and because they are long-term illnesses that require regular, expensive medication.

Mr. Nickerson wasn't satisfied.

"It doesn't make sense to me why you should be able to get free drugs for one medical condition and not another." He said several other medical conditions that aren't covered are also contagious or require regular and expensive medication.

Meanwhile, Ludy Pudluk (High Arctic) was concerned that some people in his constituency are not being escorted by a nurse or qualified medical aid when being evacuated to the South for medical treatment not available in their community. He cited an example of a patient who was accompanied by a 'caretaker' on a five-hour plane trip to a medical centre outside the Territories.

He said the 'caretaker' was not qualified to administer oxygen, give needles or handle any other treatment the patient may have needed during the trip.

(more)

COUNCIL WANTS STUDY OF SUBSIDIZED MEDICATION PROGRAM...3

Mr. McCallum agreed that patients should be escorted by a qualified health worker but suggested that perhaps it was impossible to do so in the particular case outlined by Mr. Pudluk.

He said he'd pass on the concern to the federal department of health and welfare which is responsible for nursing stations in the Northwest Territories.

Some other members were concerned that not enough work is being done by the government to make northerners, particularly natives, aware of health programs, medical conditions and ways they may be prevented. They called upon the government to step-up its communications.

Mr. McCallum explained the government is now preparing health information programs which he felt would meet their concerns.

Council completed its study of the budget for the department of health Friday. The department will spend an estimated \$26.45 million during 1979-80.

-30-

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# information release



79-047

## COUNCIL NEEDS MORE POWER FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) says Territorial Council can't act in the best interest of northerners until it is given more power from the federal government.

That message was repeated by Mark Evaluarjuk (Foxe-Basin) and Ipeelee Kilabuk (Central Baffin). All three were speaking in reply to Commissioner Stuart Hodgson's opening address to the 67th Session of Territorial Council.

"There is no one man to be blamed for the way economic reform is taking place in the Mackenzie district of the Northwest Territories but we can be sure nothing will change so long as policies directed at northern people remain the same. This Legislature (Council) has to take more power from the federal government, even at the risk of acting illegally, if it is to be truly representative of the majority of northern indigenous peoples," said Mr. Lafferty.

"There were so many times I sat in this House and found frustration because I continually heard one simple word, it is not legal for this Legislature to act in the best interests of those who elect them."

(more)

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin), also speaking in reply to the Commissioner's opening address, challenged the next Territorial Council to come to grips with some of the social problems of the North, many of which he said stemmed from the misuse of alcohol.

He called on Council to think about the future of children in the N.W.T. in light of 1979 being the Year of the Child.

"All the residents of the Northwest Territories have to accept the responsibility for the children of this country, to provide them with a wholesome, decent opportunity that is free from the anxiety and fear that so many of them experience right across the Northwest Territories," said Mr. Pearson.

In other business Friday, Deputy Commissioner John Parker outlined the direction the department of education will take over the next few years.

The department will be introducing Grade 10 in many of the smaller communities, and offering a junior high school diploma upon completion of it.

The department hopes to offer more classroom instruction in the local native language when requested, with English as a second language.

It also hopes decisions on such things as staffing in schools can be made at the local level.

The department plans to develop a college system for the North and review the subject of special education.



# information release



79-048

## ALBERTA ASKED TO STRENGTHEN N.W.T. TIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - Tom Butters says growth in the southern Mackenzie could be in line for a boost as a result of N.W.T.-initiated approaches for closer economic planning ties with Alberta.

The territorial executive member responsible for economic development and tourism said he felt optimistic after a Feb. 1 meeting with Bob Dowling, his Alberta counterpart.

Mr. Butters said he hoped the meeting would be the first of many joint planning steps in the areas of tourism promotion and product marketing, steps that could end up with the N.W.T. and its products becoming better known overseas.

Mr. Butters was accompanied by two territorial economic officials, department director Barry Shead and planning chief John Reid.

"It's too early to get into specifics," stated Mr. Butters, "but Mr. Dowling pledged his full support to the idea of developing joint business and tourism programs. The meeting was held at our request."

Mr. Butters said discussions included N.W.T. ideas on ways to increase tourism and product promotion, resource planning and highway links.

(more)

ALBERTA ASKED TO STRENGTHEN N.W.T. TIES...2

"We asked about using Alberta's overseas offices as outlets for N.W.T. tourist information and product marketing," noted Mr. Butters. "It interested the Alberta people considerably."

Mr. Dowling's department has offices in London, Tokyo and California.

"The potential is great," said Mr. Butters. "In furs alone, there's probably a \$125-million market."

"If we can piggyback Alberta's window of the world, it will be to our advantage."

Mr. Butters said he wanted the N.W.T. to be in on the ground floor of planning projects that would affect both jurisdictions, such as extension of oil and natural gas explorations and the proposed Slave River power project.

"We want to be planning partners," stated Mr. Butters. "We want to be in on the beginning, not just afterthoughts."

Another area of common interest is the possibility of developing a circle highway route linking Fort Smith and Wood Buffalo National Park to northeastern Alberta through Fort Chipewyan and the paving of the Mackenzie Highway north of the 60th parallel.

"There will be ongoing talks in all these areas to see what can be worked out," said Mr. Butters. "We are delighted with the reception we got from Mr. Dowling."

# information release



79-049

## COMMISSIONER CONGRATULATES CO-OPS ON 20th ANNIVERSARY

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - Commissioner Stuart Hodgson is urging northerners to join in CO-OP 20, a celebration of the 20th anniversary of co-operatives in the Arctic.

Many special events, awards, publications and exhibitions are being planned for this year by co-ops in northern communities.

Commissioner Hodgson says CO-OP 20 will give northerners an opportunity to recognize the benefits the co-operatives have made to the economic and social development of the North.

"Co-operatives have provided a background from which many of the present leaders in both the N.W.T. and Arctic Quebec have come. They have also provided the means for northerners to gain access to and control over many of the economic factors governing their daily lives." he said.

"While the development of co-operatives in the N.W.T. has not always been as successful as anticipated, the co-operative movement has made far-reaching contributions to the thousands of people who have been involved in co-operative development over the past 20 years.

"Clearly their impact on the communities of the Northwest Territories is significant to the economic well-being of the North," the commissioner said.

-more-

COMMISSIONER CONGRATULATES CO-OPS ON 20th ANNIVERSARY...2

Today there are 52 co-ops in the Canadian Arctic Co-operatives Federation (for the N.W.T.) and La Federation des Co-operatives du Nouveau-Quebec (for Arctic Quebec).

- 30 -

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# information release

79-050



WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU CROSS A SKI-DOO AND A BEAR?

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - Bryan Pearson and Ludy Pudluk tried to outdo each other Tuesday in one of Territorial Council's lighter moments.

The two councillors, who both appreciate a good chuckle, brightened up an otherwise serious afternoon of budget talk.

Mr. Pudluk (High Arctic) repeated concerns he expressed last fall that polar bears were losing fear of man and beast, almost coming to the doorsteps in his home community of Resolute Bay. He is worried that a youngster will stumble across a bear during the winter darkness.

Dogs are the answer, said one colleague; they would make enough noise to scare a bear away. Not good enough, replied Ludy, most people now own ski-doo's rather than dogs and, besides, the inbred dogs of today are not as fearless as the pure-bred husky dog.

Mr. Pearson (South Baffin) said he had the answer. "Perhaps you could cross snowmobiles with dogs," he told Mr. Pudluk, "and you could develop some 'ski-poos'."

The Frobisher Bay merchant did have a serious suggestion, however, advising Mr. Pudluk that his community possibly could acquire the services of Bill Carpenter's Eskimo dog breeding project, which is based in Yellowknife. "They are more than willing to ship these dogs to the settlements," observed Mr. Pearson.

(more)

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU CROSS A SKI-DOO AND A BEAR?...2

Mr. Pudluk got in the last word.

Saying the polar bear watch-dogs would need to run free to be effective, he wondered how they could be immune from the dog control officer's rifle.

"Maybe they could run around wearing a collar saying, 'I am a guardian'," he quipped.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-051

## MEAT TRADING ENCOURAGED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - Peter Ernerk favors the exchange of country foods between settlements and says the government supports it.

Mr. Ernerk (Keewatin) told Territorial Council Tuesday the first country food store opened up on a trial basis late last year in Frobisher Bay. It is operated by the local hunters' and trappers' association.

The matter was discussed Tuesday as members studied the \$9.5 million main spending plans of the department of natural and cultural affairs for 1979-80. Mr. Ernerk is the executive member responsible for the department.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) said inter-settlement trade makes a lot of sense where one community might have a surplus of caribou skins or meat and a neighbouring community might be in short supply.

Mr. Ernerk assured members the concept has government support. The country food outlet at Frobisher Bay gets its supplies from other Baffin communities. It may expand to acquiring meats - such as musk-oxen - from other parts of the Territories.

(more)

The executive member told Mr. Nickerson the only licence needed to engage in this trade within the Territories is a general hunting licence, which allows the licensee to barter.

Tom Butters (Inuvik) commented the development of domestic food supply within the N.W.T. is one economic idea outlined in council's "Priorities for the North" political development position paper. He said country food trading has the potential to become a sophisticated northern industry, even involving barter of soapstone carvings and sea mammals. He said it could be discussed in detail when the department of economic development and tourism's spending plans come before council later in the session.

Mr. Ernerk added the only area that could be questioned is growth of commercial caribou meat sales. He said it might add to the problems of some caribou herds that biologists suspect are declining.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-052

## MORE DOLLARS SOUGHT FOR COMMUNITY LIBRARIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - The amount of money matters little when Territorial councillors latch onto a subject that catches their interest.

Spending an additional \$15,000 for Yellowknife's library had Territorial Council talking for a good half-hour Tuesday.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) finally won his point, but not before at least one other member complained that Yellowknife's always getting more than its share of government money.

It all started during study of 1979-80 spending plans for the department of natural and cultural affairs. Budget planners had set aside a total of \$37,000 in grant money to help cover operating costs of community libraries in the N.W.T.

Mr. Searle wanted assurances that \$15,000 would be there to help the Yellowknife library pay more part-time staff and keep the facility open longer, and he suggested the budget be increased by that amount.

Several members objected, saying this would give the territorial capital more than its share of the grant money.

(more)

Bill Lyall (Central Arctic) said he was opposed because "Yellowknife is always getting more than half of everything".

Mr. Searle retorted the capital has 20 per cent of the N.W.T. population and there is "a demonstrated need" for longer library hours.

Pete Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear) said the request for extra money should refer to all communities, not just Yellowknife.

Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) noted other growing communities do not have as strong an economic base to help pay their own way for such a facility.

Richard Whitford (Great Slave Lake) supported Mr. Searle, reminding members the community library in Yellowknife is available to Sir John Franklin School students, many of whom come from homes in other parts of the Territories.

Mr. Searle chided his colleagues, saying "we should all be a little bigger and be prepared to offer support for other areas, not just grab for what we can get ourselves".

The Yellowknife lawyer finally won his point as members voted in favor of asking for the extra \$15,000.

"I'm sorry I didn't ask for \$10 million," Mr. Searle quipped. "I would have got it a lot easier than asking for \$15,000."

# information release



79-053

## FORT GOOD HOPE, PERRY ISLAND, TO RECEIVE SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8) - Special ARDA assistance totalling approximately \$32,000 has been approved for projects located in the Fort Good Hope and Cambridge Bay areas. The funds will be used to purchase equipment to harvest food and furs.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, Territorial Government executive member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Fort Good Hope Band Council has been offered \$12,000 to buy eight portable radios for full-time trappers who spend most of the year in the bush with their families. The main aim of this project is to provide better communication between the bush camps and the settlement at Fort Good Hope, so that news and information may be passed back and forth, and emergency help obtained much faster.

Regular radio communication will give the trappers access to hunter kill data, information on fur auction dates, and an efficient means of arranging fur pick-ups. The trappers and their families (approximately 50 people) will be able to advise their base of travel plans, as well as arrange for extra supplies and medical care when necessary.

(more)

Perry Island Outpost Camp in the Cambridge Bay area has been offered \$20,000 to purchase natural resource harvesting equipment to increase the camp efficiency. Eight families, made up of 41 people, live in the Perry Island camp year-round. Their entire livelihood comes from the land and the making of handicrafts.

Although the camp will also receive outpost camp funding, none of that money can be used for the acquisition of equipment such as traps, tents, fishnets, ski-doo's and an assortment of spare parts.

Funds for the two offers will be provided by DREE. The wildlife service of the Territorial Government's department of natural and cultural affairs is responsible for field work on the hunters, trappers and fishing portion of the federal-territorial Special ARDA program. Commercial projects are administered by the Territorial Government's department of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-054

## FREE DRUGS TO TREAT DIABETES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8 ) - Northerners suffering from diabetes can now get free medication to treat the condition.

The Territorial government's department of health has extended coverage under its supplementary health programs to include free drugs for diabetes. The department will also cover the costs of supplies - such as syringes - needed to administer the drugs.

The coverage for diabetes is retroactive to Jan. 1.

Diabetes is a disease that results when the pancreas fails to produce enough insulin. Insulin is needed to break down foodstuffs.

Arnold McCallum, the member responsible for the department of health, says most diabetics have the condition for life and must pay high costs for drugs. He said the government had been requested to cover the condition by several N.W.T. residents. There are about 66 diabetics in the Territories.

Persons who have already purchased drugs for diabetes since Jan. 1 can submit their receipts for reimbursement to the department of health. The receipts should be sent to: Director, Department of Health, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2L9.

(more)

FREE DRUGS TO TREAT DIABETES - 2

To get free medication from now on persons should take their prescription to a public health nurse employed by the federal department of health and welfare. The nurses are located at nursing stations in small communities and at public health centres or clinics in the larger communities. The nurse will stamp the prescription which indicates to the local pharmacist that the drugs should be given at no cost. The pharmacist will be reimbursed by the department of health.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-055

## McCALLUM ANGERED OVER PARKS OFFICIAL'S VIEWS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8) - An angry Arnold McCallum said Wednesday that a federal Parks Canada official has had the "unmitigated gall" to publicly question the integrity of Territorial Council.

He was referring to a radio interview with Parks Canada senior planner John Carruthers, which was broadcast earlier in the day on CBC Mackenzie. Mr. Carruthers was commenting on a presentation made to Council last week by Parks Canada official Al Davidson. Mr. Davidson had outlined to Council the federal government's desire to establish 10 wilderness parks in the Northwest Territories during the next decade.

Mr. McCallum felt Mr. Carruthers' comments during the radio interview reinforced some of Council's feelings on the attitude of Parks Canada officials.

"He questioned the integrity of this House in my opinion," said Mr. McCallum.

Mr. McCallum said Mr. Carruthers implied that members of Council were trying to "draw attention" to themselves by expressing dissatisfaction with Parks Canada's proposal to set up wilderness parks mainly for conservation purposes in various parts of the Territories.

(more)

"He indicated that we had sought to draw attention to ourselves ... because we are coming towards an election," the member said.

Mr. McCallum said Mr. Carruther's remarks implied that Council's goals for the useage of land in the Territories "were less than truthful".

He said Council should "take exception" to the remarks and that he was taking exception to them not only as a member of Council but "on a personal basis as well."

- 30 -

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# information release

79-056



## BUTTERS URGES POSITIVE APPROACH TO ECONOMIC PLANNING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8) - Tom Butters (Inuvik) challenged northerners Wednesday to take a positive approach to economic development in the Northwest Territories.

"We have got to quit crying and we have to start moving," said the member responsible for the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism.

He said northerners have become increasingly pessimistic over the past few years about the state of the economy in the Territories.

"I suggest to members and the people of the N.W.T. that we will go to hell in a basket unless we start hustling, unless we start taking advantage of the opportunities that exist in the Territories, develop the resources that exist in the Territories, ensure that the people who live in the Territories become actively involved in the economic opportunities that appear before us," Mr. Butters said.

Mr. Butters said the community of Hay River, hard-hit by the decision not to build a Mackenzie Valley pipeline at this time, is showing the positive approach everyone in the North must take to better their economic conditions.

Council began studying the 1979-80 spending plans of the department of economic development and tourism Wednesday. The department proposes to spend \$17.5 million in the coming fiscal year, an amount Mr. Butters says is a 10 per cent increase over the department's spendings during 1978-79.

(more)

BUTTERS URGES POSITIVE APPROACH TO ECONOMIC PLANNING...2

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) commented that \$75 to \$100 million had been spent by the department over the past decade and wondered what the Territories had to show for it.

Don Stewart (Hay River) suggested that many of the department's efforts are merely an extension of welfare. He wondered whether some of the department's loan and grant programs were like "pouring money down a bottomless pit".

John Steen (Western Arctic) suggested northern resources should be put to greater use with such things as a northern-based tannery. "There is so much fur around," he noted. "Even if these things are not viable, it is still a beginning".

Mr. Butters commented he found positive signs from last year's territorial-wide economic opportunities conference at Hay River and similar regional sessions in Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay. He said the conferences pointed out the diversity of northern needs and economic conditions, and he found a high level of business understanding expressed by community delegates.

Mr. Pearson suggested action should be taken to prepare Eastern Arctic residents for increased economic activity related to off-shore oil explorations in the region.

He pointed out that Greenlanders are developing an off-shore fishing industry and "we share the same water".

(more)

BUTTERS URGES POSITIVE APPROACH TO ECONOMIC PLANNING...3

Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) commented that council should look at long-range economic planning. Referring to his area in the southwestern N.W.T., he wondered what lies ahead after the Liard Highway is completed. The road, when finished in the early 1980s, would link the Mackenzie and Alaska highways, opening up his area to potential development.

Mr. Butters said new opportunities must be sought even though they are hard to come by.

He said a big concern of his is that too much resistance to development will discourage the developer, who would not hesitate to invest elsewhere.

"The danger in the North is that we not only kick the goose that lays the golden egg, but we also crush its head."

- 30 -

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## METIS LEADER WANTS BUREAUCRACY SIMPLIFIED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 9 ) - It would be a lot easier for northern businessmen, says Richard McNeely, if all funding agencies and loan programs in the Northwest Territories were amalgamated under one agency.

The president of the N.W.T. Metis Association calls the present set-up of federal and territorial programs a "maze" and he urged the Territorial government to take action to simplify it.

Mr. McNeely made the suggestion Thursday when he appeared before Territorial Council to talk about the Metis Development Corporation. Members were studying 1979-80 spending plans of the department of economic development and tourism and they wanted to hear from Mr. McNeely about the Metis approach to northern development.

He told members the corporation was set up to encourage what he called workable projects, ones that would lead to more growth rather than simply creating jobs.

He said the corporation would seek financing through existing sources such as the small business loan fund administered by the Territorial government, and through the federal department of regional economic expansion (DREE).

(more)

But he said these government services would serve the people better if they were amalgamated.

"This would make it far simpler and more efficient for anyone applying for a loan ... you would go to one agency, and from there I would imagine the only thing necessary if the project was approved would be Treasury Board approval, rather than this maze."

He said the Metis have urged Tom Butters, the executive member responsible for economic development and tourism, to consider the streamlining of funding sources.

Mr. McNeely told councillors the Metis Development Corporation was created to act as a spur to further and larger business activity in the N.W.T. He assured them it will be separate from the Metis Association's political arm. He explained the corporation's shares are now held in trust by the association until shareholders are organized.

He told members the corporation's first activity was a joint investment with a private firm to construct an office building in Yellowknife. The Metis Association and another group have leased office space in the building.

Mr. McNeely told Council he was optimistic about the future of the development corporation.

"We hope it becomes prominent" as a business force in the N.W.T., he said. "I would hope," he added, "that the department of economic development and tourism would do as much for us and all our members as it is supposed to do for other citizens of the N.W.T."

# information release



79-059

## REPORT IGNORES N.W.T.-COUNCILLORS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Territorial Council is unhappy that the recently-released report of the federal task force on national unity makes no mention of the Northwest Territories.

Members unanimously passed a motion Friday registering their "dismay" at what they consider an oversight.

"The problems we are having here are not being addressed," stated Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North), who introduced the motion. He said he believed the report simply echoes federal policies in relation to Quebec and the French language.

Said Mr. Nickerson: "We want to join Canada in the same way that people living in the other provinces have joined Canada. We do not like being left out."

He added that negative comments, such as those expressed by Quebec Premier Rene Levesque, seem to attract most of the attention. "You do not get very much attention for being positive." He said the task force report "is something of an insult to the people of the Northwest Territories" and an insult to Territorial Council.

Mr. Nickerson said sending the task force to Yellowknife for two days of hearings was a waste of the Canadian taxpayers' money and felt that Territorial Council had wasted its time preparing a brief.

(more)

REPORT IGNORES N.W.T.-COUNCILLORS...2

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), chairman of council's constitutional development committee, presented council's 11-page brief when the task force visited Yellowknife last year.

He agreed with Mr. Nickerson, saying a second Territorial Council paper to a federal committee received similar treatment. Mr. McCallum said a joint Senate-Commons committee studying the Canadian Constitution also made scant mention of the N.W.T. in its report.

"We have no voice now, none whatsoever, in getting across our views on the constitution and national unity," Mr. McCallum stated.

Council broke off regular business early Friday to hold a special meeting of its constitutional development committee.

Members huddled with two federal Opposition politicians, Conservatives Doug Neill and Walter Dinsdale.

The visitors reconfirmed their party's support of legislation that would increase the size of Territorial Council from the present 15 to 22 seats. They speculated the bill-an amendment to the N.W.T. Act-would come up for discussion in the House of Commons in late February.

Mr. Neill is his party's northern affairs critic and Mr. Dinsdale, an MP for 28 years, was northern affairs minister during the Diefenbaker administration.



## NO TAX ON PENSION SUPPLEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Pensioners in the Northwest Territories who receive a supplement to their old age security cheques from the Territorial government are assured the supplement is not taxable.

Tom Butters (Inuvik), the executive member responsible for social services, told Territorial Council Friday the \$50 supplement is not considered income for tax purposes.

Responding to a question from Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North), Mr. Butters told members it was too late to send the information to recipients with their February cheques but that the department is asking regional staff to pass on the word.

Mr. Butters explained that while the Old Age Security pension itself is considered income, a Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or spouse allowance is not. He said the territorial supplement is paid only to GIS and spouse allowance recipients and is therefore not taxable.

Mr. Butters noted the GIS is listed on the T-4A tax forms for information only.

The Territorial government started paying \$50 extra to GIS recipients last July, using funds derived from an increased N.W.T. tobacco tax.

(more)



NO TAX ON PENSION SUPPLEMENT...2

In other business Friday members voted to seek re-location of Northern Canada Power Commission headquarters from Edmonton to a place in the N.W.T. "that requires economic stimulus".

- 30 -

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# information release

79-061 P



## HEART DISEASE: THE NUMBER-ONE KILLER

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Every six minutes another Canadian dies of heart disease.

It's the leading cause of death in the country, accounting for almost 50 per cent of all deaths in Canada every year.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson, in an effort to make northerners better aware of the dangers of heart disease, has proclaimed February as Heart Month in the Northwest Territories.

Elaine Berthelet of the department of health says that there are ways people can reduce the chance they'll develop heart disease.

Consistent high blood pressure increases your risk of heart disease to four times normal. However, persons suffering from high blood pressure can take drugs and follow a diet as prescribed by a doctor.

A high cholesterol level increases your risk of heart attack to three times normal. A diet low in saturated fat, as advised by a doctor, can help.

(more)

HEART DISEASE: THE NUMBER-ONE KILLER - 2

Moderate obesity - up to twenty per cent above normal weight - can double your risk.

Smoking also increases the risk you'll suffer a heart attack at an early age. A person who smokes a pack a day runs the risk of heart disease and a four-pack-a-day smoker takes ten times the risk.

Being physically unfit will also increase your chances of a heart attack.

Ms. Berthelet says this year's Heart Month in the N.W.T. will focus on high blood pressure.

High blood pressure is a major cause of stroke, heart failure and kidney failure. It is often referred to as the silent disease because many people are unaware they have it.

"The tragedy of hypertension, the medical term for high blood pressure, is that half of the people who have it are unaware of it and of those who are aware, it is estimated that only one in four receives adequate treatment," says Ms. Berthelet.

Often the only way one can tell if they are suffering from high blood pressure is to be tested regularly.

"Research has developed drugs and other means of controlling high blood pressure in most cases". says Ms. Berthelet.

Information pamphlets on heart disease are being sent to schools in the North. Individuals or groups wanting the free material can write to: Department of Health, Government of the N.W.T., Yellowknife.

- 30 -

Also see release no: 79-062

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# information release

79-062



## POSTER CONTEST TO PUBLICIZE HEART MONTH

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - The department of health has invited all elementary and secondary schools in the Northwest Territories to participate in a poster contest publicizing Heart Month.

February has been proclaimed Heart Month in the N.W.T. by Commissioner Stuart Hodgson.

Elaine Berthelet of the department of health has sent a letter to school principals asking them to organize the contest in each of their schools. The aim of the posters is to make people aware of the dangers of heart disease and the lifestyle they should lead to reduce their chances of developing it.

Each school has been asked to judge their posters and select three winners. Ms. Berthelet expects results to start coming in by late February. Winners will be awarded a certificate by the department of health.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-064

## SOLAR ECLIPSE CAN CAUSE PERMANENT EYE DAMAGE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - The safest way to watch the solar eclipse this month is on television, warns the Territorial government's department of health.

The department says watching the moon partially or fully cover the sun on Feb. 26 by any other means could result in permanent eye damage. While viewing the eclipse invisible infra-red rays from the sun can blind you without you knowing it until it's too late.

During the last eclipse about 200 people in North America suffered permanent eye damage when they ignored the advice of medical specialists and viewed the phenomenon with their naked eye, says Elaine Berthelet of the department of health.

The department has asked the directors of the four government regions to pass on the warning to school principals. It fears children, unaware of the real dangers, might be tempted to look up.

The eclipse Feb. 26 will occur at different times in different areas of the Territories - somewhere between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

(more)

SOLAR ECLIPSE CAN CAUSE PERMANENT EYE DAMAGE - 2

All areas of the N.W.T. will experience a partial eclipse, except in the communities of Pangnirtung and Frobisher Bay where a total eclipse will occur. A total eclipse is when the light of the sun is completely blocked by the moon.

Ms. Berthelet says northerners living in communities without television will simply be unable to watch the eclipse safely.

Among materials definitely unsafe for use during a solar eclipse are: any color film, including black ends; sunglasses; polarizing filters, either singly, or in crossed pairs; smoked or soot-covered glass; photographic "neutral density" filters supplied as gelatin filters, either unmounted or in glass; any colored plastic or glass not specifically identified for being safe for solar viewing.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-065

## A FRESH IDEA FOR NORTHERN FISHING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - The idea of fishing commercially for halibut and shrimp off-shore in the Eastern Arctic has caught the interest of territorial councillors.

Members voted Monday to study the idea as a means of stimulating economic growth in the region.

Ludy Pudluk (High Arctic) raised the issue in Council saying an off-shore fishery could be established around Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay.

He introduced a motion asking the Territorial government to study the feasibility of developing an Eastern Arctic commercial fishery. The motion was carried.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) said a study should not be expensive and he suggested all that needs to be done is to ask Newfoundland fisheries' experts to send a trawler into the Davis Strait, east of Baffin Island, drop over their nets and do a test catch. The marketing possibilities are bright, contended Mr. Pearson. "Products could be flown out fresh from Frobisher Bay".

(more)

A FRESH IDEA FOR NORTHERN FISHING - 2

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) assured members that the presence of off-shore oil and gas explorations activity would not have an adverse effect on commercial fishing. He commented that the two industries are compatible elsewhere, such as in the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. Nickerson said the only problem might be the relatively-short time available for fishing when water in the area would be ice-free.

In other business Monday:

Council learned the international boundary in the Beaufort Sea remains under dispute after more than a year and a half of talks involving Canadian and United States negotiators.

Tom Butters (Inuvik) told members the issue is centred around the off-shore boundary between Alaska and the Yukon.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-066

## SPECIAL ARDA TO ASSIST TWO N.W.T. BUSINESSES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Assistance totalling \$15,700 has been offered to two projects under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, executive committee member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Frobisher Press Ltd. of Frobisher Bay has accepted an offer of \$14,500 to assist in the purchase of printing, typesetting and darkroom equipment. This new equipment will enable the company to upgrade the printing quality of its weekly English and Inuktitut newspaper, Nunatsiaq News, and permit it to expand its custom printing and quick-copy operation.

Nunatsiaq News is the only newspaper at present serving the eastern Arctic in both English and Inuktitut. It is anticipated the expansion will create two jobs, one full-time and one part-time.

(more)

SPECIAL ARDA TO ASSIST TWO N.W.T. BUSINESSES - 2

Philip B. Mercredi of Yellowknife will use the \$1,200 he has been offered for a feasibility study and training to establish a photographic portrait studio in Yellowknife, specializing in children's portraits. Although Mercredi has previous photographic experience it has been mainly contract and free-lance work. He will use the funds to organize his plans for the studio as well as undertake training in this specialized field.

Funds for the two projects will be provided by DREE. The Government of the Northwest Territories provides the field work for the Special ARDA program through its department of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-067

## MARKETING DRIVE WOULD BOOST NORTHERN PROJECTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - Territorial Council was told Monday stronger marketing efforts and tighter accounting controls will go a long way towards improving the financial prospects of the 33 economic projects supported by the Territorial Government in the N.W.T.

Tom Butters, executive member responsible for the department of economic development and tourism also told Council that the projects provide jobs for 728 people - including 136 full-time positions - and that while they are expected to earn \$2.3 million in the coming fiscal year, they will cost \$4.2 million to operate.

The projects came under close scrutiny Monday as members looked at the department's 1979-80 spending plans. The department's budget is \$17.5 million.

The government-backed projects produce everything from jewelry, fur and fish, to furniture and wool products. In addition, retail stores in some of the smaller N.W.T. communities are operated as projects.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) commented the figures do not show much financial headway. Mr. Butters agreed, but pointed out some of the projects are supported more for their importance to community life than their money-making potential.

(more)

## MARKETING DRIVE WOULD BOOST NORTHERN PROJECTS...2

The projects "are putting money in people's pockets", noted Mr. Butters, and "the work being done for those dollars is honest work". Echoing earlier comments of John Steen (Western Arctic), Mr. Butters stated "freedom and independence depends upon the amount of money in your pockets, money you have earned yourself".

Mr. Pearson disagreed, saying dependence on government handouts does not in his mind result in being free and independent.

Don Stewart (Hay River) said northerners would be further ahead selling goods produced entirely in the North such as fish products. "Money is being drained south for supplies instead of circulating in northern communities," Mr. Stewart said.

Mr. Steen repeated his call for a northern-based tannery. He said it is a waste of money having to ship northern-produced furs south to a tannery, then buying back the treated furs to make clothing and having to pay freight charges both ways.

Mr. Stewart felt the government should be making stronger sales efforts. "We have been guilty in the past of producing before we have the markets," he stated.

Mr. Butters agreed, saying he has personally pursued potential new markets. Referring to the canvas project at Fort McPherson, which at one time made tents and various types of bags, Mr. Butters said he had approached as potential buyers both the Beaufort Sea oil drilling concerns and Yukon pipeline planners. He said both are interested in Fort McPherson-produced canvas coveralls.

# information release

79-068



## NEW N.W.T. TOURIST GUIDE BIGGER THAN EVER

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - The new annual tourist guide to the Northwest Territories is more detailed than ever before.

The Explorers' Guide '79 contains eight more pages of information on things to see and do when visiting the North.

The section on fishing, a sport that attracts tourists to all parts of the N.W.T., has been expanded by two pages.

Brian Thompson, travel marketing officer with Travel-Arctic, the Territorial government's tourism branch, says the guide naturally grows every year as the number of tourism services grows.

"If the provinces tried to produce as comprehensive a guide they would end up with a book four inches thick. We're at an early stage of tourism development so we can give tourists in a magazine-size booklet an outline of all our services and facilities," he says.

Some 100,000 copies of the Explorers' Guide have been printed for the third year in a row. Half of them will go directly to the travelling public through tourism operators, airlines, the federal government's tourism organization, northern lodges and motoring associations.

As well, a special edition of the travel guide has been produced. "It's a locally-printed supplement to the guide geared especially for travel agents. It lists hotels, lodges, outfitters and includes the commission those businesses will give to travel agents," says Mr. Thompson. "It will go to tourism operators in the best market areas in the South." (more)

## NEW N.W.T. TOURIST GUIDE BIGGER THAN EVER...2

In addition to written material, TravelArctic has been promoting the N.W.T. to prospective tourists at trade shows.

In mid-January Mr. Thompson set up a tourism information booth at a motoring show in Anaheim, Calif. The site hosts one of North America's largest tourist trade shows.

"Californians know very little about the N.W.T.," Mr. Thompson observed from his trip. "For the most part they've never heard of it and those who have generally think we are some sort of county in one of the provinces," he said. On the other hand, a similar jaunt to St. Paul, Minn., proved to Mr. Thompson that somewhere, someone knows of the N.W.T. "The people in Minnesota were well-informed about the Territories. In fact, they seemed to be better informed than most people in Toronto," he says.

The N.W.T. will be represented at travel trade shows during the next few months in Seattle, Wash.; Calgary, Toronto and Montreal.

"We meet far more people and have a much greater impact through these sport shows than through display advertisements in southern publications," believes Mr. Thompson. "And it's a cheaper way of reaching the public. We get 1,000-2,000 inquiries from each trade show," he says.

TravelArctic will be reprinting its souvenir map of the Territories this year. It's also developing a new high-detailed map that will show the N.W.T. and its air travel routes on one side and the Mackenzie Highway system on the other.

(more)

NEW N.W.T. TOURIST GUIDE BIGGER THAN EVER...3

"The road map will show the new Dempster route and there is room left to mark the Liard Highway route. We expect the map to last many years with slight modifications," noted Mr. Thompson.

With an increase of \$100,000 in TravelArctic's budget, announced by Commissioner Stuart Hodgson last November, the division will be able to produce tourism literature comparable to the provinces, says Mr. Thompson.

He says TravelArctic would like to produce more promotional material on canoeing the N.W.T.'s waterways and a booklet containing color photographs of the North's finer attractions.

TravelArctic is also looking into the possibility of making promotional films on the North.

"It's an expensive medium to get into, up to \$50,000 for a film, but it would be viewed by literally millions over the years."

- 30 -

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# information release



79-069

## ALCOHOL WORKSHOP RESULTS IN CONCERNED CITIZENS COMMITTEE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - A workshop on alcohol and drugs held earlier this month in Fort Smith has led to the creation of a concerned citizens committee.

A cross-section of the 30 people who attended the three-day session conducted by Jim Anderson, chief of the Territorial government's alcohol and drug program, decided on their own to form the group.

Mr. Anderson says the committee is interested in making the public better aware of the problems that can arise from the misuse of alcohol and drugs.

He says the group hopes to pass on to the public the knowledge it obtained during the workshop. It has requested several information booklets on alcohol and drugs.

"Helping people understand the problems of alcohol and drug misuse is a real key thing as far as prevention is concerned. People communicate this understanding to others; it creates a general awareness," says Mr. Anderson.

The workshop was held at the request of the community adult educator in Fort Smith. It was attended by some residence supervisors, students in upgrading courses and teaching staff at AVTC; some local nurses, some staff of the department of social services, and other interested people. At times the workshop attracted up to 40 participants.



ALCOHOL WORKSHOP RESULTS IN CONCERNED CITIZENS COMMITTEE - 2

It included films, lectures and discussions on topics ranging from legal restraint on alcohol supply to drinking and driving. The topic that seemed to attract the most interest, says Mr. Anderson, was the "fetal alcohol syndrome", the effects of alcohol on an unborn baby when its mother drinks.

Mr. Anderson has conducted similar workshops during the past year at the request of local people in the Baffin, Keewatin and Central Arctic areas. He says he's open to hold other such sessions upon request.

- 30 -

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79-070

## INFLATION HITS PUBLIC WORKS SPENDING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - Despite efforts to hold the line, the cost of maintaining public facilities in the Northwest Territories is up, territorial councillors learned Tuesday.

Inflated costs of maintenance, building materials and utilities means the Territorial Government must pay more in 1979-80 to keep its property in shape.

Councillors were presented with main estimates amounting to \$54.5 million for the territorial department of public works, up almost \$7.6 million from the current fiscal year ending March 31.

The largest single item in the budget is more than \$14 million to pay for the utilities in government buildings.

Deputy Commissioner John Parker, the executive member responsible for public works, told members the price of heating oil and power alone is up \$2.5 million.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) wanted to know what the government is doing to get out of employee housing. Mr. Parker replied that in the past year 18 government-owned houses have been purchased by government employees. As well, he said, rents have been increased in an effort to encourage employees to buy or rent on the private market.

The department's highways division, which looks after the upkeep of the Mackenzie highway system and ferry operations, plans to spend \$7.6 million in 1979-80. (more)

INFLATION HITS PUBLIC WORKS SPENDING...2

The highways people plan to do more paving south of Hay River and the Enterprise intersection, in addition to rebuilding the gravel roadbed on the Ingraham trail east of Yellowknife.

Members learned a new ferry boat, the MV Louis Cardinal, will be moved into position this spring on the Peel River near Fort McPherson. It will serve the Dempster Highway traffic.

The full responsibility for maintaining N.W.T. highways will be turned over to the Territorial government in 1980-81, the deputy commissioner said. He told Mr. Nickerson that 1979-80 will be the last year for joint responsibility.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-071

## SEALIFT PROBLEMS SPARK TALK OF PORT FACILITIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - It could be the right time to start thinking again about a deep-water port facility near Frobisher Bay, Territorial Council was told Tuesday.

Deputy Commissioner John Parker made the observation as Councillors talked about the problems experienced in completing the 1978 Eastern Arctic sealift.

A late sailing from Montreal last fall resulted in a freighter having to turn back from Frobisher Bay due to ice conditions before unloading was finished.

The issue came up during Territorial Council's study of the department of finance's \$18.9 million spending proposals for 1979-80. The largest single item, \$7.6 million for supply services, includes the Territorial government's sealift costs.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) complained he felt federal transport people were "solely responsible" for what he called "last year's fiasco" and asked what the Territorial government was doing to encourage improvements.

Several government branches, including federal transport, the Coast Guard, and the Territorial government, are involved in sealift planning, along with private shippers.

(more)

## SEALIFT PROBLEMS SPARK TALK OF PORT FACILITIES...2

Eric Nielsen, director of finance, said a late cut-off date for goods at the marshalling yards was the big problem a year ago and steps are being taken to ensure an earlier sailing date for 1979.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) recalled that five or six years ago the previous council had looked at plans to develop proper unloading facilities for ships at Frobisher Bay.

Mr. Parker noted federal public works had a concept for what he called "an extensive facility" near Frobisher Bay. He pointed out building such a facility is very much a federal matter, but said it would be timely for councillors to raise the issue again.

Mr. Pearson recalled studies were done and it was found a dock would then have cost as much as \$12 million. He commented a dock would bring many benefits to the community, especially with activity gearing up for off-shore oil and gas exploration in the nearby Davis Strait.

The South Baffin member, who is a Frobisher Bay merchant, said he believes the federal transport department practise of renewing a sealift contract with a shipper each year is wrong. He indicated the shipper could better plan sailing activities if the deal was for three to five years.

"We are still operating on the same level as Martin Frobisher did 400 years ago," he claimed. "There has been no improvement."

(more)

### SEALIFT PROBLEMS SPARK TALK OF PORT FACILITIES...3

In other business Tuesday, members studied the 1979-80 budgets of three other service departments.

The department of information's \$2.1 million spending plans include funds for continuation of its communications program for satellite delivery of CBC northern television and radio services to communities with populations between 250 and 500. During the 1979-80 spending year, facilities are planned for Pelly Bay, Fort Liard and Chesterfield Inlet.

Members were told the department is extending the communications services it already provides to other departments, as part of Commissioner Hodgson's call for government departments to look at co-ordination, co-operation and communication in their programs in the 1980s.

Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) got support for his motion asking the department to look at training a Slavey-speaking member for the Interpreter Corps, to meet what he sees as growing needs in his southwestern N.W.T. region.

Members looked at spending proposals for the department of planning and program evaluation in the amount of \$1.8 million. They were assured that \$580,000 to be spent on utilidor and school facility extensions at the Nanisivik townsite on northern Baffin Island is the last amount being invested in the joint private sector-government mining venture.

The department of personnel proposes to spend almost \$6.5 million in the coming year, most of that in employee benefits, and removal and travel assistance.

(more)

SEALIFT PROBLEMS SPARK TALK OF PORT FACILITIES...4

Rod Morrison, the department's director, described it as an inventory of employee skills which could be developed so the department could match people with available jobs "rather than the other way around" with the employee having to approach the department. He called the idea a way of "trying to be responsive to employee needs".

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# information release



79-072

## MANY DOLLARS GET THE NOD

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - Territorial Council quickly scanned and approved the spending proposals of no less than five government departments Tuesday.

Budget study ended in quick succession for five service departments: public works, finance, planning and program evaluation, personnel, and information. All but one item on executive spending plans was cleared up.

The total dollars approved Tuesday was \$90.5 million, or 31 per cent of the N.W.T.'s \$293-million main estimates for the coming fiscal year.

A wide variety of programs received council approval, ranging from paving more parts of the Mackenzie Highway system to sealift costs.

The only budget item left to study is executive grant money for the N.W.T. Housing Corporation.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-073

## COUNCILLORS SEEK MORE EXECUTIVE ROLES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - Territorial Council wants the office of assistant commissioner in the Northwest Territories abolished.

In addition, members voted Tuesday to change the reporting relationships of the clerk-of-the-council and to seek full-time research staff.

Councillors asked through a motion that the post of assistant commissioner be dropped by the 1980-81 fiscal year. They suggest the position simply not be filled when the current assistant commissioner, Gary Mullins, leaves. Mr. Mullins had earlier indicated his intention to leave the North at the end of his contract in August.

Members supported a motion introduced by David Searle (Yellowknife South) dealing with the assistant commissioner's job.

Mr. Searle said he wanted to see an orderly end to the position. Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) mentioned it is important that executive committee duties now handled by the assistant commissioner be passed on to an elected councillor.

Mr. Searle pointed out the intent of his motion is that this would occur and be "turned over to the elected people in time for the next council".

(more)

The life of the current 15-member elected council expires Mar. 31 and elections for a possibly-expanded council of 22 members is expected later in 1979.

Support was given a second motion of Mr. Searle's that seeks to have the clerk-of-the-council report only to Territorial Council through its Speaker. It also asks that the clerk's position be upgraded in pay to that of director level and that any research staff that may be added in the future report through the clerk.

Mr. Searle said changing reporting relationships would bring the N.W.T. council into line with provincial legislatures.

The clerk currently reports to the Commissioner and is responsible to the Speaker only when council is in session. Research staff from various departments have been made available to council in the past as needed, but, as members of the territorial administration, they do not report to the clerk.

Mr. Searle said it is a question of council having "complete autonomy over people so they don't serve two masters. The clerk now only is responsible to the Speaker when the House is in session," he pointed out. "He (the clerk) has two bosses."

Members noted council's legal adviser is in a similar position. "The legal adviser has a most difficult role," commented Tom Butters (Inuvik). "We have to some way cut this knot of dual loyalty". Council's legal adviser is a Territorial government lawyer.

(more)

It was mentioned there would be some difficulty keeping a full-time legal adviser busy between sessions. Mr. Searle commented the British Columbia legislature hires a lawyer to fill this role on contract.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) got council support in a motion asking the executive committee to study the concept of support staff for members.

Deputy Commissioner John Parker told members the executive has recognized that need "for some time". He commented he felt it appropriate the issues came up as the time for new council elections approaches.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-074

## HAY RIVER LUMBER FIRM OBTAINS SPECIAL ARDA, RDIA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 15) - Patterson Enterprises Ltd. of Hay River has received two offers of assistance, one under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program, and the other under the Regional Development Incentives Act (RDIA), to double the output of its sawmill and logging operations. The offers total \$96,000.

Announcement of the assistance was made today by Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, territorial minister responsible for economic development and tourism.

Under the Special ARDA program, the firm has been offered \$69,000 to purchase logging equipment and a portable bush camp bunkhouse to increase the company's timber harvesting capabilities.

With its RDIA incentive offer of \$27,000, the firm proposes to upgrade its existing sawmill and construct a drying kiln and lumber storage sheds.

With the proposed improvements, the company intends to produce three million board feet per year. The staff is anticipated to be increased from eight to 12 when in full production.

(more)

HAY RIVER LUMBER FIRM OBTAINS SPECIAL ARDA, RDIA ASSISTANCE...2

In operation since 1964, Patterson Enterprises Ltd. is managed by Eugene Patterson and his son Daniel. The company's logging operations make use of area timber stands while sales for the lumber are generated throughout the southern Mackenzie marketing district.

Funds for both incentive offers are supplied by DREE. Field work for the Special ARDA incentive was carried out by the Territorial Government's department of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-075

## LESS-EXPENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 15) - The N.W.T. Housing Corporation is developing smaller, less-expensive, energy-saving public-housing units.

Territorial Council learned Wednesday the Corporation is, through its construction program, working on these and other cost-saving measures for subsidized public housing in the North.

Members were discussing Territorial government contributions to the Housing Corporation in the amount of \$22.7 million. Public housing in the N.W.T. is funded on a shared-cost basis between the NWTHC and the federal Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) wanted to know what the Housing Corporation was doing to encourage tenants to pay a greater share of housing costs, taking into consideration limited incomes. He said one way to do that was to build smaller houses.

Deputy Commissioner John Parker, speaking as chairman of the Housing Corporation board of directors, assured Mr. Nickerson the board was thinking the same way and had already taken steps.

There will be no more five-bedroom homes built, Mr. Parker said, and the design of the corporation's three-bedroom homes has been reduced from 1,400 to 1,000 square feet.

(more)

LESS-EXPENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPED...2

He told members the corporation's newest design is a two-bedroom duplex of 1,000 square feet each side.

more ti

He commented this new design has been adapted to northern needs, including an enclosed porch and unheated storage room.

more vi

Mr. Parker reported the Corporation will be concentrating on insulation and rehabilitation of older homes in the coming year, with energy conservation in mind. He said there are 1,700 public housing units that need rebuilding.

In 1978, he reported, 305 public housing units were completed in the N.W.T., many of them finished from earlier construction seasons.

more

The 1979 construction program will feature greater use of northern-based contractors, Mr. Parker commented. He noted 79 per cent of contracted work in 1979 will involve northerners. There are 338 housing starts scheduled for 1979-80, including 66 senior-citizen and 36 single-person units.

are low There will be continued emphasis on stick-built (built from the ground up) construction in 1979 instead of the southern-built prefabricated sections.

of a He said 65 per cent of the units put up this year will be stick-built.

The deputy said last year's training program in stick-built construction was a success, with eight Inuit trained in the skills at a project in Rankin Inlet.

(more)

### LESS-EXPENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPED...3

Due to increased scarcity of gravel supply, the Housing Corporation will be using drilled piles for foundations more than gravelled pads.

Mr. Parker said the board feels it is important to encourage the local housing associations to better handle servicing responsibilities on public housing units.

He said one way to tackle this area would be developing closer ties between members of the local housing associations and local councils.

Mr. Parker commented the board felt a new rental structure for public housing introduced last year brought rates more into line with those charged in the northern public service.

The new system, launched last April but not fully introduced throughout the north until late 1978, takes into account an individual's ability to pay and regional cost-of-living factors.

Where such things as heating costs are higher, rents are lower, Mr. Parker explained, adding that rents increase according to income.

The rental system is based on a maximum 25 per cent of a person's income, less regional cost-of-living considerations.

(more)



LESS-EXPENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPED...4

Members supported a motion introduced by Mr. Nickerson asking that the next chairman of the housing corporation not be a member of the federal or territorial public service. Mr. Parker indicated he would be stepping down from the chairman's post when he assumes duties as commissioner on Apr. 15.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-076

## LOTTERY GETS COUNCIL APPROVAL

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 16) - Sports and recreation groups in the N.W.T. should soon be sharing in the profits from Western Canada Lottery ticket sales.

Legislation to bring the fund-raising scheme north got committee approval in Council Thursday.

It authorizes territorial officials to seek membership in the Western Canada Lottery Foundation, a joint venture for sport and recreational fund-raising in the Yukon, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

The legislation received detailed study Thursday along with five other bills covering such varied subjects as student grants and off-road vehicles. All need third reading and Commissioner's assent before becoming law.

Members learned the lottery legislation will authorize the Sport North Federation as the scheme's N.W.T. marketing agents. The federation, said Peter Ernerk (Keewatin), will be forming an operating committee that will also be responsible for distributing the N.W.T.'s share of the profits among its member groups.

Mr. Ernerk, executive member for natural and cultural affairs, said the federation of N.W.T. sports associations has grown from 15 to 25 groups since being formed in 1976 and is in need of funding sources other than government grants.

(more)

## LOTTERY GETS COUNCIL APPROVAL...2

In addition to providing support to member groups through travel grants and coaching clinics, Sport North coordinates the selection of N.W.T. athletes for the Arctic Winter Games and Canada Games, Mr. Ernerk told his colleagues.

Its growth, he said, has placed a strain on Territorial Government grants. Financial support comes through the department's recreation division.

Mr. Ernerk indicated the Sport North people plan to set up ticket outlets in seven communities during the first year of operation. These will be located in Fort Smith, Pine Point, Hay River, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet, Frobisher Bay and Yellowknife.

Other bills studied Thursday by council's committee included:

- a new law that regulates off-road vehicles, such as snowmobiles and small motorcycles, and empowers community councils to govern their use, separate from the Vehicles Ordinance;

- a change to the Municipal Ordinance, giving hamlet residents the choice of voting separately for their mayors in local council elections if they wish.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-077

## N.W.T. COUNCIL ADJOURNS UNTIL LATE MARCH

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - Territorial councillors are taking a five-week break from the business of the 67th Session.

But there won't be much rest for chairman Arnold McCallum (Slave River) and members of council's constitutional development committee. They will be busy preparing more of council's ideas on the political future of the Northwest Territories.

The \$294-million budget and 12 other pieces of territorial legislation got formal approval Friday, but members had unfinished business on their minds.

When they return to the council table March 28, the longest they can meet is four days. The 15-member council ends its term of office March 31.

The unfinished business mainly involves constitutional development in the N.W.T. and specifically the future of Territorial Council itself, whether or not it can soon be expanded from 15 to 22 members.

(more)

Members learned Friday that federal legislation needed to authorize that increase failed to get speedy passage.

Mr. McCallum announced that federal Members of Parliament had agreed that afternoon to second reading but committee discussion was asked, causing a delay. To expand Territorial Council, changes to the federal N.W.T. Act are needed.

Territorial councillors want to see the issue resolved before they leave office in March.

Several other pieces of business remain on the Territorial Council order paper. Still unfinished is discussion on bills dealing with legal aid services, medical consent, chartered accountants and certified general accountants. Members also want to discuss proposed changes to the federal Indian Act.

Earlier in the current session, Mr. McCallum called for council to take a more detailed look at the N.W.T.'s move towards more responsible government. Members will be meeting with Bud Drury in the near future and these talks are expected to be aired when council resumes its business.

Mr. Drury, a former appointed territorial councillor, is Prime Minister Trudeau's special representative on constitutional development in the N.W.T. Mr. Drury and his staff were in the council chamber Friday.

(more)

N.W.T. COUNCIL ADJOURNS UNTIL LATE MARCH - 3

In addition to the \$294-million main spending estimates for 1979-80, legislation dealing with the following subjects was formally passed:

- . governing the operation of all-terrain vehicles, separate from motor vehicles;
- . adjusting boundaries of new territorial constituencies;
- . a federal-territorial agreement on firearms control;
- . grants to post-secondary school students;
- . the spending of an extra \$5 million covering the rest of the 1978-79 fiscal year;
- . N.W.T. participation in the Western Canada Lottery;
- . separate elections for mayors of hamlets;
- . companion financial bills to the main estimates.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-078

## COUNCILLORS DEFEND NORTHERN BUSINESS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - The federal government should not cut financial corners at the expense of private enterprise in the North, says Territorial Council.

Slave River member Arnold McCallum persuaded his colleagues to support that view Friday in the form of a motion defending a northern-based business established to fight forest fires.

Members offered their support to Trans North Firefighters, based in Fort Smith. Mr. McCallum told the House he felt the motion is necessary since he learned the federal government is opting to use southern-based firefighters this coming summer as an apparent cost-saving measure. He said the move threatens to put Trans-North out of business.

The fighting of forest and brush fires in the Northwest Territories is the responsibility of Northwest Lands and Forests, a branch of the federal northern affairs program. Trans North was hired to handle forest and brush firefighting in the Great Slave Lake area of the N.W.T. for the past two summers.

Mr. McCallum said the northern company was told last fall the federal government would not be tendering in 1979 for firefighting services and, instead, would import specialist "smoke-jumpers" and water bombers from southern Canada.

(more)

## COUNCILLORS DEFEND NORTHERN BUSINESS...2

He pointed out the change would mean that dollars invested would be going south instead of circulating in northern communities. Territorial Council has asked that N.W.T. forest firefighting activity be increased to include areas where trapline activity is heavy.

He suggested members express concern over the federal government encouraging economic growth on the one hand, and "on the other hand, taking away a viable, successful northern business".

Pete Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear) commented the Trans North workers face going on welfare with almost \$100,000 worth of firefighting equipment sitting around unused in Fort Smith.

Also on Friday, councillors learned Northern Affairs Minister Hugh Faulkner sees the development of both territorial and federal parks in the N.W.T. as being compatible.

Mr. Faulkner wrote Commissioner Hodgson as a follow-up to the appearance of Parks Canada officials, earlier in the council session.

Mr. Faulkner wrote that he feels planning for a territorial parks system could proceed, despite unsettled native land claims. Work on the smaller highway campgrounds and picnic areas should go ahead without delay, he said.

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# NEWS

79-079

## A BETTER DEAL FOR COMPANY TOWNS PROPOSED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 16) - The Territorial government is considering helping so-called "company towns" in the N.W.T., by providing them with the same kinds of services it does other communities.

Council was told Thursday the department of local government has a plan that, if introduced, would provide these government services in both existing and planned "company towns" in the mining and lumber industries.

The plan would allow for a services agreement between the Territorial government and the developer of the company town on cost-sharing of municipal facilities such as water, sewer, fire protection, road construction, schools, nursing stations and recreation facilities.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), executive member responsible for the department, told members that N.W.T. health care insurance services - the first concern - already are available to long-term residents of company towns, and now it's time to think of helping these towns with other services.

He said meetings were held recently with people from the mining community of Tungsten, located in the south-western N.W.T. near the Yukon border, to discuss the question of government services.

(more)

A BETTER DEAL FOR COMPANY TOWNS PROPOSED...2

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) was the only other member to comment, saying he generally agrees with the proposals. He asked for and received assurances from Mr. McCallum that patients and doctors living at Tungsten would be eligible for medical care coverage and be treated in the same manner as patients or doctors living elsewhere in the N.W.T.

The policy also would allow for negotiations with developers of both existing and new communities. The agreement would look at employment and training opportunities for northern residents. The government would be prepared to support the building of local facilities in exchange for influencing production rates. This would ensure a longer life for jobs. A single-resource community would need a life expectancy of about 20 years, obtaining "a measure of permanency" before the government would get involved in facilities, the proposed policy says.

It goes on to say a single-resource community with a life expectancy of more than 20 years would be encouraged to work towards incorporating as a municipality in its first five years of existence.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-080

## EMPLOYEE HOUSING TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE APPROVED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.20) - Deputy Commissioner John Parker has accepted the terms of reference for the task force on employee housing which will be reviewing the whole question of Territorial government staff housing in the N.W.T.

The tripartite task force includes Winston Nettleton, executive director of the N.W.T. Teachers' Association; Peter Dyke, president of the N.W.T. Public Service Association and Rod Morrison, director of the department of personnel.

Since the Commissioner appointed the task force in January, they have been developing aspects to be studied, operating procedures and a timetable.

They have set a deadline of September 1, 1979 for completion of their recommendations.

The terms of reference include a review of what should be the government's continuing responsibility in providing housing for its staff across the N.W.T.

The private accommodation allowance, given to employees who supply their own housing, will be reviewed, including rates, conditions for eligibility and its long term purpose.

The system of charging rents and utilities will be studied and the present contract or license between the employer/landlord and employee/tenant reviewed.

(more)

EMPLOYEE HOUSING TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE APPROVED...2

The policy of the N.W.T. Housing Corporation on Northern rental houses will be accessed and the question of whether Housing Corporation houses should be utilized by the government for its staff considered.

A review will be made of the present government policy and procedure on the sale of staff housing units to employees.

All current government policies, directives and operating procedures related to housing will be assessed.

The task force will consider the work of the amenities committee in its review. This committee of Territorial government and N.W.T. Teachers' Association personnel is studying how the quality of facilities and services relates to rents charged.

Community factors such as location, topography, climate and other facilities will also be considered.

To assist the task force with its work, an agreement has been reached to second Denis Lowing, general manager of the N.W.T. Housing Corporation, to the task force until its recommendations are completed.

A small number of other people will also be seconded to assist the task force.

In its interim report to the Commissioner, the task force participants conclude that they see this exercise as: "the most positive step the government has taken in wanting to resolve the staff housing situation".

(more)

EMPLOYEE HOUSING TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE APPROVED...3

In approving the terms of reference and operating procedures for the task force, Mr. Parker re-emphasized the high priority the Territorial government places on satisfactorily resolving staff housing questions.

He pointed out that housing is a very major concern in the lives of employees and expressed satisfaction with the steps being taken to deal with housing issues.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-081

## FIRE SAFETY MEASURES MORE STRINGENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - Fire-rated materials required by law in all N.W.T. buildings since 1971 may have helped keep down the loss of life in a Cambridge Bay fire.

Les McPhee, deputy fire marshal, also said a smoke detector contributed to alerting other residents of the apartment building in Cambridge Bay in which a young woman was killed Feb. 17.

He commented that placing fire-rated materials between walls is a National Building Code requirement that is rigidly followed in the N.W.T.

Mr. McPhee explained material is fire-rated when it has met minimum standards (determined by laboratory tests) on its ability to withstand heat. He said fire rating is a combination of building material quality and construction methods.

"Safety factors in construction have tightened up nationally in recent years, and we watch these diligently.

An 18-year old woman died in the Cambridge Bay fire. R.C.M.P. investigated on behalf of the fire marshal and found careless smoking contributed to it.

Mr. McPhee noted the Cambridge Bay fire death was the fifth in the N.W.T. in less than two months, equal to the territorial total for all of 1978.

(more)

As well, the deputy fire marshal said, all N.W.T. government public housing and staff housing is now equipped with electrically-wired smoke detectors.

Wired smoke detectors are impossible to turn off, he explained, and they keep ringing until the area is cleared of smoke. He expects they will be in common use when 1980 revisions are made to the National Building Code.

"This type of detector has been used in the N.W.T. for about the past four years," Mr. McPhee noted, "replacing battery-powered ones." He said people tended to remove the batteries for other uses. "With the wired type," he said, "we take a calculated risk on power failures."

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-082

## FOUR JURISDICTIONS TO PROMOTE TOURISM TOGETHER

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 21) - The Northwest Territories, the Yukon Territory, British Columbia and Alberta are banding together to promote the attractions of western Canada and the north to potential tourists in foreign countries.

The concept of promoting the four regions to distant markets under the theme "Canada West" has been discussed between officials of the four governments for close to a year. The decision to go ahead with the concept was made earlier this month.

It is hoped Canada West will increase tourism in each area "by co-operating and presenting a common front and unified thrust", says a statement drawn up by the three ministers in the provinces and Yukon responsible for tourism and the executive member for economic development and tourism in the N.W.T.

Tom Butters, the member responsible for N.W.T. tourism, says visitors from far-away areas such as Europe and Australia are interested in visiting geographic regions, such as western Canada, rather than specific areas divided by provincial or territorial boundaries.

"Canada West is an agreement to work together and promote co-operatively the attractions of the western and northern part of Canada," says Mr. Butters.

(more)



## FOUR JURISDICTIONS TO PROMOTE TOURISM TOGETHER...2

For example, Alberta and B.C. have offices in London, Eng., which the N.W.T. and Yukon will share during special promotional events in the United Kingdom.

The joint marketing approach is not intended to create a formal administrative structure. Programs introduced under Canada West will fit in with the current budgets, staff and priorities of each participating area.

Senior officials of the four jurisdictions will meet regularly to work out details on the joint programs. Although the main thrust of Canada West will be to promote the attractions of visiting the four areas, planning, development and research programs could also be done to support the concept.

Officials from the four governments are asking agencies in the travel and tourism business within their jurisdictions and the Canadian government office of tourism to recognize and support Canada West. The Canadian government is the chief body promoting Canada to tourists abroad.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-083

## LIQUOR CONTROLS GO INTO EFFECT IN REPULSE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.22) - Nobody can legally bring alcohol into Repulse Bay now without the permission of the local alcohol education committee.

Gino Restivo, in charge of social services in the Keewatin region for the Territorial government, says the screening of alcohol by the local committee was introduced Wednesday in the hamlet on the west coast of Hudson's Bay.

The controls are the result of a plebiscite held last October.

The monthly restrictions of alcohol per household are 80 oz. of liquor or 160 oz. of wine or four cases of a dozen beer, or any combination of the three. Anyone possessing more than this amount or caught with alcohol in the community without the approval of the committee is liable to a fine of up to \$500 or six months in jail or both.

The committee also has the power to ban a resident or visitor from possessing alcohol or carrying it in or importing it. As well, it can limit a household's monthly amount to less than the normally-allowed maximum.

(more)

## LIQUOR CONTROLS GO INTO EFFECT IN REPULSE - 2

Repulse Bay residents normally order alcohol by mail from liquor warehouses in Yellowknife, Frobisher Bay or Winnipeg, Man., because the community doesn't have a liquor outlet, says Mr. Restivo.

Gabe Christoph, chief N.W.T. liquor inspector, says the warehouses in Yellowknife and Frobisher Bay have been instructed to no longer fill orders for alcohol from Repulse Bay residents unless the order has been stamped and signed by the local alcohol education committee. To import alcohol from outside the Territories persons must apply to the liquor control system for a liquor import permit, says Mr. Christoph. He says all applications will be rejected from Repulse unless stamped by the committee.

Mr. Restivo says the committee will be checking with the RCMP to see how the controls can be enforced. The RCMP polices Repulse Bay from Rankin Inlet.

Persons wanting to bring alcohol into Repulse Bay should apply to the committee to do so. Visitors who import or possess alcohol without the committee's approval are subject to the same penalties as local residents. Application can be made through: Madeline Manitok, government liaison officer, Government of the Northwest Territories, Repulse Bay. Ms. Manitok is also a member of the community's alcohol education committee.

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# information release

79-084



## FIRST STEPS TAKEN IN N.W.T. TOURISM STUDY

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 21) - Government and tourist industry people met this week in Yellowknife to launch a year-long look at long-term prospects for tourism in the Northwest Territories.

A steering committee of tourist industry professionals from both government and the private sector, and representing the N.W.T.'s regions, was created to lay the groundwork for the study and the hiring of a consultant.

Keith Thompson of the Territorial government's TravelArctic service commented that the study will examine all factors of supply and demand related to tourism in the North.

"This meeting amounted to our first concrete step in the direction of encouraging greater use of tourism resources in the N.W.T.," Mr. Thompson said.

The committee will meet again in March to select a consultant. He noted the job has attracted bids from northern-based businesses.

(more)

He said the steering committee, which will guide the consultant's work, involves people from all parts of the Territories. Participants at the first meeting included Rankin Inlet businessman John Todd, Roy Desjarlais of the N.W.T. Metis Association, Gerry Fitzsimmons of Parks Canada's Winnipeg office, Trish Warner of Yellowknife, president of the Travel Industry Association of the N.W.T. (TIANWT); Doug Patriquin, assistant director of the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism, and department staff.

There are three main areas to study, Mr. Thompson noted: potential customers, what facilities we have to offer now, and what needs to be developed.

Other questions to consider include roles of various northern organizations, such as the N.W.T. Chamber of Commerce, local councils, hunters and trappers associations, etc., and where the N.W.T. tourism industry fits in with the Canadian Government Office of Tourism (CGOT) and its promotions.

Mr. Thompson said the study will be wide-ranging. Future steering committee meetings will be held throughout the North and people in the communities are encouraged to share their ideas on tourism growth.

He commented the study has the financial backing of the Territorial government, CGOT and the federal Indian and northern affairs department.

Last November, at the TIANWT's annual meeting, Mrs. Warner said the industry intended to move ahead and become the N.W.T.'s largest.

(more)

At that time Commissioner Stuart Hodgson told delegates he is confident in tourism's growth potential. He offered the full support of the government to the renewed efforts.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-085p

## HEALTH-CARE AWARENESS PROGRAM GETS TERRITORIAL BACKING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb23.) - The Territorial government's department of health is providing over \$6,000 in start-up money to help a native women's group in Rae-Edzo launch its own health awareness program.

Department director Bob McDermit offered Territorial Government support Thursday as he and other government health officials met with the women of Rae-Edzo to talk about the group's plans.

Rae-Edzo is a hamlet of 1,200 located about 100 kilometres northwest of Yellowknife near the North Arm of Great Slave Lake. It is the largest Dene community in the Northwest Territories.

The Rae-Edzo Native Women's Association's health committee, headed by Terri Douglas, "first approached us in January", Mr. McDermit explained. "They want to start up their own educational program."

The director said there is \$6,300 in territorial funding to help the women start pilot projects in health education and also to develop a full program in the next three months. He expects the association's health committee will come up with detailed proposals by the end of May.

(more)

HEALTH CARE AWARENESS PROGRAM GETS TERRITORIAL BACKING - 2

"There is plenty of enthusiasm there," Mr. McDermit commented. "They have a co-operative and constructive approach and we're anxious to assist them. We think they will develop a good program."

Elaine Berthelet, the department's program officer, was on hand for the discussions along with Susan Look, program officer trainee.

Mr. McDermit said he was sure support would also come from medical services, Health and Welfare Canada and the N.W.T. Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council (ADCC).

People from both these services were on hand Thursday and they expressed interest in the initiative taken by the women of Rae-Edzo.

The visitors included three people from Health and Welfare Canada: Don Harkness, Bernie Funston and Al Wilson, along with Jim Anderson of the Territorial government's alcohol and drug program, who is secretary to ADCC. Mr. Harkness is from federal health's N.W.T. regional headquarters in Edmonton, Messrs. Funston and Wilson are based at the Yellowknife offices.

(30)

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Bob McDermit and Elaine Berthelet (far right) with members of the Rae-Edzo Native Women's Association. The Territorial Government's department of health is giving the group \$6,300 to start a health awareness program.

See Release No. 79-085



A DIFFERENT WAY TO BUILD AN IGLOO

Yellowknife (Feb. 27) - Building an igloo in Canada's Northwest Territories doesn't usually involve styrofoam, metal pins and glue. But that's exactly what two men from the Inuit Cultural Institute in Eskimo Point did earlier this month when they visited Yellowknife. The materials may be strange, but the house is the genuine article. It will show all the interior features of an Inuit snow house. Eric Anoe and David Akkoketak assembled the styrofoam igloo for display in the exhibit halls of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. The new centre, located on the shores of Frame Lake in the N.W.T. capital, will be officially opened in early April by the Prince of Wales. (Photo by Mike Van Duffelen)

- 30 -

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# information release

79-087



## AKLAVIK TRAINING PROJECT OFFERED SPECIAL ARDA AID

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 28) - An offer of \$43,000 from the federal-territorial Special ARDA program, has been accepted by Aklavik Enterprises Ltd. to set up an emergency oil spill clean-up and marine maintenance company to service the oil exploration industry operating in the Beaufort Sea.

Announcement of the offer was made today by Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and Tom Butters, territorial minister responsible for economic development and tourism.

The funds, supplied by DREE, will be used to pay expenses for eight people to undertake a three-month training course in Victoria, B.C. The training program will consist of two phases: a two-month marine maintenance course at Camonsun College, and a one-month seamanship/oil spill training course developed through a private company.

On completion of the program, the trainees will join Aklavik Enterprise staff on a permanent basis.

Prior to accepting this offer of assistance, Aklavik Enterprises Ltd. had received a \$1,500 financial contribution from the Special ARDA program to study the feasibility of the project.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-088

ESKIMO POINT CO-OP AND DETTAH DENE COUNCIL TO RECEIVE SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 1) - Two projects, one in Eskimo Point and one in Dettah, have been offered \$108,000 in Special ARDA assistance.

The announcement was made by Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, territorial minister responsible for economic development and tourism.

Padlei Co-operative of Eskimo Point has been offered \$90,000 under the federal-territorial program, to assist in the construction of a new retail sales centre to market food, hardware and dry goods in the community. Three people of Inuit ancestry are expected to be employed when the centre is in operation.

Special ARDA assistance will be used to construct and equip a 4,200 square foot steel building, including a 1,200 square foot warehousing area. It will be built with local labour. The co-operative's present facilities will be used for overflow when the new centre is open for business.

The co-operative is involved in arts and crafts, delivery contracts and a motel, as well as operating a retail sales outlet.

(more)

ESKIMO POINT CO-OP AND DETTAH DENE COUNCIL TO RECEIVE SPECIAL  
ARDA ASSISTANCE - 2

Dettah Dene Council will use its offer of \$18,000 to purchase traps and radio transceivers to upgrade and broaden the band's trapping operations.

Larger-size traps will be acquired to harvest the more popular long-haired fur-bearing animals such as fox, wolverine and lynx. The band is at present equipped to trap the smaller fur bearers such as muskrat, marten and mink.

The radios will be used for communication between the trapping camps and the base station in Yellowknife. They will be used for emergency purposes and to relay information concerning fur market trends, fur prices and auction sale dates.

Approximately 20 trappers will benefit from the new equipment.

Special ARDA funds for both projects will be provided by DREE. Field work for the Special ARDA program in the N.W.T. is carried out by the Territorial Government's economic development and tourism offices.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-089

## GRANTS BOOST DEAF DETECTION IN THE N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 1) - Stanton Yellowknife Hospital has about \$20,000 available over the next three years to help find people with hearing problems in the Northwest Territories.

The money includes \$100,000 donated by the Elk's Club's national Purple Cross fund and a "matching grant" from the Territorial Government's department of health. Both amounts will be spread over a three-year period.

Some of this money will be used later this month for a seminar on developing the deaf-detection skills of northern health-care workers.

"The people at the Elks Club have long taken an active interest in the hearing abilities of youth," commented Bob McDermit, director of the department of health. "Our department offers its full support to this co-operative venture." He noted members of the Elk's Club, Yellowknife branch had a key role in drawing the attention of other branches to deaf-detection needs in the N.W.T.

According to Dr. David Morwood of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital staff, the money will be used to buy new deaf-detection equipment and provide more training for northern-based health-care workers and lay people.

(more)

Dr. Morwood operates a deaf detection and speech therapy clinic in Yellowknife. He is the N.W.T.'s only ear, nose and throat specialist.

Stanton Yellowknife Hospital is operated by the territorial department of health and provides support and referral services to nursing stations and smaller N.W.T. hospitals.

"Ear disease is a serious public health problem in the North," Dr. Morwood stated. "If it were any other ailment, people would call it an epidemic."

He said it is important for nurses, para-professionals and lay people in the field to develop deaf-detection skills since it is impossible for him to visit all the communities. He called the present process of checking children with old equipment "spotty at best" and said the remedy will be in the introduction of new devices and skills.

"There is a whole new generation of technology," explained Dr. Morwood. "The equipment goes beyond simply testing of a person's ability to hear. It will, for example, be much easier to tell whether surgery is needed."

Dr. Morwood said he hoped the new equipment would be in place by summer. It includes portable machines for measuring noise levels, units to test hearing aids and the capacity to repair audiometers now in use.

(more)



He said much of this equipment will be located at his Yellowknife clinic but is easily transportable to northern settlements.

A training session for nurses and others involved in deaf detection is set for Mar. 12-16 at Yellowknife. Dr. Morwood said it will involve working with new equipment, awareness of the facilities available at his clinic and a field trip for testing the hearing ability of school children.

He expects participation of about two dozen northern nurses, speech therapists, para-medical and lay people from various N.W.T. communities.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

## CORRECTION:

Please note the following correction to press release number 79-089, entitled, "Grants Boost Deaf Detection in the N.W.T."

Paragraph one should read:

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 1) - Stanton Yellowknife Hospital has about \$200,000 available over the next three years to help find people with hearing problems in the Northwest Territories.

# NEWS

79-090

## KORCHUK NEW SUPERINTENDENT FOR YELLOWKNIFE

YELLOWKNIFE (March 9) - When Sir John Franklin Territorial High School closes its doors for the summer its principal, Stanley Korchuk, will be getting ready for a new job.

Mr. Korchuk has been promoted to superintendent of education in Yellowknife for the Territorial government. His appointment, announced today by Education Director Brian Lewis, takes effect Aug. 1.

In his new job, Mr. Korchuk will be responsible for Sir John Franklin and its school residence, Akaitcho Hall, St. Patrick's elementary and secondary school, and St. Josephs school. He will also oversee adult education courses offered in Yellowknife and special education programs such as those offered at the Tree of Peace.

