

80-001	Jan 3	SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS TO FORT GOOD HOPE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION
80-002	Jan 3	SPECIAL ARDA FUNDING FOR HUNTING CABINS
80-003	Jan 2	EXECUTIVE TRAVELS TO YUKON
80-004	Jan 4	SPECIAL ARDA AID FOR RAE-EDZO AREA
80-005	Jan 4	TURNER ACCEPTS SPECIAL ARDA OFFER
80-006	Jan 10	FIVE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES CO-OPERATIVES ACCEPT SPECIAL ARDA OFFERS
80-007	Jan 10	SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS METIS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION STUDY
80-008	Jan 10	MUNICIPAL SYSTEMS DESIGN SEMINAR
80-009	Jan 14	CENTRE'S NORTH GALLERY OPENS JAN. 19
80-010	Jan 17	HEALTH MINISTER JOINS NON-SMOKERS

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80-011	Jan 17	MINISTER CALLS FOR EXPANDED STUDY BY PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD
80-012	Jan 18	SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS HUNTING SHELTERS
80-013	Jan 18	BAKER LAKE FIRM AIDED BY SPECIAL ARDA
80-014	Jan 18	TOM BUTTERS ATTENDING TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE
80-015	Jan 19	PHOTO RELEASES
80-016	Jan 23	DON PRUDEN APPOINTED TOURISM CHIEF
80-017	Jan 30	AVOID THE RUSH ON LICENCE PLATE STICKERS
80-018	Jan 31	SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS TWO NORTHWEST TERRITORIES TOURISM STUDIES
80-019	Jan 31	SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS FOR PANGNIRTUNG AND WHALE COVE PROJECTS
80-020	Feb 1	MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR LEGISLATURE
80-021	Feb 4	DEFICIT BUDGET POSSIBLE
80-022	Feb 5	EMPLOYEES COMPLETE ADMINISTRATION COURSE
80-023	Feb 5	ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW OPENS SUNDAY
80-024	Feb 5	BUTTERS INTRODUCES BUDGET
80-025	Feb 5	NAME REMAINS THE SAME
80-026	Feb 5	EPP WON'T BE ASKED
80-027	Feb 7	COURNOYEA QUESTIONS HOUSING POLICIES
80-028	Feb 8	WATER BOARD TO APPEAR

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80-029	Feb 8	COMMUNITIES CAN'T HAVE FINES
80-030	Feb 7	POLAR BEAR QUOTA
80-031	Feb 7	COMMUNITY OPPOSES TRAVER
80-032	Feb 11	IT'S HEART MONTH
80-033	Feb 11	HOUSING BUDGET EXAMINED
80-034	Feb 13	URANIUM TOPIC OF SCIENCE SERIES
80-035	Feb 13	NORTHERN PARKS EXHIBIT
80-036	Feb 12	LOCAL INPUT IN HOME DESIGN
80-037	Feb 12	INSURANCE EXPLAINED
80-038	Feb 12	RENT RECOVERIES
80-039	Feb 12	McCALLUM PLEDGES BETTER HOMES
80-040		
80-041	Feb 13	ASSEMBLY TO WORK ELECTION DAY
80-042	Feb 13	SKI TEAM GETS TELEGRAM
80-043	Feb 13	POLICY CHANGES COMING
80-044	Feb 14	MANDATE OKAYED
80-045	Feb 14	RECEIVING HOMES' FUTURE UNCERTAIN
80-046	Feb 14	PSYCHIATRIST COMING

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RELEASE NUMBER	DATE	CONTENTS
80-047P	Feb 15	SHEAD RESIGNS
80-048	Feb 15	MLAs WANT PROOF
80-049	Feb 15	AIR TERMINAL FOR BAKER?
80-050	Feb 18	PHOTO RELEASE - FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH
80-051	Feb 25	PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CHIEF APPOINTED
80-052	Feb 19	CONSUMER SERVICES CHIEF APPOINTED
80-053	Feb 19	SAFETY CHIEF APPOINTED
80-054	Feb 18	VOLUNTEERS TO GET EXPENSES?
80-055	Feb 18	THIRTEEN PER CENT JOBLESS
80-056	Feb 18	LIQUOR ADS MAY VANISH
80-057	Feb 19	AD BAN LIKELY
80-058	Feb 19	MLAs WANT PHONES IMPROVED
80-059	Feb 19	S.T.E.P. MAY MOVE
80-060	Feb 20	DENTIST SOUGHT
80-061	Feb 20	TWO DEPARTMENTS TOGETHER AGAIN
80-062	Feb 20	MLAs WANT LOCAL CONTROL
80-063	Feb 20	SAWMILL LOAN OKAYED
80-064	Feb 25	SMALL RESPONSE TO LICENCE PLATE STICKERS

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80-065	Feb 21	RECOGNIZE ABORIGINAL RIGHTS - PAPER
80-066	Feb 25	PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY AT HERITAGE CENTRE
80-067	Feb 21	DONT BULLDOZE, SAYS FRASER
80-068	Feb 22	MINIMUM WAGE HIKE SOUGHT
80-069	Feb 22	ITC WANTS SUPPORT
80-070	Feb 22	COURT COSTS STUDIED
80-071	Feb 25	EDUCATION INQUIRY URGED
80-072	Feb 26	LAND CLAIMS PAPER DEFERRED
80-073	Feb 27	MLAs WANT WORKS BACK
80-074	Feb 27	COMMITTEES TO DISCUSS CARIBOU FIRST
80-075	Feb 28	HOURS EXTENDED
80-076	Feb 28	EDUCATION PROBE APPROVED
80-077	Feb 27	WATER BOARD OPERATIONS DISCUSSED
80-078	Feb 29	GRANTS TO BE EXAMINED
80-079	Mar 3	ITC RECOMMENDATIONS DEFERRED
80-080	Mar 3	CANINE IMMIGRATION CURBS URGED
80-081	Mar 3	'BETTER RELATIONSHIP' REQUIRED
80-082	Mar 4	LOCAL CONTROLS ON WILDLIFE

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80-083	Mar 4	MORE CONSULTATION NEEDED - ASSEMBLY
80-084	Mar 5	RESOURCES BUDGET APPROVED
80-085	Mar 5	MORE MONEY FOR CAMPS
80-086	Mar 5	ASSEMBLY ATTACKS ENVIRONMENT SERVICES
80-087	Mar 6	NERYSOO - ITC TO MEET
80-088	Mar 6	DRURY REPORT RECEIVED
80-089	Mar 6	MLAs APPROVE "TOUGH" DEVELOPMENT STAND
80-090	Mar 6	COMPULSORY RESIDENCE URGED
80-091	Mar 6	BRADEN MAPS DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES
80-092	Mar 6	PARKER WILL "STEP ASIDE"
80-093	Mar 7	SECRETARIAT EVALUATION-URGED
80-094	Mar 7	EASTERN MINISTERS SOUGHT
80-095	Mar 7	CORRECTION TO RELEASE # 80-095
80-096	Mar 7	COMMISSIONER ALMOST BACK IN HOUSE
80-097	Mar 7	MLAs WANT MORE ACCOUNTABILITY
80-098	Mar 10	INCREASED NATIVE EMPLOYMENT WANTED
80-099	Mar 10	LOCALS TO DELIVER GOODS

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80-100	March 10	NORTHERN PREFERENCE TO IMPROVE
80-101	March 10	1980 EXPLORERS' GUIDE RELEASED
80-102	March 11	J-P's ROLE EXPANDED, IMPROVED
80-103	March 11	DENE NATION ADDRESSES COUNCIL
80-104	March 11	BROUGHTON ISLAND RCMP DETACHMENT URGED
80-105	March 12	LEGAL SERVICES FUNDING URGED
80-106	March 12	ENERGY POLICY, MINISTER RECOMMENDED
80-107	March 12	YK REFERRAL CENTRE OPPOSED
80-108	March 13	PETROLEUM TAXES DOWN, LIQUOR UP
80-109	March 13	GRANTS, BURSARIES TO BE STUDIED
80-110	March 13	EXPANDED RADIO-TV SERVICE URGED
80-111	March 14	APPOINTMENTS APPROVED BY COUNCIL
80-112	March 14	ORDINANCES, AMENDMENTS RECEIVE ASSENT
80-113	March 14	BUDGET ALLOCATIONS APPROVED
80-114	March 18	EQUIPMENT, ATTITUDES SAVING ENERGY
80-115	March 26	ENERGY AGREEMENT SIGNED
80-116	March 19	MUSEUM OFFERS PHOTOS, THEATRE
80-117	March 19	NOVEL PROGRAM PREPARES YOUNG PATIENTS

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RELEASE NUMBER	DATE	CONTENTS
80-118	March 20	ASSEMBLY REVIEWS PETROLEUM TAX HIKES (replaces #80-108)
80-119	March 20	PLATE DEADLINE NEARS
80-120	March 27	ALCOHOL, DRUG PROGRAMS FUNDED
80-121	March 27	CARIBOU, BEAR COUNTS PLANNED
80-122	March 31	JOB AND CAREER SHOW APRIL 10, 11, 12.
80-123	April 1	TAX DISCOUNTERS CONTROLLED
80-124	April 10	PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT ON GAMBLING REGULATIONS
80-125	April 10	WELFARE BENEFITS HIKED
80-126	April 11	PROHIBITION FILM TO BE SHOWN ON CBC
80-127	April 11	CONSERVATION EFFORTS APPLAUDED
80-128	April 16	CORRECTION TO RELEASE # 80-125
80-129	April 16	FIRST ISSUE OF STATISTICS QUARTERLY PRINTED
80-130	April 21	ENERGY MINISTER NAMED
80-131	April 18	GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FUND FOLK ON THE ROCKS
80-132P	April 21	SOUTH AMERICAN VISITOR WELCOMED
80-133	April 22	MEETINGS WITH HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS BEGIN
80-134	April 24	NEW ALCOHOL AND DRUGS CO-ORDINATOR NAMED
80-135	April 24	POPULATION STATISTICS RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (April 24) - The population of the Northwest Territories decreased in 1979 by just over 300 people, according to just-released statistics from the Territorial government's bureau of statistics.

According to Ralph Joyce, head of the bureau, the Baffin and Keewatin regions experienced small population gains last year, while the Fort Smith and Inuvik regions lost population.

Again, there was an out-migration from the Territories - 1,349 people, as of December 31, 1979. However, this population loss was almost offset by a natural increase (births over deaths) of 1,019 people.

(more)

POPULATION STATISTICS RELEASED - 2

The population statistics were compiled with information from the Registrar General of Vital Statistics and the Family Allowance statistics provided by the Department of National Health and Welfare.

"We will be able to be even more precise in our figures when our health registration system is fully in place", said Joyce.

- 30 -

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POPULATION ESTIMATES

DECEMBER 1979



POPULATION ESTIMATES

Northwest Territories
December 31, 1979

Bureau of Statistics
Executive Committee
Secretariat
Government of the
Northwest Territories

Population Estimates
Northwest Territories
December 1979

Copies available at \$3 each,
prepaid ISSN 0226-5699

Published by the:

Department of Information
Government of the Northwest Territories
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, X1A 2L9

April 1980

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POPULATION ESTIMATES

1. Introduction

This report presents Northwest Territories population estimates for December 31, 1979 and outlines estimation procedures. Further methodological detail and descriptions of procedures for 1977 and 1978 are provided in the Appendix.

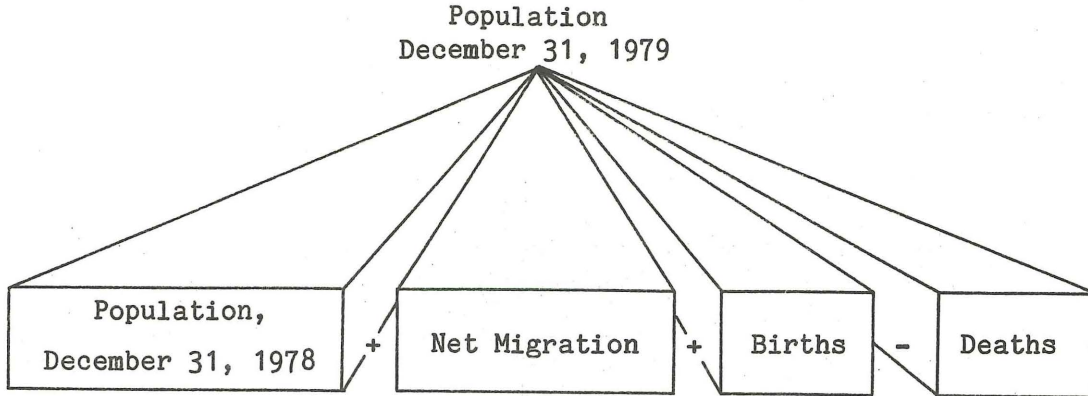
2. Population Highlights

Population estimates for December 31, 1979 indicate that:

- the population of the Northwest Territories decreased by 330 persons to 46 063 during 1979.
- the Baffin and Keewatin Regions experienced small population gains, while the Fort Smith and Inuvik Regions lost population.
- all Regions continued to experience net out-migration, with the Northwest Territories as a whole registering a net out-migration of 1349 persons.
- in relative terms, net out-migration was least in the Keewatin and greatest for the Inuvik Region.
- for the Northwest Territories as a whole, natural increase (excess of births over deaths) was 1019, offsetting for the most part population loss resulting from migration.
- this offsetting effect was accentuated in the Eastern Arctic and dampened in the west, resulting in a small eastward shift in population balance.

3. Estimation Procedure

Population estimates were developed for all communities by adjusting year-end 1978 population figures for the effects of birth, death and migration during 1979. The schematic for this procedure is as follows:



Birth and death information was provided by the Registrar General of Vital Statistics, while migration estimates were developed from Family Allowance Statistics with adjustments for school enrolment information. Details are provided in the Appendix.

Population figures for Frobisher Bay and Rae-Edzo incorporate revised estimates for December 31, 1977 based upon improved information for those communities.

TABLES

POPULATION ESTIMATES, by Region

Northwest Territories, December 31, 1977 to 1979

	Population			Percentage Change	
	1977	1978	1979	1978/77	1979/78
<u>Northwest Territories</u>	46 370	46 393	46 063	--	-0.7
Baffin	7 987	8 168	8 233	2.3	0.8
Keewatin	4 056	4 146	4 179	2.2	0.8
Inuvik	7 514	7 435	7 331	-1.1	-1.4
Fort Smith	26 813	26 644	26 320	-0.6	-1.2

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE, by Region

Northwest Territories, December 31, 1978 to 1979

	Population			Components of Change		
	1978	1979	Change	Births	Deaths	Migration
<u>Northwest Territories</u>	46 393	46 063	-330	1212	193	-1349
Baffin	8 168	8 233	65	262	35	-162
Keewatin	4 146	4 179	33	112	15	-64
Inuvik	7 435	7 331	-104	205	33	-276
Fort Smith	26 644	26 320	-324	633	110	-847

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, by Region

Northwest Territories, December 31, 1977 to 1979

	1977	1978	1979
<u>Northwest Territories</u>	100.0	100.0	100.0
Baffin	17.2	17.6	17.9
Keewatin	8.7	8.9	9.1
Inuvik	16.2	16.0	15.9
Fort Smith	57.8	57.4	57.1

POPULATION ESTIMATES, by Region and Community
Northwest Territories, December 31, 1977 to 1979

	Population			Percentage Change	
	1977	1978	1979	1978/77	1979/78
<u>Baffin</u>	7 987	8 168	8 233	2.3	0.8
Arctic Bay	414	403	377	-2.7	-6.5
Broughton Island	348	329	314	-5.5	-4.6
Cape Dorset	684	693	725	1.3	4.6
Clyde River	412	411	443	-0.2	7.8
Frobisher Bay	2 423	2 490	2 454	2.8	-1.4
Grise Fiord	95	99	95	4.2	-4.0
Hall Beach	349	396	396	13.5	-
Igloolik	737	753	766	2.2	1.7
Lake Harbour	268	301	300	12.3	-0.3
Nanisivik	264	273	291	3.4	6.6
Pangnirtung	872	878	909	0.7	3.5
Pond Inlet	620	649	652	4.7	0.5
Resolute Bay	181	167	177	-7.7	6.0
Sanikiluaq	320	326	334	1.9	2.5
<u>Keewatin</u>	4 056	4 146	4 179	2.2	0.8
Baker Lake	1 021	1 007	1 017	-1.4	1.0
Chesterfield Inlet	256	291	281	13.7	-3.4
Coral Harbour	423	414	414	-2.1	-
Eskimo Point	891	960	980	7.7	2.1
Rankin Inlet	987	978	956	-0.9	-2.2
Repulse Bay	296	295	328	-0.3	11.2
Whale Cove	182	201	203	10.4	1.0
<u>Inuvik</u>	7 514	7 435	7 331	-1.1	-1.4
Aklavik	797	761	750	-4.5	-1.4
Arctic Red River	119	111	79	-6.7	-28.8
Colville Lake	73	73	73	-	-
Fort Franklin	463	512	554	10.6	8.2
Fort Good Hope	446	446	446	-	-
Fort McPherson	790	813	781	2.9	-3.9
Fort Norman	290	329	312	13.4	-5.2
Inuvik	3 127	2 938	2 892	-6.0	-1.6
Norman Wells	330	352	361	6.7	2.6
Paulatuk	160	163	166	1.9	1.8
Sachs Harbour	173	177	170	2.3	-4.0
Tuktoyaktuk	746	760	747	1.9	-1.7

(cont'd)

POPULATION ESTIMATES, by Region and Community (cont'd)
 Northwest Territories, December 31, 1977 to 1979

	Population			Percentage Change	
	1977	1978	1979	1978/77	1979/78
<u>Fort Smith</u>	26 813	26 644	26 320	-0.6	-1.2
Bathurst Inlet	28	29	30	3.6	3.4
Bay Chimo	66	66	66	-	-
Cambridge Bay	859	853	864	-0.7	1.3
Coppermine	801	803	766	0.2	-4.6
Detah	161	162	161	0.6	-0.6
Enterprise	40	40	40	-	-
Fort Liard	325	327	344	0.6	5.2
Fort Providence	566	556	571	-1.8	2.7
Fort Resolution	519	521	523	0.4	0.4
Fort Simpson	1 103	1 080	1 001	-2.1	-7.3
Fort Smith	2 434	2 347	2 234	-3.6	-4.8
Gjoa Haven	454	464	493	2.2	6.3
Hay River	3 531	3 398	3 345	-3.8	-1.6
Holman Island	306	328	336	7.2	2.4
Jean Marie River	49	48	49	-2.0	2.1
Kakisa	40	40	41	-	2.5
Lac La Martre	224	225	231	0.4	2.7
Nahanni Butte	96	94	92	-2.1	-2.1
Paradise Gardens	57	58	58	1.8	-
Pelly Bay	258	287	281	11.2	-2.1
Pine Point	1 878	1 763	1 719	-6.1	-2.5
Port Radium	132	152	140	15.2	-7.9
Rae-Edzo	1 437	1 467	1 367	2.1	-6.8
Rae Lakes	171	172	177	0.6	2.9
Reliance	9	9	9	-	-
Snowdrift	258	262	264	1.6	0.8
Spence Bay	464	454	470	-2.2	3.5
Trout Lake	61	60	61	-1.6	1.7
Tungsten	325	423	506	30.2	19.6
Wrigley	174	175	163	0.6	-6.9
Yellowknife	9 987	9 981	9 918	-0.1	-0.6
<u>Northwest Territories</u>	46 370	46 393	46 063	--	-0.7

COMPONENTS OF CHANGE, by Region and Community
Northwest Territories, December 31, 1978 to 1979

	Population			Components of Change		
	1978	1979	Change	Births	Deaths	Migration
<u>Baffin</u>	8 168	8 233	65	262	35	-162
Arctic Bay	403	377	-26	16	1	-41
Broughton Island	329	314	-15	9	6	-18
Cape Dorset	693	725	32	14	2	20
Clyde River	411	443	32	27	1	6
Frobisher Bay	2 490	2 454	-36	73	11	-98
Grise Fiord	99	95	-4	3	-	-7
Hall Beach	396	396	-	9	2	-7
Igloolik	753	766	13	26	1	-12
Lake Harbour	301	300	-1	15	1	-15
Nanisivik	273	291	18	5	-	13
Pangnirtung	878	909	31	36	5	-
Pond Inlet	649	652	3	19	1	-15
Resolute Bay	167	177	10	3	3	10
Sanikiluaq	326	334	8	7	1	2
<u>Keewatin</u>	4 146	4 179	33	112	15	-64
Baker Lake	1 007	1 017	10	18	4	-4
Chesterfield Inlet	291	281	-10	9	1	-18
Coral Harbour	414	414	-	15	-	-15
Eskimo Point	960	980	20	23	4	1
Rankin Inlet	978	956	-22	23	3	-42
Repulse Bay	295	328	33	17	2	18
Whale Cove	201	203	2	7	1	-4
<u>Inuvik</u>	7 435	7 331	-104	205	33	-276
Aklavik	761	750	-11	15	7	-19
Arctic Red River	111	79	-32	1	1	-32
Colville Lake	73	73	-	-	-	-
Fort Franklin	512	554	42	15	1	28
Fort Good Hope	446	446	-	14	-	-14
Fort McPherson	813	781	-32	22	5	-49
Fort Norman	329	312	-17	5	-	-22
Inuvik	2 938	2 892	-46	95	14	-127
Norman Wells	352	361	9	6	1	4
Paulatuk	163	166	3	5	2	-
Sachs Harbour	177	170	-7	6	1	-12
Tuktoyaktuk	760	747	-13	21	1	-33

(cont'd)

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE, by Region and Community (cont'd)
 Northwest Territories, December 31, 1978 to 1979

	Population			Components of Change		
	1978	1979	Change	Births	Deaths	Migration
<u>Fort Smith</u>	26 644	26 320	-324	633	110	-847
Bathurst Inlet	29	30	1	1	-	-
Bay Chimo	66	66	-	-	-	-
Cambridge Bay	853	864	11	24	5	-8
Coppermine	803	766	-37	14	7	-44
Detah	162	161	-1	-	1	-
Enterprise	40	40	-	-	-	-
Fort Liard	327	344	17	6	1	12
Fort Providence	556	571	15	13	3	5
Fort Resolution	521	523	2	9	2	-5
Fort Simpson	1 080	1 001	-79	25	8	-96
Fort Smith	2 347	2 234	-113	60	16	-157
Gjoa Haven	464	493	29	22	2	9
Hay River	3 398	3 345	-53	68	11	-110
Holman Island	328	336	8	8	-	-
Jean Marie River	48	49	1	1	-	-
Kakisa	40	41	1	1	-	-
Lac La Martre	225	231	6	8	2	-
Nahanni Butte	94	92	-2	1	3	-
Paradise Gardens	58	58	-	-	-	-
Pelly Bay	287	281	-6	12	3	-15
Pine Point	1 763	1 719	-44	58	3	-99
Port Radium	152	140	-12	-	-	-12
Rae-Edzo	1 467	1 367	-100	44	3	-141
Rae Lakes	172	177	5	5	-	-
Reliance	9	9	-	-	-	-
Snowdrift	262	264	2	9	2	-5
Spence Bay	454	470	16	11	2	7
Trout Lake	60	61	1	2	1	-
Tungsten	423	506	83	4	2	81
Wrigley	175	163	-12	-	-	-12
Yellowknife	9 981	9 918	-63	227	33	-257
<u>Northwest Territories</u>	46 393	46 063	-330	1 212	193	-1 349

APPENDIX

A. Population Estimation Procedure, December 1979

Population figures for December 31, 1979 were developed by estimating numbers of children 0-17 years of age, parents with children 0-17 years of age, and other adults, for each community. The estimation procedure also provides birth, death and net migration information.

Data Sources

- 1978 population estimates (revised)
- December 1978 and 1979 Family Allowance (FA) records, adjusted for school enrolment information
- Vital Statistics
- 1976 Census

Estimation of Child Population

1. Children Estimate, 1978: FA children at December 1978, adjusted for births and infant mortality during 1978.
2. Children Estimate, 1979: FA children at December 1979, adjusted for births and infant mortality during 1979.

Adjustments to FA data were for children less than 1 year, whose population tends to be understated by FA records.

Estimation of Adult Population

This procedure develops separate estimates for parents and for other adults:

1. Parents Estimate, 1978: FA families at 1978, times parents per family at June 1976 (1976 Census).
2. Other Adults Estimate, 1978: Population at 1978, minus parents and children at 1978.
3. Parent Deaths Estimate, 1979: All adult deaths during 1979, times parents at 1978, divided by all adults at 1978.
4. Other Adult Deaths Estimate, 1979: All adult deaths during 1979, minus parent deaths during 1979.
5. Preliminary Parents Estimate, 1979: Parents at 1978, plus estimated number of parents added due to birth of first child during 1979, minus parents with one child 17 years of age at 1978, minus deaths to parents during 1979. (Excludes migration.)
6. Preliminary Other Adults Estimate, 1979: Other adults at 1978, plus children 17 years of age at 1978, plus parents with one child 17 years of age at 1978, minus parents whose first child was born during 1979, minus deaths to other adults during 1979. (Excludes migration.)

7. Preliminary Families Estimate, 1979: FA families at 1978, plus estimated number of families formed by birth of first child during 1979, minus families with one child 17 years of age at 1978. (Excludes migration.)
8. Parents per Family Estimate, 1979: Preliminary parents estimate, divided by preliminary families estimate.
9. Final Parents Estimate, 1979: FA families at 1979, times parents per family at 1979. (Includes migration.)
10. Net Migration of Parents Estimate, 1979: Final parents estimate, minus preliminary parents estimate.
11. Net Migration of Other Adults Estimate, 1979: Preliminary estimate of other adults, time net migration of parents, divided by preliminary estimate of parents.
12. Final Other Adults Estimate, 1979: Preliminary estimate of other adults, plus net migration of other adults during 1979.

Estimation of Total Population, 1979

Sum of children estimate and final estimates of parents and other adults.

Births

Vital statistics records.

Deaths

Vital statistics records for children, parents and other adults categories.

Migration

1. Net Migration of Infants Estimate, 1979: FA children less than 1 year of age at 1979, minus reported births, plus infant deaths during 1979. (Calculated only if positive)
2. Net Migration of Children Estimate, 1979: Children 1-17 at 1979, minus children 0-16 years of age at 1978, plus net migration of infants, plus deaths to children 1-17 years during 1979.
3. Net Migration Estimate, 1979: Sum of net migration for children, parents and other adults.

B. Population Estimation Procedure, December 1978

Population estimates for Northwest Territories communities at December 31, 1978 were developed by adjusting year-end 1977 population figures for birth, death and migration.

Components of this estimation were:

1. Base population figures for December 31, 1977.
2. Change in community population due to migration: Net migration identified for children aged 1-14 years from Family Allowance records during 1978 was transformed into an estimate of total migration using age profiles for communities or groupings of similar communities;
3. Births for each community, estimated from Family Allowance statistics;
4. Deaths during calendar year 1978, based on Vital Statistics information.

C. Population Estimation Procedures, December 1977

~~December 31, 1977 population figures for Northwest Territories communities were obtained using a variety of procedures.~~

The enumeration of small communities in the Northwest Territories was co-ordinated through Government Regional Offices: Frobisher Bay (Baffin Region), Rankin Inlet (Keewatin Region), Inuvik (Inuvik Region) and Fort Smith (Fort Smith Region). Government field service personnel completed updated lists of permanent community residents, including persons absent for reasons of a temporary nature.

Estimation and enumeration procedures were used to develop population figures for municipalities. Enumerations were organized through local administrators under the supervision of the Statistics Section, Department of Planning and Program Evaluation. Estimation procedures employed the most accurate and recent data available. Frobisher Bay's population was determined from survey information provided by the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation and the Baffin Regional Office.

Procedures employed for each community are summarized in the following table, using the following abbreviations:

- S.L. - Settlement lists submitted by the Regional Offices.
- R.O. - Population figures provided by the Regional Offices; not accompanied by settlement lists.
- EN. - Enumerations carried out by local municipal government administrators under the supervision of the Statistics Section, or by government agencies.
- Est. - Estimation procedure based upon number of occupied dwelling units, and occupancy ratios.
- OTH. - Other procedures including personal communication with companies in single-resource communities and local administrators.

POPULATION ESTIMATION PROCEDURES

December 31, 1977

Baffin

Arctic Bay	R.O.
Broughton Island	R.O.
Cape Dorset	R.O.
Clyde River	R.O.
Frobisher Bay	EN., R.O.
Grise Fiord	R.O.
Hall Beach	R.O.
Igloolik	R.O.
Lake Harbour	R.O.
Nanisivik	R.O.
Pangnirtung	R.O.
Pond Inlet	R.O.
Resolute Bay	R.O.
Sanikiluaq	R.O.

Keewatin

Baker Lake	Oth.
Chesterfield Inlet	R.O.
Coral Harbour	R.O.
Eskimo Point	R.O.
Rankin Inlet	R.O.
Repulse Bay	R.O.
Whale Cove	R.O.

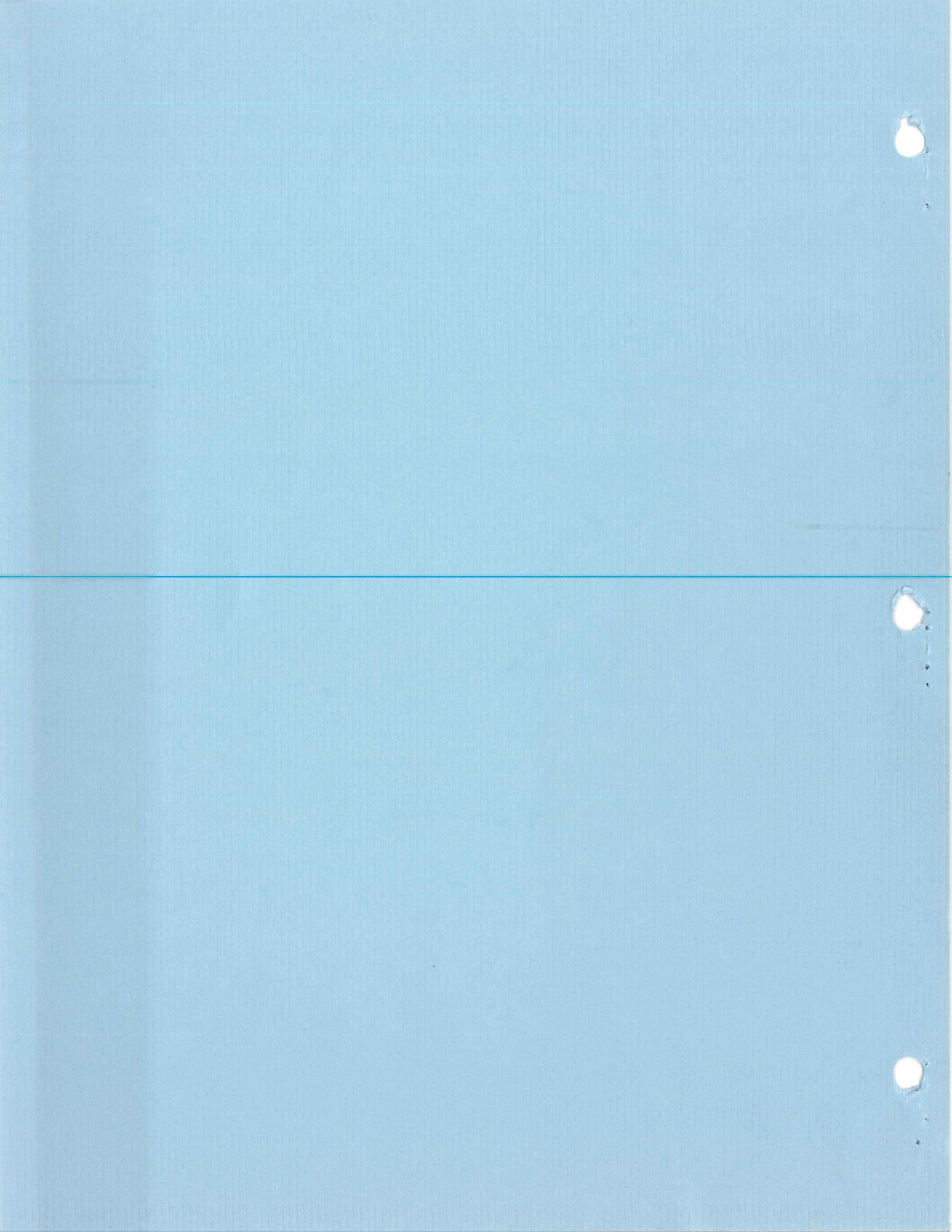
Inuvik

Aklavik	S.L.
Arctic Red River	S.L.
Colville Lake	S.L.
Fort Franklin	R.O.
Fort Good Hope	S.L.
Fort McPherson	S.L.
Fort Norman	S.L.
Inuvik	EN.
Norman Wells	Oth.
Paulatuk	S.L.
Sachs Harbour	S.L.
Tuktoyaktuk	S.L.

Fort Smith

Bathurst Inlet	S.L.
Bay Chimo	S.L.
Cambridge Bay	S.L.
Coppermine	S.L.
Detah	S.L.
Enterprise	Oth.
Fort Liard	S.L.
Fort Providence	S.L.
Fort Resolution	S.L.
Fort Simpson	EN.
Fort Smith	Est.
Gjoa Haven	S.L.
Hay River	Est.
Holman Island	S.L.
Jean Marie River	S.L.
Kakisa	S.L.
Lac La Martre	S.L.
Nahanni Butte	S.L.
Paradise Gardens	S.L.
Pelly Bay	S.L.
Pine Point	EN.
Port Radium	Oth.
Rae-Edzo	Est.
Rae Lakes	S.L.
Reliance	S.L.
Snowdrift	S.L.
Spence Bay	S.L.
Trout Lake	S.L.
Tungsten	Oth.
Wrigley	S.L.
Yellowknife	Est.

Note: S.L. - Settlement List
R.O. - Regional Office
EN. - Enumeration
Est. - Estimation
Oth. - Other procedures



NEW ALCOHOL AND DRUGS CO-ORDINATOR NAMED

80-134

YELLOWKNIFE (April 24) - Douglas (Doug) Knockwood, former director of the Arctic House Community Residential Centre here, has been named co-ordinator of the alcohol and drugs section of the social services department, Territorial government.

Knockwood is replacing Jim Anderson, who left earlier this year.

Knockwood, 51, has had several years of experience with alcohol-related counselling organizations. He was with Northern Addiction Services from 1975-76 before leaving to work as a counsellor with the Workers' Compensation Board in Edmonton.

Knockwood, a Micmac Indian originally from Springhill, N.S., was a social counsellor with the Quebec Indian Association from 1974-75 and an alcohol co-ordinator with the Union of Nova Scotia Indians from 1971-74.

(more)

NEW ALCOHOL AND DRUGS CO-ORDINATOR NAMED - 2

He also serves on the board of directors of the Native Court Workers, and is a senate member of the Tree of Peace in Yellowknife.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (April 22) - The first in a series of regional meetings to discuss transferring wildlife management responsibility to hunters and trappers in the eastern Arctic has been scheduled for April 29 - May 1 in Rankin Inlet.

This meeting comes out of an agreement reached between the Territorial government and the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC) on March 12, in response to an earlier suggestion by ITC to the Legislative Assembly.

Representatives from hunters and trappers associations across the Keewatin district will have an opportunity to speak directly to Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo about changes they would like to see in the delivery of wildlife services.

(more)

MEETINGS WITH HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS BEGIN - 2

"I expect we will discuss various wildlife concerns, which might include management of the Kaminuriak Caribou herd," said Mr. Nerysoo.

"I tried to move quickly on ITC's request and have been pleased with the level of co-operation," he said.

Similar meetings have been planned for Cambridge Bay and Frobisher Bay in May.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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SOUTH AMERICAN VISITOR WELCOMED

80-132P

YELLOWKNIFE (April 21) - Greetings from the Northwest Territories were extended to a visitor from the most southerly capital of South America by Commissioner John Parker Friday.

Jose Cesar Azzalini, in Yellowknife following a 90-day journey from the capital of Tierra del Fuego at the tip of South America, was met by the commissioner at the conclusion of his hemispheric trip. Tierra del Fuego is a province of Argentina.

Gifts and greetings were exchanged between the Territorial government and Azzalini, representing the Argentinian government.

Azzalini arrived in Yellowknife by air due to the closure of the ice bridge over the Mackenzie River. Most of the trip was made in a small two-cylinder automobile.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo

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South American Visitor Welcomed

Photo release to accompany release #80-132P



Commissioner John Parker offers best wishes
and a territorial flag to Jose Azzalini, (left) in Yellowknife
last week following a 90-day overland journey from his home
at the southern-most tip of South America.

YELLOWKNIFE (April 18) - Two departments of the Territorial government have contributed \$5,000 each to assist a local society in staging the summer festival Folk on the Rocks.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism and the Department of Local Government have given grants to ~~the non-profit Society for the Encouragement of Northern Talent~~ which is sponsoring the June folk concert here.

Speaking on behalf of both departments, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism George Braden said it is part of Local Government's mandate - through its recreation division - to provide assistance to cultural groups, while Mr. Braden's department is contributing to the society as a means of encouraging the northern music industry.

Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee is out of town.

(more)

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FUND FOLK ON THE ROCKS - 2

"Folk on the Rocks is an ambitious project which will bring together southern name performers and traditional Northern artists," Mr. Braden said.

"The concert, held on the weekend of the longest day, will be a great tourist draw," he said.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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Telex: 034-45504

ENERGY MINISTER NAMED

80-130

YELLOWKNIFE (April 21) - George Braden has been named energy minister for the Territorial government.

This decision was taken by the executive committee in response to concerns expressed by the Legislative Assembly over energy matters, particularly high energy costs.

Mr. Braden is also minister of economic development and tourism. His new responsibilities include co-ordination of the development of an energy policy for the Northwest Territories.

"This government faces a major challenge in the development of a comprehensive energy policy. Fuel and power must be available at a price that does not handicap northern governments, domestic users and the Territorial business community," he said.

(more)

ENERGY MINISTER NAMED - 2

"The executive committee is intent on taking the initiative in the development of an energy policy. To that end I presented some proposals to the Legislative Assembly at its last sitting, which will be discussed at the next session. Approval of the proposals will guide the Executive in developing our policy and dealing with related matters.

"The long term aim of the proposals is energy self-sufficiency for the Northwest Territories. This can only be achieved by control of resources through northern government institutions."

He said the executive recognizes that important questions concerning land and resource ownership remain to be resolved through aboriginal rights negotiations and future constitutional development.

"As a result, we will want to ensure that imminent federal decisions on non-renewable resource development, such as the Norman Wells proposal, will not prejudice control in the future, nor our goal of self-sufficiency."

Mr. Braden said movement towards self-sufficiency would assure that serious interruptions in the supply of energy do not occur. An assured volume, at reasonable rates, would allow the north's potential for economic growth to mature.

Peter Hart, a policy officer with the executive committee secretariat, has been assigned to the minister's office for a one-year period.

(more)

ENERGY MINISTER NAMED - 3

As a special assistant, he will be co-ordinating energy policy development and recommending a plan to achieve energy self-sufficiency and other policy principles accepted by the executive committee.

In addition, research will be undertaken to determine how much the high cost of fuel depresses northern economic activity and a detailed analysis will be done to identify chief energy users in the north and the characteristics of their consumption.

"The material will be required to negotiate an energy pricing system with the federal government that will soften the impact in the north as Canada moves towards world, or Chicago, prices - over the next number of years," Mr. Braden said.

Meanwhile, the minister said that alternate energy sources in the N.W.T. must be identified and developed if they prove feasible.

He said the government will undertake an examination of alternate sources at the community and regional levels.

"An effective and unified approach must also be taken to conservation programs. An energy conservation unit has already been formed within the department of renewable resources and is taking a lead role in this and other related areas."

FIRST ISSUE OF STATISTICS QUARTERLY PRINTED

80-129

YELLOWKNIFE (April 16) - The statistics quarterly being distributed by the Territorial government's bureau of statistics will assist government officials, businesses and other organizations with information about the Northwest Territories, says Ralph Joyce.

Dr. Joyce is head of the bureau of statistics, Executive Committee Secretariat.

The Quarterly provides data in a variety of areas: population, education, health, social services, alcohol, crime, employment and income, prices, business activity, energy, mining and transportation and communications.

Over 900 copies have been distributed across the north and to southern markets.

(more)

FIRST ISSUE OF STATISTICS QUARTERLY PRINTED - 2

Publication problems delayed the first edition of the quarterly, which contains statistics available as of December, but the bureau hopes to be on schedule by the time the June edition is published, said Joyce.

The bureau of statistics plans to publish a comprehensive population breakdown for the N.W.T. sometime this month. As well, an annual publication will be distributed next fall, providing a thorough statistical overview of the Northwest Territories.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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CORRECTION:

80-128

To Press Release 80-125 issued
April 10, 1980 entitled "Welfare
Benefits Hiked"

Page 2, paragraph beginning: "Zirth says social
welfare officers..." This paragraph should read:

Zirth says social welfare officers will approve
the special clothing allowance according to department
guidelines and based on documented needs.

~~Page 3, paragraph beginning: "The hike in food
allowances..." This paragraph should read:~~

The hike in food allowance benefits will mean
increases of between \$9 for single applicants and up to
\$75 per family.

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

16 April 1980

YELLOWKNIFE (April 11) - Fort Smith region wildlife officer Jim Bourque has been named Wildlife-officer-of-the-year for 1979.

Bourque received the award from Renewable Resources Minister Richard Nerysoo at a presentation ceremony in Yellowknife this week.

The award is sponsored by Shikar-Safari Club International in the United States and annually recognizes individuals who "contribute a special effort in their service to the wildlife conservation effort".

A 17-year veteran of the Territorial government's Wildlife Service, Bourque received the award in recognition of his long-standing contribution to wildlife conservation in the N.W.T.

(more)

CONSERVATION EFFORTS APPLAUDED - 2

"It's an honor to be recognized by such an international organization," conservation education supervisor Ron Williams said, "Jim's done his job very well."

Bourque served with the federal wildlife service in Wood Buffalo National Park before joining the Territorial government's then-Game Branch in 1962.

The award consists of a plaque and scroll bearing the insignia of the sportsmen's association.

Last year the award went to Rene Mercredi, also a wildlife officer with the Ft. Smith regional office.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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Conservation Efforts Applauded

Photo to accompany release #80-127P



Renewable Resources Minister Richard Nerysoo
(left) presents Jim Bourque, wildlife officer with the Ft.
Smith regional office, with the Wildlife Officer of the
Year Award.

YELLOWKNIFE (April 11) - A film about how communities in the Northwest Territories control alcohol will be shown on CBC TV April 22.

The color film, Prohibition in the North, was co-produced by the Territorial government's Department of Information and the Alberta Educational Communications Corporation.

The CBC is showing the English version of the film on April 22 at 5:30 p.m. in the Keewatin, 6:30 p.m. in the Eastern Arctic and 11:00 p.m. Mountain time.

Pangnirtung, Fort Franklin, Igloolik and Pond Inlet are the communities featured in the film, along with the residents of these communities talking about how they feel their alcohol controls are working.

(more)

PROHIBITION FILM TO BE SHOWN ON CBC - 2

The communities illustrate the types of local alcohol regulation being used in the N.W.T. - prohibition, rationing and a third form of regulation called local controls.

Since 1975, 19 communities in the Territories have voted to introduce controls on alcohol and two-thirds of these have complete prohibition.

The half-hour film has been months in the making and the CBC program on April 22 will be its first showing.

As well, Prohibition in the North will soon be available for distribution through the Territorial government's regional offices and the Department of Information and Department of Social Services in Yellowknife. Communities, groups and schools interested in borrowing the film should contact one of these agencies.

In addition, Prohibition in the North has been translated into Inuktitut, Slavey, Dogrib and Loucheux, and CBC plans to televise the film in several of the native languages this fall. Dates of these showings will be announced later.

In the meantime, the native-language versions of the film also will soon be available for borrowing by communities, groups and schools. Again, contact one of the government agencies mentioned earlier.

(more)

PROHIBITION FILM TO BE SHOWN ON CBC - 3

The film also will be shown on Alberta's educational television network. As well, several film distributors in southern Canada have already displayed an interest in purchasing it.

Prohibition in the North was directed by the Department of Information's Peter Crass.

- 30 -

Contact: Barry Craig

Telephone: 873-7251

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (April 10) - All social welfare recipients in the N.W.T. are receiving increases in food allowances while those who need it will receive additional clothing allowances.

The announcement was made this week by Social Services Minister Arnold McCallum.

Both increases in benefits were effective April 1.

Food allowances have been increased 10 per cent for all recipients. This across-the-board increase is intended to offset inflation.

Meanwhile, special or seasonal clothing allowances of up to \$200 per person per year are now being made available under newly-approved assistance guidelines. This special allowance will be made available at the discretion of social welfare officers in addition to the \$240 per year allowances ordinarily available to each family member.

(more)

"Raising these allowances was primarily a response to concerns raised in the Legislative Assembly last session," McCallum says.

"We thought the concerns were valid and brought in these measures to meet the need."

The increase in food allowances is expected to add almost \$300,000 annually to the financial assistance division's budget, which is currently reaching the \$3 million mark.

The special or seasonal clothing allowances are expected to cost the division up to \$500,000 annually. Basic clothing allowances paid by the department now total \$620,000 annually.

Financial assistance services co-ordinator Sandor Zirth says the new special clothing allowance is an indication of the department's commitment to increase support paid to long-term social assistance recipients.

Zirth says social welfare officers will approve the special clothing allowance according to department guidelines without the need for recipients to apply for the assistance.

All or part of the up-to \$200 provided annually will be for such items as winter clothing or clothing needed to equip recipients to supplement their food supply with country food through hunting or fishing.

(more)

YELLOWKNIFE (April 10) - Community and charitable organizations are being asked for their suggestions on the licensing of lotteries and other games of chance prior to the drafting of new governing regulations.

The new regulations will define what constitutes a charitable purpose or organization and set operation, frequency and audit rules for the gaming events and their organizers. Only charities can apply for licenses to operate games of chance and the money they raise must be used for charitable purposes.

Until now, no clear set of guidelines governing the licensing of gambling events has been in force.

Consumer Services division chief Bill Johns says the new regulations will serve to eliminate the "grey areas" now existing in the identification of charitable purposes and causes.

(more)

PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT ON GAMBLING REGULATIONS - 2

Submissions out-lining problems involved in staging bingos, lotteries and similar events and suggesting solutions are being solicited from charitable, sport and community organizations as well as band and community councils.

"It is hoped that we will have an all-encompassing study and that organizations presently involved in lotteries will make their concerns known," Johns says.

The provinces and territories are empowered under the Criminal Code to grant licenses and set regulations governing the operation of gambling.

The submissions will be taken into account in the division's consultations with legal advisors before drafting the new regulations. A review of similar regulations in force in the provinces is now underway.

Since 1972, the division has granted licenses to any non-profit organization applying. Current guidelines require the organizer to submit statements of account showing expenses, profits, and the total contribution to the cause being supported.

Licensing has been available for single events or series events for terms of up to one year. Licenses granted now expire June 30, 1980, at which time new regulations will hopefully be completed and in place.

Written submissions will be accepted by the Consumer Services division until May 16.

The Criminal Code allows for penalties of up to two years imprisonment for operating a gambling operation without a license.

YELLOWKNIFE (April 1) - The need for an early tax rebate needn't force consumers to pay unduly high interest charges on the total refund, the Consumer Services division warns.

Federal legislation makes it illegal for tax discounters to charge an interest rate exceeding 15 per cent of the total refund amount, plus variable service charges. It is left to the consumer's discretion to decide whether service charges are too high to warrant negotiating the early return.

The early refund is not strictly a loan but a purchase by the discounter of the right to claim your return. Forms available at the Consumer Services office lay out the conditions of the purchase contract and must be filed with the department of national revenue with the tax return form.

(more)

TAX DISCOUNTERS CONTROLLED - 2

Consumers dealing with a tax discounter will have their returns verified for accuracy by the discounter, who then assumes the right to have the refund cheque made out in his or her name in exchange for the early refund.

The Consumer Services division will investigate complaints of unfair or illegal operations by tax discounters. No formally incorporated tax discounters are operating in the territories this year.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 31) - Yellowknife's job and career show has been expanded from two to three days this year because of growing interest in the annual event.

The show will run April 10 and 11 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) and April 12 (10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) in the William McDonald Junior High School.

"Last year over 1000 people attended the show," said Jack Witty, Chief of the Employment and Training Division, Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

"There were young people who had not yet entered the work force as well as adults who were looking at possible job or career changes," he said.

"The show is filling a definite need, and this year we have more than 30 representatives from industry, associations, educational institutions and government service who will talk to the people about what they can offer," said Mr. Witty.

(more)

JOB AND CAREER SHOW APRIL 10, 11 and 12 - 2

He added the majority of exhibitors were northern-based, so the show continues to give northerners a chance to look at the range and variety of jobs and training available in the Territories.

Some new exhibitors include Bowspringer Kennels, Parks Canada, Environment Canada and Pacific Western Airlines.

Many of the organizations and companies that sent representatives last year will participate again in the 1980 show: Department of National Defense, Giant Mines, Cominco and the Certified General Accountants Association.

Educational institutions will be well represented, with people from the Southern Alberta and Northern Alberta Institutes of Technology, the Fort Smith Adult Vocational Training Centre, and the Keyano College in Fort McMurray, Alberta.

Government agencies such as Canada Manpower, the Territorial Department of Personnel and Northern Careers will take part in the show.

In addition to the many exhibits, films and audio-visual displays will be shown in a special viewing area.

A smaller, portable career show is available for careers displays in other N.W.T. communities by contacting Leigh Brintnell at 873-7369.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (March 27) - Local hunters and trappers associations are being asked for input into this year's caribou, polar bear and muskox surveys.

Population counts and behavioural studies that allow the department of renewable resources to plan wildlife management programs for the future will be going on in regions across the N.W.T. with the coming of spring.

Complete population surveys of six caribou herds are planned for this summer. As well, behavioural studies that help the department to better understand why caribou select certain areas for calving and water crossings will be carried out.

Aerial population counts of the Bathurst, Beverly, Kaminuriak, Lorillard, Prince of Wales/Somerset Island and North Baffin herds will take place subject to the recommendations of hunters and trappers associations and local band councils.

(more)

In some areas, surveys of muskox and wolf populations will be carried on in addition to the caribou surveys. Survey work to determine the sex and age of muskox in the Queen Maud Gulf area is planned. Wolves feeding on the Bathurst caribou herd will be tagged with radio collars to track their movements. And in the South Baffin, survey workers will be tagging caribou to gain a better understanding of the movements of the herd.

New work includes the pioneering of a way to count caribou from aircraft flying at higher altitudes, thus decreasing the possibility of disturbance to the caribou during calving.

Bruce Stephensen, the department's supervisor of wildlife research, explains the new higher level photographic counts of the Bathurst herd will be going on at the same time as the usual count so that results and costs can be compared to determine the best counting method.

"At 1,000 feet, you can't effectively count caribou with the naked eye." Stephensen says of the need to fly over herds low enough to get an accurate count.

Surveyors now make a series of passes over known calving grounds to piece together a strip map of caribou locations and areas of concentration. Counts taken along the strips are then multiplied to provide a total population figure throughout the estimated range of the calving ground.

Since the calving herds are mostly females and yearlings, the figures are then combined with ground and aerial counts taken in the fall to provide a figure that includes the total male and female adult population.

(more)

Surveying during calving is important to the population count effort since scattering of the herds after the fall mating makes winter counts inaccurate and unreliable. Winter counts are no longer used.

The result of the counting effort gives a population figure Stephensen says should be accurate to within one-fifth of the size of the herd.

Population and movement studies of polar bear in the Lancaster Sound area will be starting in May in the final year of a three-year study.

Working out of Pond Inlet, the survey team will be capturing, ear-tagging and lip tattooing the bears to gather information on the animals should oil and gas exploration in the area go ahead. This information is also needed to set polar bear harvest quotas in the area. Survey workers hope to be able to retrieve collars fitted on bears last year that broadcast radio messages to a satellite, showing the bear's location and movement.

Increasing industrial activity in the Prince of Wales and Somerset Islands area is one of the reasons surveyors want to study caribou migration habits between the two islands, as well as surveying the local muskox population. Populations of the two animals have not been surveyed for five years.

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 27) - Over \$1 million for 15 community alcohol and drug related programs has been approved by the Northwest Territories Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council.

The 22-member group also adopted a ministerial recommendation to reduce the number of its full-membership meetings in the interests of saving administrative expense.

The council, which advises the Legislative Assembly on drug and alcohol programs and policy, had been meeting at three-month intervals in various N.W.T. communities.

A steering committee of up to six persons will now be selected from its ranks to confer between annual general meetings to approve and administer new and existing programs. While supporting the measure to save as much as \$30,000 in conference expenses annually, members expressed the hope the full membership could still meet twice annually, rather than the single meeting recommended.

(more)

ALCOHOL, DRUG PROGRAMS FUNDED - 2

Funding approved at its recent conference will re-finance the operations of 13 existing drug and alcohol programs at a total cost of \$1,012,742. Some \$114,047 of this money comes from the National Native Alcohol Abuse Program (NNAAP) of the federal department of Health and Welfare.

Two new initiatives were also approved for funding.

Some \$50,000 was set aside for a regional drug and alcohol conference in Snowdrift this summer. Dene community leaders will meet for seven days in June to discuss local alcohol problems and map policy and possible approaches to dealing with the recommendations locally.

The second new approval allocates NNAAP-provided funding of \$8,500 for the setting up of a drug and alcohol counselling and education service in Arctic Bay.

Two further proposals for the establishment of drug and alcohol programs in Igloolik and Hall Beach were deferred by the council until further information on the proposals is provided.

Funding of an interim nature is already in place for drug and alcohol programs in Rankin Inlet, Fort Smith and Tuktoyaktuk. Approved last December, the \$61,285 in interim funding plus the most recent approvals all but exhausts the council's total \$1,151,795 budget for the 1980-81 fiscal year, all but a small portion of which is provided through the Territorial government's department of social services.

(more)

ALCOHOL, DRUG PROGRAMS FUNDED - 3

Major recipients of grants are:

- the Kativik drop-in alcohol and drug information centre in Frobisher Bay, \$63,240

- Yellowknife detoxication, rehabilitation and recovery program of the Northern Addiction Services, \$339,348

- Information and recovery programs provided by the Inuvik Alcohol Rehabilitation Program, \$242,886

- the Baffin Region Information Centre for Alcohol and Drug Committees, \$71,620

- the Peel River Alcohol Centre in Fort McPherson, \$65,000

Past chairman Pete Fraser was re-elected to a further two-year term by the council while Dr. Ross Wheeler was appointed vice-chairman. Al Wilson of Health and Welfare Canada will carry on as the department's NNAAP representative.

Fraser looks forward to more effective handling of council business with the move to a steering committee.

"It'll be a matter of efficiency. You can do a lot more in smaller groups." he said.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 20) - Fines or interruptions in driving privileges face drivers who fail to renew their operators permits and plate registration in time for the March 31 deadline.

But with the annual deadline little more than a week away, vehicle owners and permit holders in major N.W.T. centres are showing little interest in avoiding prosecution or inconvenience.

The renewals are available in 34 Government of the N.W.T. area offices and eight contract offices throughout the territories.

Fees for the new operators permits have risen to \$5 this year from \$2 last year, while the cost of new passenger vehicle registration varies between \$5 and \$25. Rates are based on vehicle weight and the highway system the operator has access to in the local area, with different rates for different regional systems.

(more)

Deputy registrar of motor vehicles Angie Maksymowich reports that while the renewal trade is brisk in the smaller centres, residents in major centres are leaving the chore to the last minute.

"They're dribbling through," Maksymowich says of the number of renewals processed by the Yellowknife office since new registrations went on sale Feb. 11.

Of the approximately 6,000 potential permit renewals to be processed by the Yellowknife office, about half remain to be filled.

The Yellowknife office will extend its hours to 8 p.m. on Monday, March 24 to accommodate the increased trade. Maksymowich still predicts waits of as long as four hours for persons leaving their renewals to the last minute.

She says part of the reason for poor response this year is that renewal stickers, not license plates, are being offered for sale.

"If we're selling plates, people come in for the low numbers." she says, "We're only selling stickers so people aren't interested."

Drivers who fail to renew their operators permits have a six month period of grace to renew before having to undergo retesting. Holders of expired licenses lose their driving privileges however and face fines for driving without a valid permit.

(more)

PLATE DEADLINE NEARS - 3

A total of 18,561 operators were licensed in the N.W.T. last year while plate registration for vehicles of all types totalled 18,923.

- 30 -

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Attention: This information replaces Release # 80-108, dated March 13, 1980. Please ensure substitution of this release for any rebroadcast or publishing.

ASSEMBLY REVIEWS PETROLEUM TAX HIKES

80-118

YELLOWKNIFE (March 20) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly doesn't want petroleum taxes to rise to the level recommended by the Territorial government's Financial Management Board.

A report by its standing committee on finance, tabled during the winter session here, states the Territories is so "totally dependent on expensive transportation over vast distances" that it couldn't accept any substantial increases on fuels at this time.

(more)

ASSEMBLY REVIEWS PETROLEUM TAX HIKES - 2

Recommendations of the committee, approved by the House, urge the administration to reduce its proposed petroleum tax hikes to:

. 4 cents per litre from the proposed 5 cents per litre for diesel truck fuel.

. 3.5 cents per litre from the proposed 4 cents per litre for gasoline.

. 3.5 cents per litre from the proposed 4 cents per litre for propane and butane used for motor vehicles.

The tax on diesel locomotive fuel for railway use, on the other hand, will increase to a point higher than the 1.9 cent hike recommended by the financial management board.

~~The committee report urged an increase of 4 cents per litre to place diesel locomotive fuel "on a par with diesel fuel used for highway transport purposes" and in doing so "eliminate the unfair advantage of the railway over the trucking industry."~~

MLAs also accepted a committee recommendation to go along with the financial management board's proposed .7 cent tax jump for aviation fuels.

No changes were suggested to tax rates on home heating fuel.

(more)

Reduction of the financial management board's proposed tax increases will result in a projected shortfall of about \$503,450 in additional revenues that were to be generated by the administration's proposal.

To offset this loss in projected revenue, the committee recommended a 4.1 per cent increase in the cost of liquor.

It had no hesitation in pressing for the increase because "liquor cannot by any stretch of the imagination be classified as an essential item for survival in the North."

The House also adopted a committee recommendation calling for the imposition of territorial income tax after the application of any federal tax credit.

Calculation of the territorial income tax in this way, committee figures show, will result in taxpayers receiving the maximum benefit from tax credits since tax is calculated on a lower net amount following the deduction of credits.

The recommendation is contrary to amendments proposed by the administration to the Income Tax Ordinance that would have provided for calculation of territorial income tax before application of the federal tax credits.

Meanwhile, an amendment to the Tobacco Tax Ordinance calls for an increase of 0.2 cents per cigarette or 5 cents per package of 25. No increase on loose tobacco was proposed.

(more)

ASSEMBLY REVIEWS PETROLEUM TAX HIKES - 4

The committee's recommendations, accepted by the administration, were dismissed during deliberation of proposed amendments to the Petroleum Products Tax and Income Tax ordinances.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 19) - A new education program will attempt to take the sting out of a child's first experience with hospital care.

The program, scheduled to start next month, was developed by Laurie Kuss, pediatric head nurse at Stanton Yellowknife Hospital.

"It's basically designed to let kids know what to expect. In a lot of cases, they come into hospital in an emergency situation. If they have no preparation, it can be a frightening experience," Kuss says.

"That's especially true when we get a child from a small settlement who hasn't even been to a city before, let alone a hospital."

(more)

NOVEL PROGRAM PREPARES YOUNG PATIENTS - 2

Teachers in community schools will be introducing the program in April with the hope that a little foreknowledge will arm elementary school children with a familiarity that will prepare them for their first hospital visit.

The program tries to take the hospital to the child -- at least in part -- through the preparation and distribution of "travelling suitcases".

The kits have been stocked with a variety of hospital equipment such as oxygen masks, syringes, thermometers and stethoscopes and teaching aids for grade school instructors who will introduce children to hospital life through classroom presentations.

Hand puppets are included. Working from a prepared script, teachers will use the puppets to show pupils the processes of hospital admission, care and even surgery, giving them some idea of what to expect.

Films, cassette and slide presentations are also included to provide more interesting and elaborate knowledge of hospital care. The cassettes and slide shows have been cross-culturally prepared, with voice tracks available in Inuktitut, Dogrib and English. Puppets, slide characters and figures, in a specially prepared coloring book, also aim at providing a multi-cultural example.

(more)

NOVEL PROGRAM PREPARES YOUNG PATIENTS - 3

The suitcases are loaned to the community schools for one month at a time before being returned to the hospital and restocked with books and hospital items for redistribution. Local schools must provide audio-visual equipment for screening of films, slides and the use of cassette recordings.

Funding for the program, prepared by volunteers, was provided by various local community groups.

Communities with nursing stations or hospitals are also advised by the kit instruction manual to take advantage of local health care workers and facilities in introducing the subject to the children.

The orientation idea was adapted to northern culture and the problems posed by travel to health care facilities from a similar successful program at the Isaac Walton Killam Children's Hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Kuss looks forward to real benefits from the awareness program: "It's a lot easier to deal with a co-operative child. We can meet their needs better."

She hopes to be able to extend the program to day care centres in the larger communities, though primary school introduction to hospital care is her best hope for the smaller centres.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 19) - An award-winning photo exhibition and a play high-lighting the lives of the people of the Mackenzie Delta are among the special presentations offered by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre this month end.

"Kicker", the latest production of the Edmonton-based Theatre Network players, will be opening at the centre auditorium March 29 for a three-day run.

Written by troupe members following a visit to the region last summer, the play incorporates the lives and experiences of local personalities in its portrayal of life in the Delta.

The play is being presented under the sponsorship of the Yellowknife City Band. Ticket prices have yet to be announced.

On display until April 15 in the centre's mezzanine gallery is the touring photo exhibition "Megalithic Landscapes".

(more)

MUSEUM OFFERS PHOTOS, THEATRE - 2

The work of British photographer Chris Jennings, the display is a collection of views of standing stone circles and monuments, some dating back as far as 4,000 years.

The collection was photographed in more than 300 sites in Britain over a period of three years and comes to the Heritage Centre following successful tours of Europe and southern Canada.

"In many cases they seem to act as a focal point in the landscape, bringing together the sky, the horizon and the land," artist Jennings says of his presentation.

Museum staff invite the public to take advantage of special extended hours over the Easter weekend to view the photo display as well as the centre's regular exhibits. The centre will remain open from noon to 5 p.m. April 4, 5 and 6.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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ENERGY AGREEMENT SIGNED

80-115

YELLOWKNIFE (March 26) - A four-year agreement that will pump \$3.3 million into projects designed to develop and demonstrate renewable energy sources and conservation techniques has been signed by the federal and territorial governments.

The agreement has been announced by Marc Lalonde, federal minister of energy, mines and resources and N.W.T. renewable resources minister Richard Nerysoo.

The agreement provides for federal funding of 75 per cent of project costs to a total of \$2.5 million with the territories contributing the remaining \$833 thousand.

(more)

Nerysoo called the agreement a "great opportunity for the N.W.T. to play a major role" in the development of technologies geared to energy use in northern climates.

"If there are any projects that people have in mind, this program should make some significant developments possible. I think we have the opportunity at the moment to develop some very good projects. We have the availability of all the renewable resources possible. We should take advantage of the opportunity."

Project proposals will be reviewed for approval by a four-man panel consisting of two federal and two territorial representatives. Proposals will also be cross-referenced against a central computer registry to ensure no duplication of projects by other agencies. The agreement will be administered by the territorial government.

Cost effectiveness of proposals, their contribution to national and territorial energy objectives, technical merits of proposals and their potential for significant future application will be considered in approving funding.

Examples of projects suitable for funding include development of alternative sources of energy, such as wood, wind and solar power, energy conservation awareness campaigns, development of technologies to more efficiently utilize existing non-renewable energy sources and development of more energy conscious building designs.

(more)

ENERGY AGREEMENT SIGNED - 3

Information and guidelines on submitting proposals is available from the department of renewable resources.

Commissioner John Parker, a signator in the agreement, has observed:

"Energy saving technologies developed for conditions in the territories might find widespread application in other regions of Canada. The territories will benefit from reduced dependence on oil achieved by substitution of alternate sources of energy from biomass, wind and sun. Both the public and private sectors can be expected to share in the energy savings and economic opportunities created as a result of this program."

~~Western Arctic MP Dave Nickerson has pointed out~~
the agreement "should lead to a great deal of innovation in an area of extremely high energy cost where research and development has a potential for paying great dividends."

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 18) - Low wattage lighting has resulted in energy cost savings for the Territorial government, according to Doug Squires of the department of public works.

Statistics show savings of as high as 51 per cent in electricity consumption over identical time periods thanks to the installation of energy wise lighting systems in government buildings.

But the right equipment, it seems, is only half the secret.

(more)

Installation of low wattage lights has been accompanied by increased awareness among employees of the real savings possible from taking the energy to save energy. Light switches, says Squires, have been popular items since the switch to the new bulbs.

Energy conscious lighting was introduced to government offices, schools and other institutions between July and November.

Public works building and works supervisor Squires explains that in addition to installation of new model fluorescent light bulbs which produce comparable or increased light at lower energy levels, the lighting of individual areas has been reassessed by public works staff.

~~"Task lighting", as the procedure is known, provides just the right amount of light for the type of work being carried on in different areas based on a current re-thinking of interior lighting needs.~~

So, Squires says, areas like corridors where there is little need for strong light have their fixtures fitted with "dummy" bulbs which produce no light but maintain the circuit. Other bulbs produce sufficient light for the task at hand, from high intensity light in drafting or school sewing rooms to lower light needs in filing and storage areas.

The combined effect of lower power-load bulbs and the task lighting review has meant power use reductions ranging from "negligible to truly remarkable amounts."

(more)

In the government's Laing Building headquarters power consumption has dropped between 26 to 51 per cent.

Installation of timers on parking plugs that turn the power supply on and off at half hour intervals is now beginning to show their benefit in the form of still better power savings.

For the small businessman who might want to take advantage of similar savings, Squires recommends an experimental approach.

Although the initial cost of dummy and more efficient bulbs is high, Squires says the new lower watt bulbs pay for themselves in power costs saved in just over a year at Yellowknife power rates. For the remaining three to five year life of the bulb, the user is looking at clear savings.

In Sir John Franklin High School in Yellowknife alone, upwards of \$6,000 has been saved since the switch-over took place five months ago.

Power rates have changed and a sliding scale of rates pegged to consumption make clear statements of savings complicated and difficult. But Squires points to the lesson of halved power rates as a clear incentive for further economy measures.

"It's quite obvious we've made a considerable saving for the government," he says.

YELLOWKNIFE (March 14) - Projected expenditures totalling \$338 million for the 1980-81 fiscal year received Legislative Assembly approval Friday.

The total allocation, including work done by the government on behalf of third parties, reflects a 9.27 per cent increase over last year's main budgetary estimates.

Total operations and maintenance estimates of \$261.9 million, will account for the bulk of government spending, reflecting an increase of 12.38 per cent over the previous fiscal year.

Capital estimates of \$54.6 million show a 2.88 per cent increase.

(more)

BUDGET ALLOCATIONS APPROVED - 2

Various government revenues, the largest of which is income tax, are expected to increase 8.16 per cent in the coming year to total \$40.6 million.

Capital and operating grants made by the government are expected to increase 6.08 per cent this year to a total of \$215 million.

The estimates show an anticipated net decrease in the number of territorial government employees, with 86.4 fewer man years resulting in a 2.8 per cent decrease in total government staff.

The Assembly also approved supplementary appropriations to the 1979-80 budget totalling \$13.5 million.

Consideration of the budget estimates made up the bulk of MLAs' work during the five-week winter session.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 14) - Approval was given to 17 ordinances on the final day of the Legislative Assembly's winter session in this northern capital.

Key among the ordinances passed Friday were changes in the Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance which will result in an estimated loss of \$503,450 in petroleum tax revenues. Tax reductions on gasoline, diesel truck fuel and propane gas used for transportation purposes were passed.

The loss in petroleum tax revenues is expected to be off-set by a recommended 4.1 per cent increase in the cost of liquor. A further amendment to the Tobacco Tax Ordinance will raise the cost of a package of 25 cigarettes by 5 cents in additional taxes.

(more)

Amendments proposed to the Income Tax Ordinance which would have ensured the levying of territorial income tax before the application of any federal tax credit were turned down by the House at the recommendation of its standing committee on finance.

Instead amended legislation passed Friday allows for the subtraction of tax credits before the application of the territorial tax rate, a measure which decreases the amount of territorial tax paid by lowering the net taxable income on which taxes are calculated.

An amendment to the Labor Standards Ordinance raises the minimum wage for workers 17 years of age and older to \$3.50 per hour from \$3.00. The minimum wage for workers under 17 was also raised to \$2.95 per hour from \$2.55.

~~An amendment to the Employment Agencies Ordinance~~ will soon make it legal for licensed employment agencies to operate in the territories.

Forbidden since the passage of the original ordinance in 1947, the amendment allowing for licensing of agencies came about as a result of requests from the Inuit Development Corporation.

Legislation committee chairman Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) explained the amendment will allow "for the Inuit Development Corporation to enter into agreements with Cominco for the setting up of an agreement to provide employees for a fee."

(more)

ORDINANCES, AMENDMENTS RECEIVE ASSENT - 3

Other amendments to existing ordinances passed include:

- provision for hospital boards of management to advise the Commissioner in formulating regulations governing the operation of the boards of management

- an amendment to the Pharmacy Ordinance making it illegal for herbalists to operate in the territories without a license

- an amendment to the Defamation Ordinance to protect the rights of publishers and broadcasters to fair comment on matters of public interest

- an amendment to the Creditors Relief Ordinance ~~extending the life of a sheriff's writ for the satisfaction of~~ outstanding debts from one to 10 years.

Commissioner's assent was received on all amendments submitted for his approval.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 14) - Appointments to vacancies on the N.W.T. Water Board, Housing Corporation and Heritage Council received Legislative Assembly approval and Commissioner's assent Friday.

Lou Menez of Fort Resolution and D.J. (Don) Gamble of Ottawa were appointed to the N.W.T. Water Board to fill two existing vacancies.

Ib Kristensen of Fort Smith was re-appointed to the board of directors of the N.W.T. Housing Corporation, while Chief James Antoine of Fort Simpson, Simonie Amarualik of Resolute Bay, MLA Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) and MLA William Noah (Keewatin North) were named to the board for the first time.

MLA George Braden (Yellowknife North) was appointed as the Assembly representative on the N.W.T. Heritage Council.

All appointments received Commissioner's approval before pro-rogation of the winter session.

YELLOWKNIFE (March 13) - Expansion of the northern communications program designed to provide satellite-fed radio and television services has been urged by the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly.

Nellie Cournoyea (MLA Western Arctic) said increasing the number of communities to be serviced under the program would mean increased public awareness.

Her motion, requesting the population criteria for the existing program be lowered to 150, was supported by a majority of members.

The northern communications program is currently designed to provide satellite feeds of CBC's northern regional radio network and its northern television service.

The program was established by the Territorial government's department of information two years ago and has provided services to six of the 18 communities that fit the existing population criteria of 250 to 500.

(more)

EXPANDED RADIO-TV SERVICE URGED - 2

Locations with populations over 500 are serviced directly by the CBC under its accelerated coverage plan.

"I think the people in the smaller communities have a right to be just as involved as those in the larger communities," Cournoyea said.

Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) was not successful in an attempt to amend the member's motion to allow for extension of radio services only.

"Television is more harm than good ... we don't need it," he said.

Mr. Patterson said that if the need is to keep northern residents better informed, members should be aware the CBC northern television service provides almost no news coverage of territorial matters.

"Radio, on the other hand, provides not only news coverage, but it provides it in the native languages as well," he stated.

Mark Evaluarjuk (MLA Foxe Basin) said the Assembly should not deny television to those communities that really want it.

It is up to locally elected councils in the eligible communities to decide whether they wish to have the facilities, which provide for local access to both the radio and television transmitters for community programming purposes.

(more)

EXPANDED RADIO-TV SERVICE URGED - 3

Cournoyea's motion would add the communities of Sachs Harbour, Paulatuk, Wrigley, Whale Cove and Rae Lakes to the list of eligible locations.

Still to be serviced under the department of information's existing program are the communities of Holman Island, Snowdrift, Hall Beach, Sanikiluaq, Broughton Island, Clyde River, Lake Harbour, Lac La Martre and Repulse Bay.

It hopes to have those communities serviced by the 1981-82 fiscal year.

Meanwhile, Bruce McLaughlin (MLA Pine Point) won approval of a motion calling for local approval of Canadian Radio and Television Commission licenses.

"Our interest is to make sure that when television is going to be broadcast in a community that the people should have the right to decide whether they want it and to decide what kind of television it's going to be."

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 13) - Lengthy procedural wrangling and emotional debate in the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly surrounded an attempt this week to peg the granting of student bursaries and grants to the recipients' ability to pay educational costs themselves.

Three hours of debate spread over two days resulted in a motion to "review the student grants and bursaries program for vocational and higher education" and report findings to the House during the summer session.

MLA Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) presented the original motion, directing the department of education to change the policy so that grants are given on the basis of financial need.

(more)

GRANTS, BURSARIES TO BE STUDIED - 2

Calling the present system of awarding grants without the application of a means test for recipients a "free ride", Patterson asked, "...should territorial residents have an automatic right to grants and bursaries regardless of their ability to pay?"

Grants to students for education in post-secondary institutions in southern Canada totalled \$828,806 in 1978-79. Grants cover the cost of tuition, travel to and from the educational institution for the school term and at Christmas, a book allowance and a weekly living allowance. No reference to parental income is made in the granting of applications.

Various councillors took exception to the "blanket" motion, first referring it to committee of the whole for consideration and then moving deferral of the motion to the as-yet vacant education committee for study.

MLA Don Stewart (Hay River) led the drive for deferral of the motion, arguing "I can't agree with the premise that by cutting back on this program you're going to free any more money for other programs."

Stewart stated the promise of educational assistance to the children of territorial residents is "part of the compensation for people who are willing to live in the Northwest Territories."

The program makes up for the absence of some cultural and educational facilities and the implications of restricting the availability of the assistance would have to be fully considered before any changes are made, he said.

(more)

MLA Bob MacQuarrie cautioned councillors on the danger of "throwing the baby out with the bath water", saying supporters of the motion "did not think very deeply about this motion and there may be other implications..."

MacQuarrie said the department of Indian and Northern Affairs' refusal on 10 occasions to impose means tests on status Indians applying for educational bursaries was one indication of the complexities which must be considered in any change to the existing policy.

Patterson countered that the motion of deferral was "obstructive and unnecessary", and stated that arrangements between the federal government and Inuit and Indians in the Northwest Territories had no bearing on the motion.

"If it's because this is a fringe benefit...then I suggest we don't want those kind of people in the Northwest Territories."

MacQuarrie continued to argue "ability to pay is not the only concern. It may be there are parents who do not recognize the value of education and so refuse to pay."

MacQuarrie also suggested withdrawal of some assistance would result in an "immediate demand" for higher educational facilities in the territories.

MLA Bruce McLaughlin supported the economy of the present grant system, saying, "it's probably costing a lot less per student to send them out than it would to provide these services here."

(more)

GRANTS, BURSARIES TO BE STUDIED - 4

McLaughlin also said the cost of administering a means test and its enforcement would eat up funds intended to be freed for other educational programs.

"I don't believe in having a lot of people going around, sneaking around...to see who deserves a grant," he said.

MLA George Braden (Yellowknife North) condemned councillors' elaborations of the motion.

"They're really scraping the bottom of the barrel, as far as I'm concerned, with visions of parents screaming for universities," he said.

"We're not going to make changes without a thorough examination and if there's some fat that can be cut, okay. Let's give the administration a little credit."

Clear direction for the administration was then called for by MacQuarrie in putting forward the adopted amendment calling for a review of the policy.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 13) - A 4.1 per cent increase in the cost of liquor to offset projected \$503,450 petroleum tax cuts has been recommended by the Legislative Assembly.

The recommendations, contained in the third report of the Assembly's standing committee on finance, were adopted by the House Thursday in its consideration of amendments to both the petroleum products tax and income tax ordinances.

As well, the Assembly adopted a committee recommendation calling for the levying of territorial income tax against taxable income after the application of any federal tax credit. Computation of the territorial tax in this way, committee figures show, will result in taxpayers' receiving the maximum benefit from tax credits since tax is calculated on a lower net amount following the deduction of the tax credit.

The adopted recommendation contradicts amendments proposed to the Income Tax Ordinance that would have provided for calculation of territorial income tax before the application of federal tax credits.

(more)

PETROLEUM TAXES DOWN, LIQUOR UP - 2

An amendment to the Tobacco Tax Ordinance adopted for third reading by Council is a proposed increase of 0.2 cents per cigarette or 5 cents per package of 25 cigarettes. The tax per cigarette is to rise to 1.2 cents from one cent while no increase in the tax on loose tobacco is proposed.

Various reductions in the taxes levied against petroleum products were recommended because "the cost of fuel in the North is already too high and will continue to rise..." the committee report said.

"The Northwest Territories is so totally dependent on expensive transportation over vast distances that we cannot accept any substantial increase in taxation on fuels." the report says.

The adopted recommendations urge that taxes be reduced to:

. 4 cents per litre from 5 cents for diesel truck fuel for an anticipated revenue loss of \$350,253

. 3.5 cents per litre from 4 cents for gasoline for an anticipated revenue loss of \$185,088

. 3.5 cents per litre from 4 cents for propane and butane used for motor vehicles (no figures were available estimating the loss of revenue)

(more)

PETROLEUM TAXES DOWN, LIQUOR UP - 3

The tax on diesel locomotive fuel for railway use is recommended to increase to 4 cents per litre from 1.9 cents for an anticipated revenue increase of \$31,891. No changes are recommended in the taxes on aviation fuel and home heating fuel, now taxed at a rate of 0.7 cents per litre each.

While the committee report notes a suggestion to lift all taxation on non-motive or heating fuels were entertained, the anticipated loss of \$1,534,000 in revenue made the adoption of the proposal impossible.

The committee recommended the lost revenue be made up by increased liquor taxation since "liquor cannot by any stretch of the imagination be classified as an essential item for survival in the North."

The increased taxation on diesel locomotive fuel was recommended to "put it on par with diesel fuel for road use. This will eliminate the unfair advantage of the railway over the trucking industry." the report said.

The committee also noted "the N.W.T. had fallen behind the provinces in the rate of tax levied on fuel used for motive purposes..."

"Simply following the provincial example should never be used as justification for anything we do. The only criterion must be: What is best for the people of the Northwest Territories?" the report says.

(more)

The Financial Management Board had also urged increases in the taxes imposed on petroleum products.

The committee recommended the computation of territorial tax after the application of federal tax credits since "the amendment as proposed is not in the best interests of Territorial taxpayers."

"While tax increases may not be large, it is felt that there are already too many disincentives to the working person in the North."

The report points out "that Alberta is the only province which levies lower taxes than the N.W.T."

The changes in the various petroleum taxes were recommended following consultation with the executive committee and the secretary of the Financial Management Board, Eric Nielsen.

Commenting on the proposed decreases, Commissioner John Parker said, "We, as a financial management body, have some regrets in not seeing the taxation levels raised to the extent we had proposed, especially since we are going into a deficit year."

Regardless, Parker said the decision was made to go along with the recommendations of the standing committee on finance.

(more)

PETROLEUM TAXES DOWN, LIQUOR UP - 5

Also passed during the day's debate were supplementary appropriations to the 1979-80 budget totalling \$7,382,400 in operation and maintenance and \$6,134,300 in capital.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 12) - The need to support smaller regional health facilities before increasing sophistication of central referral centres was hotly debated by Territorial MLAs Wednesday.

MLAs voiced the consensus in defeating a motion forwarded by MLA Bob MacQuarrie (Yellowknife Centre) for the setting up of a committee to obtain input on planning for the proposed referral centre in Yellowknife.

In opposing the motion, councillors argued that health facilities in the communities must be given priority for funding before any attempts are made to provide increased levels of service at central facilities.

"I'm against any motions that implies the building of another monument in Yellowknife," MLA Bruce McLaughlin (Pine Point) said, "when communities like mine don't even have cottage hospitals."

MLA Nellie Cournoyea explained her opposition is not based on "trying to make things hard for Yellowknife."

(more)

"We want things close to home. We want to be involved. Don't build big things right now. We need things in our region."

Councillors argued that increased promotion of regional hospitals would provide a hospital environment less alien to native patients, make the supply of "country food" more easily obtainable and overcome what they saw as a tendency to ignore basic local health needs.

Yellowknife MLAs argued the expansion of specialized facilities at the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital would lessen the need to send residents to southern centres for care or for training in the case of health care workers.

"If we don't start working on having those facilities," MLA Lynda Sorensen (Yellowknife South) said, "then we'll have to continue to send those people south to be trained."

"The decision on whether we go with this hospital or not should be based on facts, not on feelings for or against Yellowknife," she said.

MLA Bob MacQuarrie (Yellowknife Centre) said "members have not diligently looked into the facts" in opposing the hospital.

A further motion put forward by Cournoyea calls for renovation and expansion of the current Stanton Yellowknife Hospital "but that planning for the proposed referral centre be deferred until priorities are developed for primary, secondary and tertiary care facilities in the regions of the N.W.T."

Debate on Cournoyea's motion continues.

YELLOWKNIFE (March 12) - Finance committee recommendations urging appointment of an energy minister and the staged development of an N.W.T. energy policy received Legislative Assembly approval Wednesday.

~~The recommendations were contained in a report~~ of the standing committee on finance that was tabled in the House by committee chairman Lynda Sorensen (Yellowknife South) and adopted for executive committee consideration.

The report makes nine recommendations in response to what it calls the "desperate need for this government to develop an action plan" to come to grips with "budgetary difficulties" resulting from "massive increases in energy costs".

(more)

Policy evolution, the report says, must be staged because of lack of government ownership of energy resources and authority in their management.

"However, while resource management and ownership is fundamental to a comprehensive energy policy there is no reason why we cannot begin developing a policy in stages." the report states.

Among the most important "fundamental elements" to be addressed by the policy are "conservation, supply, pricing and alternate sources."

Further recommendations contained in the report include:

- development of a policy "specific to our needs."
- consultation with "community councils, consumer groups, business, and industry" to review the N.C.P.C. Act.
- completion of an "energy inventory" by the N.W.T. Science Advisory Board
- addressing of "fundamental questions" regarding dependence on imported versus territorial energy sources and the consequences of continued dependence on imported energy supplies.

The report attempts to point the way for "this government to take a strong position on energy and to exert political pressure on the federal government" while providing direction to administrative attempts to deal with rising energy costs.

(more)

ENERGY POLICY, MINISTER RECOMMENDED - 3

The report also identifies 10 formal actors whose roles in energy administration and use must be rationalized under the terms of the new policy. Key among these groups are territorial government departments and divisions, the department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, N.C.P.C. and the N.W.T. Housing Corporation.

Little discussion resulted from the tabling of the report, begun by the standing committee on finance in November.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 12) - Recommendations urging increased or initial funding for three legal service agencies received Legislative Assembly approval Wednesday.

The motions call for increases in funding to the existing Maliiganik Tuksiiniakvik Legal Centre in Frobisher Bay and the N.W.T. Native Courtworkers Association and allocation of funds this year for the proposed Western Arctic Legal Centre in Tuktoyaktuk.

Frobisher Bay MLA Dennis Patterson's motion calling for increased funding for the Maliiganik Tuksiiniakvik Legal Centre also recommended "that grant policy for legal services centres and native courtworkers be reviewed in consultation with those groups".

Additional funding of \$15,980 for the N.W.T. Native Courtworkers Association was moved by MLA Lynda Sorensen (Yellowknife South).

(more)

Courtworkers director Gail Cyr told council the additional funding is needed to overcome increased costs for office space, salaries and air travel between the organization's Yellowknife headquarters and community offices.

Arguing her motion for funding this year of the proposed Tuktoyaktuk legal centre, MLA Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) told councillors "the proposal for the Western Arctic Legal Centre has been in the federal and territorial government works since 1976."

Cournoyea said her constituents "bowed" to the need for a legal centre in Frobisher Bay at that time but that "I would like to see it considered this year."

"The situation in the Western Arctic is that we don't have a lawyer in the area and we don't have a person to develop an awareness of the law."

Pointing to the "high degree of success" of the legal services group in Frobisher Bay, Cournoyea said, "...we too have to try to develop some kind of approach for people who have problems with the law."

The legal service agencies provide clients with information on their legal rights, speak to sentence in courts, take legal aid applications and provide assistance and general information to persons unfamiliar with the legal system.

YELLOWKNIFE (March 11) - A motion calling for the establishment of an RCMP detachment in Broughton Island received Legislative Assembly approval Tuesday.

MLA James Arreak (Baffin Central) forwarded the motion in response to what one MLA termed Broughton Island's "urgent request" for the establishment of a police detachment in the community.

The Baffin Regional Council and the local council in Broughton Island have both expressed support for the location of a detachment, members were told.

RCMP Chief Supt. A. H. Buttler, appearing as a witness during committee discussions, told the Assembly the cost of setting up a permanent detachment to deal with the minimal criminal activity in the community had resulted in RCMP reluctance to provide resident police service.

(more)

BROUGHTON ISLAND RCMP DETACHMENT URGED - 2

A total of 41 complaints were dealt with in the community by constables patrolling on a rotational basis out of the permanent Pangnirtung detachment, Buttler said. An extra member is assigned to the Pangnirtung detachment to provide rotational patrol service to Broughton Island and other communities without detachments.

"My views concerning the policing of Broughton Island have not changed over the last year." Buttler said, while allowing the matter is still open to discussion "should the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories feel strongly that a detachment should be opened there..."

Buttler responded to a variety of questions regarding RCMP activities carried out under the Police Service Agreement, the federal-territorial accord providing police service by the force in the territories.

Budget estimates for this year indicate police service will cost the N.W.T. some \$7.5 million.

Councillors expressed particular concern for the RCMP's role in providing non-police services such as by-law enforcement, with mixed views on the principle of continuing to provide the services expressed.

Buttler told Council the force will continue to provide non-police services now being carried out, though the services come in for annual identification and review during the annual federal-territorial discussion on terms of the agreement.

NEWS

DENE NATION ADDRESSES COUNCIL

80-103

YELLOWKNIFE (March 11) - The N.W.T. legislative assembly gave unanimous support Tuesday to a recommendation calling on the federal government to finance and then enter into negotiations with the Dene Nation for a settlement of outstanding aboriginal rights.

Council adopted the motion following a one-hour position statement from Bob Overvold, Dene Nation director of aboriginal rights.

The motion urges the minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to "reinstate loans to the Dene Nation" to finance "preparation of their formal negotiating position respecting (the) aboriginal rights".

As well, it calls on the minister to "make a commitment to begin formal negotiations with the Dene Nation after a start-up period of approximately six months after funding is provided".

(more)

In addressing members, Overvold pointed to a "new and positive relationship emerging between the Assembly and the Dene Nation".

Overvold declared a new "era" in which the Dene Nation was open to discuss with members various proposals to determine the most effective and mutually satisfactory form a new political order in the N.W.T. should take.

In outlining the Dene position on self-determination, Overvold took the opportunity to declare that "while we have not issued a formal position on the Nunavut proposal, we do support the I.T.C.'s desire for...a single form of government on Inuit land."

"...we seek a single form of government on Dene land," Overvold said.

"We, like I.T.C., are proposing that the existing N.W.T. be divided into two separate jurisdictions."

Overvold also voiced categorical condemnation of the recent report of C.M. (Bud) Drury on Constitutional Development for the N.W.T.

"I urge you," Overvold said, "...to dismiss this report... It in no way encompasses the present realities of our people and our relationship with you."

(more)

Labelling Drury's report as "out of date" and lacking "any innovative or imaginative suggestions", Overvold called for "imaginative and bold new ideas" in such areas as redistribution of resource revenues from federal government control to finance political self-determination in the N.W.T.

Overvold also charged that Drury's report was "less than honest" since he said it dismisses "Nunavut and the Dene Nation proposal as racist when Mr. Drury did not have the input from the two organizations who together represent two-thirds of the N.W.T. population".

Overvold reaffirmed the Dene Nation perception of nationhood, pointing to the "right to self determination" and the legal recognition of the representative authority of band councils as reasons why aboriginal rights negotiations should be carried on between the federal government and the Dene.

"We agree, however," Overvold allowed, "that this does not mean the Assembly has no interest in the negotiation of political rights with the Dene."

Overvold also told members that if the Metis Association cannot be persuaded to join in presenting one position to the federal government the Dene Nation would proceed unilaterally to negotiate for all Dene as quickly as it can get Ottawa to start the negotiations.

(more)

"We believe we must get them started by summer at the latest," Overvold said in launching his concluding appeal for assembly support aimed at stirring the federal government to action.

Various members stated their support for the Dene Nation initiative to open negotiations.

Unity Committee chairman Bob MacQuarrie (Yellowknife Centre) called the presentation clear and forthright.

"His report shows that there are many hard issues that have to be resolved in the months ahead and a desire to address these most difficult problems, to meet them head on..." MacQuarrie said.

MLA Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) said the Dene Nation should be applauded for the kind of involvement they have at the community level.

"It's not easy when you don't have something to hand out to the community" as territorial councillors can in their campaigns for community support, Cournoyea said.

"I would say that...it is very easy to be a territorial councillor," she explained, adding later that, "I hope that in our efforts to work with the Native groups...that none of us get lost...in this special jurisdictional power that's called the Northwest Territories government."

(more)

MLA Tom Butters (Inuvik), while agreeing with Overvold's observation that "differences" still exist between MLAs and the Dene Nation's basic philosophies, expressed the hope that the new spirit of dialogue could lead to resolution of these differences.

"What is wrong is when those differences of opinion don't get stated." Butters said.

MLA George Braden also expressed his appreciation for Overvold's presentation.

"I think there is a lot of potential in the future and I'm pleased a member of the Dene Nation would appear in this House to discuss those views." Braden said.

Referring to a recent motion recommending the replacement of the Commissioner as chairman of the executive committee by an elected member, Braden asked for the Dene Nation's view on "change of that magnitude within the existing structure of the N.W.T. government."

Overvold replied that personally he thought it didn't represent a significant change.

He compared the move to "changing the driver of a car."

YELLOWKNIFE (March 11) - Motions to expand and improve the contribution of justices of the peace in the N.W.T. received Legislative Assembly approval Tuesday.

Members recommended that justices of the peace be trained to hear summary conviction trials and that they receive an increasing amount of training opportunities.

A third motion calls for the appointment of more native people as justices of the peace and further encourages them to "sit together in groups of two or more" in hearing cases.

MLA Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) presented the three motions he said would improve the ability of the "backbone of our legal system" to deal with prosecution on a more "human" level.

Appointment of native justices, Patterson said, recognizes the importance "especially at the summary conviction level" of being "judged by people who speak their language and have their respect".

(more)

Of 99 justices of the peace now under appointment in the territories, 46 are natives, Justice and Public Services Minister Tom Butters (Inuvik) told council.

Patterson pointed to the cost of providing circuit court service by Yellowknife-based territorial court justices as one reason for training justices in hearing summary conviction trials.

Patterson said that in Frobisher Bay, 80 per cent of cases heard are on summary conviction and that great savings could result from having trained justices on hand in the community to deal with this portion of the case load.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 10) - What is the highest waterfall, the average temperature in July, or the only boat rental firm in Tuktoyaktuk?

Travellers who want to know almost everything about the Northwest Territories can answer their questions with the 1980 Explorers' Guide just released by TravelArctic, the N.W.T. government's tourism section.

The annual publication is into its 10th year of production. It has expanded to 80 pages from 32 at the beginning of the seventies.

"Facilities have grown a great deal over the decade," says Brian Thompson, travel marketing officer for TravelArctic. "For instance the number of hotels has risen from 23 to 49. Airlines have grown from 14 to 36."

(more)

Some exciting new holidays are being offered in the Territories this year, he adds. Qaivvik Ltd. is running a six-day spring experience spent with an Inuit family on the sea ice off Baffin Island. Igloos and dog sled rides are part of this scenic, cultural experience. For the less adventurous (and less well-heeled) there are a growing number of bus tours from Alberta up the Mackenzie Highway. Bus tours from the Yukon up the Dempster Highway to Inuvik will be the first to cross the Arctic Circle.

The booklet lists tourist operators and also outlines background information to help travellers enjoy their stay. Historical, angling, hunting, crafts and parks information is included as well as a northern crossword puzzle to help pass the time at airports and ferry crossings.

- 30 -

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NORTHERN PREFERENCE TO IMPROVE

80-100

YELLOWKNIFE (March 10) - Improving the preference shown to N.W.T. firms bidding on government public works and housing projects is the aim of an Assembly motion passed Monday.

Moved by MLA Tagak Curley (Keewatin South), the motion resolves to investigate lowering performance and bid bonding requirements to put bidding on contracts within reach of smaller northern business concerns.

As well, the motion attempts to more clearly identify a "northern" business, making residency or incorporation in the territories a prerequisite for preferential consideration.

Economic Development and Tourism Minister George Braden (Yellowknife North) told the Assembly his ministry is also drafting a policy to increase granting of government goods and services purchase contracts to northern outlets.

Braden said upwards of \$61 million in public works and government supply department contracts could be made more fully accessible to northern businesses by the new policy.

(more)

A re-evaluation of the Small Business Loan Fund policy is also underway with a view to making financing to fulfill bid and performance bonds more readily available to the businesses, he said.

"I believe we all have to recognize that the Territorial government's ability to stimulate the northern business community ... is quite substantial."

A preferential tendering policy, recommended by the executive committee in June of 1976, is now in place. Councillors' criticism of the lack of force in the existing policy was a reason for the tightening up of the policy.

"I suggest that the present policy is neglecting the resources of the contractors existing in the territories." MLA Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) told the Assembly.

Patterson also outlined two possible further benefits of granting contracts locally: improved recourse in cases of unsatisfactory work and increased location and incorporation of contractors in the territories.

"I would point out," Patterson said, "it may well have the effect of encouraging more southern contractors to move north and incorporate in the north" to qualify under the proposed territorial incorporation requirement.

MLA Tom Butters (Inuvik) went one step further in proposing the government look to the possibility of setting itself up as the general contractor in the case of large construction projects.

(more)

NORTHERN PREFERENCE TO IMPROVE - 3

The government, he said, could then sub-contract portions of projects to northern businesses.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 10) - Members of the N.W.T. Legislature moved Monday to establish a beachhead for the handling of sea-lift goods from dock to door by local transport companies.

The motion, presented by MLA Tagak Curley (Keewatin South), recommends the territorial government look for ways to "redefine and rearrange the terms of its agreement with NTCL (Northern Transportation Company Limited) that would allow local businessmen to deliver supplies from dock or beach to destination."

Curley said the present NTCL monopoly on the unloading and delivery of goods has "taken employment away from the people who used to be hired for unloading" and that the time has come for local businesses to take over delivery service.

"Initially, the capacity didn't exist," Commissioner John Parker said of the reason for NTCL dominance in local delivery, adding, that the capacity has since been developed.

(more)

LOCAL TO DELIVER GOODS - 2

Parker explained that five years ago, when goods were in some cases literally "dumped on the beach", that the setting up of a NTCL delivery service was necessary.

Negotiations will begin with NTCL for a handing over of the responsibility for local delivery, Parker said.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 10) - Motions intended to beef up the authority and capability of the Office of Native Employment to improve native participation in the public service received Legislative Assembly approval Monday.

The motions recommended the office be made responsible to the executive committee rather than the department of personnel and that the executive "greatly" expand the office.

Two persons are now employed in the office monitoring the level of native employment in the public service and advising the department of personnel on ways to increase native employment.

MLA Nick Sibbeston (Mackenzie-Liard), the mover of both motions, levelled criticism at the office on a number of issues during the debate. Sibbeston condemned the lack of any staff member able to speak a native language, direction of the office by a non-native and what he said was a lack of autonomy in decision making.

(more)

"I find it ironic that the position (of program supervisor) is held by a non-native," he said. "I'm just surprised when you say the group is effective. You don't have any Inuit employees. How do you represent the Inuit people?"

Deputy Commissioner Bob Pilot, responsible for the department of personnel, explained that while the post of office manager was advertised, the successful non-native candidate was thought to be the "most suitable" person to fill the position. Pilot added that the department of personnel intends to increase the number of natives employed by the office and that terms of reference for the office are now being drafted.

Pilot also discounted accusations by Sibbeston that natives were hired for jobs on the basis of the importance of the position.

Sibbeston charged that, "the decision on whether or not to hire a native person comes down to whether it is an important job or not...and if it is an important job, the native doesn't get it."

Pilot denied the accusation, stating that "it is not the practise of this government to hire according to the importance of the job but whether or not the person is capable of doing that job."

However, Pilot did admit that it was his "personal observation" that the government had not had "tremendous success" in involving native persons in the public service, particularly in senior positions.