Mr. Korchuk has been the principal of Sir John since Jan., 1978. He came North from Mississauga, Ont., where he worked for three years as the superintendent of schools in the district. He also worked as an education superintendent for two years in St. Thomas, Ont. and for four years in Sudbury, Ont.

He has been a teacher, a principal and an adviser for the Canadian government in Guyana, South America.

(more)

KORCHUK NEW SUPERINTENDENT FOR YELLOWKNIFE - 2

Mr. Korchuk has earned a long list of degrees and certificates including a master of education and a high school specialist's certificate for the teaching of mathematics. He is married with four children.

The position of superintendent has been vacant since last October when Ron Toutant left the North for B.C.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-091P

## BESSIE STARTS PRODUCING

RANKIN INLET (March 9) - A mechanical cow in Rankin Inlet?

Surely somebody must be joking.

"We call her Bessie," explains Bob Snyder, "and she's just about as good as 10 jerseys on a dairy farm."

The mechanical cow is actually a combination of a mixer, a homogenizer, a cooler and a holding vat. The milk Bessie produces is made of water, skim milk powder and no-salt butter. The ingredients are mixed, pasteurized, homogenized and cooled - all at exact temperatures and for precise times.

Mr. Snyder, the business management officer in charge of the project for the Territorial government, was there for the first run and the first taste.

"I'm pleased with it. There are still some problems but we're optimistic about success," he commented.

The mechanical cow is a pilot project of the Territorial government's regional department of economic development and tourism. The department is attempting to provide the residents of the Keewatin with a nutritious product at an economical price.

(more)

BESSIE STARTS PRODUCING - 2

Fresh milk is available in the seven Keewatin communities from time to time, but in limited quantities and at a high price.

When the mechanical cow went into production Feb. 23, fresh milk was selling in this community for \$1.98 a quart. Bessie's milk sells for \$1.10 a quart. Several cases were put on the shelves of the Bay and the Co-op food store later that day. Most were sold.

How big the production becomes depends on public acceptance of the product. Mr. Snyder feels there will be a demand for between 2,000 to 2,500 quarts a month and hopefully, once it can be seen as a viable operation, the department will look at turning it over to private or community hands.

Earl Tench, former manager of Dairy Supplies in Winnipeg, Man. supervised the operation, passing on his knowledge to David Papak and Leo Napoyok Jr., Bessie's future operators. Mr. Tench is now retired and works as a consultant in setting up projects such as the one in Rankin Inlet, a process that very few people are able to do.

"The main thing the workers have to watch out for is good housekeeping and accuracy. They have all the ingredients, they know the temperatures...those measurements are exact and must be followed," he noted.

The experiment was first tried three years ago on less advanced equipment. It wasn't pasteurized (which kills the bacteria), homogenized or cooled. Needless to say, the product didn't taste right and it soured quickly.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-092

## KEEWATIN BOARD TO DEAL WITH RECREATION NEEDS

BAKER LAKE (March 12) - A special board, the first of its kind in the N.W.T., has been set up by Keewatin communities to improve recreation and sports in the region.

At the first annual recreation conference held here Feb. 28 - March 5, 25 delegates, representing recreation and youth committees across the Keewatin, decided a board was necessary to meet the region's growing recreation needs.

Called the Keewatin Regional Recreation Board, it will raise funds for community and regional events and programs, and set directions for the Keewatin's recreation future. As well, the board will advise the Territorial government's recreation division and the Keewatin Inuit Association, joint sponsors of the conference, on present and future recreation services in the Keewatin region.

David Kirterdlick, formerly Whale Cove secretary-manager, will head the new board.

- 30 -

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79-093 P

FEAST MARKS COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENING

SNARE LAKE (March 13) - There was enough food to keep everyone stuffed for the whole day and then some.

Boiled eggs, dried caribou meat, bannock, fruit - both fresh and canned - tea, rice pudding, and more. It was a feast in celebration of the opening of Snare Lake's new community centre Friday.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson and other Territorial government officials, along with press people, were invited to the opening. The building was constructed by the people of Snare Lake with financial help and technical back-up of the Territorial government.

The community centre is a two-room log structure, with storage space as well, that will be used soon as a school and temporary teacher's residence. It will be used eventually as a bingo hall, church, and multi-purpose meeting place.

The Territorial government contributed \$87,000 towards the construction of the centre and likely will offer financial help to maintain it.

(more)



FEAST MARKS COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENING - 2

Ernie Camsell of Rae-Edzo supervised the construction of the building and Snare Lake community leader Alexis Arrowmaker made sure the community followed through with its plans.

"You've done a great job - everything you said you were going to do and more. To me this is an example of what can be achieved when all of us work together," Commissioner Hodgson told the gathering.

Then the feast began. The guests sat on home-made benches at large wooden tables while the local Dogrib people took turns eating at the other tables.

The population of Snare Lake has grown to about 65. Mr. Arrowmaker says people are attracted to the community because it's a good hunting and trapping spot. He says anyone is welcome to settle there.

Commissioner Hodgson agrees that Snare Lake has a lot to offer.

"It's a much better place to live than Yellowknife or Rae. And I believe the reason for that is because you are in control in this community. You can live with limited assistance from the outside by using the resources around you and by living the way your ancestors did many years ago."

Snare Lake is located about 200 kilometres north of Yellowknife. It's one of the oldest settlements in the Northwest Territories; reports indicate it was a permanent camp in the early 19th century. But about 20 years ago many of its residents were attracted to the urban setting of Rae and Snare Lake became a winter hunting camp.

(more)

More recently a group of Dogrib elders decided to re-establish Snare Lake as a permanent community. They wanted it to be a place where natives could live along traditional lines-hunting, trapping and fishing - with little help from the outside world.

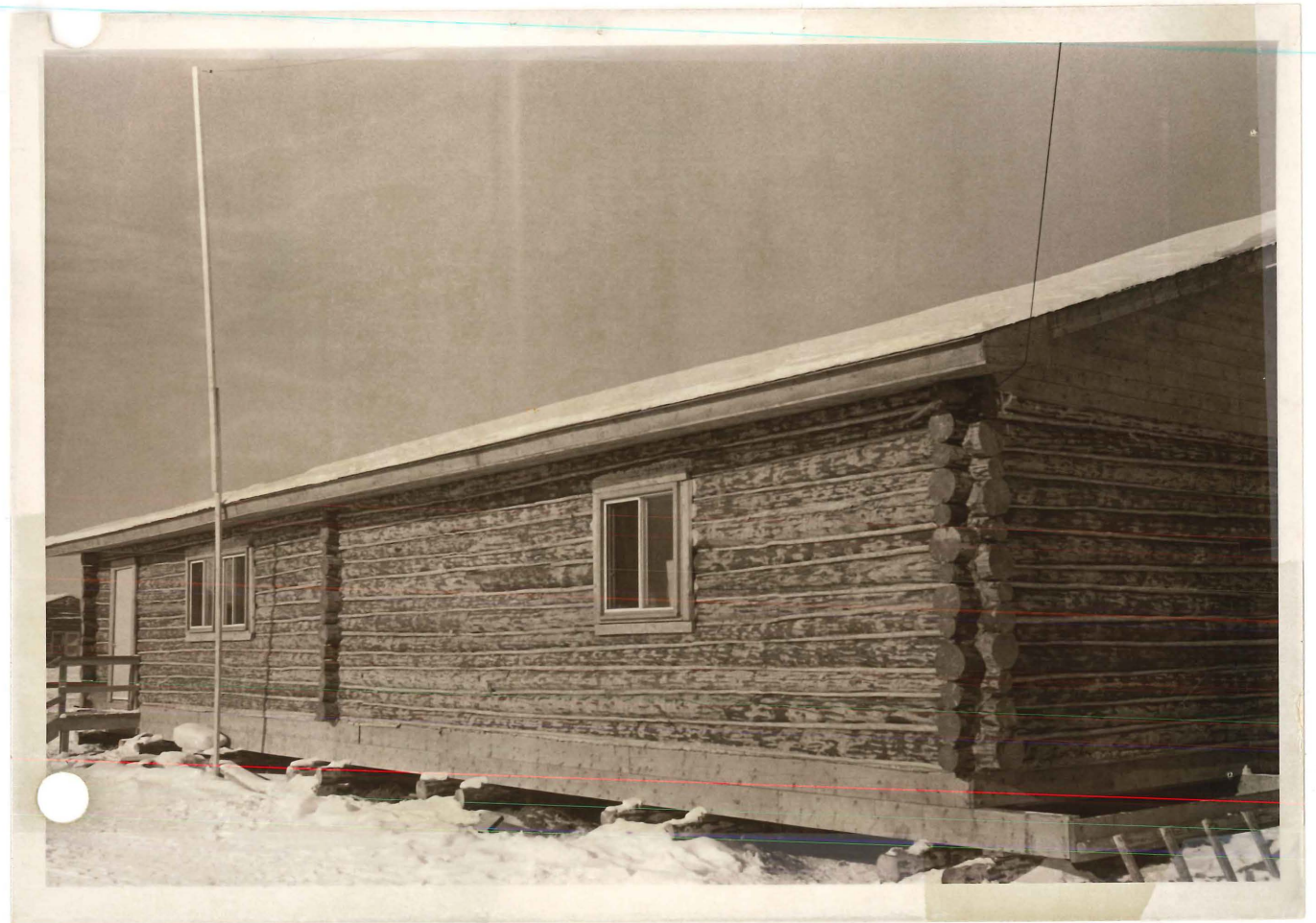
There is no power at Snare Lake. The rice pudding served at the feast was cooked over propane stoves. There is no radio, television or telephone communications. Transportation to other inhabited areas is limited to chartered aircraft equipped with skis or floats and dog team during the winter.

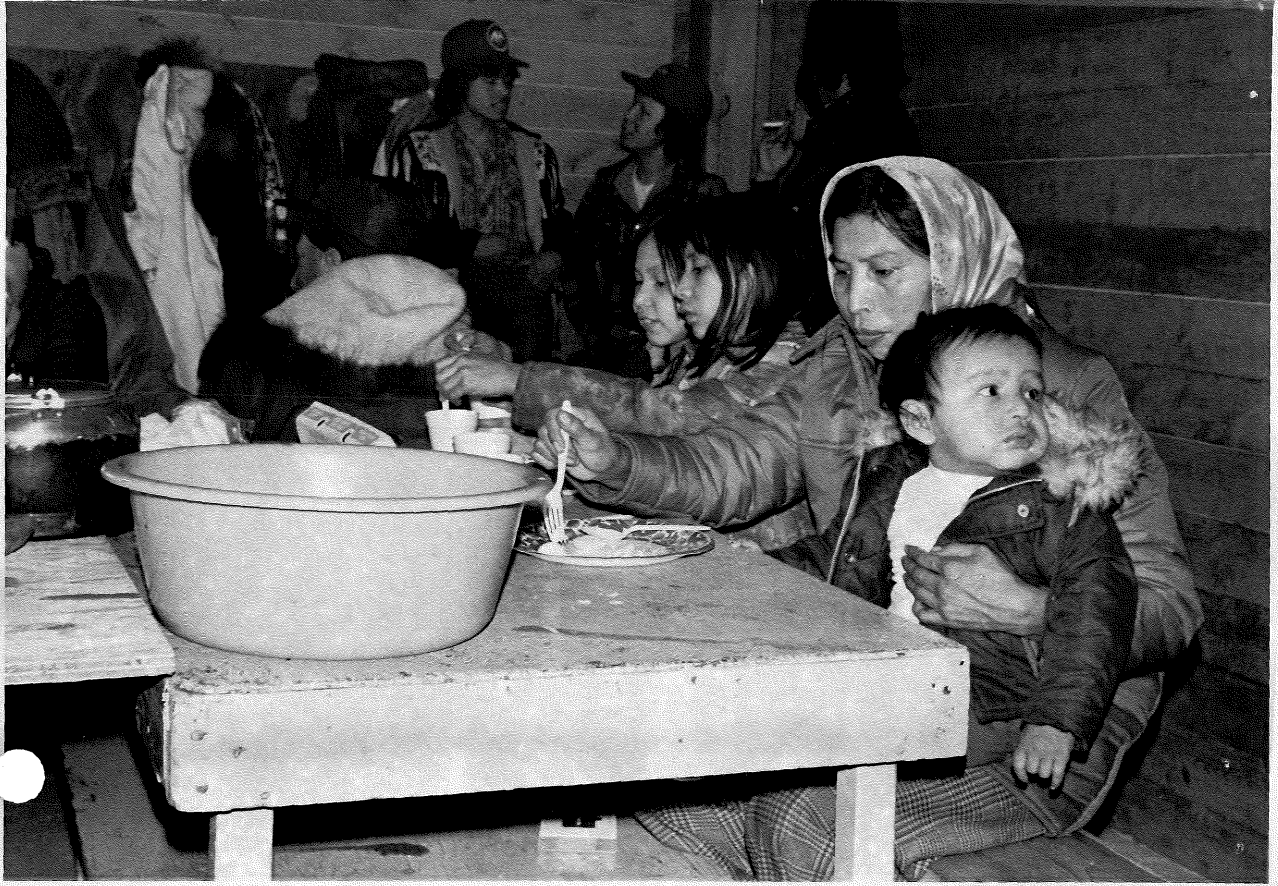
- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-094

## CONTRACT AGREEMENT REACHED

YELLOWKNIFE (March 15) - Peter Dyck, president of the Northwest Territories Public Service Association and Rod Morrison, director of personnel for the Government of the Northwest Territories today announced that the association and the government have reached agreement on a new contract, subject to ratification by the association's membership.

No details of the agreement will be released until the association has had the opportunity to advise its members of the terms.

- 30 -

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79-095

ADCC FUNDS COMMUNITY ALCOHOL PROJECTS

YELLOWKNIFE (March 16) - The N.W.T. Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council (ADCC) has agreed to fund nine community alcohol projects.

In addition, it is recommending that the National Native Alcohol Abuse Program (NNAAP) fund four others.

The aim of the projects is to reduce the misuse of alcohol in the north.

At a meeting held here March 13-14, ADCC decided as well to ask the Territorial government for more money to fund community alcohol projects during the upcoming 1979-80 fiscal year.

ADCC has been given \$800,000 by the government for the next fiscal year. However, it wants about \$245,000 more. And it is asking the administration to approach Territorial Council for the extra funds during council's special session to be held later this month.

ADCC is an independent body that was set up to review proposals for funding of alcohol projects on behalf of the Territorial government and the National Native Alcohol Abuse Program. It also makes recommendations to Territorial Council on laws and policies governing alcohol.

(more)

ADCC FUNDS COMMUNITY ALCOHOL PROJECTS...2

The eight projects which were approved by ADCC are:

. The Peel River Alcohol Committee of Fort McPherson is being given \$65,000 to continue operating its alcohol rehabilitation centre.

. The Inuvik alcohol committee is getting \$242,886 to continue operating its out-patient counselling and information service as well as its residential rehabilitation centre.

. Northern Addiction Services of Yellowknife is getting \$339,348 to operate a detox program, a rehabilitation program and a recovery program (a half-way house). The group also offers the community a youth counselling service, an addiction training service, a spouse awareness program and family counselling.

. A grant of \$60,000 is being given the Katavik project in Frobisher Bay. The project consists of a drop-in centre, accommodation in emergencies and a counselling service.

. A grant of \$26,828 is being given the drug and alcohol committee of Fort Resolution to continue operating its drop-in centre.

. The alcohol and drug committee of Spence Bay will be able to keep its drop-in centre open with a grant of \$28,900.

. The alcohol education committee of Resolute Bay is getting a \$28,649 grant to keep open its alcohol information program and drop-in centre.

. The Baffin information centre in Pangnirtung is getting a \$62,728 grant to set up an alcohol information centre to serve the region.

. The Metis Association of the N.W.T. is getting a grant of \$7,500 to develop a proposal for an alcohol rehabilitation program.

(more)

ADCC FUNDS COMMUNITY ALCOHOL PROJECTS...3

ADCC is also recommending that NNAAP provide:

. A grant of \$55,238 to the Tree of Peace in Yellowknife for its alcohol field-worker program.

. A grant of \$8,000 to the Baker Lake alcohol education committee to continue operating its alcohol education-awareness program.

. A grant of \$32,182 to the Pond Inlet alcohol education committee to operate its program of helping persons in need, and

. A grant of \$12,278 to the alcohol committee in Aklavik to operate a counselling, outreach and information program.

The next meeting of the co-ordinating council will be held in June in Yellowknife.

- 30 -

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79-096

HEALTH CARE RE-REGISTRATION UNDERWAY

YELLOWKNIFE (March 19) - The Territorial government's department of health has begun its health care re-registration program.

Under the program all N.W.T. residents are required to renew their coverage with the Northwest Territories Health Care Plan. A package, containing all the material necessary to re-register - including a new health care card - will be made available to everyone now registered with the Plan.

The department is starting to send the renewal packages to northerners. They will go by personal mail to persons living in the large communities such as Yellowknife and Frobisher Bay. They will be available at nursing stations for persons living in the smaller communities.

Mike Pontus of the department of health says the re-registration packages should be in the hands of most northerners by the end of March. He says persons who haven't received the material by the end of April should contact the department of health.

"Everyone who needs to be covered under the Health Care Plan must re-register," says Mr. Pontus, "and this is done by returning a portion of the new health care card to the Plan."

(more)

HEALTH CARE RE-REGISTRATION UNDER WAY...2

He says two groups of people might experience problems in re-registering.

"Some people, because they have forgotten to notify the Plan about changes in name and/or address, may have some difficulty since we can only send the re-registration material to people at the addresses in our files," he says.

"A second group of people that may have problems will be those who are registered with the plan more than once."

Mr. Pontus says persons who are registered with the Plan under two or more names or addresses could be issued more than one re-registration package. He says they might be confused over which package to use and which health care card to keep.

He says the package containing a new health care card with accurate and up-to-date information is the one that should be used in re-registering. The other package or packages should be returned to the department of health, along with a note stating which health care card is correct.

"This problem occurs when people who have moved or changed their name re-register under the Plan and are issued a new health care card instead of simply notifying the Plan of the change and retaining their old card," he says.

(more)

HEALTH CARE RE-REGISTRATION UNDER WAY...3

The re-registration program is being introduced to update the records of the Health Care Plan. Up-to-date records make it quicker and easier for the Plan to process claims for medical and hospital services. Good records also help in the planning of new health care programs, services and facilities.

- 30 -

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79-097

RADIO-TELEVISION ON AT CORAL HARBOUR

YELLOWKNIFE (March 22) - The Keewatin community of Coral Harbour has CBC television and regional radio service for the first time.

Located on Southampton Island, in the Hudson Bay, the community is receiving the service through a satellite delivery system installed by the Territorial government's department of information.

The system ties into a local FM radio broadcasting station installed in the community earlier this year.

Director of Information Art Sorensen said the department is installing 12 and 15-foot satellite earth stations and is rebroadcasting signals with 10 watt transmitters.

In November of last year, television service was provided to Fort Norman under the department's N.W.T. Communications program, designed to provide facilities for all communities in the Territories with populations between 250 and 500.

Mr. Sorensen said he expects the service to be turned on in Arctic Bay on Baffin Island by the middle of April.

He said satellite service is scheduled to be provided to the communities of Fort Liard, Pelly Bay and Chesterfield Inlet during the 1979-80 fiscal year.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-098 P

## N.W.T. ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER RESIGNS

YELLOWKNIFE (March 27) - Gary Mullins will be leaving his position as assistant commissioner of the Northwest Territories May 31.

Mr. Mullins has accepted a position in the private sector in Vancouver. He has been assistant commissioner since March of 1976.

In a letter of resignation, the 37-year-old Mr. Mullins said he came north with a "profound respect for the political process and a desire to assist in the political evolution of the Northwest Territories".

He noted the present territorial council had been in office almost a year when he arrived in Yellowknife and that the executive committee make-up of both appointed and elected officials was then a relatively-new experience.

He said in his letter to Commissioner Stuart Hodgson that the job has "provided me with an opportunity to be an integral part of the growth and development of the executive committee". He called that opportunity "by far the most rewarding experience in my professional life".

(more)

N.W.T. ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER RESIGNS - 2

During his tenure as one of three appointed executive committee members, Mr. Mullins worked with two and then three colleagues from the elected ranks of territorial council and has seen their responsibilities grow.

He commented the executive committee is "an institution deserving considerable respect" and he expressed confidence its effectiveness would grow even further upon election of a larger territorial council. Council is expected to be expanded shortly from its present 15 members to 22.

Mr. Mullins will be returning to home territory when he moves to British Columbia with his wife, Doreen, and two children. He was born in New Westminster and was educated at the University of British Columbia, where he earned a master's degree, specializing in economic geography.

The retiring assistant commissioner leaves the public service after 12 years. He served several federal government departments, including the trade commissioner service of the department of industry, trade and commerce. He and his wife lived in Chile for two years, where he was assistant commercial secretary at the Canadian Embassy.

Mr. Mullins' first contact with the Northwest Territories was in 1972, through the treasury board secretariat in Ottawa. His responsibilities included advising on N.W.T. budget matters.

He was involved with northern development financial planning for the Yukon and N.W.T. governments as well as the Northern Canada Power Commission for two years before being assigned to his current position in Yellowknife.

(more)

Away from the office, the Mullins' are active in canoeing, camping and cross-country skiing.

Mr. Mullins has been involved with Canadian Crossroads International since 1964. This is an inter-racial group of Canadians, Americans and Africans concerned with Third-World youth development.

The Mullins' family expects to be moving to Vancouver in June.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-099

## BAFFIN REGION BUDGET EXCEEDS \$30 MILLION

CAPE DORSET (March 24) - Friday was Budget Day at the Baffin Regional Council session here.

Presenting the budget, regional director Mike Moore told the delegates that funds approved by Territorial council for hamlets and government departments in the Baffin region for the fiscal year starting April 1st would exceed \$30 million.

The largest slice of the regional budget goes to the department of public works, with over \$10 million required for operation and maintenance of government buildings, works and equipment. More than half of the public works budget goes to pay for heat and lights in schools and other government buildings.

Education has a budget of \$7 ½ million, of which almost \$6 million is for salaries.

Territorial government contributions to the seven hamlets - Pangnirtung, Clyde River, Pond Inlet, Igloolik, Arctic Bay, Hall Beach, and Sanikiluaq - total almost \$2 ½ million dollars.

Together, the hamlets of Baffin region employ approximately 100 people in providing municipal services and such things as airfield maintenance.

(more)



BAFFIN REGION BUDGET EXCEEDS \$30 MILLION - 2

Capital expenditures approved in the regional budget include a sewage treatment and disposal plant for Pangnirtung (\$400,000); piped water supply systems for Pond Inlet (\$400,000), Igloolik (\$600,000), Sanikiluaq (\$300,000) and Broughton Island (\$250,000), and a parking garage at Grise Fiord (\$214,700).

A community complex, including recreation facilities, offices, a laundry, post office, and council chambers will be built at Broughton Island. The total cost of the complex will be \$1 million over two years.

Among the major items of mobile equipment to be purchased for communities in the Baffin Region will be bulldozers for Clyde River (\$123,600), and Cape Dorset (\$121,000).

Discussing the budget with the regional council, Mr. Moore assured the delegates that they would have more direct input in the budget process in future.

Hamlet budgets are negotiated with the department of local government in Frobisher Bay, but decisions on capital items are generally made by government departments, and it is often difficult to decide on the priorities between communities.

From now on, the regional council's executive committee will set the priorities for such things as parking garages, settlement offices, and mobile equipment, all of which come within the regional director's budgeting authority. In effect, the council will decide how best to allocate funds for capital projects under \$250,000.

- 30 -

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See also Release No. 79-100

# NEWS

79-100

## COMMISSIONER APPROVES REGIONAL COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

FROBISHER BAY (March 26) - Commissioner Stuart Hodgson paid an unexpected visit Saturday to Cape Dorset in the Baffin region. His visit had been scheduled two days earlier, as part of his farewell tour, but it was cancelled because of bad weather.

Despite the lack of notice, a large crowd gathered at the school to hear him address the fourth session of the Baffin Regional Council.

The commissioner told delegates that his mind went back 18 months to the first session of the Baffin Regional Council at Arctic Bay in Sept., 1977. At that time, too, he was on a tour of the Baffin region and had stopped at Arctic Bay to address the council. The commissioner said that on his 1977 visit he was not really sure how the regional council would work out. There were quite a few people who did not agree with the idea, perhaps because they saw the Baffin Regional Council as a dividing force, he said.

The commissioner said he did not see it that way at all, but sees the council as a unifying force for the people of Baffin Region.

(more)

"This regional council has only been in existence for a year-and-a-half," he said, "but already people are beginning to take notice of you. In all sorts of ways, you are having a strong influence in Yellowknife and with the government in Ottawa."

The commissioner told delegates that Territorial council, when it meets in Yellowknife this month, will be discussing the regional council's proposed hamlet ordinance. This would be the first time that a piece of Territorial legislation had come up from a region, the commissioner said, and the Speaker and one other delegate from the regional council will be present when the Territorial council discusses the ordinance.

Talking of the future, the commissioner said that the Baffin Regional Council and the Baffin Region Inuit Association both have a part to play in it.

The regional council could be a very big influence on the Territorial and Federal governments in the way they deliver their programs and services. Education, social development, health services, fish and wildlife management, and community development are the things the regional council should be concerned about, he said. In resource developments like offshore drilling, the regional council should be concerned about social and economic impacts - about what will happen to the communities as a result of the development, the commissioner added.

Saying that this would be his last chance to address the Baffin Regional Council, Commissioner Hodgson told the delegates the Baffin region had always been one of his favorite places.

(more)

On this farewell tour, he was getting a lot of pleasure out of seeing the way communities have developed in the last 10 years or so. There are now seven hamlets in the region, with a good chance of two more within the year. The idea of a regional council took the development of local government one stage further, he said. It provides a forum where delegates from the communities can meet and discuss their common interests.

Most of all, he said, it gives the communities a say in what is happening on a regional basis.

"A regional council like this one helps to keep government programs in order", he said, "and it is a very good thing for the regional superintendents to have to stand up before this council and account for what they are doing".

Responding to a resolution passed by the regional council earlier in the week, Commissioner Hodgson approved the council's new constitution and signed it. The resolution also called upon territorial councillors from the Baffin Region to seek approval for the constitution and recognition of the regional council from the present Territorial council when it meets for the last time in Yellowknife March 28th.

- 30 -

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see also Release no. - 79-099

# NEWS

79-101

## DETAILS OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (March 29) - Details of the tentative new two year contract agreement reached by the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Northwest Territories Public Service Association were released today. The NWTPSA will now seek ratification from its members.

The agreement includes a salary increase of approximately \$1,411 as a flat dollar amount for all bargaining unit employees in the first year, effective April 1, 1979. This amount was calculated by applying an 8% increase to the total salary figure for Association members and evenly dividing the total increase. The end of March payroll will be used to determine the exact amount.

There is a salary increase of 7 1/2% in the second year of the agreement.

An employee dental plan would also take effect in the second year of the agreement. Employees would contribute to the plan and after a certain point the government would pay the remainder for selected dental services.

(more)

Other features of the agreement include improvements in paid leave entitlement and severance pay, and increases in shift premiums, standby pay and safety clothing allowance.

By joint consultation it was agreed that effective April 1, 1979, settlement allowances and duty travel expense rates will be increased, and effective September 1, 1979, rent and utility charges will be increased by 8%, which is the same rate as the average percentage increase to salaries.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-102

## GOVERNMENT BUYERS TO SHARE EXPERIENCES

YELLOWKNIFE (March 29) - Guest speakers from the private sector will be discussing the latest business ideas and techniques with Territorial government buyers next week in Yellowknife.

A two-day conference of government buyers is set for April 6-7 at Northern United Place. It will feature information on the latest customs regulations and the views of northern-based businessmen.

Ossie Roberts, Territorial government purchasing manager, expects about 20 participants, including field staff from all corners of the Northwest Territories. They are getting together under one roof for the first time.

"It's mainly a get-acquainted session," commented Mr. Roberts. "We will be looking at new procedures and sharing ideas on common northern problems." He expects his field people "will have a lot to say".

Hay River's Harold Rattai, president of the N.W.T. Construction Association, is scheduled to express the northern businessman's point of view. A representative of Edmonton's Border Brokers will be on hand to outline what is new in importing regulations.

The session will also feature formation of a new chapter of the Purchasing Management Association of Canada.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-103 P

## COMMISSIONER'S MEDALS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (March 29) - The Commissioner's Awards have taken on a new look.

A medal has been struck to recognize exceptional deeds of bravery or public service in the Northwest Territories. This is in addition to the scroll awards Commissioner Stuart Hodgson has presented annually for several years now.

Some of the new medals were awarded last week during the commissioner's last tour of Arctic communities.

Last night, a special "investiture" - the first of its kind in the Northwest Territories - was held in Yellowknife to publicly recognize the individual achievements of seven more northerners. Five were awarded the new medals.

The recipients are:

. Father Aloysius Brattar, OMI, of Fort Smith, public service medal and scroll for his years of service to the people of Fort Norman, Fort Franklin and Fort Good Hope.

(more)



COMMISSIONER'S MEDALS AWARDED - 2

. Brother Henri Sareault, OMI, of Edmonton, public service medal and scroll for his efforts in collecting northern artifacts and building interest in the community's Northern Life Museum.

. Father Jean Pochat, OMI, of Rae-Edzo, bravery medal and scroll for saving the life of a person drowning at Fort Rae.

. Fred Stanley Derocher and Irene Margaret Sabourin of Hay River, bravery scroll jointly awarded for saving the life of a person drowning in the Hay River.

. Roy Menagh of Yellowknife, public service medal and scroll for generating interest in music among youth both inside and outside the N.W.T.

. David Searle, Q.C., of Yellowknife, public service scroll and medal for 12 years of service as a member of Territorial council, including four years as its first Speaker.

During Mr. Hodgson's tour, public service awards were presented to Harriet Gladue of Fort Norman and, posthumously, to Father Joseph Adam. The late Father Adam's medal was accepted by Inuvik's Father Croteau. Awards for bravery went to Jacobie Panipak of Clyde River, Simon Idlout of Pond Inlet, Silasie Alikatuktuk and Matta Poisey, both of Broughton Island.

- 30 -

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Commissioner Stuart Hodgson presents Roy Menagh of Yellowknife a public service medal for his efforts to interest young people in music. Mr. Menagh was one of seven people to be honored by the commissioner for bravery or public service at a dinner-ceremony Wednesday.

(Photo by Mike Van Duffelen)

(Photos of all recipients are available to the media upon request)

See release no: 79-103 P

# NEWS

79-104

## COUNCIL SAYS PROVINCIAL STATUS INEVITABLE

YELLOWKNIFE (March 29) - Territorial council wants responsible government for the Northwest Territories and it wants it now.

As well, once that's achieved, it wants provincial status.

At the continuation of its 67th session here Wednesday, the native-majority council endorsed a report containing 32 recommendations of its special committee on constitutional development.

The recommendations amount to a blueprint for eventual home rule. They spell out "the practical ingredients of responsible government and the steps which must be taken along the path to provincial status".

The committee's 87-page report was described by two councillors as the most important paper drawn up by the current council. It will be presented to Hugh Faulkner, the minister of Indian and northern affairs, and C.M. (Bud) Drury, the Prime Minister's special representative on constitutional development.

(more)

Council believes that a comment made by the 1969 Carrothers Commission on the development of government in the north, which stated that provincial status for the N.W.T. is not a "realistic alternative" for the "foreseeable future", doesn't reflect the realities of today. Council says the federal government must recognize that provincial status is "inevitable".

The report acknowledges, however, that council's goals cannot be achieved without the co-operation of the federal government.

"We may have all the willingness in the world to increase our economic self-sufficiency, to increase the effectiveness of our assembly and its members, to strengthen the local level of government, but without the co-operation of the Government of Canada our efforts will be frustrated," the report says.

The report says council is not simply seeking concessions.

"We are anxious to see the contribution of the N.W.T. to Canada fully recognized. ...We are prepared to do our part by being fully committed to the settlement of land claims and the protection of native rights. We are prepared to ensure that the community-related services of the Government of the N.W.T. recognize and meet local needs and concerns. We wish to participate in executive decision-making, to spread the word that there is a relationship between devolution and the willingness and ability to pay."

(more)

And council wants to be involved in making the changes it desires.

The 32 recommendations contained in the report and now endorsed cover eight areas.

The most significant of them are:

On fundamental issues:

- . that the federal government commit funds for operation of the Territorial government on a multi-year rather than year-by-year basis in order to give the N.W.T. more financial autonomy;

- . that the federal government make the Territorial government an "equal partner" in the settlement of land claims.

On the N.W.T. council:

- . that council continue to recommend who should be picked from its ranks for the executive committee, the chief decision-making body of the Territorial government.. In addition, it wants the commissioner to have no choice but to accept council's nominees for the executive committee, and have to get its approval on any changes in the responsibility of the elected executive members;

- . if political parties emerge in the N.W.T., the leader of the party in majority would name cabinet members whose responsibilities would have to be ratified by council.

(more)

On executive authority, it would like to see the executive re-shaped in two stages. Immediately after the election of a new council, sometime this year, it wants:

- . the executive to be composed exclusively of elected members who will choose a chairman from among themselves. (The executive is now made up of three elected and three appointed members, with the commissioner as chairman.)

- . that the Commissioner be bound to ratify decisions of the executive committee, unless otherwise instructed by the minister of Indian and northern affairs or the Governor-in-Council;

- . that the position of deputy commissioner be filled only on an ad hoc basis, either when the commissioner is absent or unable to act for some other reason;

- . that when the assistant commissioner vacates his post the position be abolished (assistant Commissioner Gary Mullins has resigned effective May 31);

- . that the new executive be comprised of five to seven members and that every government department be responsible to an executive member. It also says some government departments may have to be reorganized.

Within four years council would like more changes made to the Executive by:

- . re-naming the commissioner lieutenant-governor and having him bound by all decisions of the executive committee, which will then be called the executive council;

(more)

. that an administrator, likely a Supreme Court Judge, perform the functions of the commissioner in his absence;

Within the next 10 years it wants:

. an Act prepared to set up a province or provinces within the Northwest Territories;

In the area of legislative authority the council is recommending that:

. the Northwest Territories Act be completely revised before the election of the 10th Assembly (likely in four-five years) to provide a constitutional framework like that found in the provinces and that council be allowed to change its constitution;

. that legislation approved by council be subject only to an Act of Parliament that includes a clause specifying the application of that Act to the N.W.T.;

In the area of economic development and resource responsibilities it wants:

. the administration and management of resources, including land use, water, forests, minerals, oil and gas to be transferred immediately from the federal to the territorial government, as a first step in expanding economic development opportunities in the N.W.T.;

. an order to be worked out to transfer the administration of Crown land from federal to territorial hands;

(more)

COUNCIL SAYS PROVINCIAL STATUS INEVITABLE - 6

. the ownership of Crown land and resources to be transferred to the Territories once it achieves provincial status;

. an agreement to be worked out with the federal government for the transfer of responsibility for administering inland fisheries to the Territorial government;

. no further land set aside for National parks in the N.W.T. without the approval of council and that land be allocated for parks that will fall under control of the Northwest Territories.

. environmental protection regulations to be carried out by Territorial and local government employees, except in the area of off-shore activities (such as the drilling now done in the Beaufort Sea);

. the Northern Canada Power Commission to be located in the Northwest Territories and the responsibility for it be subject to council's control;

In other program areas the Council feels:

. that a Northwest Territories Department of Justice should be set up immediately and employees of the federal government's department of justice in the North be transferred to the Territorial government;

. that the federal Land Titles Act and the federal Canada Labor Code be replaced with Territorial laws

(more)



. that the federal government co-operate with the transfer of health care services to Territorial government hands so that the Territories can be in complete control of health services by April 1, 1980;

In the area of regionalism, local government and devolution it believes:

. that unity, achieved by having the Territorial government represent all northerners, is essential for the N.W.T. to attain an equal standing in Confederation;

. that a regional form of government, with law-making powers and administration, is not feasible. It says there are properly three levels of government: federal, territorial and local;

. that the process of giving communities more power to run their own affairs could be speeded up by having the federal government transfer more responsibility to the Territorial government and by the Territorial government making more effort to determine what powers communities want.

Council has invited Mr. Drury to its session. He was expected to speak to council today.

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# NEWS

79-105

## A LARGER COUNCIL NEEDS MORE POWERS, SAYS DRURY

YELLOWKNIFE (March 30 ) - Bud Drury feels it is time for the commissioner of the Northwest Territories to share more of his executive powers with elected members of Territorial council - but only when council expands and there are more elected positions on the governing executive committee.

Mr. Drury told Territorial council Thursday he generally agreed with this and other positions expressed by council in its position paper on the political future of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Drury, himself a former appointed territorial councillor, is Prime Minister Trudeau's special representative for constitutional development in the Northwest Territories. He is a listening post for northern ideas on the N.W.T.'s future and he plans to report to the prime minister before the end of 1979.

The present 15-member Territorial council - its terms of office ends March 31 - resumed its 67th Session Wednesday. Council's constitutional development committee, chaired by Arnold McCallum (Slave River), tabled the 87-page position paper Wednesday. It contains council's proposals for the acquisition of responsible government by the N.W.T.

(more)

In a formal response Thursday, Mr. Drury told members the document would be useful to him in his deliberations. Mr. Drury is to submit recommendations to the prime minister on constitutional development and reform in the N.W.T.

Mr. Drury referred to a federal bill passed two weeks ago in Ottawa authorizing expansion of Territorial council from the present 15 to 22 members when the next territorial elections are held sometime later this year.

He said he felt an expanded council "is a necessary condition to further changes including an expanded executive committee, increased responsibilities of elected executive members and corresponding reduction in responsibilities of the commissioner, virtually the sole executive officer of the Northwest Territories Government".

Mr. Drury stressed the importance of spelling out areas where council decisions would be binding on the commissioner and the Territorial administration. He noted council's position paper pays attention to these details.

The former federal cabinet minister said council's position paper also recognizes the importance of fiscal responsibilities, saying it "correctly identifies the need for raising more revenue from within the Northwest Territories". He said it is important for the federal and territorial administrations to develop a revenue-sharing formula and for the Territories to obtain multi-year financial commitments, as council proposes.

(more)

Mr. Drury said he is pleased council gives importance to passing on new authority directly from federal to territorial to local levels. He said this is in keeping with his personal philosophy that political needs of N.W.T. residents can be most effective if "decisions are taken as close as possible to the people affected by those decisions".

He said he would like to see more action on devolution of existing Territorial authority to local levels. He personally wants to see this done in the areas of education, wildlife management, social services and local economic development.

Mr. Drury advised council he believes it need not fear the growth of regional government in the N.W.T. Council has gone on record opposing the development of a fourth level of government structure: regional in addition to existing federal, territorial and local levels.

Citing the examples of the Baffin Regional Council, and similar proposals for the Western Arctic by the Committee for the Original Peoples' Entitlement (C.O.P.E.), Mr. Drury said he sees these as limited forms of authority meeting regional needs.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-106

## COUNCIL RECOGNIZES BRC

YELLOWKNIFE (April 2) - Territorial Council passed a motion Friday recognizing the "legitimate aspirations" of the Baffin Regional Council (BRC).

The BRC was formed two years ago and is made up of representatives of all 13 Baffin community councils.

The motion was passed after Territorial Council studied the BRC's constitution and was assured by two representatives that the BRC is not seeking legislative powers at this time.

Lucasi Ivvalu, the BRC's Speaker, and Titus Allooloo, BRC member and mayor of Pond Inlet, explained that the organization is interested in becoming involved in the development of government programs and other matters that affect the residents of the region.

Mr. Ivvalu explained why he feels the BRC is necessary.

(more)

COUNCIL RECOGNIZES BRC...2

"I believe very strongly that the only time anyone from government, or any organization, can help the Inuit, or the people of the N.W.T. as a whole, is when you have a body which is formed by those people. For that reason I think the Assembly should not have to worry about what would happen if they approved of our constitution because the BRC only wants to help the people in the Baffin region."

Council appeared to be worried at the start of the discussion when Mr. Allooloo said the BRC wished to have authority to make laws for Baffin residents. He later retracted his statement.

If the BRC sought legislative powers it would be in conflict with Territorial Council's position that there are "properly" only three levels of government in the N.W.T. - local, territorial and federal. Territorial Council has made that position clear in its recently-approved position paper on constitutional development which states that there is no place in the N.W.T. "for a regional level of government and its own law-making powers and administration".

(more)

COUNCIL RECOGNIZES BRC...3

Said Mr. Ivvalu: "...at present the Baffin Regional Council is not seeking legislative powers but it does seek more involvement in the development of the Baffin region. It wants to be involved in decision-making as a decision-making body: for instance on the decentralization of powers from Yellowknife to Frobisher Bay."

Earlier in the discussion, Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) had wondered if the BRC under its present constitution has the authority to make laws. Council's legal advisor, Pat Flieger, responded that it didn't.

Mr. Nickerson suggested that if the BRC wanted to be recognized by law it should seek steps to do that by either becoming incorporated under the N.W.T. Societies Ordinance or "seeking its own special legislation from this House".

Arnold McCallum (Slave River) and the member responsible for the Territorial government's department of local government suggested that members move to recognize the BRC with its objectives as clarified by Mr. Allooloo and Mr. Ivvalu.

(more)

COUNCIL RECOGNIZES BRC...4

The motion introduced by Mr. Nickerson, was passed by all members present in the House.

Earlier in the 67th session Territorial Council gave approval-in-principle to changes to the N.W.T.'s Municipal Ordinance. The new ordinance, which would give hamlets more responsibility over local matters, was drafted by the BRC.

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# NEWS

79-107

## COUNCIL SUPPORTS TUK'S FIGHT OVER BOUNDARIES

YELLOWKNIFE (April 2) - Territorial council supports the hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk's fight to restore its municipal boundaries and to retain access to gravel deposits outside its boundaries.

A motion introduced by John Steen (Western Arctic) Friday and supported by council asks that the hamlet's boundaries and access to gravel deposits be respected in the claims agreement to be reached between the Committee for Original People's Entitlement (C.O.P.E.) and the federal government.

C.O.P.E. reached agreement-in-principle with the federal government last October on a claims proposal submitted on behalf of the Inuvialuit (Inuit of the Western Arctic).

Mr. Steen, a resident of Tuk, noted that some of the land C.O.P.E. is claiming falls within the boundaries of the municipality of Tuk. He also said the C.O.P.E. claim as it now stands undermines the hamlet's authority over gravel deposits that could be used for such municipal purposes as airstrip maintenance.

(more)

## COUNCIL SUPPORTS TUK FIGHT OVER BOUNDARIES - 2

Ron Crossley, assistant director of the Territorial government's department of local government, said outside the House that if the C.O.P.E. agreement goes through in its proposed form the municipal boundaries of Tuk will be reduced from 11 square miles to three.

He added that since the signing of an agreement-in-principle all land claimed by C.O.P.E. can't be touched without the organization's approval. This means, in effect, that the hamlet of Tuk must now consult with C.O.P.E. before using for municipal purposes any land outside its three square-mile boundaries.

In seeking support for his motion, Mr. Steen said that the C.O.P.E.-proposed claim goes against the Territorial council's position that no native claims settlement in the Northwest Territories should prejudice the development of local government in the North.

Mr. Steen says the issue is so serious that some Tuk hamlet councillors are considering resigning.

"We have been saying that we must strengthen local government, give them more authority, more power and this land claim does the opposite. It destroys the hamlet of Tuk," he said.

Mr. Steen said the hamlet and C.O.P.E. tried to reach an agreement on the matter. He claims C.O.P.E. insisted nothing in the agreement-in-principle could be changed until after the signing of a final agreement.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River) and the member responsible for the Territorial government's department of local government outlined the history of Tuk's municipal boundaries since they were established in 1970.

(more)

COUNCIL SUPPORTS TUK'S FIGHT OVER BOUNDARIES - 3

He noted that a resolution passed in February by the Association of Municipalities, and later endorsed by the Town of Inuvik, says no land claim should be allowed to infringe upon existing municipal boundaries.

"We have stated time and time again that local government is the backbone of all government and has to be. We have to continue to keep it going, to devolve more responsibilities to it...", said Mr. McCallum.

He says council cannot continue to allow claims negotiations to proceed without its input or that of communities.

"I will continue to press to get our participation as full partners (in claim negotiations) so we can protect the concerns, the goals and aspirations of all our communities."

Mr. McCallum had assured council he would get, in time for Friday's discussion, maps outlining the area C.O.P.E. is claiming. However, he said Hugh Faulkner, minister of Indian and northern affairs, has instructed the Territorial government not to release the maps to council or any other group.

Bill Lyall (Central Arctic), who requested the maps, suggested Mr. McCallum release them anyway.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) felt the maps should be made public because many northerners have a "legitimate" interest in the lands claimed by C.O.P.E.

"If the claim goes through in its proposed form, Tuk's access to granular materials will be cut off...they will be held to ransom by the C.O.P.E. organization. Now surely that is not what we would like to see happen to the autonomous municipalities of the N.W.T.," said Mr. Nickerson.

(more)

## COUNCIL SUPPORTS TUK'S FIGHT OVER BOUNDARIES - 4

David Searle (Yellowknife South) was concerned about negotiations underway between C.O.P.E. and Dome-Canmar on the price to be charged the company for gravel to repair the Tuk airstrip.

Mr. Searle wondered how C.O.P.E. could sell gravel when the land and its resources are still owned by the federal government, at least until the final claims settlement.

Murray Morrison and Joe Ganske for the federal department of Indian and northern affairs appeared before council as witnesses.

Mr. Morrison described the negotiations as the setting up of "effective communications." He said, to the cheers of council, that the government will have to decide soon on the use of what still remains the government's resources.

Tom Butters (Inuvik) explained that the Territorial government recommended before the signing of the C.O.P.E. agreement-in-principle that "the federal government guarantee a supply of sand and gravel in perpetuity, thus ensuring the continuing development and evolution of Western Arctic communities."

The hamlet of Tuk is not the only group angered with C.O.P.E. or its agreement-in-principle.

A group of Tuk residents sent a letter to Mr. Faulkner explaining why they oppose the C.O.P.E. agreement. The letter was tabled at council.

(more)

COUNCIL SUPPORTS TUK'S FIGHT OVER BOUNDARIES - 5

The reasons it cites include: that C.O.P.E. is not a democratic organization; the agreement it proposes would do away with the present system of local government; and that C.O.P.E. defines a future that is a radical change from the present.

"We want a free and open society for our children and not one controlled by a dictatorial organization set up in response to government grants, directed by southern advisors, and dedicated to the overthrow of the system of local government that many people have worked years and years to develop," their letter says.

William Nasogaluak, owner of the domestic reindeer herd near Tuk, is also angry. In a letter to the minister of DREE (the department of regional economic expansion), and sent to others including Conservative Party Leader, Joe Clark, Mr. Nasogaluak complains about a study funded by DREE and conducted by C.O.P.E. He said in his letter he was not contacted about the study and it contains many "mistakes, misunderstandings, false claims, needless recommendations, and slurs on me and my business."

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# NEWS

79-108

## COMMISSIONER TELLS COUNCIL TO BE CAUTIOUS

YELLOWKNIFE (April 2) - Commissioner Stuart Hodgson has told Territorial council that in its drive for responsible government it shouldn't "strip the powers of the commissioner to that of a virtual figurehead".

"You must be very careful through the transition period which will no doubt extend through several years. The Northwest Territories is still a territory and there are those on the outside who would love nothing better than to see the administration leaderless," he told members Friday.

His speech, the last to be made to council, closed the 67th session. The commissioner leaves the Territories this month to become chairman of the International Joint Commission, a body set up to handle boundary disputes between Canada and the U.S. As well, the life of the 8th Territorial council ended March 31.

(more)

COMMISSIONER TELLS COUNCIL TO BE CAUTIOUS...2

The commissioner said that until political parties emerge in the N.W.T., members should concentrate on the present system of the executive committee and continue to depend on the commissioner.

"I have never thought of the commissioner's office as being anything other than a major pillar in the building of responsible government," he said.

The commissioner said that council and the administration were ignored in the mid-1970s.

"There were those who claimed the north was in a state of colonialism and that its people were being exploited. Nothing of course could have been further from the truth," he said.

He said billions of dollars has been poured into the North over the years with very little return.

"I make no apologies for this. The Territories is a developing area and had no alternative but to depend on the rest of the nation to assist its northern people into the 20th century."

(more)

COMMISSIONER TELLS COUNCIL TO BE CAUTIOUS...3

In other business Friday, Territorial council passed a motion calling on the commissioner, the minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and the prime minister, to appoint someone to look into the interests of groups in the area of the Western Arctic that C.O.P.E. is claiming in its land claim and recommend measures to protect those interests.

In making the motion, Pete Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear) noted that the Dene Nation, the Metis Association, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (ITC's Central Arctic affiliate), were not represented during negotiations on a proposed claims settlement between the federal government and the Committee for Original People's Entitlement (C.O.P.E.). He said that the people these native groups represent have an interest in the traditional use of the lands being claimed by C.O.P.E.

No date has been set for the next territorial general election.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-109

## COUNCIL CHANGES ITS RULES

YELLOWKNIFE (April 3) - Territorial council decided Friday that the commissioner can continue to sit in the House during committee-of-the-whole but the deputy commissioner can't.

Up to now both the commissioner and deputy commissioner have been allowed to sit in the House during both committee and formal proceedings. They do not have the right to vote on any issue.

Council's decision goes against one of 14 recommendations made by its special committee on the rules of the House. The committee had recommended that neither the commissioner nor the deputy commissioner be granted seats in the House.

The new rule was favored by 10 of the 15 councillors. Most of the five who opposed it felt that seats should be available only to councillors.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), speaking on behalf of the special committee, described most of the rules as "house-keeping" ones. The rules ensure council runs smoothly.

Tom Butters (Inuvik) felt it best if one seat be left open in the House for the commissioner.

"With a seat here I think we can be assured of his attendance and attention and that he is receiving full direction from the members of this assembly," he said.

(more)

COUNCIL CHANGES ITS RULES - 2

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) felt council "should cast off the apron strings" and disallow any member of the administration from sitting in the House.

Pete Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear) felt having a seat in the House for the commissioner would be of benefit to the new members of the next council as many of them will likely be unfamiliar with most government programs and activities.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) felt that with the commissioner present in the House the executive members would not be forced to answer on behalf of the Territorial government.

"Now, if that is not bad enough the other thing you do by leaving your commissioner sitting here is you make sure that you will never from among your executive members develop a single strong leader because as long as your commissioner is here he is the leader," noted Mr. Searle.

"...You must be a little tough on yourself and bite the bullet sometimes if you are going to be a legislature instead of just calling yourself one."

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson, in his closing address to council, warned members to be careful in their drive for responsible government. He advised members that the N.W.T. is still a territory and "there are those on the outside who would love nothing better than to see the administration leaderless."

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-110 P

## COMMISSIONER HONORED

YELLOWKNIFE (April 3) - Commissioner Stuart Hodgson, honorary president of the N.W.T. Council of St. John, Monday was presented with a sealskin tapestry as a departing gift by the N.W.T. Council as a departing gift. The tapestry was sewn by the Holman Island artist Negeonak and depicts the internationally-recognized cross of the Order. Commissioner and Mrs. Hodgson both are members of the Order and have actively supported the work of St. John throughout the Territories. The commissioner retires this month to become Canadian head of the International Joint Commission.

- 30 -

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(Photo by Mike VanDuffelen)



# NEWS

79-111 P

## AGREEMENT SIGNED ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (April 5) - The federal and Territorial governments Wednesday signed an agreement here to spend \$3.8 million over the next two years boosting economic development in N.W.T. communities.

Under the agreement the federal departments of Regional Economic Expansion and Indian and Northern Affairs will contribute \$2.5 million - 60 per cent of the cost - and the Territorial government will put up the remaining \$1.3 million.

The money will be used to promote and develop tourism, expand the use of renewable resources and develop a work-rotation program, community-based planning and an economic development strategy for the N.W.T.

The \$3.8 million agreement was signed Wednesday immediately after the federal and Territorial governments signed a General Development Agreement providing a framework for such economic ventures over the next five years.

(more)

AGREEMENT SIGNED ON...2

The signings involved Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Hugh Faulkner, Commissioner Stuart Hodgson and Tom Butters, executive member responsible for the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism. Marcel Lessard, the minister of DREE (department of regional economic expansion) also will be signing.

"The General Development Agreement seeks the orderly development of northern resources - renewable, non-renewable and human - with concern, of course, for the environment," Mr. Faulkner said.

Mr. Faulkner added the agreement results in part from the work of delegates to the economic development conference in Hay River last May.

"I am confident that the two agreements signed today will enable us to make significant progress, over the next three years, in improving the economic circumstances of the N.W.T.," he said.

(more)

AGREEMENT SIGNED ON...3

Mr. Butters also supported the agreements and said they will complement the Special ARDA agreement already in place between DREE and the Territorial government. Under Special ARDA, grants are available to native northerners for the development of businesses and other projects that create employment.

Mr. Butters said the \$3.8 million agreement stresses the need for a balanced approach to economic development. He said, however, before reaching any further agreements the federal and Territorial governments will have to work out a new cost-sharing arrangement.

"Economic conditions in the Territories warrant the establishment of cost-sharing arrangements more in line with those negotiated with the Maritime provinces," said Mr. Butters.

He noted that a new cost-sharing formula has been presented to the Treasury Board for its approval. He said the current formula, where the N.W.T. pays 40 per cent and the federal government 60 per cent, is the same as in areas of Canada (such as the Yukon and Saskatchewan) that have better economic climates than the N.W.T.'s. He would like to see the federal government pay 75 per cent of the costs.

(more)

AGREEMENT SIGNED ON...4

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson said the general agreement will soon become one of the most important forces for promoting economic expansion in the N.W.T.

"The signing of these agreements is, to me, an important step towards parity with the southern provinces in being able to use the full range of measures available to stimulate our economy," the commissioner said.

"I believe that this community-oriented approach is important because it encourages development at a pace and scale which the people of the N.W.T. can understand and accept. It is essential if we are to bring the communities of the N.W.T. into the mainstream of economic activity."

The commissioner says he's hopeful the agreements reflect a growing concern of the federal government to stimulate "the lagging economy of the Territories".

Five programs are to be introduced under the first \$3.8 million agreement. They will cover:

Tourism - \$600,000 will be spent to increase tourism by improving facilities and promotion throughout various northern communities.

(more)



AGREEMENT SIGNED ON...5

. Renewable resource development - \$2.25 million will be used to organize intersettlement trade, to promote better quality furs, to look into the setting up of more commercial fisheries and to do research into foresting and wildlife harvesting.

. Job rotation - \$100,000 will be spent to introduce three or four pilot projects in which natives will work at a mine for a few weeks and then return to their home community before going back to the mine again.

. Community-based planning - \$600,000 to introduce activities that promote local economic planning.

. Economic development strategy - \$200,000 to assess the N.W.T.'s economy and to develop a long-term economic development plan.

- 30 -

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Commissioner Stuart Hodgson (left) and Hugh Faulkner, minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, sign an agreement that will foster economic development in northern communities.

April 4/79

See release no: 79-111 P

# NEWS

79-112P

## BRITTON TO BE BAFFIN REGIONAL DIRECTOR

YELLOWKNIFE (April 6) - Jim Britton, chief of corrections for the department of social services, is to be appointed Baffin regional director.

The announcement was made today by Deputy Commissioner John Parker.

Mr. Britton will be moving to Frobisher Bay in early September to assume the position.

Current Baffin regional director Mike Moore will transfer to Yellowknife at the same time to take on a headquarters position with an equal level of responsibility. By September, Mr. Moore will have served for three years as head of the Baffin administration.

An employee of the Territorial Government for the past 10 years, Mr. Britton has served in a number of northern locations in the social services field.

He started as a social worker in Hay River in 1968 with the federal department of Northern Affairs, transferring to the Territorial Government in April 1969.

In the fall of 1969 he moved to Fort Smith as senior area social worker.

(more)

BRITTON TO BE BAFFIN REGIONAL DIRECTOR - 2

From 1970 to 1972 he was given education leave and was able to obtain his masters degree in social work from the University of British Columbia. During the summer he worked at the regional office in Churchill, travelling to all Keewatin communities.

In the spring of 1972, Mr. Britton moved to Frobisher Bay as area supervisor for the department of social development.

From November 1973 to August 1975, he was responsible for establishing the new Baffin correctional centre, including the training of local people to staff the centre.

He then moved to Yellowknife as chief of planning and evaluation for the social development department. He became chief of corrections in December 1976.

Mr. Britton, 31, was born in Melfort, Saskatchewan. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Alberta in 1968.

He is married and has one son.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-113

## NEW COMMISSIONER TO BE SWORN IN WEDNESDAY

YELLOWKNIFE (April 6) - Deputy Commissioner John Parker will be sworn in as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories by Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis on Wednesday, April 11th. The ceremony will take place in the Supreme Court of Yellowknife's new courthouse at 3 p.m.

The appointment, announced by the Prime Minister in January, will officially become effective April 15, 1979.

The ceremony is open to the public and coffee will be served in the courthouse lobby.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-114

## MEDICAL EXPENSES COULD BE HIGH WHEN TRAVELLING

YELLOWKNIFE (April 6) - Being aware of your coverage under the N.W.T. Health Care Plan while travelling outside the Territories could save you from high, unexpected medical bills.

Most doctors and hospitals outside Canada won't honor your coverage under the N.W.T. Plan. In fact, most won't honor any foreign government health insurance program. As a result, you usually must pay yourself for the health care.

The N.W.T. Plan will reimburse you for all or part of the expense when you return home providing the treatment you received is insured under the Plan and providing you submit receipts.

However, the Plan will reimburse you only up to what your medical or hospital care would cost in the Northwest Territories. And in many jurisdictions, particularly in the United States, health service charges are higher, sometimes much higher than in the N.W.T. This means you're out of pocket for the difference, unless you've taken out private medical insurance for travelling. (more)

## MEDICAL EXPENSES COULD BE HIGH...2

"I advise people travelling outside of Canada to purchase some form of additional medical coverage. Private insurance companies and travel agents normally sell such coverage or advise on how it can best be acquired," says Mike Pontus of the Territorial government's department of health.

Meanwhile, some doctors in southern Canada are reluctant to honor a health care plan outside their jurisdiction. Others charge a higher rate than the Territorial government is willing to pay.

Mr. Pontus says the government is willing to pay for insured health services given in the Yukon or one of the provinces according to the rates set by each provincial health care plan. But some provinces have two fee schedules -- one established by the provincial government and another by the provincial medical association. The association's fees may be higher.

"We will pay the amount set out by the provincial government's plan. Any amounts over and above are the individual's responsibility," says Mr. Pontus.

(more)



MEDICAL EXPENSES COULD BE HIGH...3

He recommends northerners getting medical care outside the Territories find out if the doctor is billing them according to the rates set by a provincial health care plan or by the medical association rates.

"This wasn't a problem before because the difference between the fee schedules amounted to only a few dollars," says Mr. Pontus.

But now, depending on the medical care you require, the rates may vary from \$2 to \$200.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-115

## PREGNANT WOMEN URGED NOT TO DRINK

YELLOWKNIFE (April 9) - Pregnant women who drink alcohol could give birth to children with mental and physical defects.

These defects, known as the fetal alcohol syndrome, will be made known to northerners through an awareness campaign being introduced in light of Year of the Child.

Participating in the campaign are Planned Parenthood Northwest Territories and two government agencies - the alcohol and drug program and family and children's services of the Territorial government's department of social services.

Posters and brochures for a northern audience are being produced and will be distributed to nursing stations and other public buildings. The material points out the danger a pregnant woman poses to her unborn baby when she drinks.

Sylvia Muzniaks of the planned parenthood group recommends that pregnant women and those planning on having a baby in the near future divorce themselves completely from alcohol. No safe level of alcohol consumption for pregnant women has been determined largely because the same levels of alcohol affect women and their unborn babies in different ways.

(more)

It has been proven that the risk of damage to the fetus increases with the amount of alcohol consumed. Reports also indicate that even occasional "binge" drinkers can do harm to their offspring.

A mother who drinks during her first 60-90 days of pregnancy is taking a big risk. Cells, forming and developing rapidly during this delicate stage of development, can be damaged and even destroyed by alcohol.

Unfortunately, it is also during this time that many women are unaware they are pregnant.

While risks to the unborn baby are drastically reduced after the first 90 days of pregnancy, there is still a chance of damage occurring if the woman drinks excessively.

Most babies born to women who drink excessively are noticeably smaller in length and weight. Often they have unusually small heads and eyes, thin upper lips, short noses and flat midfaces. While brain damage might not be immediately apparent, the baby could be suffering from mental retardation or co-ordination or behavioral problems.

Damage caused by the fetal alcohol syndrome is irreversible. For this reason prevention can be ensured only by abstaining from alcohol during pregnancy. Brochures and posters on the syndrome are available from: Planned Parenthood, N.W.T. Box 1680, Yellowknife, N.W.T.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-116

## COURTS STREAMLINE PROCEDURES

YELLOWKNIFE (April 10) - People charged with certain minor offences who up to now had to go to court - even if only to plead guilty - now have an alternative.

These people will probably be able to settle out of court, if they wish, by paying a fine.

The new system applies to some offences under the Vehicles, Liquor and Wildlife Ordinances and some of their regulations. It also applies to some regulations under the Snowmobile Ordinance and some municipal by-laws.

The new system is made possible under the Summary Conviction Procedures Ordinance passed by Territorial council last year. It went into effect April 1.

Under the old system even people who wanted to plead guilty to certain minor offences had to go to court to do it. Now people will be told when charged with such offences whether or not they can pay a fine instead.

(more)

## COURTS STREAMLINE PROCEDURES...2

Paul Schauerte, chief of court services for the Territorial government, says peace officers have the right to deny persons the option of settling out of court on charges covered under the new system. He said such denials will likely be made only in cases in which a peace officer believes the court should hear the circumstances of the offence.

Mr. Schauerte says that the new system is largely for the convenience of the public.

"In no way does it restrict anyone's right to go to court. Statistics show that most people charged with minor offences plead guilty in court. The new system will enable such persons to avoid taking off time from work simply to go to court and plead guilty," he says.

People charged with offences covered by the new system will be issued a ticket. The ticket will serve as both a summons to court and notice they've been charged with an offence. They can then either plead guilty out of court by paying a fine (it will have to be paid by mail or hand-delivered to offices in Yellowknife or Hay River) or appear in court on the day specified on the ticket.

(more)

COURTS STREAMLINE PROCEDURES...3

Those pleading guilty will still have the right to appear in court while those pleading not guilty will have to go to court.

To introduce the new system the Territorial government had to devise a schedule of penalties for each offence and a new system of ticketing those charged.

The fine schedule was developed along the lines of penalties now commonly used in court for those offences. Similar systems which have been in effect in the provinces for some time were also studied.

Some of the fines people will have the choice of paying outside court include: \$40 for driving a vehicle without a license, \$20 for failing to stop at a stop sign or failing to signal properly, \$100 for knowingly selling or supplying alcohol to a minor, and \$25 for unlawfully consuming liquor in a public place.

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# NEWS

79-117 P

## PROGRAM SUGGESTED TO EDUCATE COMMUNITIES IN BUYING

YELLOWKNIFE (April 11) - The people who buy supplies for the Territorial government feel an educational program is needed to help communities with their purchasing.

Delegates to the first conference of government buyers, held here April 6-7, agreed that an information package on purchasing would help the growing number of communities in the north that are reaching hamlet status.

When a community becomes a hamlet it gains a greater degree of autonomy and along with it, the responsibility of buying supplies for the community, from paper to equipment.

The Territorial government buys supplies on behalf of settlements in the north, but its role with hamlets, villages, towns and cities is advisory. Bob Lalonde, of the headquarters purchasing staff, says many hamlets aren't staffed with people who have experience in buying materials.

(more)

PROGRAM SUGGESTED TO EDUCATE COMMUNITIES IN BUYING...2

Carol MacKillop, head of the education department's finance section, said at the conference that her department is in the same situation with the coming of education 'societies' which have the power to handle all spendings in their jurisdiction except teachers' salaries. She says her department has an information manual as a guide for all education society secretary-treasurers. There are now two such societies, - at Eskimo Point and Hay River, with several more expected in the 1980s.

Ossie Roberts, headquarters purchasing manager, noted that Yellowknife is "a perfect example of what things will be in the future" as communities gain more and more power to handle their own affairs. He says the city has its own purchasing department.

Mr. Lalonde says that the department of local government would be willing to incorporate tips on purchasing, if developed by the purchasing staff, in its training programs for community council members and staff. He said any information package could also be distributed by purchasing staff or local government staff working throughout the N.W.T.

Mr. Lalonde said bringing together purchasing staff from all regions of the N.W.T. for a conference was of benefit.

(more)



PROGRAM SUGGESTED TO EDUCATE COMMUNITIES IN BUYING...3

He said many problems experienced, for example in Frobisher Bay, are similar to those experienced in Inuvik.

Discussions at the conference ranged from processing low-cost purchase orders to Sea-Lift transportation.

- 30 -

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Government purchasing staff gathered for the first time at a conference in Yellowknife.

Front row (from left): Marie Pielak, Inuvik; A.K. Kashyap, Yellowknife; Minnie Jacobson, Yellowknife; Tom Taylor, Yellowknife; Dave Godfrey, Fort Smith; Bill Kingan, Inuvik; Norm Crawley, Rankin Inlet.

Back row (from left): Hank Nemeth, Fort Smith; Ossie Roberts, Yellowknife; Bob Lalonde, Yellowknife; Wally Hirsch, Frobisher Bay; Don Smithson, Cambridge Bay; and David Barry and Al Burton, Yellowknife.

# NEWS

79-118P

## PARKER SWORN IN AS COMMISSIONER

YELLOWKNIFE (April 12) - John Parker says strengthening local government, expanding the economy and working toward responsible government are the main tasks facing the N.W.T. government.

His comments came Wednesday after he was sworn in by Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis as the new commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Parker, who has served as deputy commissioner for 12 years, takes over as commissioner from Stuart Hodgson. Mr. Hodgson left the north last week to become chairman of the International Joint Commission, which settles boundary disputes between the United States and Canada.

The new commissioner said he plans to work closely with Territorial council and the government's executive committee to help facilitate the transfer of decision-making powers from appointed to elected officials.

(more)

PARKER SWORN IN AS COMMISSIONER...2

"If we are to reach our objectives we must work together and resist the temptation to follow separate paths which will only serve to divide and weaken us," he told the crowd gathered in the Supreme Court of the N.W.T here to witness his official swearing in.

Mr. Parker noted that the tasks ahead would be difficult to face had not "a firm administrative and legislative base" been laid by Commissioner Hodgson, his government staff and Territorial council.

There was barely enough room to accommodate all the people who came out to the ceremony. Among the crowd were Inuit from the Eastern Arctic, Mr. Parker's wife, Helen, and daughter, Sharon, and the Yukon's Deputy Commissioner Doug Bell.

Mr. Parker's experience in the north goes back 30 years when he worked in northern Saskatchewan and the N.W.T. with the exploration department of Eldorado Mining and Refining.

He graduated from the University of Alberta in 1951 with a bachelor of science in engineering geology. He has been a geological engineer, a mine manager, and a partner and president of a mining service company.

(more)

JOHN PARKER SWORN IN AS COMMISSIONER...3

Mr. Parker is a former mayor of Yellowknife and was a member of the Carrothers Commission on the development of government in the Northwest Territories.

- 30 -

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Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis (centre) swears in John Parker as the new commissioner of the N.W.T. At the bench from left: Tom Butters, elected executive member; Judge Robert Halifax; Commissioner Parker; Justice Tallis; Peter Ernerk, elected executive member; Arnold McCallum, elected executive member and Assistant Commissioner Gary Mullins.



Commissioner John Parker signs the Oath of  
Allegiance in the Supreme Court of the N.W.T.

# NEWS

79-119

## MULLINS TO LEAVE EARLY

YELLOWKNIFE (April 24) - Assistant Commissioner Gary Mullins said today he will be resigning his position one month early in order to participate in the federal election campaign.

Mr. Mullins informed Commissioner John Parker of his decision earlier this month. He will be leaving the Territorial government April 30.

"As a Canadian I am keenly interested in the national campaign. I want to become actively involved," he said.

Mr. Mullins said he is confident that his participation in the campaign will be regarded as personal and not related in any way to his current role as a public servant.

He said that he would be in a position to discuss his plans more fully when he is a private citizen at the end of this month.

Mr. Mullins stated it should be made clear that his planned participation in the election campaign in no way reflects the wishes or views of the Territorial administration or its five-member executive committee of which he is a member.

"This is the first time in a 12-year career with the public service that I have had an opportunity to become actively involved in a federal election campaign. I am looking forward to the experience," he said.

(more)



MULLINS TO LEAVE EARLY...2

Mr. Mullins had announced earlier that he was leaving government to accept a position with private enterprise in Vancouver.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-120

## TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED

YELLOWKNIFE (April 24) - Commissioner John Parker has established a four-member task force to review the administrative framework of the Northwest Territories government.

"I'm not looking for sweeping changes," he said today, "but some realignment of the administration could be the result."

Mr. Parker said he asked the task force, chaired by Director of Local Government Larry Elkin, to report its findings and recommendations in early July.

Other members of the group are Director of Finance Erik Nielsen, Director of Planning and Program Evaluation Ray Creery and Baffin Regional Director Mike Moore.

Mr. Parker said time is opportune for the administrative study.

"We want to ensure the administration is in the best possible shape for the expanded legislative council to be elected this fall."

The task force will review, among other things, the various functions of the executive office which are not currently part of any department as well as departmental and divisional structures in the government as a whole.

(more)

TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED...2

Mr. Parker said he is not looking for change "just for the sake of change" but that he wants to make certain any loose ends that might be discovered are tightened up.

"My inclination is to hold the line on growth, but to make any realignments that might be necessary."

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-121

## BOOK ON ALCOHOL AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN

YELLOWKNIFE (April 24) - A book designed to help children understand alcohol and its effects will be available soon in most N.W.T. libraries.

The book, Alcohol - What it is, what it does, is intended to help children learn about alcohol so that when they become older they can make a wise choice on whether or not to drink, or how much to drink.

Jim Anderson, chief of the Territorial government's alcohol and drug program, feels the book - with its host of illustrations and simple language - will be easily understood by children aged nine to eleven. He purchased the book for northern libraries.

The book was written by Judith S. Seixas, a specialist in the treatment of alcoholics and their families, and illustrated by freelance artist Tom Huffman. It was published by Greenwillow Books, a division of William Morrow & Company Inc., of New York.

(more)

BOOK ON ALCOHOL AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN...2

Mr. Anderson believes the book is one of few on alcohol that cater to children. He says although it was produced in the United States it is relevant to any North American audience.

People who can't get the book in their local library can borrow a copy by writing: Alcohol and Drug Program, Department of Social Services, Government of the N.W.T., Yellowknife.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-122

## MEMORIAL PLACED ON THE MAP

YELLOWKNIFE (April 25) - A permanent memorial has been given a modern-day wildlife management pioneer who died on duty over a decade ago in the N.W.T.

Travellers in the N.W.T.'s Keewatin region will soon have a reminder of Wally Thom when they look at their maps. A previously-unnamed body of water 26 kilometres west of Baker Lake has been called Thom Lake in memory of the late Territorial Government wildlife officer.

The announcement was made today by Peter Ernerk, territorial councillor for the Keewatin and executive committee member for the department of natural and cultural affairs.

The lake, selected by the Canadian permanent committee on geographical names, was part of Mrs. Thom's wildlife management territory.

(more)

MEMORIAL PLACED ON THE MAP...2

Wally was based at Baker Lake, an Inuit hamlet of 1,000 located inland from the western shore of Hudson's Bay, about 1,500 air kilometres north of Winnipeg. He drowned there in 1967, less than a year after becoming the first territorial wildlife field officer based in an Eastern Arctic community. His boss, the now-retired Art Look, operated out of Churchill, Man., the former Keewatin administrative centre.

"Most of the game officers then were located in the west," recalled Ron Williams, a resource development officer who was then in Inuvik. "Wally was hired on in 1966 from Banff, Alta., and sent to Aklavik.

"He moved to Baker about a year later," Ron related, "and was only there a few months when he drowned. The cold water got him in September when a float plane in which he was a passenger tipped over just off shore. They never found him."

Ron explained that Wally's plane tipped over in the wind while taxiing for take-off. The pilot and a second passenger survived as they were able to cling to the overturned plane.

(more)

MEMORIAL PLACED ON THE MAP...3

Ellis Land, now at wildlife service headquarters in Yellowknife, took over the field work at Baker Lake in 1968. He and other long-time N.W.T. wildlife staffers have been seeking to have an N.W.T. geographical feature named for their late colleague.

Mr. Thom, who had not reached his 30th birthday, is the only N.W.T. Government wildlife officer to lose his life in the line of duty.

Now that the lake has been named, it will be shown on all future Canadian maps produced by the federal department of energy, mines and resources.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-123

## REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS CHANGE

YELLOWKNIFE (April 27) - The departmental responsibilities of the Territorial government's executive committee members have been changed.