(more)

INCREASED NATIVE EMPLOYMENT WANTED - 3

Pilot said there's no difficulty in getting local people employed at lower levels.

MLA Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) expressed qualified support for the two motions dealing with the office, though she said more "incentive" to natives to join the public service is needed if the program is ever to succeed.

"There's more people trying to find ways to put natives in the public service than there are natives in the public service," she observed.

"I see very little need in just giving more money so you have more people sitting around monitoring what other people are doing," she said, adding that more "imagination" is needed to convince natives of the desirability of a job in the public service.

The question of who should benefit from office programs was also raised by MLA Don Stewart (Hay River).

"We have a great many people who are getting the same treatment relative to being native northerners, though they may only have been residents of the territories for several years," Stewart said.

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 7) - The N.W.T. legislative assembly wants an elected member to replace Commissioner John Parker as chairman of the government's executive committee.

It also wants elected members to be responsible for the departments of public works, and information, the financial management board and regional operations.

Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) introduced the motion to select an elected member to chair the executive, during committee discussion at the assembly's winter session Friday.

He told members the step was consistent with the assembly's earlier request that the commissioner relinquish control of his departmental and program responsibilities.

"This motion is no reflection on the present commissioner. We are talking about positions, not people," Patterson stated.

(more)

He added that his request was not "a radical or a strange idea" and that it was a conclusion reached in the Drury Report and one that the commissioner himself was generally receptive to.

A day earlier the commissioner had told the House he would expect to divest himself of departmental responsibilities within the life of the current assembly.

He added that the question of stepping down as chairman of the executive was a different matter, something that would happen over a period of time.

"Most certainly, as a natural leader evolves, I should step aside from chairing the committee."

Patterson's motion, approved by a majority of MLAs, calls for a progress report on the matter at the assembly's next session.

Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South) put the motion calling for the commissioner to delegate his departmental and program responsibilities.

He said it was time these departments and programs were accountable to elected representatives rather than to the commissioner and his deputy who are appointed by Ottawa.

A subsequent motion presented by Lynda Sorensen (MLA Yellowknife South) requested the assembly to urge eastern arctic members to accept some responsibility for the running of the government by filling two vacant positions reserved earlier for them on the executive committee.

(more)

She said the divesting of departmental responsibilities by the commissioner would mean heavier workloads on the five existing ministers.

"I think the time has come for our eastern members to look seriously at these two vacant seats ... and take on these additional responsibilities they have just given to the existing members."

Her motion was later amended to request eastern MLAs to accept any additional executive committee positions that might be established.

The amendment recognizes the fact that the positions may not necessarily be filled by members from the east.

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 7) - A motion to bring the commissioner back into the House during formal sessions went down to narrow defeat Friday.

The motion, presented by Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South), would have made the commissioner available for members' inquiries during the formal question period of each day's sitting.

The previous assembly revoked his seat in the assembly at the conclusion of the last session, a move intended to diminish the chief executive's role in the proceedings.

"My concern is that I don't think the previous council was very wise in letting the Commissioner walk out...with all those very expensive departments on his shoulders." Curley said.

(more)

Curley argued that the re-seating of the Commissioner would make him immediately available for questions from members on matters related to his responsibility for such government departments as public works and regional operations.

Dissenting members countered that the daily provision for the submission of written questions on matters of departmental operation provide a suitable avenue for members wishing information on departments which are not the responsibility of elected members.

"A legislative assembly is for elected people," MLA Arnold McCallum said. "As we want witnesses to appear in the House, we ask for them."

MLA Dennis Patterson supported what he said was the most "practical" way of getting the business of government done and suggested members were too worried about appearances.

"I think the Commissioner should be here to remind us all that the key ministeries are all in his hands," Patterson said.

Opinion on the motion remained sharply divided throughout debate.

The motion was defeated in a nine to eight vote with three members abstaining.

CORRECTION TO PRESS RELEASE 80-092 HEADLINED:
PARKER WILL "STEP ASIDE"

80-095

Page 2, paragraph 2, replaced with:

"I would certainly expect to divest myself of my direct reporting relationship with regard to individual departments within the life of this council." Parker predicted. The present Assembly's term expires in 1983.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 7) - Eastern Arctic MLAs have been formally asked to occupy seats on the Territorial government's executive committee.

A motion approved Friday cites the "increased workload" that could result from a turning over of departmental responsibilities from the Commissioner to elected members, and calls for "eastern arctic members to accept responsibility in the running of this government".

The motion was presented by MLA Lynda Sorensen (Yellowknife South) following passage of an earlier motion that called for the Commissioner to turn over responsibility for public works, information, regional operations and the financial management board to elected members.

"If the earlier motion is actioned, the workload will be heavy," Sorensen said.

"I think the time has come for our eastern members to look at the vacant seats...and take on the responsibility."

(more)

EASTERN MINISTERS SOUGHT - 2

There are seven seats on the executive committee for elected members. Only five are filled at the present time. The remaining two seats have been left vacant in the hope that eastern arctic members would accept appointments.

Eastern Arctic MLAs have until now refused the seats, saying time spent away from their constituencies performing executive committee functions would hinder their ability to keep abreast of the on-going concerns of the community members they represent.

They offered little hope of immediate or eventual assumption of executive committee seats.

"If no Eastern Arctic members are available for those seats tomorrow, then let those who are available take them over," MLA Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) said.

"However, I am still interested in negotiating conditions for participation on the executive committee." Patterson said.

"I would insist that the office...need not be in Yellowknife," Patterson said, repeating the view that distances involved place undue strain on constituency relationships.

"Maybe it's unreasonable to keep these seats open for an undue length of time," Patterson added, "but we're still looking at the situation."

(more)

EASTERN MINISTERS SOUGHT - 3

Tagak Curley (Keewatin South) argued that Eastern Arctic members have already been "instrumental" in providing input on executive committee deliberations.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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SECRETARIAT EVALUATION URGED

80-093

YELLOWKNIFE (March 7) - An evaluation and review of the Territorial government's Land Claims Secretariat has been requested by the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly.

Members approved a motion Friday calling for the review and urging that steps be taken to eliminate any unnecessary staff.

The motion also recommends that money saved through staff cuts be made available for "specifically identified technical support only when there is direction and when something is going on that requires work to be done in areas of constitutional/political development."

(more)

SECRETARIAT EVALUATION URGED - 2

The motion was presented by MLA Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) during consideration of the secretariat's \$264,000 budget allocation. The executive offices administer the five-person secretariat, charged with keeping the government abreast of developments in the area of land claims.

Cournoyea voiced sweeping condemnation of department personnel and their past performance.

"Right now, I can clearly tell you these people are not capable of providing advice in the area of constitutional development." Cournoyea said.

She alleged there were many cases...where personnel of the secretariat had slowed the progress of Inuvialuit claims.

"I don't want anyone to think these people are no good," she explained. "They're just not suited for this role."

MLAs Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) and Tagak Curley (Keewatin South) joined Cournoyea in piling criticism on the secretariat's ability to deal with native groups on the land claims issue.

"They do not have confidence in many of the personalities in the secretariat," Patterson said of Inuit Tapirisat of Canada leadership.

"This assembly must listen to the native organizations when they say they have a lack of confidence. Whether that lack of confidence is fair or not, it is a reality."

(more)

SECRETARIAT EVALUATION URGED - 3

While the motion passed unanimously, various MLAs were cautious in qualifying their support for the review.

MLAs Tom Butters (Inuvik) and Arnold McCallum (Slave River), both past ministers responsible for the secretariat's activities, expressed their readiness to accept responsibility for any policies or actions brought forward during their ministerial tenures.

Butters and McCallum also joined other MLAs in pointing out that current dissatisfaction with the secretariat could be based on a change in philosophy and direction by the new assembly, not the competence or conduct of the secretariat staff itself.

"I would hope there isn't a determination ahead of time of what that performance will be," MLA Bob MacQuarrie (Yellowknife Centre) said of the need for unprejudiced consideration of secretariat performance.

"But the last assembly had a particular position on constitutional development and land claims and that secretariat tried to serve that assembly," MacQuarrie said.

MacQuarrie advised councillors to ensure their criticism of secretariat action was not a redirection of dissatisfaction with the past council's land claims policy against the body most closely involved in carrying out the policy.

Commissioner John Parker told the assembly secretariat staff possess a combined 39 years of experience dealing "with very positive attitudes" towards native people and organizations.

(more)

"I was also going to say, almost in jest, that we should check their philosophical outlooks...39 years in the service of the government might almost be a detriment."

While the motion recommends that funds saved by the elimination of staff be redirected to other land claims priorities expressed by members, there is no assurance this will be the case.

The executive committee will have to redistribute budget allocations in its final review of Assembly recommendations taking the entire budget into consideration.

Contact: Craig Yeo

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 6) - Chairmanship of the executive committee will be turned over to an elected representative "within the life of this council", Commissioner John Parker told the Legislative Assembly Thursday.

The commissioner was asked his reaction to C.M. (Bud) Drury's report on Constitutional Development in the N.W.T.

Drury recommends, among other things, that the commissioner "divest himself of all his remaining territorial departmental responsibilities and transfer them to elected members of the executive committee during the life of the Ninth Council".

The report also recommends the executive committee be given responsibility for senior government appointments, and that any transferred federal powers be allocated to elected executive committee members.

"I think the conclusions Mr. Drury has drawn are very good conclusions," Parker said in response to MLA Dennis Patterson's request for the commissioner's views on the report.

(more)

Parker said he would place a "high priority" on "accommodating the transfer of power and authority from appointed persons to elected officials.

"I would certainly expect to divest myself of my authority...within the life of the council," Parker predicted. The present Assembly's term expires in 1983.

"I think that is the direction in which we must go...and I don't have any hesitations unless it is in regards to timing.

"Most certainly, as a natural leader evolves," Parker explained, "I should step aside from chairing the executive committee."

~~As to the assumption by the executive committee of responsibility for senior government appointments, Parker pointed out that "for some time now the executive committee has been consulted on senior appointments. I would expect that to continue."~~

Parker further promised he would "only under very exceptional circumstances disagree with the executive committee."

Parker says that even after the handing over of the chairmanship to an elected member, he will continue to sit on the executive committee to hear members' views "first-hand."

YELLOWKNIFE (March 6) - Greater human resource development and reliance on the private sector to create new jobs will be needed to meet the tough economic problems facing the North this decade.

That was the message Economic Development and Tourism Minister George Braden gave the Legislative Assembly Thursday.

MLA Braden (Yellowknife North) was opening debate on his department's \$13.7 million budget which councillors subsequently approved. Allocations for the department are down \$1.3 million in this year's budget.

"I believe we in the North are facing...the major problem of developing and maintaining meaningful employment in our ever-expanding workforce of young men and women," Braden said in addressing four areas of "concern" department strategy will attempt to deal with in the new decade.

(more)

Key among these concerns, Braden said, is the lack of control or long-range policy-making authority over the "vast" energy resources of the Territories.

Braden said it is "disturbing to have the federal government continue to make decisions concerning the value and export of northern energy resources" while at the same time providing no relief for N.W.T. residents from high energy-product costs.

Zeroing in on the "ridiculous condition of the operation of NCPC", Braden promised to table proposals for "development of a northern energy policy" for debate in the next Assembly session.

One avenue of relief from the "boom-and-bust" economy faced by the N.W.T. in the past, Braden said, could be "better use of our resident business community.

"The N.W.T.'s small business sector is in jeopardy" due to rising product and service costs, the slow-down in development, and fiscal restraint in government, Braden said. The minister pointed to greater preference to northern businesses and management assistance as steps the government could take to improve the lot of small business.

However, Braden made councillors grimly aware of the problem of lack of employment skills among new entrants to the work force. This factor, he said, seriously compounds the difficulty of filling the 5,000 new jobs N.W.T. Science Advisory Board statistics indicate will be needed by 1985.

(more)

BRADEN MAPS DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES - 3

Braden also expressed fears over the ability of the economy to provide the jobs needed by the burgeoning 18-to-35-year-old age group.

"Our most valuable resource (our young people) is not able to contribute to the maximum extent possible," Braden said.

"If we don't make some changes, I think we're going to perpetuate the present practise of going to the South for expertise while northerners stand at the sidelines."

Braden concluded by appealing to MLAs for direction in addressing these problems.

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 6) - Mandatory N.W.T. residency for owners of new tourist and fishing lodges was unanimously recommended by the Legislative Assembly Thursday.

The motion requiring the new residency status, put forward by MLA Tagak Curley (Keewatin South), came up during Assembly approval of the office of tourism and parks' \$1.7 million budget estimates.

Explaining the intent of his motion, Curley said the requirement "would ensure this money (from lodge operations) stays in the North."

Curley told councillors his research indicates 10 lodges in the Keewatin are owned by non-N.W.T. residents, which "indicates this government has to take some control."

(more)

COMPULSORY RESIDENCE URGED - 2

New lodge operations, after receiving site approval from the federal lands department, are subject to licensing by the office of tourism and parks.

Economic Development and Tourism Minister George Braden (MLA Yellowknife North) told members the legislation will serve to "give us a stick" to encourage local hiring and greater taxation benefit for the Territorial government from new lodges.

During debate, the N.W.T. Tourist Industry Association was broadly condemned.

The association was funded \$65,000 by the tourism office in its last budget, a sore point with some members outraged over recent statements by an association official.

Members pointed to "vicious" and "insulting" remarks made in the association newsletter, saying such remarks are not in keeping with the integrity expected from an organization receiving government funding.

Braden admitted he was "somewhat alarmed" with remarks contained in the December newsletter. However, he said the association's president has indicated "we won't have a repeat of that problem in the future."

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 6) - A "tough stand" to ensure employment and taxation benefits from major development projects accrue to northerners received resounding approval from territorial MLAs Thursday.

Members voiced their agreement for a "hard line" approach in future federal-territorial development project negotiations in response to an appeal for an assembly mandate from MLA Lynda Sorensen (Yellowknife South) and economic development and tourism minister George Braden.

Sorensen pointed to the province of Newfoundland's new legislation requiring oil companies to give provincial residents first hiring preference as a model the N.W.T. could do well to follow.

(more)

"I think it's a marvelous opportunity to take a stand and to bring in some controversial legislation to ensure northerners get the benefits," Sorensen said.

"Newfoundland wasn't and isn't afraid of the big companies," she said. "I'd like to see us stand up to the federal government if we don't think a project will be of benefit to northerners."

Responding to the initiative, MLA Braden (Yellowknife North) told members he had not taken a public position because he wanted direction from the assembly.

"With the direction of this assembly we are prepared to take a much harder stance. "We'll try to get the best deal possible," he said.

Individual members then took up the appeal as an opportunity to trigger the development of government policy on resource development.

"Of course, the aboriginal people of the N.W.T. feel that the resources belong to them and that there should be no development before land claims," MLA Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) observed.

"But the federal government seems to have ignored this and has made no progress on land claims. So I say 'Yes'. Get tough with the companies. We want those jobs. My people want those jobs. If we don't get tough with the companies, they aren't going to deliver."

(more)

Patterson pointed to the shattered illusion of vast employment benefits for northerners from the Nanisivik mining project as an instance where a harder territorial line would have meant greater employment opportunities for N.W.T. residents.

MLA Bob MacQuarrie (Yellowknife Centre) also voiced his approval for a "generous, a fair share" of royalties and taxes.

"Part of the problem is a strictly private enterprise approach," MacQuarrie said, recommending the government must get off the back seat and take the initiative.

MLA Tom Butters (Inuvik), agreeing with the need for a louder territorial voice, said that in his experience major companies don't care who receives the royalties.

"I think the real problem will be prying our fair share out of the federal government."

MLA Arnold McCallum (Slave River) took the initiative one step further, suggesting the territorial government attempt to wrestle control of development lands from the federal government as a first step by gaining control of property leases.

"We may talk about resource revenue sharing, but we have to go one step further. We have to press to make sure the lands are transferred to our control," he said.

"We can no longer allow people or corporations to come into the territories and be subject to miniscule taxes on improvements."

(more)

MLAs APPROVE "TOUGH" DEVELOPMENT STAND - 4

MLA Tagak Curley (Keewatin South) supported greater territorial control of resource development as "the only way" to modify the social consequences of future developments.

"I think it's important that economic development take a firm position in trying to minimize social impact," he said.

Rather than "speak in haste", MLA Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) reserved comment on the appeal for mandate, while other councillors voiced no opinions.

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DRURY REPORT RECEIVED

80-088

YELLOWKNIFE (March 6) - The Drury Report drew favourable response from the N.W.T.'s seven-member executive committee during an initial review of the document this morning.

The report appears to be an "excellent blueprint" for constitutional development in the Territories, members stated.

They said there are certain recommendations in the 200-page report that could be put in place right now.

"However, we will want to assess reaction from the legislative assembly, native organizations and the public before action is taken on the majority of its observations."

The report is the work of former federal cabinet minister C.M. Drury, appointed two years ago by Prime Minister Trudeau to examine and propose avenues of constitutional change in the N.W.T.

(more)

The Executive is seeking a week-end meeting with Drury who is scheduled to hold a press conference here Friday morning.

It will be in a position to announce the steps the government will be taking in connection with the report once members had time to consider its contents in more detail.

Local Government Minister James Wah-Shee noted some of the report's recommendations support steps already taken by the executive.

"Drury's observation that a single minister should be responsible for discussions relating to aboriginal rights and land claims is an example", he said.

A sessional paper on the matter, scheduled to be discussed at the next session of the legislative assembly, was developed by the executive and tabled recently by the minister.

The paper calls for a minister of the Territorial Government to enter into consultation with native organizations to determine areas of common interest and co-operation on these fundamental issues.

Drury's observations on division of the Territories also seem consistent with the executive and assembly's approach to the matter.

(more)

The report supports a united N.W.T. at this time and argues for reform to present institutions rather than focussing on division from the start.

Executive members also feel the report reflects its position on the diminishing role of the commissioner, the process of decentralization and devolution now underway and the need for a new financial arrangement with Ottawa.

"We are in the happy position of having already set in motion a number of the recommendations made by the special representative," said executive committee member, Arnold McCallum.

- 30 -

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NERYSOO - ITC TO MEET

80-087

YELLOWKNIFE (March 6) - Renewable Resources Minister Richard Nerysoo and William Noah, MLA for Keewatin North, will meet next week in Ottawa with ITC to discuss wildlife management in the Arctic.

Mr. Nerysoo asked Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC) for the meeting after the Inuit organization in a presentation to the Legislative Assembly recently suggested control of wildlife management north and east of the treeline should be turned over from the department of renewable resources to the people.

The minister and his staff, and Mr. Noah, will be meeting with ITC next Tuesday and Wednesday. They leave Yellowknife Monday for Ottawa.

"What I want to achieve with ITC is a comprehensive understanding of their views on the control of wildlife management and how they see such a transfer occurring," Mr. Nerysoo said. The minister is MLA for Mackenzie Delta.

(more)

Mr. Nerysoo said he is very supportive of the principles of local control over wildlife, as is, he said, the Legislative Assembly as a whole.

He cited examples of this support during the current Legislative sitting in Yellowknife -- the call for increased consultation between the renewable resources department and the native people and the need for more input by native people, in wildlife management; the creation of the Assembly's Committee on Unity to gain consensus with native groups on political change, and the sessional paper on aboriginal rights and constitutional development.

"Although the Assembly deferred voting on this paper," Mr. Nerysoo said, "it shouldn't be forgotten that the majority of MLAs agree with its basic principles, including the need to establish a dialogue with native groups on land claims negotiations."

Speaking of the upcoming meeting with ITC, the minister concluded: "We are sensitive to the issues they have raised and wish to respond to them quickly and responsibly."

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 5) - The Legislative Assembly Wednesday questioned the ability of the government's environmental services division and even wondered if there is need of it.

The criticism came in response to environmental services' increase in budget from \$60,000 to \$209,000.

~~The division, part of the department of renewable resources, was created recently with a staff of five. Previously, the work was the responsibility of a single administrator.~~

Though they eventually approved the division's budget, councillors levelled a series of scathing attacks on, among other things, the division's lack of a qualified environmentalist.

MLA Nick Sibbeston (Mackenzie Liard) called for detailed accounts of the salaries, education and work experience of the five people the division employs. He questioned the division's ability to attack environmental complaints because of a lack of experience.

(more)

Meanwhile, a motion by MLA Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) to cut back the division's budget to its previous \$60,000 was defeated after councillors were told there was no assurance the money saved could be diverted to wildlife services.

"I doubt very much it would go into the Wildlife Service," Commissioner John Parker said.

"I would hope the commissioner would do this," said Sibbeston. "Otherwise we would have our first conflict."

The division is responsible for administration of the Environmental Protection Ordinance, the Clean Air Act of Canada, the Pesticide Ordinance, and the Scientists Ordinance.

Charges under the administered legislation have never been laid by the division, Minister Richard Nerysoo told the Assembly. The division's function, he said, is to manage the monitoring and enforcement of the regulations and work in concert with federal Environmental Protection Service experts trained in field enforcement.

As well, said Nerysoo, the division will begin the work of "finding out the responsibilities of the division" in anticipation of federal handing-over of enforcement responsibilities.

"The unit has been drawn together by taking people who were already engaged either full-time or part-time in environmental matters," Commissioner Parker said of the need for the divisional chief, two project officers, and clerical staff.

(more)

"In order for me to respond to any environmental concerns, I need someone to do the work for me," Nerysoo said, "to do the footwork."

"I don't believe this is an area where one should be trained on-the-job." MLA Lynda Sorensen (Yellowknife South) said of the division.

"I think this government must realize it can't create a new division because it has extra bodies," she said, calling the division's staff "excess baggage" found "on the sixth floor (of the Territorial government's Laing Building headquarters)."

"If you hire people who are not sufficiently knowledgeable in the environment, how are they going to tell you what you need to know?"

However, Sorensen and other members were told by the commissioner and Renewable Resources Deputy Minister Ivor Stewart that the employees had worked in the environmental field for several years and were conversant with the problems and concerns involved in the division.

"I think that to try to wash this away too quickly ... will put us in a very dangerous position," Stewart said.

"I don't think that one more year without a department with full-fledged bodies in it is going to hurt that much," replied Cournoyea.

(more)

ASSEMBLY ATTACKS ENVIRONMENT SERVICES - 4

MLA George Braden (Yellowknife North) also cautioned members that "before we make a decision on reducing our capability, we'd better make sure the feds are going to cover for us."

"I feel that we are taken care of sufficiently by the federal government," Sibbeston said. "I feel that all our efforts should go into doing a good job in wildlife."

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (March 5) - Increased financial assistance for the outpost camps program received Legislative Assembly approval Wednesday despite some misgivings about the program.

A motion presented by MLA Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) called for "increased support" for the program, which supplies food, shelter and fuel to groups setting up hunting camps closer to food and fur-bearing animals.

At a cost last year of \$350,000, the program assisted 782 persons in 65 camps at an average per capita cost of \$400, said Renewable Resources Deputy Minister Ivor Stewart.

Patterson's motion calling for this year's \$350,000 allocation to be increased means the executive committee will have to try to re-allocate funds from other programs within the department of renewable resources.

(more)

"The outpost camps program is a worthwhile investment for the Government of the Northwest Territories," Patterson said. "It reduces the cost of social assistance ... reduces generally the cost of providing services for the people of the N.W.T."

Patterson pointed out the program provides an opportunity for persons who might be dependent on government welfare programs to get out on the land and become self-sufficient harvesters of the resource base. He also said the camps are one production source of native handicrafts and often break ground for the subsequent development of tourist and fishing camp operations.

Patterson's call was for more camps, not increased funding to individual camps now set up under the program.

Some members' concerns, however, centred around the type of persons taking advantage of the program and the basic principle behind such a form of assistance.

"People who are setting up outpost camps in the Baffin Region are only surviving by getting assistance from the government," said MLA Joe Arlooktoo (Baffin South).

"Those people who start outpost camps should be able to live on the land. They should only start outpost camps when they know how to support themselves," he said. Arlooktoo added that steady increases in the number of camps could eventually threaten the animal populations available to established communities.

Preservation of hunting and trapping skills is just one more point in favor of continuation of the program, contended MLA Mark Evaluarjuk (Foxe Basin). "Kids nowadays have only experienced being in warm places."

"That is why they really need assistance -- outpost camps -- for those people who want to go out on the land."

However, increases in the number of camps could eventually serve to defeat the basic idea of the program, Commissioner John Parker told the Assembly.

"I think we have to be very careful the program doesn't get spoiled and create a number of communities where the population is so high the people can't live off the resources."

"Let's look in our own back yard first," Patterson said in opposition to arguments of undue social assistance and creation of yet more communities requiring municipal services.

"It's fine to talk about reducing dependence on government but ...my point is people are far less dependent on the government when they're not in the settlements eating up our precious funds."

Increased transportation costs in supplying the camps has already eaten into the program budget, Deputy Minister Stewart told councillors.

Minister Richard Nerysoo (MLA Mackenzie Delta) told members: "There is a desire for more outpost camps but there isn't the money to do it."

YELLOWKNIFE, (March 5) - Debated for five days, budget estimates totalling \$6.17 million for the department of renewable resources were approved by the Legislative Assembly Wednesday.

The approved estimate is a \$1.02 million increase over the previous year's \$5.15 million budget.

However, money must now be found in the newly-approved departmental budget to finance a lengthy series of motions passed by the Assembly recommending increased financial support for a number of programs, mostly under the Wildlife Service.

The final decision on the re-allocation of funds rests with the commissioner and executive committee. They will attempt to rationalize councillors' priorities with fiscal realities.

Wednesday's debate on the department also saw the passage of nine new motions, including:

(more)

RESOURCES BUDGET APPROVED - 2

- - Approval of an initiative to promote on-the-job training of wildlife officers, particularly native people;

- - Re-institution of a bounty on wolves throughout the N.W.T. as a step towards reducing predatory losses in the declining caribou populations;

- - An attempt to fund the hiring of two wildlife biologists for the Inuvik and Baffin regions to carry out population counts and related duties;

- - A motion making it mandatory for trainees and wildlife officers employed in the Eastern Arctic to know how to build an igloo;

- - To provide funding to the hunters' and trappers' associations in Repulse Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour and Baker Lake for search-and-rescue equipment and operations;

- - Recommendation of a quota for two musk ox kills for hunters and trappers in Repulse Bay, and

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- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 4) - The Legislative Assembly wants increased consultation with native people to bring an end to what one MLA called the "state of war" that exists between wildlife managers and users.

No motion was presented on the issue. However, members agreed that more consultation between native people and the department of renewable resources is required, and that native people should have more input into wildlife management as well.

The initiative arose in response to what several MLAs said is the lack of respect the government shows to the advice of native people on matters of wildlife management policy.

"We've had a very difficult time agreeing to equal and meaningful participation," MLA Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) said of her experience with community members who attempt to act as a resource to wildlife management officials.

(more)

"I don't believe they (wildlife personnel) really understand what the people are talking about," she said, explaining that these personnel "...continually downgrade the native people's interest in wildlife as greed."

"After a while, it seems like the whole department is at war with wildlife and the people who are using the resources," she said.

Insensitivity and "heavy-handedness" in enforcing wildlife regulations "in order to earn the respect, if not the fear, of the hunters" was also charged by MLA Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay).

Patterson joined other MLAs in calling for more formal recognition of the value of community experience in formulation and management of wildlife policy.

One target of criticism over the effectiveness of community input was the Game Advisory Council. The council, whose status is now under review, was set up - with appointed representation from across the Territories - to advise the department of renewable resources on local concerns in the formulation of game policy.

"It became the creature of the commissioner...of the administration," charged MLA Tagak Curley (Keewatin South).

Curley also pointed to the formation of a committee to study depletion of the Kaminuriak caribou herd proposed last fall at a meeting of community, government and native organization leaders in Igloolik. He called it a potential sore spot in the consultation question.

(more)

"I know from my experience that the people are very frustrated, that they have not been properly consulted," Curley said.

"I will continue to reject that committee unless we have some input into that."

Renewable Resources Minister Richard Nerysoo denied his department has any intention of assuming undue control of committee make-up or mandate. He said: "...my department will not in fact write the terms of reference of that (caribou) committee. It will be up to the hunters' and trappers' associations in that region."

Nerysoo added: "I think I am very interested in hearing those concerns. I will address issues according to the decisions made at those meetings."

Nerysoo also called on assembly colleagues to "give direction" in future formulation of wildlife policy sensitive to local concerns.

Commissioner John Parker also discounted any intention of the Territorial government to exert restrictive control over committee make-up.

"It was never the government's intention to form the committee without the involvement of the people of the Keewatin," the commissioner said.

(more)

"We are not saying that we have all the answers to the caribou situation in that area...and we do need the help of the people in the Keewatin...to determine the true facts."

The commissioner's reference to the "true facts" was in response to a suggestion by MLA William Noah (Keewatin North) that as many as 35,000 caribou may have been missed by wildlife population counts.

"We don't want to hear anything about over-hunting," Noah also said.

In response to the general allegations of lack of community input in the department, Nerysoo explained that with the pressing duties of the previous three months now behind him he will shortly be meeting with representatives of community groups to sound out local concerns.

Nerysoo said plans call for meetings with Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the Baffin Regional Council and the Keewatin Inuit Association.

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 4) - MLAs Tuesday passed important motions calling for increased local controls over wildlife and its management.

A total of nine motions involving wildlife were approved during consideration of the department of renewable resources' \$6 million budget.

Several of the motions echoed the previous Assembly's intention to hand over the control and management of wildlife programs to community organizations.

As a result, councillors gave approval to a key motion calling for departmental examination of "transferring responsibility and management of wildlife to the regions and communities".

The motion was put forward by MLA Nick Sibbeston (Mackenzie Liard) and received the unanimous approval of the Assembly.

(more)

LOCAL CONTROLS ON WILDLIFE - 2

"I don't mean the regional government," Sibbeston said of his intention to delegate the government's authority for wildlife programs.

"In the Eastern Arctic, I suppose it could mean the Baffin Regional Council. The idea is to promote transferring the responsibility for wildlife to the aboriginal people.

"If this would eventually happen, there would be no wildlife people responsible for wildlife here in Yellowknife," Sibbeston said.

The Assembly, after considerable debate, also adopted a motion calling for the renewable resources minister to "recognize the Dene Band Councils as official local bodies responsible for advising and assisting game officials in the management and administration of wildlife matters."

The motion calls for legislation to be brought forward at the Assembly's next session to implement this policy.

Opinion was sharply divided on whether to approve the motion, described by MLA Bob MacQuarrie (Yellowknife Centre) as "vague".

"I think it's time this Assembly wake up and realize that these band councils are there," Tagak Curley (Keewatin South) said of the need for recognition of community-based political organizations.

(more)

"I think the Dene Band Council is a legal body," James Wah-Shee (MLA Rae-Lac La Martre) said. "That's why the federal government negotiates with them."

However, MacQuarrie and Lynda Sorensen (Yellowknife South) expressed doubt whether the local band councils were truly representative of the overall body of opinion in each settlement. It was pointed out Metis might be excluded from contributing their views on band council policy should they decide not to join the groups.

"...it is our responsibility to ensure that the rights of all the people are protected," MacQuarrie said of possible Metis non-involvement on the councils.

~~"Maybe the invitation is open to them, but maybe they don't want to join."~~

Reflecting this stance, councillors approved the exclusion of the communities of Aklavik and Inuvik from the policy statement.

As Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) pointed out, the high proportion of Inuvialuit as well as Dene persons in the two communities would make recognition of only the Dene Band Council a prejudicial stance.

Other motions passed in the flurry of resolutions included:

(more)

LOCAL CONTROLS ON WILDLIFE - 4

.examination of the possibility of providing compulsory survival training and kits to hunters in the interests of protecting life and reducing search and rescue costs;

.setting of separate quotas for musk ox and polar bear kills for outpost camps as well as communities;

.support for the principle of transplanting musk oxen to suitable areas in which they are not now found;

.lobby the federal government for protection of the right to harvest narwhals and beluga and bowhead whales inshore;

.review the fur incentive and trappers' assistance grant policies;

.turn over profits from the sale of hides of bears killed by hunters in self-defence to local hunters and trappers associations or settlement councils;

.establish cultural, language and survival training programs for wildlife officers serving in the communities.

The final motion, put forward in the Monday session by Curley, aims at promoting increased credibility for wildlife officers working closely with community members.

(more)

LOCAL CONTROLS ON WILDLIFE - 5

A motion by Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) to allow spring hunting of migratory birds for food and sport purposes was deferred until the next session. Research will be done on legislation regarding spring kills of migratory species.

Debate was also begun on a motion by Sorensen to fund on-the-job training of wildlife officers.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 3) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly began consideration of the Department of Renewable Resources \$6 million budget Monday.

The department operates the Territorial wildlife service, environmental services and energy conservation programs.

Speaking to the budget, Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South) said he hoped a better relationship could be developed between the wildlife service and hunters in the North.

Mr. Curley charged that past actions had not been encouraging. He cited cuts in the outpost camps program, cuts in trappers' incentive grants and "harassment" of hunters by biologists and game officials.

"Last fall, the Minister (Richard Nerysoo) said he'd bring native hunting rights to the people. There's not a thing mentioned here (in the minister's introductory remarks) about bringing control of caribou hunting to the people".

(more)

Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) told members "there would be instruction coming from the Assembly on changing the directions of wildlife management".

"Let the local groups take responsibility for controlling the resource", he said. "They're the ones most effected".

To foster a greater understanding between wildlife officers and the local population, Mr. Curley proposed the executive committee find the money to provide six-month training courses for both existing and new officers. The courses would teach survival skills, native languages and culture.

"Past experiences between native hunters and government biologists and wildlife officers generated distrust", Mr. Curley explained, and a basic knowledge of the language is needed for credibility because "sending in green people from the south is an insult to the hunters".

The Assembly will vote on Mr. Curley's proposal tomorrow.

Members yesterday also approved the \$75.7 million Department of Public Works budget and passed a motion, put by the Standing Committee on Finance, to encourage curbing excessive energy consumption by tenants in Territorial government staff accommodation.

(more)

'BETTER RELATIONSHIP' REQUIRED - 3

The department's energy bills are estimated at \$29 million for the coming year. Deputy Minister Paul Moody told members this figure could rise in seven years to \$150 million if anticipated fuel cost increases are taken into consideration.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 3) - Mongrels, mutts and lap dogs are unwelcome in northern settlements as far as the people of the Eastern Arctic are concerned.

MLAs approved a motion today that will eventually allow municipalities the right to regulate which dogs can be imported into the community.

Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South), who introduced the motion, said residents of many northern communities were worried about the decreasing quality of native northern sled dogs because cross-breeding with imported dogs produced poor quality strains.

The Kingmik or Eskimo Dog, renowned for its Arctic endurance, had almost disappeared as a unique breed. Only a purebred breeding program located in Yellowknife saved it from extinction.

(more)

CANINE IMMIGRATION CURBS URGED - 2

The N.W.T. Municipal Ordinance must be amended first giving the municipalities the authority to regulate dog imports. The required legislation will be dealt with in the next session.

Frobisher Bay MLA Dennis Patterson told members that the municipality of Frobisher tried to establish these regulations in the past but couldn't because the authority was lacking in the ordinances.

He observed that there were a "lot of short legged Huskies" running around Frobisher whose "peculiar temperments were generally not appreciated".

- 30 -

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(more)

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(more)

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YELLOWKNIFE (March 4) - MLAs Tuesday passed important motions calling for increased local controls over wildlife and its management.

A total of nine motions involving wildlife were approved during consideration of the department of renewable resources' \$6 million budget.

Several of the motions echoed the previous Assembly's intention to hand over the control and management of wildlife programs to community organizations.

As a result, councillors gave approval to a key motion calling for departmental examination of "transferring responsibility and management of wildlife to the regions and communities".

The motion was put forward by MLA Nick Sibbeston (Mackenzie Liard) and received the unanimous approval of the Assembly.

(more)

LOCAL CONTROLS ON WILDLIFE - 2

"I don't mean the regional government," Sibbeston said of his intention to delegate the government's authority for wildlife programs.

"In the Eastern Arctic, I suppose it could mean the Baffin Regional Council. The idea is to promote transferring the responsibility for wildlife to the aboriginal people.

"If this would eventually happen, there would be no wildlife people responsible for wildlife here in Yellowknife," Sibbeston said.

The Assembly, after considerable debate, also adopted a motion calling for the renewable resources minister to "recognize the Dene Band Councils as official local bodies responsible for advising and assisting game officials in the management and administration of wildlife matters."

The motion calls for legislation to be brought forward at the Assembly's next session to implement this policy.

Opinion was sharply divided on whether to approve the motion, described by MLA Bob MacQuarrie (Yellowknife Centre) as "vague".

"I think it's time this Assembly wake up and realize that these band councils are there," Tagak Curley (Keewatin South) said of the need for recognition of community-based political organizations.

(more)

"I think the Dene Band Council is a legal body," James Wah-Shee (MLA Rae-Lac La Martre) said. "That's why the federal government negotiates with them."

However, MacQuarrie and Lynda Sorensen (Yellowknife South) expressed doubt whether the local band councils were truly representative of the overall body of opinion in each settlement. It was pointed out Metis might be excluded from contributing their views on band council policy should they decide not to join the groups.

"...it is our responsibility to ensure that the rights of all the people are protected," MacQuarrie said of possible Metis non-involvement on the councils.

~~"Maybe the invitation is open to them, but maybe they don't want to join."~~

Reflecting this stance, councillors approved the exclusion of the communities of Aklavik and Inuvik from the policy statement.

As Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic) pointed out, the high proportion of Inuvialuit as well as Dene persons in the two communities would make recognition of only the Dene Band Council a prejudicial stance.

Other motions passed in the flurry of resolutions included:

(more)

LOCAL CONTROLS ON WILDLIFE - 4

.examination of the possibility of providing compulsory survival training and kits to hunters in the interests of protecting life and reducing search and rescue costs;

.setting of separate quotas for musk ox and polar bear kills for outpost camps as well as communities;

.support for the principle of transplanting musk oxen to suitable areas in which they are not now found;

.lobby the federal government for protection of the right to harvest narwhals and beluga and bowhead whales inshore;

~~.review the fur incentive and trappers' assistance grant policies;~~

.turn over profits from the sale of hides of bears killed by hunters in self-defence to local hunters and trappers associations or settlement councils;

.establish cultural, language and survival training programs for wildlife officers serving in the communities.

The final motion, put forward in the Monday session by Curley, aims at promoting increased credibility for wildlife officers working closely with community members.

(more)

LOCAL CONTROLS ON WILDLIFE - 5

A motion by Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) to allow spring hunting of migratory birds for food and sport purposes was deferred until the next session. Research will be done on legislation regarding spring kills of migratory species.

Debate was also begun on a motion by Sorensen to fund on-the-job training of wildlife officers.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 3) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly began consideration of the Department of Renewable Resources \$6 million budget Monday.

The department operates the Territorial wildlife service, environmental services and energy conservation programs.

Speaking to the budget, Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South) said he hoped a better relationship could be developed between the wildlife service and hunters in the North.

Mr. Curley charged that past actions had not been encouraging. He cited cuts in the outpost camps program, cuts in trappers' incentive grants and "harassment" of hunters by biologists and game officials.

"Last fall, the Minister (Richard Nerysoo) said he'd bring native hunting rights to the people. There's not a thing mentioned here (in the minister's introductory remarks) about bringing control of caribou hunting to the people".

(more)

Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) told members "there would be instruction coming from the Assembly on changing the directions of wildlife management".

"Let the local groups take responsibility for controlling the resource", he said. "They're the ones most effected".

To foster a greater understanding between wildlife officers and the local population, Mr. Curley proposed the executive committee find the money to provide six-month training courses for both existing and new officers. The courses would teach survival skills, native languages and culture.

"Past experiences between native hunters and government biologists and wildlife officers generated distrust", Mr. Curley explained, and a basic knowledge of the language is needed for credibility because "sending in green people from the south is an insult to the hunters".

The Assembly will vote on Mr. Curley's proposal tomorrow.

Members yesterday also approved the \$75.7 million Department of Public Works budget and passed a motion, put by the Standing Committee on Finance, to encourage curbing excessive energy consumption by tenants in Territorial government staff accommodation.

(more)

'BETTER RELATIONSHIP' REQUIRED - 3

The department's energy bills are estimated at \$29 million for the coming year. Deputy Minister Paul Moody told members this figure could rise in seven years to \$150 million if anticipated fuel cost increases are taken into consideration.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 3) - Mongrels, mutts and lap dogs are unwelcome in northern settlements as far as the people of the Eastern Arctic are concerned.

MLAs approved a motion today that will eventually allow municipalities the right to regulate which dogs can be imported into the community.

Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South), who introduced the motion, said residents of many northern communities were worried about the decreasing quality of native northern sled dogs because cross-breeding with imported dogs produced poor quality strains.

The Kingmik or Eskimo Dog, renowned for its Arctic endurance, had almost disappeared as a unique breed. Only a purebred breeding program located in Yellowknife saved it from extinction.

(more)

CANINE IMMIGRATION CURBS URGED - 2

The N.W.T. Municipal Ordinance must be amended first giving the municipalities the authority to regulate dog imports. The required legislation will be dealt with in the next session.

Frobisher Bay MLA Dennis Patterson told members that the municipality of Frobisher tried to establish these regulations in the past but couldn't because the authority was lacking in the ordinances.

He observed that there were a "lot of short legged Huskies" running around Frobisher whose "peculiar temperments were generally not appreciated".

- 30 -

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NEWS

ITC RECOMMENDATIONS DEFERRED

80-079

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 3) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly is not ready to support recommendations made by a delegation from Inuit Tapirisat of Canada until it has had a chance to consult with its constituents.

The recommendations deal with various matters ITC feels the Assembly should support in order to assist the organization in its land claims negotiations with Ottawa.

Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher) had introduced a formal motion asking the Assembly's support of the ITC recommendations only to have the matter deferred to a later session.

Members urged deferment rather than defeat of the motion so that residents of the north would have time to understand what the motion was all about.

ITC had earlier recommended, among other things, that the Assembly approve in principle the eventual formation of a Nunavut Territory above the treeline.

(more)

The organization also recommended the Assembly should not press Ottawa for increased responsibility until the direction of political change in the Territories had been determined and that management of wildlife resources be turned over to residents of Nunavut.

Mr. Patterson's motion wanted the Assembly to support the assumption that a Nunavut government is an option worth considering and that the federal government should be aware of this fact.

"This Assembly (should) reserve its own decision on the creation of Nunavut to a later date," he stated.

MLAs pressed for deferment of the motion because of earlier action they took in respect to a sessional paper on aboriginal rights and constitutional development tabled by the Territorial administration.

Members also deferred consideration of that paper to allow for community consultation.

The Territorial paper recognizes that aboriginal rights and political development must be dealt with as a single issue. It calls for a process of informal dialogue between a minister of the government and native organizations to determine areas of common interest and to identify areas and ways in which issues could be resolved.

(more)

Meanwhile, Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South) announced he was resigning his position as a member of the Assembly's special committee on unity.

Mr. Curley said he felt the committee, established to examine how political consensus might be reached in the North, was "not being taken seriously."

He objected to the approach outlined in a Territorial sessional paper, particularly the appointment of a minister to consult with native organizations.

Because Nunavut is a political land claim, Mr. Curley said he felt it should be handled by the five member committee on unity.

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NEWS

GRANTS TO BE EXAMINED

80-078

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 29) - The Territorial government is reviewing its per capita grant structure.

Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee (MLA Rae-Lac La Martre) told members during debate on the \$38.3 million budget of the department of local government that a review is under way and should be completed for next year.

The Territorial government pays settlements \$20 per capita and larger communities \$50 per capita for municipal operating expenses.

Robert Sayine (MLA Great Slave East) told the House the \$20 grant his settlement receives "is not enough". The Fort Resolution settlement council must take on janitorial and fuel contracts in an effort to make extra money, he explained.

(more)

GRANTS TO BE EXAMINED - 2

Deputy Minister of Local Government Larry Elkin agreed that the smaller grants have "outlived their full purpose".

The Assembly took only about two hours Friday to get through the department's estimates, rather than the five - eight days it has taken so far to examine the budgets of other departments.

Meanwhile, MLAs took the opportunity to raise matters of purely local concern.

Moses Appaqaq (MLA Sanikiluaq) wondered if the government could provide newer water delivery, sewage pick-up and garbage trucks because the three-year-old vehicles the community now operates always break down.

~~"The people have to wait for water delivery if the truck breaks,"~~ he said. But even worse, he explained, if the sewage pump-out truck doesn't work "some of the homes get pretty smelly."

Deputy Minister Elkin assured Mr. Appaqaq his department would look into the matter.

The department also offered support to communities in lobbying federal government departments. Mr. Elkin told Nellie Cournoyea (MLA Western Arctic) his department would try to get Transport Canada to purchase a snowblower for the Holman Island airstrip.

(more)

GRANTS TO BE EXAMINED - 3

The machine is needed because M.O.T. laid out the airstrip in the wrong direction despite community advice to the contrary, explained Ms. Cournoyea.

"So, does the community have to give up things in its own budget because the federal government made a mistake?," she asked.

The department will also come to the rescue of Rankin Inlet in its efforts to rebuild the settlement's dock.

MLA Tagak Curley (Keewatin South) said hunters' and trappers' find their boats getting wrecked when parked along the dock.

Mr. Wah-Shee said responsibility for the dock is the federal government's. The issue is further confused because municipal funds paid for some repairs and the Territorial department of finance has some involvement in the dock through the Sealift program. Members approved a motion to have the Territorial government lobby Transport Canada to pay for the repairs.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 27) - The N.W.T. Water Board appeared today before the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly to discuss its operations in the North.

Great Slave East MLA Robert Sayine requested representation from the board in order to discuss what he felt was a continuing conflict between the community of Fort Resolution and Cominco Ltd.'s lead-zinc operation at Pine Point. He had questioned the objectivity of the board because one of its members is Pine Point mine manager Bill Gibney.

Glen Warner, board chairman, assured members that there would be no conflict because Mr. Gibney removes himself from the discussions any time the board deals with Pine Point Mines. If anything, he added, the board takes a stricter view on Pine Point because of Mr. Gibney's membership.

MLA Nick Sibbeston (Mackenzie Liard) attempted to introduce a motion that would have requested the House revoke membership on the board of three persons.

(more)

WATER BOARD OPERATIONS DISCUSSED - 2

Not for conflict of interest reasons, he explained, but because their participation could be viewed as a potential conflict by community residents.

The motion was ruled out of order and Mr. Sibbeston agreed to have the matter of membership dealt with in caucus.

Mr. Warner later told MLAs that the water board is considering changes that will give communities greater representation.

He said representatives from settlement councils, band councils and hunters' and trappers' associations would be welcome to sit on the board's technical advisory committee. This committee reviews all the technical information on water-use licence applications and submits its recommendations to the board for final decision.

This way, Mr. Warner explained, the people from affected communities would have access to all available materials on the impact of mining developments or communities on existing water systems. The legal details of such participation remain to be worked out, he added.

The water board reports directly to the minister of Indian affairs and northern development but Mr. Warner said he would like to see this reporting relationship changed. The board would like to come under the direct authority of the Legislative Assembly through an elected minister.

(more)

The board is composed of nine people, six of whom are appointed by the commissioner of the N.W.T. on recommendation of the Assembly. The other three are federal appointees.

The board is not responsible for the enforcement of the Northern Inland Waters Act, which is a federal responsibility. This is the only legislation where charges can be laid against companies and individuals for pollution of inland waters, he said.

It does issue water-use licences and makes sure the licence conditions are not violated.

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 28) - It's time the Legislative Assembly took a direct responsibility for education, Tagak Curley told Territorial MLAs today as he introduced a motion to set up a special two-year inquiry into education in the North.

"Everyone here believes there is a problem - a problem that is beyond the ability of the department (of education) and the minister to cope with," he added. Mr. Curley is MLA for Keewatin South.

MLAs approved the inquiry, which will be financed out of Legislative Assembly funds. Its mandate, Mr. Curley said, is to inquire into "all aspects of educational problems in the N.W.T.". An interim report will be tabled in the fall of 1981 and the final report and recommendations will be tabled by the beginning of 1982.

Membership of the inquiry, to be determined by a House committee, caused some concerns. Mackenzie Liard MLA Nick Sibbeston wondered whether the special committee may not end up "just being an investigation of the school system in the Eastern Arctic".

(more)

EDUCATION PROBE APPROVED - 2

It was Eastern Arctic MLAs who pressed for the creation of the special committee. They cited high drop-out rates that extend even into the lower grades; alienation on the part of parents from the education system; lack of continuing and special-education facilities; and an inability to increase the numbers of native teachers.

- 30 -

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HOURS EXTENDED

80-075

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 28) - Territorial MLAs can look forward to morning, evening and Saturday sittings in an effort to finish the lengthy business of debating the Territorial government's 1980-81 budget.

The action resulted from a motion introduced by Nellie Cournoyea (MLA Western Arctic) that left the decision to the Speaker of the House on when to extend hours.

Ms. Cournoyea expressed concern that unless members sat longer hours, the House would not complete its deliberations before its March 14 deadline. After that date, its space at the Explorer Hotel has been rented out for other purposes.

The session began Jan. 31 and members have a number of major departments left to consider, including renewable resources, economic development and tourism, and local government, as well as all service departments, the executive arm of the government and the Clerk of the Assembly's office.

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 27) - There will be no action on re-opening spring caribou hunts in parts of the Baffin and Keewatin regions until regional game committees discuss the issue.

Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo (MLA Mackenzie Delta) said Hunters' and Trappers' Associations will be asked to set up management committees to review the status of the herds and "other matters that affect their well-being".

One game area in the Baffin (B/5) and two in the Keewatin (J/1 and J/2) will be closed to spring hunts beginning May 15.

During last fall's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the House approved a motion asking that these three areas be re-opened for spring caribou hunts. The game department closed the areas because of the declining populations in the Kaminuriak herd in the Keewatin, and in the Baffin Island herd.

(more)

COMMITTEES TO DISCUSS CARIBOU FIRST - 2

"Only a few years ago, the Kaminuriak herd was a major source of food for the Dene in Manitoba. However, over the past few years, the herd has not migrated south into Manitoba with the result that one of their major sources of food has been cut off," Mr. Nerysoo said.

The Kaminuriak herd recently has ranged from the Baker Lake area south to the N.W.T. - Manitoba border.

Mr. Nerysoo, in replying to questions on the Bathurst caribou herd, said a conservation proposal for that herd is being developed which will be submitted to the executive committee by mid-March.

The proposal will outline a general approach to the management of the herd, general options for various interest groups and alternate regulatory controls, he said.

The commercial quota of 800 animals has already been removed from the 150,000 - strong Bathurst herd which migrates from the Arctic Coast south into the treeline. About 12,000 animals are harvested each year.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 27) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly will be asking the federal government to bring back the Canada Works program for the North.

The House today approved a motion to that effect introduced by Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay).

Mr. Patterson told members of the Assembly that the federally-funded program contributed to many "socially-useful" jobs in the Eastern Arctic. Many cultural inclusion programs run in the region's schools were created as a result of Canada Works, he explained.

The Works program was dropped after the May 22 federal election. The Conservative government's policy, he explained, was to let private industry create new jobs.

(more)

MLAs WANT CANADA WORKS BACK - 2

"However, there is only a small private sector in the North," Mr. Patterson said.

Mr. Patterson added a rider which requires Territorial government approval of capital projects built under the Canada Works program. He said he didn't want to see the Territorial administration stuck with a substantial operating and maintenance bill for buildings constructed under the program.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 26) - A sessional paper that would have established an approach for attempting to reach consensus among northerners on land claims has been deferred by the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly.

Members couldn't agree they should proceed with the paper's recommendations.

"If we are united in doing nothing, then we'll never get anywhere," Yellowknife South MLA Lynda Sorensen observed during Tuesday's debate at the Assembly's winter session here.

The step would leave the Legislative Assembly on the sidelines of federal land claims negotiations with no policy, George Braden, (MLA Yellowknife North) told members.

The paper would have replaced the approach mapped out by the previous Assembly. That approach, suggesting land claims and political development be treated separately, was not supported by the newly-elected House.

(more)

Members voted to defer discussion and approval of the executive committee's sessional paper on aboriginal rights and constitutional development until its next session.

Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South) introduced the motion that led to the paper being set aside for the time being. He told members that community consultation was needed before proceeding on the issue.

The sessional paper outlines a direction for the executive committee to follow in establishing a dialogue with the native organizations on land claims negotiations.

Commissioner John Parker served notice the paper would be tabled before the House during his opening address in late January.

He described the paper, then, as a "fresh and exciting approach" to an eight-year-old situation that had yet to be resolved.

"The concept, in essence, is a simple one. Constitutional development, political development and the resolution of outstanding aboriginal interests could more appropriately be addressed in an acceptable joint forum. Each is too closely intertwined with the others for them to be advanced independently," he said.

Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee, who tabled the document, said yesterday its "intent was to establish a dialogue".

(more)

He charged that the federal government had been using the approach mapped out by past Territorial Assembly's as an instrument of confrontation in the politics surrounding previous land claims negotiations.

Mr. Curley stated land claim negotiations should only be between the native organizations and the federal government, adding that the Territorial role should be strictly one of supporting the organizations.

In effect, one of the paper's recommendations was that an informal dialogue with the native associations be initiated by a minister of the executive committee to seek out areas of mutual support.

Regardless, a majority of members voted to defer discussion of the paper until the next session.

But not before Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo served notice that it was unfair to criticize the executive for a lack of direction when members were, in fact, delaying that direction.

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - The lack of native content in northern education led concerned MLAs to propose several major policy shifts within the department of education, including a suggestion by Keewatin South MLA Tagak Curley for a special inquiry into northern education.

Minister of Education, Tom Butters (MLA Inuvik) described the present cultural inclusion programs where local people teach students native handicraft and survival skills as "inadequate".

Responding to criticisms of a lack of native content in northern school materials, Mr. Butters said he had expressed his dissatisfaction of the program to his department. The department was now proposing an alternative approach called "differential staffing".

(more)

EDUCATION INQUIRY URGED - 2

Brian Lewis, deputy minister of education told MLAs that 40 per cent of subjects would eventually be taught in native languages. The remaining 60 per cent - maths, english and social sciences - must be taught in English. He added there will be no new funds for this program, only a reallocation of existing monies.

The program would cut down on the 600 mostly southern-recruited teachers, Mr. Lewis explained. These teachers would be replaced by other northern-trained staff.

But this brought up another problem - the lack of properly trained northern native teachers.

Mr. Butters told MLA's that of 93 Teacher Education Program (TEP) graduates, only 40 are still in the classrooms. The rest, he surmised, have gone to easier jobs with better salaries elsewhere.

The TEP graduates come into the teaching system at the lowest end of the pay scale and are required to academically upgrade themselves before they become fully certified teachers, he explained.

TEP trains native people for careers in teaching. Most are employed as classroom assistants because they do not have the academic qualifications required by the professional teacher's organizations.

This makes it "very frustrating" for TEP grads, said Kane Tologanak (MLA Central Arctic). These graduates work alongside professional teachers who are making twice the salary. At the same time, TEP grads are assigned to teach the lower grades where the workload is often larger, he explained.

(more)

The lack of success of cultural inclusion and of the TEP program spurred Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) to suggest a change in policy to provide for a total education package delivered in the native languages.

A research and training program for teachers must be created before this can be done, Mr. Patterson said.

"It seems that federal funds allocated to date to the department has created a good English language program. But nowhere near the same amount of dollars has been allocated to native languages," he observed, adding that the Linguistics Division had an idea for a five-year \$1.25 million plan to improve the quality of native teachers and create a native language curriculum.

But getting the money to implement the plan is another problem, Mr. Butters told MLAs.

Meanwhile, Mr. Curley served notice that he would be introducing a motion later this week requesting a special inquiry into northern education.

The discussions took place during the assembly's consideration of the department of education's budgetary estimates calling for expenditures of \$52.1 million in 1980-81.

COURT COSTS STUDIED

80-070

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.22) - Members of the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly want to help the community of Baker Lake pay its court costs.

The bill resulted from an unsuccessful community court action to retain an injunction against the federal government and uranium exploration companies prohibiting further mineral exploration in the Baker Lake area.

The assembly, backing a motion introduced by Lynda Sorensen (MLA Yellowknife South) requests the Territorial government's executive committee to consider the feasibility of paying the debt.

The unpaid portion of the costs totals \$75,000.

The motion followed on earlier presentation on Inuit Tapirisat of Canada's political development proposal by land claims project director Thomas Suluk.

(more)

COURT COSTS STUDIED - 2

Mr. Suluk, in his opening remarks, said payment of the court bills would be a gesture of good faith on the part of the Territorial Assembly.

The court case evolved into a precedent-setting examination of aboriginal rights. ITC paid a portion of the legal costs but was unable to retire the full amount.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 22) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly should not press Ottawa for increased responsibility until the direction of political change in the Territories has been determined.

Thomas Suluk, land claims project director for Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, made the recommendation Friday during committee discussion at the Assembly's winter session in this northern capital.

Mr. Suluk, invited to brief the house on ITC's political development proposal, didn't pull any punches.

He suggested the members approve in principle the eventual formation of a Nunavut government above the tree-line even if they wish to reserve a final decision to a later date.

(more)

The project director also recommended the Assembly direct Territorial civil servants to maintain neutral positions on the question of political development while carrying out their duties and hoped Commissioner John Parker would do the same - at least until Ottawa publically declared its position.

Mr. Suluk said relations between Inuit Tapirisat and the previous Legislative Assembly had seldom been good.

"The Legislative Assembly and the N.W.T. government have more often treated land claims as a burden on the backs of northerners than as an opportunity for the aboriginal peoples of the North," he stated.

However, both ITC and the people of Nunavut had been ~~"heartened" by the work of the new 22-member assembly.~~

"In searching to develop policies that acknowledge the connection between aboriginal rights, land claims and political changes, this council has displayed considerable maturity of thought and boldness of purpose," he said.

Mr. Suluk's remarks about the current assembly, elected last fall, were in part prompted by its recent formation of a committee on unity and on its insistence that the approach to constitutional development mapped out by the previous house be set aside.

(more)

His request for approval in principle of a Nunavut government, the suggestion for public service political neutrality and for holding the line on requests for additional responsibility were three of five recommendations put to members.

The others dealt with taking initial steps to transfer control of wildlife management to the people of Nunavut and for the Assembly to consult with native organizations in drawing up any timetable for the definition of its position on political change.

Mr. Suluk stated he hoped the Assembly would consider the steps in order to assist the resumption of land claims negotiations between ITC and Ottawa and to enhance the likelihood of their successful completion.

Although members seemed to have little difficulty with the suggestions, they are scheduled to discuss the points in detail during deliberation of a paper dealing with aboriginal rights and constitutional development tabled last week by Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee.

Mr. Suluk headed a delegation from ITC that included assistant claims project director Allan Maghagak, legal counsel John Merritt, acting president of the Keewatin Inuit Association Peter Allareak and ITC's central Arctic representative Nick Amautinar.

Speaking from a prepared text, Mr. Suluk said people of Nunavut do not identify with the Territorial government or its capital in the way that other Canadians have developed collective loyalties to the provinces in which they live.

(more)

"When all is said and done, political allegiance is a matter of the heart. The people of Nunavut feel and value an allegiance to Canada. The people of Nunavut hope to bring about the creation of a Nunavut government that will similarly encompass and express their loyalties at the territorial and, some day, provincial level."

Mr. Suluk said he was not in a position to get into the details of ITC's political development proposal.

Regardless, he told members later during a lengthy discussion period that they should support the creation of Nunavut because it would be patterned after the same Territorial system that now exists, except that Inuit would be in the majority.

As a result, members were told, the Inuit would be able to control and direct policy of their new civil servants.

"...at this time, we feel that too many of the policies made by the Territorial government reflect, more or less, the wishes of businessmen or developers or other people who live in Yellowknife, Fort Simpson or elsewhere," Mr. Suluk said.

Unity Committee chairman Bob MacQuarrie (MLA Yellowknife Centre) said the assembly and government must be able to demonstrate to residents of Nunavut that it is to their advantage to remain associated with all other people in the N.W.T. within a single political jurisdiction.

"If we are not able to do that effectively then I would have to agree that ... we ought to relinquish our power over the people of the eastern Arctic."

(more)

Meanwhile, Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) said he was looking forward to co-operating with ITC and his colleagues in an attempt to maximize resources and protect interests.

"I think that for a long time land claims have been seen as a threat. In fact land claims, if this Assembly could view it in the right way, is the best thing we've got going for us," he said.

Mr. Patterson stated the claims are one of the only vehicles by which the NWT might ever achieve the independence and autonomy everyone seemed to desire.

"It's time we recognized that the aboriginal people are one of our biggest resources and our biggest allies in maximizing opportunities for all residents of the Northwest Territories."

Mr. Patterson said he wasn't upset about the prospect of not receiving further powers from Ottawa, mainly because he believed the Assembly had all it could handle at the moment. Other members agreed.

He added that "significant" initiatives were already underway to hand over wildlife management to the people of Nunavut and that discussion on the matter was scheduled before the house prorogued in March.

Lynda Sorensen (MLA Yellowknife South) said she didn't see the ambitions for Nunavut, or a divided N.W.T., as a threat.

(more)

She told members it was a challenge to the government and to all northern residents.

"Personally, I would prefer to see a united north. There is strength in numbers of people determined to work together."

However, Mrs. Sorensen said that further decentralization was required in order to better meet regional needs along with a devolution of authority to the grass roots level.

"One of my commitments is to try to change this government...to create a government that is acceptable to as many people in the north as possible. But in the end, if that is not possible, I am prepared to support division in the Territories."

The Assembly, into its fourth week of deliberations, is scheduled to resume discussion on aboriginal rights and constitutional development sometime this week.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 22) - The Legislative Assembly wants a 50 cent hike in the minimum wage paid to employees in the Northwest Territories.

The request was in support of a motion Friday presented by Lynda Sorensen (MLA Yellowknife South).

~~She told members the minimum wage had not been~~ increased in four years. During that time, the cost of living in Canada had increased almost 50 per cent.

The assembly directed the Territorial government to prepare the necessary amendments to the Labour Standards Ordinance - and to place those changes before the house during its winter session in this northern capital.

The hike would result in a N.W.T. minimum wage of \$3.50 and would only effect a small number of businessmen, the assembly was told.

(more)

MINIMUM WAGE HIKE SOUGHT - 2

Mrs. Sorensen stated that in researching the matter she found only two of 32 Yellowknife businesses that paid less than the minimum as a starting wage. Most southern jurisdictions had minimum wages in excess of \$3 an hour.

Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) said the increase would protect those people who are not covered by a collective agreement.

The motion, receiving unanimous approval of the House, also requested an increase from \$2.55 to \$2.95 an hour for workers under the age of 17.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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DON'T BULLDOZE, SAYS FRASER

80-067

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 21) - MLA Pete Fraser wants to make sure Northern Transportation Company Limited (NTCL) doesn't bulldoze its camps along the Bear River after the Great Bear Lake resupply run is abandoned at the end of the next shipping season.

Instead, he said Thursday, the people of Fort Franklin want to take over the camps and use them as tourist lodges. The buildings and airstrip at Bear Camp would make an ideal setting for a lodge. Besides, he added, the fishing is really good in the area. Mr. Fraser is MLA for Mackenzie Great Bear.

NTCL is shutting down its resupply run to Fort Franklin and Echo Bay Mines at the end of this summer's shipping season. The Bear run was not making any money for the Crown-owned transportation company, Mr. Fraser explained.

MLAs approved Mr. Fraser's motion requesting the Territorial administration determine NTCL's plans for the Bear River camp, tell NTCL that some local people are interested in the camp, and assist in transferring ownership to the interested people.

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - A display of stone-age landscapes by English photographer Chris Jennings will be in the Northern Heritage Centre March 6 - April 15.

The exhibit includes 35 black-and-white photographs of prehistoric stone circles and standing stones taken throughout the British Isles.

Jennings says of his work: "To me the stones represent works of art that are 'fitting' to their environment. They do not impose upon the landscape but co-exist with it. They are works of art not only because they are beautiful forms but because they direct and extend our vision beyond themselves. They emphasize man's proper relationship to the landscape."

The display is in the mezzanine gallery of the Centre.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 21) - MLA James Wah-Shee believes the ultimate aim of the Legislative Assembly is to bring native organizations, northern residents and the N.W.T. government together in a united voice to deal with Ottawa in settling outstanding land claims.

"With this paper, I hope we can reach a consensus for the N.W.T. as a whole and not just for one region," said the MLA for Rae-Lac La Martre about the important sessional paper on aboriginal rights and constitutional development he tabled in the Legislature.

The paper - which recommends the Assembly recognize aboriginal rights - outlines proposed changes in the approach of the Territorial government to both land claims and aboriginal rights and suggests mechanisms for fostering dialogue between the Assembly and native associations with regard to them.

(more)

RECOGNIZE ABORIGINAL RIGHTS - PAPER - 2

Recommendations include:

- the Assembly recognize that aboriginal rights and constitutional development are parts of a single issue, and in their settlement, should be dealt with as a single issue;

- the Assembly recognize the principle of aboriginal rights;

- that informal dialogue with the native associations be initiated by a minister of the executive committee to seek out common ground where the Assembly could support native associations on positions and vice-versa, and

- identifying areas and means where issues could be resolved.

Mr. Wah-Shee, who also is minister of Local Government, said that as a show of good faith, the Assembly will review the Territorial government's role in claims negotiations as outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding between the government and the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

The agreement could be terminated or amended to reduce the Territorial government's role in claims negotiations, he said.

"The Legislative Assembly has a responsibility for meeting native associations half-way....Dialogue must be a two-way street," Mr. Wah-Shee told MLAs.

(more)

RECOGNIZE ABORIGINAL RIGHTS - PAPER - 3

Results of the discussions will be forwarded to the Assembly's Unity Committee.

Mr. Wah-Shee said it was "ironic" he should be the one to introduce this paper to the Legislative Assembly. As a former president of the N.W.T. Indian Brotherhood (now called the Dene Nation) "I spent my time since 1961 in opposing the policy and programs of the Territorial administration".

He observed that the brief history of the Legislative Assembly had been one of conflict with the native associations. The federal government took advantage of the division and very little has been accomplished, he explained, because the federal government has a tendency to retain control of political progress in the N.W.T.

The paper will be discussed in detail when more members of the Assembly return from their communities.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - Very few Yellowknife and area residents have bought their validation stickers for this year's vehicle licence plates, reports Angie Maksymowich, deputy registrar of the motor vehicles branch.

The validation stickers and 1980 drivers' licences have been available since Feb. 11.

"We're worried that we'll have a repeat of the two and three-hour line-ups of other years; nobody appreciated that," said Ms. Maksymowich.

"People have until the end of March to get their stickers and registration, but we really encourage them to come in before that and avoid the rush, plus the potential inconvenience of not being able to drive if they miss the deadline," she said.

The stickers and licences are available in the Courthouse in Yellowknife and in outlets across the Territories.

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly today approved a bill which allows the N.W.T. government to loan \$250,000 to the Fort Resolution sawmill.

Minister of Economic Development and Tourism George Braden (Yellowknife North) told members financing for the sawmill from the federal Treasury Board fell through because of the federal election and the lack of agreement between the Board and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND).

The sawmill needs the money to pay the bills from its current winter logging program.

"Until late November last year, the government of the Northwest Territories had assurances from both the Treasury Board and DIAND that a long-term funding package would be approved to assist the sawmill operations in Fort Resolution. Further assistance from the Department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) to upgrade equipment would be provided, but contingent on federal funding from the Treasury Board," Mr. Braden explained.

SAWMILL LOAN OKAYED - 2

The long-term funding request is to be resubmitted to the Treasury Board after the new federal government gets organized, Mr. Braden added.

The Territorial loan was put through as an amendment to the 1979 Loans Ordinance.

The Fort Resolution sawmill, a community-run co-operative, generates 30 jobs.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - MLAs today agreed that the N.W.T. health-care system should be accountable to the people it serves.

The Legislative Assembly approved Frobisher Bay MLA Dennis Patterson's motion that, where appropriate, all elements of health-care delivery be controlled locally by elected representatives of the people being served.

Mr. Patterson said the motion was an attempt to state "a direction we should be going" in terms of solving some of the N.W.T.'s health-care problems.

In addition, the House approved a second motion by Mr. Patterson urging authorities responsible for health-care in the North to hire and train more resident para-professionals.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly approved several Standing Committee on Finance recommendations at the conclusion of today's debate on the \$28.6 million Department of Health budget.

The House - at the urging of Finance Committee Chairman Lynda Sorensen (MLA Yellowknife South) - approved the recommendation which would study the feasibility of re-amalgamating the departments of health and social services.

Minister of Health Arnold McCallum (MLA Slave River) said he would have to be convinced it's the right move before he would suggest it to executive committee members.

"My present inclination is that we need a separate department," he said.

If and when the federal government turns over responsibility for health care to the Territorial government, then a separate department would be needed, Mr. McCallum explained. Since the move is half-way there, it would make no sense to amalgamate now and then separate again later, he added.

(more)

Meanwhile, the House recommitted itself to support the planning of an Area Hospital in Cambridge Bay and a Regional Hospital in the Keewatin.

Mrs. Sorensen said the money had already been committed for the projects. But in light of the new government in Ottawa and fiscal uncertainty, this recommendation would be an expression of this government's priorities, she explained.

The total Health department budget has yet to be approved. Members are waiting on information about the proposed expansion at Stanton Yellowknife Hospital before voting final approval.

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - The town of Inuvik is discovering that a dentist is hard to find.

Now the community wants to start looking outside Canada for someone who will move to the Delta town and fill the community's needs.

~~Nellie Cournoyea (MLA Western Arctic) told the House an endorsement is needed from the Canadian Dental Association before a dentist can be hired outside the country. The association controls and protects Canadian dental graduates, she explained.~~

The Assembly agreed to seek the association's endorsement.

Ms. Cournoyea said Inuvik lost its dentist and all means of advertising have failed to attract a replacement.

"The federal Department of Health and Welfare has done a great deal...but with no success," she said.

(more)

DENTIST SOUGHT - 2

The lack of an Inuvik-based dentist deprives people from Tuktoyaktuk to Good Hope of dental care. They must travel either to Yellowknife or Edmonton.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - The Territorial government's Subsidized Term Employment Program (S.T.E.P.) could be moving from its home in the department of Economic Development and Tourism.

The Legislative Assembly agreed to consider putting the program "where it belongs" - in with other social-assistance projects in the department of Social Services.

However, it isn't certain S.T.E.P. will move to Social Services because several members believe it should move, but where to they're still unsure.

Finance committee chairman Lynda Sorensen (MLA Yellowknife South) said the social-assistance programs shouldn't be hidden under different names in different departments.

A person must be on social assistance before being eligible for hire by S.T.E.P., which undertakes community make-work projects.

(more)

The potential move was greeted with some approval by Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay). He said the higher profile of Social Services in the Eastern Arctic might make S.T.E.P. more visible to local residents.

Minister of Economic Development and Tourism George Braden (MLA Yellowknife North) said his department is undertaking a short-term review of S.T.E.P. Officials are reviewing wage increases for participants, modifying eligibility, and will be recommending "the most appropriate agency" to operate S.T.E.P.

The House also approved a second recommendation of the finance committee which asks the department of Social Services to look at the possibility of building an old folk's home in Eskimo Point.

Three other finance committee recommendations on the department of Social Services were not dealt with because the department has moved already to implement them. These recommendations included implementing a direct subsidy on day-care; implementing measures to allow the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council to raise money through a liquor tax, and beginning a review of alternate forms of sentencing for minor offenses.

A fourth recommendation - to close the Fort Smith Detention Centre for Women - was withdrawn by the finance committee: the closure would have saved the Territorial government \$150,000 a year.

(more)

Mrs. Sorensen said the finance committee made the recommendation last fall when financial restraint was thought to be more severe than it has turned out to be.

The finance committee recommendations were approved at the end of debate on the \$23.1 million Social Services' budget. The total budget and two items have not been passed. Members are awaiting additional information from the department before approving the estimates. These include studies on increasing the clothing allowance for social-assistance recipients; a proposal to recover out-of-pocket expenses for volunteers on juvenile court and diversion committees, and the department's policy paper on children's receiving homes.

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - The Legislative Assembly will be pressuring NorthwTel, the territorial phone company, to improve its service to the N.W.T. Forest Service.

Slave River MLA Arnold McCallum told members NorthwTel intends to curtail some of the telephone circuits now available to the Forest Service in Fort Smith. The lines, particularly the one which links the fire-fighting headquarters with the weather office, are overloaded already, he said.

The Forest Service hoped to increase its telecommunication capacity from Fort Smith to Inuvik but may now have to cut back on its plans, said Mr. McCallum. Considering the severity of last year's forest-fire season, the telecommunications are essential, he added.

(more)

MLAS WANT PHONES IMPROVED - 2

NorthwestTel wanted to improve its telecommunications system to Fort Smith but has been prevented from building a microwave tower in Wood Buffalo National Park because it would be near the breeding and nesting grounds of the endangered whooping crane. There are less than 100 of the birds in the world. NorthwestTel is looking at other routes now.

Mr. McCallum also tried to introduce a motion getting the Legislative Assembly to support the construction of a hydro dam on the Slave River and for the Territorial government to become involved in the planning. The motion was deferred for debate at a later date.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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AD BAN LIKELY

80-057

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - Eastern Arctic TV viewers may no longer be subjected to beer advertising on CBC-TV.

The Legislative Assembly today approved an amended motion pressing federal authorities to ban all liquor ads on the Crown-owned television network.

Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) had sought to have all liquor advertising in the N.W.T. banned. He later agreed to an amendment by Bob McQuarrie (MLA Yellowknife Centre) to restrict the ban only to CBC broadcasts.

Mr. Patterson said the beer ads were shown during newscasts broadcast out of Newfoundland. He added that both CBC Northern Service and the Canadian Radio-Television Commission (CRTC) indicated to him they would implement the ban if there was some direction on the issue from the Territorial government.

Yellowknife South MLA Lynda Sorensen argued that a total ban would be unenforceable and only hurt northern publishers and businessmen.

(more)

AD BAN LIKELY - 2

She questioned how liquor ads in Time or Maclean's magazine could be restricted, or in papers like the Edmonton Journal, or the Globe and Mail, or in the case of prepackaged cable-TV.

The N.W.T. Liquor Ordinance allows the banning of liquor advertisements in the media. The Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council recommended such a move two years ago.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 18) - Frobisher Bay MLA Dennis Patterson today raised the possibility of stopping liquor advertising in the N.W.T.

He said he's talked to CBC management about deleting TV liquor ads which are broadcast out of Newfoundland to the Eastern Arctic on CBC. But CBC is waiting on direction from the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly before "doing something", he explained.

Mr. Patterson introduced the motion to delete the ads, but time ran out in the debate before a vote could be taken.

Jim Anderson, executive-secretary of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council (ADCC) told members ADCC recommended such a move to the Assembly two years ago. No action was taken at the time.

(more)

LIQUOR ADS MAY VANISH - 2

Mr. Anderson said bans on liquor advertising exist in some provinces. He added that federal co-operation would be needed to restrict ads coming into the N.W.T. by cable TV and in publications from outside the Territories. The debate continues Tuesday.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 18) - The unemployment rate for the N.W.T. has been estimated at 13.24 per cent, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism George Braden said today.

He cautioned MLAs to consider these figures as only very rough estimates because the Unemployment Insurance Commission (UIC) does not keep separate figures for the N.W.T. UIC includes N.W.T.'s unemployment figures with those of Alberta.

Mr. Braden said his department does not gather unemployment statistics. However, it has estimated that about 14,000 people are working out of an estimated 16,145 active work force.

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 18) - Volunteers on community juvenile and diversion committees may be able to recover up to \$300 each a year from "out-of-pocket" expenses next year.

MLA Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) shepherded a motion through the Legislative Assembly recommending the executive committee find an additional \$15,000 for the volunteers' expenses.

The extra money would go towards juvenile court committees and diversion committees - they only exist in the Baffin - which would then cover the volunteers' expenses for such things as taxis and baby-sitting.

Diversion committees are to keep young offenders out of the criminal justice system.

Mr. Patterson's original motion suggested an honoraria be paid. This was later amended by Bob MacQuarrie (MLA Yellowknife Centre) who said the honoraria would undermine the "concept of voluntarism."

(more)

VOLUNTEERS TO GET EXPENSES? - 2

The motion also attached a rider that the community social services operations and maintenance item of \$205,000 in the Social Services' budget be deferred until the Minister Arnold McCallum (MLA Slave River) report back to the House on the possibility of finding the \$15,000.

Mr. Patterson argued there was a greater need for community involvement in helping juvenile offenders. This extra financial help would encourage volunteers, he said.

The local RCMP has expressed a desire to see these committees take a stronger role, said Mr. Patterson, and native people can provide a better service at less cost because there isn't the language and cultural barriers that inhibit social workers and police.

~~He described professional social workers in the communities as being "overpaid and underworked".~~

Volunteers are hard to find in the communities, said Western Arctic MLA Nellie Cournoyea.

"If it means spending a couple of bucks...fine, do it," she concluded.

As it stands now, honoraria to cover expenses are paid only to members of amalgamated juvenile court and diversion committees, explained Mr. McCallum, and volunteers on the individual committees receive no compensation.

(more)

VOLUNTEERS TO GET EXPENSES? - 3

MLAs voted in favour of the motion after receiving assurances that this would not set a precedent for paying members of other kinds of committees in the N.W.T.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - Michael J. Hewitt has been named chief of the safety division in the Department of Justice and Public Services.

The appointment was announced today by the department's deputy minister, Vic Irving.

Mr. Hewitt, a 16-year resident of the N.W.T., has been the head of occupational health the last two years. Before that he was seconded to the St. John Ambulance as executive director for two years. Between 1964 and 1975 he worked with Health and Welfare Canada in the Western Arctic and the Baffin Region.

"With the promise of development in the Territories, there will be expanding and widening demands on the services of this division," said Mr. Hewitt.

He takes the position vacated by Len Adrian, who went to Edmonton as fire commissioner for the western region.

Mr. Hewitt and his wife, Hilary, have four children.

CONSUMER SERVICES CHIEF APPOINTED

80-052

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - William G. (Bill) Johns has been named chief of the consumer services division in the Department of Justice and Public Services.

The appointment was announced today by the department's deputy minister, Vic Irving.

Mr. Johns, 33, has been the registrar of the motor vehicles division for the last year-and-a-half. Before that he was the highway transport inspector for over a year at the Enterprise weigh-scales operation. Mr. Johns was a member of the RCMP for 10 years, and was stationed in the Yellowknife area the last two years of his service.

"I'll be concentrating on the consumer affairs office of this division," said Mr. Johns. "It has been vacant the last six months and there has to be some policy work done on such things as lottery licensing."

Mr. Johns and his wife, Patricia, have two children.

- 300 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - Donald B. Weisbeck will become chief of the planning and resource development division in the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

The appointment, effective March 3, was announced today by the department's deputy minister, Barry Shead.

Mr. Weisbeck, 30, has been an evaluation economist with the department of planning and program evaluation (now the executive committee secretariat) since early 1978. Before that he was a private economic consultant two years.

He came to Yellowknife over four years ago as a research officer with the department of economic development and tourism.

"One of my major challenges as chief will be in implementing the General Development Agreement, signed with the federal government last spring," said Mr. Weisbeck.

"This division is responsible for territorial economic planning and policy formulation, and this is particularly crucial during tight financial times," he said.

(more)

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CHIEF APPOINTED - 2

Mr. Weisbeck has a master's degree in economics from the University of British Columbia. He and his wife, Linda, have two children.

Mr. Weisbeck's predecessor, John Reid, is moving to Saskatchewan.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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80-050



FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH. Ed Oberst, Department of Education, has his blood pressure taken by Margie Crown, of the Department of Health. Over 500 people so far have gone through the blood-pressure screening.

Department of Information
Yellowknife

Feb. 18, 1980



FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH. Last week in the Laing Building, RN Linda Morrell demonstrated methods of resuscitation on a life-sized mannequin. Linda is a cardio-pulmonary resuscitation instructor, and a St. John Ambulance volunteer.

Department of Information
Yellowknife

Feb. 18, 1980

YELLOWKNIFE, (Feb.15) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly wants Transport Canada to expand the airstrip at Baker Lake this year and build a terminal to go with it.

The recommendations are the result of motions introduced by William Noah (MLA Keewatin North) and passed with wide support of the House.

Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee (MLA Rae - Lac La Martre) said during the debate that the terminal construction was in the federal plans for 1985. But, he added, Commissioner John Parker sent a letter a week ago to Transport Canada asking them to reconsider the construction schedule.

Baker Lake, with a population of 1,058, is the largest community in the Keewatin region. It doesn't have an air terminal, and there is no place for passengers to find shelter from the harsh climate, explained Mr. Noah.

(more)

Mr. Noah's original motion had asked Transport Canada to build the terminal next year. However, Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South) successfully introduced an amendment to recommend construction start this year.

The second motion has the Legislative Assembly recommending to Transport Canada that it lengthen the 4,200-foot airstrip to 5,000 feet this summer.

The present strip limits the size of aircraft which can land at the community during summer. Mr. Noah hopes that a longer strip would bring in bigger planes with their increased freight load and reduce the costs of goods. He added that increased aircraft activity, due to uranium exploration in the area, was contributing to problems for the settlement. Spilled aviation gas was polluting the town's water supply and the winter ice strip in front of the village was posing safety hazards.

Minister of Economic Development and Tourism George Braden (MLA Yellowknife North) told MLAs the situation in Baker Lake was another example of the federal government being prepared to encourage non-renewable resource development and yet being reluctant to build a minimum of infrastructure to alleviate the impacts of that development.

Mr. Braden added that the federal government should find the money for this summer's construction program, and not by cutting other airport programs in the North.

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 15) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly today deferred approval on two key areas of the Social Services' budget.

Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) won support for his motion asking that the department provide documentary evidence in support of its policy change to place delinquent and abandoned children in foster homes instead of institutions.

"The House should have more reasons why this significant change in policy is being made," Mr. Patterson said during discussions on the closing of the Hay River children's receiving home.

Social Services Minister Arnold McCallum (MLA Slave River) told members his department takes the view that children belong in a home atmosphere. Mr. McCallum added that he was not planning to close down any other receiving homes in the N.W.T. this year.

(more)

The closure of the Hay River home provided strong reaction from some members. Don Stewart (MLA Hay River) criticized the department for not informing the town of the closure until after it happened.

MLAs will review the \$3.9 million family and children's services estimates after they receive and read the reports on the policy change. This item in the budget provides operating funds for receiving and foster homes and for purchasing special care for N.W.T. children in southern Canada.

Meanwhile, people on social assistance should get more than \$20 a month for their clothing allowance, said Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South) as he introduced a motion deferring approval of the \$7.8 million for financial assistance services.

Voting on this item will be delayed until the department brings back a report on the feasibility of increasing the clothing allowance.

Mr. Curley told members the allowance won't buy a yard of duffle to make a parka. Duffle in Rankin Inlet costs \$22 a yard.

He pointed out there was an inequity in a system which can hardly provide for the needs of people on social assistance living in high-cost areas and yet pays civil servants an annual \$4,000 subsidy for living in the North.

Lynda Sorensen (MLA Yellowknife South) observed that a springtime increase in social assistance rates was postponed because of government restraint.

Debate continues on the rest of the Social Services' budget.

NEWS

SHEAD RESIGNS

80-047P

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 15) - Barry Shead, deputy minister of economic development and tourism, has resigned his position with the Territorial government.

His resignation, ending a 22-year association with the north, is effective March 28.

Mr. Shead, 44, said today he will be moving to Prince Edward Island where he purchased a 100-acre farm a number of years ago.

"It's a big lifetime ambition. There's a lot of work to do and I'd like to get started."

Commissioner John Parker said he has appreciated the "excellent work and dedicated service" provided by Shead during the 15 years he spent with government in the north.

"He's served the north with distinction and has always demonstrated a clear understanding of the people's needs and desires."

(more)

SHEAD RESIGNS - 2

Mr. Shead came north at the age of 22 as an employee of the Hudson Bay Company and was stationed at various locations in the Mackenzie District.

He joined the federal government as a northern service officer in 1965 and transferred to the territorial government three years later.

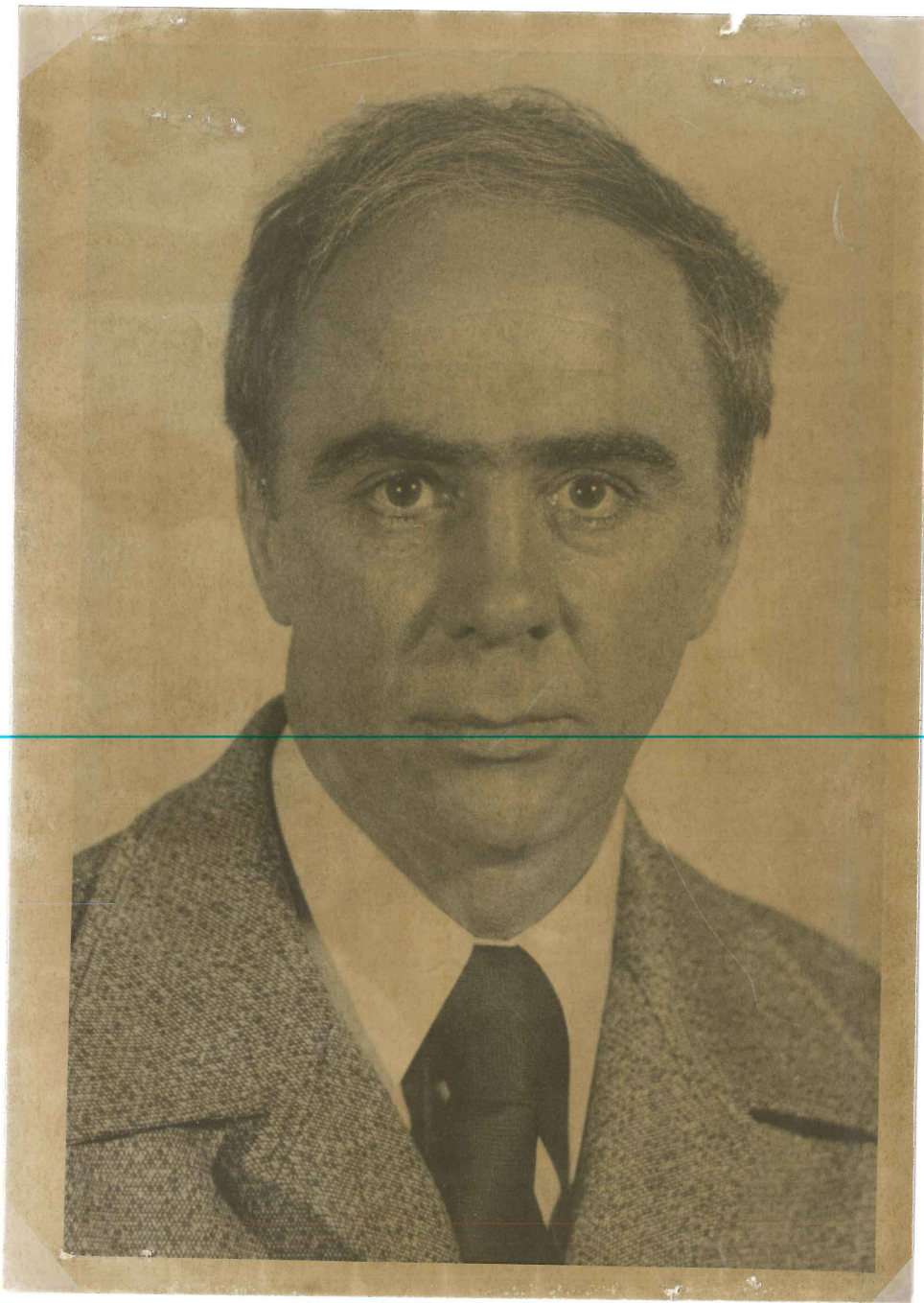
In 1972, after assignments in Tuktoyaktuk and Cambridge Bay, he became assistant regional director for the Fort Smith region. In 1975 he was named regional director.

As a result of general administrative changes in 1978, Mr. Shead was appointed director of economic development and tourism.

The position was recently changed into that of a deputy minister, along with others in the government reporting directly to ministerial positions.

- 30 -

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PSYCHIATRIST COMING

80-046

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - N.W.T. residents will have access soon to a resident psychiatrist.

Minister of Social Services Arnold McCallum (MLA Slave River) said a proposal is being finalized which would hire Consultants In Behavioural and Environmental Research Ltd. (CIBER) on a short-term basis.

Psychiatric services would be provided upon referral by a doctor.

- 30 -

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NEWS

RECEIVING HOMES' FUTURE UNCERTAIN

80-045

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - The Fort Smith receiving home will remain open this year, Minister of Social Services Arnold McCallum said today.

Mr. McCallum indicated that all receiving homes are under review "as to their future". He was speaking during debate on the Social Services' budget.

The Hay River receiving home was closed recently but "economics was not a major factor" in that decision. Mr. McCallum said the department takes the view that "kids belong in a family environment and not an institution" and that kids should be cared for in their home communities.

Two of the three children at the Hay River receiving home were placed in foster homes in their respective communities and the third was returned to his parents.

Most of the 13 staff at the Hay River receiving home were offered other jobs within the government.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly today approved the mandate and terms of reference of its Unity Committee.

The five-member committee, chaired by Bob MacQuarrie (MLA Yellowknife Centre) will try to "determine the means by which political consensus might be generated among N.W.T. residents. ~~"It will present a written report to the Assembly this fall.~~

Under its terms of reference, the committee is empowered to discuss with native groups and other interested parties their respective political positions; the possibilities of maintaining a united political jurisdiction in the N.W.T. (or investigating modifications to a single government which would be acceptable to all), and discussing alternative systems of government if a single unit seems impossible.

Nellie Cournoyea (MLA Western Arctic) unsuccessfully tried to amend the terms of reference because she felt that the terms were slanted too much in favor of retaining the present one-unit government.

(more)

"All options should be considered equally," she said, explaining that her amendments would present the options more clearly.

Ms. Cournoyea also suggested that the committee do its homework before talking to native groups.

Nick Sibbeston (MLA Mackenzie Liard) said the Dene Nation was interested in meeting with the Unity Committee.

"They're taking the whole thing seriously," he told members.

If there were some agreement reached between the Dene Nation and the Unity Committee, then it would have to be ratified at the Dene Nation's annual assembly, Mr. Sibbeston said.

However, Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South), who described himself as a "reluctant member of the Unity Committee", said he didn't know if the committee was acceptable yet to all native groups.

"We went ahead too fast, too quickly," he said, explaining that the Drury Report on the N.W.T.'s constitutional development and the Legislative Assembly's position paper on land claims were yet to be released.

Mr. Curley suggested that the Legislative Assembly invite the native organizations to appear so members could question them on their respective proposals.

(more)

MANDATE OKAYED - 3

Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC) is scheduled to discuss their Nunavut proposal with the Assembly - Feb. 22.

Mr. MacQuarrie stressed that the committee would not interfere in any negotiations between the federal government and native groups.

Other members of the Unity Committee are: Tagak Curley (Keewatin South), Peter Fraser (Mackenzie - Great Bear), Robert Sayine (Great Slave East), and Nick Sibbeston (Mackenzie Liard).

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - The minister of Social Services says his department is planning several policy changes in corrections, day-care centres and child welfare.

Arnold McCallum (MLA Slave River) outlined the changes as he presented his department's \$23.1 million budget today to the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly.

He said his departmental staff has been instructed to prepare recommendations outlining alternate ways in which young and repeating offenders could be helped. The number of inmates in N.W.T. jails has risen over the years despite new approaches to sentencing through probation and community service orders.

The department has to look to cutting costs because of the increasing jail population and inflation. It costs an average of \$62 a day to keep a person in jail. This doesn't include processing and transporting offenders from other communities to regional correction centres.

(more)

POLICY CHANGES COMING - 2

Meanwhile, Mr. McCallum told MLAs there are now 450 children under the care of the superintendent of child welfare. Child neglect, once considered a parental problem, "is now considered a community problem". As a result, the minister said, child welfare legislation is undergoing review, and while the present system provides for the removal of children from neglectful parents, he said he would like to see legislation which provides "a greater emphasis at supporting the family and preventing breakdown".

The department of social services is also looking into the possibility of setting up summer camp programs as one solution to the increase in juvenile delinquency.

Mr. McCallum also announced that needy N.W.T. residents will receive a direct child-care subsidy beginning April 1. The subsidy will allow eligible residents to purchase day-care services from "approved operators of institutional or family day-care programs".

Other highlights include increasing the budget for alcohol and drug programs by \$200,000 - \$1 million. Funding has been approved for two new projects and 11 existing programs will receive additional increases.

Financial assistance services increased their budget by \$1 million to \$7.8 million. Mr. McCallum said the increase was necessary to cover cuts in some federal programs and to accommodate the increased need for social assistance because of the economic down-turn in the N.W.T.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly is sending congratulations to Inuvik's Sharon and Shirley Firth and other members of Canada's cross-country ski team at the Winter Olympics.

Nellie Cournoyea (MLA Western Arctic) introduced the move, saying that the Firth sisters deserved recognition ~~because they were the first North American women to compete~~ in three consecutive Olympics on the cross-country ski team. The Winter Olympics are now going on at Lake Placid, N.Y.

Inuvik MLA Tom Butters, who seconded the motion, said he would support a precedent-setting move to present the Firth sisters with a Commissioner's Award in sports. The medals are now awarded for bravery and public service but not sports.

The Firth sisters were graduates of the Territorial Experimental Ski Training program (T.E.S.T.) which began in 1965 in Inuvik under Father Monchet and coach Bjoyer Pettersen.

(more)

SKI TEAM GETS TELEGRAM - 2

While the program was funded originally by the federal government, the Territorial government has supplied grants for the past five years.

The T.E.S.T. program has produced several Olympic cross-country ski contenders. The 1972 team at Sapporo, Japan included the Firth sisters, as well as other N.W.T. residents Roseanne Allen, Ernie Lennie, Fred Kelly and Jarl Omholt-Jensen.

The 1976 team at Innsbruk, Austria, included the Firth sisters and Joan Gruthysen, a former resident of Inuvik.

Organizers of Inuvik's T.E.S.T. program have travelled to different regions of the N.W.T. to set up programs similar to Inuvik's.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - The Legislative Assembly voted today not to cancel its sitting on election day next Monday.

The move came after caucus chairman Bruce McLaughlin (MLA Pine Point) introduced a motion to give MLAs the day off on election day.

Frobisher Bay MLA Dennis Patterson said there was too much work to do and too little time left to do it. The Assembly has already spent four days discussing the N.W.T. Housing Corporation budget.

Mr. Patterson added that neither he nor his colleagues from the Baffin region could go home and get back in time on Tuesday because of transportation difficulties.

(more)

ASSEMBLY TO WORK ELECTION DAY - 2

Tagak Curley (MLA Keewatin South) tried to move an amendment to the motion which would have given members a full week off. This was defeated.

Mark Evaluarjuk (MLA Foxe Basin) noted that the government would still have to pay the \$600 a day rental at the Explorer Hotel for the sitting. And Tom Butters (MLA Inuvik) reminded members that the budget must be passed by March 31 or else the administration will run out of operating funds.

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.12) - Arnold McCallum (MLA Slave River) guaranteed today that the N.W.T. Housing Corporation will build better-designed homes in the future.

Mr. McCallum is minister responsible for the corporation.

In reply to Yellowknife South MLA Lynda Sorensen's questions about Weber-designed homes "parachuted" into N.W.T. communities between 1974 and 1978, Mr. McCallum said the mistake will not be repeated.

Corporation managing director George Forrest said these Weber homes were becoming an "increasing liability" because they were "poorly designed" with inadequate insulation, vapor barriers or structural form.

Five of these Weber units will be rehabilitated a year at an average cost of \$25,000 each. The total number of houses requiring work has not been estimated yet.

(more)

Mr. Forrest said that while the houses were "the best available according to southern standards", neither local communities nor the corporation had any input in design of them. This was due to the system of bid tendering in place at the time.

"It was a requirement of the past," he said, but added that the system has changed, and now house design starts in the communities.

Commissioner John Parker, who was chairman of the corporation's board of directors at the time, said the houses were built to accommodate increasing pressures for more housing in the communities.

"Hindsight tells us that better houses should have been built," he said.

In other rehabilitation projects, Mr. Forrest said the corporation will replace the federally-built northern territorial rental homes which are more commonly known as "matchboxes."

A program was to have been implemented this year to replace 200 of these "matchboxes" each year over a five-year period. There are 1,734 of these houses spread across the N.W.T.

(more)

MCCALLUM PLEDGES BETTER HOMES - 3

Budget restraints have postponed this plan and the program is expected to go ahead in 1984 and be completed by 1989. If the housing corporation and the Territorial government can get more funding, the replacement will take less time, Mr. Forrest told the Assembly.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.12) - Local housing associations will be getting instructions on how to take renters to small claims court to recover unpaid rents.

The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly approved a motion introduced by Dennis Patterson (MLA Frobisher Bay) which would have the corporation instruct and assist local housing associations on how to use the court system.

Mr. Patterson said that legal action could be launched for only a two-to-three-dollar filing fee.

"From my past experiences as a lawyer, I see that people take a court notice more seriously than a letter in the mail," he said.