Commissioner John Parker said today the changes will be effective May 1 and will last until a legislature is elected in late fall and new executive members are chosen.

He explained the shift is necessary to pick up the workloads of Assistant Commissioner Gary Mullins, who resigns Monday, and those duties normally handled by a deputy commissioner.

Mr. Parker's recent appointment as commissioner left his previous position as deputy vacant. It is not expected to be filled or dealt with until June.

The changes include the addition of Bob Pilot, currently director of the executive offices, as the fifth member of the executive committee.

The term of his appointment will be reviewed as soon as the matter of a deputy commissioner is decided.

In the meantime, Mr. Pilot will be responsible for the departments of public works and planning and program evaluation. He will also assume the chairmanship of the government's capital planning committee and maintain his responsibilities for the regional operations of the Territorial government.

(more)

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS CHANGE...2

Commissioner Parker will continue to have responsibility for the department of information and the N.W.T. Housing Corporation and will guide the operations of the departments of finance and personnel.

He will also take over the chairmanship of the executive sub-committee on finance from Mr. Mullins.

Arnold McCallum will retain his responsibility for the department of local government and take over control of education, a responsibility he had when first appointed to the executive committee.

Mr. McCallum's responsibility for the department of health will be transferred to executive member Tom Butters who is currently in charge of economic development and tourism and the department of social services.

Natural and Cultural Affairs Minister Peter Ernerk will take on the added responsibility of the department of public services and the chairmanship of the sub-committee on legislation.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

79-124

## ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE LAW GOES INTO EFFECT

YELLOWKNIFE (April 26) - All-terrain vehicles are not allowed on roads outside communities in the Northwest Territories under a new law that went into effect earlier this month.

The All-Terrain Vehicle Ordinance - which replaces an ordinance covering only snowmobiles - also gives local councils the option of regulating the use of these vehicles within their boundaries.

An all-terrain vehicle is a motorized vehicle that runs on wheels, tracks, skis or air cushions and is used mainly in the N.W.T. for cross-country travel. It includes snowmobiles, three-wheeled motor bikes, mini bikes and other similar vehicles weighing under 900 kilograms (1,980 pounds).

Local councils can now pass regulations banning all-terrain vehicles in the community or restricting their use. They can also insist that drivers of all-terrain vehicles be licensed and insured to drive within the community.

(more)

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE LAW GOES INTO EFFECT - 2

The ordinance was passed at the last session of Territorial council and went into effect April 1. Although it replaces the snowmobile ordinance, existing local by-laws governing snowmobiles will be in effect until April 1, 1981. This will give communities time to develop new bylaws under the all-terrain vehicles ordinance, including new ones to cover snowmobiles.

Bill Johns, registrar of motor vehicles, says the new ordinance was drawn up at the suggestion of northerners.

"Problems arose in Eastern Arctic communities over, mainly, three-wheeled motorcycles. These vehicles had to be licensed and insured as a motor vehicle to be used on any road.

"As a result, since they had to be classed as motor vehicles, complaints were that insurance rates were way out of line," he says.

All-terrain vehicles can be used on winter or ice roads but only when it's impractical or unsafe to drive an off-road route. Persons driving all-terrain vehicles on winter roads must be at least 16 years old and insured. All-terrain vehicles can cross regular roads if the driver is at least 16 years old.

(more)

Certain all-terrain vehicles which meet the equipment requirements of the Vehicles Ordinance can be classed as motor vehicles instead. The vehicle would then be allowed on all roadways, subject to insurance and licensing requirements of a motor vehicle. Few vehicles, however, meet the requirements. To have an all-terrain vehicle classed as a motor vehicle application must be made to: Registrar of Motor Vehicles, Department of Public Services, Government of the N.W.T., Yellowknife.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

HALL BEACH VOTES TO STAY 'DRY'

79-125

YELLOWKNIFE (April 30) - The Baffin community of Hall Beach has decided it won't introduce a more lenient system of alcohol controls.

Hall Beach went dry almost two years ago when most of its residents favored prohibiting the sale, transportation and possession of alcohol within a 25-km radius of the community.

Last Wednesday Hall Beach residents defeated a vote that would have allowed alcohol back into the community with the approval of the local alcohol committee.

(more)

## HALL BEACH VOTES TO STAY 'DRY'...2

Eighty-five of the 124 eligible voters in the community - 69 per cent - turned up at the polls. Some 39 people said yes to the question on the ballot: "Do you agree that liquor orders and permits to import liquor must be first approved by the Hall Beach alcohol committee?" Some 46 people said no.

Ed Pugh, general manager of the N.W.T. liquor control system, says the alcohol screening system Hall Beach was proposing is identical to a system of controls now in effect in the nearby community of Igloolik and the Keewatin community of Repulse Bay.

Pangnirtung, another dry community, will be holding a vote on the same question on May 15, with an advance poll on May 8. A vote is also pending in the Mackenzie community of Fort McPherson to have its liquor outlet re-opened.

(more)

HALL BEACH VOTES TO STAY 'DRY'...3

Meanwhile, Mr. Pugh says the Norman Wells liquor store will change its hours of operation. As of May 22 the new hours will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday-to-Saturday inclusive. The new hours were set after customers were consulted. The store serves a few surrounding communities.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

McCLINTOCK COLLECTION JOINS MUSEUM

79-126P

YELLOWKNIFE (May 2) - The personal library of explorer Sir Leopold McClintock has become part of the permanent collection of historical materials in the archives of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

A collection of 97 volumes, ranging from pamphlets to books, was donated by John McClintock of Ireland, grandson of the Arctic explorer who set sail in the mid-19th century in search of Sir John Franklin and his crew.

The books, many of which are first editions, have been autographed by Sir Leopold. The oldest is dated 1823.

"Mr. McClintock wanted the books in an institute where they would be preserved and kept for public interest," says Heritage Centre Director Bob Janes.

(more)

McCLINTOCK COLLECTION JOINS MUSEUM - 2

Both Mr. McClintock and his brother Nicholas, from England, had already made several donations to the Heritage Centre, including an original document of Franklin's that was discovered in a cairn and a sledge (sled) banner sewn for Sir Leopold by Lady Franklin.

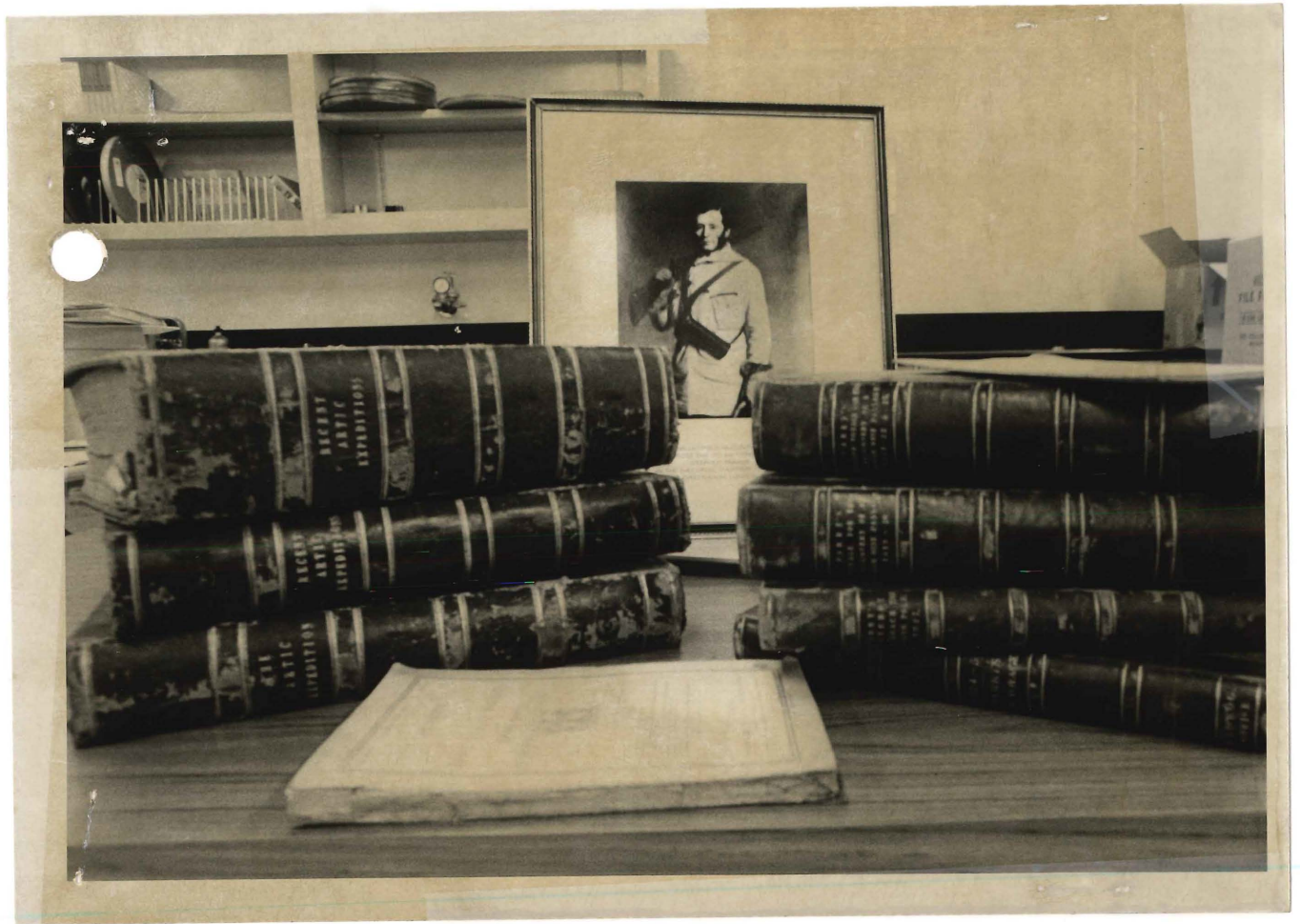
Most of Sir Leopold's books deal with numerous voyages undertaken by him and others in search of the lost and ill-fated Franklin expedition.

Two Arctic scrapbooks, also donated by the McClintock brothers, show sketches, photographs and souvenirs of these voyages.

The historic books of Sir Leopold are in outstanding condition. They were stored at the McClintock home in Ireland where, because of a high degree of humidity, they were well preserved.

- 30 -

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A portrait of Arctic explorer, Sir Leopold McClintock, and a collection of his books were recently donated to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife.

# NEWS

GOVERNMENT BANS USE OF CERTAIN BRUSHKILLER SPRAYS 79-127

YELLOWKNIFE (May 3) - The Territorial government has banned the use in the Northwest Territories of certain chemical sprays used to kill brush until it has further proof that the sprays are not damaging the environment.

Dan Billing, chief environmental protection officer with the Territorial government, says the ban applies to sprays containing 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T acids.

Mr. Billing says strong opposition to the use of the chemicals by the Dene Nation and the Yellowknife branch of the Consumer's Association of Canada was considered in making the decision which was based on the technical advice of experts with Environment Canada, Agriculture Canada and the Canadian Pesticide Association.

(more)

GOVERNMENT BANS USE OF CERTAIN BRUSHKILLER SPRAYS...2

The ban was introduced earlier this week when the Territorial government decided that it would not grant a license this year to the Canadian Coast Guard to use a chemical spray containing 2,4-D along the banks of the Mackenzie River.

The coast guard is the only body known to use the chemical spray in the Northwest Territories.

Refusal of the license means the coast guard will have to find some other means of controlling bush growth at 285 marine navigation sites along the Mackenzie River.

The chemical spray the coast guard was proposing to use, and other sprays containing 2,4-D or 2,4,5-T herbicides, are suspected of causing cancer and birth defects when used in large amounts.

Mr. Billing doubts that the coast guard would be posing a risk to the people and the environment by using a small amount of the spray at specific sites located along the river bank.

(more)

GOVERNMENT BANS USE OF CERTAIN BRUSHKILLER SPRAYS...3

"You can't compare the use of 2,4-D in Vietnam with the Northwest Territories. The Americans dumped millions of pounds in small areas of Vietnam to defoliate the jungle and prevent the enemy from hiding.....Look at it this way: salt is essential to the human body yet too much of it will kill you," he says.

He noted that more than three million pounds of 2,4-D spray was used in Saskatchewan in 1976 for agricultural purposes, an amount far greater than the approximate 2,000 lbs. the coast guard would need. But, he says, until the effect of the spray on the northern environment has been definitely determined, the government will continue to refuse its use.

The coast guard wanted to use the spray to kill foliage blocking the view of markers which serve as navigational guides for vessels travelling the Mackenzie River system.

"There is suspicion that the use of the chemical is detrimental to people and because it is not essential for the coast guard, we have decided to withdraw indefinitely permission to use it," says Mr. Billing.

(more)

GOVERNMENT BANS USE OF CERTAIN BRUSHKILLER SPRAYS...4

He says a long-term policy on the use of herbicides in the N.W.T. will not likely be developed because research is constantly making new findings.

For example, says Mr. Billing, soil samples taken along the river to test the impact of the chemical are expected to be available in a few weeks.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

MORE ATTENTION TO BE GIVEN HEALTH PREVENTION

79-128

YELLOWKNIFE (May 4) - The Territorial government's department of health hopes to place as much emphasis on health prevention over the next ten years as on the treatment of health problems.

"We propose to spend an equal portion of time, energy and money on preventative medicine," says Director of Health Bob McDermit.

Mr. McDermit says making people aware of health problems and how they can be prevented will help reduce somewhat the need for treatment.

(more)



MORE ATTENTION TO BE GIVEN HEALTH PREVENTION...2

"In the past the major emphasis in the health field throughout North America has been on the acute care sector. However, it is now recognized that the major influence on health conditions in the future will be programs in prevention, promotion, and community health," he said in a paper outlining the direction the department hopes to take over the next decade.

Mr. McDermitt noted that the department has already taken some steps in this direction by, among other things, developing a position within the department for health information and promotion and granting funds to the native women's group of Rae-Edzo to develop health education programs.

The department also proposes to hold a major conference next fall for all health workers in the N.W.T. Details of the conference are being worked out.

Mr. McDermitt says that in most cases illnesses and injuries can be avoided. For example, a significant number of deaths and injuries requiring treatment in persons under 30 years of age result directly from accidents, he says.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

ELECTION DATE SET

79-129

YELLOWKNIFE (May 9) - Voters in the Northwest Territories go to the polls Oct. 1 to elect a new and larger territorial Legislative Assembly.

The N.W.T.'s general election date was announced today by Commissioner John Parker.

Oct. 1 is a Monday.

For the first time, voters will elect an expanded Legislative Assembly --- increased from 15 to 22 members.

Under a recent redistribution as recommended by the N.W.T. Electoral District Boundaries Commission, seven new ridings have been added for this election. Redistribution is designed to provide northerners with better representation at the territorial level.

(more)

The Oct. 1 election will be run by Canada's chief electoral officer as in the past. However, for the first time the election will be governed not by the Canada Elections Act but the new N.W.T. Elections Ordinance.

This will mean, for example, that this election the ballots and certain other election documents such as nominations papers will in some ridings be bilingual -- English and Inuktitut, and it probably will be much easier for candidates in all ridings to file their nomination papers.

In the past, some candidates faced the difficult problem of having to hand-deliver their nomination papers to the returning officer in their riding, necessitating in some cases long and expensive trips to the returning officer's community.

However, under the new N.W.T. Elections Ordinance, provision is made for the returning officer or his/her designate in each riding to tour communities for the purpose of gathering these nomination papers from candidates in their home communities. The dates for these tours will be announced later.

Nominations for the Oct. 1 election will close Monday, Aug. 27 at 2 p.m. The Ordinance requires that they be closed on the 35th day before the election.

As well, advance polls for those unable to vote Oct. 1 will be held in all communities of 500 or more people. These have been set for Sept. 22, Sept. 24 and Sept. 25.

The voters' list in each riding will be compiled and checked by enumerators who will go door-to-door in each community between Aug. 27 and Sept. 1.

# NEWS

FREE DRUGS SOON FOR THE ELDERLY

79-130

YELLOWKNIFE (May 11) - Details are now being worked out for a pharmacare program that will allow senior citizens in the N.W.T. to get prescription drugs free.

The program will be introduced by the Territorial government's department of health. It will apply to persons aged 65 and over who are covered by the department's Health Care Plan for medical and hospital insurance. The program is scheduled to go into effect July 1.

Tom Butters, executive member responsible for health, says details of the program, including what drugs will be covered, are now being worked out. The department has reviewed similar programs now in effect in the provinces.

Mr. Butters says people 65 and over with valid Health Care Plan coverage will be eligible automatically for the free prescription drugs. All they'll have to do is present their health care card when they go to fill their prescriptions.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

MUSEUM HOSTS OPEN HOUSE FRIDAY

79-131

YELLOWKNIFE (May 14) - A special display about northern people will be unveiled at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre here Friday when the centre holds open house.

The open house on May 18 will give visitors a chance to see behind the scenes of the museum and talk to the people who are responsible for helping preserve the natural and cultural heritage of the Northwest Territories.

The open house will be held from 1 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to celebrate the second annual International Museum Day.

Marilyn Walker-Yorga, curator of education/extension at the heritage centre, says the special exhibit consists of 11 panels of photographs depicting the traditional life of northern natives who live in five geographic areas. Those areas, known as the circumpolar regions, include Greenland, the northern parts of Scandinavia, the USSR, Alaska and Canada.

(more)

MUSEUM HOSTS OPEN HOUSE FRIDAY - 2

A giant globe and a videotape of Inuit throat singers are also part of the exhibition. The exhibition has been displayed all over the world and will remain in the feature gallery of the centre until late summer.

"The Northwest Frontier", a film from the centre's collection, will be shown in the auditorium at 2, 4, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. The film was shot in 1941 by Richard Finney, an early radio operator who travelled extensively throughout the north.

Ms. Walker-Yorga says the film reflects an outside perspective of the Mackenzie area and its people at a time when health care and other government programs were being introduced to the north.

At least 100 school children, in two groups, are expected to tour the centre during its open house.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

CHANGES IN LAND CLAIMS SECRETARIAT

79-132

YELLOWKNIFE (May 14) - Arnold McCallum, minister responsible for land claims, announced today a number of personnel and organizational changes within the Land Claims Secretariat of the N.W.T.

Mr. McCallum said the changes reflect the priority that the Territorial government is placing on the matter of land claims.

Phil Airhart, co-ordinator of the secretariat, will become its executive director. The upgrading of his position is effective immediately.

Mr. Airhart will be responsible to the minister for the overall management and direction of the government's land claims role. Mr. Airhart had been co-ordinator of the secretariat since its formation last July.

(more)

## CHANGES IN LAND CLAIMS SECRETARIAT - 2

In other changes, Murray Smith, former senior claims analyst with the Land Claims Secretariat assumes responsibility as senior negotiator of the COPE claim. Mr. Smith joined the secretariat last September and brings to his position a lengthy background of involvement with land claims on behalf of the Territorial government.

Former assistant regional director of the Keewatin Region, Dwight Noseworthy, has been appointed senior negotiator for the ITC land claims. Mr. Noseworthy has considerable experience in the Baffin and Keewatin regions as well as managerial experience with the government.

Jackie Powell has been appointed senior claims policy analyst with the secretariat. She will be responsible for the co-ordination and analysis of the Territorial government's claims policy.

Ms. Powell was formerly with the department of planning and program evaluation as a policy analyst.

Each of these three senior positions within the Land Claims Secretariat will report to the executive-director.

Meanwhile, Mr. McCallum also announced that each of the senior negotiators will be supported by a full time wildlife management specialist and a research and policy assistant. Appointments to these positions are expected to be announced in the near future.

(more)



CHANGES IN LAND CLAIMS SECRETARIAT - 3

Mr. McCallum explained that the role of the Territorial government in land claims negotiations is still governed by the memorandum of understanding signed by the commissioner and the minister last October and that the Territorial government plans to participate in a vigorous and meaningful way in land claims negotiations under the terms of that memorandum of understanding.

The organizational changes to the Land Claims Secretariat are a reflection of that intent, he added.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

NEW SCHOOLS FOR TWO NORTHERN COMMUNITIES

79-133

YELLOWKNIFE (May 16) - Fort Norman and Coral Harbour will be getting new schools that may well become centres of community activity.

The schools will contain the first gymnasiums for both communities. As well, they will house improved facilities for adult education and community events, including better kitchen areas for the teaching of home economics.

Gerard Mulders, assistant director of the Territorial government's department of education, says tenders have been awarded for the building of both schools and that construction is scheduled for completion by September 1980.

The school at Fort Norman, along the Mackenzie River, will replace a building that is no longer economical to maintain. It will contain four classrooms, a gymnasium, and rooms for home economics, a resource centre and an adult education centre.

(over)

NEW SCHOOLS FOR TWO NORTHERN COMMUNITIES - 2

Parts of the school at Coral Harbour - the original building containing two classrooms - will be torn down. The remaining portion will be renovated and used for adult education purposes. It will be connected by a covered corridor to the new school.

The new structure will be in two sections. One section will contain seven classrooms for students in kindergarten to Grade 9, a general administration area and a resource centre. The other section will house the gym, the home economics and industrial arts rooms and a multi-purpose area.

Both schools will be made of wood, at the request of the communities.

They will offer Grade 9 for the first time.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

CLEAN-UP TIME

79-134

YELLOWKNIFE (May 17) - One sure sign of spring is garbage. It's scattered around every community. Rusted cans, bottles, candybar wrappers and oil drums are uncovered when the snow melts.

Besides being unsightly, says Elaine Berthelet, the garbage soon rots and attracts flies, rodents and stray dogs. If left untouched it eventually becomes a breeding ground for germs and disease.

For health reasons, Ms. Berthelet of the Territorial government's department of health is urging all communities to organize a clean-up in their area.

(more)

CLEAN-UP TIME - 2

The Native Women's Health Committee of Rae-Edzo is currently heading a clean-up project in the community. The Rae-Edzo hamlet council is donating garbage bags for the project and school children are collecting waste from all public areas. The group is also encouraging residents to clean up their own yards.

Ms. Berthelet will be sending a letter to community leaders urging them to follow suit. She will also be looking for suggestions on how the department can help communities organize clean-ups in their areas in the future.

-30-

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# NEWS

PANGNIRTUNG DECIDES TO STAY DRY

79-135

YELLOWKNIFE (May 17) - Another northern community in which alcohol is prohibited has decided it doesn't want a more lenient system of alcohol controls.

The Baffin Island community of Pangnirtung turned down a vote Tuesday that would have allowed residents to bring alcohol into the community with the prior approval of its local adult education committee.

Hall Beach, another dry community in the Eastern Arctic, defeated an identical vote earlier this month.

Pangnirtung is a largely Inuit community of 908. Its voters decided in a plebiscite on Aug. 8, 1977, to prohibit the sale, transport and possession of alcohol within a 25 km. radius of their community. As a result of the plebiscite Tuesday, Pangnirtung will remain an alcohol-prohibited zone.

(more)

PANGNIRTUNG DECIDES TO STAY DRY - 2

Some 243 people - 72 per cent of the community's voters - came out to the polls. There were 80 people - 33 per cent - who voted for the new alcohol control system and 157 people - 65 per cent - who voted against it. Six ballots were spoiled.

The system Pangiirtung voters turned down would have empowered the local alcohol committee to screen all orders for alcohol and permits to import alcohol. The committee would have been allowed to deny a resident's request to bring in alcohol and limit the amounts people ordered.

Ed Pugh, general manager of the N.W.T. liquor control system, is surprised the vote was defeated. He says several residents had complained that the vote held almost two years ago did not reflect the wishes of the majority.

Only 51 per cent of the community's eligible voters cast ballots in the prohibition plebiscite.

"The vote held Tuesday sets to rest complaints about the first plebiscite when residents decided to prohibit alcohol."

Meanwhile, the Hadley Bay community of Eskimo Point will be deciding whether or not to ban alcohol from its area on May 23. If the vote is defeated another plebiscite will be held the following day to see if residents want to introduce another system of community controls.

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# NEWS

ESKIMO POINT JOINS PROHIBITION RANKS

79-136

YELLOWKNIFE (May 24) - Eskimo Point will be going 'dry' following a plebiscite Wednesday.

Only 174 people - 46 per cent of the community's 379 eligible voters - turned out at the polls to decide whether the community should prohibit the sale, transportation and possession of alcohol within a 25-km radius of Eskimo Point.

It was the lowest voter turn out at any plebiscite on alcohol controls in the Northwest Territories. Normally, about 70 per cent of a community's eligible voters cast ballots in an alcohol plebiscite.

Eskimo Point is a largely-Inuit community of 891 located along the west coast of Hudson Bay. When the order is drawn up to make the plebiscite effective, likely in a month or so, Eskimo Point will become the first alcohol-prohibited community in the Keewatin and the 14th community in the Northwest Territories to ban alcohol.

(more)



ESKIMO POINT JOINS PROHIBITION RANKS - 2

The ballot read: Do you want liquor in the community? Some 43 voters (25 per cent) said yes, while 128 people (74 per cent) said no.

Ed Pugh, general manager of the liquor control system, is concerned about the low voter-turn-out.

"I hope we don't have a repeat of Pangnirtung where several people were dissatisfied with the plebiscite because they said it was held at a time when many people were out on the land," says Mr. Pugh.

"The vote in Eskimo Point indicates the interest apparently wasn't there," he said.

However, Peter Kritaqliluk, returning officer and Eskimo Point resident, doesn't think the vote would have been defeated had more residents cast ballots.

"Eskimo Point is still a community where the Inuit culture is strong," he says. "The older people were saying 'if we can grow up without alcohol and survive you can too'. There are more than 100 voters in Eskimo Point who have never tasted a drop of alcohol," Mr. Kritaqliluk.

Meanwhile, Gabe Christoph, chief N.W.T. liquor inspector, will be in Pelly Bay next week to discuss with residents the various options open to them to control alcohol locally.

Communities can ration, prohibit or introduce some other form of local control over alcohol providing 60 per cent of those who turn out and vote are in favor.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

PSA AND GOVERNMENT SIGN CONTRACT AGREEMENT

79-137P

YELLOWKNIFE (May 25) - The Territorial government and the Public Service Association (PSA) signed a two-year collective agreement here today that provides most government employees with an across-the-board \$1,411 increase the first year.

The agreement applies to the 1,900 members of the PSA and covers the period from April 1, 1979 to March 31, 1981.

Negotiations on the new contract began in mid-February and ended in a tentative agreement March 14. Ratification was confirmed Wednesday.

All PSA members will get a \$1,411 salary increase during the first year of the agreement and a further 7.5 per cent increase the second. The \$1,411 increase was calculated by applying an eight per cent increase to the total salary figure of all PSA members and evenly dividing the amount. It will give employees at the lower end of the pay scale a more equitable pay increase.

(more)

PSA AND GOVERNMENT SIGN CONTRACT AGREEMENT - 2

"It's a good, fair approach to take every once in a while," commented Commissioner John Parker at the signing.

Government employees covered under the contract can expect the increase to start showing up on their pay cheques as early as June 22. A cheque containing the increase retroactive to April 1 should be issued sometime in July.

Peter Dyck, PSA president, says now that contract negotiations are settled for two years the association can address other issues.

Also on hand for the signing in Commissioner Parker's office were director Rod Morrison and Shirley Stevenson, both of the department of personnel, and Ian Milligan and Darm Crook of the PSA.

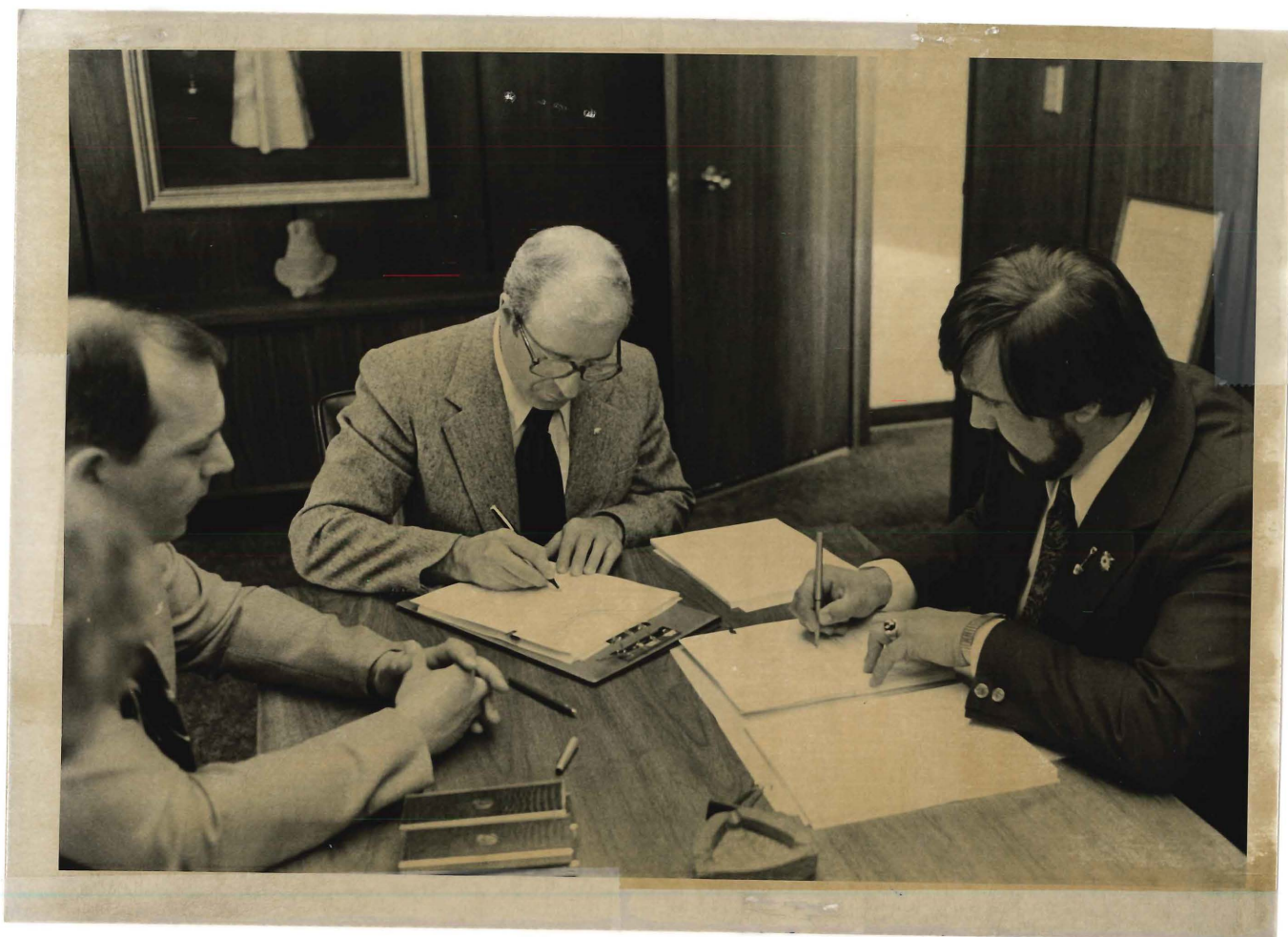
Meanwhile, a tentative agreement reached between the Territorial government and the N.W.T. Teachers' Association is out for ratification.

- 30 -

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A two-year collective agreement between the Public Service Association and the Territorial government was ratified today. Personnel Director Rod Morrison looks on as Commissioner John Parker (centre) and Peter Dyck (right) sign the agreement. Mr. Dyck is PSA president.

- 30 -

May 25, 1979

# NEWS

CORRECTIONS CONSTRUCTION STARTS SOON

79-138

YELLOWKNIFE (June 4) - Construction will begin this summer on a new \$1.3 million correctional centre in Hay River.

The centre will replace the present institute, which consists of 12 trailers. The trailers are about 14 years old and are no longer adequate to accommodate inmates from communities south of Great Slave Lake.

"We have always known the trailers would be a temporary arrangement," notes Jim Britton, chief of corrections for the Territorial government's department of social services.

Last week fire destroyed a small building located near the centre's kitchen quarters and caused smoke damage to the kitchen and dining areas. The small building housed a back-up generator for the centre and will not be replaced.

(more)

CORRECTIONS CONSTRUCTION STARTS SOON - 2

Mr. Britton says the trailers will be up for sale. The town of Hay River will have the first option to buy them. Meanwhile, tenders are now out for the building of the new centre which is expected to be completed by late winter.

The centre will consist of eight, four-man dormitories, offices, a control centre, washroom and laundry facilities, a dining room and kitchen, one holding and isolation room, and a large corridor that can be used as a meeting place. Up to 35 inmates could be accommodated there. The building design will allow for expansion.

"Hay River is a good place to build a permanent facility," says Mr. Britton, noting that the centre's bush camp about 50 miles away provides quarters for inmates participating in its commercial fishing and back-to-the-land programs. As well, he says, the town provides jobs for inmates on work release.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

NEW SYSTEM MAKES SHIPPING EASIER

79-139

YELLOWKNIFE (June 4) - Next time Territorial government staff working west of Hudson Bay want to know the location of supplies being barged to them, the government's transportation section here will be able to tell them in a matter of minutes.

The section, which is a unit of the department of finance's supply services, recently gained direct access to the Northern Transportation Company Limited's (NTCL) computer in Hay River. The computer stores all NTCL cargo information for the Western Arctic, Mackenzie Valley and Keewatin.

The new information system should eliminate many problems experienced in keeping track of supplies the transportation section has arranged to ship to regional locations.

(more)

NEW SYSTEM MAKES SHIPPING EASIER - 2

"With so many goods being shipped at once, it's difficult to determine where any single shipment is at any given time. In 1978 the problem was put to NTCL officials who responded with the computer solution. Negotiations on obtaining access to the existing NTCL computer were completed over the winter and the system was implemented on June 1," explains Norm Phillpot, transportation manager for the Territorial government.

Enquiries are limited to government and N.W.T. Housing Corporation shipments out of Hay River and Churchill, the two ports in the north from which barge traffic originates. However, it is hoped that a variation of the system will be available in the Baffin region during the 1980 sealift out of Montreal.

The computer access equipment consists of a special telephone, a view screen and a printer. It's relatively easy to work. Basically, one dials a number, verifies a response from the computer, punches in a password, orders specific information and - presto - the printer gives out the facts.

All components of the system are leased for the shipping season at a cost of \$250 a month. Telephone calls to the computer in Hay River are an additional expense.

(more)



Mr. Phillpot hopes a similar system can be adapted to air shipments by 1981. If his efforts prove fruitful information on most goods being transported for government will be as readily available as goods being carried by NTCL.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

LATREMOUILLE NEW AIDE-DE-CAMP

79-140

YELLOWKNIFE (June 7) - Inspector C.R.L. Latremouille of the R.C.M.P. has been appointed aide-de-camp to Commissioner John Parker.

An aide-de-camp is a formal ceremonial position traditionally delegated in the Northwest Territories to an R.C.M.P. inspector. As an aide-de-camp Insp. Latremouille will accompany Commissioner Parker during his opening of the Legislative Assembly and perhaps on a few other formal occasions when the Commissioner acts as lieutenant-governor.

The lieutenant-governors in the provinces and the governor-general of Canada all have aides-de-camp.

Insp. Latremouille joined the R.C.M.P. in 1953 and served for several years at a number of locations in Manitoba, including isolated posts such as Churchill. In 1972 he was transferred to Ottawa and a year later joined the N.W.T. division, whose headquarters were then in Ottawa. He moved north in 1974 when the division transferred its new headquarters to Yellowknife.

(more)

LATREMOUILLE NEW AIDE-DE-CAMP - 2

He is the officer in charge of administration and personnel. Insp. Latremouille holds the long service medal and bar for 25 years' service. He is married with three children.

Insp. George Rechner, who served as aide-de-camp to former commissioner Stuart Hodgson, has been transferred to Swift Current, Sask.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

FREIGHT RATES TO BE EXAMINED

79-141

YELLOWKNIFE (June 7) - The N.W.T. Highway Transport Board has been requested to review trucking freight rates in the Territories, including recent hikes by the four major carriers.

The three-man board will also look at the industry in general in the N.W.T., and pay special attention to whether or not it is competitive.

The board's review was announced today by Commissioner John Parker. The regulatory agency reports to the commissioner.

The review comes on the heels of rate increases of 10 to 14 per cent announced by Grimshaw Trucking, Byers Transport, Hay River Truck Lines and Northwest Transport Ltd., and consumer complaints of a lack of competition among truckers serving the N.W.T. Meanwhile, the industry believes the increases are justified.

(more)

FREIGHT RATES TO BE EXAMINED - 2

The board will begin its review immediately and will accept written briefs from the public and hold extensive discussions with the industry. The review is to be completed by Oct. 1.

The review is to determine if trucking transportation is competitive in terms of rates, services and routes and make recommendations as to how these areas can be improved in the public interest.

The highway transport board is made up of Gordon Carter of Yellowknife, a businessman, who is chairman; Bill Johns of Yellowknife, registrar of Motor Vehicles, vice-chairman, and Harry Lipscomb of Inuvik, board member. Mr. Lipscomb is an official of the Town of Inuvik.

"The freight-rate increases are of great concern to the Government of the Northwest Territories," Commissioner Parker said, "because these rates affect the cost of living of a great many residents of the Northwest Territories, particularly those on the Mackenzie Highway system."

The board will submit its recommendations to the commissioner.

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# NEWS

CHILDREN'S DAY IN EARLY AUGUST

79-142

YELLOWKNIFE (June 8) -- You've heard of Mother's Day and Father's Day. Well, this year there's Children's Day to celebrate International Year of the Child.

Commissioner John Parker today proclaimed Aug. 6 as Children's Day in the Northwest Territories. The purpose of the day is to draw attention to the Year and its aim of promoting measures to enrich the lives of children.

August 6 is also a civic holiday in the north - the only one without special meaning. Terri McPherson, co-ordinator of the Year in the N.W.T. for the Territorial government, hopes communities will organize special events to mark the day.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

COMMISSIONER'S AWARD PRESENTED TO HENRY AND OPAL COOK 79-143P

YELLOWKNIFE (June 11) - The Commissioner's Award for Public Service was presented to The Right Reverend Henry Cook and Mrs. Cook on Friday evening by Commissioner John Parker.

The scroll accompanying the award reads:

"to recognize their more than 40 years of dedicated and devoted service to the Northwest Territories and to the people of the Northwest Territories in the work of the Church, in education, in service to the community and in relation to the preservation of the history of the north."

Henry Cook retired from his job as co-ordinator of historical programs at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre last week. During the five years he worked for the Territorial Government he was very much involved in the development of the centre, but his efforts to preserve the cultural heritage of the North go back as far as 1935 when he first arrived in the N.W.T. as a missionary at Fort Simpson.

(more)

COMMISSIONER'S AWARD PRESENTED TO HENRY AND OPAL COOK - 2

He served at Fort Simpson until 1943, earning his Doctor of Divinity for translating part of a prayer book into the Slavey language.

In 1943 he served as curate of St. Pauls in Toronto for several months before moving to South Porcupine where he served as Bishop's chaplin for two years. He then moved to Moose Factory, Ontario, where he was a missionary for three years.

From 1948 to 1963 he was superintendent of all Anglican schools and hostels across Canada.

He was Suffragan Bishop of the Arctic from 1963-1966 and from 1966 to 1973 he served as Bishop of the Mackenzie.

Henry Cook received another recognition last week when the reading room at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre was named after him. During the occasion, heritage centre director Bob Janes praised Bishop Cook's contributions to the North, including his administrative skills, wisdom and knowledge of the Northern people.

Opal Cook, co-recipient of the Commissioner's Award, as well as fulfilling the important role of raising a family in the earlier years of their marriage, became very active in community affairs.

(more)



COMMISSIONER'S AWARD PRESENTED TO HENRY AND OPAL COOK - 3

For several years she was a member of the Yellowknife Public School Board, a member of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Board and one of the original members of the Nahanni Chapter of the I.O.D.E., serving as regent of that organization for two years.

The Cooks have now left the North and have retired to Stittsville, Ontario.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

PREPARING FOR N.W.T. ELECTION

79-144

YELLOWKNIFE (June 12) - The N.W.T.'s 22 returning officers begin their training here Wednesday for the upcoming general election in the Territories.

The general election for a new and larger Legislative Assembly will be held Oct. 1.

The returning officers' training course means 22 men and women from all over the N.W.T. - one from each of the 22 territorial ridings - will spend until Friday at the Explorer Hotel learning how to conduct the election in their ridings and the proper procedures and rituals for doing so.

The course is being operated by officials of the office of Canada's chief electoral officer, who is responsible for running the N.W.T. election according to the rules laid down in the N.W.T. Elections Ordinance.

(more)

The course is being conducted by Miss Christine Jackson of Ottawa, chief of special projects in the chief electoral officer's office, assisted by Mrs. Trudy Gibson and Jerome Guertin of that office. Binx Remnant, clerk of the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly, and Pieter de Vos, clerk assistant, will also assist in conducting the course.

In the Oct. 1 election residents of the N.W.T. will be asked to elect an expanded Legislative Assembly, increased from 15 to 22 ridings and 15 to 22 members, one for each riding.

Meanwhile, sometime in the next week or so Commissioner John Parker is expected to request the chief electoral officer issue the writ of election on July 30.

This will, in effect, kick off the Oct. 1 election because it means candidates can then begin filing their nomination papers with their riding's returning officer.

Nominations for the election will close Aug. 27.

Other dates are: Advance polls, to be held automatically in all communities of 500 or more people for those unable to vote Oct. 1. These advance polls will be held Sept. 22, 24 and 25th.

Enumeration - between Aug. 27 and Sept. 1. This is when the voters' list in each riding will be compiled and checked by enumerators.

(more)

The seven new ridings this election are the result of redistribution as recommended by the recent N.W.T. Electoral District Boundaries Commission. Redistribution is designed to provide northerners with better representation at the territorial level.

This is the first time a territorial election will be run under the new N.W.T. Elections Ordinance. This will mean, for example, that the ballots and other election documents such as nomination papers will in some ridings be bilingual - English and Inuktitut - and it will be much easier for candidates in all ridings to file their nomination papers.

In the past, some candidates faced the difficult problem of having to hand-deliver their nomination papers to the returning officer in their riding, meaning in some cases long and expensive trips to the returning officer's community.

However, under the new Elections Ordinance, provision is made for the returning officer or his/her designate in each riding to tour communities for the purpose of gathering these nomination papers from candidates in their home communities. The dates for these tours will be announced later by individual returning officers.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

DENE HISTORY ON DISPLAY

79-145

YELLOWKNIFE (June 18) - A series of historical photographs of the Dene that have taken eight years to collect are on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre here.

The photographs are from the collection of the Native Communications Society of the Western N.W.T.

The display is made up of 11 themes or photographic display panels and the museum is exhibiting two panels every month. The first two themes - native food and celebrations - are on display now.

The Heritage Centre is open to the public 6 days a week from 1 - 5 pm and closed all day Wednesday.

The 11 themes deal with the history of the Athabaskan people. Six of them are Communications Society photographs while the rest are from the collections of the Museum of Man in Ottawa and the Public Archives of Canada.

(more)

DENE HISTORY ON DISPLAY - 2

Ms. Tessa Macintosh of the Native Communications Society says the panels are part of the most comprehensive photo exhibition ever compiled of the Dene. NCS has been collecting them since 1971.

The 11 displays are courtesy of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

- 30 -

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Mrs. Trudy Gibson of the office of  
Canada's chief electoral officer instructs  
returning officers for the upcoming  
Territorial general election Oct. 1.

June 15, 1979



The 22 men and women who will act as returning officers in the Oct. 1 Territorial general election to elect an expanded Legislative Assembly gather with their training course leaders on the rocks outside the Explorer Hotel in Yellowknife.

June 15, 1979



# NEWS

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79-146

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- 30 -

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# NEWS

ESSAY WINNER OFF TO MARITIMES

79-147

YELLOWKNIFE (June 18) - The winner of an N.W.T. essay contest is spending the summer in Canada's birthplace as a representative of the Territories at Confederation House.

Donna Latremouille, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Latremouille of Yellowknife, recently won the essay contest for grade 12 students in the Territories with her answer to the question: Should high-school students make their own career decisions?

Donna is a grade 12 student at Sir John Franklin High School.

The Department of Education has sent Donna to Charlottetown, P.E.I., for the summer where -- at Confederation House -- she will represent the Territories and assist tourists and other people looking for information about the N.W.T.

Donna will be at Confederation House until Sept. 1.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

HUNTERS NEED FIREARMS ACQUISITION CERTIFICATES

79-148

YELLOWKNIFE (June 18) - With hunting season approaching, many sports hunters may find it difficult to buy or borrow guns in time for a planned trip if they don't apply soon for a firearms acquisition certificate.

That advice is given by chief Territorial firearms officer Ray James of the Territorial government's Department of Public Services.

The certificates, available from the R.C.M.P., have been mandatory since Jan. 1. Under federal legislation it is unlawful for anyone to sell or loan firearms to another person unless that other person - the person buying or borrowing the firearms - has a firearms acquisition certificate.

Mr. James explained that once a person is issued with a certificate it is good for a five-year period, during which time the person can acquire as many firearms as they want.

(more)

HUNTERS NEED FIREARMS ACQUISITION CERTIFICATES - 2

"Indications are that a large number of people who enjoy sports hunting have yet to obtain a certificate. If too many people wait until the start of a hunting season, the volume of applications to be processed may result in long waiting periods," said Mr. James, and some hunting trips that would have to be called off.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

DRYWALLERS FACE HEALTH RISK

79-149

YELLOWKNIFE (June 25) - Drywall tapers in the Northwest Territories should take preventative measures to reduce the risk of asbestosis.

Asbestosis is a disease of the lungs caused by inhaling asbestos fibres.

Mike Hewitt, head of occupational health for the Territorial government, said today drywallers should ensure they work in a properly ventilated area and that protective respiratory masks are worn at all times.

Mr. Hewitt said a recent study of 15 industrial drywall taping and spackling compounds revealed that 13 of them contained asbestos.

Taping compounds are used by drywallers to make a smooth join between gypsum wall boards.

(more)

DRYWALLERS FACE HEALTH RISK - 2

Some five to 10 per cent of a drywaller's working time is spent sanding these compounds and it is the exposure to the dust that is created in this process that has clinical researchers concerned.

Mr. Hewitt said that a clinical survey in New York revealed that the prevalence of asbestosis in drywall tapers is similar to that found among asbestos insulation workers.

Most of the taping compounds used in the U.S. and Canadian construction industries were found to have an asbestos content of four to five per cent, with one product containing as high as 15 per cent.

Mr. Hewitt said that air sampling taken in the breathing zone during the sanding period showed that the asbestos concentration was often "far higher" than levels permitted by regulations.

In Canada, the threshold limit value (TLV) for asbestos fibres in consumed air is 1.5 milligrams per cubic meter.

Mr. Hewitt said that drywall tapers themselves are not the only persons who should be concerned about asbestosis.

Studies have indicated that detectable asbestos fibre concentrations are present in adjacent rooms during the sanding process. That means that carpenters, plumbers and other construction workers busy at their work during sanding periods also risk developing the disease.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

ARCTIC BAY TURNED ON

79-150

YELLOWKNIFE (June 22) - The high arctic community of Arctic Bay is receiving radio and television service via a satellite delivery system installed by the Territorial government's department of information.

Art Sorensen, director of the department, said the service was turned on Thursday and that reports from the community indicate reception, using a small 15-foot diameter earth station, is excellent.

The community is receiving the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's northern television signal and its regional radio service out of Frobisher Bay.

In addition, it has a local radio broadcasting studio that was installed prior to the implementation of the CBC service.

Arctic Bay is the third community to be provided satellite facilities under the department's Northern Communications Program.

(more)



The other communities are Fort Norman, in the upper Mackenzie, and Coral Harbour on Southampton Island.

Meanwhile, site preparation is nearing completion in the communities of Fort Liard, Pelly Bay and Chesterfield Inlet and satellite dishes and transmitting equipment is being assembled for shipment by barge and air to the settlements.

Mr. Sorensen said the department expects to have radio and television into those communities by early fall at the latest.

By 1981-82, the department has plans to extend the service to Snowdrift, Holman Island, Sanikiluaq, Hall Beach, Lac La Martre, Repulse Bay, Broughton Island, Lake Harbour and Clyde River.

All of these communities are eligible for the service, but whether or not it is provided will be a decision that is made by the locally elected settlement or municipal councils.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information  
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# NEWS

INTERPRETER CORPS HEAD NAMED

79-151 P

YELLOWKNIFE (June 22) - Aimo Nookiguak of Frobisher Bay has been appointed head of the Northwest Territories Interpreter-Translator Corps.

Mr. Nookiguak, 30, will assume his new responsibilities in Yellowknife July 9.

The announcement was made today by Art Sorensen, Director of Information for the Territorial government.

The Interpreter Corps was established by the department to provide professional translating services for the government. It also provides simultaneous interpreting services in Inuktitut for the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Nookiguak, born in Cape Dyer, had experience in radio and television with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation before joining the department of information as a regional information officer in 1976.

(more)

INTERPRETER CORPS HEAD NAMED - 2

His duties included management of the Baffin Region interpreter corps office in Frobisher.

He left the department last year to become an executive assistant to Baffin Regional Director Mike Moore, with supervisory responsibility for the region's field service officer staff.

The 21-member interpreter corps, with offices in Yellowknife, Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay, is the only professionally trained unit of its kind in Canada.

It was formed in 1973 at the suggestion of Bryan Pearson, a former member of the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly who saw a need at that time to create a group of fully-trained interpreters to help bridge the communication gaps in the Territories.

Donna Laing, currently acting head of the corps, will assume her original duties as a training officer with the unit once Mr. Nookiguak relocates to Yellowknife.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

FREE DRUGS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

79-152

YELLOWKNIFE (June 27) - The Territorial government will introduce its Pharmacare program of free prescription drugs for senior citizens July 1.

The new program means that the N.W.T.'s 1,200 or so residents 65 years and over can begin getting free prescription drugs, with the exception of over-the-counter drugs. These are not covered.

The Pharmacare program is being set up and administered by the Department of Health.

Minister of Health Tom Butters says Pharmacare is to reduce the economic hardships of those northerners 65 and over who require medication to maintain or improve their health.

Everyone 65 and over with a valid N.W.T. Health Care card is automatically covered by the program when it begins July 1.

(more)

FREE DRUGS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS - 2

Those senior citizens who are unsure of their status in the Health Care Plan should contact the Department of Health in Yellowknife.

All senior citizens have to do after July 1 to take advantage of the drug program is to present their Health Care registration card when getting their prescriptions filled. Their doctors and dentists will have a list of which drugs are covered by the program. As well, in the smaller communities, the nursing stations will be aware what drugs are covered.

The list is comprised of effective drugs for which coverage is provided under the Pharmacare program. Care has been taken to ensure that a range and variety of approved drugs are available to enable physicians and dentists to select an effective course of therapy for their patients. As well, the drugs covered meet recognized standards.

For further information contact the Department of Health, Government of the N.W.T., Precambrian Building, Yellowknife, X1A 2L9. The department's telephone number is 873-7152.

# NEWS

NEW CHIEF OF LEGAL SERVICES

79-153

YELLOWKNIFE (July 3) - A lawyer with several years' experience has been appointed the Territorial government's chief legal adviser.

Stien Lal, who joined the government in 1977 as legal counsel, has been named chief of the legal service division, department of public services.

Mr. Lal was first called to the Bar in England in 1965. He has since worked for the British government and practised law in India and Nova Scotia.

In his new position, Mr. Lal will provide legal services and advise to the executive, all departments, regions and government-appointed boards.

Mr. Lal succeeds Ms. Patricia (Pat) Flieger, who is moving to Vancouver.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

GOVERNMENT TO HOLD PUBLIC AUCTION

79-154

YELLOWKNIFE (June 29) - For the first time the Government of the Northwest Territories will hold a public auction to sell surplus goods. The auction will take place in Yellowknife at Sir John Franklin School on Saturday July 7, starting at 11 a.m.

Well-known northern auctioneer Smokey Heal will conduct the auction, assisted by Gordon Newell, Bud Auvigne (clerk) and Bernadette Auvigne (cashier).

According to chief of supply services Joe Vermeulen, the procedure is being tried on an experimental basis and the results will be evaluated to determine if the method should be used again.

"One advantage is that a public auction gives individual purchasers a good opportunity to bid on goods. Previous purchasers have been mainly corporate buyers," said Vermeulen.

(more)



In the past the Territorial Government's surplus goods have been sold through a sealed tender system.

A variety of goods will be auctioned, including household and office furniture.

- 30 -

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Well-known northern auctioneer Smokey Heal will conduct the auction, assisted by Gordon Newell, Bud Auvigne (clerk) and Bernadette Auvigne (cashier).

According to chief of supply services Joe Vermeulen, the procedure is being tried on an experimental basis and the results will be evaluated to determine if the method should be used again.

"One advantage is that a public auction gives individual purchasers a good opportunity to bid on goods. Previous purchasers have been mainly corporate buyers," said Vermeulen.

(more)

GOVERNMENT TO HOLD PUBLIC AUCTION - 2

In the past the Territorial Government's surplus goods have been sold through a sealed tender system.

A variety of goods will be auctioned, including household and office furniture.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

MARKETING MANAGER APPOINTED

79-155P

YELLOWKNIFE (July 3) - A man with extensive experience in marketing management has been appointed to a senior position in the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism.

Peter Nigh is the department's new marketing manager, division of projects and marketing. He joined the Territorial government June 14, 1979.

Mr. Nigh, whose office is in the department's headquarters in Yellowknife's Laing Building, was previously general manager of marketing in the automotive division of a large Toronto-based company, Avnet International Ltd.

Mr. Nigh is responsible for the marketing of goods and services of the department's business projects program. This includes the marketing of a wide variety of products, from cloth and fur garments to jewellery, furniture and handicrafts.

Besides being a long-term marketing executive, Mr. Nigh is a professional hockey referee and an outdoors recreation enthusiast.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

ERNERK ACCEPTS GOVERNMENT POSITION

79-156

YELLOWKNIFE (July 6) - Peter Ernerk, minister of natural and cultural affairs, has been named assistant regional director for the Keewatin.

The announcement was made today by Commissioner John Parker.

Mr. Ernerk, 32, will resign his portfolio today and assume his new responsibilities in Territorial government's Rankin Inlet headquarters August 1.

A former member of the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly, Mr. Ernerk said he is interested in expanding his work experience and that "for some time now I have been exploring various employment opportunities that would provide for career development."

Since his election to the assembly in 1975, he held a number of ministerial positions, including social development, economic development and tourism and public services.

(more)

ERNERK ACCEPTS GOVERNMENT POSITION - 2

Mr. Ernerk was born at Lyon Inlet, a small hunting camp just outside Repulse Bay. His early years were spent on the land with his parents.

He attended school at Chesterfield Inlet, Yellowknife, Churchill, Manitoba and Ottawa.

Mr. Ernerk, a former announcer-operator with the CBC in Churchill, first joined the Territorial government in 1971 as an information officer-translator. He has also been employed as a community education consultant in the Keewatin region and, prior to his election to the assembly, was an executive assistant to the Territorial government's assistant commissioner Ewan Cotterill.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

QUEEN'S PRINTERS' ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE IN YELLOWKNIFE

79-157

Yellowknife (July 9) Queen's Printers from across Canada arrived in Yellowknife today to begin their 28th annual conference.

The delegates are from provincial, territorial and the federal government printing and publishing operations.

The annual conference of the Queen's Printers' Association of Canada gives delegates a chance to share ideas and discuss current trends in printing and publishing.

Technological change and the introduction of metrication are two of the topics which will be discussed.

Representatives from seven provinces, the two territories and the Government of Canada are attending the Yellowknife conference being held at the Explorer Hotel.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

CONSOLIDATED ORDERS AND REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

79-158

YELLOWKNIFE (July 10) - The first official consolidated Orders and Regulations of the Northwest Territories has been published. The publication brings together in three volumes all orders and regulations up to May 16, 1979.

It is the first publication under the auspices of the newly appointed Territorial Printer for the Northwest Territories. As such, it is legally treated as having been published in the Northwest Territories Gazette.

Commissioner John Parker has signed an order naming John Moss, head of the Territorial Government's printing bureau, to the position of Territorial Printer.

Research leading to publication of the orders and regulations extended back to the first known Commissioner's Order of 1939, which established Yellowknife School District No. 1.

Instead of having to research hundreds of separate documents, the public will now have access to this information in a set of three loose-leaf binders. Tables in volume one include a chronological and alphabetical listing of all orders and regulations and an alphabetical index of orders and regulations currently in force.

(more)



CONSOLIDATED ORDERS AND REGULATIONS PUBLISHED - 2

The consolidated orders and regulations will be available in reference libraries or can be purchased through the office of the registrar of regulations, Department of Public Services, Yellowknife.

There will be at least annual up-dates, available through subscription.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

ADAMS APPOINTED RECREATION CHIEF

79-159

YELLOWKNIFE (July 12) - Denis Adams, a man with considerable experience in northern recreation and cultural programs, has been appointed chief of the recreation division, department of natural and cultural affairs. The appointment takes effect September 1.

Mr. Adams is currently Prairies and N.W.T. regional director for the federally funded youth organization OPCAN - Katimavik.

From 1975 to 1977, he was a recreation officer with the Territorial government.

After receiving his Bachelor of Physical Education degree from the University of Alberta in 1971, much of his post graduate studies related to the North. During 1971-72, he was involved in a major study on the Territorial Experimental Ski Program in Inuvik.

In the summer months of 1972 and 1973, he served as a community recreation officer in Pond Inlet for the Territorial government.

(more)

ADAMS APPOINTED RECREATION CHIEF - 2

This also contributed to his thesis "Inuit Recreation and Cultural Change". He received his Master of Arts in Physical Education from the University of Alberta in 1978.

Mr. Adams, 30, has a wide interest in all types of recreation and sport, either as a participant, coach, referee or organizer. He especially likes working with young people and has a knowledge and appreciation of the history and culture of the Canadian North.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

JAPANESE TOURIST EXECUTIVES VISITING N.W.T.

79-160

YELLOWKNIFE (July 13) - If you're looking for people with a yen to travel, what better place than Japan? That's what TravelArctic, the territorial government's tourism section, is doing with a group of executives from seven major travel agencies in Tokyo.

The group arrived at Inuvik on Thursday following a four day tour of the Yukon. They fly on to Yellowknife today to see the capital city and will also visit two fly-in lodges in the area before proceeding to Hay River.

"The Japanese are avid travellers and looking for new experiences" says Jamie MacKendrick, travel industry development officer for TravelArctic.

In making arrangements for the agents he is emphasizing the potential for small tour groups of 6-20 people.

"We're not geared up for massive groups but out hotels, air charter companies and lodges could handle small groups right now." he says.

(more)

JAPANESE TOURIST EXECUTIVES VISITING N.W.T.

He adds that it won't be a holiday for the businessmen. "They'll have to take in about three times as much as the average tourist in one day".

Following their visit the businessmen will contact hotels and transportation companies and lodges which they feel have something to offer the Japanese tourist. Language shouldn't be a problem for future visitors says MacKendrick since many Japanese speak English and the tours would be escorted by bilingual guides.

The average tourist from Japan is not interested in hunting or camping but likes a lot of activity every day. Sightseeing, fishing, nature tours and cultural events are all popular holiday items.

The tour is being jointly sponsored by the N.W.T., Yukon and federal governments and is a first of its kind for the Territories.

The western N.W.T. was selected for this group since it fits in with transportation links. European trade people, especially from Germany, are expected next year. The Baffin and Keewatin areas have great potential to make their mark with those tourists says MacKendrick.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

EXECUTIVE APPROVES ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOCIAL  
SERVICES TRANSFER TO FROBISHER COUNCIL

79-161

YELLOWKNIFE (July 26) - The Executive Committee has approved a memorandum of understanding between the Territorial Government and the village of Frobisher Bay on the transfer of social service programs to the village.

The memorandum, which details arrangements and conditions of the transfer, is now with the village of Frobisher Bay for their consideration.

Under the agreement, the village council would provide the complete range of social services now being provided by the Territorial Government. This would include: child welfare, community corrections, income maintenance, services to the aged and the handicapped and support service to individuals and families.

Tom Butters, minister responsible for social services, describes the process as: "a landmark step in the devolution of responsibilities to the community level".

(more)

The arrangement would be treated as a trial project until the end of 1980. This will allow both parties to evaluate the project and decide what programs would be permanently transferred to the village.

During the trial period, staff of the village social service office would remain in the public service of the Northwest Territories and where applicable be subject to the collective agreement between the N.W.T. Public Service Association and the Commissioner. The village would advise and recommend on personnel matters such as salary levels, appointments and dismissals and housing.

The village's social services committee would assist in all planning and development of social service programs.

The Territorial Government would continue to provide sufficient funds for social services in Frobisher Bay, prepare an annual budget for the village social service office in consultation with the village and offer professional advice on social problems in the community.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

HERITAGE CENTRE ACQUIRES MAJOR PRINT COLLECTION

79-162 P

YELLOWKNIFE (July 17) -- A major collection of 255 Baker Lake prints has been purchased by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre from a private gallery in Winnipeg.

The collection includes all but 14 prints done in Baker Lake between 1970 and 1976.

Curator of Collections Barbara Perry describes the collection as especially unique because 233 artist proof prints are included with only 22 being numbered edition prints. Co-ops normally produce several proof prints before the edition is printed. The artist usually keeps one of the proofs.

The prints are now in the reserve collection section of the heritage centre. In the future they will be publically exhibited, mainly in the mezzanine gallery, but in other areas of the centre as well.

Only three other institutions in Canada are known to have comprehensive collections of Baker Lake prints: the Winnipeg Art Gallery, the National Museum of Man and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

(more)



HERITAGE CENTRE ACQUIRES MAJOR PRINT COLLECTION - 2

Dr. Robert Janes, director of the heritage centre, says the acquisition of the print collection is part of an ongoing program at the centre to return to the North things of Northern origin and significance. This is being done by purchase or long term loan.

- 30 -

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Curator of collections Barbara Perry and Northern Heritage Centre Director, Robert Janes study some of the newly acquired Baker Lake prints.



# information release

79-082



## FOUR JURISDICTIONS TO PROMOTE TOURISM TOGETHER

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 21) - The Northwest Territories, the Yukon Territory, British Columbia and Alberta are banding together to promote the attractions of western Canada and the north to potential tourists in foreign countries.

The concept of promoting the four regions to distant markets under the theme "Canada West" has been discussed between officials of the four governments for close to a year. The decision to go ahead with the concept was made earlier this month.

It is hoped Canada West will increase tourism in each area "by co-operating and presenting a common front and unified thrust", says a statement drawn up by the three ministers in the provinces and Yukon responsible for tourism and the executive member for economic development and tourism in the N.W.T.

Tom Butters, the member responsible for N.W.T. tourism, says visitors from far-away areas such as Europe and Australia are interested in visiting geographic regions, such as western Canada, rather than specific areas divided by provincial or territorial boundaries.

"Canada West is an agreement to work together and promote co-operatively the attractions of the western and northern part of Canada," says Mr. Butters.

(more)

## FOUR JURISDICTIONS TO PROMOTE TOURISM TOGETHER...2

For example, Alberta and B.C. have offices in London, Eng., which the N.W.T. and Yukon will share during special promotional events in the United Kingdom.

The joint marketing approach is not intended to create a formal administrative structure. Programs introduced under Canada West will fit in with the current budgets, staff and priorities of each participating area.

Senior officials of the four jurisdictions will meet regularly to work out details on the joint programs. Although the main thrust of Canada West will be to promote the attractions of visiting the four areas, planning, development and research programs could also be done to support the concept.

Officials from the four governments are asking agencies in the travel and tourism business within their jurisdictions and the Canadian government office of tourism to recognize and support Canada West. The Canadian government is the chief body promoting Canada to tourists abroad.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-081



## FIRE SAFETY MEASURES MORE STRINGENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - Fire-rated materials required by law in all N.W.T. buildings since 1971 may have helped keep down the loss of life in a Cambridge Bay fire.

Les McPhee, deputy fire marshal, also said a smoke detector contributed to alerting other residents of the apartment building in Cambridge Bay in which a young woman was killed Feb. 17.

He commented that placing fire-rated materials between walls is a National Building Code requirement that is rigidly followed in the N.W.T.

Mr. McPhee explained material is fire-rated when it has met minimum standards (determined by laboratory tests) on its ability to withstand heat. He said fire rating is a combination of building material quality and construction methods.

"Safety factors in construction have tightened up nationally in recent years, and we watch these diligently.

An 18-year old woman died in the Cambridge Bay fire. R.C.M.P. investigated on behalf of the fire marshal and found careless smoking contributed to it.

Mr. McPhee noted the Cambridge Bay fire death was the fifth in the N.W.T. in less than two months, equal to the territorial total for all of 1978.

(more)

As well, the deputy fire marshal said, all N.W.T. government public housing and staff housing is now equipped with electrically-wired smoke detectors.

Wired smoke detectors are impossible to turn off, he explained, and they keep ringing until the area is cleared of smoke. He expects they will be in common use when 1980 revisions are made to the National Building Code.

"This type of detector has been used in the N.W.T. for about the past four years," Mr. McPhee noted, "replacing battery-powered ones." He said people tended to remove the batteries for other uses. "With the wired type," he said, "we take a calculated risk on power failures."

- 30 -

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# information release

79-080



## EMPLOYEE HOUSING TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE APPROVED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.20) - Deputy Commissioner John Parker has accepted the terms of reference for the task force on employee housing which will be reviewing the whole question of Territorial government staff housing in the N.W.T.

The tripartite task force includes Winston Nettleton, executive director of the N.W.T. Teachers' Association; Peter Dyke, president of the N.W.T. Public Service Association and Rod Morrison, director of the department of personnel.

Since the Commissioner appointed the task force in January, they have been developing aspects to be studied, operating procedures and a timetable.

They have set a deadline of September 1, 1979 for completion of their recommendations.

The terms of reference include a review of what should be the government's continuing responsibility in providing housing for its staff across the N.W.T.

The private accommodation allowance, given to employees who supply their own housing, will be reviewed, including rates, conditions for eligibility and its long term purpose.

The system of charging rents and utilities will be studied and the present contract or license between the employer/landlord and employee/tenant reviewed.

(more)



EMPLOYEE HOUSING TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE APPROVED...2

The policy of the N.W.T. Housing Corporation on Northern rental houses will be ~~ass~~<sup>as</sup>essed and the question of whether Housing Corporation houses should be utilized by the government for its staff considered.

A review will be made of the present government policy and procedure on the sale of staff housing units to employees.

All current government policies, directives and operating procedures related to housing will be assessed.

The task force will consider the work of the amenities committee in its review. This committee of Territorial government and N.W.T. Teachers' Association personnel is studying how the quality of facilities and services relates to rents charged.

Community factors such as location, topography, climate and other facilities will also be considered.

To assist the task force with its work, an agreement has been reached to second Denis Lowing, general manager of the N.W.T. Housing Corporation, to the task force until its recommendations are completed.

A small number of other people will also be seconded to assist the task force.

In its interim report to the Commissioner, the task force participants conclude that they see this exercise as: "the most positive step the government has taken in wanting to resolve the staff housing situation".

(more)

EMPLOYEE HOUSING TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE APPROVED...3

In approving the terms of reference and operating procedures for the task force, Mr. Parker re-emphasized the high priority the Territorial government places on satisfactorily resolving staff housing questions.

He pointed out that housing is a very major concern in the lives of employees and expressed satisfaction with the steps being taken to deal with housing issues.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-079



12/13  
U+L  
10/11  
A BETTER DEAL FOR COMPANY TOWNS PROPOSED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 16) - The Territorial government is considering helping so-called "company towns" in the N.W.T., by providing them with the same kinds of services it does other communities.

Council was told Thursday the department of local government has a plan that, if introduced, would provide these government services in both existing and planned "company towns" in the mining and lumber industries.

The plan would allow for a services agreement between the Territorial government and the developer of the company town on cost-sharing of municipal facilities such as water, sewer, fire protection, road construction, schools, nursing stations and recreation facilities.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), executive member responsible for the department, told members that N.W.T. health care insurance services - the first concern - already are available to long-term residents of company towns, and now it's time to think of helping these towns with other services.

He said meetings were held recently with people from the mining community of Tungsten, located in the southwestern N.W.T. near the Yukon border, to discuss the question of government services.

(more)

A BETTER DEAL FOR COMPANY TOWNS PROPOSED...2

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) was the only other member to comment, saying he generally agrees with the proposals. He asked for and received assurances from Mr. McCallum that patients and doctors living at Tungsten would be eligible for medical care coverage and be treated in the same manner as patients or doctors living elsewhere in the N.W.T.

The policy also would allow for negotiations with developers of both existing and new communities. The agreement would look at employment and training opportunities for northern residents. The government would be prepared to support the building of local facilities in exchange for influencing production rates. This would ensure a longer life for jobs. A single-resource community would need a life expectancy of about 20 years, obtaining "a measure of permanency" before the government would get involved in facilities, the proposed policy says.

It goes on to say a single-resource community with a life expectancy of more than 20 years would be encouraged to work towards incorporating as a municipality in its first five years of existence.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-078



## COUNCILLORS DEFEND NORTHERN BUSINESS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - The federal government should not cut financial corners at the expense of private enterprise in the North, says Territorial Council.

Slave River member Arnold McCallum persuaded his colleagues to support that view Friday in the form of a motion defending a northern-based business established to fight forest fires.

Members offered their support to Trans North Firefighters, based in Fort Smith. Mr. McCallum told the House he felt the motion is necessary since he learned the federal government is opting to use southern-based firefighters this coming summer as an apparent cost-saving measure. He said the move threatens to put Trans-North out of business.

The fighting of forest and brush fires in the Northwest Territories is the responsibility of Northwest Lands and Forests, a branch of the federal northern affairs program. Trans North was hired to handle forest and brush firefighting in the Great Slave Lake area of the N.W.T. for the past two summers.

Mr. McCallum said the northern company was told last fall the federal government would not be tendering in 1979 for firefighting services and, instead, would import specialist "smoke-jumpers" and water bombers from southern Canada.

(more)

## COUNCILLORS DEFEND NORTHERN BUSINESS...2

He pointed out the change would mean that dollars invested would be going south instead of circulating in northern communities. Territorial Council has asked that N.W.T. forest firefighting activity be increased to include areas where trapline activity is heavy.

He suggested members express concern over the federal government encouraging economic growth on the one hand, and "on the other hand, taking away a viable, successful northern business".

Pete Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear) commented the Trans North workers face going on welfare with almost \$100,000 worth of firefighting equipment sitting around unused in Fort Smith.

Also on Friday, councillors learned Northern Affairs Minister Hugh Faulkner sees the development of both territorial and federal parks in the N.W.T. as being compatible.

Mr. Faulkner wrote Commissioner Hodgson as a follow-up to the appearance of Parks Canada officials, earlier in the council session.

Mr. Faulkner wrote that he feels planning for a territorial parks system could proceed, despite unsettled native land claims. Work on the smaller highway campgrounds and picnic areas should go ahead without delay, he said.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-077



## N.W.T. COUNCIL ADJOURNS UNTIL LATE MARCH

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - Territorial councillors are taking a five-week break from the business of the 67th Session.

But there won't be much rest for chairman Arnold McCallum (Slave River) and members of council's constitutional development committee. They will be busy preparing more of council's ideas on the political future of the Northwest Territories.

The \$294-million budget and 12 other pieces of territorial legislation got formal approval Friday, but members had unfinished business on their minds.

When they return to the council table March 28, the longest they can meet is four days. The 15-member council ends its term of office March 31.

The unfinished business mainly involves constitutional development in the N.W.T. and specifically the future of Territorial Council itself, whether or not it can soon be expanded from 15 to 22 members.

(more)

Members learned Friday that federal legislation needed to authorize that increase failed to get speedy passage.

Mr. McCallum announced that federal Members of Parliament had agreed that afternoon to second reading but committee discussion was asked, causing a delay. To expand Territorial Council, changes to the federal N.W.T. Act are needed.

Territorial councillors want to see the issue resolved before they leave office in March.

Several other pieces of business remain on the Territorial Council order paper. Still unfinished is discussion on bills dealing with legal aid services, medical consent, chartered accountants and certified general accountants. Members also want to discuss proposed changes to the federal Indian Act.

Earlier in the current session, Mr. McCallum called for council to take a more detailed look at the N.W.T.'s move towards more responsible government. Members will be meeting with Bud Drury in the near future and these talks are expected to be aired when council resumes its business.

Mr. Drury, a former appointed territorial councillor, is Prime Minister Trudeau's special representative on constitutional development in the N.W.T. Mr. Drury and his staff were in the council chamber Friday.

(more)



In addition to the \$294-million main spending estimates for 1979-80, legislation dealing with the following subjects was formally passed:

- . governing the operation of all-terrain vehicles, separate from motor vehicles;
- . adjusting boundaries of new territorial constituencies;
- . a federal-territorial agreement on firearms control;
- . grants to post-secondary school students;
- . the spending of an extra \$5 million covering the rest of the 1978-79 fiscal year;
- . N.W.T. participation in the Western Canada Lottery;
- . separate elections for mayors of hamlets;
- . companion financial bills to the main estimates.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-076



## LOTTERY GETS COUNCIL APPROVAL

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 16) - Sports and recreation groups in the N.W.T. should soon be sharing in the profits from Western Canada Lottery ticket sales.