The corporation is only recovering 13 per cent of its costs through rent recoveries this year, down from 15 per cent last year.

(more)

RENT RECOVERIES - 2

"We're not going after the poor and elderly," Mr. Patterson said, "only those people who can pay rent and do not."

Some people in the communities feel that they have a right to occupy housing rent-free", he added.

Mr. Patterson said collection efforts would generate more rental income and cut down on housing costs. As a result "we'd have more to spend on education and social programs."

Collected rents now go back to the community housing associations to make up their maintenance and repair budgets.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - The N.W.T. Housing Corporation only insures large multi-unit buildings against loss by fire, the corporation's managing director George Forrest told the Legislative Assembly Tuesday.

In reply to a question from Bob MacQuarrie (MLA Yellowknife Centre), Mr. Forrest said single-family dwellings are not insured because the premiums would be too high.

The corporation budgets \$300,000 a year for fire insurance.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 12) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly approved three recommendations of the standing committee on finance which deal with the N.W.T. Housing Corporation.

The three motions, which now become policy for the corporation, are designed to encourage home ownership, support energy conservation, and provide for local input in the design of energy-efficient homes.

Lynda Sorensen (MLA Yellowknife South), chairman of the standing committee, introduced the motions. Debate ranged over three days before the wording was finalized.

(more)

LOCAL INPUT IN HOME DESIGN - 2

One of the recommendations that "a concerted effort be made to curb excessive energy consumption by encouraging and, if necessary, enforcing reasonable energy consumption by tenants of public housing" was later expanded to include tenants of all housing under the jurisdiction of the N.W.T. Housing Corporation.

As well, a recommendation for building small houses in the interests of energy conservation was amended by James Wah-Shee (MLA Rae-Lac La Martre) on Tuesday to delete the references to building smaller houses.

Mackenzie Delta MLA, Richard Nerysoo, said in support of the amendment that large families require large houses. Other members felt it should be up to local housing associations to decide how they want their houses designed.

The final wording required that energy-efficient homes be built in consultation with local housing associations.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - A photo exhibit of Northern wilderness areas which have been proposed as national parks is on display in the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

The exhibit, entitled "Canada's Arctic Landscape", depicts areas in the northern Yukon, Banks Island, the pingos of Tuktoyaktuk, Bathurst Inlet, Wager Bay and Ellesmere Island.

The wildlife, vegetation and landscape of the North are shown in more than 30 colour photographs.

Information pamphlets are available from Bob Gamble at the Parks Canada office. A 16mm film, "Canada's Arctic Landscape", is also available on request.

Contact: Judy Paul 873-7615

Bob Gamble 873-8477

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.13) - The former executive director of the Carrothers Commission, Dr. Walter O. Kupsch, will discuss the discovery and mining of uranium on Feb. 21 in the Northern Heritage Centre here.

Dr. Kupsch's lecture is the fourth in the series, Science, History and All That, sponsored by the Science Advisory Board and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. The lecture begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Centre's auditorium.

Dr. Kupsch was on the Carrothers Commission, an advisory commission on development of government in N.W.T., in 1965-66. He is also a past director of the Institute of Northern Studies.

He is now vice-chairman of the department of geological sciences at the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Kupsch will be in Yellowknife Feb. 20 and available for interviews. Arrangements can be made through Carol Billyard, 873-7686.

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.11) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly has begun examination of the N.W.T. Housing Corporation's \$25.8 million budget.

The corporation's \$19.8 million operating and maintenance budget - up \$3.5 million from last year - is mainly to pay for the running and maintenance of northern housing, George Forrest, managing director, told the Legislative Assembly.

Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is providing an additional \$17 million as its share towards repair and rehabilitation programs, public housing and training of journeymen and apprentices in housing maintenance, Mr. Forrest said.

The Housing Corporation will build 107 houses this year. Six are experimental houses located in different regions of the N.W.T.

(more)

HOUSING BUDGET EXAMINED - 2

Meanwhile, it was reported last week that Holman Island hunters were unable to use their full quota on polar bears last year and the unused part of their quota was given to other communities.

In fact, their entire quota was given to other communities.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 11) - This is Heart Month, and blood pressure screenings and films on smoking and heart disease mark the Northwest Territories' involvement in it.

Activities during the month were announced today by Arnold McCallum, minister of health.

~~"We're co-operating with the St. John Ambulance staff, who are giving demonstrations of heart massage and information on their short heart-saver course,"~~ said the minister.

Mr. McCallum recommended an increased awareness of the major risk factors of cardiovascular disease:

1. elevated blood fats (cholesterol and triglycerides);
2. hypertension (high blood pressure);
3. cigarette smoking;
4. diabetes;
5. obesity;
6. sedentary lifestyle, and
7. stress.

(more)

IT'S HEART MONTH - 2

Meanwhile, the department of health has released current statistics on heart disease: more than one-third of all deaths among persons under age 65 are attributed to cardiovascular disease. An estimated \$1.23 billion is the annual cost in Canada of illness attributed to cardiovascular disease.

It is also important to realize that one-quarter of the people who have heart attacks die before reaching hospital because they did not recognize the early warning signals of heart attack.

These are:

. Most common signal is an uncomfortable pressure, squeezing or fullness or pain in the centre of the chest, behind the breastbone, which may radiate to the shoulder, neck or arms. Pain is often described as a crushing sensation. It may last two minutes or longer and may come and go. It need not be severe.

. Pain is often accompanied by sweating, nausea, shortness of breath or a feeling of weakness. Vomiting may also occur.

There is often a tendency to deny the possibility of a heart attack. The usual responses are: "It's indigestion or something I ate; it can't happen to me; I'll feel ridiculous if it isn't a heart attack."

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - The community of Nahanni Butte is trying to preserve the character of its village by keeping out an RCMP prefabricated trailer.

Nick Sibbeston (MLA Mackenzie Liard) said the community would rather see the RCMP build a log house which would blend in with all the other log houses in the community. There is only one metal-clad structure in Nahanni Butte - the Northern Canada Power Commission's power generating plant.

The minister of Justice and Public Services, Tom Butters (MLA Inuvik), told Mr. Sibbeston he had made representations to the RCMP but had been unsuccessful so far. The RCMP had said they would "gratefully" accept a log building if the Territorial government would build one for them. But the administration has no money, said Mr. Butters, adding that he would try and turn the decision around.

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - The community of Holman Island is receiving a hunting quota of 12 polar bears on Melville Island.

The minister of Renewable Resources, Richard Nerysoo (MLA Mackenzie Delta) told Ludy Pudluk (MLA High Arctic) in the Legislative Assembly that Holman was chosen because it wouldn't be "economically viable" to go to Melville Island for fewer than 12 bear. Last year, Holman Island hunters were not able to use their full quota and the unused part was given to other communities.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8) - N.W.T. communities that prohibit alcohol can't have the money generated by violation of their restrictions.

Robert Sayine (MLA Great Slave East) had asked in the Legislative Assembly if the Territorial administration could return the fines to the communities to finance alcohol prevention programs.

The minister of Justice and Public Services, Tom Butters (MLA Inuvik), said the fines go through the court system back to the N.W.T. general fund.

The courts levied \$3,440 in fines in Fort Resolution between November and January for prohibition violations. This wasn't the total amount collected, Mr. Butters said, because some people decided to spend their time in jail instead of paying a fine.

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 8) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly will invite the chairman of the N.W.T. Water Board to answer questions about the board's operations.

Robert Sayine (MLA Great Slave East) introduced the motion saying his home community of Fort Resolution is unhappy over the Board's decisions on Cominco's Pine Point open pit lead-zinc mine.

Mr. Sayine's motion originally requested that all members of the water board appear before the Assembly. This was amended during discussion of the motion to invite only the chairman.

Don Stewart (MLA Hay River) said the appearance of all board members would be expensive and difficult to arrange.

(more)

WATER BOARD TO APPEAR - 2

"If it doesn't work with the chairman, then we can bring everyone in," he said.

Nick Sibbeston (MLA Mackenzie Liard) announced he will be withdrawing his motion asking that money be found for simultaneous translation of all major native languages in the N.W.T. during the Legislative Assembly debates.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - The N.W.T. Housing Corporation's claims of fostering home ownership are "misleading", says Western Arctic MLA Nellie Cournoyea.

"A person in a community would have to be considered insane to own a home when he can rent one for \$28 a month," she said in the Legislative Assembly debate Thursday on the housing corporation's \$25.8 million budget.

High energy costs, mortgage rates and the cost of building make home ownership a slim dream for many in the North, regardless of the corporation's and others' ownership assistance programs, she said.

Ms. Cournoyea observed that the corporation doesn't recover its initial payment or mortgage costs on northern rental homes, yet the corporation is supposed to be a money-making organization.

(more)

George Forrest, the corporation's general manager, told the House that home ownership could be made more attractive if more energy-efficient homes were built and if the federal government were to develop a universal fuel and power subsidy program for the North. Some 28 of the 101 homes being built this year are intended for eventual home ownership, he said, and houses will be built smaller to conserve energy.

Mr. Forrest said the corporation also will continue the trend of letting regions design houses themselves to make the homes more appropriate to the needs of residents.

Dennis Patterson, MLA for Frobisher Bay, applauded the move away from the earlier style of houses which he called "Weber summer cottages" because they were inappropriate to the northern climate.

The housing corporation will embark on a massive rehabilitation program for older houses to bring them up to National Housing Association (NHA) standards, Mr. Forrest told the assembly.

He said about half of the N.W.T.'s residents now live in substandard housing. He initially thought the houses could be repaired in five years but now, because of budget cutbacks, he estimates it will take 10 years. This year 200 units are scheduled for rehabilitation at an average cost of \$25,000 each for older houses.

(more)

Upgrading would include the installation of hot running water and central heating.

Housing corporation rental policies for social housing came in for criticism by members during debate.

Keewatin South MLA, Tagak Curley, initiated the issue saying the requirement for a family to disclose their total income was an "invasion of privacy".

Rents are based on one quarter of a family's income after a basic living allowance is deducted. The minimum rent, which the majority of people in social housing pay, is \$28 a month.

~~Arnold McCallum, MLA Slave River, executive committee member responsible for the housing corporation, said these rental policies were set by the corporation's board of directors on recommendation from the Baffin housing associations. The previous system which has federal approval took the total income, deducted the old-age pension, and then charged 25 per cent.~~

Mr. Forrest told members that more people are paying rents for social housing under the present system but the total amount collected is less. Some 15 per cent of people in social housing pay no rents at all, compared to 25 per cent last year.

(more)

COURNOYEA QUESTIONS HOUSING POLICIES - 4

"Our goal is to reduce social housing from 98 per cent to 50 per cent," he said explaining that neither the Yukon nor the provinces have such high levels of subsidized housing.

- 30 -

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EPP WON'T BE ASKED

80-026

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly passed a motion during Monday's sitting not to ask the minister of Indian affairs and northern development to appear before the House for discussions on federal policy until after the election.

Tagak Curley (Keewatin South) originally ~~introduced the motion saying that the minister, Jake Epp,~~ was travelling to the N.W.T. to help the local Conservative candidate in the election campaign.

"I think it is only appropriate that this Assembly not take a partisan role," said Mr. Curley, otherwise "it would be construed that we are dealing or interested in one particular party."

(more)

The Legislative Assembly also passed a motion asking that the director of CBC's Northern Services appear before them to answer questions on native language programming and "other northern broadcasting responsibilities".

Nick Sibbeston (Mackenzie Liard) introduced the motion because, he said, CBC was not doing an adequate job for the Dene-speaking people of the Mackenzie Valley. Giving news coverage as an example, Mr. Sibbeston said that Dene news is just a translation of news gathered by white reporters.

What Dene believe is news may not be news to whites and vice versa, he explained, and suggested that the CBC should have native reporters in both Fort Simpson and Fort Norman.

"I think we should have it out with the CBC boss and see if we can resolve it," he said.

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NAME REMAINS THE SAME

80-025

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre will retain its link to the Royal Family.

A motion introduced in the Legislative Assembly by MLA Nick Sibbeston - seeking to change the museum's name to something more appropriately northern - was defeated Tuesday after a two-hour discussion.

Mr. Sibbeston, member for Mackenzie Liard, said the museum's name does not have wide support in the North, nor do the other geographic place names in the N.W.T. which have been named after royalty.

The majority of members felt that it would be an insult to the Royal Family and future king if the name were to be changed.

(more)

NAME REMAINS THE SAME - 2

Dennis Patterson (Frobisher Bay) cautioned that adverse media coverage would damage the North's reputation. Instead, he suggested that the commissioner take into consideration that any future building be named more appropriately and reflect the North's heritage.

Members also recommended that any geographic place names suggested in the future reflect the North and northerners.

- 30 -

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NEWS

BUTTERS INTRODUCES BUDGET

80-024

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - MLA Tom Butters introduced the Territorial government's 1980-81 budget Monday and suggested that if the Legislative Assembly doesn't accept it he would resign.

The budget presented by Mr. Butters is the first deficit budget in the N.W.T.'s history - \$338 million. It is \$13.9 million more than the government's expected revenues in the new fiscal year.

Mr. Butters, MLA for Inuvik and minister of education and of justice and public services, Monday became the first-ever elected member to introduce the budget. Budgets have always been introduced in the Legislative Assembly by the commissioner.

(more)

BUTTERS INTRODUCES BUDGET - 2

Mr. Butters said the effect of the deficit budget, among other things, would be to reduce by 80 the number of man-years, no significant changes would be made in any programs, and any new programs would have to be financed by corresponding cuts in other areas of the budget.

Mr. Butters also said the capital budget faces a 12 per cent decrease from last year. This is due in part to recommendations to transfer \$4.5 million to the operations budget in an effort to reduce the deficit.

Both the departments of local government and education face substantial budget cuts. But, Mr. Butters noted, in education "past levels of service" won't be eroded and education will be boosted by \$14.1 million in future years to pay for anticipated capital projects.

In general, "the government support departments - personnel, government services, and finance - will incur the greatest reductions in spending," Mr. Butters said.

However, the budget for the Legislative Assembly will be increased by almost 55 per cent to accommodate its increased mandate and responsibility, he explained.

Increases in cigarette and petroleum taxes will bring these taxes into line with those charged in the provinces, Mr. Butters said.

(more)

BUTTERS INTRODUCES BUDGET - 3

"One of the major considerations of members must be to demonstrate our preparedness to increase alternative sources of revenues. However, by taking such a responsible attitude and decision, members must have the assurance from the federal government that the Northwest Territories will not be penalized with reduced federal funding when members act in this financially-responsible manner," Mr. Butters explained.

Presently the federal government provides 70 per cent of the budget (\$215 million) in direct operating grants to the N.W.T.

The anticipated revenues from tobacco and petroleum tax increases would go towards cutting down the \$13.9 million deficit. This, along with the \$4.5 million transfer from the capital budget and anticipated but unaccounted revenues from territorial income tax, could reduce the deficit, said Eric Nielsen, deputy minister of finance.

Many of the problems in setting budgets have been attributed to the antiquated systems in place for negotiating with the federal government, and these must be changed, said Mr. Butters.

The Territories is treated now as a program within the federal department of Indian affairs and northern development. This should be changed to where the N.W.T. deals with the Treasury Board as one government to another, he added.

This led George Braden (Yellowknife North) minister of economic development and tourism, to later observe that the budget problems were "a product of a process that's gone rotten" and to call for the Legislative Assembly to put public pressure on the federal government for changes.

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - The Fort Simpson Nats'enelu Society is proving, with its upcoming arts and crafts show, that the traditional art of sewing with hide, quills and beads is alive and well. The society's show opens Sunday at the Northern Heritage Centre.

Nats'enelu means sewing as a group activity, and the Society has been together since Jan. 1979, reviving the traditional skills and pride.

The opening begins at 1:00 p.m., with displays and demonstrations of the women's skills and work. Hide-working techniques such as stretching and scraping hide and preparing sinew will be demonstrated. There will be displays of mukluks, moccasins, gloves, tobacco pouches and baby belts, all sewn by the Fort Simpson group.

Sunday's opening also will feature a collection of slides of the Ft. Simpson area and photographs from the Native Communications Society on Dene and their handicrafts.

(more)

ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW OPENS SUNDAY - 2

A rabbitskin blanket, courtesy of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, will be on display Sunday only. The rest of the exhibits will be in the Centre for two months.

At 1:30 p.m. the Native Women's Association will begin to serve stew and bannock, at \$3 a plate.

- 30 -

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EDZO (Feb. 5) - A three-week course in municipal administration for local government employees in the N.W.T. was completed here last week and 18 participants received certificates of recognition.

The course is a pilot project of the department of local government, designed to recognize the growth of municipal responsibilities.

The course was instructed by Dave Michener, an authority on local government in Ontario and a university lecturer in history and municipal government.

The participants were:

Helen Adamche - Cambridge Bay; Gladys Alexie - Fort McPherson; Joanna Aula - Hall Beach; Eric Bussey - Cambridge Bay; Don Cave - Inuvik; Jim Currie - Broughton Island; Dave Hamilton - Fort Simpson; Johnny Ipkarnerk - Chesterfield Inlet; Terry Knight - Inuvik; Paul Kodakin - Fort Franklin; Ainiak Korgak - Frobisher Bay; Doug Lagore - Pine Point; Simon Merkosak - Pond Inlet; John McKee - Fort Liard; Calvin Pokiak - Tuktoyaktuk; Joe Rizzotto - Frobisher Bay; Dennis Thrasher - Paulatuk, and Henry Zoe - Rae-Edzo.

- 30 -

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NEWS

DEFICIT BUDGET POSSIBLE

80-021

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 4) - The N.W.T. is facing its first deficit budget in history if the federal government fails to provide an additional \$13.9 million this year.

Lynda Sorensen, Yellowknife South MLA and chairman of the Legislative Assembly's standing committee on finance, said Friday that there is no guarantee federal aid will be forthcoming. The federal government funds 80 per cent of the N.W.T.'s \$338 million budget.

During her presentation of the finance committee's report to the House, Mrs. Sorensen said the shortfall was largely attributed to escalating energy costs. As a result, the North - in relation to the rest of Canada - is being called upon to make "a disproportionate sacrifice because we are so much more vulnerable to the devastating effects of the rise in energy costs."

(more)

DEFICIT BUDGET POSSIBLE - 2

Some basic territorial programs and funding for regions could be severely curtailed and some programs discontinued altogether if a balanced budget were to be introduced, she told MLAs prior to listing the series of 71 recommendations contained in the report. The departments of education, renewable resources, public works, social services and finance would be hit hardest.

The recommendations, based on discussions of this year's budget by the committee, suggest areas where the administration could save on expenses, outlines priorities in spending, and suggests changes in policy and approach to recurring problems.

In general, the report recommended that regions have a say when budget cuts affecting them occur, that there be closer contact between the administration and local MLAs, that a Public Service Commission be established in the N.W.T., and that the various departments make a more conscious effort to cut expenses by improving their bookkeeping.

Specific recommendations include:

- investigating whether a toll should be put in place on each ferry crossing;
- reviewing the Land Claims Secretariat in the executive office to see whether it should be continued;
- determining whether the now-separated departments of health and social services should be re-amalgamated;

(more)

DEFICIT BUDGET POSSIBLE - 3

- investigating whether a legal aid service, similar to Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik in Frobisher Bay, be extended to both the Central Arctic and the Mackenzie Delta;
- that, in the event of severe fiscal restraint, the regions be allowed to set their own priorities in education;
- subsidizing day-care centres;
- planning to proceed for hospitals in Cambridge Bay and the Keewatin and
- improving the native employment and training programs in the government.

All the recommendations will be discussed in detail during the budget debate.

The members of the standing committee on finance are Kane Tologanak (Central Arctic), Don Stewart (Hay River), Ludy Pudluk (High Arctic), Bruce McLaughlin (Pine Point), Peter Fraser (Mackenzie Great Bear), and Nellie Cournoyea (Western Arctic).

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7251
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 1) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly will have greater responsibility in deciding the course of the Territories' political development, Commissioner John Parker said Thursday.

Mr. Parker was speaking at the opening of the second sitting of the Assembly's ninth session.

The commissioner said that political development was one of three major challenges facing the Legislative Assembly this decade. In a speech which also reviewed the past decade's achievements, he said political development, land and aboriginal claims, and economic development must "be dealt with in a spirit of unity.

"All serious proposals for political and constitutional change, whether put forward by a native association as part of its land rights proposal, by a committee of this Legislature, or by a special commission of the federal government, must be fully discussed by this body as the duly-elected Legislature of the N.W.T."

(more)

He added that it would be the Assembly's "solemn responsibility" to put forward recommendations as to how constitutional development should best take place.

Mr. Parker also revealed that James Wah-Shee, Minister of Local Government and MLA for Rae-Lac-La-Martre, will table a sessional paper dealing with the negotiation of aboriginal rights. He described the paper - put together by northerners - as a "fresh and exciting" approach to an eight-year-old situation which has yet to be resolved.

"The sessional paper will present what I believe to be a fresh and exciting approach to constitutional development and aboriginal interests. This concept, which draws on the experience of past Councils (Assemblies) and from native leaders, is based on the growing awareness that we must find our own solutions to our problems, and further that these solutions must be developed by Northerners in the North if they are to meet with success," the commissioner said.

Mr. Parker went on: "The concept, in essence, is a simple one - constitutional development, political development, and the resolution of outstanding aboriginal interests could more appropriately be addressed in an acceptable joint forum. Each is too closely intertwined with the others for them to be advanced independently."

The commissioner concluded: "This is not a new idea, but it is one which, until now, has not been addressed in such a positive manner by all groups concerned."

The need for 5,000 new jobs in the next five years, and the desire for more responsible government, requires that the N.W.T. expand its economic base, Mr. Parker said. He explained that the degree of responsible government is related to the N.W.T.'s ability to pay its own way and lessen its dependence on the taxpayers of southern Canada.

(more)

But at the same time northerners must benefit the most from any development, and the Assembly must keep that development at a "pace and size wherever possible to a level northerners can comprehend and handle.

"Let us accept this challenge and not allow economic development to become an issue which divides us, but rather seize upon it as an opportunity for co-operative effort and advancement," he said.

As a reflection of the changing nature of the commissioner's job, Mr. Parker did not refer to the contents of the Territorial budget. The \$338 million Main Appropriations Ordinance will be introduced in the House by elected members.

The other bills which will be presented to the House include:

- ordinances to increase taxes on cigarettes and petroleum products;
- an amendment to the Pharmacy Ordinance preventing persons without a licence from using the title of pharmacist;
- an amendment to the defamation ordinance based on the publication by publishers or broadcasters of the opinions or comments of other persons;
- a Legal Questions Ordinance which will provide a means for legal opinions from the Supreme Court of the N.W.T. which will have the force of judgements.

Mr. Parker also announced that the Commissioner's Award for outstanding public service to the N.W.T. will be presented to former commissioner Stuart Hodgson and to Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Lyall of Spence Bay.

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 31) - Pangnirtung Eskimo Co-operative Ltd. and the Whale Cove Hunters and Trappers Association have accepted offers of Special ARDA funds totalling \$9,700.

Announcements of the funding were made jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

The co-op will use the money for a management training and member education program while the Whale Cove funds will purchase four portable radios.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Services offices.

- 30 -

Contact: Ron Johnson
DREE-Saskatoon
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey
GNWT-Yellowknife
(403) 873-7146

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 31) - Feasibility studies for tourist operations at two widely separated Northwest Territories locations have been approved under the federal-territorial Special ARDA program.

Francis Blackduck of Yellowknife has accepted an offer of \$10,400 for a study into a lodge-safari operation at either Hottah Lake or Indian Lake, and Frank Pearce and Bill Hughes of Arctic Bay have accepted an offer of \$10,000 to study the possibility of establishing a hotel at Nanisivik.

Announcements of the funding were made jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

Funds will be provided by the federal government.

Blackduck is looking into the feasibility of a hunting and fishing lodge which could be used during winter months as a base for dogteam safaris to outpost camps.

(more)

The Nanisivik proposal is for a hotel and fast-order, take-out food service for visitors and residents at the Baffin Island mine site. Although Nanisivik is served by twice-a-week jet flights from Montreal as well as sked flights from Resolute Bay, Igloolik and Pond Inlet, the absence of accommodation facilities has blocked its development as a tourism attraction.

Both studies are to be completed by next spring.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Services offices.

Contact: Ron Johnson
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(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey
GNWT - Yellowknife
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YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - Validation stickers for this year's vehicle licence plates, as well as 1980 drivers' licences, are available now from the motor vehicles branch in the courthouse, and in outlets across the Territories.

Vehicle owners have until March 31 to get their 1980 stickers, but registrar Bill Johns urges residents to come in earlier to avoid the "last-day rush".

"Other years we have had two and three-hour lineups a couple of days before the end of March," said Mr. Johns.

"This year the registration and drivers' licences were later than usual coming in so it's even more important that people come in early," he said.

"The deadline cannot be extended past March 31, so if people don't want the inconvenience of not being able to drive their vehicles, we advise them to come to our offices around the Territories as soon as possible," said Mr. Johns.

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 23) - Don Pruden will assume the chief's responsibilities for the Territorial government tourism and parks division, effective Jan. 28. His appointment was announced by Barry Shead, deputy minister of the department of economic development and tourism.

Mr. Pruden is now the head of territorial parks, a position he has held since 1977. He has worked with the ~~department of economic development of the Territorial~~ government since 1967.

Between 1973 and 1977 he was seconded from the government to Canadian International Development Agency (C.I.D.A.) and went to Africa where he formed and managed the Basotho Enterprises Development Corporation.

Mr. Pruden, 48, took the first group of tourists to the North Pole and pioneered the package tour industry in the Northwest Territories. He helped establish one of the first successful Inuit-owned lodges and assisted the owner in business operation. He developed some of the first facilities for tourists in the north, from tent camps to hotels.

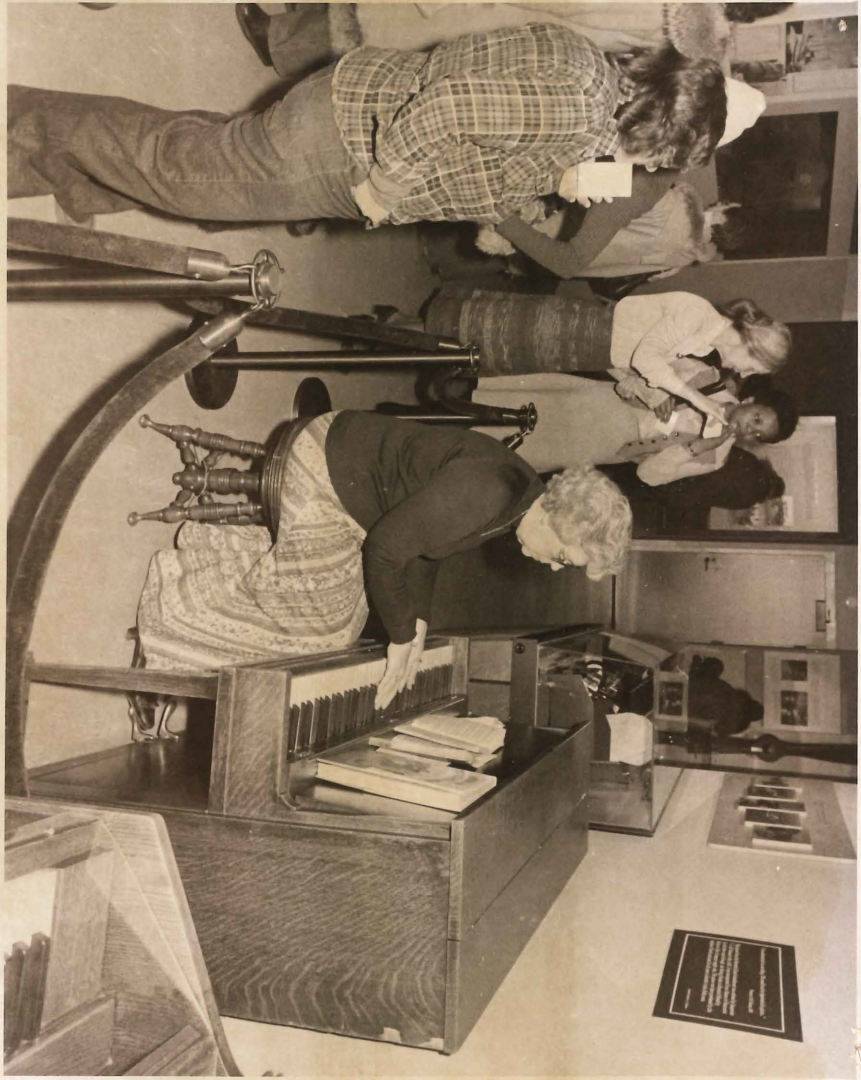
Fiddler Fred Lafferty and young admirer at the North Gallery opening.
January 19, 1980

Francois Paulette, chief of the Fitz/Smith Dene band, emphasizes a point during his speech at the North Gallery opening.
January 19, 1980

The audience responded warmly to Mary Firth, a well-known Fort McPherson woman who spoke of the ways of her parents.
January 19, 1980

Betty Stewart entertained on the parlour piano she had played 20 years earlier in Aklavik.
January 19, 1980

Larry Drew dispensed "discovery" cards printed on one of Yellowknife's early printing presses, donated by Canarctic.
January 19, 1980

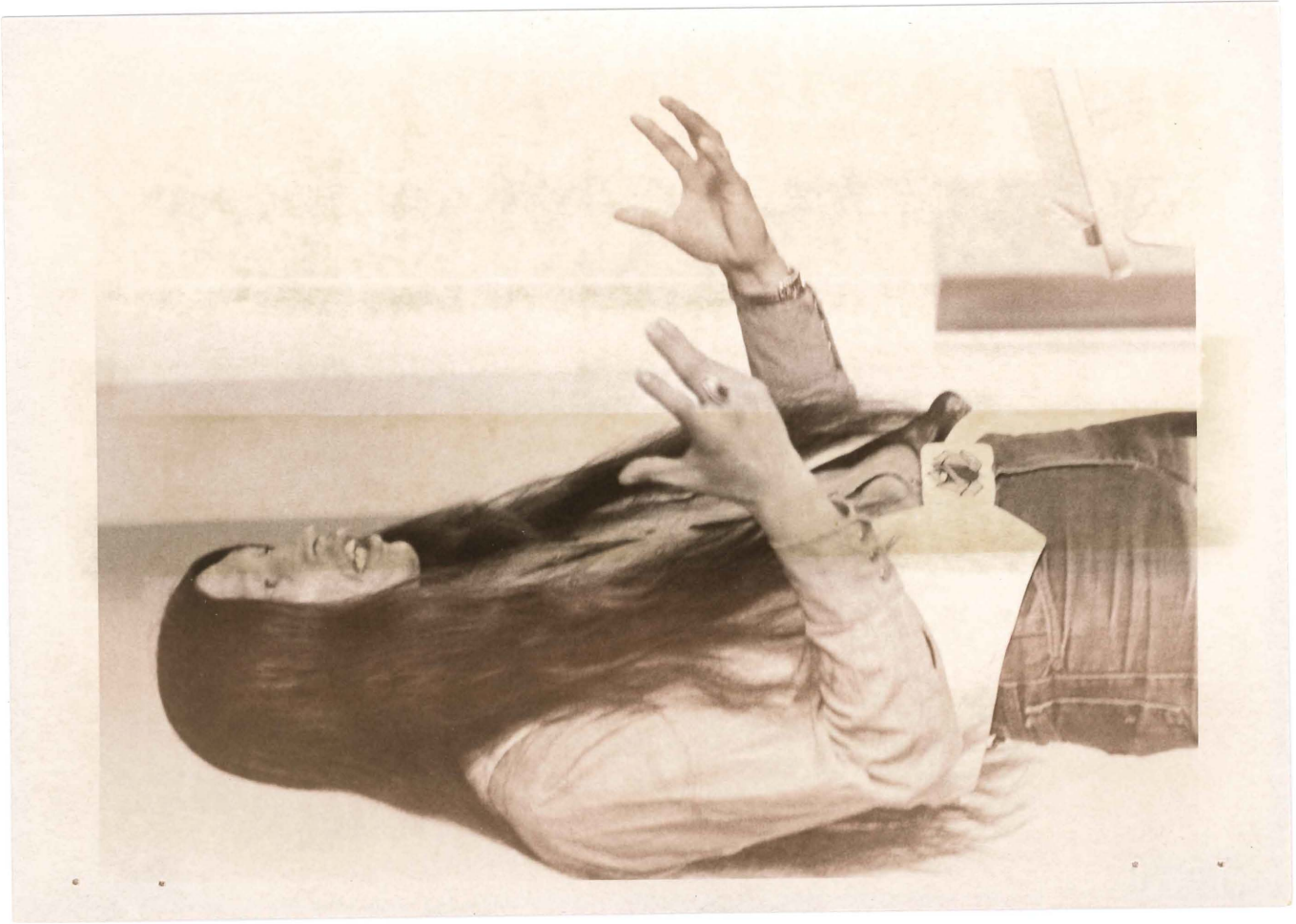


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Yellowknife's early printing presses, donated by Canarctic.
January 19, 1980

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 18) - Executive member Tom Butters will join Canadian transportation ministers at a conference in Victoria next week which will discuss a proposal for vehicle licensing reciprocity in Canada.

Mr. Butters is minister of the department of justice and public services, which is responsible for the motor vehicles division.

The concept of universal licence fees (reciprocity) could be applied to heavy transport vehicles which now have to carry licence plates for each province or territory in which they travel.

The conference will also consider the possible amalgamation of two groups: the Canadian Conference of Motor Transport Administration and the Roads and Transportation Association of Canada. The amalgamation under one secretariat might mean a financial saving.

(more)

TOM BUTTERS ATTENDING TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE - 2

Mr. Butters will attend the conference along with Bill Johns, registrar of motor vehicles, and Gordon Carter, chairman of the N.W.T. Highway Transport Board.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 18) - Sigyamiut Ltd. of Baker Lake has accepted a Special ARDA offer of \$127,500 to purchase the assets of Gary Smith and Co. and Kamanituak Ltd., both of Baker Lake.

Announcement of the acceptance of the offer was made jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

The offer covers pre-operating costs of \$5,000, 50 percent of the capital costs for buildings and equipment, \$101,000; and 50 percent of the initial working capital required, \$21,500.

(more)

BAKER LAKE FIRM AIDED BY SPECIAL ARDA - 2

Sigyamiut Ltd. will continue the business of freight and gravel hauling, expediting and operations of a giftware store and post office.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Service offices.

- 30 -

Contact: Ross Harvey
Telephone: 873-7146
Telex: 034-45504

REF: Ron Johnson
DREE - Saskatoon
(306) 665-4422

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 18) - Hunters and trappers associations at Gjoa Haven and Pelly Bay have accepted Special ARDA offers totalling \$38,800 for construction of 16 cabins in their hunting and trapping areas.

Acceptance of the offers was announced jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

Gjoa Haven is to receive \$20,200 for construction of 10 cabins and Pelly Bay \$18,600 for six cabins. In both instances, the cabins will be constructed in the settlement and hauled out to various locations to be used as overnight shelters by hunters and trappers.

Use of the cabins during hunting, trapping, fishing and sealing seasons will allow longer stays on the land, leading to increased catches and better incomes.

(more)

SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS HUNTING SHELTERS - 2

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Service offices.

- 30 -

Ref: Ron Johnson
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(306) 665-4422

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MINISTER CALLS FOR EXPANDED
STUDY BY PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

80-011

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan.17) - George Braden, Territorial minister in charge of energy resources, today called on the Public Utilities Board to study not only Inuvik's recent major power failure, but also the diesel generation maintenance procedures and backup facilities in all northern communities.

"The study is definitely needed and I commend the Board for responding so quickly to the Inuvik town council's request," said Mr. Braden.

"Most of our northern communities are highly dependent on diesel generation, and have to be assured a reliable supply. This is not a question of preference, but as I understand it, a matter of legislated requirement," he said.

Mr. Braden encouraged the Northern Canada Power Commission (N.C.P.C.) to co-operate with the board.

(more)

MINISTER CALLS FOR EXPANDED
STUDY BY PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD - 2

"We have to recognize that N.C.P.C. is facing the same cost squeeze as others in the North, but our first concern must be with consistent and reliable power delivery."

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-44504

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 17) - Minister of Health Arnold McCallum today announced territorial involvement in national Non-Smoking Week Jan. 20 - 26 by vowing to quit smoking on "Weedless Wednesday".

"I am a smoker, but I encourage everyone to join me in quitting on January 23, and to consider quitting or at least cutting down beyond Non-Smoking Week."

"I don't think we can argue with the research and statistics which tell us what harmful effects smoking can have on us," said Mr. McCallum.

Mr. McCallum said the department of health is looking at smoking policy guidelines for work environments within the department. These guidelines will deal with designating non-smoking areas in public places, offices and board rooms.

(more)

HEALTH MINISTER JOINS NON-SMOKERS - 2

Information, posters and buttons in the non-smoking theme are available from the department of health, 10th floor, Precambrian Building, Yellowknife.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul

Telephone: 873-7615

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 14) - Music, displays and speeches by well-known northerners will mark the opening of the North Gallery in the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre this coming Saturday.

The North Gallery is the second major display gallery in the Centre, and its exhibits trace the history of the explorers, fur traders, missionaries, mounted police, miners and bush pilots.

The doors open at noon, and at 1:00 p.m. the first speaker, Francois Paulette, chief of the Fitz/Smith Dene band, will discuss Dene culture and spirituality.

At 2:00 the North Gallery will be opened and participants will see one of Yellowknife's first printing presses in operation and hear fiddle music by Ted Lafferty.

(more)

CENTRE'S NORTH GALLERY OPENS JAN. 19 - 2

Refreshments will be provided by the Native Women's Association at 2:30 p.m. in the lounge.

Mary Firth, well-known Fort McPherson resident and active member of the Native Women's Association, will speak at 3:00 p.m., drawing on her long experience and knowledge of the North and its history.

Between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. Mary Stewart will play the parlour piano in the North Gallery. It is the same piano she played 20 years ago in Aklavik. Mr. Lafferty will play the fiddle in the lounge.

There will be a continual slide show in the lounge featuring the photos of J.B. Tyrrell. The photos were taken in the 1880s and are the first taken north of Lake Athabasca.

Everyone is welcome to the opening, and there is no admission fee.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - The design of northern municipal services will be discussed at a department of public works seminar to be held here Jan. 29-31.

About 150 people from across the Northwest Territories, the Yukon Territory, Alaska and the rest of Canada will share information on water distribution and waste water collection system design. Special attention will be paid to N.W.T. designs.

The engineering division of the department of public works is sponsoring this seminar for the second year.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS METIS DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION STUDY

80-007

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - The Metis Development Corporation has accepted a Special ARDA offer of \$25,000 to conduct a feasibility study into an office-warehouse and multi-unit residential complex at Norman Wells.

Acceptance of the offer was announced jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

Funding will come from the federal government.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native ancestry, to improve their social and economic conditions.

(more)

SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS METIS DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION STUDY - 2

Further information on the Special ARDA program can be obtained from the DREE office in Yellowknife, or any of the Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Service offices.

- 30 -

Ref: Ron Johnson
DREE - Saskatoon
(306) 665-4422

Contact: Ross Harvey
Telephone: (403) 873-7146
Telex: 034-45504

FIVE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES CO-OPERATIVES
ACCEPT SPECIAL ARDA OFFERS

80-006

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 10) - Native co-operative associations at Coral Harbour, Rankin Inlet, Sanikiluaq, Frobisher Bay and Fort Wrigley have accepted Special ARDA assistance offers totalling \$132,600.

The funds will be used to start up management training programs and education programs for co-op members and directors.

Announcement of acceptance of the offers was made jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

Grants of \$30,700 each to the Katudgevik (Coral Harbour), Kissarvik (Rankin Inlet), Mitig (Sanikiluaq) and Petanea (Wrigley) Co-operative Associations will be cost-shared by the two levels of government. Assistance to the Ikaluit Eskimo Co-operative Association at Frobisher Bay will be funded by the federal government.

(more)

FIVE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES CO-OPERATIVES
ACCEPT SPECIAL ARDA OFFERS - 2

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Service offices.

- 30 -

Ref: Ron Johnson
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(306) 665-4422

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YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 4) - Yellowknife contractor Fred Turner has accepted a Special ARDA offer of \$160,000 to assist in the purchase of assets of Gateway Aviation.

Turner accepted the offer on behalf of a company to be incorporated.

Announcement of the acceptance of the offer was made jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

The funds, which represent 50 percent of the capital cost and 25 percent of the initial working capital, are to be provided by the federal government.

(more)

TURNER ACCEPTS SPECIAL ARDA OFFER - 2

The assets include the Gateway float base on Latham Island, a single Otter and a Cessna 185. Turner intends to operate under the name Turn-Air Ltd.

The offer is conditional on Turner receiving ATC approval of the licence transfer. It is also subject to his providing a total of 10 full and part-time jobs (8.5 person years) within three years of the start-up of operations, with the majority of employees being of Indian or Inuit ancestry.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Service offices.

- 30 -

Contact: Ross Harvey
Telephone: 873-7146
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 4) - The Rae-Edzo band council has accepted an offer of \$105,000 in Special ARDA funding for the purchase of equipment for hunters, trappers and fishermen in Rae, Edzo, Lac La Martre, Snare Lake and Rae Lakes.

Acceptance of the offer was announced jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

The money is to be used for buying traps, nets, radios, boats, motors and related equipment to assist individual and community resource harvesting activities. The federal government will provide the funding.

(more)

SPECIAL ARDA AID FOR RAE-EDZO AREA - 2

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Service offices.

- 30 -

Contact: Ross Harvey

Telephone: 873-7146

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 2) - Elected members of the Territorial government's executive committee left today for meetings with their counterparts in Whitehorse, Y.T.

"We want to understand each other and to explore areas of common interest," said Education Minister Tom Butters.

Mr. Butters said it is the first time the executive committees of both governments have met for discussions.

Topics include game legislation, education, economic development, local government and native police forces.

Mr. Butters, also responsible for the portfolio of justice and public services, said the group plans to return to Yellowknife at the weekend.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7243
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 3) - Detah Band Council has accepted a Special ARDA offer of \$20,000 to assist in establishing hunting cabins on Thistlewaite, Buchanan and Gordon Lakes.

Announcement of the assistance was made jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

Funds will be provided by the federal government.

The joint Canada - Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Service offices.

SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS TO FORT GOOD HOPE
HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION

80-001

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 3) - A Special ARDA offer of \$4,000 to assist two Fort Good Hope trappers has been accepted by the community's hunters and trappers association.

Acceptance of the offer was announced jointly by Elmer MacKay, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism.

The money is to assist in the purchase of trapping equipment. Funds will be provided by the federal government.

The joint Canada - Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Service offices.

- 30 -

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PRESS RELEASES

Release
Number

Date

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80-287	Dec. 18	SAFETY PAYS OFF.
80-288	Dec. 19	ASSISTANT SECRETARY NAMED.
80-289	Dec. 22	PRICES 26% HIGHER IN YK THAN EDMONTON.
80-290	Dec. 22	\$112,600 IN SPECIAL ARDA FUNDING ANNOUNCED.
80-291	Dec. 22	SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION TO HEAR BRIEFS.
80-292	Dec. 22	MINING SAFETY ORDINANCE REVIEW.
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80-274P	Dec. 9	AWARD HONORS CONSERVATION EFFORT.
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80-276	Dec. 9	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY QUESTIONS ANSWERED
80-277P	Dec. 10	CHRISTMAS DISPLAY AT NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE.
80-278	Dec. 10	UNITY RECOMMENDATIONS TO OTTAWA.
80-279	Dec. 11	OPINIONS WANTED ON FIRE FIGHTING.
80-280	Dec. 11	SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR DISABLED.
80-281	Dec. 12	SOLVING MAIL-ORDER BUYING PROBLEMS.
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80-267	Nov. 26	TRAINING COURSE FOR COACHES.
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273 DEC 8 MAIL-ORDER BUYING NOT WITHOUT PROBLEMS

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80-252P	Nov. 13	BARNABE TO OTTAWA AS SENIOR ADVISOR.
80-252	Nov. 14	FUEL PRICES MAY DOUBLE.
80-253	Nov. 14	FIRE INVESTIGATION COURSE TO BE HELD.
80-254	Nov. 14	GRISE FIORD GETS SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS FOR LODGE.
80-255	Nov. 18	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX . CANADA GAMES SITES ANNOUNCED.
80-256	Nov. 18	ONE-YEAR FUNDING FOR ESKIMO DOGS.
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YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 30) - Motor vehicle owners may buy new license plates and renew their registration beginning Jan. 12, motor vehicles registrar Angie Maksymowich announced today.

The fees are the same as last year.

March 31 is the deadline for purchasing new plates and renewing registrations. Proof of valid insurance coverage is required to renew registration, Maksymowich says.

The new plates will be available at local issuing offices throughout the Territories. No personal cheques are accepted.

Cost of licensing for private vehicles is \$25 for passenger cars and half-ton trucks, \$30 for three-quarter tons and \$35 for one-ton trucks. Registration fees for larger vehicles range up to \$625, depending upon size and use.

(more)

PLATES ON SALE JAN. 12 - 2

New license plates in the familiar polar bear design will be issued this year, rather than renewal stickers.

"More than 20,000 registrations were sold last year so it's important to get your plates as soon as possible to avoid the last-minute rush," Maksymowich says.

-30-

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 22) - Recommendations for changes to the N.W.T. Mining Safety Ordinance are now being solicited from individuals and organizations active in the industry throughout the Territories.

Tom Butters, minister of justice and public services, announced today that written suggestions will be accepted by the minister's office until Jan. 31, 1981.

The recommendations will be taken into consideration in drafting amendments to the ordinance. The Legislative Assembly will be asked to consider the amendments once the review of the ordinance is complete.

Submissions should address specific sections of the ordinance, rather than the regulations, Butters cautioned.

Information on making submissions is available from the office of the Minister of Justice and Public Services at (403) 873-7128 in Yellowknife.

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 22) - Public hearings to discuss the recommendations regarding student financial aid made by the Legislative Assembly's special committee on education have been set for Jan. 6-8.

The hearings were announced today by committee co-chairman Bruce McLaughlin (MLA Pine Point). They will be held in the Caribou Room of the Yellowknife Inn.

"At least four groups in Yellowknife wrote to ask for an opportunity to speak to the committee, so we decided to hold public hearings here," said McLaughlin.

"Hearings have been tentatively scheduled for other N.W.T. communities in January so we will have some public opinion to work with when the recommendations are debated at the next session of the Legislative Assembly," he said.

(more)

The recommendations about grants to N.W.T. students were tabled along with several others at the last session of the Legislative Assembly in Frobisher Bay.

Among the recommendations related to student financial aid are:

. That a parental and student means test be introduced as a requirement for assistance other than transportation, tuition, books and supplies;

. That the means test criteria and philosophy be: "without sacrificing reasonable necessities and modest savings";

. That those applicants under 19 years-of-age will be subject to the parental and student means test and that applicants 19 years-of-age and over will be subject to a student means test;

. That following one complete year of studies all students will be expected to contribute 45 per cent of summer earnings, in addition to other savings and assets, and

. That Dene, Metis and Inuit be excluded from any means test for vocational or post-secondary educational grants or bursaries.

The special committee also recommended an increase in the amount of financial aid received by students.

Groups which have indicated their interest in speaking to the committee are the N.W.T. Public Service Association, the Sir John Franklin high school's student council, the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce and Yellowknife school boards.

(more)

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION TO HEAR BRIEFS - 3

The oral presentations should be restricted to half-an-hour in length, and must be submitted to David Hamilton, secretary to the education committee, by Jan. 5. Hamilton's office is on the third floor of the Cunningham Building in Yellowknife.

Other members of the committee are co-chairman Tagak Curley, MLA Keewatin South; Nellie Cournoyea, MLA Western Arctic; Dennis Patterson, MLA Frobisher Bay; Kane Tologanak, MLA Central Arctic; and Robert Sayine, MLA Great Slave East.

The meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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\$112,600 IN SPECIAL ARDA FUNDING ANNOUNCED

80-290

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 22) - Hunters and trappers from Fort Providence and Kakisa will be able to spread their activities into the Horn Plateau area with the aid of a Special ARDA offer of up to \$40,400 to purchase machinery and equipment.

The offer to the Fort Providence Band Council was one of seven announced. Total value of the offer is \$112,600.

Announcement of the funding was made jointly by Pierre De Bane, federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), and George Braden, Territorial Government Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Funding is to be provided by DREE.

(more)

\$112,600 IN SPECIAL ARDA FUNDING ANNOUNCED - 2

The other recipients of funding offers were:

- Jimmy Gordon of Inuvik: \$30,000 for assistance in purchasing a tug and large steel barge for freight and fuel hauling in the Inuvik region;

- Adam Emaghok of Tuktoyaktuk: \$18,500 to purchase an interest in C & L Services, a firm engaged in a water hauling service;

- Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Association: \$8,500 for the purchase of two-way radio equipment;

- R & D Expediting Services Ltd. of Fort Norman: \$6,700 for the purchase of a van to provide a taxi service in the community;

- Great Bear Co-operative Association Ltd., Fort Franklin: \$4,500 to modernize existing retail facilities;

- Pond Inlet Hunters and Trappers Association: \$4,000 for the repair of five hunting cabins.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Economic Development and Tourism and wildlife services offices of the Government of the N.W.T.

-30-

Ref: Ron Johnson,
DREE-Saskatoon,
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey,
GNWT-Yellowknife,
(403) 873-7146

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 22) - Average prices for consumer goods and services in Yellowknife are 26 per cent higher than those in Edmonton, revealed a price survey released today.

The survey was conducted this June by the Territorial government's bureau of statistics.

"In concrete terms, this survey indicates that the purchasing power of an Edmonton dollar is 79¢ in Yellowknife," says government statistician Ralph Joyce.

The survey includes 4,000 price quotations for over 300 consumer items in seven major areas: food, housing, clothing, transportation, health and personal care, recreation, reading and education, and tobacco and alcohol. Survey methods were based on Statistics Canada's consumer price index.

Of the total price difference between consumer goods in Edmonton and Yellowknife, 80 per cent of the difference is accounted for by housing and related expenditures, food and transportation.

(more)

The overall prices associated with housing are 38 per cent higher in Yellowknife than Edmonton, says Joyce. Prices for basic shelter are 37 per cent higher because of higher-priced rent, municipal taxes and home maintenance.

"The purchase price of a house is not included in the survey," says Joyce. "The consumer price index does not deal with it, except indirectly as mortgage interest and depreciation on housing stock."

In household operation Yellowknife consumers are paying over three times more for water, two-and-a-half times more for fuel and one-and-a-half times more for electricity.

"These figures were calculated on a cost per-unit basis, and do not take into consideration, for instance, that Yellowknife residents need to heat their homes over a longer winter season," said Joyce.

The survey deals extensively with food costs, both grocery purchases and dining-out. Grocery prices are 24 per cent higher in Yellowknife, while restaurant food is 13 per cent more costly.

Fruit and vegetables cost 34 per cent more in Yellowknife, and fresh milk costs 52 to 56 per cent more here.

Meat, poultry and fish cost an average of 25 per cent more than in Edmonton. In the meat section, beef is 35 per cent more costly in Yellowknife, while pork is eight per cent higher.

(more)

These food statistics were collected during the summer months, so they may not reflect seasonal changes in cost differences, says Glenn Grant, an analyst with the statistics bureau. He is continuing to collect grocery costs so information can be supplied over time.

Another major factor in price differences between Yellowknife and Edmonton is in the transportation area, where Yellowknife residents pay 27 per cent more than those in Edmonton.

Private and public transportation costs within the city were included in the survey, as well as air travel out of Yellowknife.

"We looked at a set of Canadian destinations, and found that air travel to those points costs 67 per cent more from Yellowknife than from Edmonton," said Grant.

"This is the first time such a complete and detailed price survey has been done for Yellowknife," says Joyce. "We plan to do a survey again next year to see if our findings are consistent, and to get an inflation rate for Yellowknife."

The statistics bureau also plans similar surveys for other N.W.T. regions.

"It is valuable information for consumers and consumers' associations, to people planning to move here, and as marketing information for businesses," says Joyce.

The survey results are being distributed to libraries, schools and the media. It will be available from the department of information at \$3.50 a copy.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY NAMED

80-288

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 19) - Commissioner John Parker has announced the appointment of Dave McCann as the assistant secretary of the financial management board.

The appointment fills the position vacated in August by Gary Burch.

Program analyst Dave Murray has filled the position in an acting capacity since that time and has now been appointed senior program analyst to the board.

McCann's appointment is effective in January while Murray's is effective immediately.

A six-year Territorial government employee, 31-year-old McCann is a Certified General Accountant.

(more)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY NAMED - 2

He has served as the superintendent of finance for the Baffin Region in Frobisher Bay, a budget program analyst with the department of finance in Yellowknife and, initially, as an assistant finance officer in Frobisher Bay.

McCann will report directly to Eric Nielsen, secretary to the board, assisting in the board's functions of developing financial planning (including the main estimates) and taking part in financial negotiations with the federal government.

-30-

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 18) - Good safety practices paid \$677,000 in cash dividends this week to Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) employers qualifying under the Merit Rebate Plan.

In all, 753 employers received rebates as large as \$116,000 through the safety incentive program. There are 2,076 employers paying Workers' Compensation assessments.

The rebates are paid on the basis of the employer's average safety record over a three-year period. The WCB sets aside 60 per cent of each employer's annual assessment to pay accident claim costs. For every two per cent the actual amount of claims falls below the 60 per cent set aside, one per cent of the assessment is refunded to the employer.

Employers with exemplary safety records may receive back as much as 30 per cent of their total assessment.

(more)

This is the first time merit rebates have been paid under the new program, with rebates applying to the 1979 assessment year.

The program is now open to all WCB employers paying an annual assessment of more than \$100. Eligibility for the program was recently reduced to \$100 from \$500.

Al Collinson, the board's director of prevention services, says the program provides tangible proof to employers of the dollar value of safety.

"A safe workplace and procedures pays off with a better, smoother operation and less time lost to accidents. But it isn't always obvious," Collinson says.

"With the Merit Rebate Plan, the employer sees just how much safety can earn him and prompts him to look for savings from safety, which means fewer accidents."

Rebates for the 1980 assessment year will be processed earlier next year, Collinson says, now that WCB staff are more familiar with the rebate assessment procedure.

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 18) - Supplementary health coverage to those suffering from spina bifida is now being offered by the Territorial government's department of health.

The extension of coverage retroactive to Nov. 28 under the Supplementary Health Care Program was announced this week by Health Minister Arnold McCallum.

"The cost of treatment for this ailment and the financial hardship it can impose on individuals and families has prompted my department to take this action," McCallum said.

Spina bifida is a congenital defect of the spine resulting from improper or incomplete formation of the vertebrae, the bony elements of the backbone. The condition results in varying degrees of disability associated with restricted mobility. Paralysis of the legs and abdomen can result, confining the victim to a wheelchair.

(more)

HEALTH COVERAGE EXTENDED - 2

The supplementary coverage pays treatment, diagnosis and medication costs as well as limited meal, accommodation and travel expenses incurred during treatment away from the patients' home community. Special equipment, such as wheelchairs, is also paid for by the supplementary coverage.

About 10 Territorial residents suffer from spina bifida, mostly children. A supplementary budget allocation of \$14,500 has been allotted to pay program expenses during the remainder of the fiscal year.

The addition of spina bifida to the Supplementary Health Care Program raises the number of conditions specified for special funding to 14.

-30-

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 17) - The publication and distribution of a national energy program was the subject of concern and discussion at a recent meeting of energy conservation officers.

Jim Cumming, the Territorial government's chief of the office of energy conservation, attended the three-day meeting in Regina.

"Many of the programs mentioned in the federal government national energy paper require co-operation from the Territorial government," said Cumming. "But we have not yet signed agreements, or decided on details of funding and administration."

"We are concerned that people reading the paper about the national energy program now will think the grants and funding are available immediately," he said. "We won't be in a position to offer funding until well into the new year."

(more)

The first day of the conference was a meeting of energy conservation officers from the provinces and territories, sponsored by the Interprovincial Advisory Committee on Energy (IPACE).

"It's noteworthy that we were invited to this portion of the conference, since we aren't members of IPACE," said Cumming. "We saw it as a good sign that what the N.W.T. is doing is important in a Canadian context."

During the second and third day, territorial and provincial officers met with federal government representatives to discuss energy conservation projects underway and new initiatives.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 18) - Simple answers to common health care questions are now readily available here in the Territories with the official opening of the Health Resource Centre in Yellowknife.

The resource library and reference centre was officially opened today by Health Minister Arnold McCallum and Dr. David Martin, executive director of Health and Welfare Canada's medical services branch, N.W.T. region.

"The centre should contribute greatly to the improvement of personal health knowledge throughout the N.W.T.," McCallum says.

"The more people know, the more they can do for themselves to prevent health problems."

Martin commented that the centre will be relied on heavily by nursing station and federal hospital staff in increasing health awareness in the communities they serve.

(more)

The centre offers a wide range of pamphlets, reports, medical texts and journals, exercise, recipe and nutritional guides, posters, cassettes, films and other audio-visual aids. Most written materials are available free of charge, while texts and audio-visual aids are available on loan.

The collection was jointly selected and funded by the Territorial government's department of health and health and welfare medical services staff. Its operations are supervised by the Health Resource Committee, made up of representatives of the two departments.

Library technician Jenny Hale is on staff at the centre to answer inquiries, supply materials and recommend further sources of more detailed information on almost any health-related topic.

The centre is open to the public, medical and teaching professionals and community and volunteer groups. A listing of materials on hand is now being compiled for the information of users in remote locations. Materials may be obtained by telephone or written request.

For more information on the Health Resource Centre, contact Jenny Hale at (403) 873-7713 in Yellowknife.

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

Health Resource Centre Unveiled

Photo release to accompany release #80-284P



PHOTOGRAPH
BY BOB WILSON
PLEASE CREDIT

Department of Information
N.W.T. Government



Press Release 80-284P

Library technician Jenny Hale consults some
of the reference materials at the newly opened
Health Resource Centre in Yellowknife.

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 16) - A set of regulations for the Ft. Simpson liquor store went into effect Monday.

The announcement was made today by Commissioner John Parker.

The hours of operation will be restricted, as well as the amount of liquor which can be sold to a person in a week.

The regulations were drafted in response to [request](#) requests made at a public meeting in Ft. Simpson last month.

"The people of the community discussed their concerns at that meeting, and these regulations are an attempt to solve a serious alcohol problem in the area," said the commissioner.

"We have reduced the amount of liquor that can be purchased, without cutting off access completely," he said.

(more)

LIQUOR STORE REGULATIONS FOR FORT SIMPSON - 2

The liquor store will be open Tuesday and Thursday, between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Saturday between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

As well, individuals are limited to 710 millilitres (25 oz.) of spirits, or 12 bottles of beer or 2 litres of wine per week.

The regulations do not restrict individuals or organizations from holding special liquor licences.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
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NEWS

HEAT RECLAMATION PROJECT LAUNCHED IN PINE POINT

80-282

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 15) - More spectators are watching broomball and hockey games in the Pine Point arena this year.

That's due partly to a more comfortable arena, kept warm by heat from the ice plant equipment, heat that used to be wasted.

The heat reclamation project, sponsored by the town of Pine Point, received \$48,000 under the Canada/N.W.T. Conservation and Renewable Energy Demonstration Program.

"The project has been in effect a little over a month now, and savings are already being noted by town officials," said Richard Nerysoo, the Territorial government's minister responsible for energy.

(more)

HEAT RECLAMATION PROJECT LAUNCHED IN PINE POINT - 2

Heating costs in the spectator area of the arena have been approximately \$10,000 per year. The heat reclamation project is expected to reduce energy consumption of the arena by \$7,000 per year, paying back the original investment in about six - seven years.

On the coldest days of winter since the project's completion, the electric infrared heaters have only been used as additional heat sources about two hours a day. When they were the only heat source in the arena, they would run from six to 10 hours daily.

The electric heaters will not be necessary at all when some minor mechanical problems have been cleared up, says Pine Point's recreation co-ordinator Jim Fenske. The ice plant is being operated at 50 per cent capacity because of a burnt-out motor.

"Apart from these easily repaired problems, the system is working as we proposed when we applied for the grant in September," says Fenske.

The Pine Point arena project is one of several in the N.W.T. funded under the federal/territorial energy demonstration program.

Marc Lalonde, the federal minister of energy, mines and resources, applauded the efforts of the N.W.T. communities at energy conservation.

"Innovative ideas in conserving the energy we have is as vital as the development of alternate energy sources," he said.

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 12) - The pitfalls of mail-order buying are common experiences in northern communities, says Laurie Harder, the Territorial government's consumer affairs officer.

"More Northerners use mail-order because we have less access to consumer articles, so our chances of encountering problems are increased," says Harder. "As well, it is difficult and expensive to try to collect refunds under the mail-order company's guarantee when the company is located outside of the Territories."

"We have suggestions on how to prevent problems with mail-order, but even with all these precautions, you may find it necessary to lodge a complaint against a mail-order business," said the consumer affairs officer.

(more)

SOLVING MAIL-ORDER BUYING PROBLEMS - 2

She advises anyone with a justified complaint to follow these steps:

. Write to the company, including the following details in your letter - item(s) ordered, date ordered, your name and address, number of cheque or money order, or a photocopy of your cancelled cheque, a clear statement of the problem, and a clear statement of what you want done to correct it.

. Be persistent. It may take more than one letter to settle the matter.

. If you don't obtain results, write to "Operation Integrity", the complaint department of the Canadian Direct Mail/Marketing Association. Give them as many details as possible, including what you've done to solve the problem yourself. The address is Operation Integrity, Suite 405 - 150 Consumers Road, Willowdale, Ontario, M2J 1P9.

. If you still can't resolve the problem, or if you think the representation made by the mail-order company is deceiving or misleading, contact the Consumer Affairs Office, main floor, Courthouse, Yellowknife, phone 873-7125.

"It's important that customers make these initial attempts to get satisfaction from the mail-order company," says Harder. "That way they've given the company a chance to correct its mistake before calling in help from a government agency."

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 11) - Funding for special projects during the International Year of Disabled Persons is available from the Canadian Organizing Committee for 1981, says territorial representative Diane Doyle.

Canadian non-profit organizations may apply for funding up to \$30,000. Applications must be postmarked no later than Jan. 15 to be considered.

Doyle, who is co-ordinator of services to aged and handicapped with the Territorial government's department of social services, outlined the criteria for project funding.

The project should employ or involve disabled persons, should be new and imaginative, should take the form of a conference, or should take place within Canada and not be research oriented. One or more of these criteria must be met to have the project considered.

(more)

SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR DISABLED - 2

The N.W.T. Committee for the Year of Disabled Persons will collect information on projects approved across the country. It is operating under the auspices of the N.W.T. Council for the Disabled.

Contact Diane Doyle for more information about special project funding at 873-7708.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

NEWS

OPINIONS WANTED ON FIRE FIGHTING

80-279

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 11) - Public opinion is being sought in preparation for talks that would transfer the responsibility for forest fire prevention and fighting from the federal to the Territorial government.

Renewable Resources Minister Richard Nerysoo announced the up-coming round of public consultation this week.

The department is attempting to determine the level and form of forest fire protection and control Mackenzie Valley residents would want in a new program before entering into the negotiations.

The initiative comes in response to an offer made by federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development John Munro to hand over the responsibility to the Territorial government. Forest fire prevention and fighting are now carried out by DIAND's Forest Resources Division.

(more)

OPINIONS WANTED ON FIRE FIGHTING - 2

"Mr. Munro's offer was a very good one," Nerysoo says. "We are now requesting him to specify the kind of program and especially the amount of funding the federal government is prepared to hand over to the Territories."

The Dene Nation, Metis Association of the N.W.T., local hunters' and trappers' associations, the N.W.T. Grade Stamp Association, community and band councils are being contacted for their suggestions. Those with special concerns about forest management - such as sawmill operators and lodge owners - also will be contacted.

Negotiations with DIAND will also take into account other forest and land management programs currently being run in the N.W.T. by the federal government.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 10) - The Legislative Assembly's recommendations for the course of political development in the N.W.T. will be presented to Indian and Northern Affairs Minister John Munro in Ottawa Monday.

The Assembly approved the recommendations at its fall session following discussion and amendment of the Report of the Special Committee on Unity.

MLAs George Braden (Yellowknife North), Tagak Curley (Keewatin South) and Nick Sibbeston (Mackenzie-Liard) will make the presentation and answer questions on the recommendations.

The recommendations include a declaration of Assembly support for division of the Territories "subject to the expressed will, by public debate and by plebiscite, of the people of the Northwest Territories."

(more)

Other recommendations call for an objective study of the impact of division and the establishment of a constitutional development committee to administer and publicise the work of the study.

The MLAs will also present the recommendations to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Northern Affairs at its Monday meeting and to Michael Kirby, federal Secretary to the Cabinet for Federal-Provincial Relations.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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NEWS

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY AT NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE

80-277P

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 10) - Traditional Christmas costumes from several countries will be on display at the Northern Heritage Centre Dec. 12 to mid-January.

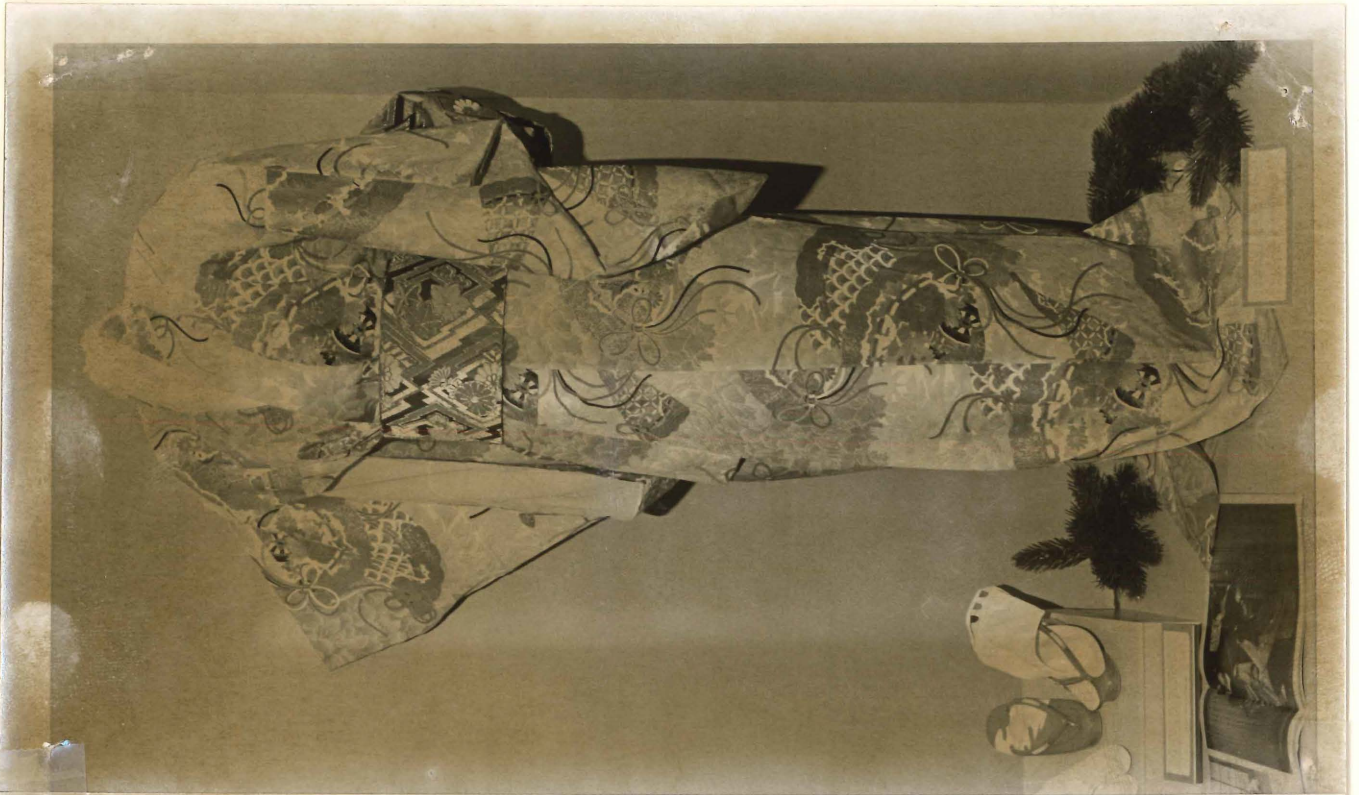
Costumes from Spain, Norway, Ukraine, Japan, Holland, and the Philippines will be exhibited, along with a short description of how the holiday season is celebrated in each country.

The costumes are on loan from Yellowknife residents.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
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Telex: 034-45504

Christmas Display at Northern Heritage Centre,
Photo to accompany release #80-277P



NEWS

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY QUESTIONS ANSWERED

80-276

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 9) - N.W.T. workers can now find out more about potential job hazards in their workplace through a new computer service offered by the safety division of the Territorial government.

A computer terminal with access to international information on occupational health and safety was installed here recently as a pilot project of the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety.

"We were chosen as the spot for this three-month project because of our isolation," said Mike Hewitt, chief of the safety division. "If the communication link holds up between Yellowknife and Burlington, Ont., there should be no problems with link-ups between other Canadian Centres."

The Centre, established two years ago by the federal government, plans to set up information depots on job hazards cross-Canada. The office is located in Hamilton, Ont.

(more)

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY QUESTIONS ANSWERED - 2

Workers, management, unions, government departments and the public are all welcome to call the safety division and ask questions relating to work environment. There is no charge for this service.

"For instance, we might get a call from a photographer who has to use a certain chemical in the darkroom and is wondering about wearing protective gloves or other clothing," said Laurie Nowakowski, head of the occupational health section.

"We feed that information to the terminal, and receive a print-out with a list of reports or papers written about the chemical and the possible effects of exposure to it," she said. "The person with the question can then review the summary provided or order copies of those reports."

Meanwhile, the safety division has its own library of reference materials for answering immediate questions from concerned workers.

"The reports can be ordered as extra reading for the person who is particularly interested in the subject," says Nowakowski. "Other times they will be our only source of information, and we will be able to obtain it much more quickly than before, when much time was spent finding the source."

"We expect to receive many questions during this three-month period," said Robbie Robinson, head of industrial safety with the division. "From people concerned about noise levels and fluorescent lights to pregnant women working at work processors with viewer screens - there is a wide range of job hazards."

(more)

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY QUESTIONS ANSWERED - 3

Both Robinson and Nowakowski will be accepting calls and operating the computer terminal. They can be phoned at 873-7471 and 873-7468, or visited on the fourth floor of the Courthouse building in Yellowknife.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 9) - Portfolios for the Territorial government's two new ministerial positions were announced today by Commissioner John Parker.

Dennis Patterson, MLA Frobisher Bay, will become minister of education effective Jan. 5 and Kane Tologanak, MLA Central Arctic, will become minister of government services on the same date.

Other changes will come into effect at the same time.

Tom Butters will leave his education portfolio to become the Territories' first minister of finance. He will also assume responsibilities for the department of economic development and tourism from Elected Executive Leader George Braden.

(more)

PORTFOLIOS FOR NEW MINISTERS ANNOUNCED - 2

Braden, whose task as executive leader also includes responsibilities for the executive committee and the intergovernmental affairs secretariats, will assume ministerial duties for the department of justice and public services.

Commissioner Parker will assume responsibilities for the department of personnel, which is presently reporting to the deputy commissioner, and will remain chairman of the government's financial management board.

Dennis Patterson, 32, a lawyer, has lived in Frobisher Bay since 1975.

Born in Vancouver, B.C., he attended the University of Alberta in Edmonton and graduated in 1969 with distinction in a Bachelor of Arts program.

He attended Dalhousie University in Halifax as a Sir James Dunn Scholar and graduated with a law degree in 1972.

As the first director of Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik, Frobisher Bay's Legal Services Centre, Patterson helped set new directions for legal services in the N.W.T. The centre employs Inuit para-legal staff and is run by a board of directors.

Kane Tologanak, 30, was born in Cambridge Bay and has been a member of the settlement council there as well as the council in Coppermine where he now lives.

Tologanak was a member of the Inuit Land Claims Commission, and later joined the Kitikmeot Inuit Association with special responsibilities for political and constitutional development.

(more)

PORTFOLIOS FOR NEW MINISTERS ANNOUNCED - 3

No changes were made to the portfolios of Arnold McCallum, Richard Nerysoo and James Wah-Shee.

-30-

Contact: Department of Information
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Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 9) - Yellowknife area wildlife officer Ron Williams has been named Wildlife Officer of the Year for 1980.

Williams received the award Friday from Renewable Resources Minister Richard Nerysoo at a presentation ceremony during the Wildlife Service's All-Staff Conference.

The award is sponsored by Shikar-Safari Club International of the United States, a sportsman's organization which annually recognizes individuals who "contribute a special effort in their service to wildlife conservation."

Williams was nominated for the award by the Wildlife Service in recognition of his long-standing service and dedication to conservation, Nerysoo said.

Williams came to the Territories in 1958 and began his career in wildlife with the federal service in 1961. After joining the Territorial service in 1967, he was posted as a wildlife officer to such communities as Fort Smith, Fort Rae, Fort Simpson and Aklavik.

(more)

AWARD HONORS CONSERVATION EFFORT - 2

He was appointed Inuvik regional superintendent of wildlife in 1966 and came to Yellowknife in 1975 as a trap-line development officer.

This year, he requested reassignment to field duty and was named area wildlife officer for Yellowknife. He assumed the position from last year's Wildlife Officer of the Year, Jim Bourque.

The award consists of a presentation plaque and scroll from the Shikar-Safari Club International.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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Award Honors Conservation Effort

Photo to accompany release #80-274P



YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 8) - The time for Christmas gift-buying often sends people to their mail-order catalogue. But this type of shopping is not without problems, says Laurie Harder, consumer affairs officer with the Territorial government.

"We in the North often do more mail-order buying because we don't have the access to large centres and a variety of stores," says Harder. "Consequently, we run into more problems with slow or non-delivery of merchandise, poor quality of products, mistakes in billing and difficulties in obtaining refunds under the mail-order company's guarantee."

There are ways of preventing the problems which simply involve taking more care before you send your money through the mail:

- Be aware of negative option sales. Under this system the merchandise is sent to your home, and unless you send it back within the specified period of time, you can be sent a bill as having accepted the merchandise.

(more)

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 5) - The Northwest Territories is receiving no special recognition of its energy needs in the event of supply shortages in Canada, says Richard Nerysoo, the Territorial government's minister responsible for energy.

"There are no guarantees that we will receive the fuel we need," said Nerysoo. "We fear the North would suffer substantial hardship if there was to be an energy shortage in Canada."

The Energy Supplies Emergency Act does not provide for a continuation in emergencies of normal energy supplies to the North.

"By our interpretation of the Act, we would have to take the same percentage cut as the rest of Canada in the case of an emergency," said Nerysoo.

(more)

NERYSOO QUESTIONS "GUARANTEED" ENERGY SUPPLY - 2

"This is not equitable because it does not take into account that our use of energy is not as flexible as southern Canada's," he said.

The Territorial government has met with the Energy Supplies Allocation Board several times since March, outlining the differences between energy consumption in the North and in the south. The recommendations of the Territorial government have not been included in the regulations published by the Board.

"In Ottawa, for example, a 15% cut-back in gasoline might mean taking a bus instead of driving your car all the time, but here it could mean fewer or shorter trips for hunters with snowmobiles," said Nerysoo.

"Also, with truck delivery of water and truck pick-up of sewage and garbage, our community service system is much more fuel-intensive than in the south," he said. "A fuel cut-back to municipalities would work a greater hardship on Northern residents."

The Territorial government will make another formal submission to the Energy Supplies Allocation Board, requesting that it include in its regulations more equitable treatment of Northern residents. Meanwhile, Nerysoo will discuss the matter with John Munro, minister of Indian affairs and northern development, and the federal minister of energy, Marc Lalonde.

MAIL-ORDER BUYING NOT WITHOUT PROBLEMS - 2

- Never be tricked into paying for merchandise that has been sent to you unsolicited. Refuse the parcel or tell the business they can pick it up.

- If a guarantee is offered, always check the exact terms.

- Don't assume that an advertisement appearing in a reputable magazine must be legitimate. Although some publications screen advertisements, this is not always the case.

- Keep the following records: money order or cheque
order date
company's name and address
a notation of where and when
the ad appeared.

- Examine the merchandise as soon as you receive it and notify the company immediately if you've received wrong or damaged goods. Failure to do so can remove the seller's obligation to replace or repair the goods.

- If you decide to return the merchandise, send it by registered or insured mail.

- Questions or complaints about mail-order buying should be directed to Laurie Harder, main floor, Courthouse, Yellowknife, 873-7125.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 4) - All buildings and structures in the N.W.T. must be built to the specifications listed in the 1980 National Building Code and the 1980 National Fire Code if their plans are submitted after Jan. 1, 1981, says Les McPhee, the Territorial government's fire marshal.

As well, all applicable Canada Standards Codes have been revised and will be enforced by that date, said McPhee.

Building plans submitted to the fire marshal before Jan. 1 will be inspected using the previous set of codes.

Architects, construction companies, contractors and others involved in the construction industry are encouraged to buy the new codes before Jan. 1 and use them for any building or renovation work.

"The major change which made it necessary for a revision of the codes was Canada's switch to metric measurements," says McPhee. "Up until now we've been using the 1977 Codes."

(more)

NEW BUILDING CODES IN EFFECT JAN. 1 - 2

"All buildings must be inspected, and cannot be occupied until they've passed inspection, so if the buildings are not built to the new specifications, they can't be used until the changes have been made," said the fire marshal. "This is a very high price to pay for not getting the new codes and following them."

"Most people in the industry have known for some time that the revised codes were available," he said. "Now we're letting them know the date when they come into effect."

The building and fire code books are available from the National Research Council of Canada, Code Division, Ottawa, Ont. The Canada Standards Codes can be ordered from the Standards Council of Canada, Standards Information Service, 350 Sparks St., Ottawa, K1R 7S8. There is a small charge for each of the code books.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 1) - People living in the North are more vulnerable to the problems of mail-order buying, says Laurie Harder, the Territorial government's consumer affairs officer.

"Not only do we tend to buy more frequently through the mail because fewer consumer products are available here, but it's also more difficult and expensive for us to obtain refunds or recover losses when the mail order company is operating outside of the N.W.T. " says Harder.

The most frequent consumer complaints received in the consumer affairs office are non-delivery or slow delivery, lesser quality merchandise than anticipated, inadequate, inaccurate or misleading advertising, mistakes in billing, and difficulties in obtaining refunds under the mail-order company's guarantee.

(more)

CONSUMER AFFAIRS CAUTIONS ABOUT MAIL-ORDER BUYING - 2

Since these problems are common and sometimes difficult to solve, the best policy is to prevent them from happening. The consumer affairs office provides these suggestions:

- Deal with established, well-known mail-order business, especially those recommended by friends and neighbours.

- Pay attention to the fine print in the advertisement. Does acceptance of the "special introductory offer" commit you to buy a specific number of books, records, etc., over a period of time?

- Be on the lookout for extravagant claims. Nothing you can order by mail will "give you the bust you've always dreamed of" or make you a "millionaire overnight". If it sounds too good to be true it usually is.

- Look for the complete company name and address in the advertisement, in case you have to contact the company about a problem with your order. Beware the companies which provide only a box number.

- Realize that when the seller and his assets are located outside the N.W.T., there are technical complexities which make it difficult and expensive to recover losses.

- Order C.O.D. (cash-on-delivery) if possible. That way if the merchandise is not delivered you are in a good position to have your complaint handled.

- Include your return address with your order and notify the company of any change in your address. Blame for non-receipt of goods lies with the purchaser if he forgets to do this.

(more)

CONSUMER AFFAIRS CAUTIONS ABOUT MAIL-ORDER BUYING - 3

"It's sometimes necessary to rely on mail-order for some products, but you're always well-advised to see the item before you buy it," says Harder, "Take a good look around your local stores to see if the item is available before you send your money through the mail."

Questions or complaints about mail-order buying should be directed to Laurie Harder, main floor, Courthouse, Yellowknife, phone 873-7125

(30)

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 2) - Turn on with OFF.

It's the OFF season.

Be OFF, on.

Get on the OFF wagon.

The messages are light-hearted.

But the problem - energy conservation - is not.

In the coming weeks and months northerners will be encouraged to save energy with numerous slogans involving OFF, a word synonymous with conservation.

It's all part of the Territorial government's coming energy conservation campaign - a campaign for everyone in the Territories that will run throughout the winter and attempt to convince the 46,000 people who live here that they can do something significant in their daily lives to conserve our dwindling and increasingly expensive energy supply.

(more)

CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN COMING - 2

Announcement of the campaign - developed for the Department of Renewable Resources' Office of Energy Conservation - was made today by Richard Nerysoo, minister responsible for energy.

Throughout the campaign northerners will be encouraged to save energy daily, with specific hints of how they can.

The campaign - developed by the Department of Information - involves multi-language materials: brochures, posters, newspaper inserts, stickers, buttons, and radio and television messages.

"The Territorial government, through its departments and agencies, is already saving a considerable amount of energy with various conservation measures," said Nerysoo.

"This campaign is to keep up that push and also urge private business and residents of the Territories - including all the public servants who live here - that they too can do a lot to save energy. With our ever-increasing prices and the very real problem of a critical supply of conventional crude oil, it is important all of us do all we can to reduce our use of electricity, gasoline and oil," Nerysoo said.

"We believe that conservation is the only way to 'buy time' in the current energy crisis," the minister said.

"At the same time as alternative sources of renewable energy are being explored, each barrel of oil we conserve is one barrel we don't have to buy and one which remains for future generations," he said.

(more)

"That way we can show regulatory agencies and the federal government that as a people we are doing all we can to contribute answers to the energy problem here in the North."

Campaign materials are to be distributed through government offices, local housing associations, private companies and industries and the departments of renewable resources and public works.

The materials in native languages do not utilize the word OFF. Instead, they ask people to think about saving energy for future generations.

At the same time as the campaign is running, the Office of Energy Conservation is promoting and administering a federal-Territorial program that encourages northerners to come up with ideas that will conserve energy and/or new ways to develop renewable energy supplies such as wind, water, solar and wood power. Such ideas are eligible for developmental funding under the Canada/N.W.T. Conservation and Renewable Energy Program. Information materials also will be distributed on this program throughout the north.

The OFF campaign will describe specific northern experiments in energy conservation.

"One of the examples we use is that of Eskimo Point, where the people used 8,000 fewer kilowatts over one winter month than the month before, just by doing simple things like turning off lights they didn't need," said Jim Cumming, chief of the Office of Energy Conservation.

(more)

"It was a contest sponsored by the housing association, and it was very effective," he said. "We have emphasized it in our campaign because it demonstrates how significant the savings can be with some individual and community effort."

Some of the materials describe the progress of the Territorial government in retrofitting houses, converting to low-energy lighting, using waste heat from Northern Canada Power Commission (NCPC) generating stations, and replacing electric hot water heaters with oil-fired ones.

In Oct. 1979, the government announced plans to spend \$3 million to save \$12 million in energy costs. The department of public works calculated how long each of its projects would take to recover the initial cost, and began work first on the ones which would pay back the investment in less than five years.

In the first year, with several of the projects in place, a saving of over \$82,000 was reported, exceeding early estimates.

"Those savings were achieved by cutting waste, not by reducing anyone's standard of living," said Doug Squires, head of building and works with the Department of Public Works. "We've also had the support of the people living and working in government buildings."

Meanwhile, the N.W.T. Housing Corporation, in the interests of energy efficiency, is spending over \$6 million upgrading housing in the N.W.T. An additional \$700,000 has been spent on the design and construction of seven experimental homes in the Keewatin. These homes, which incorporate some of the newest techniques for efficient operation, will consume less than 90 gallons of fuel per month.

(more)

CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN COMING - 5

As well, the corporation has been working with the department of public works on an economical heating system for staff and public housing, and is implementing a system of user-pay for a portion of power costs in its houses throughout the north.

Part of the problem in encouraging conservation lies with people not really knowing how critical the energy situation is in the world.

"People know that the price of gasoline for their vehicle is going up all the time, but don't relate that to the fact that there is an end in sight to our supply of conventional crude oil," said Nerysoo.

The energy minister hopes that this awareness will encourage people to join in saving energy.

"It's already happening all over the Territories," he said.

"In Fort Smith the schools had an energy-saving contest, in Fort Providence a local businessman set up a wood gasification project with funding from the Canada/N.W.T. program, and housing associations across the N.W.T. are instituting user-pay plans for utilities among their tenants.

"I want to acknowledge the efforts to conserve energy already begun by some individuals, some communities and some businesses," Nerysoo said. "This campaign will reinforce what they've already begun.

(more)

CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN COMING - 6

"But we need everyone's help in saving energy," said the minister. "It's important right now and will be even more important for our children."

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

or

Contact: Barry Craig
Telephone: 873-7251
Telex: 034-45504

or

Office of Energy Conservation, Department of Renewable Resources,
Courthouse, Yellowknife, N.W.T.
Telephone: 873-7202, 7203, 7204.

NEWS

SAFE DRIVING WEEK IN N.W.T.

80-268

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 27) - The Northwest Territories joins the rest of Canada in observing Safe Driving Week Dec. 1 - 7 this year.

"This campaign is particularly necessary this year because of the increase in traffic accidents in 1979 over the year before," says Angie Maksymowich, registrar of the Territorial government's Motor Vehicles division, "Accidents increased from 862 to 1,002 in that time, so we must encourage safer driving practices."

This tragic loss on the Northwest Territories' roadways is reversible only to the extent that each and every one of us recognizes our driving faults and takes corrective action, said Maksymowich.

(more)

Winter driving is particularly hazardous and more care must be taken. The motor vehicles division has some hints for safer winter driving:

- drive with care and use brakes very sparingly;
- slow down well in advance of a stop;
- slow safely by taking your foot off the gas pedal and letting the engine and gears slow you down;
- use seat belts. They're not compulsory in the Northwest Territories, but they are well-documented life-savers in the event of an accident;
- keep your vehicle in sound mechanical condition, including winter necessities like snow tires. Keep windows clear of frost and snow.

And of course, cars and trucks are not the only vehicles in the Northwest Territories. Snowmobiles and other all-terrain vehicles must follow the same safe driving rules when they're operated in areas of traffic. Outside of town limits, snowmobile operators should be careful to travel at safe speeds, to watch for obstacles and hazards on untravelled paths, and to make sure of ice conditions before venturing on to lakes and rivers.

"This is the 25th anniversary of the safe-driving week campaign in Canada, and over the years it has been very effective at encouraging drivers to be more cautious," said Maksymowich. "We hope it helps to bring down our traffic accident count."

(more)

The registrar warned that with the holiday season approaching, more accidents related to alcohol consumption could be expected. She asked that drivers be particularly cautious about driving and drinking, because of the effect of alcohol on reaction time and vision.

"An impaired driving charge can be very costly in many ways, but the danger to other lives is the most serious part of it," said Maksymowich, "We urge everyone to drive as you would like others to drive."

-30-

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NEWS

TRAINING COURSE FOR COACHES

80-267

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 26) - The theory level I course in the national coaching certification program will be offered here Dec. 2, 3, 9 and 10, says an official of the Territorial government's recreation division. Coaches in other NWT communities who would like to see regional courses should contact Roland Gosselin in the recreation division of the department of local government, Yellowknife, 873-7756.

The course here, which is aimed at amateur coaches in all sports, will be held 7:30 - 11:00 p.m. in room 215 of the Northern United Place. Registrations must be in to the recreation office by Monday, Dec. 1, and a fee of \$10 to cover the cost of manuals and handouts will be charged.

(more)

TRAINING COURSE FOR COACHES - 2

The course is in three parts: theoretical, offered by the Territorial government recreation division; technical, offered by the appropriate NWT sport governing association, and practical, which is carried out by the registered coach in his selected sport.

The theory course discusses coaching techniques designed to improve leadership and communication skills and upgrade knowledge of coaching and training methods. It will complement the technical course, which covers skills and strategies of specific sports.

The practical phase comes after the course, when coaches use the knowledge gained in the theory and technical courses. When a coach has successfully completed the course, he receives a national certificate as a Level I coach. The Program also offers Level II and III.

A minimum of six people is required to hold the course, which is being conducted by certified instructor Brian Harrison.

Registration forms and information on the course can be obtained from Roland Gosselin, recreation division of the department of local government.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 25) - Funding from the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) has provided free St. John Ambulance first-aid instruction to more than 650 N.W.T. workers this year.

Al Collinson, the board's director of prevention services, announced the total attendance figures this week following the close of this year's round of WCB-sponsored courses.

The board contracted the N.W.T. Council of St. John to provide the first-aid courses to the staffs of employers paying WCB assessments.

More than 50 courses were given by trained St. John instructors in almost 20 communities across the Territories. The WCB administers requests from its clients for courses and schedules them in co-operation with St. John.

(more)

WCB SPONSORS FIRST-AID COURSES - 2

The courses covered basic first-aid training and techniques for treating specific injuries occurring in "high-risk" work situations identified by the board.

WCB accident statistics are used to identify occupations and duties with which certain accidents are most frequently associated.

In this second year of WCB-funded courses, clients whose activities involve these tasks receive first priority for first aid classes.

This year's courses have concentrated on the mining and construction industries. Courses were also offered at the Adult Vocational Training Centre in Fort Smith to provide students with a groundwork in accident treatment and prevention.

Collinson says first-aid knowledge not only serves to reduce the consequences of on-the-job accidents, it teaches accident prevention as well.

"Knowing how to treat injuries goes a long way to showing how to prevent them," he says.

Under its contract, St. John provides instruction, audio-visual aids and books, and all dressings and medical equipment.

The WCB is now accepting requests for courses in the new year.

NEWS

FEDERAL ENERGY SUBSIDY NEGOTIATED

80-265

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 24) - The Territorial government cannot accept some of the restrictions which might be placed on a fuel subsidy program that it is being asked to administer by the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

"The provision that no one currently receiving a living allowance in the N.W.T. is eligible for the new federal fuel subsidy makes the program too narrow," says Richard Nerysoo, minister responsible for energy.

The federal home-heating oil program will reimburse homeowners and renters who pay their own fuel bills the difference in cost of fuel between the community price and Yellowknife's price up to a maximum of 1,500 gallons per residential unit a year.

A large percentage of the N.W.T. population is subsidized in some way, but they still should be eligible for this fuel subsidy, said the minister.

(more)

FEDERAL ENERGY SUBSIDY NEGOTIATED - 2

"Our rates for home-heating oil in the Arctic are the highest in Canada," said Nerysoo. "This new subsidy would go at least part way to putting us on a more equal footing with other Canadians."

Territorial government officials will continue to negotiate the details of the subsidy.

Meanwhile, the small business power relief program also is under discussion. It would pay the difference in cost between the electricity rate in the communities and in Yellowknife to a maximum of 12,000 KWH a year.

Homeowners and renters are encouraged to keep their fuel bills in anticipation of the resolution of the subsidy program.

-30-

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NEWS

CONSTITUTION IGNORES NWT CONCERNS,
NATIVE RIGHTS--BRADEN

80-264

OTTAWA (Nov. 25) - Canada's proposed constitution ignores the political maturity and special conditions of the Northwest Territories, says Elected Executive Leader George Braden.

And without recognition of the Territories' significant interest and role in the future of Confederation, the proposed constitution will "perpetuate the disenfranchisement of Northerners," he says.

The Territorial government's Elected Leader made the statements today to the House of Commons and Senate Special Committee on the Constitution. The committee is meeting in Ottawa to hear submissions on the proposed constitutional patriation resolution currently before Parliament.

Braden's submission was based on the direction and advice given to the Executive Committee by the Legislative Assembly at the fall session in Frobisher Bay.

(more)

Assembly support for the principle of patriation was clearly expressed. Braden dealt primarily with Assembly concerns over the content of the resolution.

The Elected Leader called for N.W.T. participation in amending the constitution and at first ministers' conferences discussing amendments.

The Legislative Assembly is only recognized by the proposal under the conditions of the Charter of Rights and Freedom.

"It is ironical that a constitutional proposal that champions the freedoms and rights of individuals denies... those individuals the right to be represented at a constitutional conference," he observed.

Braden also voiced the Assembly's strong commitment to constitutional recognition of native rights and freedoms and their special historical status in Canada.

Native language rights are one example of this commitment, he said.

Braden pointed out that the native people of the N.W.T. "speak several native languages, the preservation of which is far more crucial to them than the preservation of English or French."

"The preservation and indeed the propagation and advancement of native languages should be an aim to be recognized in the Constitution of Canada," said Braden.

(more)

CONSTITUTION IGNORES NWT CONCERNS,
NATIVE RIGHTS - BRADEN - 3

Concern was also expressed over the effects of freedom of mobility for employment provisions contained in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Prevention of Territorial legislation enforcing hiring preference for native northerners would handcuff the Assembly policy of bringing the benefits of resource development to long-term northerners, Braden said.

Braden urged the committee to find the means to exempt the Territories from the provision, saying, "the native people of the N.W.T. are simply not able to compete with an unrestricted flow of labour from the south."

The 25-member committee will make its recommendations to Parliament next month.

-30-

Contact: Craig Yeo
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NEWS

IDC GETS \$30,600 SPECIAL ARDA FUNDING FOR STUDIES

80-263

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 21) - Baffin region residents and visitors alike could be the beneficiaries of two projects to be carried out by the Inuit Development Corporation with Special Arda funding.

The corporation has accepted one offer of \$15,200 to study the feasibility of establishing a modular, pre-fabricated housing plant in Frobisher Bay, and a second offer of \$15,400 for a study of the existing hotel market in Frobisher Bay and Resolute, including present and potential demands.

Announcement of the funding was made jointly by Pierre De Bane, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government minister of economic development and tourism.

Funding will be supplied by DREE.

(more)

IDC GETS \$30,600 SPECIAL ARDA FUNDING FOR STUDIES - 2

Further information on the Special ARDA program can be obtained from the DREE office in Yellowknife, or any of the Northwest Territorial Government's economic development and tourism and wildlife services offices.

-30-

Ref: Ron Johnson,
DREE, Saskatoon,
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey,
GNWT, Yellowknife,
(403) 873-7146

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 19) - Two young people from the Northwest Territories will receive scholarships from the Alberta Government, George Braden, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, announced today.

The scholarships were presented by Alberta's Minister of Tourism and Small Business, J. Allen Adair, during his address to the N.W.T. Travel Industry Association Wednesday night.

One of the scholarships is for a business development course at either the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) or the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT). The other covers a program in tourism development available at NAIT, SAIT, the Grant McEwan College or the Lethbridge College.

In acknowledging this gesture of co-operation from the Government of Alberta, Mr. Braden stated this is a most appropriate recognition that tourism is an important industry to the N.W.T. and one that will grow with the participation of young people in this sector of our economy.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul Telephone: 873-7615 Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 20) - A formal submission of the Territorial government's position on the proposed patriation of the Canadian Constitution will be presented in Ottawa Tuesday.

Elected Executive Leader George Braden will make the presentation to the Joint House of Commons and Senate Committee on the Constitution of Canada.

The committee was struck to gather opinions and make recommendations on the proposed joint resolution to amend and patriate the Constitution.

Braden's submission is based on advice and direction given to the Executive Committee by the Legislative Assembly at the fall session in Frobisher Bay.

(more)

At that time, the Assembly adopted a sessional paper which itemized Territorial concerns over the form and content of the proposed constitution.

The proposed constitution fails to recognize the Legislative Assembly as the law-making authority for the Northwest Territories.

Province-like recognition is only accorded under the Charter of Rights sections of the proposal, which also restrict the Assembly's power to pass legislation giving preference to northern residents for employment.

Special status for native languages and participation in annual first ministers' conference will also be sought in the submission.

-30-

Contact: Craig Yeo
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Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 20) - A home which will allow mentally handicapped adults to stay in a familiar community environment instead of being sent to southern institutions will be built here in the new year.

"Our new program for mentally handicapped adults will provide training and assistance in the areas of self-care, community living and employment skills," said Minister of Social Services Arnold McCallum.

The house will accommodate eight patients and two live-in house parents. It will serve the people of Yellowknife and surrounding communities, but will be available also to people from other parts of the Territories.

"We'll be able to help people right here in the North," said McCallum. "We've been sending patients to institutions in Alberta or Manitoba, and it's not the best arrangement."

The house is being built on the corner of Forrest Drive, and is expected to open in the spring of 1981.

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 20) - A half-way house for psychiatric patients will open here in the new year.

The announcement was made today by Minister of Social Services Arnold McCallum.

The house, located on Rycon Drive, will accommodate eight patients and two live-in "parents".

"We expect this half-way house to provide a live-in resource for people who are undergoing treatment but do not require hospitalization," McCallum said.

Mental Health N.W.T. will manage the program, selecting the half-way house residents and hiring the staff.

"For people who have undergone in-patient treatment or who are receiving services as out-patients, this is a step on the way to returning to their family and community," said McCallum.

Some renovations are being done to the house, which is expected to open in the spring of 1981.