Legislation to bring the fund-raising scheme north got committee approval in Council Thursday.

It authorizes territorial officials to seek membership in the Western Canada Lottery Foundation, a joint venture for sport and recreational fund-raising in the Yukon, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

The legislation received detailed study Thursday along with five other bills covering such varied subjects as student grants and off-road vehicles. All need third reading and Commissioner's assent before becoming law.

Members learned the lottery legislation will authorize the Sport North Federation as the scheme's N.W.T. marketing agents. The federation, said Peter Ernerk (Keewatin), will be forming an operating committee that will also be responsible for distributing the N.W.T.'s share of the profits among its member groups.

Mr. Ernerk, executive member for natural and cultural affairs, said the federation of N.W.T. sports associations has grown from 15 to 25 groups since being formed in 1976 and is in need of funding sources other than government grants.

(more)

LOTTERY GETS COUNCIL APPROVAL...2

In addition to providing support to member groups through travel grants and coaching clinics, Sport North coordinates the selection of N.W.T. athletes for the Arctic Winter Games and Canada Games, Mr. Ernerk told his colleagues.

Its growth, he said, has placed a strain on Territorial Government grants. Financial support comes through the department's recreation division.

Mr. Ernerk indicated the Sport North people plan to set up ticket outlets in seven communities during the first year of operation. These will be located in Fort Smith, Pine Point, Hay River, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet, Frobisher Bay and Yellowknife.

Other bills studied Thursday by council's committee included:

- a new law that regulates off-road vehicles, such as snowmobiles and small motorcycles, and empowers community councils to govern their use, separate from the Vehicles Ordinance;

- a change to the Municipal Ordinance, giving hamlet residents the choice of voting separately for their mayors in local council elections if they wish.

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# information release



79-075

## LESS-EXPENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 15) - The N.W.T. Housing Corporation is developing smaller, less-expensive, energy-saving public-housing units.

Territorial Council learned Wednesday the Corporation is, through its construction program, working on these and other cost-saving measures for subsidized public housing in the North.

Members were discussing Territorial government contributions to the Housing Corporation in the amount of \$22.7 million. Public housing in the N.W.T. is funded on a shared-cost basis between the NWTHC and the federal Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) wanted to know what the Housing Corporation was doing to encourage tenants to pay a greater share of housing costs, taking into consideration limited incomes. He said one way to do that was to build smaller houses.

Deputy Commissioner John Parker, speaking as chairman of the Housing Corporation board of directors, assured Mr. Nickerson the board was thinking the same way and had already taken steps.

There will be no more five-bedroom homes built, Mr. Parker said, and the design of the corporation's three-bedroom homes has been reduced from 1,400 to 1,000 square feet.

(more)

LESS-EXPENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPED...2

He told members the corporation's newest design is a two-bedroom duplex of 1,000 square feet each side.

He commented this new design has been adapted to northern needs, including an enclosed porch and unheated storage room.

Mr. Parker reported the Corporation will be concentrating on insulation and rehabilitation of older homes in the coming year, with energy conservation in mind. He said there are 1,700 public housing units that need rebuilding.

In 1978, he reported, 305 public housing units were completed in the N.W.T., many of them finished from earlier construction seasons.

The 1979 construction program will feature greater use of northern-based contractors, Mr. Parker commented. He noted 79 per cent of contracted work in 1979 will involve northerners. There are 338 housing starts scheduled for 1979-80, including 66 senior-citizen and 36 single-person units.

There will be continued emphasis on stick-built (built from the ground up) construction in 1979 instead of the southern-built prefabricated sections.

He said 65 per cent of the units put up this year will be stick-built.

The deputy said last year's training program in stick-built construction was a success, with eight Inuit trained in the skills at a project in Rankin Inlet.

(more)

LESS-EXPENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPED...3

Due to increased scarcity of gravel supply, the Housing Corporation will be using drilled piles for foundations more than gravelled pads.

Mr. Parker said the board feels it is important to encourage the local housing associations to better handle servicing responsibilities on public housing units.

He said one way to tackle this area would be developing closer ties between members of the local housing associations and local councils.

Mr. Parker commented the board felt a new rental structure for public housing introduced last year brought rates more into line with those charged in the northern public service.

The new system, launched last April but not fully introduced throughout the north until late 1978, takes into account an individual's ability to pay and regional cost-of-living factors.

Where such things as heating costs are higher, rents are lower, Mr. Parker explained, adding that rents increase according to income.

The rental system is based on a maximum 25 per cent of a person's income, less regional cost-of-living considerations.

(more)

LESS-EXPENSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPED...4

Members supported a motion introduced by Mr. Nickerson asking that the next chairman of the housing corporation not be a member of the federal or territorial public service. Mr. Parker indicated he would be stepping down from the chairman's post when he assumes duties as commissioner on Apr. 15.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-074



## HAY RIVER LUMBER FIRM OBTAINS SPECIAL ARDA, RDIA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 15) - Patterson Enterprises Ltd. of Hay River has received two offers of assistance, one under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program, and the other under the Regional Development Incentives Act (RDIA), to double the output of its sawmill and logging operations. The offers total \$96,000.

Announcement of the assistance was made today by Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, territorial minister responsible for economic development and tourism.

Under the Special ARDA program, the firm has been offered \$69,000 to purchase logging equipment and a portable bush camp bunkhouse to increase the company's timber harvesting capabilities.

With its RDIA incentive offer of \$27,000, the firm proposes to upgrade its existing sawmill and construct a drying kiln and lumber storage sheds.

With the proposed improvements, the company intends to produce three million board feet per year. The staff is anticipated to be increased from eight to 12 when in full production.

(more)



HAY RIVER LUMBER FIRM OBTAINS SPECIAL ARDA, RDIA ASSISTANCE...2

In operation since 1964, Patterson Enterprises Ltd. is managed by Eugene Patterson and his son Daniel. The company's logging operations make use of area timber stands while sales for the lumber are generated throughout the southern Mackenzie marketing district.

Funds for both incentive offers are supplied by DREE. Field work for the Special ARDA incentive was carried out by the Territorial Government's department of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-073



## COUNCILLORS SEEK MORE EXECUTIVE ROLES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - Territorial Council wants the office of assistant commissioner in the Northwest Territories abolished.

In addition, members voted Tuesday to change the reporting relationships of the clerk-of-the-council and to seek full-time research staff.

Councillors asked through a motion that the post of assistant commissioner be dropped by the 1980-81 fiscal year. They suggest the position simply not be filled when the current assistant commissioner, Gary Mullins, leaves. Mr. Mullins had earlier indicated his intention to leave the North at the end of his contract in August.

Members supported a motion introduced by David Searle (Yellowknife South) dealing with the assistant commissioner's job.

Mr. Searle said he wanted to see an orderly end to the position. Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) mentioned it is important that executive committee duties now handled by the assistant commissioner be passed on to an elected councillor.

Mr. Searle pointed out the intent of his motion is that this would occur and be "turned over to the elected people in time for the next council".

(more)

The life of the current 15-member elected council expires Mar. 31 and elections for a possibly-expanded council of 22 members is expected later in 1979.

Support was given a second motion of Mr. Searle's that seeks to have the clerk-of-the-council report only to Territorial Council through its Speaker. It also asks that the clerk's position be upgraded in pay to that of director level and that any research staff that may be added in the future report through the clerk.

Mr. Searle said changing reporting relationships would bring the N.W.T. council into line with provincial legislatures.

The clerk currently reports to the Commissioner and is responsible to the Speaker only when council is in session. Research staff from various departments have been made available to council in the past as needed, but, as members of the territorial administration, they do not report to the clerk.

Mr. Searle said it is a question of council having "complete autonomy over people so they don't serve two masters. The clerk now only is responsible to the Speaker when the House is in session," he pointed out. "He (the clerk) has two bosses."

Members noted council's legal adviser is in a similar position. "The legal adviser has a most difficult role," commented Tom Butters (Inuvik). "We have to some way cut this knot of dual loyalty". Council's legal adviser is a Territorial government lawyer.

(more)

It was mentioned there would be some difficulty keeping a full-time legal adviser busy between sessions. Mr. Searle commented the British Columbia legislature hires a lawyer to fill this role on contract.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) got council support in a motion asking the executive committee to study the concept of support staff for members.

Deputy Commissioner John Parker told members the executive has recognized that need "for some time". He commented he felt it appropriate the issues came up as the time for new council elections approaches.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-072



## MANY DOLLARS GET THE NOD

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - Territorial Council quickly scanned and approved the spending proposals of no less than five government departments Tuesday.

Budget study ended in quick succession for five service departments: public works, finance, planning and program evaluation, personnel, and information. All but one item on executive spending plans was cleared up.

The total dollars approved Tuesday was \$90.5 million, or 31 per cent of the N.W.T.'s \$293-million main estimates for the coming fiscal year.

A wide variety of programs received council approval, ranging from paving more parts of the Mackenzie Highway system to sealift costs.

The only budget item left to study is executive grant money for the N.W.T. Housing Corporation.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-071



## SEALIFT PROBLEMS SPARK TALK OF PORT FACILITIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - It could be the right time to start thinking again about a deep-water port facility near Frobisher Bay, Territorial Council was told Tuesday.

Deputy Commissioner John Parker made the observation as Councillors talked about the problems experienced in completing the 1978 Eastern Arctic sealift.

A late sailing from Montreal last fall resulted in a freighter having to turn back from Frobisher Bay due to ice conditions before unloading was finished.

The issue came up during Territorial Council's study of the department of finance's \$18.9 million spending proposals for 1979-80. The largest single item, \$7.6 million for supply services, includes the Territorial government's sealift costs.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) complained he felt federal transport people were "solely responsible" for what he called "last year's fiasco" and asked what the Territorial government was doing to encourage improvements.

Several government branches, including federal transport, the Coast Guard, and the Territorial government, are involved in sealift planning, along with private shippers.

(more)

SEALIFT PROBLEMS SPARK TALK OF PORT FACILITIES...2

Eric Nielsen, director of finance, said a late cut-off date for goods at the marshalling yards was the big problem a year ago and steps are being taken to ensure an earlier sailing date for 1979.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) recalled that five or six years ago the previous council had looked at plans to develop proper unloading facilities for ships at Frobisher Bay.

Mr. Parker noted federal public works had a concept for what he called "an extensive facility" near Frobisher Bay. He pointed out building such a facility is very much a federal matter, but said it would be timely for councillors to raise the issue again.

Mr. Pearson recalled studies were done and it was found a dock would then have cost as much as \$12 million. He commented a dock would bring many benefits to the community, especially with activity gearing up for off-shore oil and gas exploration in the nearby Davis Strait.

The South Baffin member, who is a Frobisher Bay merchant, said he believes the federal transport department practise of renewing a sealift contract with a shipper each year is wrong. He indicated the shipper could better plan sailing activities if the deal was for three to five years.

"We are still operating on the same level as Martin Frobisher did 400 years ago," he claimed. "There has been no improvement."

(more)

### SEALIFT PROBLEMS SPARK TALK OF PORT FACILITIES...3

In other business Tuesday, members studied the 1979-80 budgets of three other service departments.

The department of information's \$2.1 million spending plans include funds for continuation of its communications program for satellite delivery of CBC northern television and radio services to communities with populations between 250 and 500. During the 1979-80 spending year, facilities are planned for Pelly Bay, Fort Liard and Chesterfield Inlet.

Members were told the department is extending the communications services it already provides to other departments, as part of Commissioner Hodgson's call for government departments to look at co-ordination, co-operation and communication in their programs in the 1980s.

Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) got support for his motion asking the department to look at training a Slavey-speaking member for the Interpreter Corps, to meet what he sees as growing needs in his southwestern N.W.T. region.

Members looked at spending proposals for the department of planning and program evaluation in the amount of \$1.8 million. They were assured that \$580,000 to be spent on utilidor and school facility extensions at the Nanisivik townsite on northern Baffin Island is the last amount being invested in the joint private sector-government mining venture.

The department of personnel proposes to spend almost \$6.5 million in the coming year, most of that in employee benefits, and removal and travel assistance.

(more)



SEALIFT PROBLEMS SPARK TALK OF PORT FACILITIES...4

Rod Morrison, the department's director, described it as an inventory of employee skills which could be developed so the department could match people with available jobs "rather than the other way around" with the employee having to approach the department. He called the idea a way of "trying to be responsive to employee needs".

- 30 -

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# information release



79-070

## INFLATION HITS PUBLIC WORKS SPENDING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - Despite efforts to hold the line, the cost of maintaining public facilities in the Northwest Territories is up, territorial councillors learned Tuesday.

Inflated costs of maintenance, building materials and utilities means the Territorial Government must pay more in 1979-80 to keep its property in shape.

Councillors were presented with main estimates amounting to \$54.5 million for the territorial department of public works, up almost \$7.6 million from the current fiscal year ending March 31.

The largest single item in the budget is more than \$14 million to pay for the utilities in government buildings.

Deputy Commissioner John Parker, the executive member responsible for public works, told members the price of heating oil and power alone is up \$2.5 million.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) wanted to know what the government is doing to get out of employee housing. Mr. Parker replied that in the past year 18 government-owned houses have been purchased by government employees. As well, he said, rents have been increased in an effort to encourage employees to buy or rent on the private market.

The department's highways division, which looks after the upkeep of the Mackenzie highway system and ferry operations, plans to spend \$7.6 million in 1979-80. (more)

INFLATION HITS PUBLIC WORKS SPENDING...2

The highways people plan to do more paving south of Hay River and the Enterprise intersection, in addition to rebuilding the gravel roadbed on the Ingraham Trail east of Yellowknife.

Members learned a new ferry boat, the MV Louis Cardinal, will be moved into position this spring on the Peel River near Fort McPherson. It will serve the Dempster Highway traffic.

The full responsibility for maintaining N.W.T. highways will be turned over to the Territorial government in 1980-81, the deputy commissioner said. He told Mr. Nickerson that 1979-80 will be the last year for joint responsibility.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-069



## ALCOHOL WORKSHOP RESULTS IN CONCERNED CITIZENS COMMITTEE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - A workshop on alcohol and drugs held earlier this month in Fort Smith has led to the creation of a concerned citizens committee.

A cross-section of the 30 people who attended the three-day session conducted by Jim Anderson, chief of the Territorial government's alcohol and drug program, decided on their own to form the group.

Mr. Anderson says the committee is interested in making the public better aware of the problems that can arise from the misuse of alcohol and drugs.

He says the group hopes to pass on to the public the knowledge it obtained during the workshop. It has requested several information booklets on alcohol and drugs.

"Helping people understand the problems of alcohol and drug misuse is a real key thing as far as prevention is concerned. People communicate this understanding to others; it creates a general awareness," says Mr. Anderson.

The workshop was held at the request of the community adult educator in Fort Smith. It was attended by some residence supervisors, students in upgrading courses and teaching staff at AVTC; some local nurses, some staff of the department of social services, and other interested people. At times the workshop attracted up to 40 participants.

(more)

It included films, lectures and discussions on topics ranging from legal restraint on alcohol supply to drinking and driving. The topic that seemed to attract the most interest, says Mr. Anderson, was the "fetal alcohol syndrome", the effects of alcohol on an unborn baby when its mother drinks.

Mr. Anderson has conducted similar workshops during the past year at the request of local people in the Baffin, Keewatin and Central Arctic areas. He says he's open to hold other such sessions upon request.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-068



## NEW N.W.T. TOURIST GUIDE BIGGER THAN EVER

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - The new annual tourist guide to the Northwest Territories is more detailed than ever before.

The Explorers' Guide '79 contains eight more pages of information on things to see and do when visiting the North.

The section on fishing, a sport that attracts tourists to all parts of the N.W.T., has been expanded by two pages.

Brian Thompson, travel marketing officer with Travel-Arctic, the Territorial government's tourism branch, says the guide naturally grows every year as the number of tourism services grows.

"If the provinces tried to produce as comprehensive a guide they would end up with a book four inches thick. We're at an early stage of tourism development so we can give tourists in a magazine-size booklet an outline of all our services and facilities," he says.

Some 100,000 copies of the Explorers' Guide have been printed for the third year in a row. Half of them will go directly to the travelling public through tourism operators, airlines, the federal government's tourism organization, northern lodges and motoring associations.

As well, a special edition of the travel guide has been produced. "It's a locally-printed supplement to the guide geared especially for travel agents. It lists hotels, lodges, outfitters and includes the commission those businesses will give to travel agents," says Mr. Thompson. "It will go to tourism operators in the best market areas in the South." (more)

**DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION, GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**  
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## NEW N.W.T. TOURIST GUIDE BIGGER THAN EVER...2

In addition to written material, TravelArctic has been promoting the N.W.T. to prospective tourists at trade shows.

In mid-January Mr. Thompson set up a tourism information booth at a motoring show in Anaheim, Calif. The site hosts one of North America's largest tourist trade shows.

"Californians know very little about the N.W.T.," Mr. Thompson observed from his trip. "For the most part they've never heard of it and those who have generally think we are some sort of county in one of the provinces," he said. On the other hand, a similar jaunt to St. Paul, Minn., proved to Mr. Thompson that somewhere, someone knows of the N.W.T. "The people in Minnesota were well-informed about the Territories. In fact, they seemed to be better informed than most people in Toronto," he says.

The N.W.T. will be represented at travel trade shows during the next few months in Seattle, Wash.; Calgary, Toronto and Montreal.

"We meet far more people and have a much greater impact through these sport shows than through display advertisements in southern publications," believes Mr. Thompson. "And it's a cheaper way of reaching the public. We get 1,000-2,000 inquiries from each trade show," he says.

TravelArctic will be reprinting its souvenir map of the Territories this year. It's also developing a new high-detailed map that will show the N.W.T. and its air travel routes on one side and the Mackenzie Highway system on the other.

(more)

NEW N.W.T. TOURIST GUIDE BIGGER THAN EVER...3

"The road map will show the new Dempster route and there is room left to mark the Liard Highway route. We expect the map to last many years with slight modifications," noted Mr. Thompson.

With an increase of \$100,000 in TravelArctic's budget, announced by Commissioner Stuart Hodgson last November, the division will be able to produce tourism literature comparable to the provinces, says Mr. Thompson.

He says TravelArctic would like to produce more promotional material on canoeing the N.W.T.'s waterways and a booklet containing color photographs of the North's finer attractions.

TravelArctic is also looking into the possibility of making promotional films on the North.

"It's an expensive medium to get into, up to \$50,000 for a film, but it would be viewed by literally millions over the years."

- 30 -

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# information release

79-067



## MARKETING DRIVE WOULD BOOST NORTHERN PROJECTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - Territorial Council was told Monday stronger marketing efforts and tighter accounting controls will go a long way towards improving the financial prospects of the 33 economic project supported by the Territorial Government in the N.W.T.

Tom Butters, executive member responsible for the department of economic development and tourism also told Council that the projects provide jobs for 728 people - including 136 full-time positions - and that while they are expected to earn \$2.3 million in the coming fiscal year, they will cost \$4.2 million to operate.

The projects came under close scrutiny Monday as members looked at the department's 1979-80 spending plans. The department's budget is \$17.5 million.

The government-backed projects produce everything from jewelry, fur and fish, to furniture and wool products. In addition, retail stores in some of the smaller N.W.T. communities are operated as projects.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) commented the figures do not show much financial headway. Mr. Butters agreed, but pointed out some of the projects are supported more for their importance to community life than their money-making potential.

(more)

## MARKETING DRIVE WOULD BOOST NORTHERN PROJECTS...2

The projects "are putting money in people's pockets", noted Mr. Butters, and "the work being done for those dollars is honest work". Echoing earlier comments of John Steen (Western Arctic), Mr. Butters stated "freedom and independence depends upon the amount of money in your pockets, money you have earned yourself".

Mr. Pearson disagreed, saying dependence on government handouts does not in his mind result in being free and independent.

Don Stewart (Hay River) said northerners would be further ahead selling goods produced entirely in the North such as fish products. "Money is being drained south for supplies instead of circulating in northern communities," Mr. Stewart said.

Mr. Steen repeated his call for a northern-based tannery. He said it is a waste of money having to ship northern-produced furs south to a tannery, then buying back the treated furs to make clothing and having to pay freight charges both ways.

Mr. Stewart felt the government should be making stronger sales efforts. "We have been guilty in the past of producing before we have the markets," he stated.

Mr. Butters agreed, saying he has personally pursued potential new markets. Referring to the canvas project at Fort McPherson, which at one time made tents and various types of bags, Mr. Butters said he had approached as potential buyers both the Beaufort Sea oil drilling concerns and Yukon pipeline planners. He said both are interested in Fort McPherson-produced canvas coveralls.

# information release

79-066



## SPECIAL ARDA TO ASSIST TWO N.W.T. BUSINESSES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Assistance totalling \$15,700 has been offered to two projects under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, executive committee member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Frobisher Press Ltd. of Frobisher Bay has accepted an offer of \$14,500 to assist in the purchase of printing, typesetting and darkroom equipment. This new equipment will enable the company to upgrade the printing quality of its weekly English and Inuktitut newspaper, Nunatsiaq News, and permit it to expand its custom printing and quick-copy operation.

Nunatsiaq News is the only newspaper at present serving the eastern Arctic in both English and Inuktitut. It is anticipated the expansion will create two jobs, one full-time and one part-time.

(more)

Philip B. Mercredi of Yellowknife will use the \$1,200 he has been offered for a feasibility study and training to establish a photographic portrait studio in Yellowknife, specializing in children's portraits. Although Mercredi has previous photographic experience it has been mainly contract and free-lance work. He will use the funds to organize his plans for the studio as well as undertake training in this specialized field.

Funds for the two projects will be provided by DREE. The Government of the Northwest Territories provides the field work for the Special ARDA program through its department of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-065



## A FRESH IDEA FOR NORTHERN FISHING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - The idea of fishing commercially for halibut and shrimp off-shore in the Eastern Arctic has caught the interest of territorial councillors.

Members voted Monday to study the idea as a means of stimulating economic growth in the region.

Ludy Pudluk (High Arctic) raised the issue in Council saying an off-shore fishery could be established around Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay.

He introduced a motion asking the Territorial government to study the feasibility of developing an Eastern Arctic commercial fishery. The motion was carried.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) said a study should not be expensive and he suggested all that needs to be done is to ask Newfoundland fisheries' experts to send a trawler into the Davis Strait, east of Baffin Island, drop over their nets and do a test catch. The marketing possibilities are bright, contended Mr. Pearson. "Products could be flown out fresh from Frobisher Bay".

(more)

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) assured members that the presence of off-shore oil and gas explorations activity would not have an adverse effect on commercial fishing. He commented that the two industries are compatible elsewhere, such as in the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. Nickerson said the only problem might be the relatively-short time available for fishing when water in the area would be ice-free.

In other business Monday:

Council learned the international boundary in the Beaufort Sea remains under dispute after more than a year and a half of talks involving Canadian and United States negotiators.

Tom Butters (Inuvik) told members the issue is centred around the off-shore boundary between Alaska and the Yukon.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-064



## SOLAR ECLIPSE CAN CAUSE PERMANENT EYE DAMAGE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - The safest way to watch the solar eclipse this month is on television, warns the Territorial government's department of health.

The department says watching the moon partially or fully cover the sun on Feb. 26 by any other means could result in permanent eye damage. While viewing the eclipse invisible infra-red rays from the sun can blind you without you knowing it until it's too late.

During the last eclipse about 200 people in North America suffered permanent eye damage when they ignored the advice of medical specialists and viewed the phenomenon with their naked eye, says Elaine Berthelet of the department of health.

The department has asked the directors of the four government regions to pass on the warning to school principals. It fears children, unaware of the real dangers, might be tempted to look up.

The eclipse Feb. 26 will occur at different times in different areas of the Territories - somewhere between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

(more)

All areas of the N.W.T. will experience a partial eclipse, except in the communities of Pangnirtung and Frobisher Bay where a total eclipse will occur. A total eclipse is when the light of the sun is completely blocked by the moon.

Ms. Berthelet says northerners living in communities without television will simply be unable to watch the eclipse safely.

Among materials definitely unsafe for use during a solar eclipse are: any color film, including black ends; sunglasses; polarizing filters, either singly, or in crossed pairs; smoked or soot-covered glass; photographic "neutral density" filters supplied as gelatin filters, either unmounted or in glass; any colored plastic or glass not specifically identified for being safe for solar viewing.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-063

## HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - The only way to find out if you are suffering from high blood pressure is to have your blood pressure checked regularly, says Elaine Berthelet.

Ms. Berthelet of the Territorial government's department of health says the disease often has no obvious symptoms and many people suffering from it feel healthy.

For that reason the department will be setting up a booth in the basement of the YK Centre and offering Yellowknife residents free blood pressure checks.

The tests will be offered Friday, Feb. 16, from noon till early evening, and on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

A representative of St. John also will be on hand to demonstrate mouth-to-mouth breathing and heart massage. Both applications can be used on heart attack and drowning victims until medical help arrives.

The tests are part of Heart Month in the Northwest Territories.

High blood pressure can lead to heart failure, stroke or kidney failure.

(more)

Blood pressure tests are quick and painless, assures Ms. Berthelet. Persons must rest for five minutes before the test. The actual test takes less than a minute.

- 30 -

10.02  
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# information release

79-062



## POSTER CONTEST TO PUBLICIZE HEART MONTH

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - The department of health has invited all elementary and secondary schools in the Northwest Territories to participate in a poster contest publicizing Heart Month.

February has been proclaimed Heart Month in the N.W.T. by Commissioner Stuart Hodgson.

Elaine Berthelet of the department of health has sent a letter to school principals asking them to organize the contest in each of their schools. The aim of the posters is to make people aware of the dangers of heart disease and the lifestyle they should lead to reduce their chances of developing it.

Each school has been asked to judge their posters and select three winners. Ms. Berthelet expects results to start coming in by late February. Winners will be awarded a certificate by the department of health.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-061 P

## HEART DISEASE: THE NUMBER-ONE KILLER

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Every six minutes another Canadian dies of heart disease.

It's the leading cause of death in the country, accounting for almost 50 per cent of all deaths in Canada every year.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson, in an effort to make northerners better aware of the dangers of heart disease, has proclaimed February as Heart Month in the Northwest Territories.

Elaine Berthelet of the department of health says that there are ways people can reduce the chance they'll develop heart disease.

Consistent high blood pressure increases your risk of heart disease to four times normal. However, persons suffering from high blood pressure can take drugs and follow a diet as prescribed by a doctor.

A high cholesterol level increases your risk of heart attack to three times normal. A diet low in saturated fat, as advised by a doctor, can help.

(more)

Moderate obesity - up to twenty per cent above normal weight - can double your risk.

Smoking also increases the risk you'll suffer a heart attack at an early age. A person who smokes a pack a day runs the risk of heart disease and a four-pack-a-day smoker takes ten times the risk.

Being physically unfit will also increase your chances of a heart attack.

Ms. Berthelet says this year's Heart Month in the N.W.T. will focus on high blood pressure.

High blood pressure is a major cause of stroke, heart failure and kidney failure. It is often referred to as the silent disease because many people are unaware they have it.

"The tragedy of hypertension, the medical term for high blood pressure, is that half of the people who have it are unaware of it and of those who are aware, it is estimated that only one in four receives adequate treatment," says Ms. Berthelet.

Often the only way one can tell if they are suffering from high blood pressure is to be tested regularly.

"Research has developed drugs and other means of controlling high blood pressure in most cases". says Ms. Berthelet.

Information pamphlets on heart disease are being sent to schools in the North. Individuals or groups wanting the free material can write to: Department of Health, Government of the N.W.T., Yellowknife.

# information release

79-060



## NO TAX ON PENSION SUPPLEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Pensioners in the Northwest Territories who receive a supplement to their old age security cheques from the Territorial government are assured the supplement is not taxable.

Tom Butters (Inuvik), the executive member responsible for social services, told Territorial Council Friday the \$50 supplement is not considered income for tax purposes.

Responding to a question from Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North), Mr. Butters told members it was too late to send the information to recipients with their February cheques but that the department is asking regional staff to pass on the word.

Mr. Butters explained that while the Old Age Security pension itself is considered income, a Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or spouse allowance is not. He said the territorial supplement is paid only to GIS and spouse allowance recipients and is therefore not taxable.

Mr. Butters noted the GIS is listed on the T-4A tax forms for information only.

The Territorial government started paying \$50 extra to GIS recipients last July, using funds derived from an increased N.W.T. tobacco tax.

(more)

NO TAX ON PENSION SUPPLEMENT...2

In other business Friday members voted to seek re-location of Northern Canada Power Commission headquarters from Edmonton to a place in the N.W.T. "that requires economic stimulus".

- 30 -

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# information release

79-059



## REPORT IGNORES N.W.T.-COUNCILLORS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Territorial Council is unhappy that the recently-released report of the federal task force on national unity makes no mention of the Northwest Territories.

Members unanimously passed a motion Friday registering their "dismay" at what they consider an oversight.

"The problems we are having here are not being addressed," stated Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North), who introduced the motion. He said he believed the report simply echoes federal policies in relation to Quebec and the French language.

Said Mr. Nickerson: "We want to join Canada in the same way that people living in the other provinces have joined Canada. We do not like being left out."

He added that negative comments, such as those expressed by Quebec Premier Rene Levesque, seem to attract most of the attention. "You do not get very much attention for being positive." He said the task force report "is something of an insult to the people of the Northwest Territories" and an insult to Territorial Council.

Mr. Nickerson said sending the task force to Yellowknife for two days of hearings was a waste of the Canadian taxpayers' money and felt that Territorial Council had wasted its time preparing a brief.

(more)



REPORT IGNORES N.W.T.-COUNCILLORS...2

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), chairman of council's constitutional development committee, presented council's 11-page brief when the task force visited Yellowknife last year.

He agreed with Mr. Nickerson, saying a second Territorial Council paper to a federal committee received similar treatment. Mr. McCallum said a joint Senate-Commons committee studying the Canadian Constitution also made scant mention of the N.W.T. in its report.

"We have no voice now, none whatsoever, in getting across our views on the constitution and national unity," Mr. McCallum stated.

Council broke off regular business early Friday to hold a special meeting of its constitutional development committee.

Members huddled with two federal Opposition politicians, Conservatives Doug Neill and Walter Dinsdale.

The visitors reconfirmed their party's support of legislation that would increase the size of Territorial Council from the present 15 to 22 seats. They speculated the bill-an amendment to the N.W.T. Act-would come up for discussion in the House of Commons in late February.

Mr. Neill is his party's northern affairs critic and Mr. Dinsdale, an MP for 28 years, was northern affairs minister during the Diefenbaker administration.

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# information release

79-058



## METIS LEADER WANTS BUREAUCRACY SIMPLIFIED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 9 ) - It would be a lot easier for northern businessmen, says Richard McNeely, if all funding agencies and loan programs in the Northwest Territories were amalgamated under one agency.

The president of the N.W.T. Metis Association calls the present set-up of federal and territorial programs a "maze" and he urged the Territorial government to take action to simplify it.

Mr. McNeely made the suggestion Thursday when he appeared before Territorial Council to talk about the Metis Development Corporation. Members were studying 1979-80 spending plans of the department of economic development and tourism and they wanted to hear from Mr. McNeely about the Metis approach to northern development.

He told members the corporation was set up to encourage what he called workable projects, ones that would lead to more growth rather than simply creating jobs.

He said the corporation would seek financing through existing sources such as the small business loan fund administered by the Territorial government, and through the federal department of regional economic expansion (DREE).

(more)

But he said these government services would serve the people better if they were amalgamated.

"This would make it far simpler and more efficient for anyone applying for a loan ... you would go to one agency, and from there I would imagine the only thing necessary if the project was approved would be Treasury Board approval, rather than this maze."

He said the Metis have urged Tom Butters, the executive member responsible for economic development and tourism, to consider the streamlining of funding sources.

Mr. McNeely told councillors the Metis Development Corporation was created to act as a spur to further and larger business activity in the N.W.T. He assured them it will be separate from the Metis Association's political arm. He explained the corporation's shares are now held in trust by the association until shareholders are organized.

He told members the corporation's first activity was a joint investment with a private firm to construct an office building in Yellowknife. The Metis Association and another group have leased office space in the building.

Mr. McNeely told Council he was optimistic about the future of the development corporation.

"We hope it becomes prominent" as a business force in the N.W.T., he said. "I would hope," he added, "that the department of economic development and tourism would do as much for us and all our members as it is supposed to do for other citizens of the N.W.T."

information photo

79-057



PHOTO RELEASE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - Attached is a selection of photographs of Territorial Council in session in Yellowknife. The current session is due to end late this week.

Photos by Mike Van Duffelen

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Contact: Department of Information

# information release

79-056



## BUTTERS URGES POSITIVE APPROACH TO ECONOMIC PLANNING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8) - Tom Butters (Inuvik) challenged northerners Wednesday to take a positive approach to economic development in the Northwest Territories.

"We have got to quit crying and we have to start moving," said the member responsible for the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism.

He said northerners have become increasingly pessimistic over the past few years about the state of the economy in the Territories.

"I suggest to members and the people of the N.W.T. that we will go to hell in a basket unless we start hustling, unless we start taking advantage of the opportunities that exist in the Territories, develop the resources that exist in the Territories, ensure that the people who live in the Territories become actively involved in the economic opportunities that appear before us," Mr. Butters said.

Mr. Butters said the community of Hay River, hard-hit by the decision not to build a Mackenzie Valley pipeline at this time, is showing the positive approach everyone in the North must take to better their economic conditions.

Council began studying the 1979-80 spending plans of the department of economic development and tourism Wednesday. The department proposes to spend \$17.5 million in the coming fiscal year, an amount Mr. Butters says is a 10 per cent increase over the department's spendings during 1978-79.

(more)

BUTTERS URGES POSITIVE APPROACH TO ECONOMIC PLANNING...2

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) commented that \$75 to \$100 million had been spent by the department over the past decade and wondered what the Territories had to show for it.

Don Stewart (Hay River) suggested that many of the department's efforts are merely an extension of welfare. He wondered whether some of the department's loan and grant programs were like "pouring money down a bottomless pit".

John Steen (Western Arctic) suggested northern resources should be put to greater use with such things as a northern-based tannery. "There is so much fur around," he noted. "Even if these things are not viable, it is still a beginning".

Mr. Butters commented he found positive signs from last year's territorial-wide economic opportunities conference at Hay River and similar regional sessions in Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay. He said the conferences pointed out the diversity of northern needs and economic conditions, and he found a high level of business understanding expressed by community delegates.

Mr. Pearson suggested action should be taken to prepare Eastern Arctic residents for increased economic activity related to off-shore oil explorations in the region.

He pointed out that Greenlanders are developing an off-shore fishing industry and "we share the same water".

(more)

BUTTERS URGES POSITIVE APPROACH TO ECONOMIC PLANNING...3

Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) commented that council should look at long-range economic planning. Referring to his area in the southwestern N.W.T., he wondered what lies ahead after the Liard Highway is completed. The road, when finished in the early 1980s, would link the Mackenzie and Alaska highways, opening up his area to potential development.

Mr. Butters said new opportunities must be sought even though they are hard to come by.

He said a big concern of his is that too much resistance to development will discourage the developer, who would not hesitate to invest elsewhere.

"The danger in the North is that we not only kick the goose that lays the golden egg, but we also crush its head."

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# information release

79-055



## McCALLUM ANGERED OVER PARKS OFFICIAL'S VIEWS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8) - An angry Arnold McCallum said Wednesday that a federal Parks Canada official has had the "unmitigated gall" to publicly question the integrity of Territorial Council.

He was referring to a radio interview with Parks Canada senior planner John Carruthers, which was broadcast earlier in the day on CBC Mackenzie. Mr. Carruthers was commenting on a presentation made to Council last week by Parks Canada official Al Davidson. Mr. Davidson had outlined to Council the federal government's desire to establish 10 wilderness parks in the Northwest Territories during the next decade.

Mr. McCallum felt Mr. Carruthers' comments during the radio interview reinforced some of Council's feelings on the attitude of Parks Canada officials.

"He questioned the integrity of this House in my opinion," said Mr. McCallum.

Mr. McCallum said Mr. Carruthers implied that members of Council were trying to "draw attention" to themselves by expressing dissatisfaction with Parks Canada's proposal to set up wilderness parks mainly for conservation purposes in various parts of the Territories.

(more)



"He indicated that we had sought to draw attention to ourselves ... because we are coming towards an election," the member said.

Mr. McCallum said Mr. Carruther's remarks implied that Council's goals for the useage of land in the Territories "were less than truthful".

He said Council should "take exception" to the remarks and that he was taking exception to them not only as a member of Council but "on a personal basis as well."

- 30 -

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# information release

79-054



## FREE DRUGS TO TREAT DIABETES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8 ) - Northerners suffering from diabetes can now get free medication to treat the condition.

The Territorial government's department of health has extended coverage under its supplementary health programs to include free drugs for diabetes. The department will also cover the costs of supplies - such as syringes - needed to administer the drugs.

The coverage for diabetes is retroactive to Jan. 1.

Diabetes is a disease that results when the pancreas fails to produce enough insulin. Insulin is needed to break down foodstuffs.

Arnold McCallum, the member responsible for the department of health, says most diabetics have the condition for life and must pay high costs for drugs. He said the government had been requested to cover the condition by several N.W.T. residents. There are about 66 diabetics in the Territories.

Persons who have already purchased drugs for diabetes since Jan. 1 can submit their receipts for reimbursement to the department of health. The receipts should be sent to: Director, Department of Health, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2L9.

(more)

To get free medication from now on persons should take their prescription to a public health nurse employed by the federal department of health and welfare. The nurses are located at nursing stations in small communities and at public health centres or clinics in the larger communities. The nurse will stamp the prescription which indicates to the local pharmacist that the drugs should be given at no cost. The pharmacist will be reimbursed by the department of health.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-053

## FORT GOOD HOPE, PERRY ISLAND, TO RECEIVE SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8) - Special ARDA assistance totalling approximately \$32,000 has been approved for projects located in the Fort Good Hope and Cambridge Bay areas. The funds will be used to purchase equipment to harvest food and furs.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, Territorial Government executive member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Fort Good Hope Band Council has been offered \$12,000 to buy eight portable radios for full-time trappers who spend most of the year in the bush with their families. The main aim of this project is to provide better communication between the bush camps and the settlement at Fort Good Hope, so that news and information may be passed back and forth, and emergency help obtained much faster.

Regular radio communication will give the trappers access to hunter kill data, information on fur auction dates, and an efficient means of arranging fur pick-ups. The trappers and their families (approximately 50 people) will be able to advise their base of travel plans, as well as arrange for extra supplies and medical care when necessary.

(more)

Perry Island Outpost Camp in the Cambridge Bay area has been offered \$20,000 to purchase natural resource harvesting equipment to increase the camp efficiency. Eight families, made up of 41 people, live in the Perry Island camp year-round. Their entire livelihood comes from the land and the making of handicrafts.

Although the camp will also receive outpost camp funding, none of that money can be used for the acquisition of equipment such as traps, tents, fishnets, ski-doo's and an assortment of spare parts.

Funds for the two offers will be provided by DREE. The wildlife service of the Territorial Government's department of natural and cultural affairs is responsible for field work on the hunters, trappers and fishing portion of the federal-territorial Special ARDA program. Commercial projects are administered by the Territorial Government's department of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-052

## MORE DOLLARS SOUGHT FOR COMMUNITY LIBRARIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - The amount of money matters little when Territorial councillors latch onto a subject that catches their interest.

Spending an additional \$15,000 for Yellowknife's library had Territorial Council talking for a good half-hour Tuesday.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) finally won his point, but not before at least one other member complained that Yellowknife's always getting more than its share of government money.

It all started during study of 1979-80 spending plans for the department of natural and cultural affairs. Budget planners had set aside a total of \$37,000 in grant money to help cover operating costs of community libraries in the N.W.T.

Mr. Searle wanted assurances that \$15,000 would be there to help the Yellowknife library pay more part-time staff and keep the facility open longer, and he suggested the budget be increased by that amount.

Several members objected, saying this would give the territorial council more than its share of the grant money.

(more)

Bill Lyall (Central Arctic) said he was opposed because "Yellowknife is always getting more than half of everything".

Mr. Searle retorted the capital has 20 per cent of the N.W.T. population and there is "a demonstrated need" for longer library hours.

Pete Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear) said the request for extra money should refer to all communities, not just Yellowknife.

Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) noted other growing communities do not have as strong an economic base to help pay their own way for such a facility.

Richard Whitford (Great Slave Lake) supported Mr. Searle, reminding members the community library in Yellowknife is available to Sir John Franklin School students, many of whom come from homes in other parts of the Territories.

Mr. Searle chided his colleagues, saying "we should all be a little bigger and be prepared to offer support for other areas, not just grab for what we can get ourselves".

The Yellowknife lawyer finally won his point as members voted in favor of asking for the extra \$15,000.

"I'm sorry I didn't ask for \$10 million," Mr. Searle quipped. "I would have got it a lot easier than asking for \$15,000."

# information release



79-051

## MEAT TRADING ENCOURAGED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - Peter Ernerk favors the exchange of country foods between settlements and says the government supports it.

Mr. Ernerk (Keewatin) told Territorial Council Tuesday the first country food store opened up on a trial basis late last year in Frobisher Bay. It is operated by the local hunters' and trappers' association.

The matter was discussed Tuesday as members studied the \$9.5 million main spending plans of the department of natural and cultural affairs for 1979-80. Mr. Ernerk is the executive member responsible for the department.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) said inter-settlement trade makes a lot of sense where one community might have a surplus of caribou skins or meat and a neighbouring community might be in short supply.

Mr. Ernerk assured members the concept has government support. The country food outlet at Frobisher Bay gets its supplies from other Baffin communities. It may expand to acquiring meats - such as musk-oxen - from other parts of the Territories.

(more)



The executive member told Mr. Nickerson the only licence needed to engage in this trade within the Territories is a general hunting licence, which allows the licensee to barter.

Tom Butters (Inuvik) commented the development of domestic food supply within the N.W.T. is one economic idea outlined in council's "Priorities for the North" political development position paper. He said country food trading has the potential to become a sophisticated northern industry, even involving barter of soapstone carvings and sea mammals. He said it could be discussed in detail when the department of economic development and tourism's spending plans come before council later in the session.

Mr. Ernerk added the only area that could be questioned is growth of commercial caribou meat sales. He said it might add to the problems of some caribou herds that biologists suspect are declining.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-050



WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU CROSS A SKI-DOO AND A BEAR?

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - Bryan Pearson and Ludy Pudluk tried to outdo each other Tuesday in one of Territorial Council's lighter moments.

The two councillors, who both appreciate a good chuckle, brightened up an otherwise serious afternoon of budget talk.

Mr. Pudluk (High Arctic) repeated concerns he expressed last fall that polar bears were losing fear of man and beast, almost coming to the doorsteps in his home community of Resolute Bay. He is worried that a youngster will stumble across a bear during the winter darkness.

Dogs are the answer, said one colleague; they would make enough noise to scare a bear away. Not good enough, replied Ludy, most people now own ski-doo's rather than dogs and, besides, the inbred dogs of today are not as fearless as the pure-bred husky dog.

Mr. Pearson (South Baffin) said he had the answer. "Perhaps you could cross snowmobiles with dogs," he told Mr. Pudluk, "and you could develop some 'ski-poos'."

The Frobisher Bay merchant did have a serious suggestion, however, advising Mr. Pudluk that his community possibly could acquire the services of Bill Carpenter's Eskimo dog breeding project, which is based in Yellowknife. "They are more than willing to ship these dogs to the settlements," observed Mr. Pearson.

(more)

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU CROSS A SKI-DOO AND A BEAR?...2

Mr. Pudluk got in the last word.

Saying the polar bear watch-dogs would need to run free to be effective, he wondered how they could be immune from the dog control officer's rifle.

"Maybe they could run around wearing a collar saying, 'I am a guardian'," he quipped.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-049

## COMMISSIONER CONGRATULATES CO-OPS ON 20th ANNIVERSARY

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - Commissioner Stuart Hodgson is urging northerners to join in CO-OP 20, a celebration of the 20th anniversary of co-operatives in the Arctic.

Many special events, awards, publications and exhibitions are being planned for this year by co-ops in northern communities.

Commissioner Hodgson says CO-OP 20 will give northerners an opportunity to recognize the benefits the co-operatives have made to the economic and social development of the North.

"Co-operatives have provided a background from which many of the present leaders in both the N.W.T. and Arctic Quebec have come. They have also provided the means for northerners to gain access to and control over many of the economic factors governing their daily lives," he said.

"While the development of co-operatives in the N.W.T. has not always been as successful as anticipated, the co-operative movement has made far-reaching contributions to the thousands of people who have been involved in co-operative development over the past 20 years.

"Clearly the development of co-operative communities of the Northwest Territories is significant to the economic well-being of the North," the commissioner said.

COMMISSIONER CONGRATULATES CO-OPS ON 20th ANNIVERSARY...2

Today there are 52 co-ops in the Canadian Arctic Co-operatives Federation (for the N.W.T.) and La Federation des Co-operatives du Nouveau-Quebec (for Arctic Quebec).

- 30 -

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# information release

79-048



## ALBERTA ASKED TO STRENGTHEN N.W.T. TIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - Tom Butters says growth in the southern Mackenzie could be in line for a boost as a result of N.W.T.-initiated approaches for closer economic planning ties with Alberta.

The territorial executive member responsible for economic development and tourism said he felt optimistic after a Feb. 1 meeting with Bob Dowling, his Alberta counterpart.

Mr. Butters said he hoped the meeting would be the first of many joint planning steps in the areas of tourism promotion and product marketing, steps that could end up with the N.W.T. and its products becoming better known overseas.

Mr. Butters was accompanied by two territorial economic officials, department director Barry Shead and planning chief John Reid.

"It's too early to get into specifics," stated Mr. Butters, "but Mr. Dowling pledged his full support to the idea of developing joint business and tourism programs. The meeting was held at our request."

Mr. Butters said discussions included N.W.T. ideas on ways to increase tourism and product promotion, resource planning and highway links.

(more)

ALBERTA ASKED TO STRENGTHEN N.W.T. TIES...2

"We asked about using Alberta's overseas offices as outlets for N.W.T. tourist information and product marketing," noted Mr. Butters. "It interested the Alberta people considerably."

Mr. Dowling's department has offices in London, Tokyo and California.

"The potential is great," said Mr. Butters. "In furs alone, there's probably a \$125-million market."

"If we can piggyback Alberta's window of the world, it will be to our advantage."

Mr. Butters said he wanted the N.W.T. to be in on the ground floor of planning projects that would affect both jurisdictions, such as extension of oil and natural gas explorations and the proposed Slave River power project.

"We want to be planning partners," stated Mr. Butters. "We want to be in on the beginning, not just afterthoughts."

Another area of common interest is the possibility of developing a circle highway route linking Fort Smith and Wood Buffalo National Park to northeastern Alberta through Fort Chipewyan and the paving of the Mackenzie Highway north of the 60th parallel.

"There will be ongoing talks in all these areas to see what can be worked out," said Mr. Butters. "We are delighted with the reception we got from Mr. Dowling."

# information release

79-047



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13

## COUNCIL NEEDS MORE POWER FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) says Territorial Council can't act in the best interest of northerners until it is given more power from the federal government.

That message was repeated by Mark Evaluarjuk (Foxe-Basin) and Ipeelee Kilabuk (Central Baffin). All three were speaking in reply to Commissioner Stuart Hodgson's opening address to the 67th Session of Territorial Council.

"There is no one man to be blamed for the way economic reform is taking place in the Mackenzie district of the Northwest Territories but we can be sure nothing will change so long as policies directed at northern people remain the same. This Legislature (Council) has to take more power from the federal government, even at the risk of acting illegally, if it is to be truly representative of the majority of northern indigenous peoples," said Mr. Lafferty.

"There were so many times I sat in this House and found frustration because I continually heard one simple word, it is not legal for this Legislature to act in the best interests of those who elect them."

(more)



Bryan Pearson (South Baffin), also speaking in reply to the Commissioner's opening address, challenged the next Territorial Council to come to grips with some of the social problems of the North, many of which he said stemmed from the misuse of alcohol.

He called on Council to think about the future of children in the N.W.T. in light of 1979 being the Year of the Child.

"All the residents of the Northwest Territories have to accept the responsibility for the children of this country, to provide them with a wholesome, decent opportunity that is free from the anxiety and fear that so many of them experience right across the Northwest Territories," said Mr. Pearson.

In other business Friday, Deputy Commissioner John Parker outlined the direction the department of education will take over the next few years.

The department will be introducing Grade 10 in many of the smaller communities, and offering a junior high school diploma upon completion of it.

The department hopes to offer more classroom instruction in the local native language when requested, with English as a second language.

It also hopes decisions on such things as staffing in schools can be made at the local level.

The department plans to develop a college system for the North and review the subject of special education.

# information release

79-046



## COUNCIL WANTS STUDY OF SUBSIDIZED MEDICATION PROGRAM

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - Territorial Council wants the administration to look into a new approach of subsidizing northerners for drugs needed to treat medical conditions.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) won approval of a motion asking the Territorial government to study the feasibility of paying for drugs to treat all medical conditions once an individual or family has already paid a certain amount for medication each year.

Mr. Nickerson made it clear that he was not proposing the government look into the possibility of providing free medication for all northerners but rather a system he labelled "catastrophe insurance".

He said that such an approach would be in line with the approach the government now takes in subsidizing northerners for the cost of travel to another community for needed medical care.

The motion was introduced during Council's study of the spending plans for the department of health's supplementary health programs. Under the supplementary health programs, the government will pay the costs of medication needed to treat 11 medical conditions not covered under hospital insurance or medicare.

(more)

COUNCIL WANTS STUDY OF SUBSIDIZED MEDICATION PROGRAM...2

Mr. Nickerson wanted to know what rationale the government used in determining which conditions it would cover for free drugs under its supplementary health programs. He said he couldn't understand why those particular 11 medical conditions were covered when several others were not.

Arnold McCallum, executive member responsible for the department of health, said each of the 11 medical conditions are covered for a specific reason. He said some are covered because they are highly contagious diseases and because they are long-term illnesses that require regular, expensive medication.

Mr. Nickerson wasn't satisfied.

"It doesn't make sense to me why you should be able to get free drugs for one medical condition and not another." He said several other medical conditions that aren't covered are also contagious or require regular and expensive medication.

Meanwhile, Ludy Pudluk (High Arctic) was concerned that some people in his constituency are not being escorted by a nurse or qualified medical aid when being evacuated to the South for medical treatment not available in their community. He cited an example of a patient who was accompanied by a 'caretaker' on a five-hour plane trip to a medical centre outside the Territories.

He said the 'caretaker' was not qualified to administer oxygen, give needles or handle any other treatment the patient may have needed during the trip.

(more)

COUNCIL WANTS STUDY OF SUBSIDIZED MEDICATION PROGRAM...3

Mr. McCallum agreed that patients should be escorted by a qualified health worker but suggested that perhaps it was impossible to do so in the particular case outlined by Mr. Pudluk.

He said he'd pass on the concern to the federal department of health and welfare which is responsible for nursing stations in the Northwest Territories.

Some other members were concerned that not enough work is being done by the government to make northerners, particularly natives, aware of health programs, medical conditions and ways they may be prevented. They called upon the government to step-up its communications.

Mr. McCallum explained the government is now preparing health information programs which he felt would meet their concerns.

Council completed its study of the budget for the department of health Friday. The department will spend an estimated \$26.45 million during 1979-80.

-30-

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## COUNCIL WANTS RESIDENT REQUIREMENT DUMPED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 2) - Territorial Council wants a section removed from proposed territorial regulations that would force big game outfitters to become year-round residents of the N.W.T.

A motion introduced by Pete Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear) and passed by Council asks that the residency requirement be removed from sections dealing with guides and outfitters in the proposed regulations on the management and conservation of wildlife.

Mr. Fraser argued that many of the outfitters who don't live permanently in the N.W.T. would find it impractical to become residents and would be forced to close down their operations. He said this would deprive some people in his constituency from the benefits of business the outfitters provide.

Only three of eight persons currently licensed to operate big game hunting operations live in the N.W.T., said Peter Ernerk (Keewatin), the executive member responsible for the Territorial government's department of natural and cultural affairs.

Mr. Fraser said because most outfitters only operate during the three months of summer they must have other jobs to keep them going. He said with the current economic state of the Mackenzie area the outfitters from the South would have difficulty finding work.

(more)

Mr. Ernerk said the proposed residency requirement for big game outfitters was recommended to the government by the N.W.T. Game Advisory Council and many hunters' and trappers' <sup>a</sup>associations during consultation with them on the new Wildlife Ordinance. He said, however, that the government would be prepared to take the advice of council as well.

He said some northerners are unhappy with southern outfitters because some don't make contact with local people or provide them with any business such as purchasing supplies locally.

"If the outfitters which are licensed now decide to sell out rather than comply with the residency requirement then the industry will not certainly collapse," he noted.

Bill Moynihan, an outfitter, appeared before council as a witness and representative of the outfitters association.

He argued that some years ago the government encouraged people from outside the N.W.T. to become outfitters as nobody in the North was qualified to do so. He said on that basis it would be unfair for those outfitters who had invested to be told they could no longer operate in the North unless they became permanent residents.

The debate wound up with six of the 10 councillors who voted favoring removal of the residency requirement.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-044

## BUREAUCRATS TRYING TO SPLIT N.W.T., SAYS McCALLUM

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 2) - Bureaucrats in the federal government's department of Indian and northern affairs are trying to divide, conquer and control the Northwest Territories through the settlement of native land claims, Arnold McCallum told Territorial Council Thursday.

"We are in danger of becoming a balkanized territory, a huddle of reservations, a multitude of ghettos. We will never become one unified political entity," said the member responsible for constitutional development in the N.W.T.

He said the people of the N.W.T., native groups included, must now band together and convince the minister of Indian and northern affairs and the Cabinet of "this federal folly and deceit."

Mr. McCallum talked for close to an hour in reply to Commissioner Hodgson's opening address to the 67th Session of council. He labeled his 33-page speech the "most important I have ever made in this House."

Near the end, Mr. McCallum called for a special session of Territorial Council in March to begin planning the N.W.T.'s drive to responsible government. He says council will also be able to discuss at that time their paper on constitutional development to be presented to 'Bud' Drury, the prime minister's special representative for constitutional development in the North.

(more)

"This special session should be a turning point in the development by northerners of responsible government, and posterity will, I hope, remember it as the beginning of a dramatic cure for the social and economic disaster we and the native people may very well be facing in the negotiations of native land claims."

He spoke of this potential "disaster".

"It now appears - contrary to the wishes of both the Minister (of Indian and northern affairs) and of the Cabinet - that by policy the bureaucrats of the department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) are taking deliberate steps through the settlement of native land claims to erode the jurisdiction of the Government of the N.W.T. and fragment this Territory and its peoples into opposing and competitive groups," he said.

He referred to the recent agreement-in-principle on land claims reached between the federal government and the Committee for Original People's Entitlement (C.O.P.E.), the native group representing the Inuvialuit - the Inuit of the Western Arctic.

Mr. McCallum says that although the Inuvialuit are regarding the agreement-in-principle "as a step towards their liberation" they are, in effect, setting up a direct relationship with the federal government.

"It (the agreement-in-principle) guarantees the Inuvialuit's servitude to the federal bureaucracy, binds them to it more than ever before. It is an instrument, not of liberation, but of repression. It puts them in the same position as the native peoples on reserves in the south: the victims of an unresponsive and dehumanizing bureaucratic machine called DIAND (the department of Indian and northern affairs), a mechanism that doesn't encourage change and original thinking, but fights it," he said.

(more)



"I now agree with the Indian Brotherhood (Dene Nation) of the N.W.T. I now agree with Inuit Tapirisat of Canada. I don't agree that the federal government is the culprit. As I've said, I believe the federal bureaucracy is. But I do agree with these groups as to what is happening: divide the people of the Northwest Territories and, by so doing, conquer and control the peoples of the Northwest Territories."

Mr. McCallum says the federal government has repeatedly stated its belief in the development of strong government in and for the North.

"And it naturally follows that if these aims are reached their power (the power of the bureaucrats) will be reduced, and that DIAND will loose its traditional hold on the political jugular vein of the N.W.T."

Mr. McCallum said the C.O.P.E. agreement-in-principle "is not a progressive document for social change. It is, potentially, a bog that will ensure that change for the Inuvialuit comes only with painful effort".

He referred to a speech made last October to Territorial Council by member Tom Butters(Inuvik) that emphasized Council's desire to see an early and fair settlement of legitimate claims of native northerners. Mr. McCallum said council has been pressing that point since 1972.

He said Mr. Butters, in his remarks to council that day in October, had identified four principles which he saw as being key elements in any claims settlement in the Northwest Territories. Mr. McCallum says those principles are:

(more)

- . that the N.W.T. government, as constituted under the N.W.T. Act, is the senior government in the N.W.T., representing all northern residents. And that the settlement of native claims would not erode any power of the Territorial government,
- . that the federal government, through the settlement of native claims, will not give any group power and responsibility that has not yet been delegated to the Territorial government.
- . that the settlement of native claims in the N.W.T. will not prejudice the continued development of strong democratic government at the community level; and
- . that the traditional use of land and resources by native peoples, including Metis who are not included in a land claim settlement will be preserved.

"The native claims advanced to date include demands for political control, the setting up and delivery of social programs, preferential treatment in economic activities, and control of land use and wildlife.

"All of the elements aside from land and money <sup>impinge</sup> on the Northwest Territories Act which is the constitution of the Northwest Territories. Who better than this legislature(council) to deal with our own constitution?" he said.

Mr. McCallum pointed out that the office of native claims, part of the federal government, had asked for council's participation in the claims process. However, says Mr. McCallum, council hasn't been involved.

(more)

He said that while federal policy is to reach a settlement which includes social, cultural and economic programs for development "it defers constitutional development of the N.W.T. pending Mr. Drury's recommendations. (Mr. Drury is the Prime Minister's special representative studying constitutional development in the North.)

"This is the essence of the strategy of divide and conquer," Mr. McCallum emphasized.

Mr. McCallum went into detail on the four principles Council feels must be followed in reaching any claims settlements in the N.W.T. "to show just exactly how these principles have been ignored."

He pointed out that the Inuvialuit, through the settlement of their claims, will own 37,000 sq. miles of land in the Western Arctic, while the land controlled by the Territorial government in the entire N.W.T. is 1,209 sq. miles.

He said the Territorial government has been assured that the eastern boundary of the land C.O.P.E. is claiming wouldn't pose a problem and that the residents of Coppermine and Cambridge Bay had agreed to the boundary. (Coppermine and Cambridge Bay natives will be covered under a claims agreement drawn up the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada.)

"The people of Coppermine, and of Cambridge Bay, are now rightfully disturbed and worried that some of their traditional hunting lands are within C.O.P.E. lands and that access to these lands will be denied them," noted Mr. McCallum.

(more)

BUREAUCRATS TRYING TO SPLIT N.W.T., SAYS McCALLUM - 6

He fears non-Inuvialuit who have traditionally used lands within the area claimed by C.O.P.E. will be deprived of the benefits resulting from the development of the land.

He feels the "bureaucrats" failure to recognize the four principles laid out by council will be detrimental to the future of all N.W.T. residents.

"If this is a precedent for other agreements, it is the beginning - potentially - of a legal, constitutional, administrative and jurisdictional maze that could envelope us all and shatter our fragile union as effectively as dropping a jigsaw puzzle off a 10-storey building."

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# information release



79-043

## STEEN REJECTS ALL LAND CLAIMS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 2) - John Steen says he'll personally reject any land claims agreement because he doesn't feel Canadians should have to "pay twice" for their native people.

"All I demand, as any other Canadian, is to be treated equally," said the native from Tuktoyaktuk who represents the Western Arctic.

He was speaking Thursday in reply to Commissioner Stuart Hodgson's opening address to Territorial Council.

"I am not saying that natives should be forgotten. All I am saying is that natives desire a special interest, but (let's) not overdo it," he cautioned.

"I think it is wrong to have the Canadian public pay us twice for our land claims, pay us twice to keep us alive."

Mr. Steen said the Canadian people through their government are already providing well for northern natives.

(more)

"One only has to look at what we get already. We get free medical care, free dental care and free schooling. We use your airplanes and your buses to go to hospitals and schools. We get subsidized housing. In many cases it is free. We get our water hauled and our sewage hauled away for free. You will not allow us to starve because you have a relief program. You allow us to hunt all our game. You look for us when we are lost; you provide police services when we are in danger. What else do we want?", commented Mr. Steen.

Mr. Steen commended his native colleagues for sticking to their beliefs and staying with Territorial Council during the "Berger day" when, says Mr. Steen, native councillors were threatened by native organizations in the North.

"It proves that natives in this Assembly cannot be blown around in the wind," he said.

Mr. Steen feels much of what Territorial Council has been saying over the years was endorsed by Commissioner Hodgson during his opening address to Council.

"He (the Commissioner) was around when we needed him most, but his time of glory has gone. I am only saying that the position of the Commissioner is no longer needed and that he has served in an era when in my opinion no one other than Stuart Hodgson could have done it and done such a magnificent job."

He also congratulated Deputy Commissioner John Parker on his appointment as the next Commissioner.

In other business Thursday, council looked over the spending plans of the department of health for the next fiscal year beginning April 1. The department is seeking council's approval to spend an estimated \$26.45 million in 1979-80.

# information release



79-042

## PARKS CANADA ATTACKED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 1) - Territorial Council rejects Parks Canada's proposal to create national parks in the Northwest Territories mainly for preservation and wants future parks set up under Territorial legislation.

Al Davidson, assistant deputy minister of the federal government's department of Indian and Northern Affairs, appeared before Territorial Council Tuesday to explain the federal government's proposal to set aside national parks in areas that represent each of the natural regions of the country. Parks Canada, which is part of the department, hopes to establish 18 new national parks. Ten of them would be in the N.W.T.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River) said he's concerned that parks lately "are being conserved for everything except people".

About a year ago the federal government proposed national parks be set up in five areas of the N.W.T. - in the Mackenzie Delta, on Banks Island, on Ellesmere Island, at Bathurst Inlet and at Wager Bay. Sometime over the next decade it will propose an additional five parks be set up in the N.W.T.

(more)

Mr. Davidson explained that the 10 national parks would represent five per cent of the land in the N.W.T., an amount far less than that used for national parks in Alberta and Alaska.

"Five per cent sounds in one sense like a considerable area but if one talks about a balance in the use of lands between preservation and development, that leaves 95 per cent of lands with the possibility of development," he told council. Mr. Davidson explained that his visit to council was part of the consultation the federal government promised to carry out with the people of the North to see whether the proposed five national parks in the N.W.T. should be set up.

The assistant deputy minister explained that the chief purpose in setting up national parks is to preserve an area that represents a natural region of the country. He said the use and enjoyment of the parks is a second priority.

"...Five per cent of the Northwest Territories' lands are to be devoted to pristine parks, parks that are going to be preserved for somebody, God knows who, because we will not be able to get into them," said Mr. McCallum. "And yet the total land mass that is turned over to the (territorial) government by the federal government is 50 times less. We have 1.1 per cent of the land mass and parks will get five per cent."

Mr. McCallum wondered aloud why Parks Canada is the only group in the country allowed to conserve lands for the education and enjoyment of Canadians. "I come from a province in Canada that for years was run by absentee landlords and quite a while ago they rose up against this..."

(more)



He feels the Northwest Territories would be in a better position to handle land in the Territory and to decide what should be done with it. Mr. McCallum suggested that Parks Canada isn't consulting with the people of the North in its plans for national parks but rather "telling us what is going to happen."

"I think it is time that we have to tell the government of Canada to listen to what we are saying. Simply coming down and telling us what is going on cannot be the basis of any consultation," said Mr. McCallum. Mr. McCallum believes that if the federal government had its wish "with all their vested interests that are ambiguous" the entire N.W.T. would be conserved.

"In fact," noted an angry Mr. McCallum "I wish that Parks Canada would drive out and let us take over ourselves."

John Steen (Western Arctic) echoed Mr. McCallum's comments on the reluctance of the federal government to turn over the control of land to the elected people of the North.

"It goes to show how little the federal government recognizes our ability to take care of our own resources, our own lands," he said.

Peter Ernerk (Keewatin) wanted assurance that the native people of the North would be allowed to pursue their traditional use of the land - hunting, trapping and fishing - in national parks. Parks Canada responded they would.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) pointed out that the National Parks Act makes it quite clear that parks should be set up not only for preservation purposes but for the use and enjoyment of people as well. He said the proposed parks in the N.W.T. will exclude their use by people.

(more)

"That exclusion is obtained in all kinds of subtle ways, by there being no access, by there being no camping grounds, by there being prohibited flying in and prohibited this and that... Unless these parks permit intelligent use and enjoyment by the public, I am 100 per cent personally opposed to any further creation of them," he said.

"I do not see the purpose of setting aside areas where people cannot now, nor in the foreseeable future ever have, reasonable access to them or enjoyment of them."

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) said the people of the North have learned to distrust Parks Canada more than any other part of government.

"I sometimes think the idea of these wilderness parks is an attempt by the government to tie up as much land as possible at minimum expense... These wilderness parks become very much the personal domain of people within the employ of the (federal) Parks department."

- 30 -

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# information release



79-041

## BUREAUCRACY WORRIES COUNCILLORS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan 31.) - Territorial councillors are concerned that there's too much bureaucracy involved in getting some drivers' licences.

As well, they are worried about the confidentiality of the medical information some people must provide.

They want the department of public services, which issues drivers' licences, to drop a two-page medical examination form in favor of something simpler that states the only thing the government needs to know from a doctor - whether or not the individual is fit enough to drive.

During Tuesday examination of the department's 1979-80 spending plans, Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) brought up the issue. It concerns operators' licences for such vehicles as school buses and taxis.

Councillors weren't objecting to the need for medical exams. What concerns them is the licensing system's need to have all this medical information in government files, and how secure it is in their filing cabinets.

As a result, the department will now try to come up with a simple form.

(more)

More paperwork "is the price you pay for having a better system", said Vic Irving, director of public services. The N.W.T. introduced a new medical form in 1978. It is patterned after Alberta's.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) also objected to the fact the medical examination forms include an individual's Social Insurance Number (S.I.N.). He called for its removal.

When asked why the government has to have two pages of medical information on file, Mr. Irving said the form is there simply as a check list to help doctors and that there is no legal requirement to fill it out. He said the same applied to the S.I.N. number. The director noted the most important item on the medical form is the doctor's signature.

He agreed with Mr. Nickerson that the department could easily use a simplified form signed by a doctor that states only that a person is healthy enough to qualify for a licence.

In other Tuesday business:

. Bill Lyall (Central Arctic) gave a short reply to Commissioner Hodgson's opening address. He said a priority in his area is finding ways to resolve disputed proposed boundaries involved in Western Arctic Inuvialuit land claims. The Cambridge Bay businessman indicated he planned to seek re-election.

. Members learned that a herd of 75 reindeer, transplanted last year from outside Tuktoyaktuk to the Belcher Islands in southern Hudson's Bay, is healthy and multiplying.

(more)

BUREAUCRACY WORRIES COUNCILLORS - 3

. One of several airlines invited to appear before council at this session to discuss the state of air service in the North is reluctant to do so. Council learned that Nordair takes the position it reports only to the federal Air Transport Committee. Northward Airlines has agreed to appear, but no date has been set.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-040

## HEALTH-CARE TURNOVER SOON?

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 31) - Arnold McCallum is hopeful that in a few weeks the federal government will begin preparations to turn over some of its health-care responsibilities to the Territories.

The executive member responsible for health told Territorial Council Tuesday the Territorial Government has been trying for several years to gain control of all N.W.T. health services.

The federal department of health and welfare operates all nursing stations in the North and hospitals at Edzo and Inuvik, as well as being responsible for the physicians' services and patient transportation associated with them.

It is the two hospitals and related physicians' services Mr. McCallum says the federal government is now ready to start turning over to the N.W.T. Government.

The territorial department now operates the Territorial Health Insurance Services (T.H.I.S.) program, professional training, medicare and supplementary health programs.

Discussion of the turnover came up during council's study of the department's 1979-80 spending plans, which amount to \$26.45 million.

(more)

Expecting the turnover to occur in stages, Mr. McCallum commented the turnover in the remaining areas in which the federal government is involved would "take a little longer". He said he hoped the transfer of personnel from federal to territorial public service could start within a year.

Other members were not so optimistic.

"We have been chipping away at this ever since I can remember," observed David Searle (Yellowknife South). "I hope the matter concludes within the term of his (Mr. McCallum's) life."

- 30 -

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# information release



79-039

## KITS CAN HELP YOU PICK A HEALTH CAREER

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 31) - Considering a career in the health care field?

Your choice isn't limited to a doctor, nurse, dentist or their professional assistants. There's more than 20 other health service careers you might want to consider too. Physiotherapists, homemakers, x-ray technologists and dietitians are but a few of the other health-care specialists who work in the Northwest Territories.

To help people decide what health-service career they'd pick, the Territorial government's department of health has prepared a slide-tape show and careers kits.

The kits contain more than 30 career profiles that tell what each worker does and what you have to do to learn the job. It also lists the people you can contact to get more information about each career.

The career profile on an ambulance operator, for example, will tell you the job involves more than transporting a patient in an ambulance. The operator also assesses emergency situations, decides on immediate care and provides the accident victim with a safe, smooth trip to the hospital.

(more)



You'll learn through the package that university degrees or college diplomas aren't always a necessity for a career in the health field. You'll learn that nurses in the North not only work in hospitals but also in nursing stations, doctors' offices, health centres and health-care programs.

Some of the health career kits will be sent to schools, hospitals, nursing stations and other key centres throughout the North. If these agencies want more, or for individuals or groups, copies are available from the department of health. As well, the slide-tape show can be borrowed from the department. Requests for the material should be sent to: Health Programs and Standards, Department of Health, Government of the N.W.T., Yellowknife, N.W.T., X1A 2L9.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-038

## YEARLY HEALTH CARE RENEWAL COMING

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - Residents of the N.W.T. will soon be asked to renew their coverage under the Northwest Territories Health Care Plan.

The Territorial government's department of health is introducing health care re-registration on an annual basis. The Plan pays for many medical and hospital services and is administered by the department.

Arnold McCallum, executive member responsible for the department of health, says that under the current system, in which residents need only register with the Plan once, records become quickly outdated. Many people fail to notify the Plan when they move or change their name. It's hoped an annual registration will keep the Plan's records up-to-date.

People who fail to re-register won't be denied medical or hospital services. But, explains Mr. McCallum, they may end up paying initially for health services the government could pay for them.

During the month of March a personal renewal package, containing all the necessary material to re-register, will be available to everyone now registered with the Plan.

(more)

## YEARLY HEALTH CARE RENEWAL COMING - 2

In most cases northerners who live in a small community can pick up their personal renewal package at their local nursing station. But in some small communities such as Tuktoyaktuk (where there are post office boxes) the packages will come by mail. In the larger centres such as Yellowknife, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay the renewal package also will arrive by mail.

People who don't receive their package by late March should contact the department of health.

The renewal package will contain:

- . an explanation and instructions on how to complete the renewal;
- . a form containing a new health care card (everyone's registration number will remain the same) and space on which to supply information and make corrections;
- . a return envelope with pre-paid postage.

Mr. McCallum says up-to-date records - hopefully provided through the annual re-registration - will make it quicker and easier to process claims for insured medical and hospital services. As well, he says, good records can help in the planning of new health care programs, services and facilities.

"To help us detect disease trends in communities early, we require more accurate records of who is using our services and where. This information will help us more effectively plan for local health needs," says Mr. McCallum.

The department of health is trying to make as many northerners as possible aware of the annual registration through a variety of mediums. Some of these include posters, newspaper advertisements and letters.

# information release

79-037



## SOCIAL SERVICES PRIORITIES QUESTIONED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - Two territorial councillors said Monday they are unhappy with the amount of money spent by the Territorial Government in support of community anti-alcohol and drug projects.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) and Bill Lafferty (Mackenzie-Liard) both feel that \$800,000 does not go far enough in the Northwest Territories to combat alcohol-related social problems.

Mr. Pearson called the amount "a paltry sum" to invest in "trying to come to grips with the worst disease problem the North faces - the abuse of alcohol".

Mr. Lafferty questioned the priorities, saying council approves \$6 million in welfare payments "and we treat the cause of that budget to the tune of \$800,000".

"This does not make sense," said Mr. Lafferty. "We pay them not to work."

The comments came during continued study of the department of social services' \$22.86 million spending proposals for 1979-80.

(more)

Tom Butters (Inuvik), the executive committee member responsible for social services, told council the \$800,000 represents the Territorial Government's share of contributions to community alcohol and drug abuse organizations, paid through the N.W.T. Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council (ADCC).

Mr. Butters said the funds are enough to maintain 12 existing community projects, but admitted there would be little scope for new ones.

But he noted the limitation reflects general restraint.

Peter Fraser (Mackenzie-Great Bear), the ADCC chairman, noted federal participation adds another \$200,000.

Mr. Pearson commented he was alarmed to note liquor sales in the N.W.T. have increased from \$3.98 million in 1969 to \$12.1 million in 1978. Even with inflation, "the amount of money is incredible", he commented.

He said more money, people and facilities are needed to combat "the scourge of the North" and there will be more suicides, accidental deaths and alcohol abuse until the people of the North can come to grips with the problem. And that, he said, "cannot be done with miniscule amounts of money".

Members were told community alcohol project funding approval is carried over into the next fiscal year in many cases. The local organizing groups are required to submit quarterly progress reports on their activities to ADCC and they are paid periodic visits by Jim Anderson, the alcohol and drug program chief with the department of social development.

Despite the objections of Mr. Pearson and Mr. Lafferty over funding shortages, the item was approved.

# information release



79-036

## N.W.T. COUNCILLORS WANT NORTHERN NATIVE POLICEMEN

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - The time has come to examine creation of a police force staffed by native people familiar with the community needs and customs, say territorial councillors.

The suggestion came Monday as members looked at Territorial Government spending plans related to a working agreement that exists with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

It was pointed out that a northern native constabulary, if developed, would work together with the RCMP in the N.W.T.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) commented that police service costs continue to grow in the N.W.T. while the level of local services decreases. He referred to the RCMP's declared intention to gradually stop providing "traditional" community services, such as driver testing and registering legal documents, to concentrate on police investigations

Members commented that young RCMP officers who come north from southern Canada are less-willing to perform local duties such as helping with dog control and consequently are becoming more remote from community involvement.

It was noted the N.W.T.'s share of RCMP service costs to the north is expected to increase by about \$600,000 in the new fiscal year, from \$5.5 million to \$6.1 million. The Territorial Government pays 55 per cent of the total operating costs.

{more}

The department of public services, which plans to spend \$11.39 million in 1979-80, handles Territorial Government liaison with the RCMP.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) commented the need for local police services grows as municipalities grow. The Frobisher Bay mayor said bylaws in his community are virtually unenforceable because RCMP officers are unwilling to act.

"The logical step is a Territorial police force using native people who understand the community and the language," stated Mr. Pearson, who commented the modern RCMP officer in the North does not have the same rapport with local people as once existed.

He observed that many young RCMP officers come north and rely heavily on the expertise of the native special constable.

"We have seen many specials do a good job and retain the local respect," said Mr. Pearson.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) supported Mr. Pearson, saying the Frobisher Bay representative saw the need for a native force 10 years ago.

"There's no reason why we can't have a northern police force," said Mr. Nickerson, "but don't think for a moment we should get rid of the RCMP."

He said he sees the RCMP operating out of larger N.W.T. centres and supporting local police when it comes to Criminal Code matters such as murder or drug peddling.

(more)

Members agreed that setting up a northern force would be costly, but the groundwork had been laid with the success of the RCMP's native special constables and the government should at least study the idea.

Responding to questions about other department of public services spending plans, department director Vic Irving told members he hopes the N.W.T. Gazette will start up some time this summer.

Mr. Irving explained the Gazette, which is now published informally in northern newspapers, would be a formal record of territorial ordinances, regulations, commissioner's orders and other legal documents.

In other Monday business, councillors passed a motion seeking an end to the practise of insurance policy cancellation without notice.

Mr. Nickerson said southern-based insurance firms have unilaterally cancelled various forms of insurance taken out by northerners and other Canadians without advance notice and before the policy expires.

Review of public services spending continues.

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# information release

79-035



## DEADLINE COMING FOR ALCOHOL PROJECT FUNDING

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 29) - Groups in the North seeking funding for alcohol projects have only two weeks to get in a proposal.

The deadline for proposals for funding of alcohol education, treatment and prevention projects is Feb. 12. The proposals will be reviewed by the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council (ADCC) at its next meeting March 13-14 in the Gold Room of the Yellowknife Inn.

Proposals arriving after Feb. 12 won't be reviewed until the council meets in the summer.

The ADCC is an independent body that meets four times a year to discuss alcohol and drug programs in the Northwest Territories and to review proposals for funding of community alcohol projects. It co-ordinates funds from the Territorial government, the Non-Medical Use of Drugs Directorate and the National Native Alcohol Abuse Program.

Proposals should be mailed to: ADCC, Box 1769, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X0E 1H0

- 30 -

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# information release



79-034

## LOOSEN LAND TITLE REINS, N.W.T. COUNCILLORS SUGGEST

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 29) - Land acquisition procedures must be simplified in the Northwest Territories.

The request came Friday as Territorial Council debated the department of local government's 1979-80 spending plans.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), executive committee member responsible for local government, agreed.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) had commented on procedural difficulties faced by individuals who want to purchase land in the N.W.T. from senior levels of government.

The Yellowknife lawyer said people believe a person "cannot acquire land in the Northwest Territories at any price, except if you are prepared to bash your head against the wall year after year".

Mr. McCallum said that less than one per cent of federal land in the N.W.T. is territorially-controlled.

He said the Territorial government continually presses federal authorities to transfer crown land to the territories.

(more)

"The department of local government encourages the transfer of land from senior government to the local municipality," stated Mr. McCallum.

"We encourage private land ownership," he added. "Community councils are encouraged to participate in the disposition of lands."

Mr. Searle said the department's principles "are lofty", but that he was not satisfied with present procedural demands.

"People believe you have to go through the worst experience in your life to obtain land" in the N.W.T., stated Mr. Searle who said he has had personal experience. "Just try to get a recreational lease from the feds," he commented.

He said people now have to plan years in advance to go through all the steps. "If you want a viable economy, title has to be easily obtained."

The Yellowknife South member asked Mr. McCallum what he intended to do about cutting the red tape.

Mr. McCallum said he agreed with Mr. Searle.

"The feds are bad, but we're not clean ourselves. We in turn have to make land more easily accessible."

Mr. McCallum said he intended to draft a policy proposal on land buying for the people of the Territories.

(more)

In other Friday business, Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) suggested a portable gravel crusher is needed especially in the Eastern Arctic, where the gravel supply is scarce.

Mr. McCallum said gravel crushers are expensive (over \$250,000), but his department is looking at leasing one that could be shared by those municipalities and federal departments that would have use for one in the North.

Meanwhile, members supported a motion by Mark Evaluarjuk (Foxy Basin) asking for changes to the Municipal Ordinance that would allow hamlet residents to elect their mayors on a separate ballot.

Voters now choose a hamlet council on a single ballot and the successful candidates vote amongst themselves to pick a mayor.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-033



## SOCIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES SHOW GROWING NATIVE INVOLVEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 29) - A variety of concerns ranging from suicide prevention and regional corrections services to native employment caught the eye of Territorial Councillors Friday as members began their examination of 1979-80 spending plans of the department of social services.

Inuyik member Tom Butters, who is executive committee member responsible for the department, said projected main estimates of \$22,861,000 are up from last year's \$19,145,000.

But he stated the increases reflect inflation and are mainly non-discretionary or fixed operating costs in such areas as patient transportation and per diem allowances.

He said capital spending in 1979-80 sees virtually no increase with three major programs planned: permanent corrections facilities in Hay River and two group homes for Yellowknife, one for psychiatric patients returning from treatment and one for retarded adults.

The Inuyik member observed that 40 per cent of the department's staff are bilingual native northerners including most of the field staff at 12 locations and at the corrections facilities in Hay River and Frobisher Bay. In addition, there are 24 communities with social assistance appeal committees and seven with juvenile court committees.

(more)

SOCIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES SHOW GROWING NATIVE INVOLVEMENT - 2

"It is the department's belief that involvement of native people is absolutely essential," noted Mr. Butters.

Bryan Pearson (South Baffin) commented the social services' approach to native involvement "is the example that other departments should follow".

Referring to the village of Frobisher Bay's move, in co-operation with the department, to participate in delivery of social services, Mr. Pearson said he hoped the department is encouraging other communities to get similarly involved.

Mr. Pearson, the mayor of Frobisher Bay, said he sees a need for more funds to combat social problems in the N.W.T. Referring to his own community's expressed concerns, Mr. Pearson said he felt Frobisher Bay's incidents of juvenile delinquency, drug use and suicide "is just the beginning of what could occur across the North".

Don Stewart (Hay River) stated that he considers tight economic conditions a big factor. "People with no tomorrow" turn to crime and drugs, he noted.

Mr. Butters responded the government is very concerned over growing suicides and drug use and is responsive to community action requests. He said two measures taken include the creation of a psychiatric social worker position for Frobisher Bay and funding for a "Helpline" listening post in Yellowknife.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) and Mr. Pearson both commented they understood the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre in Hay River was intended to remain an "outward-bound"-type portable facility that could be moved about the south Great Slave Lake area.

The present facility, which Mr. Butters said is being replaced, consists of trailers that once were located at the mouth of the Yellowknife River as a corrections "bush camp".

(more)

SOCIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES SHOW GROWING NATIVE INVOLVEMENT - 3

Mr. Pearson repeated his belief that emphasis should be placed on alternatives to incarceration.

Mr. Butters replied that work release programs are stressed in Hay River along with outdoors training activities such as a bush camp and a fishing boat. He said the existing trailers have been condemned and the program south of the lake justifies construction of a permanent facility. He said the \$1.3-million facility will be modest in construction, but large enough to handle 35 people.

Debate on social service plans continues.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-032

## FAULKNER EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 26) - Northern Affairs Minister Hugh Faulkner has expressed his fullest confidence in John Parker, the next Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Faulkner said in Ottawa Thursday that Mr. Parker has all the administrative qualifications, enriched knowledge of the Territories and the necessary personal qualities to guide the NWT through a unique phase in its political and economic evolution.

"At the same time," said the Minister, "there will be a lingering sense of loss in the hearts of all Northerners once Stuart Hodgson has taken his leave."

Mr. Hodgson, who has been Commissioner since 1967, "is without doubt one of this country's most eminent statesmen. He brought to the office of Commissioner a stature of the highest order and his wisdom and his gentle wit will be missed but not forgotten," the Minister said. "Mr. Hodgson's loyal counsel has been a source of strength and insight to me as Minister."

"His vision and his personal concern for the well-being of Northerners, as well as all Canadians, has caused all of us to be proud of him," Mr. Faulkner said.

Mr. Hodgson is a former labour organizer and executive member of the Canadian Labour Congress. He joined the Government of the Northwest Territories as Deputy-Commissioner in 1965.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-031 P

## COUNCIL'S ROLE MUST BE STRENGTHENED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 26) - Deputy Commissioner John Parker says that one of his thrusts as head of the Territorial government will be directed towards strengthening the role of the legislature and its elected executive committee members.

Mr. Parker, 49, was named Thursday to succeed Stuart M. Hodgson as commissioner of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Hodgson will be a commissioner of the International Joint Commission, a body that examines International water policy.

The appointments, announced by Prime Minister Trudeau, are effective April 15.

Mr. Parker said he certainly intended to continue with the patterns set by the government and legislature in the North. He had helped to shape them during the past 12 years as deputy commissioner.

"But, obviously I will have some refinements to suggest."

Mr. Parker's main concern is that the "Territories is in a time of transition and that the legislature must be given an even stronger role to play in its political and economic evolution."

(more)

The legislature has been pressing for increased responsibilities and for an expansion of its size from 15 to 22 members. There have also been suggestions that the government's executive committee should eventually be made up of five elected councillors, each with responsibilities for one or more departments.

The executive committee currently has three elected and three appointed members. The commissioner is chairman.

Mr. Parker said he is in agreement with council's direction on constitutional change and its bid for increased fiscal and administrative muscle.

"It's a matter of timing and it's a matter of members taking on the jobs and living up to their own expectations."

Deputy Commissioner Parker was born in Didsbury, Alta. His experience with the North goes back 28 years when he worked in northern Saskatchewan and the N.W.T. with the exploration department of Eldorado Mining and Refining.

He graduated from the University of Alberta in 1951 with a bachelor of science in engineering geology (mining pattern) and moved to Uranium City, Sask., where he worked for the late Norman W. Byrne as a geologist and managing engineer.

In 1954, he moved to Yellowknife and was employed by the Byrne Companies in the Territories as geological engineer and later as manager of Rayrock Mines.

(more)

Two years later, he became chief engineer for Norman W. Byrne Ltd. and then in 1964 a partner and president of Precambrian Mining Services Ltd., an associated company.

Mr. Parker began his career in public service when he was elected to the Yellowknife Town Council in 1958. He was elected mayor in 1963 and was returned to office by acclamation for a second, two-year term in 1965.

In June of the same year, he was appointed a member of the Carrothers Commission on the development of government in the Northwest Territories.

The findings of that commission set the stage and framework for constitutional development in the Territories and, among other things, resulted in the naming of Yellowknife as capital of the N.W.T. and the transfer of the Territorial government from its headquarters in Ottawa to the newly-created capital.

Mr. Parker was appointed deputy commissioner of the N.W.T. in 1967.

He is married to Helen A. Panabaker of Calgary. They have two children - Sharon, 22 and Gordon, 18.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-030

## COUNCILLORS ENDORSE ORGANIZED CARIBOU HUNTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 26) - Organized community caribou hunts received a stamp of approval from territorial council Thursday as members decided not to go along with the suggestion of one of their number.

Bill Lyall (Central Arctic) introduced a motion calling on council to discourage government funding of the hunts.

The Cambridge Bay businessman said he believes organized community hunts contribute to depletion of caribou herds, especially the Bathurst herd that ranges from the Arctic coast to north of Great Slave Lake. He further contends more animals than needed are shot in the hunts.

But no one involved in the debate agreed and the motion was defeated. Territorial wildlife officials, councillors from areas involved in community hunts and Dene witnesses all defended the program.

The Territorial wildlife service's regional offices have funds available to supplement costs of community hunting expeditions into caribou grazing grounds. Since the caribou herds migrate in varying patterns, one of the largest expenses is transportation.

(more)

Leaders from Rae-Edzo, the largest of the N.W.T.'s Dene communities with 1,400 people, participated in the debate.

Rae-Band sub-chief Joe Migwi, band councillor Jim Erasmus and Chief Joe Charlo of Dettah Village appeared as witnesses. Through Dogrib interpreter Peter Liske, territorial councillors heard a prepared statement on the issue. The statement was signed by Rae Band Chief Charlie Charlo.

The brief suggested opponents to organized hunts were not fully aware of the Rae Band's needs, which are different from other areas of the Territories.

It pointed out wage employment accounted for 40 per cent of Rae-Edzo's total income and the remaining 60 per cent came from welfare, unemployment insurance, family allowance, pensions and fur sales.

"It should be made abundantly clear that, with all these combined incomes, the majority of our people live well below any acceptable Canadian standard and at the poverty line," the brief stated.

Council learned that hunters from Rae-Edzo must travel as far as 300 miles to reach the caribou and this requires aircraft. The meat is distributed equally to anyone who wants it, the hunters told council, and older people are given a larger amount.

It was pointed out hunters pay \$75 each to participate and government support helps cover the cost of travelling to the herd. "All we are asking for is an increase in the transportation subsidy," the delegation said.

(more)

Mr. Lyall said people should be encouraged to "fend for themselves", saying government money invested in Great Slave Lake area organized hunts has increased from about \$2,000 to more than \$13,000 since 1965. "It could be up to \$100,000 or more in 10 years," he speculated.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) said the important issue is whether or not organized hunts have an adverse affect on the caribou herd hunted by Rae-Yellowknife area people.

Dr. Norm Simmons, territorial wildlife service superintendent, said studies show organized hunts take "a relatively small portion of the kill from the Bathurst herd" with other factors accounting for herd loss. He added the biologists "only suspect" the Bathurst herd is declining.

Mr. Erasmus said he has not noticed a decrease in the caribou herd in the many years he has hunted. "I cannot say that if we go hunting this summer or the following summer there would be no caribou coming back ... there is always meat there every year... I am sure they are there to hunt and this is how we survive here in the North."

In other business Thursday, council approved a motion from Mr. Nickerson urging the Northern Canada Power Commission to rebate moneys the auditor-general had found illegally collected from customers over a six-month period in 1977.

Members dug into the details of the Territorial Government's 1979-80 spending plans, starting off with the department of local government's main estimates, which amount to almost \$43.3 million. The total includes almost \$21 million in capital costs and \$4 million in loans to municipalities.

(more)

Council learned that a study paper on raising funds locally by hamlet councils may be available before the session is completed.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-029

NICKERSON SEES BETTER DAYS AHEAD FOR N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 25) - In the near future, says Dave Nickerson, there will be "such an explosion of human energy in the Northwest Territories as will astonish the imagination".

The Yellowknife North territorial councillor told his colleagues Wednesday that many young northerners will be graduating from school "well-educated, thoughtful, knowing what they want, and prepared to work hard".

"I would hope that our economy will be able to accomodate these people," Mr. Nickerson said in reply to Commissioner Stuart Hodgson's Jan. 19 opening address to the 67th Session of Territorial Council.

Although he noted disappointment at what he called the current slow pace of economic and political development, Mr. Nickerson stated he saw better days ahead for N.W.T. residents.

But he cautioned that increased political responsibilities must be available to encourage the growing number of energetic human resources.

The Yellowknife mining engineer is completing a four-year term and has indicated he will not seek re-election. He said the next group of councillors "will certainly have their work cut out for them".

"They must pursue the goals of responsible government," he urged. "I wish them well."

(more)



The life of the current 15-member Territorial Council expires on Mar. 31, 1979.

Referring to Mr. Hodgson's Jan. 19 opening address, which included plans for the 1980's and criticism of Territorial Government critics, Mr. Nickerson said the commissioner should be congratulated for "his courage in telling it like it is". He said Mr. Hodgson reflected the "consensus of informed opinion held by the whole population of the Territories".

The Yellowknife mining engineer commented he hoped the federal government would now be willing to encourage more resource development in the N.W.T.

He predicted at least one of the several natural gas and oil pipeline proposals will materialize, leading to prosperity in northern communities due to increased service industry demands.

But, he cautioned it is essential to have a more responsible political system in place "if there is to be this bursting forth of human endeavour". He said he is disappointed the present council has not made as much political progress as he has hoped.

He did point to one piece of legislation that he considers "a landmark on our road to responsible government". He said the Income Tax Ordinance, which authorizes direct allocation of revenue to N.W.T. coffers, makes Territorial Council answerable to taxpayers. He said this step was "absolutely necessary" if the N.W.T. "is ever to assume any measure of autonomy and self-government".

In other business Wednesday, members spent most of the afternoon listening to a report on the current state of health of the N.W.T.'s eight major caribou herds.

(more)

Dr. George Calef, a Territorial Government wildlife biologist who's area of expertise is caribou, was on hand to answer member's questions. Dr. Norm Simmons, superintendent of the territorial wildlife service, was also on hand.

Dr. Calef told members it is his view that no caribou herd in the Territories is strong enough to be considered invulnerable.

Members had asked for a report following concerns expressed over the Kaminuriak caribou herd, which roams the Keewatin region of the Territories west of Hudson's Bay.

Dr. Calef said much work had to be done in studying wolf-caribou relationships, but biologists recognize that careful management of caribou herds is necessary.

Members are interested in these studies because the issue of continuing organized community caribou hunts is to be debated later in the session.

Council was also told Wednesday that musk-oxen surveys will be conducted later this winter in the Central Arctic. Wildlife service staff will be consulting with Inuit hunters in the areas of Pelly Bay, Spence Bay, Gjoa Haven, Bay Chimo and Bathurst Inlet. This study could lead to increased musk-ox hunting quotas for these communities.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-028

## AKLAVIK BUSINESSES TO RECEIVE SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 25) - David Storr of Aklavik, owner of Buck Construction Ltd. (a company to be incorporated), has been offered \$13,250 in special ARDA assistance to assist in the purchase of a caterpillar tractor from another Aklavik resident.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion, and Tom Butters, Territorial Government executive member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Storr, a local municipal services contractor, will use the machine for such projects as airstrip development for the municipal government, and road construction.

The machine will continue to provide two seasonal jobs. Storr already has a heated storage and repair facility which will accommodate the machine.

Information regarding commercial aspects of the Special ARDA program in the N.W.T. can be obtained by contacting the Territorial Government's economic development and tourism offices in Fort Smith, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-027

## TWO FROBISHER BAY AREA PROJECTS OBTAIN SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Amarak Hunters and Trappers Association in Frobisher Bay and the Allen Island Outpost Camp, located near Frobisher Bay, have been offered \$71,000 and \$13,000 respectively, under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program.

The announcement was made today by the Honourable Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and Tom Butters, executive committee member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Amarok Hunters and Trappers Association will use the funds for a pilot project to study the feasibility of inter-settlement trade of country food (fish and meat from wild game). Plans call for the importing of surplus country food from various settlements on Baffin Island and offering it for sale in Frobisher Bay where demand is high and supply is low. Products for sale will include meats, muktuk and fish.

It is anticipated that two people will be employed full-time once the project is in full operation.

Allen Island Outpost Camp will use its financial contribution to purchase quarrying and transportation equipment to supply soapstone to artisans in Frobisher Bay. Equipment to be purchased will include a double-track power toboggan; materials to build a heavy-duty komatik; a 25-foot freighter canoe and outboard motor; cobra drill, chisels and bits.

(more)

Mining the soapstone and transporting the product will involve a year-round operation. Quarrying and digging will take place during the frost-free season. During winter, the soapstone will be loaded on the komatik and transported five miles from the mine to the coast. During the open-water season, it will be transported to the camp's longliner boat via freighter canoe and then shipped to Frobisher Bay for sale.

Funds for both projects will be supplied by DREE. Field work for both activities is being carried out by the Territorial Government's wildlife service.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-026



## MEDICAL TREATMENT BILL RAISES QUESTIONS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 23) - Territorial Council believes people under 19 years of age who marry should be considered adults by the law.

The view was expressed Monday even though present legislation (the Age of Majority Ordinance) is not under review. The age of majority - adulthood - in the N.W.T. is 19 years.

The matter came up as members studied details of proposed new territorial law - the Medical Consent of Minors Ordinance - which concerns situations where persons under the age of 19 need medical treatment and parental consent is not readily available.

Arnold McCallum (Slave River), executive committee member responsible for the department of health, told his colleagues the proposed ordinance involves several aspects of medical treatment for N.W.T. residents.

He said the new legislation would give young northerners under the age of majority, married or unmarried, the power to agree to certain types of medical treatment without parental consent. It would also offer legal protection to medical practitioners who treat minors in specified emergency situations.

Mr. McCallum said the reason for bringing in the new law is the increased mobility of the N.W.T.'s young people, resulting in lack of immediate availability of parental consent.

(more)

## MEDICAL TREATMENT BILL RAISES QUESTIONS - 2

The proposed bill provoked a variety of questions on the definition of treatment, prescription of drugs (including birth control pills) and liability of prescribing physicians. Members decided to seek medical and legal opinions and set the issue aside until later in the session. No date has been set for further debate.

As now worded, the proposed new law prevents a person under the age of 19 from consenting to a therapeutic abortion.

This drew attention to what was viewed as broader matters related to the age of majority, and council's two Yellowknife members took up the issue.

Dave Nickerson (Yellowknife North) pointed out a married woman under the age of 19 would be in conflict with the proposed new law should she grant consent to a therapeutic abortion in order to save her life - even though she has taken on adult responsibilities through marriage.

David Searle (Yellowknife South) observed that a person under the age of 19 who marries assumes the responsibilities of family and finance the same as anyone over 19 years who is married. He said the proposed medical consent law shows a shortcoming in an existing law which isn't even up for review. Under terms of the Age of Majority Ordinance, he pointed out, a person under the age of 19 is considered a minor regardless of marital status and in many cases needs parental consent to handle legal transactions.

The Yellowknife lawyer said it made little sense to him that a married minor "is unable to buy a home, unable to buy a car, unable to do so many things".

(more)

MEDICAL TREATMENT BILL RAISES QUESTIONS - 3

Saying that changing the Age of Majority Ordinance may also be needed, Mr. Searle proceeded to get council support in dealing with the contractual aspect of the proposed Medical Consent of Minors Ordinance.

Council voted to ask for changes to the proposed ordinance that would include married minors as adults in the area of consent. The changes are to be made before the matter is discussed again later in the session.

In other business Monday, council's committee of the whole completed discussion on the following bills:

- . the Firearms Control Agreement Ordinance, which authorizes federal-territorial cost-sharing of the paper work involved in enforcing the new federal gun control law;
- . The Council Amendment Ordinance, which corrects geographical errors contained in a bill passed last fall for the future expansion of Territorial Council;
- . The Loan Authorization Ordinance, a routine companion bill to the main estimates. This is passed yearly to cover acquisition of loan funds from the federal government.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-025

## PURSUE POWER, SEARLE ADVISES COUNCIL

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 23) - Speaker David Searle of Territorial Council wants future elected members to take over many of the powers now held by the commissioner and his two most senior administrators.

Mr. Searle (Yellowknife South) told his colleagues Monday that "getting real power from the commissioner" is "the name of the game" for members of the next Northwest Territories Council.

The political life of the 15-member N.W.T. Council ends Mar. 31, and legislation is in the works to expand the next council to 22 members.

Mr. Searle, first elected in 1967 and now completing his third term of office, said he won't be seeking re-election.

The Yellowknife lawyer, who has served the past four years as council's first Speaker, outlined his view of what lies ahead for the next council.

He advised future territorial politicians to work on advancing responsible government in the North by pushing for the transfer of provincial-type responsibilities from federal to territorial hands.

As well, he recommended that when Commissioner Stuart Hodgson retires the federal government be pressed not to appoint a deputy commissioner, that council itself do away with the post of assistant commissioner, and that it demand the creation of a five-person executive committee from the ranks of the 22 elected territorial councillors.

(more)

He sees this committee being headed by an elected leader and each of its members holding responsibility for one or more government departments.

The executive committee is now made up of three council members and three members of the administration: the commissioner, deputy commissioner and assistant commissioner.

"True responsible government" is "where the executive of government is totally of and from" the council, Mr. Searle said.

Mr. Searle said he envisions a less-active role for the commissioner in the future, making him more like a lieutenant-governor.

"Do not let the commissioner sit as part of that executive committee," stated Mr. Searle. "Determine your own financial and legislative programs" and "exclude the commissioner from sitting in your House (council)".

Members should decide for themselves how much they should be paid and they should be paid more, said the retiring Yellowknife South member. He added he has changed his mind and now agrees that "the job of a member is now a full-time job".

Mr. Searle said the transfer of responsibilities from the federal authority is of little use if the power to make decisions remains in federal hands through the commissioner.

"The office of the commissioner, regardless of who occupies it, must become as prime a target as the (federal) minister (of Indian and Northern Affairs).

(more)

"The powers of the commissioner must be systematically eroded by the next Legislature," stated Mr. Searle.

Mr. Searle referred to the present group of territorial councillors as one that has proven people from diverse origins can work together. He said the 8th Council failed to achieve the goal of "true responsible government", but conceded that is "the challenge left for the future".

"We have practised the art of the possible," the Speaker said of the present native-majority council, calling it "a monumental achievement."

He said "this single achievement" of working together "regardless of race, for the benefit of all our people" challenges the argument of those who "cry for a native state".

- 30 -

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# information release

79-024



## DIRECTIONS FOR THE 80s OUTLINED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Co-ordination, communication and co-operation are the three keys to success of Territorial Government programs and services in the 1980s, says the N.W.T.'s senior public servant.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson Friday outlined the directions in which the Territorial Government will move in the 80s as he opened the 67th session of the Council of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Hodgson told councillors that their examination of the government's 1979-80 spending plans will give them the opportunity to study, debate and question these long-term goals and priorities.

He said the three main issues facing the Territorial Government are, in order of importance:

- . constitutional development and land claims;
- . economic development and employment; and
- . cultural and local responsibilities.

Over the past 12 years, economic and social programs "have brought the N.W.T. from a huge backwater into the full flow of Canadian life".

He noted further planning is needed to react to changes as many young northerners enter the labour force.

Northerners have progressed over 12 years, Mr. Hodgson noted, but "it would be idle to imply we have no problems". He said there are none that cannot be overcome "if we can achieve that co-operation, co-ordination and communication".

(more)

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE 80s OUTLINED...2

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. Hodgson said all communities in the Northwest Territories will be asked in the coming year to pay a share of local service and program costs. He commented that people in communities who benefit from local improvements have a responsibility to help cover the cost as well as the right to say what those improvements should be.

The department plans in the future to develop a special ordinance for hamlets and settlements, separate from the existing Municipal Ordinance, in recognition of the special needs of smaller communities.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A general development agreement with the federal government would be introduced to form the base of financial support.

Work will be done to make the "traditional economy" of hunting, trapping and fishing a "primary" N.W.T. industry.

Tourism is viewed as a major activity.

### EDUCATION

A Grade 10 education will be available to most communities in the 1980s, with an N.W.T. junior high school diploma.

Each region will have its own secondary school centre with completion of one in the Keewatin. These centres will introduce college-type programs, including native language and cultural "folk institutes".

Where requested, children will be taught in the local native language up to Grade 3, with English introduced only as a second language.

(more)

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE 80s OUTLINED...3

### NATURAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Translated information on wildlife research will be available in the communities. The major wildlife service activity over the next 10 years will be finding out exactly how many food-supply and fur-bearing animals live in the N.W.T.

Funds will be available to help more communities conduct their own recreation programs and library services has a goal of extending its resources to all N.W.T. communities from the present 75 per cent. Native-language cassette tapes will be recorded and made available in community libraries.

### SOCIAL SERVICES

The major direction will be efforts to increase family and individual self-reliance. Child welfare legislation will be reviewed and, this year, permanent facilities will be built for the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre at Hay River.

### HEALTH SERVICES

Moves are under way to have responsibility for medical and health services now under federal control turned over to the Territorial Government.

Stanton Yellowknife Hospital is being expanded as a major referral centre and regional hospitals are planned for Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay. A modern communications system is planned to improve medical consultation services.

### PUBLIC WORKS

Efforts will be made to have highway construction authority transferred from federal to territorial hands. Preventive maintenance and energy conservation programs will be pursued. It is expected there will be more multi-purpose buildings erected in communities.

(more)

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE 80s OUTLINED...4

### INFORMATION

There will be a change in emphasis from written to audio-visual material in line with growing use of radio and television in the N.W.T. A direct-line telephone information system is being developed to better inform employees and the public about government activities.

### HOUSING

Pile foundations for houses will be introduced where possible to replace gravel pads. The Housing Corporation will be involved in a joint venture with private enterprise and the Town of Hay River is planning for a prefabricated housing component factory to serve the Western N.W.T.

- 30 -

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*Wed. 10/11*

# information release

79-023



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BRAVERY, SERVICE EARNS COMMISSIONER'S HONORS - *12/13 - B Italic F.H.*

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YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Public service to the Northwest Territories and bravery have earned honors for six people, including two long-time residents of Yellowknife.

Commissioner's Awards were announced Friday during Stuart Hodgson's address at the opening of Territorial Council's 67th session.

Silasee Alikatuktuk and Matta Poisey risked their lives rescuing five members of the Poisey family from a fire in a Broughton Island home. In recognition, Silasee and Matta will receive Commissioner's Awards for bravery.

Public service recognition goes to lawyer David Searle and community worker Barbara Bromley of Yellowknife, Vancouver publicist John Hecht and Father Theophile Didier, OMI, a priest from Churchill, Manitoba.

They will be honored formally at a later date.

Mrs. Bromley, who came north when Yellowknife was little more than a tent city almost 40 years ago, is recognized for her community involvement, notably in the health-care field.

Mr. Searle is honored for what Mr. Hodgson called "outstanding leadership" and the "exemplary manner" in which he has fulfilled his duties as Territorial Council's first Speaker.

(more)



BRAVERY, SERVICE EARNS COMMISSIONER'S HONORS...2

Father Didier served Keewatin region residents from his Roman Catholic mission at Churchill. Mr. Hodgson said the award recognizes his "significant contributions to Eskimo literature and linguistics", in addition to his work as a travelling missionary.

Mr. Hecht has served the N.W.T. in the area of international promotion and public relations. He has worked "in a very quiet and low-profile, but effective manner", the Commissioner said.

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- 30 -

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# information release



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LET'S GET OUR ACT TOGETHER, / HODGSON TELLS NORTHERNERS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Stuart Hodgson wants northern residents to face Canada's political and economic realities head-on.

Speaking Friday at the opening of Territorial Council's winter budget session, the commissioner offered both praise and criticism.

His audience of several hundred included invited guests from many of the N.W.T.'s 60 outlying communities.

Mr. Hodgson launched a 70-minute introduction to government plans for the 1980s by saying he intended to shock his listeners.

He said he was "sick and tired" of listening to unjustifiable complaints about government and that he had wanted to say so publicly for a long time.

The commissioner stated he is no longer willing to tolerate "the carping and unreasonable criticism" that often comes "from that minority of our population that has little or no idea what it's talking about and absolutely no experience in attempting to do it (governing) themselves".

(more)

He called them "the kind of people who come away from a picnic remembering sand in the sandwich and forget it was they that put it there".

Mr. Hodgson said people in southern Canada are starting to look upon demands from some N.W.T. residents and their southern-based supporters as unreasonable, and its residents as "spoiled brats". He said he is worried that Canadians are beginning to think the unreasonable elements "are us" and that "the majority of people in the Northwest Territories are malcontent and spoiled".

When that happens, he said, the Northwest Territories is in deep trouble.

The commissioner said northerners must be prepared to face today's economic realities and realize the extent of contributions from outside the N.W.T. He said about 80 per cent of money needed to help the north grow comes from the rest of Canada (about \$2.4 billion from federal sources over the past 20 years). Annual federal and territorial spending today amounts to more than \$7,500 for every man, woman and child in the N.W.T.

He pointed out this is probably more than what is spent per capita in heavily-populated Ontario, a province that has the political and financial clout to decide who forms the federal government.

"It's a sobering comparison", he observed.

Mr. Hodgson said it is important that N.W.T. residents recognize the contributions of other Canadian residents and even more important "that the rest of Canada knows we do".

(more)

He advised that northerners, along with other Canadians, must face the reality that government "is not a bottomless green pit, and that the money tap will not forever stay frozen open".

Concerning the performance of the Territorial government over the past 11 1/2 years since relocating in Yellowknife from Ottawa, Mr. Hodgson said the over-all achievement is not just a significant contribution, but "it is an operating miracle".

Mr. Hodgson talked about some of the lessons he had learned from listening to northern people during his extensive travels. He referred to six main points:

● <sup>1 EN</sup> "It is crucial to our future" in the next decade "that we bring co-ordination to all government affecting the north". The spawning of growing government agencies has developed from success. However, government would be much more effective if all this required co-ordination were under one central authority.

● "We have all kinds of responsibility, but not necessarily the authority to go with it." Mr. Hodgson urged council to make stronger efforts to seek additional powers. The desire for power has to be consistently expressed as "it is not simply going to be handed to us".

● "We must adapt or be left behind." The world is growing smaller. When the price of oil from the Middle East rises, it affects life in Grise Fiord as much as in New York. International money decisions have a bearing on residents of Rankin Inlet as much as those in Paris or Ottawa. "Science develops a thing called television, and the world has never been the same since," he said.

(more)

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• "Poverty can only be cured by production." New ways must be found in the next decade to encourage northerners to become involved in job opportunities, both in the traditional and wage economy. The alternative is a welfare state, he said.

• "All outstanding native claims must be settled".

• Little can be gained by turning back the clock.

The past must be respected, we can learn from experiences and native culture and heritage should be preserved and encouraged. However, it is also important that native northerners be encouraged to participate in the growth of the N.W.T. and equally important that government administration remembers there is a difference between participation and assimilation.

Mr. Hodgson said he believes native people, who form the majority of the N.W.T. population, should be given more political power, "but it should be given from within the territorial system and not from without. And it should be earned." □

- 30 -

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# information release

79-021



## SLIGHT INCREASE IN SPENDING PLANS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Territorial councillors learned Friday that Territorial government spending for the coming 1979-80 fiscal year will be up \$25 million over last year.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson announced that main estimates proposals for the fiscal year starting April 1 amount to \$293.8 million. Main estimates for the previous fiscal year - which ends Mar. 31 - were \$268.7 million.

In addition to the main money bill, which is expected to take up most of members' time during the month-long 67th session, there are the usual companion bills necessary for fiscal planning.

These include the Supplementary Appropriations Ordinance to authorize unexpected spending in the current fiscal year; the Financial Agreement Ordinance; Loan Authorization Ordinance and N.W.T. Housing Corporation Loan Ordinance.

A half-dozen new ordinances will be placed before members for debate.

(more)

SLIGHT INCREASE IN SPENDING PLANS - 2

Subjects include all-terrain vehicles, lotteries, legal aid services, firearms controls, student grants and bursaries and medical consent of minors. A change is needed to correct parts of the Electoral District Boundaries Ordinance, which was passed last October.

Members are also planning to talk about management of caribou herds and national parks in the N.W.T. The session is scheduled to last until Feb. 16, with daily sittings Mondays to Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-020

## STANGIER NAMED DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 19) - Gordon Stangier, 42, is the new director of the Territorial government's department of social services.

He has been acting director of the department since late last year when long-time director Ken Torrance retired to Alberta.

The department of social services administers the alcohol and drug program, social assistance, the corrections system, family and children's services and services to the elderly in the Northwest Territories. The department also has sections responsible for staff training and development, the development of a management information system and the planning and development of new programs.

Mr. Stangier's appointment was announced today by Commissioner Stuart Hodgson at the opening of Territorial council's 67th Session. He will report to Tom Butters, the executive member responsible for the department.

Mr. Stangier served for more than three years as assistant director of the department, which also included health services until last summer when health care became a separate department within the government.

He came North from Edmonton where he worked for three years as director of staff development with the Alberta department of community health and social services.

(more)



STANGIER NAMED DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES - 2

Mr. Stangier worked from 1971-73 with the Territorial government, developing social assistance programs. Before that he worked in Lac La Biche in northern Alberta, developing experimental projects in adult training for a private company. His first ten years in the social service field were also spent with the Alberta government in rehabilitation, staff development and adoption.

Mr. Stangier holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Alberta, a bachelor of social work from the University of British Columbia and a masters degree in social work from the University of Toronto.

He is married and has four children.

- 30 -

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## LAKE HARBOUR WANTS LIQUOR PROHIBITION

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 19) - The list of communities in the Northwest Territories wanting an outright ban on liquor continues to grow.

Latest to join liquor prohibition ranks is the Baffin Island settlement of Lake Harbour. Most of the settlement's 98 eligible voters expressed their view Jan. 17, with a majority saying no to liquor.

Plebiscite results submitted to the Hay River headquarters of the N.W.T. Liquor Control System show 75 of the settlement's 98 eligible voters casting ballots for a 98 per cent turnout. There are 268 people in the mostly-Inuit settlement, located 120 air kilometres south of Frobisher Bay.

In response to the question: "Do you want liquor in Lake Harbour?", 51 voters (68 per cent) said "no" and 24 (32 per cent) said "yes". There were no spoiled ballots.

Liquor plebiscites require a minimum 60 per cent vote in order to enact prohibition or some form of control.

(more)

Ed Pugh, liquor control system general manager, said Lake Harbour would go dry officially once the paper work is completed and Commissioner Hodgson signs the order. The process takes about one month.

Mr. Pugh said the ban effects an area 25 kilometres in all directions from the centre of the settlement.

The vote in Lake Harbour increases the number of N.W.T. communities introducing liquor prohibition to 13, four of them in the Baffin. Liquor is also banned in the Baffin centres of Pangnirtung, Hall Beach and Sanikiluaq.

In addition to the 13 prohibition centres, five others ration liquor supplies or have some other form of local controls in effect.

There are no other liquor plebiscites scheduled. However, liquor control interest has been expressed by residents of several other N.W.T. communities, including Norman Wells and Eskimo Point.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-018

## N.W.T. TO SEEK LOTTERY PARTICIPATION

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 18) - Athletes, coaches and sports administrators in the Northwest Territories may soon have another source of funding to help develop skills.

The Territorial Government's executive committee has authorized its officials to seek membership in the Western Canada Lottery Foundation and has empowered the Sport North Federation to look after the lottery's marketing in the N.W.T.

The lottery foundation, which is administered in Winnipeg, involves the sharing of revenue by sport organizations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon.

Ray Goulet, the Territorial Government's recreation chief, explained that funds from the Western Canada Lottery will assist the Sport North Federation in increasing its present level of service to members. Sport North is formed from 26 N.W.T. sport associations.

"It's a money-making situation," commented Mr. Goulet. "The dollars must be spent in the leadership area, upgrading the skills of coaches and sport executives, which in turn leads to development of the athlete at the local level. The dollars must be spent within the Territories and some funds from this source would be available for travel assistance to various territorial championships."

Mr. Goulet said he has been seeking N.W.T. involvement in the lottery foundation ever since it began about four years ago.

"Legislation is needed authorizing the lottery's presence in the N.W.T.," Mr. Goulet explained, adding that he hoped it would be discussed and passed during the 67th session of Territorial Council.

(more)

N.W.T. TO SEEK LOTTERY PARTICIPATION...2

He said the first step-should legislation and membership application be approved-would be formation of a committee to administer distribution of the lottery's revenue in the N.W.T. Appointments would include two people from the Sport North member associations, two from the general public and one Territorial Government representative. A Sport North member would chair the group.

"Once the dollars start rolling in, it will be up to this committee where they go," noted Mr. Goulet. He said it is difficult to guess how much more money could be generated for N.W.T. sport groups from this lottery, but "it could mean another \$50,000 a year, eventually."

"But first you develop a marketing base and let people know about what it can do for the people of the Northwest Territories," Mr. Goulet observed. "We've got to take one step at a time."

- 30 -

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# information photo



78-017

## 'OUTSTANDING WILDLIFE OFFICER' AWARD PRESENTED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 17) - "It just came right out of the blue," was about the only statement Rene Mercredi could make. The Northwest Territories wildlife officer had just been presented the Shikar-Safari Club International award for the 'Outstanding Wildlife Officer of the Year', 1978. Commissioner Stuart Hodgson presented the award on behalf of the Club Monday at the Wildlife Service All Staff Conference here. Said Mr. Hodgson: "Not only is this a great achievement offered by such a distinguished club, but it's important, too, that Rene's fellow wildlife officers recommend he get the award. Not only does this show the confidence they have in him, it also shows their friendship." (Photo by Mike Van Duffelen)

See release no: 79-012

- 30 -

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# information photo



79-016

## TERRITORIAL WILDLIFE OFFICERS SHARE IDEAS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 17) - More than 40 wildlife officers from all parts of the Northwest Territories are participating here this week in their biennial conference.

The government field workers are discussing a wide variety of subjects ranging from new trapping techniques to the wildlife officer's role in the community.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson welcomed the officers to the capital, noting they are the Territorial Government's representatives "at the grass roots," at the community level.

(Photo by Mike Van Duffelen)

- 30 -

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# information release

79-015



## FORT FRANKLIN HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION TO BUILD OUTPOST CABINS WITH SPECIAL ARDA ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 16) - Fort Franklin Hunters and Trappers Association has accepted an offer of \$11,330, under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program, to build three, 16 x 20 foot outpost cabins.

Announcement of the offer was made today by Marcel Lessard, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and Tom Butters, Territorial Government executive committee member responsible for economic development and tourism.

Built of logs and equipped with wood stoves, the cabins will be used as base camps for the association's hunting and trapping activities. Two of the cabins will provide accommodation for hunters to travel to the Hottah Lake area, a 200 mile trip which takes two days by power toboggan. One of these cabins will be built at the halfway point while the other will be constructed at Hottah Lake. The third cabin will be erected at White Lash Lake to accommodate trappers.

Part-time work will be created for 12 people during the construction period.

The project also encourages traditional lifestyle by allowing families to spend longer periods of time at Hottah Lake to hunt and prepare greater amounts of dry meat.

Funds for the project will be provided by DREE. The fish and wildlife service of the Territorial Government's department of natural and cultural affairs is responsible for field work on the hunters, trappers and fishing portion of the Special ARDA program.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-014



## N.W.T. COUNCIL TO STUDY SPENDING PROPOSALS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - Territorial Council convenes in Yellowknife Jan. 19 for the 67th session. It will be a last look at Northwest Territories' spending plans for some members.

The 8th Council's term of office expires Mar. 31. 1979.

The session is scheduled to last four weeks.

Commissioner Stuart Hodgson will be outlining the government's 1979-80 spending plans at the opening, which is scheduled for a 2:30 p.m. start in the new gymnasium of Sir John Franklin School.

Arnold McCallum, council's caucus chairman, expects signs of caution in the spending proposals. "I do not expect them to be appreciably higher than last year because of general restraint."

He said the operating part of the spending plans will likely be up to match the rate of inflation, but thinks that capital spending will almost certainly be reduced. Main estimates for the 1978-79 fiscal year amounted to \$268.7 million.

(more)

Mr. McCallum, executive committee member responsible for the departments of local government and health, said the session likely will feature some reflection on the past and comments about the future as "it will be a swan song for some of the members".

He said some members might view the upcoming session as "a period of frustration" since there is no sign of when elections will be held to choose a new council.

Last October, councillors passed an ordinance changing territorial electoral boundaries to allow expansion from the present 15 to 22 members.

However, an amendment to the federal N.W.T. Act is needed to enact expansion, and councillors have been trying to encourage federal politicians to do this without delay. To date, the federal bill has received only first reading and the process could take a few months to complete.

Mr. McCallum said he does not expect the matter to be given high priority when Parliament reconvenes Jan. 22 in Ottawa.

He speculates that N.W.T. residents won't be voting for a new territorial council, should there be an expanded one, until next fall, or June at the earliest.

"I imagine we'll hear something from Ottawa before this session is over," Mr. McCallum said.

# information release

79-013



## NEW CHIEF NAMED FOR GOVERNMENT PROJECTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - The Territorial Government's department of economic development and tourism has a new chief of projects and marketing.

Bill Moore moved to Yellowknife from Winnipeg in December, bringing 13 years of sales and administrative experience to his new post. He succeeds Claude Bennett, who is currently on educational leave from the territorial public service.

As chief of projects and marketing, Mr. Moore guides the development of Programs designed to encourage growth of "cottage" and light industry in the N.W.T. He also heads up marketing strategy for the products of these programs, which include handicrafts, fur garments, jewelry and furniture.

Mr. Moore's 13 years of experience include work in the fields of marketing sales and management, financial and personnel administration.

Mr. Moore, who is married with one son, has spent much of his life in Western Canada. Born in Calgary, he was educated at Lethbridge, Alberta. He earned a degree in business administration from the University of Montana in the United States. He has recreational interests in skiing, swimming, badminton, fishing and sailing, as well as aviation and amateur radio.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-012



## RENE MERCREDI NAMED WILDLIFE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - A Fort Smith man has been named 1978's 'Outstanding Wildlife Officer' by the Shikar-Safari Club International.

Rene Mercredi, a wildlife officer since 1964, will be presented a plaque by the club during a wildlife service conference in Yellowknife Jan. 15-19.

The Shikar-Safari Club is an organization formed in 1954 by a group of hunters to protect game around the world. The 200-member club participates in conservation programs.

In a letter to Mr. Mercredi, dated September 25, 1978, club president Alex Maddox says:

"May your example be an inspiration to the many fine wildlife officers in whose professional and capable hands the management of our wildlife depends. Among other Sportsmen of America and Canada, we want to thank you and let you know that we appreciate you, we support you, and we recognize that without your great dedication and love for wildlife, we soon might not have any."

Mr. Mercredi was born at Fort Smith of white and Chipewyan parents in 1915. He began trapping at an early age and continued the profession for 32 years with off-season work in carpentry and crewing on Hudson's Bay boats.

As a wildlife officer, he was posted in Fort Rae in 1965 where he remained for 12 years before transferring to Fort Smith.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-011

## KEEWATIN PEOPLE PULL TOGETHER FOR REPAIR JOBS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - 'Operation Replumb' is a project to restore full water services to homes and other buildings in the Keewatin community of Eskimo Point.

The territorial government's action to bring things back to normal, following a Christmas Day powerhouse fire and resultant water pipe freeze-up, is progressing with military-like precision.

Eskimo Point is an Inuit hamlet of 900, located on the western shore of Hudson's Bay 1,280 kilometres north of Winnipeg.

Materials were flown in from southern suppliers, technical reinforcements were recruited from other parts of the Northwest Territories. Extra hours of duty is the norm in a race against weather and time, and community personnel are pitching in. A control centre has been set up to co-ordinate systematic repairs, and the entire operation has an on-the-scene supervisor with a senior engineering adviser located nearby at a regional headquarters.

"It is going along as scheduled with only a few delays," stated regional engineer Dave Barnes.

(more)

The N.W.T. Government's regional headquarters in Rankin Inlet is overseeing the repair and clean-up operations, and Mr. Barnes says the work should be completed by the end of this week. "We have completed 55 buildings," he said in a Jan. 10 interview. "We're about 75 to 80 per cent complete and we expect to have the job wrapped up by January 12th or the 14th at the latest."

Mr. Barnes explained that the repair work has been a co-operative effort right down the line. Pipes, joints, valves and other material was flown in without delay from Winnipeg just before the new year. Territorial Government staff have travelled from the Fort Smith and Baffin regions to help out and the hamlet's own workers are also assisting.

The territorial regional engineer said repair crews are putting in 14-hour days, working through until 10 at night, to get the jobs done. Vic Hodges, area maintenance officer with the territorial public works regional staff, heads up a crew of 13 territorial employees from the control centre. He is working along with government liaison officer Patsy Owljoot, who goes on the air each day at the community radio station to keep residents informed of work progress.

Labor is being provided by Eskimo Point hamlet employees, housing association workers and local casuals, with locally-supplied vehicles in use.

Mr. Barnes said it is too early to put a final dollar figure on plumbing damage, but for now he is estimating it to be in the \$100,000 range.

(more)



There was some delay in repair work when a heavy snowstorm blocked access to the community's roads on Jan 4-5 and power was out for more than five hours Jan. 9 due to problems with a transformer.

Mr. Barnes commented there was good response from Eskimo Point residents when the power first went off on Christmas Day. Many pipes were drained of water, but others inside walls froze up, resulting in damage. He noted frozen pipes were found in most of the buildings, including churches, the community hall and the Inuit Cultural Institute. The nursing station and territorial school were unaffected since they were able to use standby power generators.

Mr. Barnes said he is pleased with the progress of 'Operation Replumb'. "It is a co-ordinated effort," he commented. "It's good to have support from community workers and people from the other regions."

Territorial Government regional director Al Zariwny of Rankin Inlet called the operation "another example of good working relationships being established between the Territorial Government, hamlet councils and other community groups."

The Christmas Day fire that destroyed much of Northern Canada Power Commission's powerhouse is still under investigation.

Chief territorial fire marshal Len Adrian of Yellowknife, Thursday was on his way to examine the fire damage in Eskimo Point.

# information release



79-010

## HUMANE TRAPPING TO BE DISCUSSED AT WILDLIFE CONFERENCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 11) - "People in the North don't realize how the voice of emotion can affect their lives."

So said Neal Jotham, executive director of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, in a recent telephone interview from Ottawa. Mr. Jotham will be in Yellowknife next week to talk about humane trapping at the Wildlife Service All Staff Conference.

The conference runs from Jan. 15 to 19 and will be attended by all 42 Northwest Territories wildlife officers.

The wildlife service's Ron Williams invited Mr. Jotham to attend the conference. "The reason, basically," he said, "is to make our staff aware of problems in southern Canada which may affect people in the N.W.T. in the future. We want our staff to be aware of what's happening in the controversial area of humane trapping."

Mr. Jotham said his Tuesday evening visit here will begin with a rundown on the history of the humane trapping issue. He said he will go into the various aspects of humane trapping using films and other materials to explain the concerns of humane societies across Canada.

Mr. Jotham, who is also vice-president of the Canadian Association for Humane Trapping, said the objective of his visit is to be a resource person to the wildlife officers.

(more)

He said he will talk about humane trap inventions and show films of animals caught in leg-hold traps, as well as deal with the humane trapping research program of the federal/provincial committee for humane trapping.

He also hopes to discuss the importance of trapper education and provide information about the feelings of humane societies across Canada.

"I want to make sure they understand the thinking of people in southern Canada so that, if regulations are passed, it is not through great emotion."

He said he will also show footage of animals entering "so-called" humane traps.

"We want to promote a relatively humane system of trapping animals. We think the most humane traps available should be used."

Mr. Jotham has given such lectures all over Canada, including the Yukon. It all began in 1970 in Yellowknife when he made the first presentation to the Canada Fur Council here, he said.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-009

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION GROUP FORMS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 11) - Education officials in the Northwest Territories are getting ready to handle their own teacher licensing.

The newly-created N.W.T. Teachers Certification Board meets this week in Yellowknife to continue its organizing, which started when its five members met for the first time in December.

"The board was formed as a result of reforms brought in under regulations of the Education Ordinance," said Brian Lewis, director of the Territorial Government's department of education. He explained that until now the government has simply gone along with certification approved by other Canadian jurisdictions.

The Education Ordinance was approved by Territorial Council in January 1977, replacing the old School Ordinance.

The board includes three people from the department of education, one representative of the teachers' association and one from the N.W.T.'s school boards. The board's support staff includes a teacher registrar, appointed by the Commissioner, and a secretary.

The five-member board is chaired by Gerard Mulders, the department's assistant director. Members include department officials Ed Duggan and Fred Carnew, Al Wolitski of the N.W.T. Teachers' Association and Gordon Carter, who represents Yellowknife's two school boards. A registrar has yet to be named.

(more)

TEACHER CERTIFICATION GROUP FORMS - 2

Mr. Lewis explained the board will be looking at certification eligibility of graduates from the N.W.T.'s teacher education program as well as the qualifications of prospective teachers from programs in the Canadian provinces and elsewhere. Northern-based teaching preparation is developed mainly at the teacher education school in Fort Smith.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-008



## TWO NORTHERNERS HONORED FOR ACADEMIC STANDING

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan 11) - William Gregory Frank from Hay River is one of two N.W.T. students to receive Governor-General's bronze medals for senior high school academic excellence from the 1977-78 school year. He earned the highest marks in the N.W.T. for Grade 12 examinations.

Ronald Peterson of Pine Point has been similarly honored. The awards were announced today by Commissioner Stuart Hodgson, on behalf of Governor-General Jules Leger.

Mr. Peterson's achievement matches that of his sister Linda May, who earned the second highest Grade 12 marks in the N.W.T. from the 1976-77 school year. Both Petersons are graduates of Pine Point's Matonabee School.

Another brother-sister combination, Gordon and Shirley Wong of Yellowknife, is among the ranks of previous Governor-General's bronze medal winners. The medals, awarded in the N.W.T. since 1971, were first distributed more than 100 years ago.

The Earl of Dufferin, one of Canada's first governors-general, initiated the awards in 1873 to encourage scholarship. There are three levels: gold for university, silver for classical college and bronze for senior high school.

No date has been set for presentation of the medals, but ceremonies are planned for whenever Mr. Frank and Mr. Peterson return to the N.W.T.

(more)

TWO NORTHERNERS HONORED FOR ACADEMIC STANDING - 2

Mr. Frank, who attended Diamond Jenness High School in Hay River, currently is continuing his education at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ont. Mr. Peterson has travelled to Wales for further education. He is attending Atlantic World College.

His sister Linda May also is continuing her education with people from other parts of the world. She is enrolled at Lester Pearson College of the Pacific, Victoria, B.C.

- 30 -

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# information release

79-007



## N.W.T. WILDLIFE OFFICERS MEET NEXT WEEK

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - All 42 Northwest Territories wildlife officers will be in town next week for the wildlife service's biennial conference.

The conference brings field officers up-to-date with developments in the wildlife service, allows them the opportunity to discuss mutual problems, introduces new officers to long-time employees and provides a forum for a general interchange of ideas.

Rupert "Shorty" Tinling, acting co-ordinator of technical services, says important issues such as the new wildlife ordinance will be brought up at the conference, set for Jan. 15-19, and discussed thoroughly.

The agenda calls for a session on humane trapping with N. Jotham, executive director of the Federation of Humane Societies. John Ross of the Hudson's Bay Company will discuss fur grading with the officers who run a fur marketing program for trappers. Jack Shaver of the Canadian Wildlife Service will talk on the Migratory Birds Convention Act and possible changes to migratory bird seasons.

Mr. Tinling says discussions on the changing roles of wildlife officers and the goals and objectives of the services will take place. He says officials of the Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg and of the federal Fisheries and Marine Service will be present as well.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-006

## FINANCIAL HELP FOR HEALTH CAREERS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - Northerners interested in training for a health-care career are eligible for financial help from the Territorial government.

Each year the department of health offers professional training bursaries to help people go to school for more specialized training in the health-care field.

The bursaries help to cover costs for full-time diploma, degree or certificate courses at universities, colleges and other recognized institutes. The bursaries can also help cover costs for part-time extension or correspondence courses.

In the past, students have been sponsored to take courses in areas such as dental therapy, nursing administration, speech therapy and registered nursing.

This year the government is particularly interested in sponsoring northerners, especially registered nurses, who want to take training in mental health.

Janet Lindquist, in charge of the bursary program for the department of health, says there is a need for people in northern communities who are qualified to handle minor mental as well as physical health services.

(more)

## FINANCIAL HELP FOR HEALTH CAREERS - 2

The bursary will pay tuition fees, up to \$60 for books, travel expenses to and from school, and a stipend of \$200 a month for students enrolled in full-time courses. It covers tuition fees and travel expenses for students enrolled in part-time or extension courses.

In order for the North to benefit from the program, everyone awarded a bursary must work in their field in the Northwest Territories for a period of time at least equal to the length of the course for which they were sponsored.

For example, says Ms. Lindquist, students who get bursaries to attend college or university for eight months - the length of the regular school year - must work in the north for a year.

The Territorial government can sponsor about eight students for full-time courses each year. It normally receives about 30 applications.

Anyone is eligible for the bursary but northerners already working in the health care field are given priority. As well, northern health care personnel who are self-employed, working for a private employer, the Territorial government or a hospital are given priority over health-care personnel working for the federal government. However, federal government employees may still apply and many have been given bursaries in the past. Health-care workers in other parts of Canada may also apply.

(more)

FINANCIAL HELP FOR HEALTH CAREERS - 3

Applicants are selected by a committee of health-care workers. They are chosen on the basis of their past work performance, their ability to better the quality of health care in the North, and the demand in the Territories for their type of skills.

Information about the government's health-care bursaries is available from the department of health. As well applications can be obtained from and should be sent to: Chief, Health Programs and Standards, Department of Health, Government of the Northwest Territories, Bag 1320, Yellowknife.

The deadline for applications is March 31 of this year.

- 30 -

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# information release



79-005

## COMMISSIONER DECLARES YEAR OF THE CHILD

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - Commissioner Stuart Hodgson has proclaimed 1979 as the Year of the Child in the Northwest Territories.

The N.W.T. joins other areas of Canada and the world in supporting the United Nations' declaration of an International Year of the Child. The declaration was passed by a general assembly of the UN in late 1976.

The purpose of the Year is to place the child in the centre of world attention and, in so doing, encouraging action to improve the lives of children everywhere.

"Unlike recent 'Years', the Year of the Child will not focus on global conferences. Its intention is to direct interest and energy into local and national action which can be of direct benefit to children," says Trudy Usher, chief of family and children's services with the Territorial government's department of social services.

The Year of the Child is being co-ordinated in Canada by a commission made up of representatives involved with children in the territories and provinces. Ms. Usher is the acting representative for the N.W.T. on the Canadian commission.

(more)

COMMISSIONER DECLARES YEAR OF THE CHILD - 2

Ms. Terri McPherson of the department of social services is helping Ms. Usher and will be co-ordinating activities for the year in the Northwest Territories. She hopes to circulate information from the Canadian commission to interested groups in the North. She'll be available to talk to groups about the Year and ways they can participate.

"She also hopes to put out a monthly newsletter which will include information on projects being undertaken in the Northwest Territories. I hope all people participating in the Year will let Terri know about their projects so she can get the information in her newsletter," says Ms. Usher.

She says the Year gives residents an opportunity to explore the role of parents, to encourage projects which will bring together children of different social and cultural backgrounds, to recognize the rights and needs of children, and to do things for children which will help them develop into strong and healthy adults.

There are many ways residents can get involved in the Year, notes Ms. Usher: start a young people's program at your place of worship; offer to babysit for a single parent; set up family social events that involve children of different ages; hire young people for jobs around the home; organize a field trip for children in your neighborhood; get children involved in volunteer work.

"The list goes on", says Ms. Usher. "One of the easiest ways to get involved is to make a commitment to your own children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews, brothers or sisters, to set aside extra time for them during 1979."

(more)

COMMISSIONER DECLARES YEAR OF THE CHILD - 3

The Canadian Commission has grants to help people develop projects during the Year. Projects that will be considered for funding are those with children's direct involvement, projects for children such as advocacy groups and projects about children, such as media projects.

A press release issued by the commission says the criteria for funding are:

- . operating grants will be given community-based non-profit groups. No capital grants are available;
- . individuals can get grants if they are affiliated with a group that has a common interest.

Individuals can get a grant of up to \$1,500 while community groups are eligible for a grant of up to \$5,000. The commission will meet on two occasions to review applications for funding. The first deadline for applications is Feb. 15 of this year; the last March 30 of this year.

Applications and information on the Year are available from Terri McPherson, Department of Social Services, Government of the Northwest Territories, Box 1320, Yellowknife. Her telephone number is 873-7707 and her office is located on the sixth floor of the Precambrian building in Yellowknife.

Applications should be mailed directly to the commission's headquarters in Ottawa. The address is: The Canadian Commission 1979 - International Year of the Child, 323 Chapel Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 7Z2.

Contact: Debbie Hanna

Telephone: 873-7258

Telex: 034-45504

# information release



79-004

FILM AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 9) - Labelling it "excellent", the Territorial government's recreation chief recommends the new 16 mm color film, Counter Attack, to anyone interested in the benefits of a regular program of physical activity.

Ray Goulet says the film, released by Participaction and the Sun Life Insurance Company of Canada, should be of interest to everyone. It deals with heart attack victims.

The film features the work of Dr. Terence Kavanagh of the Toronto Rehabilitation Centre. It shows how a number of heart attack victims improved their physical condition to such a point that they were able to enter a 26-mile marathon. And in the race they did better than most people who have never had a major illness.

The film may be borrowed, at no charge, by contacting any Sun Life agent or office.

Mr. Goulet suggests that groups and individuals promoting regular physical activity in the Northwest Territories obtain a print.

- 30 -

Contact: Clarie Martin

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# information release

79-003



## FLYING FATHERS FLYING NORTH AGAIN

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 9) - The Flying Fathers are coming back.

Hockey teams in Frobisher Bay, Yellowknife, Inuvik, Hay River, Pine Point and Fort Smith had better start praying. Rumor has it that the Fathers have the Almighty on their side.

The Flying Fathers Hockey Club is a team made up of Roman Catholic priests who play for charity. Between Jan. 12 and 22 the team will be in the Northwest Territories. They played here last year.

Ray Goulet, chief of the recreation division of the Territorial government, is organizing the event. He says the team will play seven games.

In Frobisher, the Fathers will play the senior all-stars on the 13th and 14th; the Yellowknife oldtimers on the 16th; the Inuvik senior all-stars on the 18th; and the oldtimers and juniors in Hay River, Pine Point and Fort Smith on the 20th, 21st and 22nd respectively. The cost per ticket is \$5.

The Flying Fathers ask that the money they raise by their hockey antics go to a charitable cause and that only their expenses be covered.

(more)



FLYING FATHERS FLYING NORTH AGAIN - 2

Mr. Goulet says each of the six communities is paying \$1,500 to offset costs as well as providing lodging, meals and transportation in town. The Territorial government is providing transportation for the team from Frobisher to Yellowknife.

- 30 -

Contact: Clarie Martin  
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# information release



## GOVERNMENT-INDUSTRY PROMOTE TOURISM

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 5) - Northern tourism promoters from both government and the industry are setting up shop near California's Disneyland this week in order to attract more visitors to the N.W.T.

The Territories' familiar polar bear logo will be on display until Jan. 14 at the Anaheim Convention Centre in southern California, site of one of North America's largest tourist trade shows. The display opened today.

Together with the Travel Industry Association of the N.W.T., TravelArctic - the Territorial government's tourism promotion arm - is going far afield this winter to spread the word about what the North has to offer visitors.

This time around, there is a definite regional flavour to the southern promotion expeditions.

During the next 14 weeks, northern tourism crews made up of government personnel and Travel Industry Association members from various parts of the N.W.T. will be promoting N.W.T. tourist facilities at travel shows scattered across North America. Portable displays will be set up at Toronto, Calgary, Seattle, Minneapolis-St. Paul and Montreal, as well as Anaheim.

"We'll be participating in more shows this year than we have in the past," observed TravelArctic head Keith Thompson. He noted the government's tourism arm now has a larger budget for promotion and private industry, through the TIA, is increasingly interested and involved in going south to where the tourists are.

(more)

TravelArctic, a division of the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism, works closely with the TIA.

Last November, Commissioner Stuart Hodgson announced at the TIA's annual meeting an infusion of government support in the form of an immediate \$100,000 increase in TravelArctic's funding. Mr. Hodgson said that this money, and more if needed, would go towards an accelerated travel marketing program, and also to help the TIA open up its own office.

The six travel show promotions are part of the industry's stepped-up activities.

Yvonne Quick of Great Slave Lake's Arctic Star Lodge is in Anaheim along with Jack Lamoureux of the government's Hay River office and TravelArctic promotion officer Brian Thompson.

Trish Warner from Bathurst Inlet Lodge in the Central Arctic, who is TIA president, is planning to attend the Toronto Sportsmen's Show in March. It is expected that an industry representative from the Baffin region will go to Montreal.

"The Sportsmen's Show in Toronto is the largest and best of all shows in Canada," said Mr. Thompson. "We have displayed there for many years."

He said tapping the Quebec tourism market will be a new experience for TravelArctic. "It's an experiment. We look to attracting people to visit the Baffin region." This will be a bilingual effort with departmental staffer Francine Sarrazin spreading the word in both of Canada's official languages.

(more)

Dates for the six travel shows are as follows:

Jan. 5-14, Anaheim, Calif., Jan. 17-21, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., Mar. 5-11, Seattle, Wash., Mar. 16-25 Toronto, Mar. 28-Apr. 1, Calgary, Apr. 6-15, Montreal.

"There are a great many attractive tourist facilities-lodges, camps, natural attractions throughout the N.W.T.," said Mr. Thompson. "It is our intention, and the industry's to tell as many people as we can all about them."

- 30 -

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Telex: 034-45504

# information release



79-001

## NO DANGER SEEN FROM MINE SPILL

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 4) - The Territorial government's chief environmental official is satisfied that mine tailings spilled in a pipe break at Giant Yellowknife Mines are being cleaned up safely and satisfactorily.

"We're quite happy with what they're doing," Dan Billing said today about the clean-up activities. Mr. Billing is chief territorial environmental protection officer.

Liquid effluent totalling 60,000 gallons from the Yellowknife gold mine's milling operation spilled into a ditch Tuesday as the effluent was being transported by pipeline from the mill to a diked disposal area. The spilled effluent was discovered in a frozen state during the early morning hours of Jan. 2.

Mr. Billing explained that crews from the gold mine are simply chipping the frozen effluent and transporting it by truck to be dumped in tailings ponds. He added that anything left in the ditch will be recovered later in the year by pumps after spring break-up. The clean-up operation started this morning.

Mr. Billing said the 60,000 gallons that spilled contained a total of 3.1 pounds of arsenic and about six pounds of cyanide, both by-products of the gold-milling process.

"Both quantities are well within safe levels and we're not too worried about it," commented Mr. Billing.

more

NO DANGER SEEN FROM MINE SPILL - 2

"Removing the material in this manner (trucking the ice) is by far the safest, quickest and simplest way of disposal and the people at Giant Mines should be commended for their action."

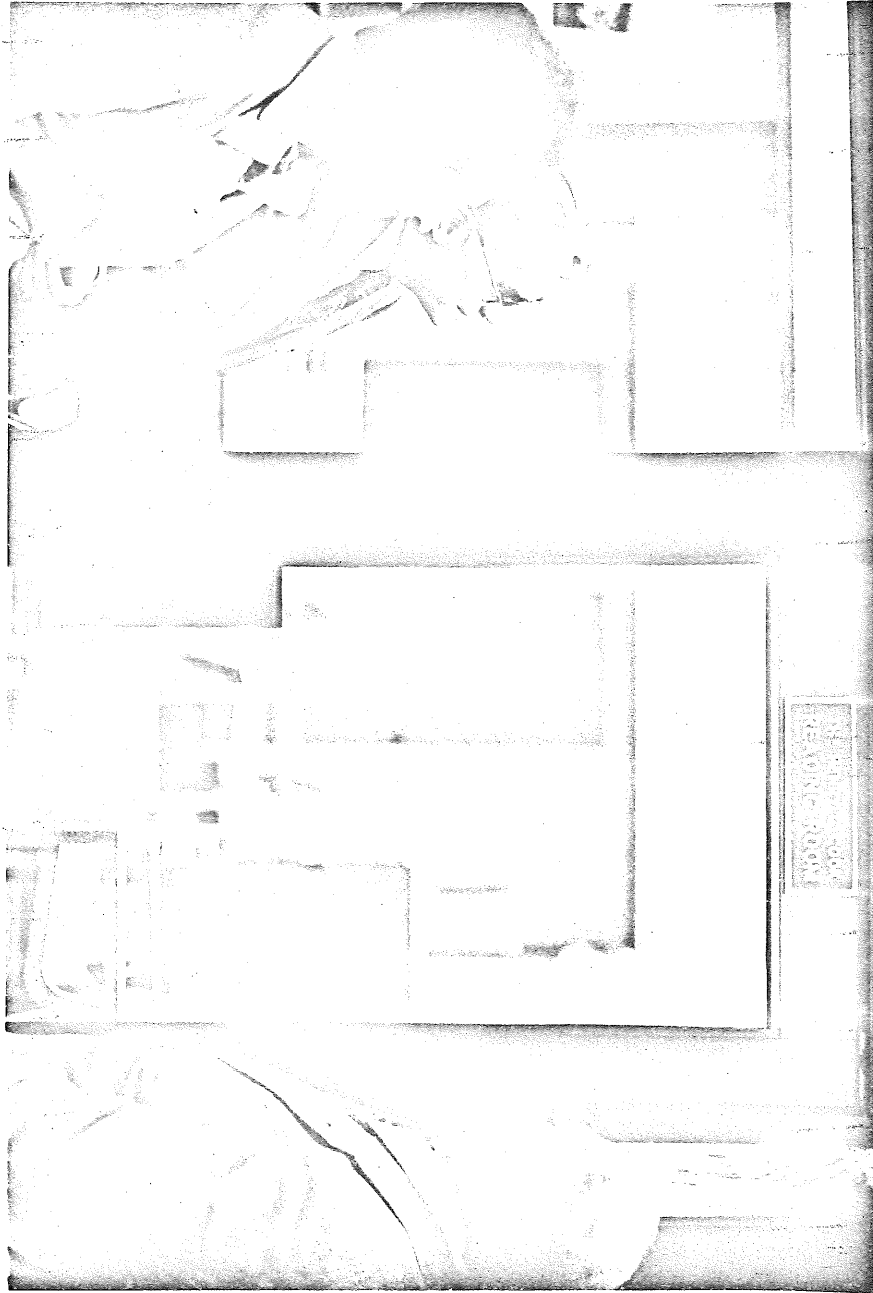
He is confident that Giant officials have the equipment and the expertise to properly seal off any remaining material in the ditch "so there is absolutely no danger to the public."

- 30 -

Contact: Chris Aylott

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# NEWS

MOTORISTS TO PAY MORE IN 1980

79-268

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 17) - Northern motorists will be faced with increases in the price of drivers' licences, licence plates and drivers' tests next year.

Bill Johns, registrar of motor vehicles with the Territorial government's department of justice and public services, says N.W.T. rates are low compared to those of other jurisdictions in Canada.

"Fees are meant to offset some of the costs of maintaining the highways - and have to be increased - to keep abreast of spiralling costs".

A driver's licence will cost \$5 in 1980, up from the present \$2. A driver's test will also increase from \$2 to \$5. There have been no increases in these rates since 1973.

Licence plates for all passenger vehicles will increase \$5, from \$20 to \$25. The last increase in plates came in 1977.

( more )

MOTORISTS TO PAY MORE IN 1980 - 2

Licensing for both public service and commercial vehicles will increase \$1 for every 455 kilograms (1000 pounds) vehicle weight over 4,550 kilograms (10,000 pounds). An 80,000-pound commercial vehicle, for example, will cost \$490 to licence, a jump of \$75 from the present \$415.

"Even with these increases, we still have the lowest rate for heavy transport vehicles in Canada," Johns points out.

Licensing fees in the N.W.T. are based on a three-tiered schedule, depending on the access of each community to a highway system. For communities with only partial or no access to a highway system, lower fees are levied.

With the building of the Dempster Highway, the communities of Inuvik, Fort McPherson and Arctic Red River will now have total highway access. Therefore, their rates will increase from the two-thirds rate to full rate. Because this represents a substantial fee increase, the new rates will be phased in over two years, says Johns.

The fee increases are expected to generate an extra \$236,000 in revenue each year. Licences and plates will go on sale Feb. 1, 1980.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

TWELVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS APPROVED

79-267

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 17) - Twelve projects have now been approved under the Federal-Territorial interim subsidiary agreement on community economic development.