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 19) - An exhibit of engravings depicting "An Early Quest for the North Pole" is opening at the Northern Heritage Centre here Nov. 27.

The engravings illustrate the 1875-76 British expedition of the Discovery and the Alert under the command of George S. Nares. Although the expedition did not reach the North Pole, a sledge party led by Commander Albert Markham established a new "farthest north" record of 80°20'.

The engravings were produced by a number of British artists, and published in The Illustrated London News in 1875 and 1876. It is the framed newsprint versions that will be on exhibit in the Mezzanine Gallery until the spring.

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
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Quest for the North Pole Exhibit

Photo release to accompany release #80-258P



PRESS RELEASE: 80-258P

One of 24 engravings from the exhibit,
"An Early Quest for the North Pole"
at the Northern Heritage Centre.



THE NORTH POLE EXPEDITION: MONDAY MORNING ON BOARD THE ALBATROSS IN MID-WINTER.

H. H. O. 1897

PRESS RELEASE: 80-258P

One of 24 engravings from the exhibit,
"An Early Quest for the North Pole"
at the Northern Heritage Centre.

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 19) - Energy conservation measures implemented by the Territorial government's department of public works have saved over \$82,000 in the first year of use, says Doug Squires, DPW's head of building and works.

"We're very pleased with the results of this year's conservation initiatives," said Squires, "and of course the savings don't stop after one year - they just keep on building as the prices continue to rise."

The year's savings exceeded the installation costs of the power-saving devices by about \$9,000.

"We have been working first on projects which pay back our original investment very quickly," said Squires, "With later projects the pay-back period will be longer, but there will still be substantial energy savings."

(more)

ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECTS CONTINUE - 2

Some of the projects responsible for the savings were the installation of low-energy lights in government buildings, the conversion of electric hot-water heaters to oil-fired heaters in Lac La Martre, and a half-hour-on, half-hour-off parking plug project in government building parking lots in Yellowknife.

Meanwhile, other government corporations and departments have been implementing their own conservation measures.

The N.W.T. Housing Corporation is introducing a partial user-pay program for utilities through their housing associations across the Territories.

It is also working on retrofit and rehabilitation projects on current housing, as well as building energy-efficient demonstration houses. Along with the department of public works, the corporation is working on an economical heating system for staff and public housing.

The Office of Energy Conservation has approved several demonstration projects across the Territories as part of a federal/territorial government program designed to promote energy conservation and use of alternate energy sources.

Recently under that joint program, approval was given to a heat reclamation project in Pine Point and construction of a demonstration staff house in Frobisher Bay. Work on these two projects is expected to begin soon.

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 18) - A \$50,000 grant from the Territorial government's Executive Committee has been awarded to fund the work of the Eskimo Dog Research Foundation for the coming year.

Elected Executive Leader George Braden made the official presentation of the grant today to foundation executive director Bill Carpenter.

The funding will be used to feed and care for the more than 100 Eskimo or Kingmit dogs now housed at the foundation's kennel and breeding laboratory in Yellowknife.

The financial support comes in response to a Legislative Assembly motion calling for temporary assistance to the foundation.

(more)

ONE-YEAR FUNDING FOR ESKIMO DOGS - 2

The non-profit organization was established in 1976 to re-establish a pure, registerable strain of the native northern sled dog, Kingmit.

With registration almost achieved, the foundation is now pursuing its second objective of re-introducing the dogs to Arctic communities and outpost camps for use as work dogs.

The animals are provided to hunters' and trappers' associations and other qualified recipients, with demand far exceeding the present supply of the hardy, indigenous breed.

"The funding not only assures the survival of this ancient breed," Braden said of the donation, "it also assures a supply of working dogs for native people who want to adopt a more traditional lifestyle in outpost camps."

The Executive Committee Secretariat will monitor spending of the funds.

-30-

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 18) - An N.W.T. team will be sent to the Canada Summer Games in Thunder Bay next year.

The Games are being held Aug. 9 - 22, says sport development officer Roland Gosselin of the Territorial government's department of local government.

The team will be announced shortly after the May 1, 1981 registration deadline. Territorial athletes are training now in the four competition areas of basketball, softball, swimming and track and field.

The next Canada Games are the 1983 Winter Games in the Saguenay-Lac St. Jean area of Quebec, followed in 1985 by the Summer Games in Saint John, New Brunswick.

"It's important for N.W.T. athletes to know well in advance the national competitions available to them," said Gosselin.

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 14) - Grise Fiord Co-operative Ltd. has accepted an offer of up to \$58,000 in Special ARDA funding to establish a guest lodge in the community.

The Grise Fiord offer was one of four announced today with a total value of up to \$85,900.

Announcement of the funding was made jointly by Pierre De Bane, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government minister of economic development and tourism.

Funding is to be provided by DREE.

In addition to the funds for the eight-person lodge at Grise Fiord, offers were also accepted by:

(more)

GRISE FIORD GETS SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS FOR LODGE - 2

- Tony Eecherk of Rankin Inlet: \$20,000 toward purchase of a freezer-equipped longliner boat to establish a commercial char fishing operation;

- Kissarvik Co-operative Ltd. of Rankin Inlet: \$4,000 for a feasibility study concerning expansion of its retail facilities;

- Tulugak Co-operative Ltd. of Broughton Island: \$3,900 to appraise the resources of Natiriq Enterprises, operator of the community's only hotel and restaurant which the co-op is considering purchasing.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native ancestry, to improve their social and economic conditions.

-30-

Ref: Ron Johnson,
DREE, Saskatoon,
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey,
GNWT, Yellowknife,
(403) 873-7146

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 14) - A course to train fire-fighters in determining the cause of fires will be held here Nov. 17 - 21, says Les McPhee, N.W.T. fire marshall and head of the Territorial government's fire safety division.

The week-long course will be attended by 32 volunteer and full-time firefighters as well as members of the RCMP from across the Territories. The three instructors are from Alberta's fire commissioner's office. They also instruct at the firefighter training school in Vermillion, Alta.

The participants represent major N.W.T. communities in which serious fires have occurred. Members of the RCMP are participating in the course because they investigate fires which cause death or substantial property damage.

This course is the first held in Yellowknife, but it will be staged regularly based on favorable response from this year's participants.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 14) - Oil prices are expected to double in the Northwest Territories by 1985, says Richard Nerysoo, the minister responsible for energy.

"Our closest calculations, based on the price increases announced by the federal government last month, indicate that we'll be facing prices twice as high as we pay now," Nerysoo said today.

"This highlights the need to meet our objectives of self-sufficiency of supply within the Territories, and reasonable and stable energy prices," he said.

The minister outlined two ways to meet those objectives.

"First we have to reduce our use of energy, and we can make great gains here without a loss in our standard of living," he said.

(more)

"But conservation will not do it all, and this government must develop alternative energy sources as quickly as possible," said Nerysoo.

Promising alternatives such as coal, wind, water and wood will be studied immediately. The results will provide the information needed to launch pilot projects.

Meanwhile, government officials are meeting with the federal department of energy, mines and resources to assure that the programs announced by the federal government in the Oct. 28 budget are adequately funded and implemented as soon as possible.

"It is essential to move quickly," said Nerysoo. "This is not a problem that can wait long for solutions."

The increases announced by the federal government were \$4.50 a barrel every year from 1981-85, \$7 a barrel each year after that. An .80¢ per barrel surcharge to compensate for the difference between western and world prices for crude oil is immediately effective.

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BARNABE TO OTTAWA AS SENIOR ADVISOR

80-252P

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 13) - Claire Barnabe has been appointed the Elected Executive Committee's first Ottawa-based senior advisor on intergovernmental affairs.

She will report directly to George Braden, minister of intergovernmental affairs for the Territorial government.

In making the announcement, the minister said Barnabe will organize and facilitate the presentation of Territorial positions by elected executive members to federal cabinet ministers, MPs and standing and special parliamentary committees.

She will also provide information and advice to federal and provincial political leaders dealing with matters of concern to the Northwest Territories.

Barnabe's monitoring of parliamentary committee agendas will enable the Executive Committee to formally express its concerns and views for consideration during committee decision-making.

(more)

BARNABE TO OTTAWA AS SENIOR ADVISOR - 2

Braden says Barnabe's presence in the capital will be "invaluable for lobbying the case of the Northwest Territories" on matters routinely under consideration by Parliament.

"By being in contact with committees made up of elected people from all parties, we can achieve a far greater awareness of the N.W.T. and our concerns," Braden says.

Barnabe has considerable experience in both intergovernmental and interdepartmental liaison and procedures. She served as a policy analyst for C.M. (Bud) Drury's Report on Constitutional Development in the Northwest Territories and as a policy officer with the Territorial government's Executive Committee Secretariat.

The holder of a graduate degree in public administration from Ottawa's Carleton University, she is a former settlement manager of the communities of Norman Wells, Port Burwell and Repulse Bay. She has lived in the N.W.T. for 15 years.

Barnabe will take up her new duties in early December.

- 30 -

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Barnabe to Ottawa as Senior Advisor

Photo release to accompany release # 80-252P





Press Release 80-252P

Claire Barnabe moves to Ottawa in December
as the Executive Committee's senior
intergovernmental affairs advisor.

Claire Barnabe

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 12) - Community meetings begin next month in Cambridge Bay, Coppermine and Holman Island to gather public opinion on health care in the Central Arctic.

The Territorial government's department of health has commissioned the Central Arctic Area Health study as a result of a Legislative Assembly motion passed at the March session.

Further community meetings will be held in the new year in Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven and Spence Bay.

The study will examine the delivery of health care services to area residents under guidelines agreed to at organizational meetings held during the summer.

(more)

HEALTH CARE MEETINGS BEGIN - 2

Representatives of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA), area settlement councils, Territorial and federal health officials and MLA Kane Tologanak met with consultants carrying out the study to conclude the terms of reference.

A study team of health professionals headed by Dr. Morton Warner has been contracted to carry out the research and evaluation work and make recommendations on improving health and health care delivery.

-30-

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 12) - Continuing funding of \$90,000 for the Rae-Edzo Health Committee has been announced by Minister of Health Arnold McCallum.

The funding will be used to finance an additional 18 months of health awareness and promotion work in the Great Slave Lake Dene community.

The work of the health committee has been funded jointly for the past 20 months by the Territorial government's department of health and the federal department of health and welfare. The \$90,000 was funded equally by the two departments.

Funding is used to pay the salaries of two full-time health-care fieldworkers and a part-time program co-ordinator who carry on a variety of programs explaining the needs and methods of personal health care.

(more)

FURTHER RAE-EDZO HEALTH COMMITTEE FUNDING - 2

Up-coming programs will continue to focus on preventive health-care techniques through personal visits, classes and workshops open to all community members.

Fieldworkers inform the residents of the dangers and causes of communicable disease, the need for hygiene, immunization, and safety in the home and at work. As well, fieldworkers will put specific emphasis on tuberculosis prevention and self-examination for breast cancer.

Fieldworkers do not provide treatment but make home visits to chronic patients in need of nursing care.

Pre-natal classes are planned to educate expectant mothers of personal and infant care during and after pregnancy.

Fieldworkers adapt audio-visual aides for use in promotional campaigns. This month, the workers will employ national Immunization Month materials to inform residents of the need for preventive inoculation.

The health committee offices are located in the Nshi Khon Community Centre in Rae-Edzo.

-30-

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 12) - Moments taken during Immunization Month for prevention of disease can help ensure a lifetime of good health.

That's the message health-care workers across the Territories are emphasizing during the month set aside by Canada to recognize this important personal health responsibility.

And it's a responsibility to be taken seriously, says Arnold McCallum, minister of the Territorial government's department of health.

Immunization against contagious diseases is a proven method of preventing their outbreak and transmission.

So failure to maintain a wise program of immunization is an open invitation to disease for yourself, your family and your friends, says McCallum.

(more)

IMMUNIZATION MONTH - 2

Immunization month has been instituted to combat the complacency Canadians have displayed in recent years to the vital role inoculations play in controlling crippling and even fatal diseases.

Vaccinations are available free-of-charge from the medical services branch of the federal department of health and welfare at nursing stations and public health offices or clinics.

The following diseases can be prevented with immunization:

- Rubella, or German measles, which can be extremely dangerous if contracted during the first three months of a pregnancy. Heart defects, deafness, cataracts or mental retardation can be caused in the unborn child. Pregnant women should not receive rubella vaccine.

- Polio, which affects children or adults, is caused by a virus. It injures and destroys major nerve centres, causing muscular paralysis, crippling, even death.

- Measles, which can be more harmful than polio. Brain damage, pneumonia and ear infections can result.

- Diphtheria, which attacks the throat and nasal passages causing serious heart and nerve complications.

- Whooping cough or pertussis. It is most dangerous to infants less than one year old and is frequently complicated by pneumonia leading to permanent lung damage.

(more)

IMMUNIZATION MONTH - 3

- Mumps, which generally affects 5-to-10-year-old children and is much more severe in teenagers and adults.

- Tetanus or lockjaw. Caused by poor hygiene and treatment of wounds, it causes death in more than half its victims.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034 45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 10) - Special ARDA funds totalling \$83,900 have been made available to nine hunters and trappers associations across the Northwest Territories for the purchase of two-way radio communications equipment.

Announcement of the funding was made jointly by Pierre De Bane, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government minister of economic development and tourism.

The radios will enable hunters and trappers to maintain contact with their home bases and will aid in search and rescue missions.

Associations receiving the funding are:

Fort Resolution, \$15,800; Fort Franklin, \$15,500; Sanikiluaq, \$10,500; Aiviit (Coral Harbour), \$8,500; Aqigiak (Rankin Inlet), Arvik (Repulse Bay), Chesterfield Inlet and Eskimo Point, \$7,200 each; and Baker Lake, \$4,800.

(more)

SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS COMMUNICATIONS GEAR - 2

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native ancestry, to improve their social and economic conditions.

-30-

Ref: Ron Johnson,
DREE, Saskatoon,
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey,
GNWT, Yellowknife,
(403) 873-7146

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 6) - Over 30 representatives from industry, government and educational institutions will attend Yellowknife's fourth annual careers show to display what they have to offer to students and others looking for work or education opportunities.

The two-day show, Nov. 19 and 20, will be held in the William McDonald Junior High School.

"We're constantly trying to revise the show to fit the needs of the people who attend," said Leigh Brintnell, employment development officer with the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism. His department sponsors the show.

"This year, for instance, we have moved to a fall schedule, and will continue to present the show in the fall because that's the time to be sending applications to universities for the next term," said Brintnell.

(more)

CAREERS SHOW PRESENTS JOB, EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES - 2

The first day of the show will be attended by all high school students in Yellowknife.

"The public can attend during the day as well, but they might find it easier to ask questions and talk to the various representatives during the evening of the 19th," he said. The hours are 9 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

The following day will be devoted to individual interviews with the representatives. It will run approximately 9 a.m. - noon.

All the industry representatives have some employment base in the North, such as Polar Gas and Cominco. Northwestel and the N.W.T. Chamber of Mines will have displays in the show.

Educational opportunities will be outlined in the show. Olds College and Grant MacEwan Community College, both in Alberta, will be sending representatives for the first time this year. As well, a new northern training program run by the Territorial government's department of local government - Arctic Airports - will be explained at the show. Based in Ft. Smith, the program trains people in aviation weather observation and radio ground to air communication.

Previous participants such as the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) will have displays again this year.

The Territorial government's department of personnel will have its regular display plus two others: one for the in-service training project, and one for the Office of Native Employment. Many other territorial and federal government departments will be represented.

(more)

CAREERS SHOW PRESENTS JOB, EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES - 3

As well, the Canada Employment Centre will be operating its CHOICES computer terminal, which will answer questions about the skills required for a certain job, and briefly describe the job functions.

Over 1,000 people are expected to attend the show, based on other year's attendance, said Brintnell. Parents of high school students who are planning to attend college or university will be able to investigate the options and the show is also a good opportunity for adults who are unemployed or who want to change jobs.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
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Department of Information
N. W. T. Government

PHOTOGRAPH
BY BOB WILSON
PLEASE CREDIT

The dental therapist's job is a fascinating one to this on-looker at the 1980 Careers Show. The school of dental therapy in Fort Smith was responsible for this display.



Department of Information
N.W.T. Government
PLEASE CREDIT
BY BOB WILSON
PHOTOGRAPH

The 1980 Careers Show, held in the William McDonald school, attracted students and adults alike. This was the fourth annual show, sponsored by the Manpower Development and Apprenticeship division of the Territorial Government to display careers and education opportunities available in the North and elsewhere.

CONSTITUTION IGNORES NWT CONCEN



Department of Information,
N.W.T. Government

PHOTOGRAPH
BY BOB WILSON
PLEASE CREDIT

The Department of Government Services demonstrated the use of a computer terminal to these Yellowknife students at the 1980 Careers Show sponsored by the Manpower Development and Apprenticeship division of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 6) - PIK, the children's magazine published bi-monthly by the Territorial government's Department of Education, recently won a Silver Leaf Award from the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) in recognition of the magazine's excellence.

The award was accepted by PIK's editor Riette A. Daniels of Yellowknife.

"We were competing with magazines across the country which have much higher budgets than ours," said Ms. Daniels, editor for the past three years.

"I think it's important that we have received recognition from outside the Territories," she said.

(more)

PIK MAGAZINE WINS AWARD - 2

Fred Carnew, assistant deputy minister of the department of education, congratulated Daniels and the contributors to the magazine.

"We're not in the mainstream of education in Canada, and often people in the south have a distorted picture of what education means here," he said.

"I think national recognition for PIK will help to clear up that kind of misunderstanding," said Carnew.

PIK's first objective is to provide enjoyment for its readers in the N.W.T. It reflects the multicultural and multilingual diversity of the Northwest Territories, provides an opportunity for the publication of children's creative writing, and provides a link between students across the vast distances of the N.W.T.

PIK is circulated free to all elementary school students in the N.W.T., and a few paid subscriptions are sent to schools in Greenland, Alaska, and Labrador. It has been publishing since 1971.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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PHOTOGRAPH
BY BOB WILSON
PLEASE CREDIT

Department of Information
N.W.T. Government

Press Release 80-246P

Editor Riette Daniels works on the next
issue of the award-winning PIK magazine.

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 6) - Seven Northwest Territories entrepreneurs and firms will share a total of \$88,600 in Special ARDA funding for projects ranging from a pool hall for Eskimo Point to a freight hauling business on the Liard River.

Announcement of the funding was made jointly by Pierre De Bane, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government minister of economic development and tourism.

Funding is to be provided by DREE.

The seven projects are:

- Arctic Red River Band Council: \$29,000 to establish a retail store and taxi service;

- Snowdrift Co-operative Association Ltd: \$20,450 to expand its retail store operation;

(more)

VARIETY IS KEYNOTE OF SPECIAL ARDA FUNDING - 2

- Yvon Kabluitok of Rankin Inlet: \$9,600 to establish a snowmobile sales and service shop;
- H.R.Y. Holdings Ltd., Fort Liard: \$9,000 to purchase a boat for freight hauling on the Liard River;
- Jimmy Ishalook of Eskimo Point: \$8,300 to establish a pool hall and canteen;
- Jack Angoo of Whale Cove: \$6,250 to establish a taxi and freight hauling business;
- Fort Smith Air Services Ltd.: \$6,000 for a market research study concerning licencing for scheduled service.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's economic development and tourism or wildlife services offices.

-30-

Ref: Ron Johnson,
DREE, Saskatoon
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey,
GNWT, Yellowknife
(403) 873-7146

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 5) - A reciprocal agreement between libraries in Alberta and the Northwest Territories to share books and other materials came into effect this week, Minister of Justice and Public Services Tom Butters announced today.

"It's impossible for any one library system to be self-sufficient in the collection, storage and dissemination of books and other library materials," said Butters. "We will benefit greatly by having Alberta's library resources at our disposal and we expect to be of some assistance to Alberta, also."

Inter-library loan requests in the following categories will be filled - fiction over six months old, out-of-print material for children, material of a regional nature, and any other material which may be borrowed under the provision of the Canadian Inter-Library Loan Code.

(more)

LIBRARY LOAN AGREEMENT WITH ALBERTA SIGNED - 2

Loans will be made directly to the library in the Territories where there is a professional librarian. Otherwise, material will be handled through the N.W.T. Public Library Services headquarters in Hay River.

A Zenith information service is also being extended to the N.W.T. on an experimental basis for one year, with Alberta Culture, Library Services, carrying the cost to a maximum of \$3,000.

"The people of the Territories, working through their local library, will now be able to get their hands on virtually any book available through Alberta's Library Services," said Patricia Smith, chief of Library Services for the Territorial government.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 4) - Eight Northwest Territories individuals or firms have accepted Special ARDA assistance totalling \$291,790 it was announced today by Pierre De Bane, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, Territorial Government minister of economic development and tourism.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native ancestry, to improve their social and economic conditions.

Funding for the projects, expected to create at least 25 full-time jobs over the next three years, will come from DREE.

(more)

DREE FUNDS \$291,790 IN SPECIAL ARDA PROJECTS - 2

Kablinuk Ltd., Coppermine, accepted \$186,000 to acquire the Igloo Inn, expand it to accommodate an additional 14 persons and provide restaurant facilities for guests. The funds are also to construct and operate an outpost camp at the juncture of the Coppermine and Kendall Rivers and to operate an outfitting service by dog team and boat to historical sites and seal hunting locations in the area. Another use will be taxi and freight hauling service between the airport and community.

Lewis Volsey, Eskimo Point, accepted \$42,500 to assist in the purchase of a boat from Newfoundland to provide a freighting service between Churchill and Fort Severn.

Tom Kudloo, Baker Lake, accepted \$27,240 to establish a tourist fishing camp on Schultz Lake to accommodate eight guests.

Mary and Eric Hansen, Hay River, accepted \$11,400 to assist in establishing a boat rental service, day-use picnic area, shower facilities and concession stand.

Frank Camsell, Fort Rae, accepted \$8,900 to assist in the purchase of a truck and packer to provide a garbage removal service in the community.

Donat Anawak, Rankin Inlet, accepted \$6,750 towards the purchase of a 12-passenger van to modernize his taxi service.

Rosemary Kirby, Paulatuk, accepted \$5,000 to assist in establishing an arts and crafts business in the settlement.

Sanavik Co-operative Ltd., Baker Lake, accepted \$4,000 to study the feasibility of expanding its retail facilities.

-30-

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TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ATTEND ENERGY
CONFERENCE - 3

Other Territorial government employees who attended the conference were members of regional engineering staff, Lloyd Henderson (Frobisher Bay), Ed Radwanski, (Rankin Inlet) and Morris Dee (Inuvik). Peter Hart, energy policy advisor to the Honorable Richard Nerysoo, and Judy Paul, department of information, also attended.

-30-

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TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ATTEND ENERGY
CONFERENCE

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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 31) - Energy is an issue of survival. This was the recurring theme of a four-day conference held last week in Saskatoon and attended by several territorial government employees.

"The Canadian public is not aware of how critical and immediate a problem we're facing, said Jim Cumming, chief of the office of energy conservation.

"The consensus of the conference was that some significant initiatives in energy conservation and development of non-renewable energy sources must be solidly in place within the decade ," he said.

Cumming noted that it was encouraging to see many industry exhibitors at the exposition, displaying products which assist people to make their houses, buildings or cars more energy efficient.

(more)

TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ATTEND ENERGY
CONFERENCE - 2

Everything from insulation to new longer-lasting light bulbs are on the market now, and their initial cost is quickly paid back by energy savings, he said.

Part of the conference included a tour of 14 energy-efficient demonstration homes built in Saskatoon.

Hank Bertrand, deputy chief of operations, department of public works, reported the houses were convincing proof that with care and a little additional expense, say \$5,000 per home, a heating bill can be cut by 50 per cent.

These homes were being heated for well under \$90 a year, because of attention paid to window location, insulation, vapour barriers and furnace rooms, he said.

"We have made some steps in retrofitting staff houses and in other energy conserving measures, but this conference helped show how many other possibilities there are," said Bertrand.

Many participants in the conference criticized as misleading the federal government advertising campaign which assures Canadians, "You've got what it takes".

"We're concerned too," said Cumming, "because we will be asking people in the Territories to save energy, but it will be difficult to convince them of the importance of it when the federal government seems to be saying, there is nothing to worry about."

(more)

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 30) - Eight bursaries for students pursuing careers in the health-care field have been awarded by the Territorial government's department of health.

The Health Care Bursary Program funds full-time study or extension courses in health occupations. In return, graduates agree to work in health care jobs in the N.W.T. following course completion.

Minister of Health Arnold McCallum announced this week the approval of the \$23,000 in bursaries for the 1980-81 school year.

Recipients of bursaries are:

-Kim Wallace, a second-year nursing student who has previously worked as an operating room technician at Yellowknife's Stanton Hospital

(more)

HEALTH CARE BURSARIES ANNOUNCED - 2

-dental therapy student David Siemens, a former employee of Stanton Hospital

-Kathryn Secord, also of Stanton Hospital, who will be taking post-graduate training in her profession of operating room nurse

-medical student Bruce Doulton, a former employee of the Government of the Northwest Territories in Yellowknife

-Mary Ann Sinclair, a bachelor of nursing student who has worked at the nursing stations in Rankin Inlet and Eskimo Point

-Jane Onalik, a dental therapy student who has previously lived in Frobisher Bay

-Doug Swallow, a bachelor of nursing student who has worked at the nursing station in Sanikiluaq

-and Joseph Koots, presently Director of Nursing at the Frobisher Bay Hospital, who will be taking a correspondence course in health services administration.

A selection Committee awards bursaries on the basis of the need for the particular health care skill in the N.W.T.. Applications from Territorial residents and those with work history in the N.W.T. are given preferences in the selection process, McCallum says.

(more)

HEALTH CARE BURSARIES ANNOUNCED - 3

The bursaries pay tuition fees as well as a living, book and travel allowance. They are granted annually.

Recipients participating in programs of more than one year in duration must re-apply annually for further assistance but are given preference in subsequent award selections.

Full-time health care students agree to work for 1 1/2 months for each month of funded study, while correspondence students must agree to a three month work term following course completion.

Information on bursary assistance guidelines and applications is available from Margie Crown, Program Officer, Department of Health, Yellowknife, N.W.T.

-30-

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BEVERLY HERD SURVEY UNDERWAY - 2

The area being surveyed straddles the N.W.T.--Saskatchewan border. Two Wildlife Service members and an observer from the Fort Smith Hunters' and Trappers' Association are taking part in the survey.

Data is being collected in the fall when the caribou intermingle for mating. At other times of the year, the caribou group according to sex and age.

Wildlife Service biologists say the fall rut provides the most representative sampling for determining the sex ratio of the herd.

Fixed wing aircraft observations will be used to plot the location of the herd. Ground counts of bulls, cows and calves will then be taken.

The count data will be combined with estimates of the size of herds--mainly cows--taken on the calving grounds last spring.

Wildlife officials say excessive kills of breeding cows can seriously hamper a herd's ability to reproduce in sufficient numbers to maintain its population.

In order for a herd population to maintain its level, annual mortality (including game harvests) must not exceed the year's births, known as recruitment.

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 28) - N.W.T. Wildlife Service biologists are now performing a sex ratio survey of the Beverly caribou herd in co-operation with Saskatchewan government biologists.

The need for an estimate of the ratio of male to female caribou was prompted by reports of disproportionately heavy kills of females by hunters last winter.

The survey will also estimate the rate of survival of this year's calves and provide data for an estimate of total herd population.

The Beverly herd summers and calves in the central Keewatin and winters below the treeline, partially in northern Saskatchewan.

Last winter however, the herd migrated farther south than usual, increasing both the accessibility of the herd to hunters and the toll of the winter hunting season.

(more)

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 24) - Long-term behavioural study must accompany short-term protective measures if caribou and mineral exploration are to co-exist, says a Territorial government biologist.

Protecting calving grounds is one approach to reducing disturbance to breeding herds from mineral exploration, says John Donihee, supervisor of habitat management for the Wildlife Service. The Wildlife Service is part of the department of renewable resources.

But research into caribou behaviour is the key to understanding why it is affected by human activity, the biologist explains.

Donihee made the comments at a federal department of Indian affairs and northern development (DIAND) - sponsored review of the caribou protection controls carried out in the 1980 exploration season in the North. Territorial wildlife staff presented summaries of the monitoring and research programs carried on in the Keewatin last summer.

(more)

Representatives of mining firms attended and offered suggestions on how to reduce restricted periods and improve herd monitoring.

Restrictions to mineral exploration in the area around the breeding grounds of the Kaminuriak and Beverley caribou herds were introduced three years ago.

The concern of area residents (particularly hunters) that mineral exploration was seriously disturbing the spring calving prompted the restrictions.

Under the restrictions, special land management zones which include known calving and post-calving areas and herd water crossings are set aside. No exploration activity is allowed in the areas during calving. DIAND issues land use permits to the mineral firms and set aside the land management zones on the advice of the Territorial Wildlife Service.

Releases to the restrictions were granted this year before and after the herds moved onto the calving grounds. The releases were granted by DIAND based on the monitoring of herd movements by a Territorial biologist.

"Basically, monitoring provides flexibility," Donihee observed. "But it does not provide the answers to our long-term questions."

Ann Gunn, wildlife's caribou biologist, reinforced the needs for extended behavioural study.

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"If we're able to establish which factors draw cows year-after-year to the same calving grounds, then we may be able to determine what factors--like human activity--influence their behaviour in these areas."

"The management of disturbance is a long-term objective," Gunn said. "I think it would be premature to put a time-frame on it."

Behavioural studies now underway are aimed at testing theories of why the animals use the same calving grounds year-after-year.

DIAND provided \$220,000 to the Wildlife Service for caribou research last year, of which some \$50,000 was used to monitor herd movements. Monitoring is carried out by aircraft observation of herds and trails. Hunters, pilots, mining firm staff and vacationers using the areas are also consulted for their observations of herd movements.

However, limited funding and the vast size of the area to be monitored often make it difficult to predict caribou location and movements, Wildlife Service staff explained.

One mining firm representative suggested that monitoring assistance and perhaps funding from the companies could be "one of the areas we could co-operate."

DIAND will soon be consulting with the Wildlife Service, area hunters' and trappers' associations, citizens groups and the mining industry for their views on the form of the restrictions to be implemented for the 1981 exploration season.

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 22) - One day, the fires of Fort Providence just might heat and light the entire Mackenzie and, who knows, maybe even much of Northern Canada.

"The prospects are absolutely tremendous," says Richard Nerysoo, the Territorial government Executive Committee member responsible for energy.

Marc Lalonde, the federal minister of energy, mines and resources, is equally enthusiastic about the Fort Providence project being funded under the Canada/N.W.T. Conservation and Renewable Energy Demonstration Program.

"Wood could provide the basis of energy self-sufficiency for many of Canada's remote communities," Lalonde says.

Wood gasification, that is.

(more)

WOOD GASIFICATION "FUEL OF THE FUTURE" - 2

The demonstration project involving it is pioneering the burning of wood not only for electrical generation - for which the technology has existed since the 40s - but also using the heat produced for space heating. Up to now, this heat has been wasted.

Under the project, area timber stands will be harvested to fuel a wood gasification unit which produces combustible gas used to fire a modified diesel engine.

Power from the engine will be used to generate electricity, while waste heat recovered from the wood and gas combustion will be channelled to community buildings for space heating.

Funding for the development of the renewable energy source totals \$426,000, of which \$263,000 is being provided under the joint federal/Territorial agreement.

S.O. (Sieg) Philipp of Snowshoe Inn Ltd., in Fort Providence is financing the remaining \$163,000 in project costs, as well as organizing and managing the demonstration project.

Philipp says wood gasification could eventually eliminate the need for diesel-powered electrical generation in the community.

(more)

Wood gasification is being tested elsewhere in Canada, but only in its traditional role as a generator of electricity.

Announcement of the approval of the experiment was made jointly this week by the Territorial government's office of energy conservation and federal conservation and renewable energy branch.

Under the four-year program, projects which improve renewable energy use or conserve non-renewable energy sources are eligible for funding, in whole or in part.

Jim Cumming, chief of the office of energy conservation, says success in Fort Providence could make energy self-sufficiency a reality for remote communities and produce great economic opportunities for locally-based fuel suppliers.

"If this project is successful," Cumming says, "it will reduce our dependence on long and uncertain supply lines and foreign price fluctuations."

"Think of what this could do for the remote communities of the Territories."

Philipp anticipates electrical generation will begin in 1981. The 120-kilowatt generator could eventually supply all the electricity and heating needs of the Snowshoe Inn, with back-up diesel power available to meet emergency needs.

(more)

Should the project prove successful, plans have been proposed to supply electricity and heat to other community consumers. The Snowshoe Inn is being used as the first-phase testing ground in the three-year experiment.

Philipp's calculation predict a total saving of almost \$11,000 in the first year of operation as a result of the switch from petroleum to wood fuel by Snowshoe Inn.

However, Philipp says the high costs of labour involved in monitoring and evaluating the system in the testing period will reduce the savings gained.

The community - including Alberta Power Ltd., the Territorial government department of public works, N.W.T. Housing Corporation, Snowshoe Inn and private consumers - uses more than 1.4 million litres of diesel and heating fuel per year. Total combined cost of the fuel at 1980 prices is almost \$300,000.

Phillip says a comparable year's supply of 2,432 cords of dry wood will produce the same total energy at a cost of about \$100,000.

Phillip says he could eventually provide space heating to customers at a cost of 60 per cent of their petroleum heating fuel bills.

Approval has been granted for the cutting or area timber stands, while the Fort Providence Dene Band has been contracted to supply the first 1,000 cords of wood. Wood cutting began this spring to stockpile a sufficient supply of dry wood to fuel the unit.

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Complete implementation of the system could pump more than \$100,000 per year into the Fort Providence economy through wood purchases.

Philipp's long-range plans include experimenting in reforestation of harvested lands with rapid growth hybrid poplar seedlings. Advice on planting will be obtained from the Forest Resources Division of the federal government through the Territorial department of renewable resources.

In his funding application, Philipp said he would use the experimental period to gain experience and knowledge for future adaptation of larger engines for use in wood gasification.

The Yellowknife engineering firm of Ferguson, Naylor and Simek will be retained to collect and verify data on the operation of the project. All information will be filed with a federally-maintained information bank and is freely available under the terms of the agreement to any interested party.

Delivery of the German-made gasification unit is expected in the spring of 1981.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 22) - Twenty staff members from municipalities in the Northwest Territories are taking a three-week course in municipal administration, sponsored by the department of local government. The course began Monday in Edzo.

"Because of the increasing responsibility of local governments, it is necessary that administrative staff be as competent and professional as possible," said Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee.

"This introductory course, and the intermediate and university courses to follow, will provide the opportunity for those staff members to pick up basic skills in office administration," he said.

The course is being run in the Chief Jimmy Bruneau school in Edzo, and all students and instructors are living in the adjoining residence.

(more)

COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATORS TAKE COURSE IN EDZO - 2

"Studying and living right there, we will be able to give our full attention to the course," said Charles McGee, head of the training section in the department of local government.

The course will include lessons in bookkeeping, communications skills and the theory of community government. Evening sessions are open to the participants for discussions on specific situations and problems in their communities.

The introductory course will be spread over two dates, Sept., 1981 and Jan., 1982. Completion of the three courses will result in certification as professional municipal administrators.

"We're very pleased with response to the course, and if it remains strong, we will continue to offer the certification program year after year," said McGee.

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FROBISHER BAY (Oct. 23) - James Ross of Fort McPherson has been hired on contract as the Executive's government Dene language services consultant.

In announcing the contract today, George Braden, Leader of the Elected Executive, explained that the project grew out of the priority set on aboriginal languages and culture by the Legislative Assembly's standing committee on finance at the Baker Lake session.

While work has started on a long-term N.W.T. aboriginal languages policy, the executive felt there were urgent problems faced by unilingual Dene in obtaining government services which can and should be addressed in the short-term.

Ross will visit Yellowknife and Mackenzie-area communities in October and November. He'll be meeting with interested people both inside and outside government to document problems and current efforts, and to receive proposals for interim solutions.

(more)

DENE LANGUAGE CONSULTANT HIRED - 2

Braden said that the Executive felt fortunate in acquiring Ross's services, as he has an extensive background in Dene community development and cultural/linguistic research. Ross is himself a speaker of Loucheux and has done previous work for the Dene Nation on post-secondary education funding and community development training programs. He also completed a study of traditional Dene games in 1979 and has worked with the Yukon native language project in setting up a Loucheux language program in Fort McPherson.

"We are confident that with James Ross's experience and his personal commitment as a Dene community member, we will soon have accurate information on the difficulties experienced by our unilingual Dene people in dealing with government and some community-based recommendations to improve the situation in the short-term," said Mr. Braden.

He said that the goal of the project was to contribute to overall aboriginal languages policy development as well as to short-term improvements in government communications with Dene people.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 21) - Old-time northern filmmaker Richard Finnie is making another trip to the North he loves.

This time he'll be speaking in the lecture series, Science, History and All That, sponsored by the Northern Heritage Centre and the Science Advisory Board.

Finnie, 74, will discuss the Truth about the Canol Project on Thursday, Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m. and present a slide show - A Retrospective about the Inuit in the 1920s and 30s - on Sunday, Nov. 9 at 2:00 p.m. Both will be held in the auditorium of the Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife.

Finnie was born in Dawson, Yukon Territory. He left the North as a young child, but travelled extensively across the territories when he returned as an adult.

(more)

FILM-MAKER RETURNS TO THE NORTH - 2

Since 1924 he has covered most of the Northwest Territories on government and private expeditions. He was a member of the first party to fly over the north magnetic polar area in 1920, and he spent a year with the Copper Eskimos in Coronation Gulf. As well, he was the northern advisor and historian to the United States Army Engineers during the construction of the Canol Project and the Alaska Highway from 1942-44.

Finnie has photographed, edited and produced many documentary films of the North, including official records of the Canol Project and the Alaska Highway.

He is also the author of several books, Lure of the North, Canada Moves North and Canol.

Finnie now lives in Belvedere, Calif., but has made several trips to the North in the last decade, including one in 1974 when he toured several northern communities with then-commissioner Stuart Hodgson.

He will be in Yellowknife for a week after his presentation, working with archivist David Leonard in the Northern Heritage Centre.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 20) - The Norman Wells pipeline project should be deferred until Ottawa meets a number of Territorial government conditions dealing with resource development in the north.

George Braden, the government's elected executive leader, said the conditions include resource revenue sharing, guarantee of energy supplies at a preferred price, joint planning and meaningful progress on negotiation of aboriginal claims.

Braden listed the conditions in a presentation to the National Energy Board, meeting in Yellowknife today to hear submissions on a proposed pipeline project that would transport crude oil from Imperial Oil's Norman Wells field to Zama in northern Alberta.

"The Territorial government does not take its responsibilities lightly or in parochial terms. Its remarks are not some tactic on the part of the government to ransom Canada or the developers," he stated.

(more)

Braden, early in his submission, made it clear the government supports northern development generally and the pipeline project particularly - but only if the conditions are adequately met.

He told the energy board the conditions resulted from discussions with the Dene Nation and the Metis Association, were endorsed by the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly, and were presented to Ottawa earlier this year.

"We have yet to receive an official response," he said.

Braden noted that he realized the NEB is addressing itself to technical issues but that the Territorial government's approach is essentially to use all reasonable avenues to make its argument for a compromise with Ottawa.

He said the government is concerned about the absence of any federal-territorial agreement to share in the revenue generated by this and other projects.

". . .major revenues from taxation and royalties will accrue to the federal government which, in turn, will launder some of it back to the North each year with terms and conditions to ensure federal control for the future."

Braden said that unless the rules are changed the Norman Wells project and others will have the net effect of costing the Territorial government additional monies to ensure statutory responsibilities, that will arise from such developments, are met.

(more)

This would come at a time when the Territories' existing budget is being dangerously eroded due to dramatic increases in the cost of energy supplies, the board was told.

The government's utilities expenditures alone are expected to increase by 32 per cent by the end of this fiscal year and are estimated at \$32.3 million out of a total budget of \$250 million.

Braden said the government, along with all other northerners, is concerned about supply of refined products for use in the north.

The extreme high prices of refined fuel products are difficult to rationalize to northerners who are being told they are sitting on vast proven and potential reserves of oil, gas and hydro energy, he added.

"It is further complicated when the developers say it is uneconomical to supply northern communities with oil or gas by pipeline. It can be exported but not supplied from within."

Braden stated the Territorial government is being responsible in requesting Ottawa to guarantee its supply of refined products at a preferred price.

"Is it too much to ask that Canada's resident northerners, who live in one of the harshest climates, be given a small concession or incentive for maintaining Canadian sovereignty in the northern part of our nation?"

(more)

Meanwhile, Braden urged federal acceptance of a territorial role in managing, regulating and administering the construction and operation of the Norman Wells project.

In addition, the Territories wanted to participate in preparing a non-renewable resource development plan for the Mackenzie Valley and Delta and for the Beaufort Sea region.

Braden added that successful resolution of these matters would contribute "substantially" to issues raised by native peoples in their aboriginal claims proposals.

"I am not proposing that rights negotiations be completed, that settlement acts be passed in national or territorial legislatures and that implementation is completed before this or any other project proceeds."

Rather, the board was told, negotiations have to proceed to a point where native people are sufficiently comfortable that their rights will be protected.

The National Energy Board is scheduled to continue its hearing in this northern capital until Friday.

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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 20) - Developing recreational lands so that they benefit the people of the N.W.T. is the aim of a planning study now being launched.

Economic Development and Tourism Minister George Braden announced the study this week.

Braden said the study is one of the initiatives being undertaken in response to the government's announced priority of further strengthening the N.W.T. economy. It will focus on developing ways to maximize economic benefits from recreational lands.

"Creation of wage economy employment that is complimentary to traditional livelihoods will be thoroughly investigated under the study," Braden said.

The minister also indicated guidelines will be prepared to ensure final development plans make maximum use of local suppliers and materials and reflect area skills and design needs.

(more)

PARK DEVELOPMENT STUDY LAUNCHED - 2

Community members and groups, native organizations, resource users, environmental groups and business and tourist organizations are being asked for their input from the outset of the study.

Recreational land use planner Alan B. Vaughan will head the study for the division of tourism and parks.

Vaughan says local concerns and suggestions will be given key consideration so that differences in local desires and natural conditions are reflected and accommodated in the final policy.

As well, the study will recommend ways for area groups to continue to influence the operations of recreational developments once they are established. The land use needs of renewable and non-renewable resource developers will also be considered in the study.

"The study isn't designed solely to create parks for the purpose of creating parks, recreational areas for the purpose of recreational areas," Braden says.

"It is to find out how - in providing those things - we can provide social and economic development opportunities for local communities."

Alternatives to G.N.W.T. and Crown ownership of park lands will be considered in the study.

(more)

PARK DEVELOPMENT STUDY LAUNCHED - 3

The work plan for the study points out "consideration should be given to including landmarks, heritage rivers, recreational trails, canoe routes, marine and underwater parks, ecological reserves, tourism areas and park reserves within a Territorial system of parks and outdoor recreation areas."

Development guidelines aimed at making federal agencies involved in recreational land management more responsive to local concerns will also be drafted.

Copies of the study outline and objectives will soon be made available to the public through the department of economic development and tourism.

"Maximum public involvement in the study is considered crucial," Braden said.

"A strong level of public involvement will aid my ministry in ensuring all potential economic benefits are identified."

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 20) - Earl D. Johnson, a lawyer in private practice here, has been appointed law clerk to the Legislative Assembly, Speaker Bob MacQuarrie has announced.

The law clerk's duties were previously performed by the chief of the legal services division, department of justice and public services.

The decision to appoint a private solicitor on a contract basis was made to avoid the possibility of conflict created by a legal advisor having to advise both the Legislative Assembly and the commissioner, said Mr. MacQuarrie.

The duties of the law clerk include advising the Legislative Assembly on all legislation introduced and assisting individual MLAs by drafting private members' public bills and amendments to public and other bills. As well, he advises individual MLAs with respect to the legal implications of matters under consideration, and ensures that bills amended in the committee-of-the-whole are reprinted prior to third reading.

(more)

LAW CLERK APPOINTED TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2

He assists standing and special committees of the Assembly during the consideration of legislation and in the consideration of business matters having legal implications. He also personally reviews bills being reprinted prior to third reading to ensure they accurately reflect the decisions of the Assembly.

Johnson, 33, has practised law since his graduation in 1971 from the University of New Brunswick Law School. He came to Yellowknife in 1974 as a member of the Territorial government's Legal Services Division. After two years he went into private practice, and is now a partner in the firm, Cooper, Johnson & Wilson.

Johnson's appointment as law clerk is effective Oct. 19, for the continuation of the third session of the Legislative Assembly in Frobisher Bay.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - Stop before popping that mushroom into your mouth. It could be the amanita muscaria, a poisonous mushroom recently spotted and identified in the Mackenzie Valley, said Dan Billing, science advisor to the government of the Northwest Territories.

Before this summer, both Dr. Norm Simmons, Superintendent of Wildlife Service and Billing's office had reported there were no poisonous mushrooms in this district. This was based on an informal survey by wildlife officers in the Mackenzie Valley.

But this summer there were several sightings, and samples of the mushroom brought in to the Wildlife Service office.

(more)

POISONOUS MUSHROOM SPOTTED
IN MACKENZIE VALLEY - 2

The amanita muscaria grows to about five inches tall, with a cap about four inches across. They are red-orange in colour, fading slightly and developing white specks when mature.

It is possible that other varieties of poisonous mushrooms grow in the Mackenzie Valley, said Billing. He advises anyone who might consider eating wild mushrooms to buy a good reference book with illustrations and descriptions of mushrooms and to compare carefully first. If there is any doubt, Billing advises, don't eat it.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - Encouraging Eastern Arctic participation on the Executive Committee will be one of the key issues next week in Frobisher Bay.

The Legislative Assembly continues its third session at the Baffin regional centre beginning Wednesday.

With two committee seats held open since last October for Eastern members, elected executive members are expected to examine Eastern participation on the committee.

Heavy workloads and the desire of elected members to assume more administrative responsibilities from appointed members have brought forward the issue of filling the vacant committee positions as soon as possible.

Following the expansion of the Assembly to 22 members, provision was made to increase elected representation on the committee from three to as many as seven members. At present, the commissioner and deputy-commissioner sit on the committee with five elected members.

(more)

EASTERN ISSUES TOP COMING SESSION - 2

There is no representation at this time on the Executive Committee by MLAs from above the treeline. Eastern members have up to now refrained from joining the Executive Committee for a variety of reasons, including their reluctance to reside in Yellowknife to participate in committee business.

Richard Nerysoo, chairman of the executive sub-committee on legislation and house planning, is hopeful the Assembly will make the vacant seats one of its main orders of caucus business.

An ordinance will also be brought forward in Frobisher Bay to incorporate the Baffin Regional Council (BRC). The ordinance will formally recognize the powers of the BRC. Drafted in the Baffin Region, the ordinance is being brought to the Legislative Assembly at the request of the MLAs representing the region.

The BRC's objectives include promotion of consultation in the development of government policy and legislation, improvement of government services to communities, suggestion of amendments to existing legislation, and establishment of a body to accept responsibility for decentralized Territorial government programs. It is composed of the elected leaders of Baffin communities, Baffin MLAs, the president of the Baffin Regional Inuit Association (BRIA) and a representative of Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC).

The session should also see the forwarding of a motion asking support in principle for ITC's proposal for the establishment of a separate Nunavut Territory north of the treeline.

(more)

EASTERN ISSUES TOP COMING SESSION - 3

Meanwhile, the Unity Committee, struck to gauge public opinion on possible political development alternatives for the Territories, will make its report to the Assembly.

Ministers will be making themselves available to the Assembly for questioning on such issues as: taxation of property in Nunavut; resource revenue-sharing; language policy; health-care problems in the Keewatin and Central Arctic; political activities of Territorial civil servants; and home-owner property tax relief.

Discussion items being carried over from previous sessions are agreements with the Committee for Original People's Entitlement (COPE) regarding Inuvialuit land rights; the setting up of a police advisory commission; tendering policy, particularly on Territorial department of public works contracts; native language training and research, and the development of an energy policy.

Amendments will be brought forward to the following ordinances: Corrections; Corporation Securities Registration; Co-operative Associations; Municipal; and Workers' Compensation Board.

Reports on the Science Advisory Board, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services and Medicare, and Workers' Compensation Board will be tabled by the responsible ministers.

The session will convene in the Gordon Robertson Educational Centre at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - Youngsters with hobbies will be the main contributors to the Northern Heritage Centre Christmas display this year.

"We expect to see stamp and rock collections, bead work, macrame, jigsaw puzzles and model airplanes, as well as hobbies we've never heard of before," said Marilyn Walker, the Centre's curator of the education extension.

Last year's display featured dolls from all over the world.