The agreement--designed to stimulate the northern economy--was signed in April by representatives of the two governments, under the provisions of a five-year General Development Agreement (GDA). A total of \$3.8 million for community-based economic development will be provided by the two levels of government under the agreement.

The 12 projects approved to date are:

. An inventory of the musk-ox populations in areas adjacent to Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour and Cambridge Bay will be conducted to determine if an increase in quotas is feasible. Bigger quotas could provide an additional source of country food, sport hunting businesses, and more hides and horns for retail sale. The study will be carried out by the N.W.T. Wildlife Service, in co-operation with area Hunters' and Trappers' Associations. Some \$17,296 is being provided by the federal department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and \$29,704 by the Territorial government.

- more -

TWELVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS APPROVED - 2

. Aerial surveys of moose habitats in the northern Mackenzie River basin will be conducted to obtain data on distribution and numbers of moose for the purposes of management. It is expected an increase in food kill will be required by local people. Funded \$7,728 by DREE and \$13,272 by the Territorial government, the study will be conducted by the area wildlife officer and wildlife biologist, in discussion with Hunters' and Trappers' Associations.

. A 19-page booklet to promote canoeing in the N.W.T. will be developed by Outcrop Ltd. and the Territorial government. It will cover eight of the most popular rivers. The Territorial government has provided the total \$6,800 in funds.

. A test fishery for arctic char will be conducted on Amadjuak Lake and rivers and tributaries around it on Baffin Island. It is hoped a commercial fishery will be developed to supply community needs. The project will be managed by Territorial government staff and has been developed in consultation with Hunters' and Trappers' Associations of Frobisher Bay and Cape Dorset. \$16,432 has been provided by the Territorial government and \$9,568 by DREE.

. A three-month study on the feasibility of inter-settlement trade in the area north of the treeline will be conducted. The Inuit Development Corporation will manage the project, and a full-time researcher and Inuit contract people will be hired. DREE has contributed \$14,103 and the Territorial government \$1,567.

. The community of Pond Inlet, which has been experiencing rapid changes as a result of the offshore oil and gas exploration, employment and investment of Petrocan, will hire a community planner. This person will assist the hamlet council in coping with community land-use issues and assist in economic development planning. DREE has contributed \$45,000 and the Territorial government \$30,000 for the 18-month project.

. Some \$400,000 has been provided by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) to conduct a detailed inventory of timber in the Liard Valley over the years. This inventory will permit the establishment of commercial quotas and the orderly development of logging-based industries in Fort Liard and Fort Simpson. DIAND will carry out the operation.

. A study will examine the economic feasibility of winter fishing operations on Great Slave Lake. Formulated in consultation with the Great Slave Lake Advisory Committee, the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation and the federal department of Fisheries and Oceans, the project has been funded \$3,975 by DREE and \$6,825 by the Territorial government.

. Some \$10,000 has been provided (\$6,000 by DREE and \$4,000 by the Territorial government) for a public information program about the General Development Agreement and the subsidiary agreement. It will be designed to promote interest in the opportunities for economic development presented by the agreements, and will be managed by the Territorial government.

TWELVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS APPROVED - 4

. \$27,000 has been provided by the Territorial government to the Keewatin Chamber of Commerce to promote tourist travel into the Keewatin region. These efforts will include booths at travel and trade shows, attendance at travel agents' meetings, use of a public relations firm, and sponsorship of an annual tour of travel agents. The seven communities represented by the Chamber and private businesses will contribute the balance of the total cost of \$54,000.

. An arctic char test fishery is being conducted on 16 rivers in the Gjoa Haven-Spence Bay-Pelly Bay area in the hope of establishing a commercial fishery. There will be 32 fishermen employed and over 5,000 pounds of char taken from each river over two years. Some \$60,720 has been contributed by DREE and \$104,280 by the Territorial government.

. A study has been undertaken in the Pond Inlet area to find ways to improve methods used in hunting and recovering narwhals. Two types of harpoon guns will be tested under different conditions. The project will be co-ordinated with the Pond Inlet Hunters' and Trappers' Association and the local game officer. The Territorial government has contributed \$15,800 and DREE \$9,200.

Other communities and groups interested in obtaining funding under the subsidiary agreement should contact their regional office of the Territorial department of economic development and tourism.

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# NEWS

USE VARSOL WITH CARE

79-266

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 14) - Varsol, a commonly-found cleaning solvent, is a good, safe product if used properly. But certain precautions should be taken with it, says the Territorial government's head of occupational health.

Mike Hewitt explains that Varsol is manufactured from a mixture of petroleum hydrocarbons. All hydrocarbons can remove the natural protective oil from the skin, leading to irritation or dermatitis. Therefore, gloves should be worn when using Varsol. It's also important to ensure that eyes are well protected and that the working area in which the substance is being used is well-ventilated, he says.

Varsol is primarily used as a cleaning solvent for machine parts in machine shops and automotive centres, and is also used in the mining industry.

- more -

USE VARSOL WITH CARE - 2

Varsol 140 has a flash point (temperature at which it will ignite) of 60° C., while the flash point of Varsol 3139 is 42° C. Floors should not be washed with a mixture of Varsol and water that is heated to above the flash point because a flame, spark or static charge could cause an explosion or flash fire. Varsol shouldn't be stored near heat, open flame, sparks or strong oxidants. There should be good ventilation wherever it is being stored.

People who are doing close prolonged work with Varsol should use a respirator (type of face mask that will filter out vapours), says Hewitt.

A dry chemical or foam extinguisher should be used to put out any fires involving Varsol.

For further information, contact M. J. Hewitt, head of Occupational Health, department of justice and public services, Yellowknife (873-7468).

# NEWS

ENERGY FIGURES CAUSE FOR CONCERN

79-265

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 17) - By 1985 the Territorial government's power costs could be 10 times what they are now, according to a recent department of public works study.

Figures in the study are based on an eight-year projection of the government's 1978-79 utilities bill of \$12.2 million, assuming a yearly increase in power rates of 40 per cent. Naturally, it can't be sure, but the department feels such an annual increase is possible.

That could mean a whopping bill of \$129.1 million, well over half the total budget of the Territorial government in 1978/79. Add maintenance costs and salary costs to that figure, and the operation and maintenance figure on government buildings could be over \$22 per square foot in 1985, compared to \$4.81 per square foot in 1978-79.

(more)

ENERGY FIGURES CAUSE FOR CONCERN - 2

"The question is going to have to be, can we afford the operations and maintenance bill, quite apart from the capital cost of construction," says Paul Moody, director of the department of public works.

"More attention is going to have to be paid to constructing buildings which are well insulated and prepared for long months of sub-zero temperatures," he said, "Part of our very high maintenance costs are the fault of southern-designed buildings."

- 30 -

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# NEWS

CENTRE'S NORTH GALLERY TO OPEN IN JANUARY

79-264

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 13) - Metis and Euro-Canadian history will be featured in the north gallery soon to be opened in the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

Late January is the tentative grand opening of the new gallery of permanent exhibits in the centre. Construction of the display cases, collection of the exhibits and other preparatory work has been going on in the new gallery since the centre opened last April.

Demonstrations, special exhibits and guest speakers will be presented to coincide with the gallery opening.

- 30 -

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A citizenship ceremony held Dec. 7 in Yellowknife's Territorial Court saw 26 people sworn in as new citizens of Canada. (Photo by Erik Watt).

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Fred Henne of Yellowknife presented pins to new Canadian citizens on behalf of the city of Yellowknife. Here he gives one to Gulshan Amlani. At right is J.R. Slaven, chief judge of the Territorial Court, who swore in the new citizens. (Photo by Erik Watt).

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Anne Senkiw, president of the Daughters of the Midnight Sun, presented former mayor Fred Henne with a citizenship plaque in recognition of his dedicated service to his country. Left is J.R. Slaven, chief judge of the Territorial Court. (Photo by Erik Watt).

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December 11, 1979

79-263P



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# NEWS

GAME ADVISORY BOARD URGES  
HARASSMENT-FREE HUNTING

79-262P

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 7) - Hunters in legal pursuit of game should have protection from harassment, members of the Game Advisory Board decided at their three-day meeting held here this week.

The board will recommend to the commissioner that legislation be enacted to provide that protection.

The motion by board members Vince Steen and Henry Beaver came after a discussion of what the board feels are the obstructionist techniques of organizations such as Greenpeace, which has objected to the hunting of polar bears and all big-game sport hunting in the Mackenzie Mountains.

"There is a quota established on the number of polar bears that can be killed in a season, and that quota is observed," said Vince Steen, chairman of the board.

(more)

GAME ADVISORY BOARD URGES  
HARASSMENT-FREE HUNTING - 2

"We see no reason why these people should come up here to tell us what we should or should not hunt," he said.

The eight-member board will also recommend that the proposed microwave towers into Fort Smith be abandoned in favour of alternate methods such as buried cable which would not disturb the nesting ground of the whooping crane.

This position supports the already-stated recommendations of the Canadian Wildlife Service and Parks Canada.

The board also considered a presentation by the Yellowknife Fish and Game Club on reducing the two-year residency restriction on hunting licenses.

Members of the board are: Chairman Vince Steen, Tuktoyaktuk; Henry Beaver, Fort Smith; Bobby Douglas, Rae-Edzo; David Komoyoak, Cambridge Bay; Stan Stevens, Norman Wells; Glen Warner, Yellowknife; Leo Kalliujaq, Whale Cove; and Josiah Kadlutsiak, Igloolik.

Contact: Judy Paul  
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Members of the N.W.T. Game Advisory Board: standing, from left, Stan Stevens, Glen Warner, Henry Beaver, Norm Simmons (secretary), and Bobby Douglas. Sitting, from left, Marion McConnell (recording secretary), Chairman Vince Steen and David Komoyoak. Missing are Leo Kalliujaq and Josiah Kadlutsiak.

See release no: 79-262P



# NEWS

CHILDREN THEME OF SPECIAL DISPLAY

79-261

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 10) - A special display focusing on children will be featured at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre throughout December--the final month of the International Year of the Child.

A large display of dolls from Canada, the circumpolar countries, and other parts of the world has been borrowed from northern residents for the month. And there is a collection of Dene and Inuit models of canoes, kayaks, komatiks and other items, as well as mothers' and children's clothing from the native cultures. These are from the Heritage Centre's permanent collection.

Children's drawings and paintings from communities around the N.W.T. have been assembled. And the N.W.T. Native Women's Association has contributed a series of beaded sashes on the year-of-the-child theme.

- more -

CHILDREN THEME OF SPECIAL DISPLAY - 2

The exhibit has a serious note with a collection of photographs about child labour at the turn of the century. "Working Children", the handiwork of photographer Lewis Wickes Hine, captures the terrible conditions under which children were forced to toil in mines, cotton mills and factories across the United States. The display is from the International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House in Rochester, N.Y.

The Heritage Centre's archives were the source of another display about children.

The Centre will also be hosting a "Christmas Carol Sing-along" with the Yellowknife Choral Society on Wed. Dec. 12, beginning at 7 p.m.

The Centre's door will open at 6 p.m. for the occasion, permitting visits to the special children's exhibits. The Daughters of the Midnight Sun will provide Christmas refreshments. The public is invited.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

TWO SPECIAL ARDA OFFERS ACCEPTED IN NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

79-260

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 7) - Special ARDA offers totalling \$8,900 have been accepted by the Cape Dorset Hunters and Trappers Association and George Kodakin of Fort Franklin.

Acceptance of the offers was announced today by Elmer MacKay, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government minister responsible for economic development and tourism.

The \$6,300 offer to the Cape Dorset organization will be used to purchase two-way radio equipment to allow monitoring of outpost camps and improved co-ordination of search and rescue efforts.

The \$2,600 grant to Kodakin will allow the replacement of two outboard motors lost in a boating accident a year ago in which Kodakin's two sons and two other persons were drowned while bringing supplies from Fort Franklin to their Great Bear Lake camp.

(more)

TWO SPECIAL ARDA OFFERS ACCEPTED IN NORTHWEST TERRITORIES - 2

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of Indian or Inuit ancestry, to improve their social and economic conditions.

Further information on the Special ARDA program can be obtained from the DREE office in Yellowknife, or any of the Government of the Northwest Territories economic development and tourism offices.

- 30 -

Contact: Ron Johnson  
DREE - Saskatoon  
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey  
GNWT - Yellowknife  
(403) 873-7146

# NEWS

HEALTH PROVIDES SUPPORT SERVICES  
TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

79-259

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 6) - The Territorial government's department of health is now providing support services for the Medical Services branch of the federal department of Health and Welfare.

The announcement was made today by Arnold McCallum, minister of health.

The contract will see the department of health provide financial, administrative and clerical services which were formerly handled by the Medical Services regional office in Edmonton.

Dave McCann, chief of finance and administration for the department of health, says the arrangement will ease the move of the Medical Services regional office from Edmonton to Yellowknife. This move is scheduled to be completed by Feb. 1, 1980.

- more -

HEALTH PROVIDES SUPPORT SERVICES  
TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- 2 -

The contract--effective Dec. 1--is for approximately \$750,000 and extends until April, 1981. The 22 employees working on the contract will be Territorial government employees, and include financial staff, stenographers, records clerks, clerk typists, and a health resources clerk.

Mr. McCann says another goal of the contract is to use the Territorial government's payment systems wherever practical, instead of having to send documents to Edmonton for cheques to be issued.

"This will provide better service to northern businesses by allowing for quicker payment of bills," he says.

The new method of providing support services was recommended by Dr. Gordon Butler, former northern regional director for the Medical Services branch, who recently reviewed the relocation of the regional office. Dr. Butler recommended a close working relationship be established between the two departments dealing with health in the north, and pointed out that use of the Territorial government's financial and computer systems could be beneficial to the Medical Services branch.

- more -

HEALTH PROVIDES SUPPORT SERVICES  
TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- 3 -

Mr. McCann says the contract shows a growing level of co-operation between the Territorial department of health and federal Medical Services in the provision of health services to northern residents.

- 30 -

Contact: Pat Verge  
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Braden

Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis swearing in George Braden, the Territorial government's minister for Economic Development and Tourism, at ceremonies held this week.  
Dec. 4/79



Butters

Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis swearing in Tom Butters, the Territorial government's minister for both the Department of Education, and the Department of Justice and Public Services, at ceremonies this week.  
Dec. 4/79



Mr. Callum

Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis swearing in Arnold McCallum, the Territorial government's minister for both the Department of Health and the Department of Social Services, and for the Housing Corporation, at ceremonies held this week.

Dec. 4/79



Pilot

Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis swearing in Bob Pilot, the Territorial government's assistant commissioner, at ceremonies this week.

Dec. 4/79





Nerysoo

Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis swearing in Richard Nerysoo, the Territorial government's minister for Renewable Resources, at ceremonies held this week.

Dec. 4/79



Wah-Shee

Mr. Justice C.F. Tallis swearing in James Wah-Shee, the Territorial government's minister for Local Government, at ceremonies this week.

Dec. 4/79



The Territorial government's new Executive Committee was sworn in this week. Back row, from left: Bob Pilot, assistant commissioner, and ministers Richard Nerysoo, George Braden, and James Wah-Shee. In front, flanking Commissioner John Parker, are ministers Arnold McCallum, left, and Tom Butters.

Dec. 4/79

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Dec. 4/79

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Sent to:

Nunatsiaq News, Frobisher Bay, N.W.T.

The Drum, Inuvik, N.W.T.

Slave River Journal, Fort Smith, N.W.T.

Tapwe, Hay River, N.W.T.

The Hub, Hay River, N.W.T.

*The Yellowknifer*

*The Native Press.*

# NEWS

TRAVELLERS SHOULD HAVE EXTRA HEALTH COVERAGE

79-257

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 4) - Don't take a chance on having your vacation spoiled. It's a wise idea to get private supplementary health insurance before taking a trip outside Canada.

That's the advice of the Territorial department of health to anyone preparing for a vacation in the coming months. Michael Pontus, chief of health insurance programs, says people who become ill or suffer an accident while travelling in a foreign country could find themselves faced with enormous hospital and medical bills if they don't have extra insurance.

"N.W.T. health insurance coverage extends to anywhere in the world, but outside Canada it is limited to the rates applicable in the N.W.T.," says Pontus.

"The N.W.T. rate can often be much lower than charges made by physicians and hospitals outside Canada."

- more -



TRAVELLERS SHOULD HAVE EXTRA HEALTH COVERAGE - 2

Travellers can expect to pay at the time of service for care they receive outside Canada, says Pontus. Upon return to Canada, they will be reimbursed up to the N.W.T. rates.

The applicable N.W.T. rate for 1979-80 is \$193 per hospital day. In many cases, visitors to the U.S. have found much higher rates than these. In addition, the quoted rates in some hospitals may not be all-inclusive, so the patient could be charged extra for drugs, x-rays, meals, blood, nursing care, bandages, wheelchairs and so on.

"Private supplementary health coverage is very reasonable for the protection you get," says Pontus. While the department of health doesn't sell supplementary insurance or recommend a particular type, it is readily available through travel agencies and insurance companies.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

ENERGY-SAVING RECOMMENDATIONS:  
HOUSING REPORT

79-256

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 3) - A gradual move toward "user pay" in energy consumption in all government housing is among the recommendations of the task force on housing report published recently.

The recommendation calls for both the government and its employees to effect energy conservation through 11 specific proposals. These proposals parallel the recently announced program of energy conservation being undertaken by the Territorial government.

Employees who live in government accommodation and do not pay their power bills should be aware of energy costs, and the report recommends sending monthly statements of consumption and cost to these employees.

This would prepare them for Sept. 1, 1981, when the report recommends that they start paying for the electricity they consume. Payment would be at Yellowknife rates, regardless of where the employee lives.

- more -

At the same time, base rents will be adjusted so that tenants are no longer paying for power per square meter, but at the Yellowknife base rate.

On the other hand, the government will be expected to rectify all high electrical use problems such as replacing electrical water heaters with oil-fired ones.

Also, the report recommends that all money saved by the government through this user-pay system should be used for insulating and improving staff housing for further conservation savings.

Heat loss surveys should be carried out by the government, and the results made available to tenants so they can take steps to improve their homes.

When an abnormal amount of electricity is being used due to structural or job-related factors such as heat tapes or plug-ins for required vehicles, the tenant will be reimbursed by the government.

The information behind the recommendations for energy conservation was provided by the government's department of public works.

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# NEWS

SAFE DRIVING WEEK

79-255

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 29) - The Territorial government's motor vehicle branch is encouraging northern drivers to be particularly careful at this time of year, because of hazardous road conditions and the approaching holiday season.

The week of Dec. 1 to 7 has been designated Safe Driving Week across Canada.

Angie Maksymowich, N.W.T. deputy registrar of motor vehicles, says lower speeds should be used in slippery road conditions, and brakes used very sparingly.

"You need much more room to bring a vehicle to a halt in icy conditions, so keep a greater distance from the next vehicle. Pump brakes gently and intermittently, rather than slamming them, to keep steering control."

(more)

SAFE DRIVING WEEK - 2

Being prepared for emergencies is extremely important in northern winter driving, because traffic is light and it's a long way between settlements, garages, or telephones, says Mrs. Maksymowich. The recommended list of extra equipment includes a sharp axe, matches, extra warm clothing, spare gas, a tarp, dry kindling, a tow rope, booster cables, a shovel and flashlight.

The Christmas season is a time not only to avoid drinking and driving, but also to avoid combining drug use with driving, says Mrs. Maksymowich.

The Canadian Safety Council has warned that cannabis (marijuana or hashish) users should not drive at the same time as using the drug, and its use along with alcohol is rated as "extremely hazardous". The council points out that studies are not yet conclusive about the effect of drug use on driving, but "initial suspicions do not encourage those concerned about safe driving."

The N.W.T. operator's manual, available free from the motor vehicle branch in Yellowknife, contains northern driving tips and a section on drugs and driving.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

GOVERNMENT ENDS USE OF LEASED AIRCRAFT

79-254

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 28) - The government-leased Grumman Gulf Stream aircraft makes its last flight to Frobisher Bay Dec. 17.

The aircraft, leased from Wardair, is used to transport government personnel between Yellowknife, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher. The service has been in operation nearly eight years.

Northwest Territories Airways, a northern airlines firm, will service the route beginning Jan. 7.

N.W.T. Air, one of several bidders for the route, was recently licenced to operate the service by the Canadian Transport Commission.

It will offer twice-weekly scheduled service, compared to the current government schedule of one flight per week.

(more)

GOVERNMENT ENDS USE OF LEASED AIRCRAFT - 2

Norm Phillpot, transportation manager for the Territorial government, said the Grumman Gulf Stream proved to be a cost-effective system.

"The government proved it could be a viable operation, but now it is standing aside for private carriers."

Wardair, presently shutting down its northern operations, has announced its plans to sell the aircraft.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

EXHIBIT SHOWS HORRORS OF CHILD LABOUR.

79-253P

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 26) - A collection of the photographs of Lewis Wickes Hine, who crusaded in the United States against child labour for nearly 20 years, will be exhibited at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre during December.

The collection is called "Working Children", and documents the terrible conditions under which children were forced to work in the early years of this century.

Working with the National Child Labour Committee, Hine travelled throughout the United States between 1909 and 1916, photographing children at work in cotton and beet fields, mills, tenements, streets, mines, glass works, fishing boats and canneries. His photos show 10-year-old boys picking slate in the blinding dust of coal breakers, thousands of children sweltering all night in the heat of glasshouse furnaces, and young girls toiling in damp, dust-laden cotton mills six days a week.

(more)



EXHIBIT SHOWS HORRORS OF CHILD LABOUR - 2

Hine's photos were circulated widely, and were successful in arousing public sentiment against child labour at a time when corruption flourished and no regulatory agencies existed to interfere with the exploitive business procedures of corporate millionaires. Nor were there any standards of protection for children.

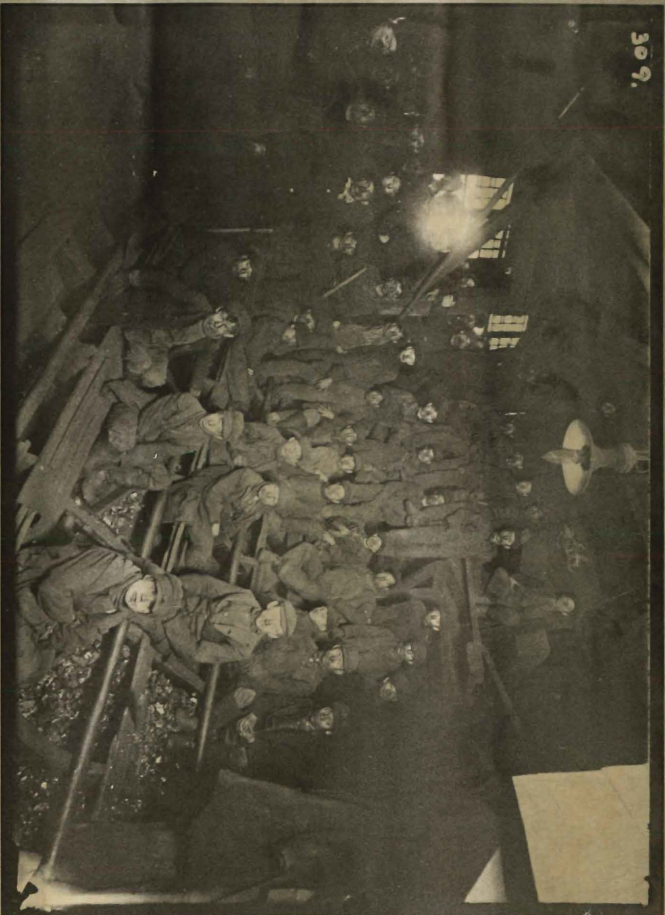
For Hine, as for many other reformers of the time, child labour was morally wrong, evil, sinful, unfair and crippling. His photos called for wide-ranging social reform. The progressive movement, which rose in opposition to the terrible ways in which children were treated, eventually resulted in a broad social welfare movement. Children's aid societies were created, juvenile courts, reformatories and probation systems established, parks and playgrounds built, compulsory school attendance laws passed.

Hine himself had received first-hand insight into the life of the child worker. After grammar school, he had worked in a furniture factory for \$4 a week, sometimes for up to 13 hours a day.

"Working Children" is a collection from the International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House in Rochester, New York. It will be on exhibit at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre from Dec. 1 to 31.

- 30 -

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309.

# WORKING CHILDREN

The Child Labor Photographs of Lewis W. Hine

The horrors of child labour in the early U.S. are documented through a collection of photographs of Lewis Wickes Hine, showing at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre during December.  
See release no. 79-253P.

# NEWS

SPORTS CLOTHING FOR SALE

79-252

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 26) - Surplus Arctic Winter Games sports clothing is being sold over the next few weeks to sports organizations and the public across the North.

The clothing was turned over to the Sport North Federation by the Territorial government's division of recreation. The 945 pieces of clothing include parkas, sweat suits, sport team uniforms, and miscellaneous items such as toques, pants and sweaters.

David Hurley, executive-director of Sport North, said first preference to purchase has already been given to sports associations affiliated with Sport North. This week the public is eligible to buy items by mail order. Any items remaining by Dec. 12 will be sold from the Sport North office in Yellowknife on a first-come, first-served basis.

(more)

SPORTS CLOTHING FOR SALE - 2

Profits from the sale will be used to buy new clothing for the 1980 Arctic Winter Games in Whitehorse.

Mail orders will be filled for parkas and sweat suits only. Parkas come in three ranges - \$100 (ready-to-wear), \$90 (require dry-cleaning), and \$75 (require dry-cleaning and minor repairs). Ladies' parkas range in size from 8 to 18, men's from 32 to 50.

Sweat suits are sold in small, medium and large, with jackets at \$15 and pants at \$10.

People wishing to purchase should send a certified cheque or money order payable to Sport North Federation, Box 336, Yellowknife. For further information, call 873-7770 in Yellowknife.

- 30 -

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MINISTERS ANNOUNCED

79-251

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 23) - The Territorial government's ministerial positions were announced today by John Parker, commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

George Braden (MLA, Yellowknife North) becomes Minister of Economic Development and Tourism and also assumes responsibility for chairing the executive's sub-committee on priorities and planning.

James Wah-Shee (MLA, Rae-Lac La Martre) becomes Minister of Local Government and Richard Nerysoo (MLA, Mackenzie Delta) becomes Minister of Renewable Resources.

Mr. Nerysoo will also chair the executive sub-committee on legislation.

Thomas Butters (MLA, Inuvik) assumes ministerial duties for the department of education and the department of justice and public services.

(more)

MINISTERS ANNOUNCED - 2

Arnold McCallum assumes ministerial responsibilities for the department of health and the department of social services.

He has also been named minister responsible for the N.W.T. Housing Corporation.

Commissioner Parker said the ministerial line-up is subject to review once additional elected members take their places on the executive committee at a later date.

Two positions on the nine-member executive have been reserved for MLAs from the Arctic regions.

During the last session an informal caucus of Arctic members served notice that they were not ready to assume Executive positions before gaining more experience with the assembly and the Territorial government.

Both Mr. McCallum and Mr. Butters are former executive members.

Commissioner Parker said he had assigned heavier loads to these ministers "at this time" to take advantage of their experience.

Meanwhile, the department of public works and the department of personnel will report directly to Deputy Commissioner Bob Pilot.

The new department of Government Services will also report to the Deputy when it is formed in the new year.

(more)

MINISTERS ANNOUNCED - 3

The department of information and the director of regional operations will continue to report to the commissioner.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

PA

STEPS IN APPLYING FOR DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

79-250

(Last of a series by Pat Verge)

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov.26) - Applications for funding under the federal-Territorial interim subsidiary agreement on community economic development should be made through the regional offices of the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism.

A total of \$3.8 million has been allotted for economic development over a two-year period under the agreement, signed in April in conjunction with the General Development Agreement (GDA).

John Reid, chief of planning and resource development with the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism, says that by going to their regional offices, community groups will be able to discuss the eligibility of their proposals under the interim agreement, or alternatively, under other funding programs. It is at the regional level that the circumstances surrounding each proposal are best understood and that proper referrals can be made.

(more)

STEPS IN APPLYING FOR DEVELOPMENT FUNDING - 2

Reid says people may have problems reading through the subsidiary agreement, trying to see if their program will fit.

"This is because we have left categories very broad in order to cover the greatest possible range of community interests, as expressed by the communities themselves. This is where regional offices will help determine where proposals fit."

After being processed through the regional offices, applications will be submitted to a secretariat in Yellowknife, manned by John Reid and Paul Berthelet, acting manager for the federal department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE). The secretariat ensures that applications are complete, then calls a meeting of an eight-person advisory group which reviews the application and makes a recommendation whether to accept or reject it.

The advisory group has four representatives from the Territorial government --- from the N.W.T. Wildlife Service, the department of local government, and two divisions of the department of economic development --- manpower development, and planning and resource development. It also has four federal members --- from the Indian business development program of the department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND), the Federal Fisheries Service, Employment and Immigration, and DREE. Other departments or agencies with an interest in a particular application may also be called in.

(more)

STEPS IN APPLYING FOR DEVELOPMENT FUNDING - 3

The application and recommendation are sent to the "management group" made up of the federal managers of DREE and DIAND, and the Territorial directors of economic development and of public works. Their decision must be unanimous. If it is not, the proposal will be referred to the federal ministers and Commissioner John Parker of the N.W.T.

Applicants are informed after the management group makes its final decision.

Applications for funding under the subsidiary agreement are dealt with on a first-come, first-served, basis.

- 30 -

Contact: Pat Verge  
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# NEWS

OK

\$3.8 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

79-249

(Second of a series by Pat Verge)

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 26) - Economic development in the N.W.T. got a major boost this year with the signing of the first federal-territorial interim subsidiary agreement on community economic development.

The agreement was signed in April by representatives of the federal and Territorial governments under the provisions of a five-year General Development Agreement (GDA).

The interim agreement provides a total of \$3.8 million for community-based economic development. Of this amount, \$3.4 million will be cost-shared 60 per cent by the federal government and 40 per cent by the Territorial government.

(more)

\$3.8 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - 2

The remaining \$400,000 will pay for a forestry inventory of the Liard River Valley to establish the potential yield. This portion will be paid entirely by the federal government.

Of the total federal commitment of almost \$2.5 million, \$2 million is provided by the department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and the remainder by the department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND).

There are six different cost-shared programs under the subsidiary agreement. John Reid, chief of planning and resource development with the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism, says the programs have purposely been written in a very general way.

"Because we did not want to assume we knew what the communities would be asking for, we are encouraging the communities to bring forward what they feel should be done at the local level. So we have just laid out general areas of need."

The programs fall into four categories from which government departments or community groups can receive funds. These are tourism, renewable resources, job rotation, and community-based planning.

(more)

There are two other funding categories which do not provide project grants. They are for administration and review of the agreement, and for the formulation of a long-term comprehensive economic development strategy for the N.W.T. The budget for these is \$280,000.

A territorial-wide tourism study being conducted independently of the agreement will produce an integrated tourism strategy for a five-to-10-year period. Money has been set aside for tourism promotion during the first year of the agreement (\$120,000), and for implementation of the strategy in the second year (\$480,000).

The renewable resources sector is a "well-demonstrated area of need", and consequently a lot of money has been budgeted for it, says Reid. The intent of the agreement is to develop a variety of activities at the community level.

The area of intersettlement trade has been identified "to allow for better use and distribution of existing resources," says Reid.

"For example, if there is an oversupply of country foods (such as seal meat, char or caribou) in a community, regional distribution systems may be developed to allow for exchange of these goods. This means small outlying settlements could be providing foods to larger communities. Another commodity which could be distributed is soapstone."

(more)

\$3.8 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - 4

Some \$800,000 has been allotted which will allow for the development of up to eight projects over two years. It will be necessary to develop facilities (such as freezers), and to meet health standards. Funding can also cover training and managerial assistance.

The area of fur, wildlife and fisheries touches upon the lifestyles of many northern people. To ensure that these lifestyles continue, and that markets will be found for products traditionally produced only for the use of northern people, funding is set aside for a series of projects. These will centre on resource and harvest inventories needed to establish quotas; research and training in better production techniques for greater efficiency or quality; and market development.

"There is a great deal of support work needed for certain projects. For example, the agreement has funded work to determine the size of the char population for a fishery that has been proposed for the Arctic coast," says Reid.

Another project funded under the agreement this summer was aimed at better utilization of resources. It examined hunting techniques that would minimize the loss of narwhals by sinking, and thus get the maximum return to the hunter.

(more)

\$3.8 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - 5

At the request of the N.W.T. Grade Stamp Association, methods to stabilize income to lumber producers will be examined. Some \$20,000 has been set aside for this study.

A total of \$1.8 million over two years has been allocated for the renewable resources sector.

A job-rotation pilot project will be funded in the amount of \$100,000 over two years. This is to provide for experimental programs to rotate workers between their homes and jobsites. This will enable northern people to participate in wage employment without having to move permanently from their communities.

A sum of \$600,000 has been allotted to assist communities to participate in planning and implementing development projects. In several cases, communities have already taken the initiative by setting up community development agencies, such as economic development corporations, development committees, or chambers of commerce. Funding will be available to set up these agencies, support their activities, provide information about development, and provide training.

The objective is to help communities to prepare their own plans for what should be done at the local level, says Reid.

Communities interested in applying for development funds should contact their regional office of the department of economic development and tourism.



# NEWS

PA

HELPING THE NORTHERN ECONOMY

79-248

(first of a series by Pat Verge)

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov.26) - A federal-territorial agreement has the two levels of government working in unison to promote economic growth and development in the N.W.T.

The five-year General Development Agreement (GDA), signed in the spring of this year, "commits different government agencies at the Territorial and federal level to consult and co-ordinate their efforts to stimulate the N.W.T. economy," explains John Reid, the Territorial government's chief of planning and resource development. Mr. Reid is with the department of economic development and tourism.

The GDA was signed by the N.W.T. and the federal departments of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

(more)

General Development Agreements exist in many provinces to co-ordinate the activities of various government agencies, says Paul Berthelet of Yellowknife, acting manager for DREE in the N.W.T.

Under an interim subsidiary agreement signed at the same time as the GDA, a joint economic development strategy will be formulated to guide the efforts of the federal and territorial departments.

The GDA also specifies that the people of the N.W.T. must have an active role in planning and implementing development. The interim subsidiary agreement provides \$3.5 million over the next two years to support community development through grants.

The impetus for the GDA came from an economic development conference held in Hay River in May, 1978.

"It was in the wake of the cancellation of the pipeline," says Reid.

"We realized that we had to forget about a grand design - one pipeline to solve all our economic problems. We couldn't put all our eggs in one basket.

"The communities themselves, particularly at the regional economic development conferences, indicated a whole range of different programs they'd like to see made available. They wanted to look individually at their resources and potential. So it was with that community input that the GDA was developed."

(more)

The agreement points out that the overall economy of the N.W.T. is narrowly based, explains Reid. The major employers are government, the non-renewable resource sector (the mining industry is the second-largest N.W.T. employer), the renewable resource sector (hunting, trapping, fishing, forestry) and a small manufacturing, tourism and services sector.

Other characteristics affecting the N.W.T. economy are the immensity of the land, its sparse population, and extremes of climate. Significant regional disparities exist in terms of geography, infrastructure, social conditions and economic activity. There is rapid population growth, and high rates of unemployment and underemployment.

The N.W.T. economy is also characterized by a heavy dependence on government spending and employment, and the existence of two distinct economies - the conventional wage employment economy and the traditional economy tied to the land.

A long-term development strategy is being developed for the N.W.T. In the meantime, an interim development strategy places emphasis on achieving balance in development, particularly between renewable and non-renewable resources. It also calls for balance between conventional wage employment opportunities and traditional economic activities. It promotes choice and diversification of activity.

As well, the GDA calls for an annual review of problems by the two levels of government involved.

(more)

The interim subsidiary agreement is to provide \$3.5 million over two years to community groups and government agencies for community-oriented development activities. At any time in the next five years, more subsidiary agreements can be signed.

Communities interested in applying for development funds should contact their regional office of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

79-247

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 23) - Twenty-nine people will get their Canadian citizenship in a ceremony Dec. 7th in Yellowknife.

J.R. (Jim) Slaven, chief judge of the Territorial Court, will conduct the ceremony starting at 3 pm in the Courthouse.

The guest speaker will be Yellowknife Mayor Fred Henne. The Daughters of the Midnight Sun will present the new citizens with a book, a scroll and a Canada pin.

The last citizenship proceedings were held in July.

-30-

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# NEWS

INDUSTRIAL WAREHOUSEMAN NOW DESIGNATED TRADE

79-246

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 22) - The Territorial government has designated industrial warehouseman as a trade in the N.W.T.

This means the industrial trade has been added to the list of approved apprenticeship programs for which certificates of qualifications can be issued in the Territories.

There are about 30 potential apprentices in the Territories who could be registered for training. However, because of the low number of students no training program will be set up in the N.W.T. Instead, trainees will have to go to British Columbia. Training will be conducted at the Finning Tractor plant in Vancouver.

(more)

INDUSTRIAL WAREHOUSEMAN NOW DESIGNATED TRADE - 2

Brian Carr, head of the apprenticeship programs in the department of economic development and tourism, says that in this case it is cheaper for the government to purchase training outside the Territories than it is to start a training program in the north.

The push for a warehouseman's training program was started about a year ago by Pine Point Mines.

The training program runs three years and is interspersed with a series of four-week training periods in Vancouver.

A trainee must have a minimum grade-10 education and must have a job with an employer in the N.W.T. as a warehouseman. During the four-week training periods in B.C. the trainee will receive a federal allowance. Transportation to and from Vancouver is paid for by the Territorial government.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

STILL NEED FOR MORE THOROUGH IMMUNIZATION

79-245

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 22) - This is immunization month in Canada, and the Territorial government's department of health is encouraging parents to ensure they and their children are fully protected against infectious disease.

"Immunization is one of the most effective and easy ways to prevent disease," says Elaine Berthelet, acting chief of programs and standards for the department of health.

"But many people have become complacent and lax about vaccinations in recent years, and haven't bothered to have their children or themselves vaccinated."

This is probably because people have not felt threatened by a major epidemic for a long time. However, some alarming statistics about communicable diseases have recently been reported, notes Mrs. Berthelet.

(more)



STILL NEED FOR MORE THOROUGH IMMUNIZATION - 2

The federal Centre for Disease Control reported 7,434 cases of rubella (German measles) in the first nine months of 1979, more than twice the 3,085 cases recorded in 1978. This is particularly disturbing because of the congenital rubella syndrome which occurs in 20 to 25 per cent or more infants born to women who are in contact with rubella during the first three months of pregnancy. These infants suffer hearing loss, congenital disease, mental retardation and other defects.

In British Columbia, more than seven times as many cases of measles were reported in the first six months of 1979 than occurred in all of 1978. And in 1978, there were threatened polio outbreaks in Ontario and Alberta.

It's especially important to have babies, pre-schoolers and young school children vaccinated because they are the most susceptible to disease, says Mrs. Berthelet. The elderly and chronically ill also have a lower level of resistance.

In the N.W.T., vaccinations are given to people by the medical services branch of Health and Welfare Canada. The vaccines are available free-of-charge at nursing stations in small communities, and at public health offices or clinics in the larger centres.

Vaccines are offered to students, with their parents' consent, in most Territorial schools. Tests for tuberculosis are often given in conjunction with vaccines, and those persons whose tests are positive are x-rayed.

(more)

STILL NEED FOR MORE THOROUGH IMMUNIZATION - 3

The shots cover diseases such as polio, measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, mumps, rubella, and tetanus.

People who plan to travel outside Canada should check well in advance about what shots to get, because each country sets its own immunization requirements.

The Territorial department of health has posters and brochures outlining various communicable diseases for which there are shots. These are free-of-charge and may be obtained by writing to the department in Yellowknife.

For further information on immunization, contact your local public health nurse. In Yellowknife, call the Health Centre at 873-5911.

# NEWS

ARSENIC LEVELS HARMLESS - COMMITTEE

79-244

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 21) - Arsenic levels have been reduced to a harmless point, concluded the standing committee on arsenic pollution in Yellowknife at a recent meeting here.

The committee's conclusion was confirmed by reports from the Environmental Protection Service, Yellowknife Water Quality Laboratory, Giant Mine and the federal Occupational Health Unit.

The arsenic level was determined through vegetable analyses and snow and air measurements.

Chairman Dan Billing commended Giant Mine on its efforts at controlling air and liquid arsenic emissions, and has suggested the committee be disbanded now that the arsenic levels are down.

(more)

ARSENIC LEVELS HARMLESS - COMMITTEE - 2

If the committee dissolves, the responsibility for monitoring work-place levels and community levels will be handled by the Territorial Occupational Health Unit and the Tripartite Committee on Toxic Pollutants. It is made up of the federal government, territorial government and native organizations.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

TIMING SYSTEM TO CUT ENERGY COSTS

79-243

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 20) - The Territorial government expects to reduce by half the energy consumed by vehicles parked in its office and apartment parking lots in Yellowknife this winter.

When the weather's cold enough, a newly-installed timing system will switch plug-ins on for half an hour, then off for half an hour throughout the day.

The program will save an estimated \$8,500 yearly in electrical bills. The installation of the timing devices is part of the government's recently-announced energy conservation plan.

The saving will not mean a reduction in monthly parking charges.

The program covers 304 parking stalls in Yellowknife. Last year they used about \$17,000 worth of electricity in the six winter months beginning Oct. 15.

(more)

TIMING SYSTEM TO CUT ENERGY COSTS - 2

The cost of installing the timing system is \$59 per stall, so the total cost of the operation is almost \$18,000. This cost will be recovered in one to three years, depending on the location of the stall.

In five years, the savings will have climbed to \$37,000 at today's power rates. Of course, the savings will be more dramatic with an increase in those rates.

Government office lots will be powered for varying amounts of time, depending on the work patterns of the employees.

At the apartment parking lots where the government foots the electrical bill, the timing system will be in operation 24 hours a day.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

CALEF TO LECTURE ON CARIBOU

79-242P

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 19) - The story of caribou in the Northwest Territories will be the topic of the next lecture in the series, "Science, History and All That", sponsored by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and the Science Advisory Board.

George Calef, wildlife biologist and photographer, will follow the migrations and behaviour of the barren-ground caribou over the span of a year, with the aid of a collection of his own slides. The activities of the caribou themselves, as well as the changing seasons of the arctic landscape and the lives of other tundra creatures such as wolves, bears and ptarmigan, will be portrayed through photographs.

(more)

CALEF TO LECTURE ON CARIBOU - 2

Mr. Calef will present current information on herd populations and locations, and the present philosophy of caribou management. He will also give his views on how hunting and development are affecting the animals and may be endangering them.

Mr. Calef has studied caribou for nearly 10 years. With a doctoral degree in zoology from the University of British Columbia, he began studying caribou in the northern Yukon and Mackenzie Delta region as part of the environmental studies associated with the proposed Mackenzie Valley pipeline. He spent several years as a wildlife biologist with the N.W.T. Wildlife Service, studying caribou in different areas of the N.W.T., as well as observing wolves and bison.

Mr. Calef is now under contract to the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee writing a book on caribou. He is a well-known photographer and has had his work published in such magazines as National Geographic, Nature Canada Magazine, Weekend, and Science Magazine.

The lecture on caribou will take place Thurs. Nov. 29, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. Admission is free.

- 30 -

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George Calef, wildlife biologist, will give a slide lecture on caribou, on Thurs. Nov. 29, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre auditorium. Admission is free.

See release no. 79-242P, Nov. 19/79.

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# NEWS

NORTH MUST MEET DEVELOPMENT HEAD-ON - SORENSEN

79-241

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 19) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly needs to accept development, meet it head-on, and turn it around to the benefit of the north.

Otherwise, said MLA Lynda Sorensen, the Assembly won't be fulfilling its responsibility.

"I understand the need for orderly and balanced development in the north. But we can't hold back with our heads in the sand much longer," the MLA for Yellowknife South said Friday in her reply to the commissioner's opening address to the ninth Legislative Assembly.

Mrs. Sorensen explained that each time the Legislative Assembly requests an increase in funding from the federal government it must realize that the funds come from taxation--and this means development has to take place.

(more)

She noted that major developments beginning to take place in the north, such as the Norman Wells pipeline, have happened without the Territorial Assembly being consulted.

"The energy-hungry south will begin to make our decisions for us unless we are prepared for development and have thought through the necessary controls to safeguard our future," said Mrs. Sorensen.

She suggested the Assembly demand jobs and contracts for supplies, impact funds to ease the effects of development, and recognition in the Territorial budget for the royalties and corporate taxes that are collected from development.

"Let's speak as one united force through this Assembly before it's too late," she urged.

Mrs. Sorensen said she would be working during her term of office to ensure that the Northern Canada Power Commission "justifies each and every rate increase". She also plans to work for a tax credit for northern taxpayers that would allow for more equitable ways of dealing with the high cost of living.

The government's finances should be under the direct control of elected representatives, rather than the commissioner, said Mrs. Sorensen, who is chairman of the Assembly's standing committee on finance. She also wants to make sure that every civil service position and every program run by the Territorial government is justified.

(more)

"I am accountable, and if I hear of wastefulness...I will be coming in fighting," she stressed.

Speaker of the House, Bob MacQuarrie, MLA for Yellowknife Centre, said his priority in the new Legislature will be to see if a united voice can be found among native and non-native people about the kind of political system that should be in place in the north.

Mr. MacQuarrie said Friday in his reply to the commissioner's opening address, that a very necessary-- although "rather sad" --step had been taken Thursday, when the ninth Assembly set aside the paper on constitutional development that had been put together by the eighth Assembly.

"That paper should never have been passed in the first place because it didn't have the majority support of the peoples of the N.W.T.," said Mr. MacQuarrie. A fundamental principle of democracy had been overlooked-- "that government is only legitimate if it has the consent of people, and that the people's voice must be heard by their government," said the MLA.

As a member of the newly-formed committee on unity, Mr. MacQuarrie noted that it might not be possible-- because of the great diversity in the north-- to bring people together in one system. But alternatives will have to be found.

(more)

Mr. MacQuarrie said there are many "distinguished, dedicated, intelligent and hard-working" territorial public servants. If these people are open to following the directions of the new Assembly and do not obstruct change, he will work to see that they are "not treated shabbily", he promised.

Mr. MacQuarrie said he would also work for an amendment to the public services ordinance that would allow civil servants--except those in the most senior levels--political rights.

The MLA said he will introduce a motion at the next session of the Legislature to invite the commissioner to sit with the Assembly during its formal sessions.

The eighth Assembly passed a motion last spring that requires the commissioner to sit outside the House during that time. Mr. MacQuarrie commented that this requirement "offends my sense of courtesy and hospitality", since the commissioner is expected to know what goes on in the Legislature, yet isn't given the same comfort and convenience that MLAs enjoy.

-30-

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# NEWS

NEW ASSEMBLY PASSES SLATE OF MOTIONS

79-240

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 19) - The Legislative Assembly passed a motion Friday changing a territorial wildlife regulation to allow for caribou hunting all year around Baker Lake.

William Noah of Baker Lake, MLA for Keewatin North, said the people of Baker Lake don't have access to sea mammals such as seals because they live in an inland community. So they suffer during the two-month period from May 15 to July 15 when they aren't allowed to hunt caribou.

The caribou have been driven away by low-flying aircraft and people have to hunt further away from the community now, Mr. Noah said. He added that the Inuit of the Baffin and Keewatin regions had not been consulted before the particular regulation was made.

(more)

NEW ASSEMBLY PASSES SLATE OF MOTIONS - 2

Tagak Curley of Rankin Inlet, MLA for Keewatin South said he thinks better conservation programs can be developed without taking away the right to hunt. He said he personally won't kill as many caribou as usual, to leave more for those who depend on hunting.

The Assembly passed a second motion urging the federal government to re-establish negotiations immediately with the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement (C.O.P.E.) on the Inuvialuit land claims. Nellie Cournoyea, MLA for Western Arctic, said the federal government had been committed to reaching a final agreement on the settlement by Oct. 31 of this year but now has refused to negotiate.

Richard Nerysoo, MLA for Mackenzie Delta, said that he had not supported the negotiations in the past because the Dene of Fort McPherson, who are affected also by the Inuvialuit claim, had not been consulted. However, he has now received assurances they will be consulted and so he supported the motion.

Some MLAs expressed concern that passing the motion would mean the Assembly agreed with the contents of the agreement-in-principle reached by C.O.P.E. and the federal government last year. Therefore, an amendment was made to clarify that the Assembly was only urging that negotiations should resume immediately.

(more)



The Assembly passed a third motion to recognize the Beaufort Sea area, especially the community of Tuktoyaktuk, as a "special development zone" requiring extra funding to deal with the impact of resource development.

The federal government approves major development in the north, such as the search for oil and gas in the Beaufort Sea. Therefore it also should provide the funds to ensure adequate services and programs, said MLA Nellie Cournoyea. She introduced the motion.

Tom Butters, MLA for Inuvik, said in supporting the motion that strong representation has been made to the federal government in the past by the Territorial government and the town of Inuvik, to get the extra funds needed by rapid-growth communities. But the federal government didn't provide any, and the Territorial government had to step in to foot the bill, thus straining its own budget.

The Assembly passed another motion opposing an application to the Air Transport Committee by Transair to transfer its commercial operation in the Keewatin to Calm Air International Limited. It also will encourage other carriers to bid on commercial air services in the region.

MLA Tagak Curley explained that Calm Air is a much smaller company than Transair and the transfer would adversely affect Keewatin residents and small businesses through much higher air fares and freight rates.

(more)

The Chamber of Commerce for the Keewatin, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, and the Inuit Development Corporation have all opposed the transfer. Residents of the Keewatin have not been able to receive a full hearing of their point of view because of the difficulty of travelling to Ottawa, Mr. Curley added.

A special committee on unity was also approved Friday by the Assembly. Its mandate will be to determine the means by which a political consensus can be reached among northern peoples. Members are Nick Sibbeston, MLA for Mackenzie-Liard, Bob MacQuarrie, MLA for Yellowknife Centre, Robert Sayine, MLA for Great Slave East, Tagak Curley, MLA for Keewatin South and Peter Fraser, MLA for Mackenzie Great Bear.

A legislative ball will be held during the second session of the ninth Assembly, which begins Jan. 31, 1980. The motion, introduced by Mark Evaluarjuk, MLA for Foxe Basin, passed with little discussion.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

COURNOYEA WANTS EPP OUT

79-239

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 16) - The MLA for the Western Arctic announced Thursday she wants the Legislative Assembly to ask for the resignation of Indian and Northern Affairs minister Jake Epp.

At the same time, Nellie Cournoyea of Inuvik roundly criticized the attitude and conduct of the Territorial government and past Legislative Assemblies and said the Assembly is "on probation" as far as her constituents are concerned until it starts serving the people of the N.W.T. and fulfilling their needs.

"On critical issues in the past, the Territorial Council (Legislative Assembly) and the GNWT has been isolated and unresponsive to the people they are supposed to serve," she said. "It has become a self-fulfilling creature that views the aspirations and goals of its electorate as a threat to its own."

(more)

Meanwhile, Ms. Cournoyea told the ninth Assembly that from indications she has received the minister does not intend to negotiate the C.O.P.E. land claim in good faith, because he is creating the expectation among native groups that he will negotiate fairly while in fact his actions indicate "he wants to have the Cabinet go back on the (C.O.P.E.) agreement (agreement-in-principle) on the basis that it is too much."

Ms. Cournoyea said: "Mr. Epp's words and actions echo the treachery of a century ago when treaties were made, only to be later broken when it suited the expedient morality of subsequent governments."

As a result, she said, "I will introduce a motion in this Council at the first opportunity calling for the resignation of Mr. Epp as Minister of DIAND because he is not negotiating on the basis of the signed agreement (agreement-in-principle) between the Inuvialuit and Canada."

About the Territorial government and past Legislative Assemblies she had a variety of comments, including these:

. "A paradox has existed in the Territories. The GNWT continually asserts that it is dominated by a colonially-minded federal government, yet it has been a few sophisticated people who have controlled the Territorial government and Council and who eagerly wish to retain the vast entirety of the N.W.T. as their domain."

(more)

. "I can think of no greater example of a more serious failure on the part of the previous Councils and Governments of the N.W.T. to carry out their responsibilities than in the area of land claims and constitutional development. Nowhere has the isolation of the Government been more pronounced and more destructive."

. "It is tragic that the previous Council acted as if they perceived land claims including constitutional development as a threat to themselves."

. On the C.O.P.E. agreement-in-principle: "The reaction of the Legislative Assembly was to criticize and ridicule the Agreement from the basis of ignorance. Never once did they approach C.O.P.E. for clarification or explanation."

. "The bureaucracy within Local Government and (the) Department of Information promoted misunderstanding within the government and in public."

. ".....the land claims secretariat of the GNWT was advising the federal government about positions of the GNWT (on land claims) which were never reviewed or approved by the executive committee or by the Legislative Assembly. The bureaucracy was operating in secret....."

(more)

. On past Assemblies on the subject of political development: "It appears to me that the Territorial Council, being isolated from its electorate was rabidly trying to wrestle power from the federal government and hoard it unto themselves...."

. On economic development: "The GNWT has been guilty of being a conspirator in the 'soft sell' of large development."

The MLA for the Western Arctic suggested that the Assembly promote a "meaningful" resolution of all land claims, examine the Territorial government's land claims secretariat, rescind the last Assembly's four principles on land claims, and determine what should be the role of the Assembly in claims negotiations.

Ms. Cournoyea concluded: "We have a chance to build a Territory that our constituents want...The time is now and the responsibility is ours."

- 30 -

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# NEWS

PATTERSON SPEAKS OUT ON UNITY

79-238

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 16) - Dennis Patterson, MLA for Frobisher Bay, says he won't force a motion for division of the N.W.T. as outlined in the Nunavut proposal even though he believes it would probably be endorsed by the Legislative Assembly if he did.

The whole question of unity has to be debated, Mr. Patterson said Thursday in his reply to the commissioner's opening address to the ninth Legislative Assembly.

The MLA did question, however, whether a united Territories can survive. He said he wants to hear the case for unity, and the views of other people represented in the Assembly.

"The people of Nunavut seem to know what they want and this Assembly will have to respond. These things must be answered in a hurry," said Mr. Patterson. The Nunavut proposal by Inuit Tapirisat of Canada calls for a separate territory above the treeline.

(more)

PATTERSON SPEAKS OUT ON UNITY - 2

Mr. Patterson said there have been "dramatic changes" in the eastern Territories since 1966 when the Carrothers Commission recommended the capital of the N.W.T. be moved to Yellowknife. The commission noted at the time that the Inuit people were politically unsophisticated and economically depressed.

Today, said Mr. Patterson, there is real political sophistication. This has focussed world attention on the Eastern Arctic. He referred to the Baker Lake law suit against the federal government and mining companies, to the hamlet of Pond Inlet which advanced "eloquent arguments" about drilling in Lancaster Sound last year, and to Igloolik which has developed a "model system" of liquor control.

The MLA noted that there is a very strong regional identity and unity among the Inuit because of common language, values, history and lifestyle. He said the Baffin Regional Council is a strongly united group of chairmen of settlement, village and hamlet councils which has achieved "remarkable unanimity and consensus" in decisions.

Meanwhile, he said the caucus of MLAs who come from above the treeline is "no political plot".

"Our wishes are the same ... we wish to speak with one voice."

For these and other reasons, "it is wrong to quickly assume that Nunavut is politically unviable," said Mr. Patterson. He added that there should be a study done of the costs of administering government from Yellowknife, especially travel costs.

(more)



PATTERSON SPEAKS OUT ON UNITY - 3

Mr. Patterson said he's extremely concerned about the startling rate at which young people are taking their own lives in Frobisher Bay. Nine young Inuit people committed suicide in one year. He believes the young are "angry at a society where there is no hope for them".

Mr. Patterson said the major decision-makers in Frobisher Bay are all outsiders who "start something, move up and on." This makes the Inuit majority feel they have lost control over their destiny, he said.

Mr. Patterson said there's a valuable cottage industry in Frobisher Bay. But there are problems, such as the availability of soapstone. He said the ending of the federal Canada Works program is going to cause financial problems for a senior citizens' carving workshop in Frobisher and cultural inclusion programs in Baffin schools.

It is extremely important that a northern police force be developed, said Mr. Patterson. There will be a continuing need for professional policemen, and he is not against the RCMP, he said. But native people can best handle the average drunk, domestic complaint, and search-and-rescue operations. Native people are also sorely under-represented in the rest of the justice system, he added.

Mr. Patterson said he will work strongly for increased devolution of authority to local groups such as hospital boards, boards of education and hunters and trappers associations in areas such as health, education and wildlife management. The people are eagerly clamouring to take on these responsibilities and the central government "should be more than glad to give them away," he said.

# NEWS

TRADITIONS OF DENE MUST BE RESPECTED - NERYSOO

79-237

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 16) - The Territorial government is not the government of the Dene people until the Dene say it is.

That was the message of Richard Nerysoo of Fort McPherson, MLA for Mackenzie Delta, during his reply Thursday to the commissioner's opening address to the ninth Legislative Assembly.

"It does not show in here any traditions or values of the Dene," said Nerysoo.

"In order to legitimize any kind of government, the people themselves have to agree to the legitimacy of it....I cannot say it is the government of the people until I feel this government respects the traditions of my people and my constituents," he stressed.

(more)

The Legislative Assembly has not in the past respected the views and proposals on government and land claims presented by the Dene Nation, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, and the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement, together representing two-thirds of the N.W.T.'s population. This has been the cause of conflict and discontent, said Mr. Nerysoo.

There has also not been enough respect for the institution of chief and band councils, which was established long before the Territorial government put in new institutions, said Mr. Nerysoo. The native way of reaching consensus has been seen as an old-fashioned idea, and not worthy of the modern age, he noted.

"I am here because I at least respect that you have ideas on government," said Mr. Nerysoo.

"I am here to ensure those (Dene) traditions are in fact put into place here."

Mr. Nerysoo said he does not agree with any type of major development in the North until the question of aboriginal rights is settled. He believes in development that is "checked" to see that rights are being protected. The best interests of hunters and trappers must also be protected, and that way of life be made viable, he said.

(more)

TRADITIONS OF DENE MUST BE RESPECTED - NERYSOO - 3

Education is a very important element for young people, and it is wrong to suggest history began when the explorer Alexander Mackenzie came north. It should be made mandatory that northern children learn their own history.

"At least we respect the fact that schools are there and we go. We try to learn why you are here. But you don't have the decency to learn why we are here and for how long," he said.

Mr. Nerysoo said he'd be making a motion that school curriculum be reviewed and would support an increase in the number of classroom assistants. He will also be moving that a review be done of the game ordinance.

-30-

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# NEWS

ASSEMBLY NOT BOUND BY PAPER AND FOUR PRINCIPLES

79-236

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 16) - The ninth Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories will not be bound by the last Assembly's position paper on constitutional development in the N.W.T., or its four principles on settlement of native claims.

The motions were passed Thursday during the first session of the ninth Assembly.

James Wah-Shee, MLA for Rae-Lac La Martre, in moving that the constitutional development paper not be binding on the Assembly, said his motion should not be seen as tearing down the work of the eighth Assembly or throwing out the paper altogether. But he noted that some MLAs have expressed "reservations and questions" about its contents.

The paper generally contains recommendations for bringing a more provincial-type government to the N.W.T. and transferring more power from the federal government to the north.

(more)

Mr. Wah-Shee noted that instead of granting the Territorial government equal status in settlement of land claims, as the paper recommends, "this Assembly would be best served by working towards a co-operative spirit with native organizations" to see what role the government should take.

Nick Sibbeston, MLA for Mackenzie Liard, said the paper had not been prepared with the full consultation of other northern people. It had not considered other forms of government besides the "straight parliamentary system," which, he added, was unlikely to serve the interests of native people.

Arnold McCallum, MLA for Slave River, in opposing the motion, said there were things in the paper that could be common ground and that should be discussed by the MLAs.

Mr. McCallum noted that no one could "go against" the right of the people to have responsible government in the N.W.T., and he didn't think anyone could oppose transferring direct control of resources to northern people. He added he believes the Territorial government and people have "every right" to participate in land claims negotiations.

Mr. McCallum attempted to have the debate put into committee-of-the-whole for discussion, but this motion was defeated.

(more)

ASSEMBLY NOT BOUND BY PAPER AND FOUR PRINCIPLES - 3

Tagak Curley, MLA for Keewatin South, said he supports the motion because it "will make it easier for a unity committee to proceed with the job of finding out what people all over the North think.

"It will give open doors to communities that the previous Legislature did not have."

The MLA for Mackenzie Delta, Richard Nerysoo, in making the motion that the new Assembly not be bound by the stand of the eighth Assembly on land claims, said new principles should be formulated.

Mr. Curley said he can't support the first principle which states that the Territorial government is the senior government in the N.W.T. and represents all its residents. It isn't true and work in making the government truly representative will have to be done, he said.

Nellie Cournoyea, MLA for the Western Arctic, who seconded the motion, said it would give the new Assembly the opportunity to "start afresh" in a spirit of co-operation, and to "put forth goodwill."

Robert Sayine of Fort Resolution, MLA for Great Slave East, said the four principles have been obstacles in the way of native organizations in their progress towards land claims settlements. He noted that the Assembly is wrong in talking about unity, if there are still such obstacles in its way.

# NEWS

UNITY COMMITTEE DEBATED

79-235

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 15) - Members of the Legislative Assembly generally agreed Wednesday that they should form an important committee on political unity in the N.W.T.

However, first the Assembly has to work out details of the committee's mandate.

The motion to form the committee was put forward by Nick Sibbeston, MLA for Mackenzie Liard.

Mr. Sibbeston said the purpose of the committee would be to "determine the process by which political consensus might be reached among the people of the north." He said this would especially mean consulting native organizations about what kind of government would be acceptable to them.

(more)



Bob MacQuarrie, MLA for Yellowknife Centre, who campaigned on the issue of unity, said all relevant material should be considered by the committee to get the whole picture, including the Nunavut proposal and the recommendations of the Drury Inquiry. The committee might well conclude, he said, that the disparities of the North are so great that a unified Territories is impossible, and that an alternative to one government would be more acceptable.

George Braden, MLA for Yellowknife North, said he supports the motion, but wonders about possible changes that might occur even while the committee is doing its research, such as in the areas of land claims negotiations and devolution.

Tagak Curley, MLA for Keewatin South, said that while he is in favour of the idea, he has seen that issues of community interest have been blocked because of so much preoccupation with political issues.

Young people are becoming very pessimistic because of the political problems and division in the N.W.T., he said, and attention must be given to how people at the local level can take a more active role in developing the North.

Don Stewart, MLA for Hay River, said he is concerned about the cost of such a committee and would like clear information on where the money to run it will come from. Suggestions were made that the money may be available from the funds put aside for committees of the Legislative Assembly, by cancelling the Legislative Ball, or by diverting some of the money used by the land claims secretariat of the Territorial government.

(more)

Lynda Sorensen, MLA for Yellowknife South, said she supports the idea of the committee but has some doubts about it. She is anxious to see other issues, such as mine safety and labour relations, devolved from the federal to the Territorial government, and wants to see the Territorial government's policy of decentralization continued.

Mrs. Sorensen stressed that "unless we move quickly, very quickly ... we may lose what power we have now in the N.W.T." She explained that the serious economic situation facing Canada in the near future may see the voters of Canada imposing development in the North. The question of unity in the north is therefore an important one to have resolved, she said.

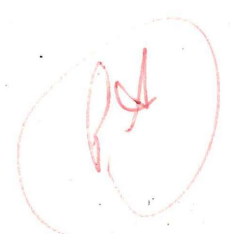
Richard Nerysoo, MLA for Mackenzie Delta, said he supports the committee and feels the Assembly needs to devolve more authority to the people. Political change should strengthen communities and regions, not just the central government, he said.

Mr. Nerysoo also commented that the Territorial government should leave land claims to native organizations, who alone have a right to negotiate them.

The motion to form the committee will be debated further by the Assembly.

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# NEWS



## APPEAL COURT RULES IN FAVOUR OF FLIEGER AND BATES

79-234

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 15) - The Court of Appeal for the Northwest Territories has allowed the appeal of Patricia Flieger, former chief of legal services for the Territorial government and Robin Bates, former director of the department of personnel.

The decision, delivered Friday, November 9, also ordered the repayment of the fines to the appellants. The appeal was allowed by a majority of two to one.

Ms. Flieger and Mr. Bates were found by Mr. Justice Disbery of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories to have committed contempt of court for having aided and counselled the breach of an undertaking given by government counsel to the Supreme Court during the hearing of an application of the Public Service Association for an interim injunction in March, 1978. They had assisted the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly in enacting an amendment to the Public Service Ordinance providing that no collective agreement between the government and the association could deal with rents payable by employees of the Territorial Government.

(more)

In reversing the decision of the Supreme Court, Mr. Justice Laycraft of the Court of Appeal held that the undertaking given to the Supreme Court had not been breached. He also concluded that to forbid the Territorial Council the assistance of its staff upon pain of a citation for contempt, seemed to be interference by the courts with the exercise by the Territorial Council of its legislative powers to pass, amend or repeal valid ordinances.

Ms. Fleiger and Mr. Bates have since left the Territorial Government. Ms. Fleiger now resides in Vancouver and Mr. Bates has moved to Phoenix, Arizona.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

DIVISION NOT NEW - BUTTERS

79-233

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 15) - Tom Butters of Inuvik reminded the Legislative Assembly Wednesday that the question of dividing the N.W.T. is not a new one.

The MLA for Inuvik said in his reply to the commissioner's opening address that he had recommended to the Carrothers Commission as far back as 1965 that the N.W.T. be divided in two.

Inuit Tapirisat of Canada's idea of division--the "Nunavut" proposal--has already risen as a matter for consideration by the ninth Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Butters said the last Assembly had treated the matter of division "delicately" and didn't wish to debate the question at the time. And it had been suggested that a referendum on the issue be held during the election for the ninth Assembly (this did not take place). However, Mr. Butters said, now may be the time to really deal with the question.

(more)

The MLA said the achievements as well as the shortcomings of the previous Assembly should be remembered. The increase from 15 to 22 MLAs has given the N.W.T. "the opportunity for responsible government."

A shortcoming of the eighth Assembly was the "matter of other voices, other rooms", he commented, referring to native organizations which weren't represented on that Assembly.

But this time, "they are here," he said.

"The debate will be joined here. It will not be a case of other voices, other rooms, ever again."

Mr. Butters also noted that a major difference between the two Assemblies is that the eighth House "always had more than enough money", whereas this House is facing severe financial restraints.

In his reply to the commissioner's address, George Braden, MLA for Yellowknife North, said the people of the north have been victims of a fundamental problem over the past decade--that of failing to develop and maintain communication between people, groups and governments. This should be a priority of the new Assembly, he said.

Mr. Braden also commented that there is "no easy solution" to the difficult financial situation facing the Territorial government, which is primarily related to energy costs. There will have to be sacrifices and northerners will no doubt have to pay more for energy, he said.

(more)

DIVISION NOT NEW - BUTTERS - 3

MLAs and the public should take a serious look at proposals that would export northern oil resources "to feed the habits of southern Canadians.

"Before approving them, I urge that we all think carefully about the future needs of northern residents and the financial implications of continued dependence on southern oil," said Mr. Braden.

"I believe that we have a responsibility not only for the next four years, but for what it's going to be like to live in the N.W.T. for decades to come."

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# NEWS

NOAH SAYS HERD NOT ENDANGERED

79-232

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 15) - William Noah of Baker Lake, MLA for Keewatin North, strongly criticized the Territorial government Wednesday for misleading the Legislative Assembly about the decline of the Kaminuriak caribou herd.

Mr. Noah was replying to Commissioner John Parker's opening address to the first session of the ninth Legislative Assembly here.

Mr. Noah said there is "no evidence" of the decline of the Keewatin-based herd, and he believes statements to that effect made by the Territorial government's director of renewable resources (formerly natural and cultural affairs) were "politically motivated".

Government people come in every summer to count, tag and observe the caribou, Mr. Noah said. They hardly talk to the people, except to tell them they are over-killing the herd, "even if we have had a 55 per cent reduction in the kill over the last 20 years," said the MLA.

(more)



"The problem is we Inuit, although we have survived 4,000 years by knowing the caribou and their movements, don't have degrees in zoology or biology. So our opinions count for nothing."

Mr. Noah added that the Assembly and "caribou experts" shouldn't think for a moment that the Inuit would endanger the herd.

"They are more important to us than anybody. They are the basis of our entire culture."

Mr. Noah elicited laughter from the crowd by saying that civil servants should "take a lesson from the caribou and migrate."

Mr. Noah also expressed considerable dissatisfaction with the operations of the federal ministry of transport (MOT) in the North. He said that the central office of MOT operating out of Winnipeg has an extremely bad track record in dealing with the North. He cited instances in Repulse Bay and Whale Cove where only part of the runways have been resurfaced, in Rankin Inlet where resurfacing was cancelled, and in Baker Lake where a terminal was not built.

MOT is not answerable to the Legislative Assembly, Territorial government, communities or native organizations, and it should be, stressed Mr. Noah. The Assembly and Territorial government should move to take control of all airports, facilities and decisions regarding airports away from MOT "because they have proved (at least in the central region), that they aren't capable of running them," he concluded.

(more)

NOAH SAYS HERD NOT ENDANGERED - 3

Mr. Noah ended his reply to the commissioner's address by saying that the Assembly's top priority should be the settlement of land claims, and that no major development should happen before then. However, he clarified that the Assembly should meet with representatives of the major native organizations to see what role, if any, those groups think the Assembly should play in the settlement of claims.

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# NEWS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOMINATED

79-231

YELLOWKNIFE ( Nov. 15) - Five members of the ninth Legislative Assembly have been recommended by the Assembly to Commissioner John Parker for membership on the Territorial government's executive committee.

They are George Braden, MLA for Yellowknife North; Tom Butters, MLA for Inuvik; Arnold McCallum of Fort Smith, MLA for Slave River; Richard Nerysoo of Fort McPherson, MLA for Mackenzie Delta; and James Wah-Shee of Yellowknife, MLA for Rae-Lac La Marte. Mr. McCallum and Mr. Butters are former executive members.

Commissioner Parker, in consultation with the MLAs, will decide what portfolios the nominated members will hold.

Two additional members will be nominated to the executive committee at a later date. The positions have been reserved for members from the area above the tree-line known as Nunavut. They have said they don't want to be on the executive committee at this time.

(more)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOMINATED - 2

Dennis Patterson, MLA for Frobisher Bay, told the House that the members from Nunavut have identified five people who will act as "shadow ministers". They'll work co-operatively with the ministers of the executive committee to make sure it is accountable to the vast region of the N.W.T. These members are James Arreak of Clyde River, MLA for Baffin Central; Nellie Cournoyea of Inuvik, MLA for Western Arctic; Tagak Curley of Rankin Inlet, MLA for Keewatin South; William Noah of Baker Lake, MLA for Keewatin North; and Mr. Patterson.

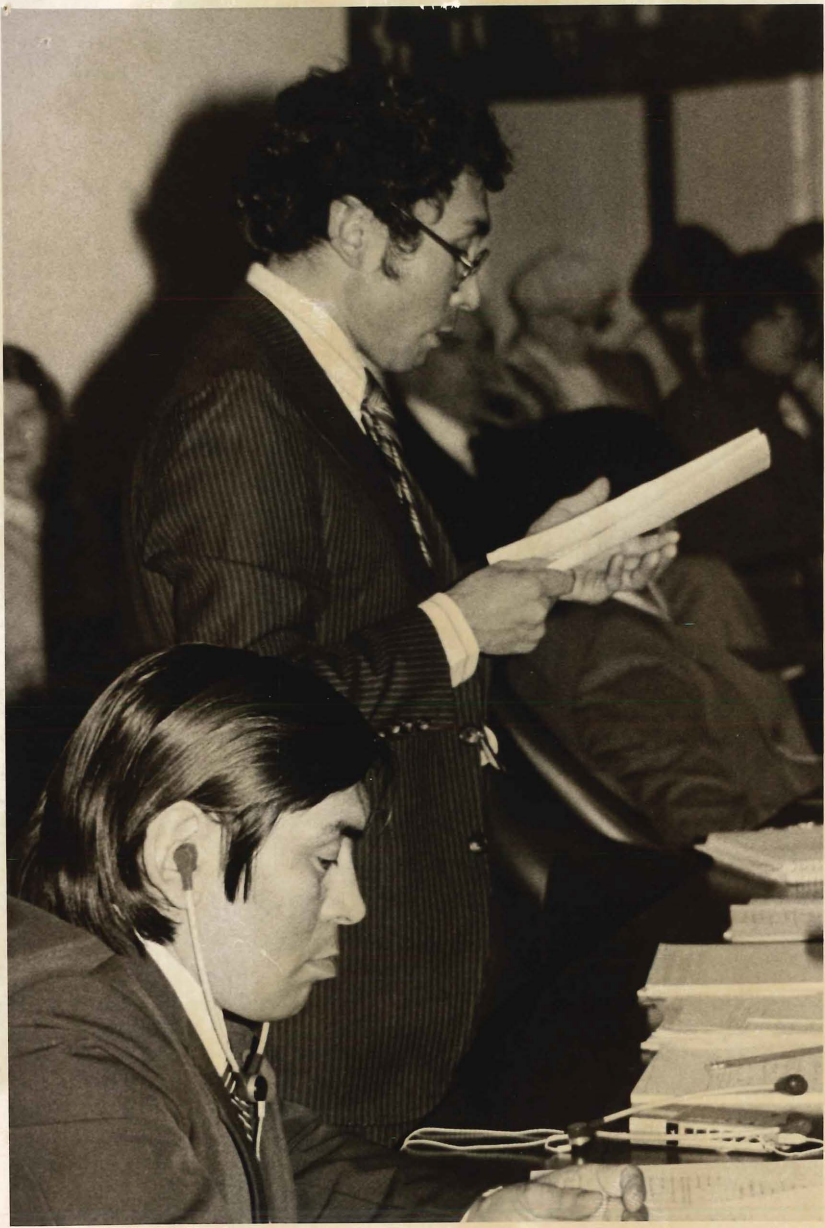
The deputy speaker of the House and chairman of committees-of-the-whole also was elected Wednesday. He is Kane Tologanak of Coppermine, MLA for Central Arctic. Dennis Patterson was elected deputy chairman of committees-of-the-whole, and Bruce McLaughlin of Pine Point, MLA for Pine Point, was elected chairman of the caucus.

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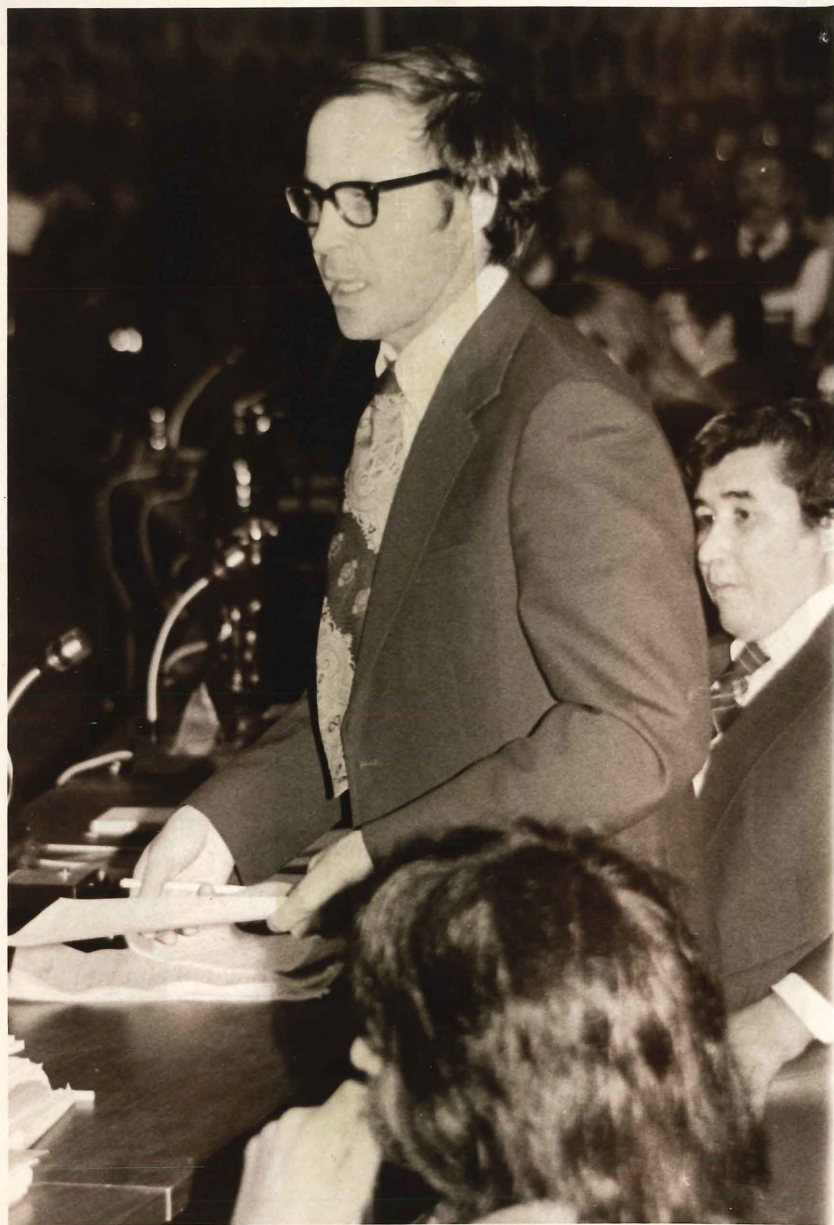
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MLA for Keewatin South, Tagak Curley, was the second to reply to the Commissioner's address at Tuesday's opening of the Legislative Assembly. In the foreground is William Noah, MLA for Keewatin North. Nov. 14/79.



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Nick Sibbeston, MLA for Mackenzie Liard, replied to Commissioner John Parker's opening address at the opening of the Legislative Assembly Tuesday. In the foreground is James Wah-Shee, MLA for Rae-Lac La Martre, and behind, Robert Sayine, MLA for Great Slave East. Nov. 14/79.

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The Teachers' agreement for the current year was signed Nov. 9 by Commissioner John Parker and president of the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association, Ann Davies.

The contract, which includes about 600 teachers, allows an 8 per cent salary increase, retroactive to Sept., 1979, and a \$65,000 fund for in-service and professional development.



Commissioner John Parker delivered his opening address to the first session of the ninth Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories Tuesday. On the left is newly-elected Speaker of the House, Bob MacQuarrie, MLA for Yellowknife Centre. Nov. 14/79.

# NEWS

FORT McPHERSON VETOES RATIONING

79-230

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 14) - Residents of Fort McPherson have voted not to introduce liquor rationing in their community.

A plebiscite held the first week of November asked the question: Do you agree that the weekly purchase, possession and transportation of liquor in Fort McPherson should be restricted to two dozen bottles of beer or cans of beer and one 25 oz. bottle of hard liquor?

Fifty-seven per cent of eligible voters voted yes on the question but because the percentage fell short of the required 60 per cent majority the motion was defeated. Thirty-six per cent voted no.

The major push behind the plebiscite was the community's band council. Fort McPherson has never had any form of liquor restrictions approved by its residents.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

SIBBESTON WANTS MORE NATIVES IN GOVERNMENT

79-229

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 14) - The new Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories is representative of the diverse peoples of the north, but the Territorial government is not.

This concern was raised by Nick Sibbeston of Fort Simpson, MLA for Mackenzie Liard, during his reply to the commissioner's address at the opening here of the first session of the ninth Legislative Assembly Tuesday.

Mr. Sibbeston explained that while the majority of northern people are native, very few Territorial government employees are. He said he will attempt over his four-year term to make changes in the government "so that people in the communities can say, 'yes, this is our government' and can identify with it."

(more)

SIBBESTON WANTS MORE NATIVES IN GOVERNMENT - 2

Mr. Sibbeston plans to introduce a motion in February's session of the Assembly that would have the department of renewable resources initiate a training program for native wildlife officers. At the end of the program, all officers would be of native ancestry. Mr. Sibbeston would like the Assembly to also consider similar action for the departments of education, local government, and justice and public services.

He also proposes to introduce a motion that would speed up the advancement of native people to higher levels of government service. He wants to review the Territorial office of native employment to see if it is effective, or whether another scheme is needed to attract more native people to the Territorial government.

Mr. Sibbeston said the people of his constituency want to make sure they'll be involved in any development resulting from the opening of the Liard Highway from Fort Simpson to Fort Nelson, B.C. The establishment of a Liard Valley authority has been suggested to meet this need. An oil pipeline from Norman Wells to Alberta which has been proposed by Imperial Oil has the approval of his constituents, provided native people will be able to benefit by jobs, said the MLA. Land claims must also be dealt with beforehand, he added.

"Otherwise, we oppose it."

(more)

SIBBESTON WANTS MORE NATIVES IN GOVERNMENT - 3

Mr. Sibbeston said he believes the last Legislative Assembly will go down in history "as the most contrary and misunderstood Assembly in the N.W.T." He explained that the eighth Assembly consistently took an opposite stand to that of the people in the communities, in issues such as the Mackenzie Valley pipeline, constitutional development, and the wildlife ordinance.

Mr. Sibbeston said he's hopeful about the new Assembly because it "truly represents the geographic, cultural and political diversity of the N.W.T." He feels positive about the committee on unity which will meet with different groups to explore what form of government will be acceptable to them.

As an initial sign of good faith, Mr. Sibbeston suggested the new Assembly reject the constitutional development paper put forth by the past Assembly. A motion to this effect will likely be introduced in the House, he said.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

"SHADOW MINISTERS" TO BE APPOINTED

79-228

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 14) - Members of the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly who come from the area above the tree-line known as Nunavut won't accept membership on the Territorial government executive committee at this time.

Instead, they'll appoint six "shadow ministers" to keep executive committee members responsible for various departments informed about their views and to see that government departments are acting in the best interests of the people of Nunavut.

The announcement was made Tuesday by Tagak Curley of Rankin Inlet, MLA for Keewatin South, during his reply to the commissioner's address at the opening here of the first session of the ninth Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Curley said that the decision was in no way an attempt by the Inuit MLAs to divide or split the House or to vote as a party. He explained outside the House that being a minister requires members to live full-time in Yellowknife, something they are reluctant to do. He said the arrangement would give members the opportunity to make proposals for change to government structure that would better reflect the needs of remote areas of the N.W.T. than does the present system.

(more)

"SHADOW MINISTERS" TO BE APPOINTED - 2

Other recommendations by Mr. Curley to the Assembly were that only five out of a possible seven ministers be appointed to the executive committee at this time, and that two executive positions be reserved for ministers without portfolio. These, said Mr. Curley, would later be filled by members from the Eastern Arctic when they have more knowledge about the role of executive committee members.

Shadow ministers will be appointed for the departments of education, economic development and tourism, renewable resources (formerly natural and cultural affairs); health, social services, local government, and justice and public services.

Mr. Curley also suggested the Assembly take a "long, serious look" at the Nunavut proposal to divide the N.W.T. into two territories. Eastern Arctic people strongly support the proposal and feel isolated from Yellowknife, he added.

Mr. Curley said the decentralization policies of the Territorial government aren't understood by communities. Decentralization should mean local bodies such as community and hamlet councils and hunters and trappers groups get direct responsibility for administering programs now administered by the Territorial government in the region, he explained outside the House. These would include economic development, public works, and wildlife management programs.

Otherwise, "we just don't understand what responsible government means," he told the Assembly.

(more)

"SHADOW MINISTERS" TO BE APPOINTED - 3

Mr. Curley also expressed concern that an announcement about financial cutbacks within the Territorial government was made before the new executive committee was chosen. He said this is affecting people in the Eastern Arctic such as teaching assistants who work on term positions, and hunters and trappers who have had incentive grants reduced.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

PARKER LOOKS AT THE FUTURE

79-227

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 14) - John Parker told the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly Tuesday that his principal role as commissioner in the political life of the Territories is to help the people achieve responsible government.

At the same time, he forecast that if the Assembly uses wisely the powers it has the federal government will transfer more and more political power to it.

The commissioner was giving his opening address here to the first session of the ninth Legislative Assembly.

(more)

PARKER LOOKS AT THE FUTURE - 2

Speaking of his involvement in the legislative process, Mr. Parker said: "My role is to facilitate change, to assist in the process of transfer of power from appointed officials to elected representatives - in short, to help the people of the Territories to achieve responsible government."

However, he cautioned that while the Assembly must lead, "it dare not move too far ahead of its constituents or it will lose their support."

"The pace of change must be compatible with the abilities and aspirations of the majority of our residents," Mr. Parker said.

The Legislative Assembly is now the biggest in its history - 22 elected members - and could this session select up to seven of its members for the Territorial government's executive committee, more than double the number it has had on the governing committee up to now. These executive members are responsible for government departments.

The commissioner told the Legislature that it will have to "earn" additional legislative power from the federal government by demonstrating its acceptance of responsibility.

And this includes, he said, its acceptance of increasing financial responsibilities.

(more)

"Our revenues, through various forms of taxation and recoveries, must keep pace with our ever-rising requirements for program money. Acceptance of this concept is a prerequisite for responsible government," he said.

Other problems that must be grappled with are the N.W.T.'s underdeveloped economy, and funding levels for the administration which fall short of inflation, said the commissioner.

"The real culprit in our problem with our finances is the rapidly-increasing price of oil - which also results in similar escalation in electrical power costs," said the commissioner. "This is a problem we share with all other parts of the country."

Greater recognition of regional needs and aspirations is called for, because of the cultural diversity of the people of the N.W.T. and the huge area under the Assembly's jurisdiction, said Mr. Parker.

Other realities on which the political power of the N.W.T. is based are the native ancestry of the majority of its people; its mines in the Mackenzie and Baffin, and an important potential for uranium production in the Keewatin; its oil and huge reserves of natural gas; its wilderness and water resources, and the fact the strategic Northwest Passage "lies within our Territorial waters."

(more)

"These are the realities on which our political power is based and which some day will be translated into tremendous economic strength," Mr. Parker commented.

A further reality which must be recognized is "our tiny population when viewed in the context of the rest of our country," said Mr. Parker.

"We must be careful not to be lured into non-viable political divisions which would weaken our voice and destroy our power.

"We need each other. Our strength is in unity," the commissioner said.

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# NEWS

TASK FORCE ON HOUSING RELEASES RECOMMENDATIONS

79-226

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 7) - A task force on housing recommends the Territorial government get out of the staff accommodation business in three southern Mackenzie locations by early fall of 1982.

It also recommends the development of a homeowners municipal tax reduction grant for residents of the Northwest Territories.

The report is the result of a joint union-management task force, formed last January, involving the N.W.T. Teachers Association, the N.W.T. Public Service Association and senior government officials.

Commissioner John Parker said today the report will be considered by the government's executive committee.

He added that he was "impressed" with the co-operative spirit the unions and management displayed in tackling the assignment.

The report recommends the government discontinue provision of rental accommodation to existing employees in Yellowknife, Hay River

(more)



and Fort Smith by August 31, 1982.

"The artificial situation that is generated by high numbers of government subsidized units is no longer desirable in these locations. There is sufficient market and potential to house all residents in accommodation of their choice," the task force concludes.

The target date is recommended to provide a transitional period for employees to buy, build or rent accommodation of their choice.

The task force suggests a before-tax accommodation allowance of \$3,600 be paid to all staff in the three locations. The allowance should be provided to homeowners now and to all staff living in non-subsidized housing in those centres beginning Sept. 1, 1982, at which time rent charged on any government-provided units of accommodation will have increased to market levels.

The task force acknowledges there may be a need to house new hires or transfers to the three communities for a limited period of time.

It recommends a continuation of an existing service to provide accommodation, if available, for new hires and transfers or to assist in the job of house hunting. However, if accommodation is provided it would only be for a two-year period during which the employees must find alternate accommodation.

For areas outside Yellowknife, Hay River and Fort Smith, the task force recommends a homeownership allowance that is "location adjusted."

It doesn't detail the allowance. However, should the principle be accepted, task force members state the allowance should be based on the difference in the cost of utilities between Yellowknife and the particular community.

(more)

"The policy of this government is to encourage home ownership wherever possible," the report states. "If an employee provides his or her own accommodation, then there is less strain on government resources and a higher degree of community commitment by staff members."

In advocating a municipal tax reduction grant, the task force suggests it be similar to plans in the Yukon and some southern jurisdictions.

The Yukon provides a maximum grant of \$300 to homeowners, British Columbia has a \$280 homeowner grant that increases to \$480 for senior citizens and Saskatchewan has a property improvement grant with a ceiling of \$230.

The report recommends a "user-pay" approach to domestic electrical consumption, in those locations not already doing so, with prices pegged at Yellowknife rates. Money saved by the government through employees paying their own bills would be utilized for retrofitting and improving staff housing in remote areas to effect conservation of fuel and electricity.

Task force members also suggested that eligibility criteria for the government's sale of staff housing policy be lowered from four to three years of service as a Territorial public servant and that eligible staff should have the option of outright purchase rather than entering into a 10-year agreement-to-buy contract.

The task force report is presently being circulated to all staff members of the N.W.T. government. It is available to the public through the department of information.

# NEWS

FREIGHT STUDY RELEASED

79-225

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 7) - A study on rates and competition in the Northwest Territories highway transport industry states prices to consumers "appear to be fair and that no one firm is making excess profit."

The study, made public today, has been presented to Commissioner John Parker by the three-man committee he established earlier this year to review trucking freight rates.

The committee was chaired by local businessman Gordon Carter. Mr. Carter is also chairman of the N.W.T. Highway Transport Board.

Mr. Parker said he had no comments to make at this time.

The study, among other things, suggests modifications to the Territorial regulatory environment that could be beneficial to the northern consumer.

(more)

FREIGHT STUDY RELEASED - 2

One recommendation, if accepted, would allow companies to vary their rates downward on their own accord. Another would require applications for rate increases to be accompanied by justifications. Documentation used to justify the rate hike application would become public.

Copies of the study are available from the department of information.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFERS ENERGY

79-224

CONSERVATION COURSE

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 9) - A program to alert junior high school students of the need for energy conservation will be made available to schools in the Northwest Territories by December.

The course material is based on a program recently developed by the Ontario Ministry of Education. It is being adapted to the North by the territorial department of education.

The matter of energy conservation was identified as potential course material at a March meeting of junior high school teachers.

(more)

Since then Peter Hyde, co-ordinator of sciences in the education programs and evaluation division, has been collecting fuel consumption figures and other northern data from the Northern Canada Power Commission and the Department of Public Works. This data makes the Ontario program relevant to the north and its conditions.

"The material is applied science. We all learned about conduction, convection and radiation in our basic science courses, but this program suggests practical application of those principles," Mr. Hyde stated.

The program recommends that classes collect data on their school's energy usage and experiment to determine how their behaviour and practices can affect energy consumption.

"Basic practices of energy conservation can then be applied to the students' homes," said Mr. Hyde, "We take into account that in many homes the power bill cannot be isolated or looked at separately."

The course material is prepared in metric measurement (1 kilowatt hour is equal to 3.6 megajoules (MJ) ).

(more)

The cost of preparing the course, apart from Mr. Hyde's time in researching relevant data, was \$800 for 200 copies of the resource guide for teachers, purchased from the Ontario government. The program will not be costly to implement in schools, as no expensive equipment for experiments is required.

-30-

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# NEWS

MacQUARRIE CHOSEN SPEAKER

79-223

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 6) - MLA Bob MacQuarrie of Yellowknife has been designated speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

The first session of the ninth Assembly begins here next Tuesday.

MacQuarrie, MLA for Yellowknife Centre and a new member of the Assembly, was chosen speaker by the 22 newly-elected MLAs during a caucus meeting Friday. The announcement was made Monday by MLA Arnold McCallum, interim caucus chairman.

The formal appointment of MacQuarrie as speaker will be made during the first session of the Assembly. He replaces David Searle Q.C., former MLA for Yellowknife South, who did not seek re-election Oct. 1.

(more)



MacQUARRIE CHOSEN SPEAKER - 2

McCallum said the caucus will be meeting this week and is expected to choose officers for the Assembly and chairmen of standing committees. It will also likely discuss the roles and responsibilities of ministers and make recommendations for their appointment.

The Assembly was deferred until next week because the official count for the Territorial election was not complete. It will begin at 2:30 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Explorer Hotel.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

TV-RADIO FOR CHESTERFIELD AND PELLY

79-222

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 5) - Chesterfield Inlet and Pelly Bay are now receiving live satellite-fed television service through equipment installed by the Department of Information.

Both communities are also receiving CBC regional radio signals from Frobisher Bay through their small aperture earth stations.

There are now six communities in the Northwest Territories with satellite earth stations and transmitting equipment provided through the department's northern communications program.

The program, also operating in Fort Norman, Fort Liard, Coral Harbour and Arctic Bay, is designed to provide northern television and radio service to locations with populations between 250 and 500.

(more)

TV-RADIO FOR CHESTERFIELD AND PELLY - 2

A total of 18 communities are eligible for the service.

All but one of the sites serviced so far, Pelly Bay, has established a local radio broadcasting station that ties into the satellite package.

Director of Information Art Sorensen said his department plans to install four more facilities during the 1980-81 fiscal year.

Their locations will be announced at a later date.

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# NEWS

ASSEMBLY OPENING DELAYED

79-221

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 5) - Delays in the official addition of election results have postponed today's scheduled start of the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly's session until Tuesday, November 13.

A caucus of those elected to serve as members of the Assembly decided Friday to ask for the delay since four members could not be sworn in and take their seats.

Missing or mis-directed ballot boxes caused the delays in MacKenzie-Great Bear, Keewatin North, Western Arctic and Rae-Lac La Martre. In the Rae-Lac La Martre riding the official addition was not done until Thursday, November 1.

After the official count, 10 days must pass before a candidate can be officially declared elected.

(more)

ASSEMBLY OPENING DELAYED - 2

As November 12 is the Remembrance Day holiday, the caucus decided that the first session of the new 22-member Assembly should begin on November 13.

Commissioner John Parker is issuing a new proclamation calling for a session on the revised date.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

OIL-FIRED WATER HEATERS SAVE ENERGY

79-220

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 5) - Five government-owned buildings in Lac La Martre will be converted from electric to fuel-fired water heating systems by the end of December.

This is the first stage of an energy-saving program which will convert 400 water heating units in the N.W.T. at a projected yearly saving in government electric bills of \$268,000.

At that rate the conversion costs of \$600,000 will be recovered in just over two years. That's a net saving of \$1,036,000 over five years.

The units are all located in government-owned buildings and accommodation.

Electric water heaters were installed in many buildings because of initial construction costs. It costs about \$400 more to install a fuel-fired water heater at the time of construction, but that difference is quickly made up by the high price of electricity.

(more)

OIL-FIRED WATER HEATERS SAVE ENERGY - 2

For instance, taking a shower in Lac La Martre, with an electric water heater, costs \$1.15. That same shower, heated by an oil-fired heater, would cost 10 cents.

The operations and maintenance division of the department of public works is responsible for this project. They have calculated that all settlements paying over 15 cents a kilowatt hour for electricity will benefit from the changeover.

Only 12 of the 60 communities in which the Territorial government pays electric bills have rates lower than 15 cents per kwh, and increasing rates have pushed several communities into that range since the original estimates were done.

The average cost of converting to an oil-fired water heater is \$1500. It varies, depending on whether a new chimney has to be installed, whether air transportation has to be chartered and other factors.

The energy-conservation program is one of seven announced by the Territorial government recently.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESTRUCTURED

79-219

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 31) - New measures to support and stimulate the northern economy are part of changes announced today by the department of economic development and tourism.

The department has been restructured allowing it to place all activities related to business services and development into a newly-created division of commerce.

Prime task of the division will be to assist existing or new business through upgraded and expanded programs.

The reorganization follows a lengthy review of the department and is part of an overall restructuring called for by the recent task force on administration.

Departmental Director Barry Shead said a major emphasis will be placed on delivery of business management and financial counselling services and training to the private sector.

Other changes in the department include creation of a separate division known as the N.W.T. Office of Tourism and Parks and a division of planning and resource development.

Mr. Shead said that in reorganizing the department he had to keep in mind the government's tight money and manpower situation. As a result, the new structure does not contain an increase in positions or call for budgetary growth.

"However, if this government is to be a major catalyst for creating economic growth, consideration will have to be given to diverting to it both financial and manpower resources when the time is right," he stated.



At the moment the Territorial government is faced with a shortfall of \$15 million in operating funds next year. The shortage is mainly due to inflation, particularly in the area of fuel and electricity costs.

Mr. Shead, in a proposal approved by the government's executive committee, listed the following economic development priorities to be undertaken by his restructured department.

- . Take a lead role in planning for and facilitating the development of major primary sector projects to ensure they are timely and will maximize northern participation, benefits and returns.

- . Support and stimulate the development of the traditional economy as a significant primary industry in the N.W.T.

- . Identify new skill training program requirements and new or innovative means of program delivery. Re-direct priorities within existing programs to ensure that skills available in the labour force are in accord with predicted demands, maximizing the number of jobs that can be captured by northerners and increasing the employability of northerners.

- . Support growing community interests in economic development through programs designed to promote local initiatives aimed at identifying and developing viable local economic opportunities.

Establishment of new mechanisms to support and stimulate development of private enterprise in the manufacturing and service and retail sectors of the N.W.T. economy is in addition to these priorities.

Mr. Shead said businessmen in all regions of the N.W.T. have expressed a need for more extensive support services, particularly in the areas

(more)

of management and accounting assistance and training.

"As well, opportunities exist to expand the number of businesses in these sectors to service existing primary production projects such as mines," he said. "All new projects in the primary sector have the potential to stimulate activity in these secondary and tertiary areas."

The secondary and tertiary sectors of the N.W.T. economy are significant employers and income generators. Gross corporation profits in these sectors are in excess of \$26,000,000 annually.

Businesses in these sectors have important stabilizing effects on the economy and tend to balance and diversify the economic base, Mr. Shead said.

"As a result it is essential that an investment climate be established and maintained that will see development of existing and new businesses by non-government sectors."

The department's newly-formed division of commerce will be the department's primary contact with both industry and community interests.

Umbrella organizations such as chambers of commerce and mines and community economic development corporations will be able to draw upon the resources of the division.

Within the division, a financial services section has been set up to manage the development, promotion and administration of financial assistance programs to N.W.T. business and industry as well as liaising with other government and private sector financial assistance programs available to business and industry in the Territories.

A small business development section has also been formed.

Its purpose is to develop programs and policies to support the development of small business, with emphasis on consultation. The section

will also assume responsibility for arts and crafts promotion and co-op development and will provide advice on renewable resource development.

Mr. Shead said these two sections will work in close co-operation. Their joint efforts in stimulating secondary and tertiary activity may be split into three different steps.

The first would be identification of economic opportunity on an industrial and geographic basis, with close interaction with the business community.

The second step will be to analyze the feasibility of these proposals according to their viability, benefit to the N.W.T. and their potential for expansion.

The final stage will involve aiding an entrepreneur to develop the project through the provision of technical and management advice and help to obtain commercial and government loans and other types of financial assistance.

A third section within the new division will be responsible for N.W.T. government enterprises with a view to stabilization and, eventual turnover to the private sector. The section will also manage and operate the marketing program for distribution of products produced by government enterprises.

Meanwhile, the former planning and development division has been revamped into the planning and resource development division.

It has given up its business development function and will focus efforts on maximizing the beneficial impact of renewable and non-renewable resource development and the provision of economic planning and policy advisory services.

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The mineral and petroleum resources section of this division will actively engage in discussions with major non-renewable resource developers and federal government agencies with similar interests.

"The section will take a leading role," Mr. Shead said, "in the planning and preparation for development of major primary resource sector projects."

Creation of an office of tourism and parks is a recognition of the importance the department and government place on the economic impacts to be gained through a sound tourism industry in the N.W.T.

The office will continue to work closely with the Travel Industry Association and in the future there will be a greater degree of co-operation and program sharing. The travel industry's increased participation will receive financial support.

The office will also continue to utilize Canada West to co-operatively promote tourism with the other western provinces. British Columbia, Alberta, Yukon and the N.W.T. joined to form Canada West recently as a combined effort would be more effective in promoting tourism in distant markets.

The parks section will place emphasis on the development of a Territorial recreational parks program.

Based on a recent study, the program will be complimentary to the national parks plan and will address itself to the provision of well-planned recreational areas that are readily available to northern residents.

The office of tourism and parks will operate from the Nova Building.

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In other changes, the employment and training division has become the Manpower Development Division composed of the apprenticeship program section and the employment development section.

The apprenticeship section will be responsible for the management, planning and development of apprenticeship training and tradesmen's certification with the N.W.T.

The employment development section will develop and follow-up on special manpower programs and services designed to ensure maximum employment opportunities for northern residents.

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# NEWS

HEAT RECOVERY MEANS SAVINGS

79-218

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 31) - The Territorial government hopes to start saving \$14,000 a year and 24,000 gallons of fuel oil annually when it turns on its new waste heat recovery system in Rankin Inlet.

And it is studying the installation of similar energy-saving systems in three other communities.

The new system in Rankin will intercept heat from the Northern Canada Power Commission (NCPC) power plant and redirect it, through pipes, to heat a government-owned trade shop. Normally this heat is dissipated to the outside air by radiators and cooling fans.

Waste heat recovery is part of the Territorial government's new energy-saving program announced this month.

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HEAT RECOVERY MEANS SAVINGS - 2

The Rankin project, expected to start in February, is 90 per cent complete.

The system is similar to one introduced 2½ years ago in Cambridge Bay, which now saves the government about 40,000 gallons of fuel oil a year. That's the amount of fuel it would take to heat by traditional means the 5 buildings now attached to NCPC.

In its early stages, the Rankin project will heat only one building, with plans for expansion. The fuel saved is estimated at 24,000 gallons, and at \$1.18, that's \$28,000 a year.

The Territorial government is negotiating a financial arrangement with NCPC that would see the government pay NCPC for the 'waste' heat half the price it's paying for the fuel oil.

The saving will be double-edged. Not only will the government save \$14,000, it also means the 24,000 gallons of fuel oil the government won't need can stay in the ground for future generations.

The success of the Cambridge Bay experiment - it cost the Territorial government \$75,000 which was recovered in less than 2½ years - has the government studying the possibility of similar installations at Coppermine, Spence Bay and Sachs Harbour, as well as potential expansion at Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet.

(more)

HEAT RECOVERY MEANS SAVINGS - 3

These projects are over two years in the planning stages because climate and distance make getting the equipment and material to the site difficult.

The heat recovery system bears out the theory of the operations and maintenance division of the department of public works: that money spent wisely in the planning and construction stages will inevitably save more over the many years it must be operated and maintained.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

WHAT DRAWS TOURISTS?

79-217

FORT SMITH (Oct. 31) - A random poll of 250 tourists in automobiles has indicated that 75 per cent of their 2,116 nights in the N.W.T. this summer were spent in off-road wilderness camping or in campgrounds.

The main reasons visitors gave for driving north were for camping, fishing and boating. Tourists stayed an average of eight nights, spending only 14 per cent of those nights in a lodge, motel or hotel.

The visitor survey was conducted by the staff at the visitor information centre, mile zero of the Mackenzie highway on the Alberta-N.W.T. border. The questionnaires also asked visitors to comment on the impressions of the N.W.T., and if they encountered any surprises.

"I found the people exceptionally friendly," wrote a visitor from Thousand Oaks, Calif., "We had an accident on the road and were offered assistance by several passing motorists."

(more)

WHAT DRAWS TOURISTS? - 2

"Midnight Madness in Yellowknife," stated a Montreal traveller; "The good fishing," (Red Deer, Alta); "The vastness of the country," (Thunder Bay, Ont.); "The waterfalls - incredible," (North Battleford, Sask) and "The roads were better than I expected," (Sandy, Oregon) and "We were impressed with the friendliness and openness of the people".

In addition to camping, fishing and boating, tourists indicated their other main reasons for driving north were to visit the towns and villages and to visit friends. Ten per cent of their nights in the N.W.T. were spent in private homes.

Activities tourists participated in while visiting the North included just plain sight-seeing, photography and visiting historic sites and museums. Fishing was a prime past-time.

"Being able to catch fish at the side of the road," left the biggest impression on a traveller from Oshawa, Ont.

For a lady from North Bend, Washington, it was "the long days and the quiet and serenity." "We loved it all," she said. "We'll be back."

- 30 -

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# NEWS

RAE-EDZO STAYS DRY

79-216

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 30) - The first community in the Northwest Territories to prohibit alcohol has voted to retain it.

A plebiscite held Monday in Rae-Edzo asked the question: Do you want to end prohibition in Rae-Edzo? Some 56 per cent said they wanted to keep it, while 43 per cent voted to end the dry spell. A total of 70 per cent of the eligible voters turned out.

There were two polls, one in Rae where 64 per cent who cast ballots voted for retention, and the other in Edzo, where the results were just the opposite - 75 per cent voting to drop prohibition.

According to the rules governing such votes, 60 per cent of the voters would have had to vote for an end to prohibition in order to bring about the change.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

TOP APPRENTICES RECEIVE AWARDS

79-215

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 29) - Allan Davis, an Inuvik carpenter, was named top journeyman of the year in an awards banquet held here Friday to honour 42 outstanding Northwest Territories' apprentices.

Mr. Davis, who graduated from the four-year carpentry apprenticeship program in August, received a plaque and a cheque for \$100 from Cominco Northern Group.

Mr. Davis had an outstanding school and employment record. He is now employed by Mackenzie Delta Construction Limited in Inuvik.

Three other special awards were given at the banquet: to Ekhart Krahn of Yellowknife, top tradesman attending an upgrading course; Roger Fraser of Yellowknife, the western Arctic apprentice who has shown the greatest improvement; and John Ihumatuk of Nanisivik, the eastern Arctic apprentice who has shown the greatest improvement. Each received a plaque and \$75.

(more)

TOP APPRENTICES RECEIVE AWARDS - 2

The banquet was the second sponsored by the Apprentices and Tradesmen's Qualification Board. The 42 award winners were chosen from 500 apprentices involved in 36 designated trades covered by the N.W.T. apprenticeship program. The program is run by the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism.

Each of the following award recipients received a plaque and a cheque for \$75 donated by N.W.T. companies and organizations:

James Waugh, Yellowknife	Intermediate Autobody Mechanic;
Rick Fontain, Pine Point	First-Year Carpenter;
Trevor Sekulich, Yellowknife	2nd-Year Carpenter;
John Campbell, Yellowknife	3rd-Year Carpenter;
Allan Davis, Inuvik	4th-Year Carpenter;
David Cox, Yellowknife	1st-Year Electrician;
Frank Moskal, Inuvik	2nd-Year Electrician;
James Keenan, Yellowknife	3rd-Year Electrician;
Denis Alain, Yellowknife	4th-Year Electrician;
Charles Davidge, Hay River	3rd-Year Floorcovering Mechanic;
Brian Cooper, Pine Point	1st-Year Heavy Duty Mechanic;
Allan Strom, Pine Point	2nd-Year Heavy Duty Mechanic;
Pat Anablak, Cambridge Bay	3rd-Year Heavy Duty Mechanic;

(more)

TOP APPRENTICES RECEIVE AWARDS - 3

Tim Farrell, Pine Point	4th-Year Heavy Duty Mechanic
Albert Sambele, Fort Providence	(Western Arctic) Housing Maintenance Serviceman
Julien Tartuk, Rankin Inlet	(Central Arctic) Housing Maintenance Serviceman
Tony Keyootak, Broughton Island	(Eastern Arctic) Housing Maintenance Serviceman
Robert Morris, Yellowknife	4th-Year Industrial Electrician
James Tetford, Nanisivik	2nd-year Machinist
Douglas Gouthro, Yellowknife	1st-Year Millwright
David Humphreys, Nanisivik	2nd-Year Millwright
Thomas Duke, Yellowknife	3rd-Year Millwright
Steven Ullathorne, Hay River	1st-Year Motor Vehicle Mechanic
Philip Malloy, Pine Point	2nd-Year Motor Vehicle Mechanic
Clifford Heal, Yellowknife	3rd-Year Motor Vehicle Mechanic
Richard Edwards, Pine Point	4th-Year Motor Vehicle Mechanic
Noreen Kozak, Hay River	2nd-Year Painter & Decorator
Robert Dalziel, Pine Point	3rd-Year Painter & Decorator
Richard Luxon, Yellowknife	1st-Year Partsman
Ross Potter, Hay River	2nd-Year Partsman
Paul Chang, Yellowknife	1st-Year Plumber
David Bowen, Yellowknife	2nd-Year Plumber
Ray Michaud, Fort Simpson	3rd-Year Plumber
Wayne Romanuk, Inuvik	1st-Year Power Electrician
Drew Cranna, Yellowknife	2nd-Year Power Electrician
Richard Sheck, Yellowknife	4th-Year Power Electrician
Jerry Ooms, Pine Point	1st-Year Welder
Peter Gudmundson, Hay River	2nd-Year Welder
Peter Gudmundson, Hay River	3rd-Year Welder

# NEWS

FOREIGN TOURISM INCREASING

79-214

FORT SMITH (Oct. 29) - There was a 23 per cent increase in foreign tourists signing the guest book at the Territorial government's visitor information centre at the N.W.T. - Alberta border this year.

The information centre - located on the Mackenzie Highway at the 60th parallel - was open from May 23 to Sept. 1. A total of 243 foreign tourists (other than U.S. citizens) signed the guest book this season, according to Jake Heron, regional superintendent of the department of economic development and tourism.

This year, as last year, visitors from Germany topped the list. Britain, Switzerland, and The Netherlands were next in that order, followed by Austria, France and Sweden.

(more)

FOREIGN TOURISM INCREASING - 2

California travellers ranked highest among the U.S. tourists to drive north of 60, with Minnesota second. In 1978 the reverse was true. Washington placed third, and Utah fourth, followed by Oregon, Idaho and Michigan.

Of the 4,113 Canadian vacationers to sign the guest book, 2,112 were from the province of Alberta. British Columbia had the second largest representation, then Saskatchewan, Ontario and Manitoba. Some 694 N.W.T. residents also stopped in to sign the guest book and enjoy a complimentary coffee.

Guest book statistics revealed that 25 per cent of our visitors signed in June, 40 per cent in July, and 31 per cent in August.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

MORE DENE PHOTOS AT HERITAGE CENTRE

79-213

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 25) - Historical photographs illustrating Dene traditional clothing are now on display here at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

The exhibit is part of a series of 11 themes dealing with the history of the Athapaskan people. Two themes--native food and celebrations--were shown earlier at the centre.

The photographs are from a collection put together over an eight-year period by the Native Communications Society of the Western N.W.T. Some were taken by the Communications Society, others come from the Museum of Man in Ottawa and the Public Archives of Canada. The displays are courtesy of the federal department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

The heritage centre is open to the public six days a week from noon to 5 p.m., and is closed all day Wednesday.

The next theme to be shown in the series is "Getting Together".

- 30 -

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# NEWS

EDUCATION PRODUCES POSITIVE RESULTS

79-212

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 25) - The Bay store in Pangnirtung cut its order of soft drinks from 8,000 to 4,000 cases this year because people started buying less pop.

That was one positive result of a community-based health education program carried out the past year to introduce Pangnirtung residents to the principles of good nutrition.

Project co-ordinator Rose Ookpik told a community health conference in Yellowknife this week that people quit buying so much pop because they learned it wasn't good for them.

"But we didn't judge people or say you shouldn't eat junk food."

The program, which was sponsored by the Pangnirtung health committee in co-operation with the hamlet council and many local groups, received funding from the federal Canada Works program. The Territorial government's home management consultant and the federal government's regional nutritionist worked closely with the group.

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Ms. Ookpik said the project used many methods to reach the people, including community radio and "even the honey-bag man" who distributed a survey on his rounds. They worked very closely with The Bay, which displayed labels on many of its products in both Inuktitut and English to help people identify products from the four food groups of the Canada Food Guide.

This labelling was very useful because many people don't read English and don't know what foods they are buying, explained Ms. Ookpik. Although the traditional foods of the Inuit are not included in the guide, their value too was explained to the people. Old people were asked about the ways they raised families using country food.

Posters on nutrition were produced, as was an Inuktitut-English cookbook containing recipes using both store-bought and traditional foods. Classes were held each night for different community members such as teenagers, senior citizens and working people. An experiment in nutrition, using rats imported from Edmonton, was carried out by school children.

The program appears to have had many good results.

"We asked on an open-line show if it worked or not and most people said they felt better, so fast. They feel they got something out of it," said Ms. Ookpik.

The group is now looking for more funding to continue the project and to be able to assist other communities do similar work.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

HEALTH CARE'S FUTURE DISCUSSED

79-211

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 25) - Change in northern health care is inevitable, and it will be the responsibility of health professionals to accept that change not as a threat but as a challenge.

That was the message of Janet Lindquist, acting director for the Territorial government's department of health, to a government-sponsored community health conference in Yellowknife this week.

Ms. Lindquist commented that change is difficult to accept, because of "our own deep need for security", but new circumstances need to be accepted. "There's more than one way of doing anything," she said.

There have been great improvements in health care in the north, such as nursing stations which deal with the total health needs of a community, and innovative categories of health workers, such as dental therapists, ophthalmic technicians and community health representatives, Ms. Lindquist said.

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But there are several new realities facing northern health care that will have to be dealt with, she said. First, there are changing mortality and morbidity patterns which show that most causes of illness and death today can be related to lifestyle. But health care still relies on treating disease rather than preventing it, and the health system in its present costly form is self-perpetuating, she said. More emphasis needs to be placed on approaches to changing attitudes and behavior.

There is a continued increase in the age of the population, resulting in a need for better services to the aged. Meanwhile, fiscal restraint in the form of major budget cuts is an increasing reality, the acting director said.

"It means that we can no longer afford to do things which do not have some defensible outcome in improvement of health to our consumers," said Ms. Lindquist. Various health services will need to work co-operatively to better utilize resources, eliminate excesses, and mobilize individuals to care for their own health.

Increasing knowledge and expectation of patients is another challenge.

"Should we continue to practise in a very protective manner...or should we go to the other extreme and hold the consumer totally responsible for his own health? I don't have any answers for you. But I do believe that we must share more with our patients, we must be more open and trusting, we must allow them to take responsibility if they want it."

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Ms. Lindquist said there is also a great responsibility to be sensitive to and support the involvement of native people as participants in health care.

"Without their involvement, we cannot hope to have a health service of excellent quality in the north," she said.

Yet another reality to deal with is the dissatisfaction raised at the conference that representatives from northern communities were not invited to give their views on health care. Ms. Lindquist responded that the conference was designed for health professionals to generate ideas about alternative health care methods rather than to formulate actual plans. However, she said her department is open to considering a future conference involving communities.

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# NEWS

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GOVERNMENT ENERGY-SAVING PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

79-210

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 19) - The Territorial government is going to spend \$3 million to save \$12 million in energy costs.

That's the reasoning behind a seven-point energy conservation program announced today by Bob Pilot, member of the Territorial government's executive committee.

Mr. Pilot says the government can cut an estimated \$12 million from its heating and utility bills over the next five years by spending \$3 million making its facilities more energy-efficient.

"The net saving of \$9 million certainly makes this conservation program worthwhile," Mr. Pilot said.

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The \$3 million to fund the program will be pared from the government's already-established 1980-81 capital budget. It will go to such energy-saving measures in government buildings as changing to low-energy lights and oil-fired water heaters and improved insulation and waste heat recovery.

"A lot of our buildings are not energy-efficient," Mr. Pilot said. "We know that."

The Territorial government's bill for utilities was about \$24 million last year and may rise to as much as \$33 million this year. This money is spent on utilities for government buildings, public facilities such as community structures, schools and arenas, and public and staff housing.

At the same time, Mr. Pilot said he will be signing a cost-sharing agreement with the federal government this month that will, among other things, fund projects in N.W.T. business and industry aimed at either developing new technologies in renewable energy, conserving energy or making more efficient use of energy.

This program will cost \$3.3 million over the next 4½ years. The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources will fund 75 per cent of the cost, the Territorial government the remainder.

It will be up to business and industry to initiate proposals for such energy-saving projects and gain government approval for funding.

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"As a government we intend to do all we can to cut our bill for energy by using less of it," Mr. Pilot said. "And as a government we intend simultaneously to help the public cut its energy costs."

Meanwhile, the seven-point, in-house government conservation program involving structures for which the government foots the energy bill, is made up as follows:

(1) Fluorescent lights: By changing these in most locations to new low-energy lights. Cost: \$228,000. Time to recover cost: 11 months. Estimated five-year net saving: \$1.3 million;

(2) Incandescent lights: By changing some of these in staff housing and other facilities to fluorescent, which use one-third the power of incandescent. Cost: \$715,000. Time to recover cost: 1.7 years. Estimated five-year net saving: \$1.8 million;

(3) Replacement of many electric hot water heaters with oil-fired ones: Cost: \$600,000. Time to recover cost: 2.2 years. Estimated five-year net saving: \$1,036,000;

(4) Improve combustion efficiency of fuel by use of additives and improved maintenance: Cost: \$125,000 per year. Time to recover cost: 3.5 months. Estimated five-year net saving: \$1.8 million;

(5) Improve thermal insulation of buildings: This would be done by improving attic and basement insulations. Cost: \$360,000. Time to recover cost: 3.4 years. Net saving: \$209,000 (five years), \$1.1 million (10 years).

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(6) Recovery of waste heat from Northern Canada Power Commission (NCPC): This would be done by installation at possibly 10 sites of heat-recovery units where NCPC diesel-electric generators are used. Cost: \$750,000. Time needed to recover cost: 2.1 years. Estimated five-year net saving: \$1.4 million.

And (7) Reduce the volume of ventilation air: Excess ventilation is the largest single source of energy waste. New ventilation standards show that ventilation volumes are over-sized. This would involve reducing air volumes, reducing the speed of ventilating fans and programming the systems to shut off during unnecessary hours. Cost: \$320,000. Time to recover cost: 1.5 years. Estimated five-year net saving: \$1.4 million.

"Energy conservation is a major priority of this government," Mr. Pilot said. "The way costs are spiralling we have no choice. Neither does the public. We all must learn to use energy more efficiently."

- 30 -

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# NEWS

AL BRIEN APPOINTED

79-209P

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 17) - In the second of several moves toward increased N.W.T. responsibility for justice, Alfred (Al) Brien has been named assistant director of the Territorial government's department of justice and public services.

The announcement was made today by Commissioner John Parker.

The first move came early this month with the change of the department's name to include justice, reflecting increased Territorial responsibility for this important function.

Mr. Brien, the former chief of registries with the department, will be responsible for legal services, legal registries and court services.

(more)

His primary function will be negotiating with the federal government the transfer of public prosecutions to the Territorial government. This transfer was first predicted in the Carrothers Commission Report of 1966, which saw justice as a Territorial responsibility.

"It is like a person who is given more responsibility with age," said Mr. Brien. "The Government of the N.W.T. is mature now, ready for the responsibility of a full-fledged justice department."

The recent Task Force on Administration has stipulated that when the federal public prosecutions division has been transferred to the Territorial government, the department of justice and public services will be split. This will give the department of justice the separate status vital to its credibility, said Mr. Brien.

Mr. Brien, 34, holds a law degree from the University of New Brunswick, and was in private practise from 1969 - 1977, when he came to the Northwest Territories as legal counsel for the Territorial government. Since Nov. 1978 he has served as chief of registries and chairman of the legal aid committee. He is a member of the newly-created legal services board.

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A.H. Brien, newly-appointed Assistant Director of the  
Department of Justice and Public Services.

Press Release 79-209P

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# NEWS

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR APPOINTED

79-208P

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 17) - Veteran public servant Blair Dunbar has been appointed assistant director of the Territorial government's department of social services.

Prior to his promotion, Mr. Dunbar for two years was chief of staff development and training. He has been with the department 10 1/2 years.

As assistant director Mr. Dunbar is responsible to Director Gordon Stangier for policy and procedure development and for co-ordinating family and child services, alcohol and drugs, and financial assistance programs.

Mr. Dunbar says he will be "available to all staff of the department across the Territories" to improve communications between fieldworkers and headquarters and to provide a better level of service to residents.

Mr. Dunbar has a master's degree in social work from the University of British Columbia. Prior to moving North, he worked as a probation officer in Victoria, B.C.

- 30 -

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Blair Dunbar was recently appointed assistant director of the Territorial government's department of social services. Mr. Dunbar, prior to his appointment, was chief of staff development and training.

Oct. 18/79

See release no.: 79-208

# NEWS

SENIOR APPOINTMENTS MADE

79-207

YELLOWKNIFE (October 17) - Rod Morrison has been appointed director of regional operations for the Territorial government.

His position as director of personnel will be taken over by Jim Blewett who has been assistant director of that department since January.

Commissioner John Parker made the announcements today. The changes are effective immediately.

Mr. Morrison fills a position left vacant last summer when Bob Pilot became a member of the government's executive committee.

He will be responsible for co-ordination of programs and services delivered in the regions.

Mr. Morrison joined the government in 1969 as a finance officer for the centennial celebrations.

In 1975 he became assistant regional director in Inuvik and accepted an appointment as regional director for the Keewatin the following year.

(more)

SENIOR APPOINTMENTS MADE - 2

He was named director of personnel in September of 1978.

Mr. Blewett was chief of manpower and planning for the department of personnel before accepting the assistant director's position.

He is a former teacher, moving from Manitoba to Inuvik in 1965 to teach at the Samuel Hearne Secondary School.

Mr. Blewett has worked in Yellowknife since 1970. Until his transfer to personnel, he was employed by the department of education as chief of school services and as chief of academic programs.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

DOLLS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS DISPLAY

79-206

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre is appealing to northern residents for contributions to a Christmas display of international dolls.

"We especially hope to borrow dolls from the polar regions of the world--Alaska, Greenland, Russia, Scandinavia and the Canadian North," says Barb Perry, the centre's curator of collections.

The dolls will be part of a special Christmas exhibit for children being held during December, the last month of the International Year of the Child. Ms. Perry says the Northern Heritage Centre would need to borrow the dolls from mid-November to the end of January.

People wishing to loan their dolls are asked to contact Barb Perry, by Nov. 5, either by writing the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife, or by telephoning her at 873-7551.

- 30 -

Contact: Pat Verge  
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# NEWS

LEGAL SERVICES BOARD LAUNCHED

79-205P

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - A Yellowknife lawyer has been appointed executive director of the Northwest Territories' new legal services board.

John Bayly's appointment was made at the board's first meeting, held here last week.

Mr. Bayly will assume his new job responsibilities mid-December. He is currently director of public prosecutions in the regional Department of Justice.

Mr. Bayly obtained his law degree from Osgoode Hall in 1971, articulated as assistant crown attorney in Ontario, and came to Yellowknife in 1974. He was in private practise until March, 1978, when he joined the federal Justice department.

(more)

LEGAL SERVICES BOARD LAUNCHED - 2

The eight-member board also elected Rev. James D. Ormiston, Yellowknife United Church minister, as its chairman.

The new board is responsible for coordinating the work of the legal aid committee in operation since 1971, and two other programs: the N.W.T. native court workers program and the Frobisher Bay legal services clinic (Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik).

The objectives of the board are: (a) ensure the provision of legal services to all eligible persons; (b) ensure that the legal services provided and the various systems for providing those services are the best that circumstances permit; and (c) develop and co-ordinate territorial or local programs aimed at reducing and preventing the occurrence of legal problems among the people and increasing their knowledge about the law, legal processes and the administration of justice.

The Board is an independent operation which is funded jointly by the federal and Territorial governments. Decisions about program content and function are made at the Territorial level rather than at the federal government level.

Appointments to the board are made by the Territorial minister responsible for the Legal Services Ordinance.

(more)

LEGAL SERVICES BOARD LAUNCHED - 3

The current members, appointed for one, two and three-year terms are:

Donald Cooper, a Yellowknife lawyer representing the N.W.T. Law Society;

Al Brien, former chairman of the legal aid committee, representing the Territorial Public Service;

Rev. Ormiston, lay member;

Willie Adamie Adams, secretary of Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik, representing the Baffin region;

Patrick Lyall, Spence Bay businessman, representing the Central Arctic region;

Yvo Airut, mayor of Rankin Inlet, representing the Keewatin region;

Susie Huskey, representing the Inuvik region; and

Gail Cyr, former executive director of the native court workers program, representing the Western Arctic region.

Executive Director Bayly is an ex-officio member of the Board.

The next meeting of the Legal Services Board will be held Nov. 7, and the main item on the agenda will be the Frobisher Bay legal services clinic - its funding and future recommendations.

(more)

LEGAL SERVICES BOARD LAUNCHED - 4

Mr. Bayly will have two staff members and an office in the Yellowknife Courthouse.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

FINANCIAL RESTRAINT ANNOUNCED

79-204

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - Commissioner John Parker says the government is heading into a year of serious financial restraint despite indications of a possible seven per cent budget increase.

Mr. Parker told a press conference here Monday that projections indicate its 1980-81 budget will fall \$15 million short of the mark.

As a result, the government is making plans to reduce levels of service and to operate with less positions than normal.

Rising energy prices coupled with the increased costs of doing business and other inflationary trends have put the squeeze on government finances.

(more)

FINANCIAL RESTRAINT ANNOUNCED - 2

These cost hikes, over which the Territories has no control, will more than absorb the budget increase being indicated by Ottawa. The additional monies will have to be found by reducing expenditures in program and service areas.

Mr. Parker said the cuts will be felt in municipalities and hamlets.

"We're doing our best to shield people we fund from the effects of restraint and to take as many cuts as possible from our headquarters operation. But it's obvious that some of the cuts, and the mood of restraint, will have to be passed on to these other agencies," he said.

Unlike the provinces, the Territorial government depends on Ottawa for roughly 65 per cent of its total operating budget and the increases in that grant are not necessarily tied to inflationary trends, particularly the dramatic cost hikes being faced for the provision of fuel and utilities.

Increases in that area are expected to result in a \$20,000,000 hike in government operating costs next year.

Mr. Parker said the executive committee hadn't come to a decision yet on the exact nature of program and service cuts or, for that matter, on staff reductions.

He said the government is likely to handle the latter through attrition. No layoffs were being planned.

(more)

FINANCIAL RESTRAINT ANNOUNCED - 3

Mr. Parker said each department had been given a financial target to meet in shaping its 1980-81 budget estimates and that the executive would make final decisions in December or early January.

The commissioner said he drew a sympathetic response from Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Jake Epp when they discussed the matter during a recent tour of the arctic.

The minister saw the dilemma caused by uncontrollable price increases, but his department and the entire Federal government face similar problems, Mr. Parker said.

"Inflation is a fact of life. We've got a restraint-minded federal government that must reduce spending or, at the very least, hold the line on expenditures. It's not an easy time and everyone has to realize that."

- 30 -

Contact:

Department of Information  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

# NEWS

BEEF BOND DISPUTED

79-203

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - The Territorial government's Consumer Services office is attempting to help N.W.T. consumers who have unfulfilled freezer-food contracts with a defunct Alberta company.

Alberta Prime Beef Ltd., of Edmonton went into receivership this summer, leaving a handful of N.W.T. consumers having signed contracts for meat and vegetable orders and paying the company a total of about \$3,000 in advance.

These food contracts were the result of direct selling door-to-door in the N.W.T. and therefore, under the Consumer Protection ordinance, the company was required to post a \$5,000 bond in the Territories against the contracts.

According to the Consumer Services office, the government was assured by a Royal Insurance Group agent in Edmonton that Royal had issued this bond.

(more)

BEEF BOND DISPUTED - 2

However, Royal is saying now that while the bond was issued it was never in force. Therefore, the insurance company says, it is not obliged to compensate the holders of these food contracts.

Meanwhile, the Consumer Services office says it is doing all it can to pressure Royal to reconsider and see its way to compensating these consumers. As well, the office is making representations to the superintendent of insurance of Alberta.

Consumers are advised, if they think they have a claim against Alberta Prime Beef, to contact the appointed receiver. He is Jim Davidson, Windspear, Higgins and Stephenson, 1900 Royal Trust Tower, Edmonton.

In addition, affected consumers can contact Alan Hunt, Consumer Services division, Department of Public Services, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife. Mr. Hunt's telephone number is 873-7125.

# NEWS

UNIQUE SCULPTURE ACQUIRED BY HERITAGE CENTRE

79-202P

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 15 ) - A major sculpture by Yellowknife artist Abraham Anghik has been donated to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre by the Nahanni chapter of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire (IODE).

The work was unveiled at a special ceremony at the Heritage Centre Thursday.

The carving is a unique combination of bas-relief and mosaic technique, done with about 200 pounds of African wonderstone, a sedimentary material resembling slate. The colour is greyish black which polishes up to a silvery grey. The relief is enclosed in a rectangular frame and will be hung in the Heritage Centre.

Mr. Anghik's work is entitled "Children of the Light."

(more)

UNIQUE SCULPTURE ACQUIRED BY HERITAGE CENTRE - 2

The outline of the sculpture is the raven, "a part of mythology that Northern people can relate to," explains Mr. Anghik. The raven encloses representatives of animal species living in the North - the puffin, fish, whale, seal and bear.

There is a mask made up of the fused face of a man and woman. And in the middle is a representation of a human embryo, symbolizing "the different races of man, with no colour distinction," Mr. Anghik says.

The Northern lights are portrayed at the top of the frame. The carving is also characterized by orange pipestone and ivory inlay work.

The various parts of the mosaic are fastened down to the plywood backing with steel dowels, and joined with epoxy and powder. It was the first time Mr. Anghik had tried the mosaic-relief style and he faced more than one stumbling block.

"For example, the mixture of epoxy and powder took two weeks to harden so that I could polish it," he says.

Rod Russell, a local cabinet maker, constructed the frame which contains the three-by-four-foot work.

(more)

PLATE 20





UNIQUE SCULPTURE ACQUIRED BY HERITAGE CENTRE - 3

Esther Braden, Nahanni chapter regent, says the IODE had commissioned the work as a project to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's silver jubilee. She said the chapter was extremely pleased with the work, particularly because of its uniqueness. It is the only major piece done by Mr. Anghik which has been commissioned in the N.W.T. to be used for public display.

The presentation was attended by Mrs. Sally Douglas, national president of the IODE, and Mrs. Helen Parker, representing Commissioner John Parker and in her capacity as patron of the IODE. Dr. Robert Janes accepted the sculpture on behalf of the Northern Heritage Centre. Dr. Janes is centre director.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

TRAPPERS' SUBSIDY CUT

79-201

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 12) - Trappers' incentive grants are being reduced this year to one-third what they were last season.

The Territorial government is going to pay eligible trappers five per cent this season of the value of their fur production. In the past the incentive grant has ranged from 10-15 per cent per trapper.

The government's executive committee feels the reduction is justified because fur prices have increased significantly over the past several years and there is not the same need to provide a subsidy. Many furs have doubled in value and, in some cases, increased even more.

(more)

TRAPPERS' SUBSIDY CUT - 2

For example, when the incentive program was launched in 1974, the average market price of lynx pelts was \$80.44. However, in 1978, the price was up to \$233 a pelt. Simultaneously, the price for white fox pelts has gone from \$17.88 in 1974 to \$29.35 last year.

As well, the reduction is in keeping with the Territorial government's need to exercise fiscal restraint. If the government did pay a 15 per cent subsidy this year, as it did last season, this would mean the budget for incentive grants would be exceeded by \$254,000.

This season trappers are expected to receive \$161,000 in grants.

Trappers who earn between a minimum of \$600 and a maximum of \$3,000 on the sale of their furs are eligible for the subsidy.

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# NEWS

LONGTIME NORTHERNER SPEAKS ON EDUCATION

79-200

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 10) - A man whose involvement with the North spanned more than 40 years will give a talk on "Early Education in the North" at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre Oct. 18.

Rt. Rev. Henry Cook of the Anglican Church of Canada served as superintendent of Indian Schools Administration from 1948 to 1963. He saw the responsibility for education move from the churches, which had pioneered education in the N.W.T., to the government, in the 1940's.

Bishop Cook first came North in 1935 to teach and do missionary work in Fort Simpson. In those days, students were registered in Alberta correspondence courses, and the bishop would act as tutor. There were both Anglican and Roman Catholic schools. In the summertime, summer school was held for the children of Dene people who came into town to sell furs and to visit. The main subjects taught were English and mathematics.

(more)

LONGTIME NORTHERNER SPEAKS ON EDUCATION - 2

Bishop Cook remained in Fort Simpson until 1943. He later worked in Northern Manitoba, then was appointed bishop of the Arctic in 1963. From 1966 to 1974, he served as bishop of the Mackenzie. Upon his retirement from the clergy in 1974, Bishop Cook became co-ordinator of historical programs for the Territorial government. In this capacity, he assisted in laying the groundwork for developing the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. He retired in April of this year, and now lives in Stittsville, Ont.

The lecture is the second in the series called "Science, History and All That", sponsored by the Heritage Centre and the Science Advisory Board of the N.W.T. It will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Heritage Centre. Admission is free.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

POLAR BEAR SEASON CHANGED

79-199

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 9) - The Territorial government's executive committee has agreed to move up the opening of the polar bear hunting season in three areas of the N.W.T. to what it used to be --- Oct. 1.

Under the new Wildlife regulations that came into being this summer, the opening of the season throughout the Territories was moved back to Dec. 1.

However, as a result of discussions with hunters' and trappers' associations, and their opposition to moving back the opening two months, the executive committee has decided to revert to the Oct. 1 opening date in the Keewatin, High Arctic and Foxe Basin areas.

(more)

POLAR BEAR SEASON CHANGED - 2

These areas take in the communities of Coral Harbour, Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet, Eskimo Point, Whale Cove, Cape Dorset, Igloolik, Hall Beach and Grise Fiord. In the case of Grise Fiord, the Oct. 1 opening date only applies to the hunting area of Jones Sound.

The government's reasoning for delaying the hunting season until December was to ensure that pregnant bears were in their dens and unavailable to hunters.

However, while the nine communities also are concerned about protecting pregnant polar bears, they wish the old opening date to apply this year until more detailed consultations over the winter are held with the Wildlife Service and the harvest is monitored.

The new Dec. 1 opening still will apply in all other areas of the N.W.T.

The executive committee's decision to revert to the Oct. 1 opening means quota increases that were given some of the nine communities (as a result of moving back the opening to Dec. 1) will not apply this year.

In the months ahead, the Wildlife Service will work closely with people in the nine communities on the whole subject of polar bear seasons and harvest.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

MORE MARSH PAINTINGS AT CENTRE

79-198.

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 9) - Paintings showing the detailed beadwork of costumes worn by the Padlimiut and Aivilingmiut Inuit of the Keewatin are now on display at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre.

Some of the paintings reveal close detail of the attigi - the inner coat of the parka which was frequently decorated with beautiful beadwork. Others show miscellaneous beaded ornaments worn by the people including hair sticks, head bands, earrings and sewing pouches.

The paintings are part of the Winnifred Petchey Marsh collection of watercolours done at Eskimo Point in 1933 and 1934. Thirty-eight watercolours were donated to the Northern Heritage Centre by the I.O.D.E.

(more)



MORE MARSH PAINTINGS AT CENTRE - 2

Barb Perry, the centre's curator of collections, says most of the 14 paintings in the current display have not been shown at the centre before. This part of the Marsh collection will be exhibited until the end of November.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

A UNIQUE ANNUAL REPORT

79-197

RANKIN INLET (Oct. 3 ) - A government annual report with a difference has just been published for the Keewatin.

Instead of government concentrating on explaining what it has accomplished in the region the past year, as it traditionally does in such a report, this time the report concentrates on the people of the Keewatin speaking about their communities, their lives and their future.

"It gives their frank opinions and views on government programs, obtained through interviews in each community," says Al Zariwny, the Territorial government's regional director for the Keewatin.

(more)

"So you have a man in Chesterfield Inlet talking about his community and how he sees government, and another in Coral Harbour doing the same."

The report is called Keewatin Profile.

"It's a way for these people and their communities to exchange ideas with each other and with government administration," says Zariwny.

He says it is hoped the open approach used in the report will lead to a sound understanding and improved communications between the people and the government.

Keewatin Profile has two parts. One has first-hand accounts and personal stories from the seven Keewatin communities. Several key people from each are profiled. Highlighting the section are photos of the region's children, commemorating the International Year of the Child.

The second part is a full-colour section inserted into the centre of the report. It has statistical information, government program reviews, and descriptions of each Keewatin community. The insert will serve as a tourism promotional item to be used by the department of economic development and tourism.

(more)

Keewatin Profile is written in an informal style. Many of the photos were taken by people who have lived in the Keewatin. The report will be distributed to every family in the region as well as northern organizations. It will also be available to the public through the Territorial government's department of information.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

COMMUNITY HEALTH CONFERENCE  
DRAWS INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS

79-196

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 2) - "Health care in the year 2000" will be the topic of the keynote address to a community health conference to be held in Yellowknife this month.

Dr. Gordon Friesen, an international health care consultant, will provide a futuristic look at health care delivery at the beginning of the next century. Dr. Friesen also has northern experience, having been involved in developing the Mackenzie River area health services study in 1975.

The conference - Oct. 23 to 25 - has been designed to cover all aspects of community health and to appeal particularly to health practitioners at the primary level - for example, nurses in nursing stations, public health nurses and general duty nurses.

(more)

COMMUNITY HEALTH CONFERENCE  
DRAWS INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS - 2

Conference organizer is Ray Racette of the Territorial government's department of health. The department is sponsoring the conference.

"But we are inviting everybody - acute-care workers, hospital administrators, doctors and interested members of the public," says Racette. "People from all levels of health-care delivery outside the N.W.T. have also been invited."

Racette adds that the ultimate aim of such meetings is to achieve a co-ordinated health-care system in the North, with everyone working towards the same purposes.

A second major speaker will be Dr. David Sackett of the department of epidemiology at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont. He will conduct workshops on the stages involved in setting up programs at the community level, from planning to integration, to evaluation. Dr. Sackett has international experience working in underdeveloped areas in the health-care field.

Also on the agenda are sessions on nutrition, health promotion, environmental and occupational health, mental health services, approaches to dealing with alcoholism, and trends in northern health care.

(more)

COMMUNITY HEALTH CONFERENCE  
DRAWS INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS - 3

Registration for the conference is \$5 a day (including lunch). The department of health may be able to help some individuals requiring travel assistance. For further information and to register, contact Ray Racette, department of health, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2L9. Telephone: 873-7711.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

IMPLEMENTATION OF TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS ANNOUNCED

79-195

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 21) - Commissioner John Parker today announced an implementation schedule for numerous recommendations contained in the recent task force report on administration.

The department of natural and cultural affairs will become the department of renewable resources effective Oct. 1 and the department of public services will become the department of justice and public services on the same date.

In addition, a mines and petroleum division will be established within the department of economic development and tourism by December 1, at the latest.

The clerk of the legislative assembly will report to the speaker of the assembly rather than to the commissioner. The change will take place once a speaker has been named following the Oct. 1 general election.

These and other recommendations have been reviewed and approved

(more)



## IMPLEMENTATION OF TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS ANNOUNCED - 2

by the Territorial government's executive committee since the task force report was tabled in early August.

Responsibilities of the new department of renewable resources will include wildlife, fisheries, forestry, water, land management and environmental protection.

Establishment of the department will require the stripping away of recreation, library and museum programs from the department of natural and cultural affairs to make room for the new responsibilities.

The recreation division will be transferred to the department of local government Oct. 1 and the museum and library programs to public services Nov. 1.

Mr. Parker said that most elements of the department of renewable resources represent embryonic functions, pending transfers of full responsibility from the federal government.

"However, the pulling together of the activities into one department territorially will provide a strong basis for growing responsibility in this important area."

The Commissioner said implementation of the task force recommendations are not expected to cost more money as the changes represent a "rearrangement of what is already in place."

The task force on administration, chaired by Director of Local Government Larry Elkin, was established last May to identify and recommend changes that might be required to meet the needs of the government over the next four to five years.

(more)

Re-organization of public services into the department of justice and public services is seen as a necessary step to facilitate or ease the transfer of the prosecution function from the federal department of justice to the Territories.

An assistant director, responsible for justice, will be named at a later date.

The justice side of the department will assume responsibility for prosecutions, when transferred from Ottawa, court services, legal services and registries.

The public services side will take over responsibility for mine safety and labour relations when these functions are transferred from the federal government. It will also be responsible for public safety, consumer affairs, museums and library services.

Establishment of a mines and petroleum division within the department of economic development and tourism is seen as the base from which to pursue the transfer of management and administrative responsibilities for non-renewable resources from the federal government.

Initially it will be a small unit to monitor resource activities and provide a liaison point to strengthen Territorial government contact with resource industries.

In its report, the task force stressed the need for strong advisory support to the executive committee which is expected to include at least five, possibly six, elected positions in addition to the commissioner and his deputy.

As a first step in this direction, former Baffin Regional Director Mike Moore has been named secretary to the executive committee and head of a new policy secretariat.

(more)

IMPLEMENTATION OF TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS ANNOUNCED - 4

This move is in line with a desire to consolidate executive office functions with those of the department of planning and program evaluation to increase efficiency and to reduce operational costs.

As head of the policy secretariat, Mr. Moore will be the executive committee's senior advisor on overall government policy, planning and program matters.

Meanwhile, responsibilities of the existing department of finance will be split to allow for creation of a separate department of supply and services by April 1, 1980.

A financial secretariat will be created consisting of a financial advisory group and the directorate of the treasury. The change will be implemented on or before Nov. 1 of this year.

Other changes include:

. The in-service training function now under the jurisdiction of the training and employment division, department of economic development and tourism, will be transferred to the department of personnel effective Nov. 1.

. The executive manager of the audit bureau will report to the deputy commissioner who will be chairman of the audit committee effective Dec. 1.

. The task force recommendation that directors of the government reporting to ministerial positions be designated deputy ministers has been accepted. For the purposes of uniformity, it has been decided to use this title for all headquarters directors effective Dec. 1.

(more)

IMPLEMENTATION OF TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS ANNOUNCED - 5

. It is probable that the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation will report to the legislature through a minister, however, this matter will be discussed with elected members of the executive committee following the October election.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

NEW EDUCATION DISTRICT FOR YELLOWKNIFE

79-194

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 21) - A new education district has been formed for Sir John Franklin Territorial High School in Yellowknife to allow public input into the school's programs and policies through a community education committee.

The announcement was made by Arnold McCallum, the Territorial government's minister of education.

M.S. Naidoo, Territorial superintendent of education for Yellowknife, explained that under the education ordinance, each community must have an elected local education authority to provide for community input into the community's education system. This can be in the form of an education committee, education society, or a school board.

Until the formation of the new district, Sir John Franklin school did not have an elected local education authority. A voluntary parents' advisory group has been active for several years.

(more)

Members of the existing parents' advisory group at Sir John have been appointed to an interim community education committee. This will function until the Yellowknife municipal elections take place in December. At that time, members of the new community education committee will be elected by Yellowknife residents.

The interim committee will also form a "sub-committee of concern" for residential students living in Akaitcho Hall, the residence for students from other communities attending Sir John. This sub-committee will continue to function after the education committee is elected in December.

"This will provide the feedback we need from those communities," said Mr. Naidoo.

Boundaries of the new "Education District #4" will be the same as those of the city of Yellowknife.

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# NEWS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ADVISER NAMED

79-193

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 21) - The first senior appointment to be made by Commissioner John Parker as a result of recommendations by the Territorial government Task Force on Administration was announced today.

Mike Moore, who recently left Frobisher Bay after three years as the Baffin regional director, has been named secretary to the Executive Committee and head of its new policy secretariat. He will take up his new position immediately.

In its recent report, the task force stressed the need for strong advisory support to the Executive Committee.

(more)

Following the election of a new Legislative Assembly on Oct. 1, the Executive Committee is expected to include at least five elected members in addition to the commissioner and deputy commissioner.

The task force recommended the establishment of an executive advisory support team of two deputy-level advisers heading policy and financial management secretariats.

As head of the policy secretariat, Mr. Moore will be the Executive Committee's senior adviser on overall government policy, planning and program matters.

Mike Moore joined the Territorial government in 1969 as executive assistant to the regional director at Fort Smith. He gained considerable experience in the Eastern Arctic as assistant regional director in Baffin region from 1972 to 1975 and as regional director during the past three years. Between those two assignments he was senior executive assistant to the deputy commissioner.

Born and educated in England, Mr. Moore served in the British Army for 17 years. He was on active service in Korea and other parts of the world and retired a major.

In making the announcement, the commissioner explained that details of the policy secretariat's organization still have to be worked out.

(more)



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ADVISER NAMED - 3

Meanwhile, Dick Abernethy, who has been secretary to the executive committee under its previous structure, is becoming deputy secretary reporting to Mr. Moore. However, while Mr. Abernethy's title has changed, his role in the executive committee will remain as before.

Mr. Abernethy served with the Territorial government in Frobisher Bay for 4½ years and was assistant regional director in Fort Smith from 1975 to 1978.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

TERRITORIAL GAZETTE COMING

79-192

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 19) - The Northwest Territories Gazette will be published for the first time Oct. 12.

The Gazette is the official means used by the government to publish legislation, regulations and official notices, says Derek Singer, registrar of regulations in the legal services division of the Territorial government's department of public services.

Interested members of the public may subscribe to the Gazette, which will be published in three parts. One part will contain all new legislation enacted by the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly, and will appear after each session.

(more)

TERRITORIAL GAZETTE COMING - 2

All regulations made by the Territorial government will be printed every two months. And all official notices, appointments, company registrations, incorporations, etc. will be published every month.

Singer feels the Gazette will appeal to professional firms, larger companies, and anyone interested in N.W.T. legislation and official government business. Subscriptions will also be issued without charge to certain persons and groups listed in the regulations ordinance. These include municipalities in the N.W.T., secretary-treasurers of N.W.T. settlements and public libraries.

The first issue of the Gazette will cover the period starting Sept. 1, 1979. Subscriptions to the Gazette cost \$12 per year (\$15 outside the N.W.T.) plus \$11 for a binder. (Total cost is \$23, \$26 outside the N.W.T.) They may be obtained by sending name and address, with cheque or money order payable to the Government of the Northwest Territories, to: Legislative Officer, Legal Services Division, Department of Public Services, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2L9.

Also available from the same address is a three-volume set of "Orders and Regulations of the N.W.T.", updated to Aug. 31, 1979. The cost is \$48.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

EIGHT RECEIVE HEALTH BURSARIES

79-191

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 19) - Eight northern residents have received bursaries from the Territorial government's department of health to further their studies in a health field.

A total of \$23,000 for professional training bursaries will be spent this fiscal year, says Ray Racette, program policy officer in charge of bursary programs.

"The applicants are selected primarily according to how much they can contribute to health care in the N.W.T. after they have finished their studies, as well as the demand in the N.W.T. for their particular skills," explains Racette.

Upon completion, students awarded bursaries for full-time study must work in the N.W.T. for a period of time at least equal to the length of their course.

(more)

EIGHT RECEIVE HEALTH BURSARIES - 2

Recipients of bursaries for the 1979-80 year are:

. Mary Marlene Belfry, a second-year student in the registered nursing program at Georgian College, Barrie, Ont., who was formerly working as a registered nursing assistant in Frobisher Bay.

. Rachel Crapeau will be taking the first-year diploma nursing program at Wascana Institute in Regina. She was formerly a certified nursing assistant with Stanton Yellowknife Hospital in the ear, nose and throat clinic.

. Elizabeth Faubert is taking her final year in the bachelor of nursing program at Dalhousie University in Halifax. Prior to that, she was a community health nurse at Fort McPherson.

. John Hanlan, formerly a teacher at J.H. Sissons school in Yellowknife and a part-time aid to the local speech therapist, is completing his three-year master's program in speech pathology at Portland State University in Oregon.

. Gregory Jones is completing his final year of the dental therapy program in Fort Smith. He worked as a laborer for the Coral Harbour hamlet council before taking training.

. Vangie Kelpin is completing her master's degree in adult education from St. Francis Xavier University. She has done work for the department of health, and was most recently involved in developing curriculum for a health and social services training program.

(more)

EIGHT RECEIVE HEALTH BURSARIES - 3

. Jacqueline MacLaren, who was working as a general-duty nurse at Frobisher Bay General Hospital, has entered the mental health nursing program at Memorial University in Newfoundland.

. Kim Wallace is taking her first year of the registered nursing program at the Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon. She previously worked as an operating room technician at the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital.

Full-time bursaries cover the full cost of tuition, one return trip from place of residence to place of study, up to \$60 for books and a \$200 monthly living allowance. Part-time students receive everything except the living allowance.

Racette says the number of applicants for the health department's bursaries is expected to increase because of the freeze on training funds in other government departments. Deadline for applications each year is March 31.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

LAND TRANSFER COMING?

79-190

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 19) - The Territorial government has resumed preparation of an agricultural policy, following a federal announcement Ottawa is willing to consider transferring some federal Crown land to the Territories.

The sale or lease of federal agricultural land has been frozen since January of 1975, first to allow identification of lands suitable for agriculture, and later as part of a general freeze related to land claims' negotiations.

On his recent visit to Yellowknife, Jake Epp, minister of Indian and northern affairs, announced that if the Territorial government presented an agricultural policy, identifying land needs, Ottawa would consider transferring these lands to the Territories for agricultural development.

(more)

As a result, a discussion paper prepared last year by the department of economic development and tourism is being brought up to date. The paper looks at potential sorts, sizes and locations of agricultural activity in the N.W.T.

It is anticipated that the Executive of the Territorial government will propose an agricultural policy, based on this paper, to the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly in November. Following approval of the policy, federal and Territorial Lands staff will carry out detailed identification of lands to be transferred for agricultural development.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

PARKA CATALOGUE PRODUCED

79-189

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 18) - The Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism has just published a sales catalogue of Arctic winter wear that it expects will increase the sale of northern products in southern Canada and the United States.

The full-color catalogue is being made available primarily to southern wholesale distributors of northern winter clothing. It features fur garments and parkas made in Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk and Frobisher Bay, as well as accessories produced in other northern communities.

Prior to this publication, buyers were introduced to lines through trade shows only.

The booklet contains full-color photographs and descriptive material about Eastern and Western Arctic parkas, fur garments and accessories such as mitts, hats and mukluks.

The department will be distributing copies of the catalogue throughout Canada and the United States.

(more)

Parka Catalogue Produced - 2.

"We think the catalogue will substantially increase sales of northern goods in the south," said Peter Nigh, marketing manager for the department of economic development and tourism. "It is the start of a significant and continuing effort on our part to maximize southern and, yes, European markets. These are fine products and we should be able to sell all the North can produce."

-30-

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# Arctic Parkas



# NEWS

EARLY PHOTOS OF THE NORTH

79-188P

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 17) - An exhibition of photographs taken in the North between 1860 and 1911 opens Thursday at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

"The Frontier Photographed" is the third part of "Arctic Images", a series of reproductions prepared by the Public Archives of Canada. Old maps and prints done before the age of photography make up the first two parts of the series.

The advent of photography allowed for much more precise documentation of the North than had earlier mediums. By the time Canada started to conduct full scale expeditions into the Arctic in the 1880's, photographic technology had progressed beyond the "wet process" in which liquid emulsion for the negative had to be prepared and spread on the glass plate at the time of taking the photograph. "Dry negatives", factory-coated in advance with silver bromide in gelatin, were being used.

Photography required a more direct link between the photographer and his subject than painting, sketching and engraving had done. This increased the frequency of contact between explorers and the native peoples of the frontier.

(more)

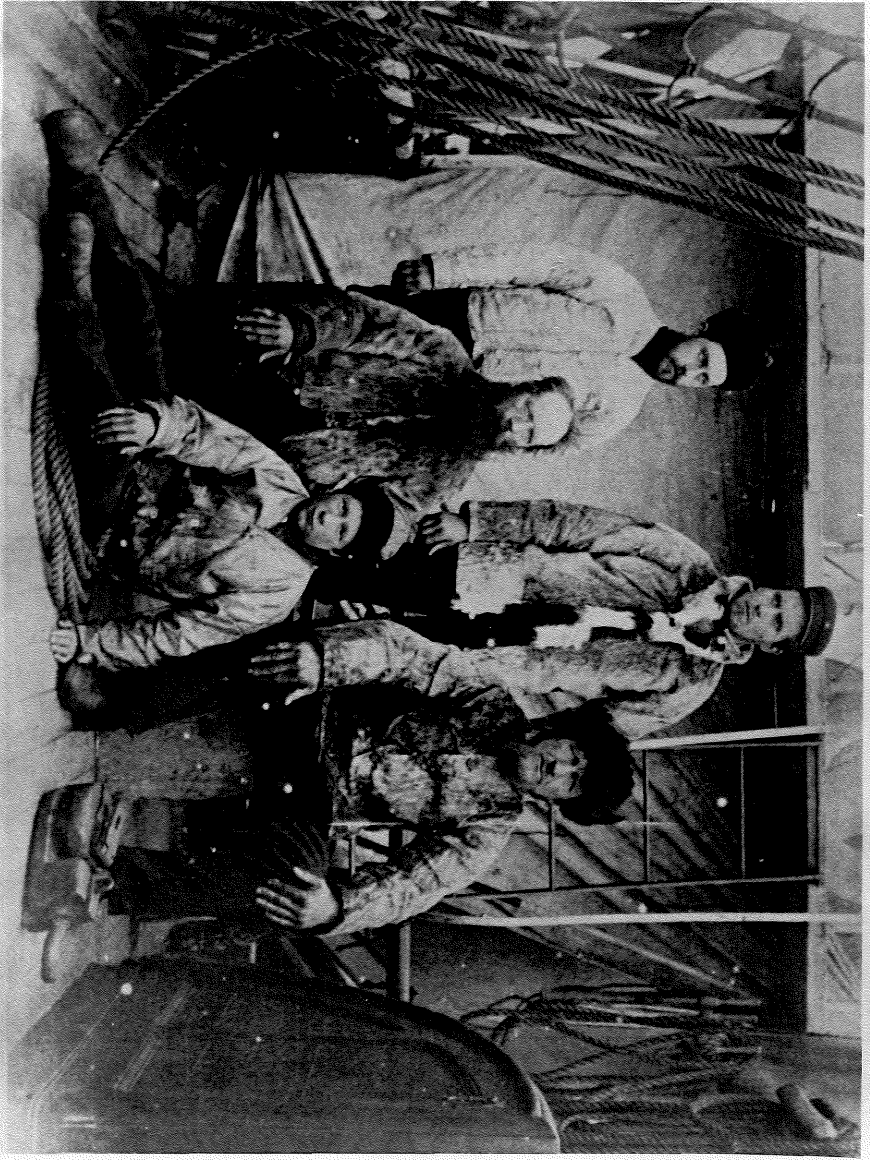
EARLY PHOTOS OF THE NORTH - 2

An album of photographic prints taken on William Wakeham's expedition of 1897, from the University of Ottawa's central library, is of particular interest in the collection. Other prints have been gathered from as far as Dundee, Scotland, and the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, Eng.

"The Frontier Photographed" will run until Oct. 2.

-30-

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1. Photographer Frederick Valiant Cotton captured this shot of a whaleboat crew aboard the whaling ship Maud in the Davis Strait and Baffin Bay in 1889.





2.  
19100  
1905.

This group of Aivillik Inuit in a Fullerton, N.W.T.  
was photographed by Frank Douglas MacKean in

# NEWS

Lottery Gets Go-Ahead.

79-187P

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 14) - The Western Canada Lottery will soon be operating in the Northwest Territories, under the auspices of the Sport North Lottery Authority.

The establishment of the lottery is a joint effort of Sport North and the Territorial government.

A lottery ordinance was passed during the 1979 winter session of the Legislative Assembly and the commissioner has made regulations respecting lotteries and has licenced the Sport North Lottery Authority to run the Western Canada Lottery in the Northwest Territories.

Sport North will sell the lottery tickets wholesale, while non-profit groups will be eligible to act as retailers and purchase the tickets for resale.

Dennis Crane, chairman of the Sport North Lottery Authority, says Sport North and the retailers will profit equally on the sale of tickets. On the \$5 Provincial monthly draw ticket, each will realize about 80 cents' profit, on the one-dollar Western Express weekly draw ticket, 20 cents.

(more)

Lottery Gets Go-Ahead - 2

The lottery will initially operate in seven communities - Fort Smith, Hay River, Pine Point, Yellowknife, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay. A mail order system may eventually be set up to service the smaller communities.

Sport North will use the profits earned from the lottery equally across the North to aid sport activity, particularly in giving athletes access to competition. This is an area not now covered by government funding, says Crane.

At present, Sport North receives government funding to help in administration and in athlete and coach development. The Territorial government's recreation chief, Dennis Adams, says the government supports the establishment of the lottery, as it is an important vehicle to help Sport North achieve more financial independence.

An agreement has been signed that the Territorial government itself will not draw any profits from the lottery scheme for at least two years.

It is hoped tickets will be on sale by the end of October. Non-profit groups wishing to become retailers for the lottery tickets should write to the Sport North Lottery Authority, Box 336, Yellowknife, or call 873-7770.

-30-

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Signing the agreement for the operation of the Western Canada Lottery in the Northwest Territories are (from left) Cecille Ward, president of Sport North; Winnie Kaptein, lottery manager, and Director Ivor Stewart of the Territorial government's department of natural and cultural affairs.

# NEWS

GA

"PUNCH" DICKINS TO OPEN FREE LECTURE SERIES SEPT. 20 79-186P

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 13) - The man who flew the first commercial winter air service into the north 50 years ago will give a talk on pioneer bush pilots at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre next week.

C.H. "Punch" Dickins flew a Western Canada Airways giant Fokker Super-Universal from Edmonton to Fort Simpson in the winter of 1929. He hit weather of -44 F. in Fort McMurray and -62 F. in Fort Providence during the trip, which he described as "the toughest flight in my experience."

Dickins' talk Sept. 20 will open a new monthly public lecture series called "Science, History and All That", sponsored by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and the Science Advisory Board.

Dickins stopped at Fort Chipewyan, Fort Smith, Fort Resolution, Hay River, Fort Providence and Fort Simpson during that inaugural flight. On landing in Fort Resolution, the undercarriage and propeller of the airplane suffered damage. This delayed the flight, and Dickins arrived back in Fort McMurray 16 days and 1800 miles after leaving Edmonton.

(more)



"Punch" Dickins To Open Free Lecture Series Sept. 20 - 2

During the early commercial flights to the North, Dickins carried mail, passengers, supplies, furs, packages, fresh fruit and vegetables. He earned a new name from the Indian people, "The Snow Eagle".

Dickins was awarded the McKee trophy in 1928 for having been the first pilot to cross the Barrenlands by aircraft. He was also the first aviator to cross the Arctic Circle in the Western Arctic in March, 1929.

Dickins is now retired and living in Victoria, B.C. His talk will be opened by Commissioner John Parker. A short film will also be shown.

On display for the evening will be a print collection from the Edmonton Air Museum entitled "Early Aviation in the North".

The public is invited to attend the program. It begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Northern Heritage Centre auditorium. Admission is free. For more information, call 873 - 7551.

-30-

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Cutlines For Punch Dickins Release

1. "Punch" Dickins in 1927, as he prepared to take off from Edmonton on one of his memorable flights. Open cockpits demanded heavy clothing.
  
2. "Punch" Dickins in a photo taken some 32 years later. Both photos from Eugenie Louise Myles' book, "Airborne from Edmonton", published in 1959.

REFER TO RELEASE NO. 79-186P

# NEWS

Health Awareness for Rae-Edzo

79-185P

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 10) -- A health awareness program operated by native women for the people of Rae-Edzo has been jointly funded by the Territorial and federal governments.

The announcement was made by Janet Lindquist, acting director of the Territorial government's department of health.

Run by the Rae-Edzo Native Women's Health Committee, the program will be funded for seven months. The grant of \$20,444 is equally shared by the Territorial department of health and the federal department of health and welfare's medical services branch.

Terry Douglas and Bertha Jaeb of Rae-Edzo are field-workers for the project. They point out that Rae-Edzo has a long history of communicable diseases which have caused many deaths.

(more)

"We hope to educate people about these diseases, their causes, symptoms and cures," says Ms. Jaeb. The women plan to work closely with public health nurses, staff from the Edzo Cottage Hospital, as well as with teachers at the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School.

"Sometimes people are reluctant to go in and talk to the nurse," Ms. Douglas explains.

"But since we're part of the community, we'll have a better chance to tell them why they have to take medication, why it's important to get immunized and so on. We'll also be doing interpreting."

She adds that the nurses of Rae-Edzo are completely behind the project and "have been pushing for it".

The women plan to work with people of all ages in Rae and Edzo and will stress such areas as nutrition, the fetal alcohol syndrome, personal hygiene and cleanliness.

The Native Women's Association of Rae-Edzo first formed a health committee in November, 1978. The Territorial government initially provided three-month funding to prepare a detailed proposal for the project. Both governments will provide back-up support during the project.

Health Awareness for Rae-Edzo - 3

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Cutline - Release For Rae-Edzo

Signing the contract for the Rae-Edzo health awareness project are (from left) Bertha Jaeb, fieldworker; Janet Lindquist, acting director of health; Bob McDermit, former director of health; Terry Douglas, fieldworker.

See Release No: 79-185

# NEWS

First of a feature series by Pat Verge.

PREVENTION IS KEY AS HEALTH COSTS SOAR

79-184 P

YELLOWKNIFE - Health care needs to take a new direction - that of preventing the problem before it happens, rather than spending masses of money treating it.

"Since World War II, the major emphasis in North America has been on treatment," says the acting director of the Territorial government's department of health, Janet Lindquist.

"But treatment is very expensive, because you are always dealing with the problem after it has occurred."

As a result, she says, "our aim now is to promote better health, and changes in lifestyle. An investment in the area of prevention will eventually pay off in reduced acute care costs."

Ms. Lindquist points to the recent threatened outbreak of polio in Ontario and Alberta as evidence of the strong need to educate the public about steps it can take to prevent disease. To this end, the department of health created a new division for health information and promotion last year.

(more)

It has also formulated a "blueprint" for the development of northern health services in the coming years, which outlines four basic levels of service.

The first is the primary level - that care provided by community nursing stations, or hospitals which serve a restricted area, such as the new Fort Smith health centre.

The secondary level is those hospitals which service a surrounding area, such as Hay River, Inuvik and Frobisher Bay.

The third is the referral hospital, to which people who can't be treated closer to home are sent. Stanton Yellowknife would perform this function because it has a number of specialists and specialized facilities.

The fourth and last level is the care that has to be obtained outside the North.

Lindquist estimates that approximately \$5.5 million was spent in southern Canada in 1977-78 to provide health services for northerners. (This figure does not include travel expenses). This amount could be substantially reduced - by about \$1.5 million - if more services were provided in the North. It would also mean a major effect on economic development and employment in the North, she adds.

(more)

Michael Pontus, chief of health insurance programs, points to further startling figures for the cost of northern health care.

The department of health's budget is almost \$24 million for 1979-80, not including capital costs. Based on the number of actual claims paid in the past, Pontus says an average of \$325 per year has been spent for hospital care for each northern resident, whether the care was administered in the N.W.T. or outside.

Another \$75 was spent on medicare, (doctors' fees), bringing the per capita health care cost to \$400 per person.

The price of hospitalization varies widely, depending on the location and the capability of a facility. The cost for a one-day stay in Stanton Yellowknife, for example, is \$193. One day in the Toronto Sick Children's costs \$320, in the Vancouver General \$236, in Frobisher Bay \$240 and in the University of Alberta hospital \$198.

The cost of a visit to the doctor's office for a minor illness is \$13.50, for a full physical examination, \$30.

Pontus points out that there are no premiums to be paid by the individual for either hospital or physician care in the N.W.T.

"From the United States, I have seen bills as high as \$2,000 a day," he says.



Patients could assist in reducing the paperwork by ensuring they register each year with the Health Care Plan, Pontus adds.

Ms. Lindquist comments that in the past there was a certain mystique surrounding health.

"For a long time, people weren't supposed to know too much about their own health. We want to remove the mystique and be more open. The real thrust is to make people more aware of the importance of caring for their own health."

This emphasis should include such things as sanitation, personal hygiene, immunization, water and sewage, because this is where prevention starts, she suggests.

Elaine Berthelet, head of health information and promotion, says the department plans to prepare more health-related material in the native dialects. It conducted summer projects on fitness and lifestyle awareness, and also plans to encourage the department of education to include more health instruction in school curriculum.

Health workers themselves sometimes inadvertently contribute to over-using services, says Ms. Lindquist.

A newsletter for professionals called N.W.T. Healthbeat is being published to help inform them of the high costs of health delivery and the latest developments in health.

(more)

As well, a conference will be held in Yellowknife Oct. 23-25 to pull together northern health workers from both acute care and community health. Prevention will be one of the major areas of discussion, as will planning, integrating and evaluating community health service programs. Special speaker will be Dr. Gordon Friesen, a health care consultant from London, Ont., who will give a futuristic view of "health care in the year 2000".

- 30 -

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Sept. 14/79

# NEWS

Second of a feature series by Pat Verge.

HEALTH REVIEWS ITS FIRST YEAR

79-184 P

YELLOWKNIFE - "The problem with our department is that we accomplished so much."

That was the comment of Janet Lindquist, acting director, in trying to summarize the accomplishments of the Territorial government's department of health after its first year of operation.

Health was established as a separate department in Aug., 1978.

"In the past year, we've been able to develop an entirely new organizational structure and to hire people to fill all our positions," said Ms. Lindquist.

"If there is ever going to be a complete transfer of responsibility for health services from the federal to the Territorial government, we have the organization set up," she said.

(more)

In forming the guidelines for the new department, all provincial organizations were reviewed.

A second achievement of the year was setting up a formal structure to get input from the medical profession. While in the past, the N.W.T. Medical Association was consulted on an informal basis by the department, the new Medical Advisory Committee meets at least once a month. It's made up of four representatives appointed by the association, a member from federal Medical Services and the territorial acting director of health.

All applications for permits to practise and for licences are submitted to the committee, as is all proposed legislation concerning health. The committee also advises the department on any disciplinary measures pertaining to doctors.

The Territorial Hospital Insurance Services (T.H.I.S.) board was also expanded during the past year from three to 10 members. The increase means more representation from the regions, and from lay people, says Michael Pontus, chief of health insurance programs. Members, who are appointed by the commissioner, come from as far as Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet.

The board approves all programs covered by insured services, reviews budgets and approves rates for "budget review" hospitals, approves rates for other N.W.T. hospitals, and sets overall policy and program direction.

(more)

Another important area of development has been in providing opportunities for northerners to be directly involved in health program planning. Last September, training positions were created for program officers, and two native northerners were hired.

A second step in this area has been the funding of a health awareness program run by the Rae-Edzo Native Women's Health Committee. The project will involve local people in a campaign to improve health conditions in Rae-Edzo. It is being jointly funded by the department of health, and National Health and Welfare as a pilot project. If successful, it may provide the prototype for other locally-initiated projects.

Further efforts involving northerners include the use of advisory committees for the development of career and education programs, and the inclusion of northern people on hospital boards of management and the T.H.I.S. board.

The completion of the new Health Centre in Fort Smith was another major achievement of the year. The centre employs a new concept in health care delivery with all health and social services workers together in one building. This will provide an ideal set-up for future educational activities in the field of health care, Pontus commented.

Over the past year, the department did studies into the whole field of mental health facilities. Development in this area will be a strong priority in the coming year and will see the department working closely with Stanton Yellowknife Hospital.

(more)



A second priority over the next year will be in the field of health information and promotion. A special program was established in the past year, as a result of the extremely high cost of treatment and the growing realization of the importance of investing in preventative measures.

"We must concentrate on preventing illness," says Janet Lindquist. "We must help northerners to understand it's in their own best interests to live a healthier lifestyle."

- 30 -

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Sept. 14/79

# NEWS

Last of a feature series by Pat Verge.

HEALTH IS BRANCHING OUT

79-184 P

YELLOWKNIFE - The creation of a separate territorial department of health one year ago has led to new emphasis on program development and standard setting for health care in the North.

Prior to 1978, the main involvement of the Territorial government in health was in paying hospital and medical bills for northern residents. But the department's formation, and the expansion of its responsibilities show that health has now become a "very significant program" within the total Territorial government system, says acting health director Janet Lindquist.

"Health is very big business. If all the aspects of health in the N.W.T. were put together, there would be 900 man-years and expenditures of over \$50 million," she says.

Many of those man-years and dollars are still under the direct responsibility of the federal government through its Medical Services branch, first established in 1954.

(more)



However, the creation of the new territorial department with its three principle branches - programs and standards, health insurance programs, and finance and administration - is paving the way for eventual transfer of all health responsibilities from the federal to the Territorial government, a move that has been under consultation for some time.

At present, Health and Welfare Canada, through its N.W.T. Medical Services branch, operates four hospitals (in Inuvik, Frobisher Bay, Fort Simpson and Rae-Edzo), 40 nursing stations, eight public health centres, six medical clinics and eight small health stations manned by a trained lay person. It employs some 622 people.

The Territorial government itself first became involved in health in 1960, with the creation of the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services (T.H.I.S.), established to provide hospital services for N.W.T. residents without charge.

Michael Pontus, chief of health insurance programs, explains that these services include hospital accommodation and meals at the standard ward level, all necessary nursing services, laboratory, x-ray and diagnostic procedures and necessary interpretations, drugs prescribed by a physician and administered in the hospital, physiotherapy and radiotherapy services, when available in a hospital.

T.H.I.S. also oversees the operation and is responsible for the budgets of three southern Mackenzie facilities known as "budget review" hospitals - Stanton Yellowknife, H.H. Williams in Hay River, and the newly-opened Fort Smith Health Centre. In addition, it pays for all hospital care at approved rates whether the care is provided in federal hospitals in the Territories or hospitals in the provinces.

(more)

Another area of territorial responsibility is in supplementary health programs. The cost of investigation and treatment of cancer, tuberculosis, cystic fibrosis, cleft lip and cleft palate, venereal disease and mental illness is covered. Drugs for these and seven other diseases are also paid for. And Pharmacare for senior citizens is covered.

In 1971, the government established its medicare program to set a list of benefits and to pay approved medical and medical specialists' costs for residents registered under the Health Care Plan.

Pontus emphasizes that the Territorial government pays for most health care in the North, whether delivered by Territorial government or federal personnel. This is done through its budget or cost-sharing agreements with the federal government.

Ms. Lindquist, until recently chief of programs and standards, was the department's first program officer hired four years ago. At that time, her main duties were to advise on programs generally and carry out some nursing consultation with hospitals. Now the division is expanding into many other areas, she says.

"When there is a health issue, for example if new legislation is necessary, the need is investigated, we research what has been done in other parts of Canada, then recommend on directions in which the department should move."

One recently-completed project is an information package on services for the aged and disabled. The material is designed to help communities develop and propose programs, with the government playing a consultative role. It also has some funds available for the development of facilities.

(more)

"We have stressed the importance of trying to have people remain in their communities and in their homes if possible, using home care services. Of course, there will be some need for nursing homes, too," says Ms. Lindquist.

The department has completed a survey of people with disabilities and special health needs. This information has been utilized in establishing programs to provide assistance to these people. The department hopes to work more closely with other government departments to develop comprehensive services for the handicapped.

In the area of maintaining standards, Health has co-ordinated a consulting service to hospitals in such fields as nutrition, physiotherapy and nursing.

Some territorial health legislation is out-dated or is lacking mention of new categories of professionals (such as psychologists, herbalists, or acupuncturists). The department is reviewing the legislation with people in those fields, looking into current work in other parts of Canada, and developing appropriate legislation for the North. This will be submitted to the executive before going before the Legislative Assembly.

In an effort to encourage Northerners to go into health careers, Health has developed career information packages and a training program for health and social service workers. The training will start at a very basic level, then branch into specialized areas, for example, for child care, or community health representative work.

(more)

Health is presently amending and improving the system of processing health care claims from physicians and hospitals. The revised system will improve the clerical processing and provide management information for health planners in both the federal and territorial governments.

"This will be very helpful, especially from the point of view of planning services and identifying areas of need," says Ms. Lindquist.

- 30 -

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Sept. 14/79

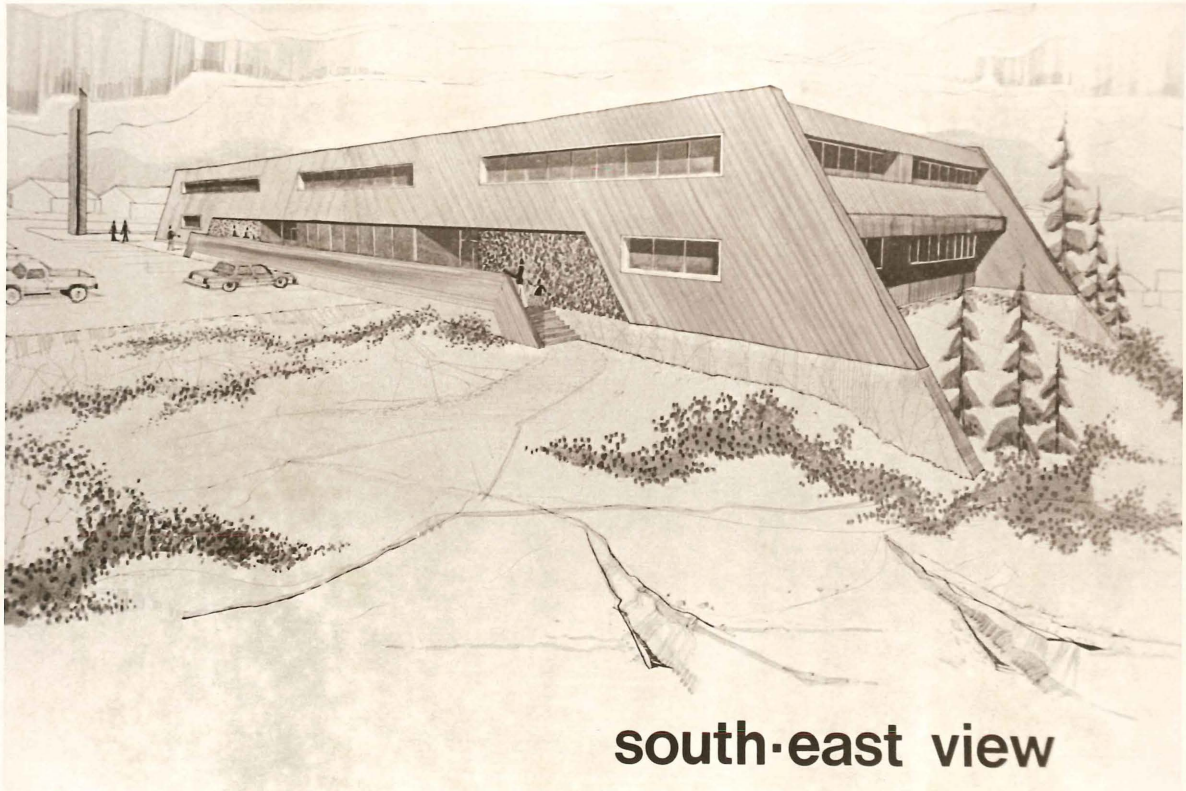


Photo Release

79-183 P

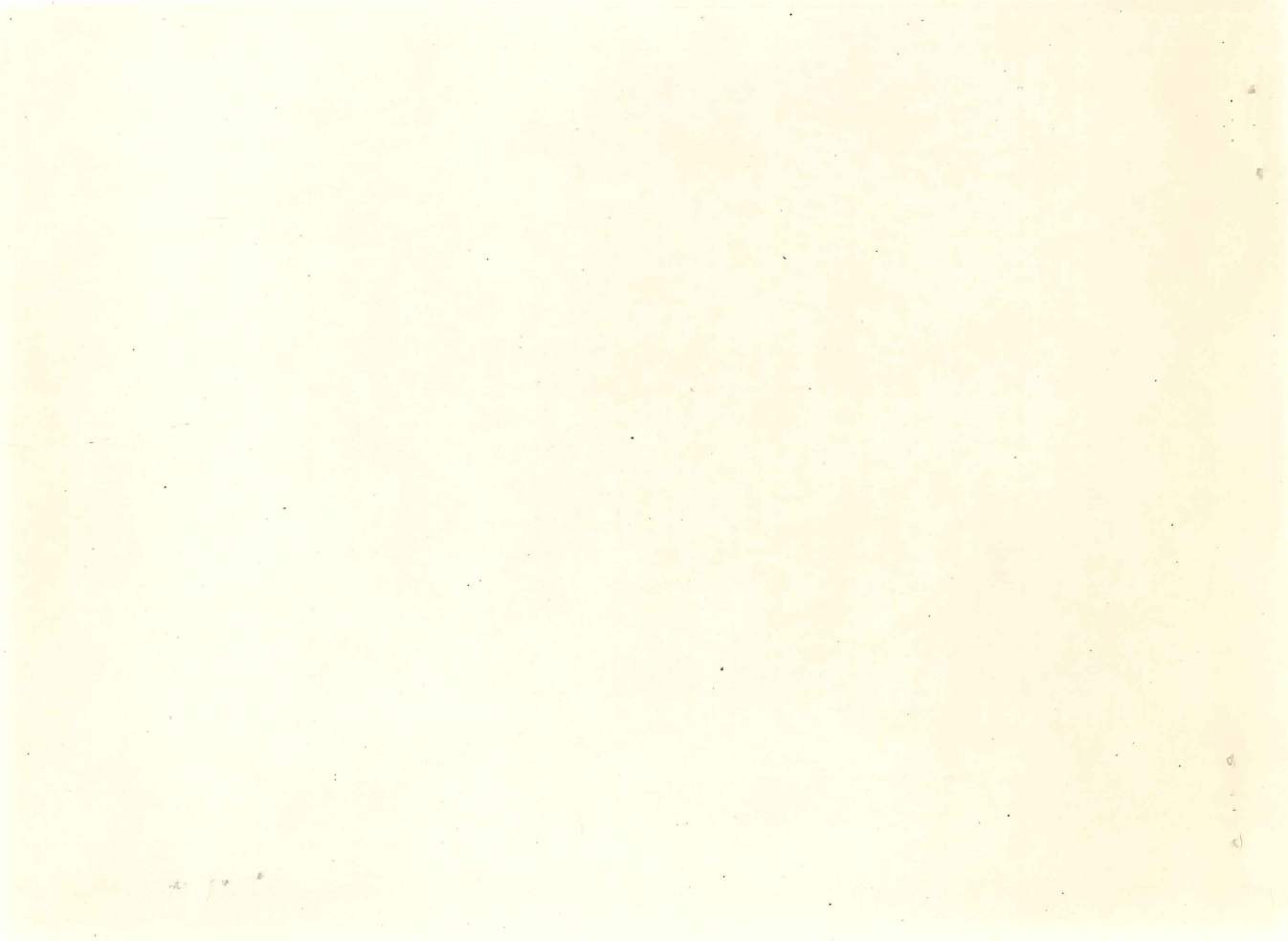
Rae (Sept. 7) - The corner pin was officially laid this week to start construction of a commercial complex here. The cost of the complex is \$1.25 million. It is being financed with the help of DREE. The project was organized by the Rae Development Corporation and the Rae Band Council. The Territorial government provided funding for an economic development co-ordinator. When completed in the summer of 1980, the two-storey structure will house Territorial government offices, the Rae band offices, hamlet administration plus such commercial enterprises as a restaurant and general store.

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**south-east view**

## Cutlines

- A. The opening speeches were made at the site of the two-storey complex. Speaking is Charlie Charlo, president of the Rae development corporation.
  
  - B. An artist's conception of the \$1.25 million Fort Rae commercial complex. The structure is slated for completion in June of 1980.
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# NEWS

Watch For Acid

79-182

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 5) - Hydrofluoric acid, commonly used by laundries as a stain remover, by mechanics and glass workers, and as a paint stripper, should be handled with extreme caution, says the Territorial government's occupational health unit.

Mike Hewitt, head of the unit, explains the substance causes burns which are very painful and extremely difficult to treat. Burns occur most frequently on the hands when proper protective gloves are not worn.

Hewitt says he doesn't believe hydrofluoric acid is widely used in the N.W.T., nor is it easily available off the shelf.

(more)



"But while in big industry its dangers are widely known, they are not here. We just want to get people watching, for example, to see if it is part of a compound they might be buying off the shelf."

The problem with hydrofluoric acid is that "burns become progressively deeper due to a reaction between the acid and the fluid which normally bathes human tissue," says Hewitt.

In the past, there was no satisfactory treatment for hydrofluoric acid burns, and the affected area usually had to be removed surgically. In many cases fingers, or even hands, had to be amputated.

Hewitt says a new treatment has now been developed which is far more successful. It consists of slowly infusing a calcium gluconate solution into the artery supplying the burned area. The hydrofluoric acid is inactivated when it combines with the calcium gluconate to form calcium fluoride, a non-soluble substance.

Hewitt has mailed details of the new treatment to all doctors in the N.W.T.

(more)

Watch For Acid - 3

To prevent such burns, workers should wear protective clothing and gloves, as well as eye protection. Anyone who receives a burn from the substance should flush it off with water and get to a doctor immediately, advising that hydrofluoric acid is involved.

-30-

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# NEWS

Fire Compensation Study Underway

79-181

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 5) - A special committee of the Territorial government will be looking into compensation for victims of this year's forest fires in the N.W.T.

The committee, headed by director Ivor Stewart of the department of natural and cultural affairs, will be reviewing existing compensation programs as well as meeting with the Fort Smith Hunters' and Trappers' Association.

According to Dan Billing, chief of the government's emergency measures office, the committee's first priority is immediate part-settlement of claims for those hunters and trappers who want to go back to the land as soon as possible.

Recently the Territorial government expanded its compensation to \$3,000 per individual.

(more)

Fire Compensation Study Underway - 2

The special committee has nothing to do with evaluating fire zones or fire-fighting methods in the N.W.T. These aspects will be dealt with by the federal department of Indian and northern affairs.

As well, a separate investigation will be carried out by the Territorial government of the feasibility of saving some of the trees partially burned in the Hook Lake area.

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# NEWS

SKETCHES SHOW SEARCH FOR NORTHWEST PASSAGE

79-180 P

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 4) - The search for the Northwest Passage in the 19th century is depicted in beautiful detail by 30 reproductions of early sketches now showing at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

"Pictorial Witnesses, 1819-1854" is the second of a special three-part series called "Arctic Images" produced by the Public Archives of Canada.

The sketches, done by members of expeditions to the Arctic, recorded the progress of parties led by people such as Sir William Parry, Sir John Franklin, Sir Horatio Thomas Austin, Sir Edward Belcher and Captain Robert M'Clure.

One or two members of a party were often given the job of sketching the highlights of the trip. After the voyage, some of the sketches or watercolours were usually made into engravings, then into lithographs, and used in accounts of the voyage.

more ...

SKETCHES SHOW SEARCH FOR NORTHWEST PASSAGE - 2

Sir John Franklin, for example, used the drawings and watercolours of Midshipman Robert Hood to illustrate the account of his trip along the Coppermine River in 1819-22. The sketches of George Back recorded Franklin's two land expeditions in 1819-22 and 1825-27.

Lieutenant Samuel Gurney Cresswell, who accompanied Captain Robert M'Clure during the discovery of the Northwest Passage in 1850-54, did watercolour sketches, which were later lithographed and published. One shows the expedition sledging over rough ice.

Until the 19th century, expeditions to the Arctic had mostly been commercial ventures. The focus of the voyages then changed to scientific and geographical discovery. The sketches shown in this collection, done before photography was widespread, gave the public an idea of the northern landscape and peoples, and showed some of the unusual events experienced by the crews.

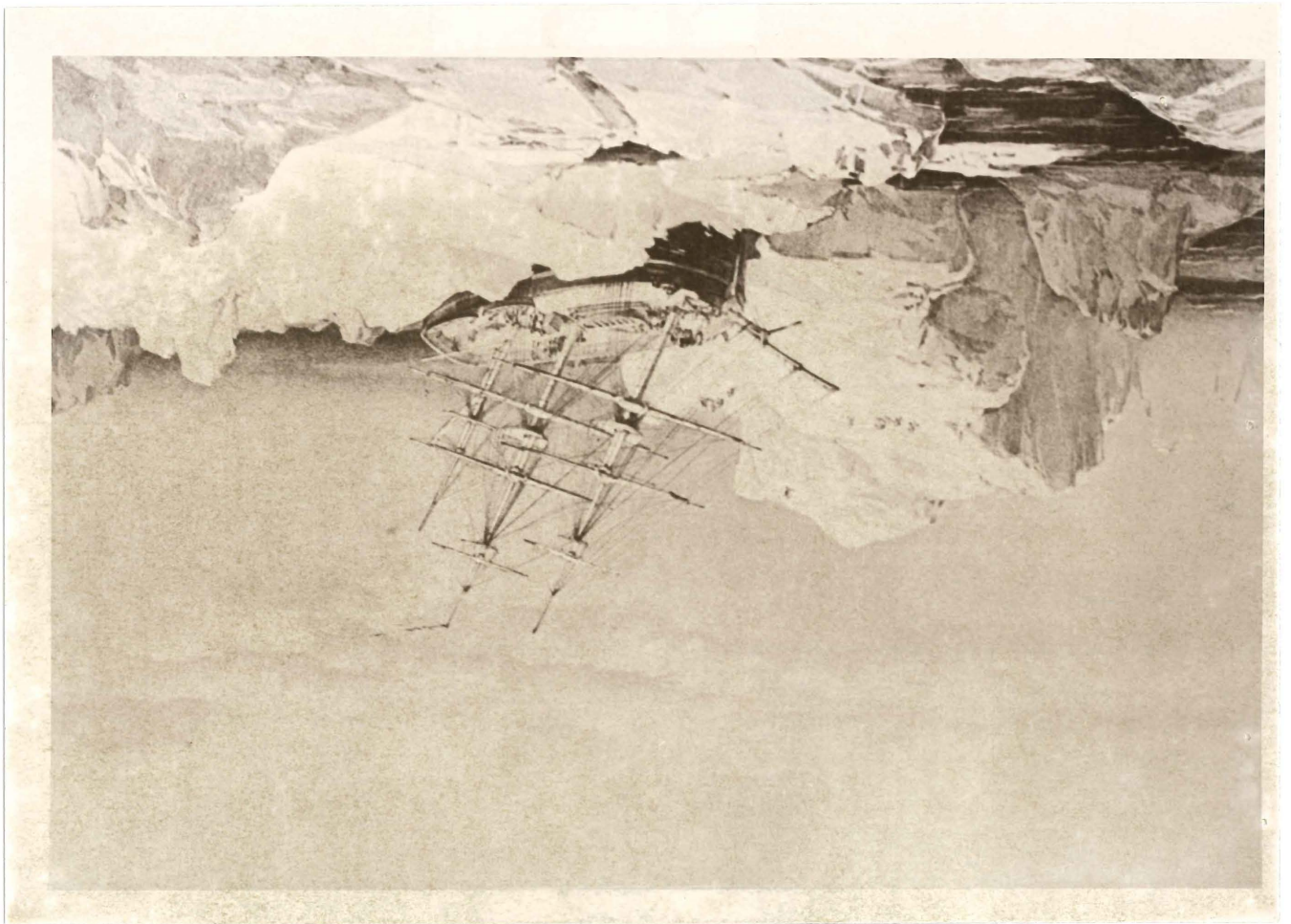
"Pictorial Witnesses" will run until Sept. 18. It will be replaced on Sept. 20 by the third part of the series, "The Frontier Photographed", a collection of photographs taken in the north from 1860-1911.

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# NEWS

TERRITORIAL EMPLOYEE HEADS UP SPORTS CHANGE TO METRIC

79-179

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 31)-Dennis Crane of Yellowknife has been appointed chairman of Metric Commission Canada's committee on Amusement, Recreation and Sports.

Crane, 46, is co-ordinator of print learning materials for the Territorial government's department of education. He has been a resident of the Northwest Territories since 1964.

The committee on Amusement, Recreation and Sports has overall responsibility for Canada's changeover to the metric system in sports. Some sports, such as track and field and swimming, have already changed, "but there is still a tremendous amount to do," says Crane.

"The span ranges from the diameter of an archer's arrow, to the mass of a golf ball, to the length of a football field."

The committee is made up of representatives of sports organizations from all over Canada who make recommendations for changes to metric, and try to establish a realistic time frame for the conversions.

(more)

TERRITORIAL EMPLOYEE HEADS UP SPORTS CHANGE TO METRIC-2

Anomalies do result, such as the conversion of the regular 10-foot-high basketball hoop. This comes out to 3.04 metres, but would likely be rounded off to three metres, notes Crane.

Crane has wide experience with sports organizations. He is past president of Sport North, chairman of the Sport North Lottery Authority, chairman of the Canadian Council of Provincial and Territorial Sport Federations, a director of the Sports Federation of Canada, and a national umpire for badminton. He has also been appointed chef de mission for the Arctic Winter Games to be held in Whitehorse next year.

-30-

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# NEWS

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT SURVEY COMING

79-178

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 31) - There will be a door-to-door canvass this fall throughout the N.W.T. to gather information that will be the basis for employment development in the Territories.

Canvassers will be in most northern communities during September, October and November to ask residents about their employment and educational background. The information will be stored in Yellowknife on a computer file.

The survey will serve three purposes: assist job-seekers in finding work, help employers find suitable employees, and provide information related to the development of training programs, adult education and new business developments.

Participation in the survey is voluntary, and the information gathered is confidential.

The Employment Development Section of the Territorial government's Department of Economic Development and Tourism is updating information previously held by T.E.R.I.S. (Territorial Employment Record and Information System) in order to determine the present status of individuals with respect to jobs and education.

(more)

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT SURVEY COMING - 2

By maintaining records of people who are looking for jobs or training - including their qualifications and the kinds of opportunities they hope to get - the Employment Development Section can assist them in achieving their objectives.

At the same time it can let the individuals searching for work know when there is a job open in their area of interest so that they may apply for it.

Anyone who is not interested in employment and training opportunities can still provide useful information. This information will be used in studies to develop businesses and training programs.

The information service depends on the accuracy of the records. In order to improve the quality of the service the Employment Development Section is introducing a new computer system and partial monthly surveys.

A project leader and/or assistant will be hired for each Territorial government region to oversee the surveys. The door-to-door canvass will be done by community residents.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

LARGE TURNOUT TO CENTRE OPENING

79-177 P

FORT SMITH (Aug. 27) - Saturday's official opening of the Fort Smith Health Centre attracted a crowd of 300 people, many of whom helped make the new health complex a reality.

Commissioner John Parker noted during the ribbon-cutting ceremony that Fort Smith citizens had participated fully in the planning of the new facility.

Local residents first started working on planning and building committees back in 1974, he said. Subsequently, a local board of management was appointed in 1977 to conduct the affairs of the Centre during construction and after completion. Citizens worked closely with government agencies throughout the project.

Mr. Parker also noted that the original co-ordinating committee from Fort Smith had recommended a community-oriented concept for the new centre. This has been incorporated by grouping many related services in one building. They include doctors' offices, public and community health agencies, social services, outpatient and emergency, inpatient acute care, extended or chronic care, a community home care program (now being planned), and offices for the use of visiting specialists.

(more)

LARGE TURNOUT TO CENTRE OPENING - 2

Mrs. Lillian Pieper, a public health nurse for many years in the Fort Smith area, cut the ribbon, assisted by Commissioner Parker.

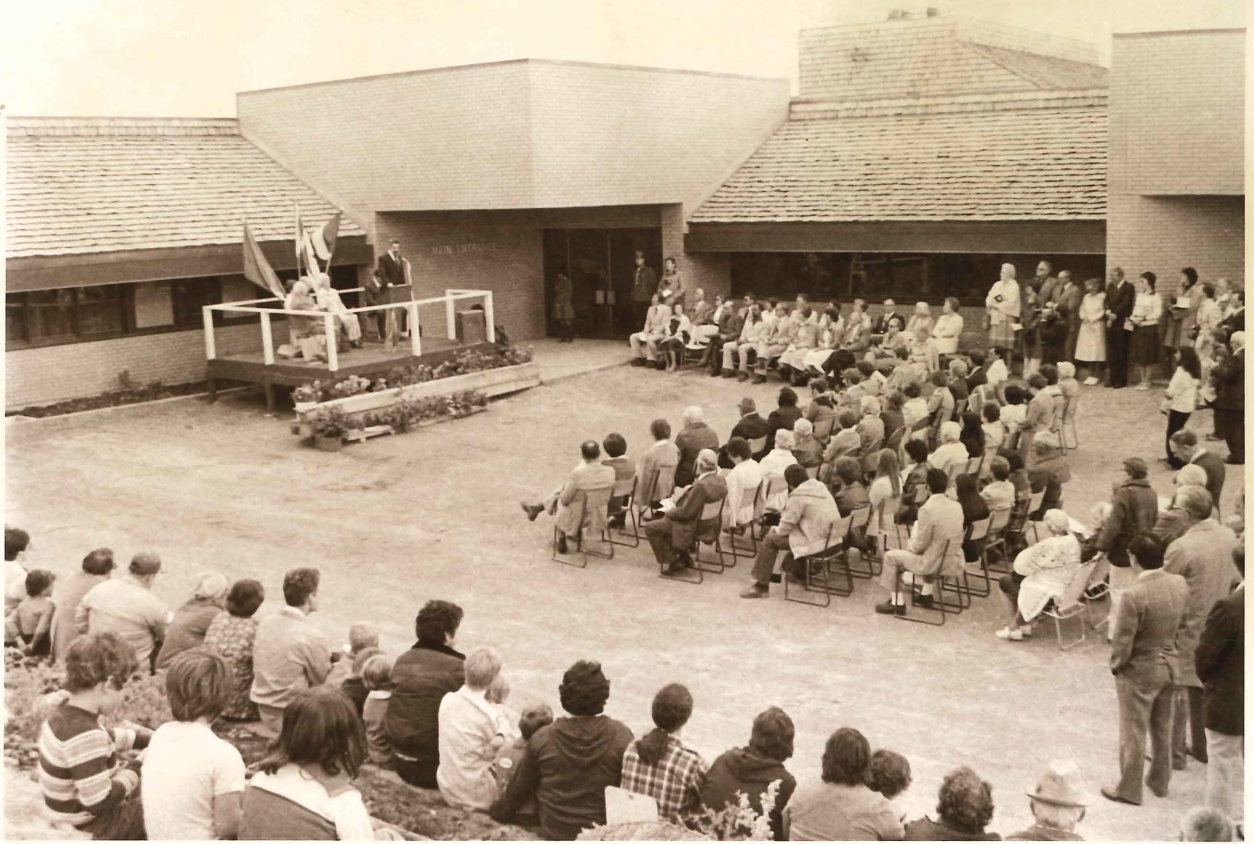
In another symbolic ceremony, Mayor Paul Kaeser of Fort Smith sold the five acres on which the new centre is situated to Commissioner Parker, who paid him one dollar for the property on behalf of the Territorial government. The town of Fort Smith also has another five acres of property available for possible future expansion of health services.

The new building, which has 15 acute care and 10 chronic care beds, was 18 months under construction and cost \$5.5 million. It replaces St. Ann's General Hospital, first built in 1914 by the Grey Nuns of the Roman Catholic Church. Another structure was erected as a replacement in 1951, then renovated in 1961-62.

Further unique features of the new centre include a central nursing station, and an attractive, modern interior which utilizes colour instead of the traditional white often used in hospitals.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

NEW EXHIBITION ON OLD MAPS

79-176 P

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 24) - Whatever happened to Frisland?

The answer to that bizarre question can be found in a special three-part exhibition from the Public Archives of Canada, beginning Saturday at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

Frisland, a fictitious island, first appeared on a map of Arctic areas published by Nicolo Zeno of Venice in 1558. Zeno based his map on a supposed voyage of one of his ancestors to Greenland and beyond in 1380. (The voyage has never been substantiated).

On Zeno's map, Greenland is accurately represented for the first time, but also included are a series of non-existent islands, one of which is "Frisland".

The exhibition, entitled Arctic Images, is a collection of 213 reproductions of maps, prints and photographs. It shows - before modern mapping and films - the kind of illustration that stirred the early explorer, documented his ventures, or captured the public's imagination.

(more)

Meanwhile, the problem with the Zeno map is that it was accepted by the geographical authorities of the time, and copied by cartographers. It created navigational problems and confusion in identifying new discoveries in the Arctic for the next century.

Martin Frobisher, for example, apparently used the Zeno map and "Frisland" as a reckoning point during his exploration of Hudson Strait. This caused confusion in identifying the area, and although Frobisher actually made the discovery, it is named after Hudson who sailed into the area 40 years later.

The influence of the Zeno maps was noted as late as 1680, when Moses Pitt showed "Frisland" on his map.

Maps showing the development of the art of map-making from a crude art to the beginning of an exact science, form the first part of the Arctic Images collection called "The Dawn of Arctic Cartography, Fourth Century to 1822". It will show at the Heritage Centre from Aug. 25 to Sept. 4.

The second part of the collection, running from Sept. 6 to 18 at the Heritage Centre, is called "Pictorial Witnesses". It contains sketches, engravings and lithographs reproduced from the period 1819-1854.

"The Frontier Photographed", the third part of Arctic Images, contains photos taken between 1860 and 1911. It will run from Sept. 20 to Oct. 2.

- 30 -

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This drawing by Jens Munck shows his expedition of Hudson Bay and his winter harbour at Port Churchill in 1619. Only three people survived this disastrous Danish attempt to locate the Northwest Passage.



A MAP  
OF THE  
**NORTH POLE**  
and the  
**PARTS ADJOINING**  
NEW YORK  
NEW JERSEY  
NEW ENGLAND



A small inset map or legend in the bottom left corner, likely providing a scale or additional geographical information.

This map of the North Pole and adjoining areas  
done by Moses Pitt in 1680 includes the  
fictitious island of "Frisland".

# NEWS

DEMPSTER TO BE PROTECTED

79-175

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 17) - Regulations governing hunting and the orderly development of land along the Northwest Territories portion of the Dempster Highway were announced today.

The announcement was made by Tom Butters, the Executive Member responsible for the co-ordination and development of the Interim Management Plan.

The regulations are designed to protect the caribou and environment along the Dempster Highway from the Yukon - N.W.T. border to the town of Inuvik.

Ivor Stewart, director of the Territorial government's department of natural and cultural affairs, explained the regulations mean that for six kilometres on both sides of the highway, hunting and development will be subject to special management control.

(more)

The regulations were announced in conjunction with the official highway opening Aug. 18 in the Yukon.

The new regulations were developed by the Territorial government in consultation with a committee of three representatives from each of the three Mackenzie Delta communities along the highway - Fort McPherson, Arctic Red River and Inuvik.

These regulations do not affect lands within the boundaries of the three communities and requests for development within those boundaries must be made to the respective community councils. The councils, in turn, make recommendations to the government about the application.

An area of 1.6 kilometres has been set aside on either side of the highway as a special management area under the Territorial wildlife regulations. In this area no person is allowed to hunt big game.

The main purpose of this regulation is to protect the caribou - to prevent the highway from being used as a caribou hunting "corridor", said Mr. Stewart.

As well, people holding a general hunting licence may take small game (such as rabbit, marmot and ptarmigan) and fur-bearing animals (such as mink, fox and wolverine) in this area. People who don't hold a general hunting licence may hunt small game in this area. They need a wildlife licence to do so.

For a further 4.4 kilometres on either side of the highway (from 1.6 kilometres to 6 kilometres on either side) those possessing a general hunting licence may hunt big game as well as small game and fur-bearing animals. However, those holding a wildlife licence may only hunt small game in the area extending six kilometres on either side of the highway.

(more)



Wildlife officers and game guardians from Inuvik and Fort McPherson will enforce the new regulations.

Meanwhile, new provisions were added to the area development regulations which affect the entire 12-kilometre-wide band of land centered on the highway. They are meant to control the location of commercial development along the corridor.

These regulations require a development permit for land-use activity, building construction, excavation of material and off-the-highway travel.

A party wishing to carry on activity outside a community area must apply to the area control officer. An "Interim Dempster Highway Committee" appointed by the commissioner will be set up as an aid to making such decisions. It is composed of seven members -- an area control officer, one person nominated by the council of each of the three highway communities, and three government representatives. It was emphasized by Mr. Stewart that these are only interim regulations to ensure adequate precaution is being taken to protect the wildlife and ensure that any development is orderly.

A comprehensive land management plan for the whole Dempster highway will be ready by Sept. 1982. Subsequently, revised regulations to effect the new plan will be made and will reflect the experience gained during the interim period.

In the meantime, an information package on the regulations effective along the highway is being developed and will be available to highway users.

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# NEWS

CARVERS FACE POTENTIAL HAZARD

79-174

YELLOWKNIFE (August 17) - Soapstone carvers in the Northwest Territories are being told they face a potential health hazard.

Mike Hewitt, head of the Territorial government's occupational health section, issued the warning today.

He said soapstone contains talc, a mineral that has been "identified as a hazard" in a number of occupations where inhaling talcum dust is a common occurrence.

"Whether or not carvers in the Territories use power tools, soapstone dust is created and the worker's health is at risk. Because disease caused by dust inhalation can take up to 20 years or more to develop, it is important to take precautions now," Mr. Hewitt said.

As a result, the occupational unit is informing all co-ops in the N.W.T. of the potential hazard and is willing to supply information on the type of dust mask required to prevent problems.

(more)

CARVERS FACE POTENTIAL HAZARD - 2

Mr. Hewitt said the arts and crafts section of the department of economic development and tourism is also in a position to respond to queries on the matter.

He noted that one type of mask that would be ideal for soapstone carvers is "disposable and inexpensive."

Carvers are also being urged to take other precautions such as working in a well-ventilated area and, if at all possible, to have a vacuum system to remove the dust as it is created.

They are also being told that it would be a good idea to have an annual chest x-ray or lung function test.

Mr. Hewitt said that an employer who operates a soapstone carving business is required by regulation to provide proper ventilation and protective equipment.

- 30 -

For further information, contact:

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# NEWS

McDERMIT RESIGNS

79-173

YELLOWKNIFE )Aug. 16) - Director of Health Bob McDermit has accepted a position with the Province of British Columbia.

Mr. McDermit has been named senior assistant deputy minister in that government's Ministry of Health. His resignation from the Territorial government is effective October 1.

The announcement was made today by Tom Butters, minister of health for the Northwest Territories.

Mr. McDermit joined the Territorial government in 1974 as chief of its health care plan and was later promoted to an assistant director's position in the department of health and social services.

When that department split its responsibilities in 1978 to form a Territorial department of health, Mr. McDermit became its first director.

(more)

MCDERMIT RESIGNS - 2

In that position, he developed the blueprint for delivery of health services in the North by the Territorial government and for the eventual transfer of health responsibilities from the federal government.

"I'll be leaving the North with very mixed feelings," he said. "It's been an interesting, challenging and rewarding experience."

A replacement for Mr. McDermit will be named at a later date.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

KEEWATIN FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

79-172

WHALE COVE (Aug. 17) - The first Regional Summer Festival temporarily doubled the population in this community of less than 200 people this week.

The four-day festival, which ended today, received some help from the Territorial government in the form of organizational expertise and funding. However, for the most part, the festival was organized and funded by the communities themselves.

Besides residents of Whale Cove, people from Repulse Bay, Eskimo Point, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour and Baker Lake took part.

The festival was officially opened Aug. 7 when a local elder and a seven-year-old-girl (one year for each of the communities represented) cut the ribbon. As well, opening remarks were made by Peter Ernerk, assistant regional director representing the Territorial government.

The week's events included traditional activities such as tea-boiling, one-foot-high-kick, ear-pull and harpoon-throwing. Music, drum dancing, handicrafts and performing arts also were featured.

(more)

KEEWATIN FESTIVAL A SUCCESS - 2

In conjunction with the festival, regional trials for the Arctic Winter Games in wrestling and soccer, as well as other events, were held.

- 30 -

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Whale Cove

# NEWS

NEW HEALTH CENTRE OPENING

79-171

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 15) - The new Fort Smith Health Centre will be officially opened Aug. 25 by Commissioner John Parker and Mrs. Lillian Pieper, a long-time health worker and resident of the community.

The centre, one of the most modern and functional small health centres in Western Canada, replaces St. Anne's Hospital. St. Anne's has served the community and district of Fort Smith for many years.

Announcement of the opening was made today by Minister of Health Tom Butters. Mr. Butters will also participate in the opening.

The centre took 18 months to build and cost \$5.5 million.

(more)



NEW HEALTH CENTRE OPENING - 2

Designed with patient care in mind, the centre has one central nursing station (called the administrative control centre) to oversee its 25 beds. Fifteen beds are for acute care, and 10 for chronic-care patients.

Also located in the centre are a public health clinic, social services offices, doctors' clinics and facilities for visiting dentists and medical consultants. This follows the modern concept of grouping most health-care services under one roof in the interests of patient care.

Others participating in the opening ceremonies include Arnold McCallum, minister of education and of local government, and former minister of health. Mr. McCallum will be master of ceremonies. He is MLA for the area.

The opening ceremonies will take place at 2 p.m., Sat. Aug. 25, followed by refreshments and public tours of the facility.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

DPW CUTTING ENERGY COSTS

79-170

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 14) - A two-year program to reinsulate and upgrade government housing in the Fort Smith region has resulted in substantial savings in energy.

For example, a Fort Smith house which took 1317 gallons of fuel oil to heat in 1974 used only 850 gallons in the 1978-79 season. The 35 per cent reduction in consumption is the result of an additional \$1,800 worth of insulation in the basement and attic.

The project, which began in 1977, is part of a widespread effort by the Territorial government's department of public works to cut utility costs in government buildings and government housing through energy conservation. It and other current projects, as well as strategies for future cost-cutting, were discussed in Yellowknife this month at a meeting attended by regional DPW engineers from the Fort Smith, Keewatin, Baffin and Inuvik regions, as well as headquarters staff in Yellowknife.

"We have looked at each region and will be adopting energy-conservation measures that are practical and cost-efficient," said Isabelle Wilson, DPW procedures officer, following the meeting.

(more)

"Of course, there will be obvious limitations on what can be done in each area, depending on budget, manpower and available materials."

Among the priorities pinpointed at the meeting is a program underway now in all regions to change fluorescent lights to lower consumption tubes. Another measure will reduce the volume of forced ventilating air used in rooms, for example, from 12 to three changes of air per hour.

"A lot of systems have been over-designed according to old building code requirements," says Ms. Wilson.

"The lowered demands of the building codes today require less air changes, thus less energy consumption."

The changes won't mean stuffier rooms, she says, and DPW's cost to make such adjustments will be low.

Other energy-saving measures to be adopted, where appropriate are:

- . installation of seven-day clock controls on services not required during non-working hours, such as ventilators, humidifiers, exhaust fans, circulating and heating pumps.

- . upgrading of staff housing by low-cost improvements such as attic insulation, door and window recaulking, improved weather stripping and the addition of storm doors and windows.

- . substitution of oil-fired hot water heaters in place of electric ones where power rates exceed 15 cents a kilowatt hour (This step is also dependent on factors such as the cost of installation.)

(more)

- . increased insulation of piping and ducting on utilidor systems and hot water tanks.

- . changing incandescent fixtures in staff housing to lower consumption fluorescent tubes which give off equal light. Changing these fixtures in hostels, schools, garages, warehouses, and offices where the cost of re-wiring is reasonable.

- . increasing combustion-efficiency of fuel by fuel additives, improved maintenance and use of combustion-analysis equipment.

Ms. Wilson says DPW's strong focus on conservation is not new -- it's been growing for several years -- but staggering increases in the price of fuel in recent months have resulted in the stepped-up efforts to cut costs.

Over all, a 33 to 50 per cent increase in utility costs is anticipated both this year and next. As an example of the jumps, Ms. Wilson cites the following increases experienced by the community of Lac la Martre this year. Heating fuel went up 54 per cent (from 82.9¢ to \$1.27 gal.), gasoline 49 per cent (from \$1.02 to \$1.52) and diesel fuel 72 per cent (from 82.9¢ to \$1.43).

The DPW utilities budget for the NWT is \$14.2 million this year. However, because of increasing costs, it is expected the department will need up to \$19 million to cover its energy bills this year.

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# NEWS

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES RECOMMENDED

79-169

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 7) - Creation of a department of renewable resources is one of many recommendations being studied by Commissioner John Parker, head of the Northwest Territories government.

The recommendations are the result of a task force on administration that tabled its report earlier this month.

The report also strikes an organizational blueprint allowing for up to six ministerial positions, a possible increase of three.

Mr. Parker said the document has been presented to members of the government's executive committee, but that it had not yet been the subject of extensive discussion.

It was released to directors and managers of government programs Friday and is to be considered an internal working paper "subject to change" during its implementation stage.

(more)

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES RECOMMENDED - 2

In calling for establishment of a department of renewable resources, the task force recommends it be built around the wildlife services of the existing department of natural and cultural affairs.

Other responsibilities would include fish, forestry, water, land management, territorial parks advisory service and environmental protection.

"Most elements of this recommended department represent embryonic functions pending transfers of full responsibility from the federal government. However, the pulling together of the functions into one department territorially will provide a strong basis for growing responsibility in this important area," the report states.

It also recommends that a mines and petroleum resources division be established within the department of economic development and tourism.

The task force notes the division would provide a viable base from which to pursue the transfer of management and administration responsibilities for non-renewable resources from the federal government and provide a clear focus for strengthening Territorial government contacts with industry.

Larry Elkin, director of local government, chaired the four-member task force that began consultations with senior managers and ministers of the government in early June.

(more)

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES RECOMMENDED - 3

Other members included Director of Finance Erik Nielsen, Baffin Regional Director Mike Moore and Director of Planning and Program Evaluation Ray Creery.

Mr. Parker said he places "a great deal of importance" to the report, adding that it doesn't really contain a lot of surprises.

"It's a consensus view of where we should be going."

Establishment of a department of renewable resources would require the stripping away of recreation, library and museum programs from the department of natural and cultural affairs.

Recreation would go to local government and libraries and museums to a newly-defined department of public services.

The task force states it recommends organizational adjustments within public services in order to facilitate transfer of the prosecution function from the federal department of justice to the Territories.

Once that transfer takes place, and the report notes it is being actively pursued, the task force views the establishment of a Territorial department of justice and a newly-defined department of public services as being "inevitable and desirable."

In the meantime, the report states, the immediate establishment of two fully developed departments appears to be unwarranted.

(more)

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES RECOMMENDED - 4

As a result, the task force urges that justice-related functions within the existing department be clearly grouped and that a senior manager be named to develop the legal side of the department's operations and to assist in negotiating the transfer of prosecution functions.

In line with this organizational change, the report recommends the department's name be changed to the department of justice and public services in order "to properly recognize the importance the Territorial government places on its responsibilities in the justice area:"

The task force also recommended that the department of planning and program evaluation be drawn closer to the executive and act as an arm of that committee.

Another change, if accepted, would see the establishment of an executive sub-committee on priorities and planning.

The executive committee on finance would also be beefed up and the department of finance would be split in two to create a treasury function and a separate department of supply and services.

Members of the task force also reported there is a desire for the Clerk's Office to report directly to the Speaker and to provide direct support to the Legislative Assembly.

Such a step, the report noted, would be consistent with the practice in the provinces and in the Yukon Territory.

(more)



ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES RECOMMENDED - 5

At the moment, the clerk's office reports to the Commissioner and is part of the Territorial administration.

The report deals with a number of other matters, including committee structures, but Mr. Parker said he is not releasing it to the public yet as he wishes the time to consider them in closer detail from an internal point of view.

He added that implementation of the task force recommendations are not expected to cost more money as the changes would represent a "rearrangement of what is already in place."

Mr. Parker told senior managers to reassure their employees that acceptance of the recommendations will not result in very substantial changes to the tasks they are now carrying out.

"Indeed, the report offers many opportunities for advancement within our service," he stated.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

TRADES COMPLEX STEP FORWARD IN NWT HIGHER EDUCATION 79-168

FORT SMITH (Aug. 7) - Minister of Education Arnold McCallum will officially open the new trades complex at Vocational and Higher Education (formerly Adult Vocational Training Centre) in Fort Smith Aug. 17.

The complex, notable as the first permanent instructional building on the campus, houses facilities to teach all aspects of the heavy duty mechanics and carpentry trades.

The new quarters will allow students to take all four years of their apprenticeship training and write examinations for their accredited journeyman's ticket in Fort Smith, rather than having to travel to southern schools as in the past.

The total changeover will not take place immediately. Third-year apprenticeship courses will begin in 1980, with fourth-year courses being added in 1981.

The new building has two large carpentry shops, two mechanics shops, and classrooms for pre-employment carpentry and mechanics, apprenticeship carpentry and mechanics, and drafting. There are staff and student lounges, and offices for the administrative staff of the vocational training programs.

(more)

DES COMPLEX STEP FORWARD IN NWT HIGHER EDUCATION - 2

The complex will open for classes on Sept. 6. In the meantime, the public is invited to celebrate the official opening, beginning at 2 p.m. on Fri., Aug. 17. Following the opening by the minister, refreshments will be served and tours conducted until 6 p.m.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

NORTHERN WATERS ATTRACT ADVENTURE-SEEKERS

79-167

FORT SMITH (July 31) - Every week all summer, canoes, kayaks, and numerous varieties of power craft are to be found plying the historic waterways of the Northland.

These are the modern-day adventurers retracing and re-discovering the routes of the fur-traders and map-makers.

The vessels and their occupants come from afar. Captain Yoshikatsu Taniguchi of the Kansai University Expedition Club, Osaka, Japan, arrived in Fort Smith in mid-June, after a 129-day canoe trip originating in the Gulf of Mexico.

Taniguchi was welcomed to the N.W.T. by tourism officer Charles Livingston, who made arrangements for local outfitter Jacques Van Pelt to transport the four-man Japanese team over the historic Fitzgerald-Smith portage.

(more)

The Kansai team launched two square-stern Grumann canoes at New Orleans, Louisiana on March 12th. From the Mississippi River, they travelled the Minnesota and Red Rivers to Lake Winnipeg. They traversed the Saskatchewan River west, portaged to the Athabasca, journeyed northward to Lake Athabasca, then via the Slave River to Fort Fitzgerald. Following a tour of Fort Smith and a visit to the Northern Life Museum, the men re-launched their canoes, bound for Inuvik.

This year has seen an increase in the number of water tourists on the Peace, Athabasca and Slave waterways, reports Livingston. A lone adventurer and his kayak from Boulder, Colorado rested in Fort Smith a few days before slipping away down the Little Buffalo towards Great Slave Lake, the Mackenzie River, and his destination of Tuktoyaktuk.

Student adventurers from Alberta paddled six warrior canoes through Fort Smith, then across Great Slave Lake to Yellowknife.

And the town provided a rest stop for three men from Ontario and a loner from Holland on their journeys to Inuvik.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

POSTER PAINT-IN

79-166

YELLOWKNIFE (July 27) - The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife will be celebrating Children's Day next Friday with an outdoors paint-in for the public.

Children, and adults too, are invited to the museum Aug. 3 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. to paint any poster they want on the theme International Year of the Child.

The museum is even going to provide all the paper, brushes and paints.

If the weather's wet next Friday the event will be moved indoors.

Meanwhile, any large group that wants to participate should let the museum know in advance by phoning 873-7684.

- 30 -

# NEWS

COMPENSATION RAISED

79-165

YELLOWKNIFE (July 26) - The Territorial government is increasing its compensation to hunters and trappers who suffer equipment losses as a result of forest fires.

As well, the government is expanding the coverage to include other natural disasters, such as severe storms.

Beginning immediately, hunters and trappers who lose equipment, including cabins, as a result of a forest fire or other natural disaster will be eligible individually for up to \$3,000 compensation.

The Territorial government has had a forest fire compensation plan since 1971 but it was limited to a maximum of \$1,000 per claimant.

Those eligible for compensation must hold a general hunting license, live in the Territories, and earn at least half their annual income from trapping and/or hunting.

(more)

COMPENSATION RAISED - 2

As well, priority will be given full-time trappers and/or hunters who, if they had the money to replace their equipment, could continue to earn a substantial living from the land.

Claims for compensation should be made through area wildlife officers of the Territorial government's Wildlife Service.

All claims will be reviewed both by Wildlife personnel and officials of the Hunters' and Trappers' association in the area involving the claim.

Hunters and trappers who have suffered losses as a result of this season's forest fires should consider applying if they meet the eligibility rules.

For more information about compensation, contact your area wildlife officer.



# NEWS

PELLY BAY VOTES FOR PROHIBITION

79-164

YELLOWKNIFE (July 25) - The community of Pelly Bay voted 77% in favour of liquor prohibition in a plebiscite held Monday, July 23.

The question on the ballot was: "Do you want liquor in the hamlet of Pelly Bay?".

Sixty-three people voted "no", 18 people voted "yes" and there was one spoiled ballot. The total of 82 people voting out of a total of 93 on the voters list represents a turnout of 88%

Ed Pugh, general manager of the N.W.T. Liquor Control System, says that he will begin immediately to prepare the order for liquor prohibition in the community and he expects that the process will be completed in four to five weeks.

- 30 -

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# NEWS

NEW CORRECTIONS CHIEF ASSUMES DUTIES

79-163P

YELLOWKNIFE (July 19) - A.J. (Tony) Frank is the new chief of corrections for the Territorial government's department of social services. He replaces Jim Britton who is moving to Frobisher Bay as Baffin regional director.

Mr. Frank, who has 20 years experience in the corrections and social services field, began his new position on July 9. He is responsible for the correctional institutes in the N.W.T., probation and community corrections services.

For the past year he was director of the Drumheller Penitentiary in Alberta.

His prior experience includes nine years as Prairie regional director of operations for the Canadian Corrections Service, a federal agency under the Solicitor General's department. Based in Saskatoon, his region included the N.W.T. as well as Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Northern Ontario.

(more)

NEW CORRECTIONS CHIEF ASSUMES DUTIES - 2

He also served as a district director for the National Parole Service in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, and Brandon, Manitoba. He has working experience as a parole officer in Edmonton and as a prison guard and classification officer in the state of Washington.

For nine years he was director of the Family Service Agency in Lethbridge, Alberta, providing family and marriage counselling, and counselling on drug and alcohol use and other social concerns.

Mr. Frank intends to give priority to preventative programs in an effort to reduce the number of individuals in the N.W.T. requiring incarceration.

"We can use our people and our resources to encourage community awareness of potential problems that can cause people to get into trouble with the law.

"We can also encourage the use of community resources before considering incarceration. Parole officers have an important role to play in this regard when preparing pre-sentence reports," he said.

Mr. Frank, 43, was born in Humboldt, Saskatchewan. He is married with five children.

He received his B.A. in 1958 from St. Martin's College in the state of Washington and a Bachelor of Social Work degree from the University of British Columbia in 1965.

(more)

NEW CORRECTIONS CHIEF ASSUMES DUTIES - 3

One of the majors for his B.A. was in music, a subject which he has taught, but moreso now his favourite hobby. He plays the tenor sax and the clarinet.

- 30 -

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