"We wanted to stay with the young theme, yet have a display that would be appealing and interesting to all ages," said exhibit curator, Wally Wolfe.

People from grade 1 - 8 with hobbies they would like to see displayed in the Northern Heritage Centre should contact Wolfe before Nov. 10 at 873-7321.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul

Telephone: 873-7615

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 15) - The N.W.T. Legislative Assembly's special committee on education is submitting a report on post secondary education to the fall session scheduled to open Wednesday in Frobisher Bay.

Committee Co-Chairman Bruce McLaughlin (MLA Pine Point) said today the report contains numerous recommendations intended to reflect what committee members feel is a "realistic approach" to the provision of education grants to northern students.

Included is the recommendation for establishment within the grant system of an "affirmative action program" for native students and for students enrolling in priority courses important to the N.W.T. job market.

McLaughlin also stated the report recommends geographic and jurisdictional disparities can be overcome by maintaining a grant for transportation, tuition and books for all students in the program.

(more)

"However," he said, "the committee also agreed that students should be prepared to contribute 45 per cent of their summer employment earnings towards living allowances.

Those allowances, the committee recommended, should be revised to reflect present-day costs.

Meanwhile, McLaughlin added the report states that teacher education program (TEP) students who were formerly classroom assistants should be moved immediately into the Territorial government's inservice training program.

Other recommendations include:

. Regional boards of three or four people should be created to consider grant applications which, in the future, should be accepted at the regional level. The boards should make every effort to insure that eligible students are fully aware of the program through school counselling services and local advertising.

. The financial position of the parents should be a determining factor when calculating the needs of students under the age of 19.

. Residency requirements, now in effect, for students attending school out of the Northwest Territories should remain.

. The ordinance governing post-secondary education grants should be amended so that qualifications for aid and amounts of aid form part of its regulations rather than remain within the detail of the legislation.

(more)

EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO TABLE GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS - 3

. That native students should possibly have the opportunity to enroll in schools outside the Northwest Territories when having to leave their home communities to further their high school educations.

McLaughlin said the report and its recommendations, agreed to by committee members last Friday, will be finalized in Frobisher Bay and be presented to the assembly for discussion at the earliest possible opportunity.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 8) - A gasoline subsidy to help offset rising gasoline prices is now available to hunters and trappers in the N.W.T. who made \$600 or more in fur sales last year, Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo said today.

"The gasoline price hike which was just announced could affect the people who earn a significant portion of their income off the land," Nerysoo said.

The subsidy will be paid automatically to hunters and trappers now receiving the Trappers' Incentive Grant. This year trappers earning from \$600 to \$3,000 now get 10 per cent of their earned fur income in the incentive program. The gas subsidy will pay them an additional five per cent.

(more)

GASOLINE SUBSIDY FOR HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS - 2

The two grants will be paid on one cheque. The minimum amount received will be \$90 (15 per cent of \$600) and the maximum amount will be \$450 (15 per cent of \$3,000).

The fur production of trappers is recorded annually by the Wildlife Service, based on fur traders' records, returns from fur auction houses, and receipts from private sales. Trappers who feel they have made enough money through private sales, but have not received the grant, should take their receipts or other proof of income to their Wildlife Service office.

Cheques to trappers will be sent out from the four regional centres, Fort Smith, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay, by the end of October.

The Territorial government will spend a total of \$150,000 on the new gasoline subsidy program. It will be administered by the Wildlife Service division of the Department of Renewable Resources.

Last year more than 1,700 trappers and hunters received the Trappers' Incentive Grant.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 6) - Donald M. Johnston, assistant regional director of the Inuvik region, has been appointed secretary of the new regional operations secretariat being established here. The announcement was made today by Deputy Commissioner Bob Pilot.

Dan Norris, Inuvik regional superintendent of personnel, will step into the assistant regional director's position.

The appointments are effective Nov. 1, 1980.

The existing directorate of regional operations is being replaced by a secretariat. It will work with the regions on behalf of Pilot, who is the executive member responsible for regional operations. It will also assist in the devolution of government program authorities to the community level.

(more)

DON JOHNSTON TO HEAD NEW REGIONAL SECRETARIAT - 2

Johnston has been with the Territorial government since 1969, when he joined the department of finance in Yellowknife. The next year he transferred to the department of personnel.

In 1971 he moved to Fort Smith as assistant regional superintendent of personnel and the next year to Broughton Island as settlement manager.

In the fall of 1973 he was seconded to St. John Ambulance as executive director, a job he held for two years. From 1975 to 1978 he was executive assistant to then-Commissioner Stuart Hodgson. In 1978 he was promoted to assistant regional director of the Inuvik region.

He and his wife Eldy and two sons will move to Yellowknife near the end of October.

Dan Norris, born and raised in the Mackenzie Delta, worked with the federal government between 1962 and 1968. In 1968 he moved to the Territorial government as administrative assistant to the regional director in Inuvik.

He moved from there to the personnel division in 1972, and was promoted to superintendent of personnel, the position he has held until this appointment.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034 45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 6) - Snowdrift received CBC television late Saturday evening, becoming the fourth community to receive the service this year through satellite earth station equipment supplied by the Territorial Department of Information.

Both CBC television and regional radio were provided to Sanikiluaq, Holman Island and Hall Beach during the month of September.

Radio equipment has also been installed in Snowdrift to enable the community to connect to the Mackenzie radio network of the CBC when their Yellowknife station gains a separate satellite link. Meanwhile the transmitter is available to the community if they choose to establish a local radio station.

(more)

SNOWDRIFT RECEIVES TELEVISION - 2

The 1980 radio and television installation program of the Department of Information is now completed. The communities scheduled to receive facilities in 1981 are: Lake Harbour, Clyde River, Broughton Island, Repulse Bay and Lac La Martre.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

Telephone: 873-7146

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 3) - James Wah-Shee, minister responsible for aboriginal rights and constitutional development, said today that CBC reports on the Baffin Regional Council had "misinterpreted discussion related to division of the N.W.T." during the BRC meeting in Broughton Island this week.

A motion, carried unanimously by the BRC, instructed members of the Legislative Assembly from the Baffin Region "to delay any decision on the report of the Unity Committee until all communities in the region had been consulted."

Wah-Shee said there was a good deal of criticism during the debate of the assembly's Unity Committee for its failure to consult the communities.

(more)

MINISTER CLARIFYS BRC DISCUSSIONS - 2

"There seemed to be resentment against the Legislative Assembly making a decision on splitting the Territories based on the Unity Committee report," he said.

"It certainly was not an attack on the Nunavut proposal and for CBC reports to suggest that the Baffin Regional Council has gone back on its support of Nunavut shows a real misunderstanding of what happened at Broughton Island.

"In fact, both Richard Nerysoo, minister of renewable resources, and I told the BRC that the Executive Committee also supported full discussion of the Nunavut proposal.

"We understand the feelings of the Inuit which led to the proposal and we told BRC that we would work with the Inuit to help them achieve their aspirations," he added.

Wah-Shee said they also pointed out that the issue of division of the NWT was not in their view necessarily tied in with the creation of Nunavut.

He said that it was obvious at the BRC meeting that several of the community leaders had serious doubts about dividing the Territories without further consultation.

"We told the leaders of the Baffin Region communities that we are neither 'for' nor 'against' political division of the NWT at this time, but agreed that more consultation with communities was necessary to obtain their views before a decision is made."

(more)

MINISTER CLARIFYS BRC DISCUSSIONS - 3

Both Wah-Shee and Nerysoo will be at the ITC annual conference next week, along with George Braden, leader of the elected executive members. They will take part in discussions on the Nunavut proposal.

"We think it is a healthy sign that so much discussion is taking place on this issue before the Frobisher Bay session of the Legislative Assembly," said Mr. Wah-Shee.

"The Unity committee report will be one of the most important items to be debated by the MLA's. We will be bearing in mind the concerns of people in communities throughout the N.W.T.", he noted.

Wah-Shee pointed out that BRC delegates had not objected to a free discussion of the division issue at the Frobisher Bay session, but did not want a decision to be reached before all communities had been properly consulted.

-30-

Contact: Department of Information

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MINISTERS TO ATTEND ITC ASSEMBLY;
TOUR DELTA COMMUNITIES

80-223

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 3) - Elected Executive Leader George Braden will take part in the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada Annual Assembly in Coppermine Oct. 7, it was announced today.

Minister of Education and Justice and Public Services Tom Butters and Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo will also attend the ITC open forum.

A tour of some Delta communities is scheduled for after the ITC conference, and the three Territorial government ministers will be showing some of the N.W.T. to the visiting Newfoundland/Labrador minister of rural, agricultural and northern development, Joe Goudie.

The ministers will visit the canvas factory in Fort Macpherson, the sewing centre in Inuvik, a Dome-Canmar drill ship in the Beaufort Sea and the fur shop in Tuktoyaktuk.

The group will return to Yellowknife Oct. 10.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul Telephone: 873-7615 Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 30) - Hall Beach began receiving C.B.C. television and regional radio Monday evening.

The community on the east coast of Melville Peninsula is the third location to receive the service this year through satellite earth station equipment supplied by the Territorial Department of Information. Sanikiluaq and Holman Island received radio and T.V. earlier this month.

Installation of equipment is scheduled in Snowdrift next week.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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FUEL PRICES TO INCREASE

80-221

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 29) - Gasoline subsidies are planned to offset dramatic price hikes in petroleum products scheduled for Oct. 1.

The price of gasoline and heating oil supplied to 40 northern communities by the Territorial government will increase an average of 47 per cent.

Commissioner John Parker said today that customers serviced by the government's petroleum products division are protected from product price increases during the year.

"But, at re-supply time, all of the increases come together at once."

(more)

FUEL PRICES TO INCREASE - 2

The increases result from hikes in the cost of fuels during the past year and from the fact that the government's current price is "unrealistically low" and is creating a deficit position.

In an attempt to soften the impact, Parker said the government will be introducing a subsidy program for hunters and trappers who earn a "significant portion of their income off the land."

The grant will be available to hunters and trappers who are eligible to receive the Trappers' Incentive Grant, those who had an income from furs amount to \$600 or more in the previous year.

Details of the subsidy program will be announced by the Honorable Richard Nerysoo, Minister responsible for energy.

The hikes will result in price ranges of \$1.79 to \$2.29 per gallon for heating oil and from \$2.00 to \$2.44 per gallon for gasoline, depending on location.

Current prices for heating oil range from 99 cents to \$1.35 per gallon and \$1.28 to \$1.49 per gallon for gasoline.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 26) - Forty years ago, the St. Roch, an RCMP ship, passed through the Northwest Passage from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean.

It was the first vessel to do so and on Oct. 2 the ship's former first mate Michael J. Olsen, will talk about the two-year voyage during the first in a series of lectures at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre.

The series, entitled Science, History and All That, is sponsored by the Heritage Centre and the Science Advisory Board.

Along with Mr. Olsen will be Mrs. Mary Larsen, wife of the late H.A. Larsen, navigator on the St. Roch.

(more)

ST. ROCH FORMER FIRST MATE TO SPEAK - 2

Mr. Olsen's career with the RCMP spanned 24 years, with six years away in the naval service during the war. After his retirement from the force in 1953, he worked as an investigator with the lumber industry until 1970. Since then he has acted as an attendant of the St. Roch in the Maritime Museum in Vancouver.

The lecture begins at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Northern Heritage Centre. There is no admission fee.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 25) - Commissioner John Parker has announced the appointment of three senior administrators to Territorial government regional offices in Fort Smith, Cambridge Bay and Frobisher Bay.

Larry Gilberg of Cambridge Bay has been named regional director of the Fort Smith region. He replaces former director D.P. (Mush) Mersereau, who resigned early this month.

Gilberg, until his new appointment, was assistant regional director of the Fort Smith region's offices in Cambridge Bay.

(more)

THREE REGIONAL APPOINTMENTS - 2

Replacing Gilberg in Cambridge Bay will be Gary Black of Rankin Inlet, now regional superintendent of education for the Keewatin region. Black will report directly to Gilberg as the process of separating the new Central Arctic region from the Fort Smith jurisdiction gets underway. The new region is scheduled to begin operating next April.

In the Baffin region, Ralph Brown has been appointed assistant regional director. Brown will report directly to Regional Director Jim Britton, who has been without an assistant director since John Quirke was named director of the department of government services in Yellowknife this summer.

Gilberg's and Black's appointments are effective Oct. 1 while Brown's is effective today. Moving arrangements are now being made for the appointees and their families.

MLA Kane Tologanak (Central Arctic) said Gilberg's appointment should provide smooth, informed devolution of administrative responsibilities to the new Central Arctic region.

"He was well-liked by the people and we know we can depend on him to continue to represent our interests in the future," Tologanak said.

(more)

THREE REGIONAL APPOINTMENTS - 3

Gilberg moved to Cambridge Bay in 1978 after serving two years in Fort Smith as the regional superintendent of education. Prior to that, he was the district superintendent of education in Rankin Inlet and the assistant superintendent of education responsible for programs at the former Keewatin regional headquarters in Churchill, Man.

He came to the N.W.T. in 1970 as principal of the Spence Bay school, a position he held for two years. He was also the principal of the Aklavik school in 1972.

Brown, the Baffin region's new assistant director, takes on his new job from his present position as the region's superintendent of education.

He joined the Territorial government in 1973 after an extensive teaching career in remote communities of Quebec and Labrador.

Hired as a teacher at Frobisher Bay's Nakasuk School, he was appointed assistant superintendent of education for the region in 1975, a position he held until 1978.

Black moves to the assistant directorship in Cambridge Bay from his present position as regional superintendent of education in the Keewatin, a job he has held since 1978.

(more)

THREE REGIONAL APPOINTMENTS - 4

A Territorial government employee since 1973, he served as district superintendent of education in Rankin Inlet from 1976 to 1978 and previous to that, as assistant superintendent of education in Fort Simpson.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 25) - Mutual problems and concerns of the Yukon and N.W.T. transport boards were discussed in their first joint meeting held this month at Eagle Plains, 365 Kilometres southwest of Inuvik on the Dempster Highway.

The Dempster Highway was one of the major topics of discussion at the meeting, since increased truck traffic on the highway is affecting both territories.

Other topics discussed in the day-long meeting were:

- tour bus policy;
- weights and regulations for weigh scale operations;
- standardization of authorities and the permit system; and commodity categories for the Dempster Highway.

(more)

FIRST JOINT MEETING OF N.W.T. AND YUKON - 2
TRANSPORT BOARD

Another meeting is scheduled tentatively for the spring, to discuss the effect of winter traffic on the Dempster Highway.

As well, the two boards plan to meet jointly with the Alberta and B.C. transport boards to discuss the granting of permits to territorial trucking operations.

"Sharing information and common concerns is possible because we both have boards which deal with transportation under northern conditions," said Dale Thomson, executive secretary of the N.W.T. Highway Transport Board.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 25) - Dwight Noseworthy has been appointed executive director of the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat. The announcement was made today by Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee.

As executive director, Noseworthy will report directly to Wah-Shee, who is also the Executive Committee member responsible for aboriginal rights and constitutional development.

The minister commented that the appointment of Noseworthy, up to now the secretariat's senior negotiator with Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC), comes at an opportune time for both the secretariat and the Executive Committee.

(more)

"His expert and up-to-date experience with the Nunavut proposal will ensure the Executive Committee and the Legislative Assembly of the advice they need for thorough discussion of the proposal at the session in Frobisher Bay next month," Wah-Shee said.

The appointment, effective Sept. 8, fills the position left vacant in August when former executive director Phil Airhart was named assistant deputy minister of the department of local government.

As senior ITC negotiator, Noseworthy has spent the last year and a half consulting with ITC on issues including Nunavut, (the proposal for the creation of a separate territory in the Eastern Arctic); aboriginal rights and wildlife management.

Prior to joining the secretariat, he was the superintendent of social services in Rankin Inlet and then assistant regional director of the Keewatin region until early 1979.

A 10-year Territorial government employee, Noseworthy came to the North in 1970 as a social worker in Pangnirtung. He also served as superintendent of social services - then known as social development - in Cambridge Bay for the two years ending in 1975.

(more)

NOSEWORTHY NEW SECRETARIAT DIRECTOR - 3

The holder of a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in community development, the 34-year-old native of Newfoundland is married and the father of one daughter.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 17) - Talks with federal, provincial and United States government officials and leaders have kept Elected Executive Leader George Braden on the move over the past two weeks.

Since travelling to Ottawa Sept. 6 as the N.W.T.'s first elected representative at constitutional talks, Braden has attended a conference of northern development ministers in Thompson, Manitoba, and met with senior government officials in Alaska.

Talks in all three forums have been both "informative and highly useful", Braden says.

(more)

"Firm contacts and some clear understandings were achieved at the First Ministers' Conference. We've come away with a clearer, closer view of the constitutional process and a much higher national profile with the formal recognition of the Territories at the proceedings."

The N.W.T. had observer status at the Conference.

Travelling to Thompson Wednesday of last week, Braden joined in the discussions at the Third Annual Inter-Provincial Conference of Ministers with Responsibilities for Northern Development. The talks were attended by the seven provincial governments with northern regions, as well as the N.W.T. and Yukon.

At the conference, Braden exchanged views with provincial government ministers on such topics as provision of government services, economic development and the role of government in resource development.

Senior officials of the Territorial government's departments of public works, local government and economic development and tourism also attended the conference, which ended Thursday.

(more)

The N.W.T., Braden notes, was accorded recognition as a full and equal participant in talks with provincial government leaders.

Travelling to Juneau, Alaska, last weekend, Braden began a series of meetings with senior state government officials, primarily in his role as minister of economic development and tourism.

The Elected Executive Leader is meeting with Alaska's elected lieutenant-governor and the state commissioner of commerce and economic development.

Talks are also being held with lawyers of Alaska's justice department on legal arrangements made by the state in preparation for statehood.

Braden returns to Yellowknife next week in preparation for the next Assembly session. It begins Oct. 22 in Frobisher Bay.

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 17) - Observer participation in last week's constitutional talks was a "beneficial experience for the N.W.T.", Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee says.

Wah-Shee, who is the Executive Committee member responsible for constitutional development, made the comment this week after attending the last three days of the First Ministers' Conference held in Ottawa last week.

Elected Executive Leader George Braden represented the Northwest Territories at the first two days of the talks before departing for a conference of ministers responsible for northern development held in Thompson, Man.

Wah-Shee says that while the N.W.T. had no direct input in the agenda or the discussions by the first ministers, the opportunity to observe the conference can be put to future advantage.

(more)

"When, and if, a consensus is reached on a new constitution, the N.W.T. will be in a better position to participate because of our involvement and our awareness of the process and thoughts that went into this attempt to develop a new constitution."

Wah-Shee also observed that acceptance of observer status has opened a new line of input for the Territories in future constitutional renewal discussions.

The N.W.T.'s concerns on constitutional renewal are now forwarded directly to Jean Chretien, the federal justice minister responsible for constitutional matters. In the past, the Territorial position has been represented through the department of Indian affairs and northern development.

"With this new line of communication, Indian affairs and northern development is still aware of our position, but we don't have to use them as an intermediary anymore. Our concerns go straight to the people setting the agenda," Wah-Shee says.

The 12 agenda items considered at last week's talks were set well in advance of the conference, with no input from the N.W.T. on items the Territorial government wanted to see considered. In the setting of future agendas, the federal department of justice will be made directly aware of Territorial concerns.

(more)

There was no consideration at the talks of the role or future role of the Northwest Territories or Yukon in any further formal constitutional debates.

However, Wah-Shee says future constitutional talks will have to deal with this topic as well as issues of Native and aboriginal rights.

Special status and aboriginal rights for the Native people of the Northwest Territories were not considered, either in general discussions or in talks on an entrenched Charter of Rights for the new constitution.

Nor did the proposed charter of rights recognize the aboriginal rights of Native persons, but referred to them under the general category of "other" rights.

Discussions on the ownership of natural resources figured largely in the talks, although no direct reference of possible Territorial ownership of on-shore or off-shore resources was made during the debates.

Under the British North America Act, all provinces have ownership of their natural resources while the federal government administers those of the Territories.

(more)

The conference did not consider whether the waters between the various Arctic Islands form inland waters of the Territories or extra-territorial waters.

A proposal from British Columbia for the setting up of a "House of Provinces" made no allowance for Territorial representation in the revamped upper house.

In the Senate, the present upper house, the N.W.T. has one representative.

Both Braden and Wah-Shee agreed at the conclusion of the talks that the N.W.T.'s position was well advanced by the contacts made and information gained, although no direct input to the discussions was permitted at this round of debates.

Contact: Craig Yeo
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Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 17) - Minister of Education Tom Butters has confirmed the appointment of Fred Carnew as his assistant deputy minister responsible for education programs and evaluation.

Carnew will report directly to Brian Lewis, deputy minister of education. Mr. Lewis supervises the activities of education's two administrative branches, finance and planning and education programs and evaluation.

Carnew assumed the assistant deputy minister's position this summer, after serving as chief of the education programs and evaluation branch.

(more)

His experience with the department of education dates to 1967. He is a former chief of the continuing and special education division at headquarters in Yellowknife and was involved in the development of the N.W.T. Junior High School Curriculum, or "Green Book".

The area superintendent of education in Cambridge Bay between 1973 and 1975, he also has five years' teaching experience in the Keewatin, first as a teacher in Whale Cove, then as principal in Coral Harbour.

A graduate of the University of Dublin and University of Saskatchewan in education, he brings more than 13 years' experience in the education field to the position.

Carnew is married and the father of three children.

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 17) - Sanikiluaq and Holman Island are now receiving C.B.C. television and regional radio through satellite earth station equipment supplied by the Territorial Department of Information.

The Belcher Islands community of Sanikiluaq in Hudson Bay began receiving television on Saturday, followed by radio on Sunday. Holman Island in the western Arctic received television Tuesday and radio today.

Equipment is scheduled to be installed by the end of September in Hall Beach, to be followed by installation in Snowdrift.

There are now eight communities receiving the service through the Department of Information program and Hall Beach and Sanikiluaq will bring the total to 10 sites.

(more)

SANIKILUAQ AND HOLMAN ISLAND RECEIVE TV AND RADIO - 2

The communications program is designed to provide satellite-fed television and radio to locations in the N.W.T. with populations between 250 and 500.

Five more communities are scheduled to receive facilities in 1981: Lake Harbour, Clyde River, Broughton Island, Repulse Bay and Lac La Martre.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 16) - Constituents of Baffin Central returned Ipeelee Kilabuk to the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly in a by-election this week.

Kilabuk, who was a member of the Legislative Assembly from 1975 'til the October, 1979 election, takes the place of recently-resigned MLA James Arreak. There was a 64 per cent turn-out at the polls.

Kilabuk, 48, was born in Pangnirtung, and lives there with his wife and family.

He has been chairman and member of the Pangnirtung hamlet council and active with the housing association, the Pangnirtung Eskimo Co-operative Limited and Inuit Tapirisat of Canada.

(more)

KILABUK REPRESENTS BAFFIN CENTRAL - 2

Kilabuk will attend the Legislative Assembly session in Frobisher Bay this October.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 15) - If you pay \$7.00 for a one-carat emerald, as a mail-order promotion received by Yellowknife residents is suggesting, don't expect more than your money's worth, says consumer affairs officer Laurie Harder.

A firm called H.M.S. Minerals Ltd., in Rexdale, Ontario is circulating a promotion to "selected" individuals in Yellowknife with the offer of a genuine one-carat emerald for \$7.00 plus \$1.00 for shipping costs.

Similar promotions have been reported elsewhere, and while the customer gets what has been promised, the emerald is seldom of any value as jewellery. People who have ordered them and had them appraised find they're dull, occluded and not something a jeweller would deal in.

(more)

EMERALD PROMOTION IN YELLOWKNIFE - 2

"The firm is not breaking the law with this emerald promotion" said Harder, "but the people receiving the promotion might have greater expectations of the deal than they're getting.

"We just want people to know they're not getting any more than \$7.00 worth," she said.

The consumer services office has not received any inquiries about the promotion from outside of the Yellowknife area, so circulation of the promotion seems to be limited.

-30-

Contact: Judy Paul
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 12)- The Territorial government's office of energy conservation has an electronic detective on the trail of energy waste.

Everyone stands to benefit from the investigation, with dollar and fuel savings for the public resulting from its energy clues.

Called a thermography unit, it's a camera that takes pictures of heat leaks in everything from homes to water pipes.

The Territorial government's chief of energy conservation Jim Cumming says the new hardware will allow community groups, businesses and government agencies to get accurate, inexpensive readings on energy waste.

(more)

SCANNER PINPOINTS ENERGY WASTE - 2

The portable device is designed to pick up infrared light given off by escaping heat. The source of the radiation is then recorded either on video-tape or instant print film and the lost heat is clearly visible when the recording or film is viewed.

What the person sees is an almost ordinary television or still picture with glowing halos of light radiating from areas where heat is being lost.

So while a picture of a building would show heat pouring out the chimney and away from the windows, it would also point out other "hot spots" where insulation is too thin or heat is escaping because of improper design or materials.

The device was purchased for \$50,000. Following the original capital outlay, costs of maintenance and operation are minimal.

Cumming says the waste discovered by the scanner's energy information will pay for the device in short order.

(more)

SCANNER PINPOINTS ENERGY WASTE - 3

The camera can take pictures of anything from an entire community to individual electrical circuits and mechanical systems. If heat is being given off, the scanner will tell where and how much, thanks to the variable intensity of the halos showing up on the film recording.

Tying in with the on-going conservation and renewable energy program, the device can be used to assess heat loss in new building designs both during and after construction. So new ideas for building designs can be assessed for efficiency.

Other uses include investigation of foundations on permafrost; heat loss analysis of insulated water lines, storage tanks and forced air systems; analysis of retrofit systems, and use as a planning aid before up-grading retrofit systems.

(more)

SCANNER PINPOINTS ENERGY WASTE - 4

As well, the scanner can be used as an educational aid in courses and programs for people planning to build their own homes. By surveying typical house designs, potential builders can get an idea of pitfalls that will cost them energy dollars in the future.

Information on the scanner is available from the office of energy conservation in Yellowknife and the Territorial government's regional offices in Inuvik, Fort Smith, Frobisher Bay and Rankin Inlet.

(30)

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ROAD BLOCKADE LIFTED

80-209

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 11) - Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge has announced that he and his band council have agreed to lift the blockade on the Horn River road following a meeting which took place yesterday.

At the same time, Commissioner John Parker has promised the government will investigate methods that could give the council some control over the road which leads to traditional hunting grounds in the Providence area.

The announcement was made following a meeting yesterday morning between Chief Bonnetrouge and Mr. Parker.

The blockade was put in place by the band council which was disturbed over damage to the road caused by four-wheel drive vehicles when its surface was wet. Damage has also been reported to fish nets and cabins in the area of the road.

(more)

Mr. Parker agreed a wildlife officer would be stationed in the area Friday through Monday during the remainder of the hunting season.

In addition, Regional Director Mush Mersereau will receive advice from the band council as to when conditions warrant the opening and closing of the road.

Chief Bonnetrouge and the Commissioner also discussed a number of serious concerns of the Fort Providence band council, including housing and the outpost camps program.

The chief stated the existing housing program in Providence was "not conducive to traditional lifestyles".

It was agreed that Deputy Commissioner Bob Pilot and officials of the N.W.T. Housing Corporation would visit the community towards the end of September to look at alternatives, such as the construction of log houses, to stimulate greater local initiative and self-reliance.

Meanwhile, Chief Bonnetrouge explained that 17 families in the Providence area were interested in establishing outpost camps.

It was agreed the band council would meet in Providence with representatives of the government's department of renewable resources to work up an application for three camps located in traditional hunting areas.

(more)

ROAD BLOCKADE LIFTED - 3

Mr. Parker said "one-time only" funding has been requested to assist the camps in becoming self-sufficient in the longer term.

The chief's request for a full-time wildlife officer will be reviewed by renewable resources officials. Mr. Parker said both he and Chief Bonnetrouge had "positive feelings" about the meeting.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 11) - A fifth regional headquarters will be established by the territorial government to assume program and service responsibilities for the central arctic area of the Northwest Territories.

Tom Butters, minister of education and of justice and public services, made the announcement today on behalf of the commissioner and executive committee members.

Butters, attending the Central Arctic Area Council conference in Cambridge Bay, said the step is designed to bring the decision-making process closer to residents of the region.

He said the new regional headquarters would be established in Cambridge Bay April 1 of next year.

The central arctic area is presently part of the Fort Smith region and is administered by an area service office located in Cambridge Bay and headed up by an assistant regional director. The region, as it now exists, is the largest of the government's administrative areas.

(more)

NEW REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS SCHEDULED - 2

Butters told the conference that creation of the new headquarters will result in the splitting up of the Fort Smith Region, an administrative area that takes in the entire southern Mackenzie, as far north as Wrigley, and stretches up into the Arctic islands to Holman and east to Pelly Bay.

All communities in the middle and upper Mackenzie, including Sachs Harbour and Paulatuk, are administered out of Inuvik.

Other regional headquarters are located in Rankin, for the Keewatin, and Frobisher Bay, for the eastern and high arctic.

Splitting of the Fort Smith region has been discussed for a number of years. It was a recommendation of former central arctic MLA Bill Lyall and, more recently, the constituency's current member Kane Tologanak.

Tologanak, received unanimous approval of a motion calling for creation of a central arctic region by the assembly at its recent session in Baker Lake.

Robert Pilot, deputy commissioner and executive member responsible for regional operations, will be developing an action plan for creation of the new region. While regional headquarters will be in place April of next year it is expected another 10 to 12 months will be required before it is totally operational.

Part of the implementation process will be to arrange for an eventual establishment of additional positions at Cambridge Bay. Appointments of a regional director and regional superintendents of major government departments to be represented at Cambridge Bay will be announced as they are made.

Communities to be part of the central arctic region, once it is formed, include Cambridge, Coppermine, Bay Chimo, Gjoa Haven, Spence Bay, Pelly Bay and Holman Island.

That leaves the communities of Fort Reliance, Snowdrift, Resolution, Fort Smith, Pine Point, Hay River, Nahanni Butte, Fort Simpson, Tungsten, Wrigley, Rae Lakes and Rae-Edzo to be administered out of the Fort Smith region.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 8) - The Legislative Assembly's special committee on education has hired two special advisors for its study on education in the Northwest Territories.

The advisors are Dr. Don Simpson of the University of Western Ontario and Jerry McNeil, a director of the northern and native education program for Labrador which is operated by Memorial University.

The appointments were announced today by Bruce McLaughlin, co-chairman of the assembly's special committee. The committee met in Yellowknife Friday night.

McLaughlin said both men are "highly respected educators and the committee feels very fortunate to have obtained their services."

(more)

EDUCATION ADVISORS HIRED - 2

Simpson has worked extensively in Canada and throughout the world on the special problems of education in developing areas and multi-cultural societies. A professor of comparative education, he is currently working on teacher training for Nigeria and has had experience in cross-cultural settings in Canada, including all parts of the N.W.T.

McNeil is superintendent of the frontier school division in northern Manitoba. Both he and Simpson worked together in establishment of Labrador's teacher training program.

Dennis Patterson, MLA for Frobisher Bay and member of the assembly's special committee, said he's enthused with the appointments - particularly since both men are well known and respected by educators and organizations concerned with education in Canada and the N.W.T.

Meanwhile, committee members also decided to expand their terms of reference to include development of action projects, with community or other organizations, that will solve current problems.

"In this way, some difficulties might be resolved prior to the full findings of the special committee," McLaughlin stated.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 8) - Don Stewart (MLA Hay River) has been designated Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

Caucus chairman Bruce McLaughlin (MLA Pine Point) announced the appointment today. Stewart was chosen for the position Friday by the caucus of the 22-member assembly.

The formal appointment of the new speaker will be made at the up-coming session of the Legislative Assembly in Frobisher Bay, beginning Oct. 22.

The appointment fills the speaker's chair left vacant in July by the resignation of Bob MacQuarrie (MLA Yellowknife Centre). MacQuarrie said at that time he was resigning "because I feel the need for my fullest possible participation in the assembly's debates."

A three-term veteran of the assembly and mayor of Hay River for the past 13 years, Stewart is the owner of a building supply firm in his home of Hay River.

(more)

STEWART NEW ASSEMBLY SPEAKER - 2

The 57-year-old MLA held the Hay River seat first in 1967 in the former Mackenzie South riding.

Defeated in the 1970 Territorial general election, he was re-elected in 1975 and served as deputy-speaker of the 8th Assembly.

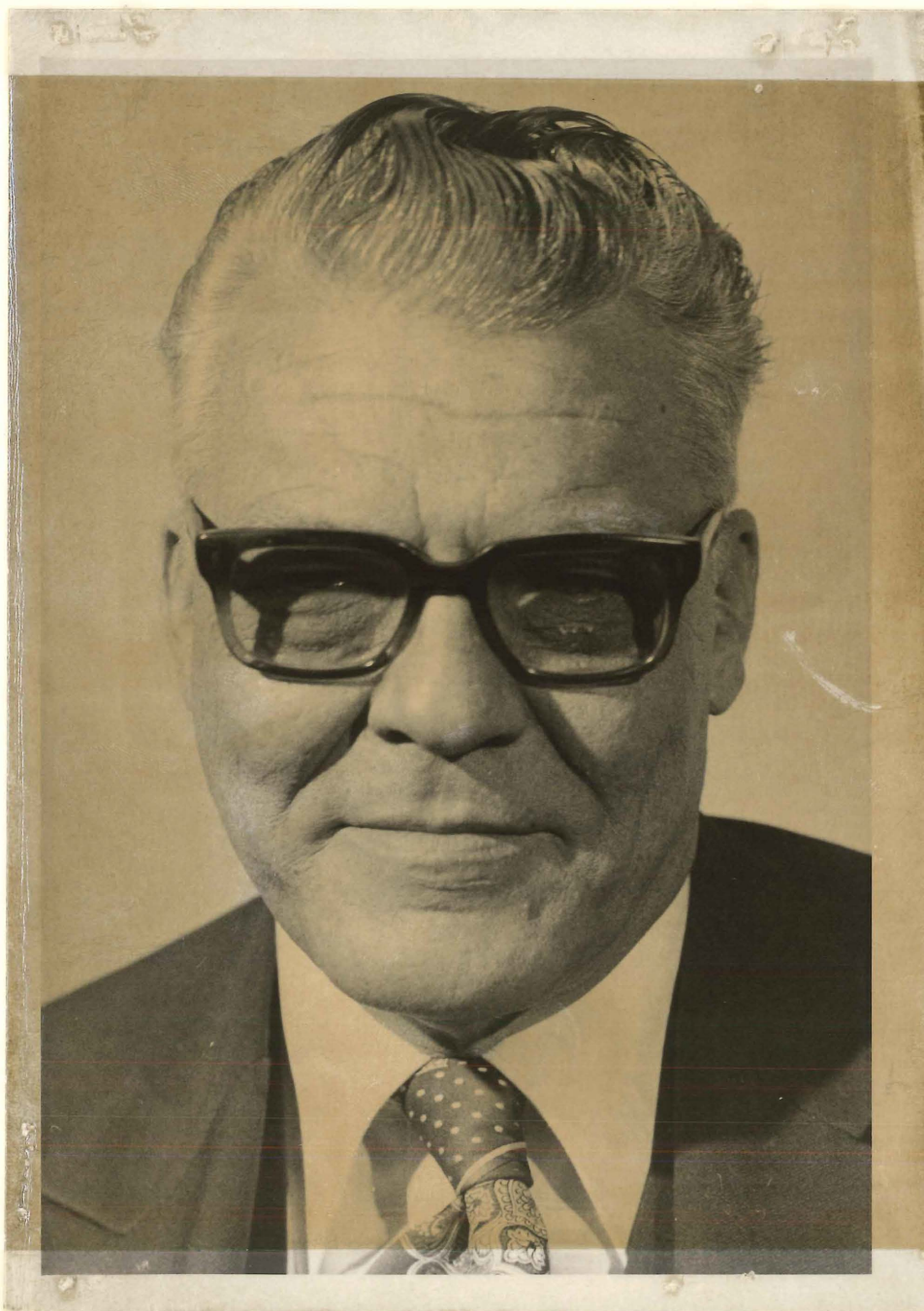
Stewart is the senior MLA of the enlarged 22-member assembly.

MacQuarrie will continue in his official duties as speaker until the formal appointment of the new speaker in Frobisher Bay.

- 30 -

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STEWART NEW ASSEMBLY SPEAKER Photo Release #80-206P



YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 8) - The Territorial government's executive committee has been asked to take the matter of jurisdictional problems between the public utilities board and Northern Canada Power Commission up with Indian and Northern Affairs Minister John Munro.

Bruce McLaughlin, chairman of the Legislative Assembly caucus, said today the matter was discussed Friday by MLAs attending a meeting to choose a new speaker for its 22-member house.

McLaughlin said a letter was delivered to the executive committee requesting the meeting take place. It also urged the committee to meet with the utilities board to identify problem areas and to gain its views on what needs to be done.

(more)

Relationships between the board and NCPC came to a head last Thursday.

The power commission, appearing before the board to explain proposed rate increases, served notice it would not follow the board's earlier order to pay half the costs incurred by the City of Yellowknife during an earlier intervention.

As a result, chairman of the utilities board Gordon Carter adjourned the hearing until the status of the crown corporation in relation to the territorial board is determined or agreed upon.

As a creature of the federal government, the question is whether or not the utilities board can enforce its jurisdiction over NCPC.

Meanwhile, McLaughlin stated caucus had also requested the executive to prepare a background paper on NCPC for presentation and discussion at its fall session scheduled to begin in Frobisher Bay Oct. 22.

Caucus also wants Munro to be present in Frobisher for discussions with the assembly, discussions which are sure to include the jurisdictional problems between the utilities board and NCPC.

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 9) - Wayne Dennis has been appointed corrections superintendent for the Yellowknife Corrections Institute (YCI), deputy minister of social services Ron Crossley announced this week.

Dennis' appointment is retroactive to Aug. 15. He replaces former YCI superintendent Don Campbell, who was transferred to Frobisher Bay in November.

The holder of an applied master's degree in criminology, he has 10 years' experience in the corrections field, all with the federal corrections service in his native Prince Albert, Sask.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 4) - Fort Smith Regional Director D.P. (Mush) Mersereau has resigned his position with the Northwest Territories government.

Mersereau, ending 12 years of employment with the government, will be retiring to the Caribou region of interior British Columbia where he owns property near 108 Mile House.

His resignation, effective Sept. 30, was announced today by Commissioner John Parker who stated he regretted seeing him leave, but understood Mersereau and his wife Maggie had been considering the move for some time.

Mersereau came north in 1965 as an engineer with the federal department of Indian affairs and northern development.

He joined the Territorial government's department of public works in 1968 and a year later became regional director for the Inuvik Region.

(more)

REGIONAL DIRECTOR RETIRES - 2

In 1973 he moved to a similar position in Fort Smith for a two-year period before becoming director of natural and cultural affairs (now renewable resources) in Yellowknife in 1975. Three years later he returned to Fort Smith as regional director.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 4) - The Government of the N.W.T. won't have the special status it wants at the September round of constitutional talks in Ottawa, Elected Executive Leader George Braden announced today.

Braden made the statement while accepting the offer of limited observer participation made by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in a telex received yesterday. The same offer was made to the Yukon government.

"While the N.W.T. Government welcomes this opportunity, I must," Braden said in reply, "point out that observer status falls far short of the role which we would prefer to assume.

"Very briefly, the two Territorial governments believe that they form a third level of government in Canada and should therefore be accorded special status at the constitutional talks," including the right to participate in all discussions.

(more)

Braden and James Wah-Shee, minister of local government responsible for constitutional development, will represent the Territories at the discussions, being held in Ottawa Sept. 8 to 12.

The Territorial delegation will be present only during the open or public sessions of the talks, being attended by first ministers of all provinces. Observer status allows them no input into the discussions as they take place.

The prime minister repeated his government's intention to continue to represent the Territories as part of the federal position. Input to this position would be made through preliminary talks with Jean Chretien, the federal minister of justice responsible for constitutional renewal, Trudeau said.

Braden responded that the Yukon and Northwest Territories have also previously expressed their wish to "state their positions independent of the federal constitutional working group and the department of Indian affairs and northern development."

"I will require clarification of the proposed working relationship with Mr. Chretien," Braden replied.

The elected leader said his government "recognizes the significance of your according observer status" as "a break from the past practice".

He added however that "we must ensure Territorial input to reflect the unique cultural, economic, political and geographic factors which are reflected in the Canadian north."

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 4) - Closer ties between the Northwest Territories and Newfoundland have resulted from a recent trip to that province, says the Territorial government's Elected Executive Leader George Braden.

He said today that both areas of Canada "have a lot in common. There's a strong inter-relationship and we hope to develop it further."

Braden, who is also minister of economic development and tourism, spent five days in Newfoundland and Labrador. With him were Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee, Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo, and Minister of Education and of Justice and Public Service Tom Butters.

Joe Goudie, Newfoundland's minister of rural, agricultural and northern development hosted the group.

(more)

The tour included visits to St. John's, the Trinity and Conception Bay areas west of the capital, and a trip to Goose Bay and Nain in Labrador.

Talks were held throughout the trip with provincial cabinet ministers and officials of the departments of tourism, development, mines and energy and with executives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Corporation.

Ministers of both governments gained an appreciation of the striking similarities in the issues and concerns facing the people of both national localities, Braden said.

The parallels between the Northwest Territories' and Newfoundland's attempts to stimulate economic growth while maintaining a traditional lifestyle were apparent.

Like the N.W.T., Newfoundland is entering a time of rapid non-renewable resource development in its off-shore oil fields.

And, as in the Territories, economic growth at the community level in Newfoundland and Labrador must cope with difficulties in transportation, limited wage employment, isolation from markets and services and the development of limited yet reliable renewable resource bases.

With its 480-year history of boom and bust resource economy, Newfoundland shares the Territorial concern for preservation of lifestyles beyond economic fluctuations.

(more)

One approach to these problems is the Newfoundland system of allowing local businessmen to identify and develop local economic opportunities, Braden said.

Under the rural, agricultural and northern development-sponsored program, core funding is provided in limited amounts to local development corporations or associations along with initial advice from department consultants.

Area residents are responsible for setting up the corporation or association and mobilizing capital and manpower to run projects. Local selection of suitable business ventures, elected members were told, fosters a sense of responsibility for the success of the operation, as well as pride of achievement.

Development association members that executive committee members spoke to expressed their appreciation for a government program that draws on their knowledge of the locality, providing them with the opportunity to decide how to put the resources at hand to work for their own benefit while deciding what economic ventures will compliment the local lifestyle.

Braden and the other Territorial ministers saw practical demonstrations of the development association principle on visits to a trout farm, mink ranch, fish plant and smoker, shipbuilding operation, meat-packing plant, fertilizer factory and saw mill. All were projects of the local development corporation.

(more)

On a larger economic scale, elected members were impressed by the progress the province has made in setting regulations aimed at bringing the benefits of off-shore petroleum development on-shore to the provincial workforce.

Leo Barry, minister of mines and energy, told the elected members the regulations are intended to take the peaks and falls out of sudden resource development, reducing the disruption of the provincial way of life.

The regulations provide preferential treatment for provincial firms tendering service contracts to resource developers. Other regulations allow the province to stagger the development of individual petroleum leases, buffering the boom and bust economy possibility.

"The challenge Newfoundland and Labrador is facing - bringing the benefits of resource and economic development to the people of the province while maintaining the quality of the traditional lifestyle - is very relevant to the Territories," Braden observed.

"There are a lot of lessons in local initiatives and ordered development to be taken from Newfoundland and Labrador. We gained a lot from this visit."

Newfoundland politicians and officials continually expressed their interest in the progress being made in the N.W.T. towards achieving provincial status.

(more)

"We feel the N.W.T. should have provincial-like status in the resource field," Braden told a gathering of Labrador businessmen.

"This is one reason we are very interested in seeking some special representation in the talks on the constitution. We think it is irresponsible for the Government of Canada to keep us out of that forum."

The process of government and the nature of life in the Northwest Territories were topics of high interest at a round of seminars held in Goose Bay, Labrador.

The four ministers were met at the District Vocational School by an audience of more than 100 persons who had turned out to gain an insight into life north of 60.

Breaking into discussion groups, the ministers posed and fielded questions on such topics as wildlife management, education, community government and the economic climate in the Territories.

In an overview of the trip, Braden described the awareness gained as very beneficial.

"We don't want to re-invent the wheel," he says, "We'll be studying the approaches they've been taking in many fields and looking at ways to adapt them to the Territories. We can learn from their experience."

(more)

G. J. O'Reilly, Newfoundland's deputy minister of rural, agricultural and northern development, put it this way:

"There's more of a relationship between Newfoundland and the Northwest Territories than there is between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia."

A group of senior officials from Newfoundland plan to visit the Territories at a later date.

- 30 -

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Cutlines to accompany press release # 80-201P:

Photo A showing table with frozen fish in foreground:

The char fishery is big community business in Nain, Labrador as Executive Committée members Tom Butters, George Braden, and James Wah-Shee (right to left) saw first-hand. A tour of the fish packing and smoking plant in the Labrador Sea coastal community was just one stop in the delegation's five-day tour of Newfoundland and Labrador last week. At left, a fisheries department official explains the packing process.

Photo B showing Richard Nerysoo, centre addressing group in board room:

Renewable Resources Minister Richard Nerysoo (centre) exchanges views on wildlife management and renewable resource development with wildlife officials and residents of Goose Bay, Labrador. Workshops were held at the District Vocational School to give residents an opportunity to quiz the Territorial government ministers on various aspects of government and life in the N.W.T.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 26) - The Territorial government is ready to play a major role in administering resource development in the Northwest Territories, an environmental review and assessment panel learned here Monday night.

Rod Morrison, the government's deputy minister of economic development and tourism, said it is "critical the North be able to affect the way in which resource development proceeds."

He told the panel that the government must ensure maximum possible benefit and minimum negative impact on the people and the environment in the N.W.T.

Administration of resource development in the Territories is presently a federal government responsibility.

(more)

TERRITORIES WANTS RESOURCE ROLE - 2

The environmental review and assessment panel is meeting in Yellowknife this week to receive briefs on the proposed Norman Wells oil field expansion and pipeline project by Esso Resources Ltd.

The pipeline would run from the Wells down the lower Mackenzie Valley to existing pipeline systems in northern Alberta.

Morrison said that historically "the territorial government has avoided vigorous discussion on resource development projects."

He said this was due mainly because of the relationship between the northern government, its commissioner and Ottawa.

Times have changed.

"With our evolving political system and the encouragement of Indian and Northern Affairs Minister John Munro, we are now becoming involved."

Morrison said it is appropriate for other jurisdictions and processes to recognize this fact and to ensure their actions do not jeopardize the very positive potential benefits that will surely result for the N.W.T. and for Canada as a whole.

(more)

He told the panel, the government's resource development committee had designed a review process to deal comprehensively and consistently with those aspects of resource development that come within its mandate.

The process is designed to ensure both public and industry exchange and have input on resource projects and issues before a decision is taken by the Territorial government's executive arm on whether or not a project should proceed, he said.

The review process is to be presented to the panel later this week.

"It is the public who ultimately must live with the impacts and changes that accompany resource development," Morrison said. "Only through this approach can development in the North advance in a spirit of cooperation rather than confrontation."

The N.W.T., at the moment, does not receive the normal resource revenues which accrue to the provinces and enable them to meet the impacts of development.

"Because of this, it is critical that a system be put in place that ensures the Territorial government can affect the way in which development proceeds," Morrison said.

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 22) - Michael Pontus has been appointed assistant deputy minister of health. The announcement was made today by Minister of Health Arnold McCallum.

Pontus has been heading the department in an acting capacity for several months. He reports to Ron Crossley who is deputy minister for the departments of health and social services.

The department of health now has an annual budget of about \$27,000,000. It has responsibility for insurance programs (including Territorial Hospital Insurance and the N.W.T. Medical Care Plan), hospital administration and health programs and standards.

Pontus first joined the department in 1976 as a program policy officer and became chief of health insurance programs in 1977. He also has previous hospital administrative experience in Vancouver.

(more)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED - 2

Mr. Pontus, 32, has a B.A. from Carleton University and a B.Sc. from the University of British Columbia where he also took the Master of Science program in health services planning and administration.

Mr. Crossley also announced the appointment of Elaine Berthelet as chief of health programs and standards.

Ms. Berthelet has been with the department of health for two years as a program officer and head of the health information and promotion section.

Her responsibilities will include review of the standard of health care, assessing health care needs and developing appropriate programs and legislation and promotion of good health practices.

Prior to joining the Territorial Government she had seven years experience in nursing, teaching public health, program planning and promotion.

She is a registered nurse with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Saskatchewan.

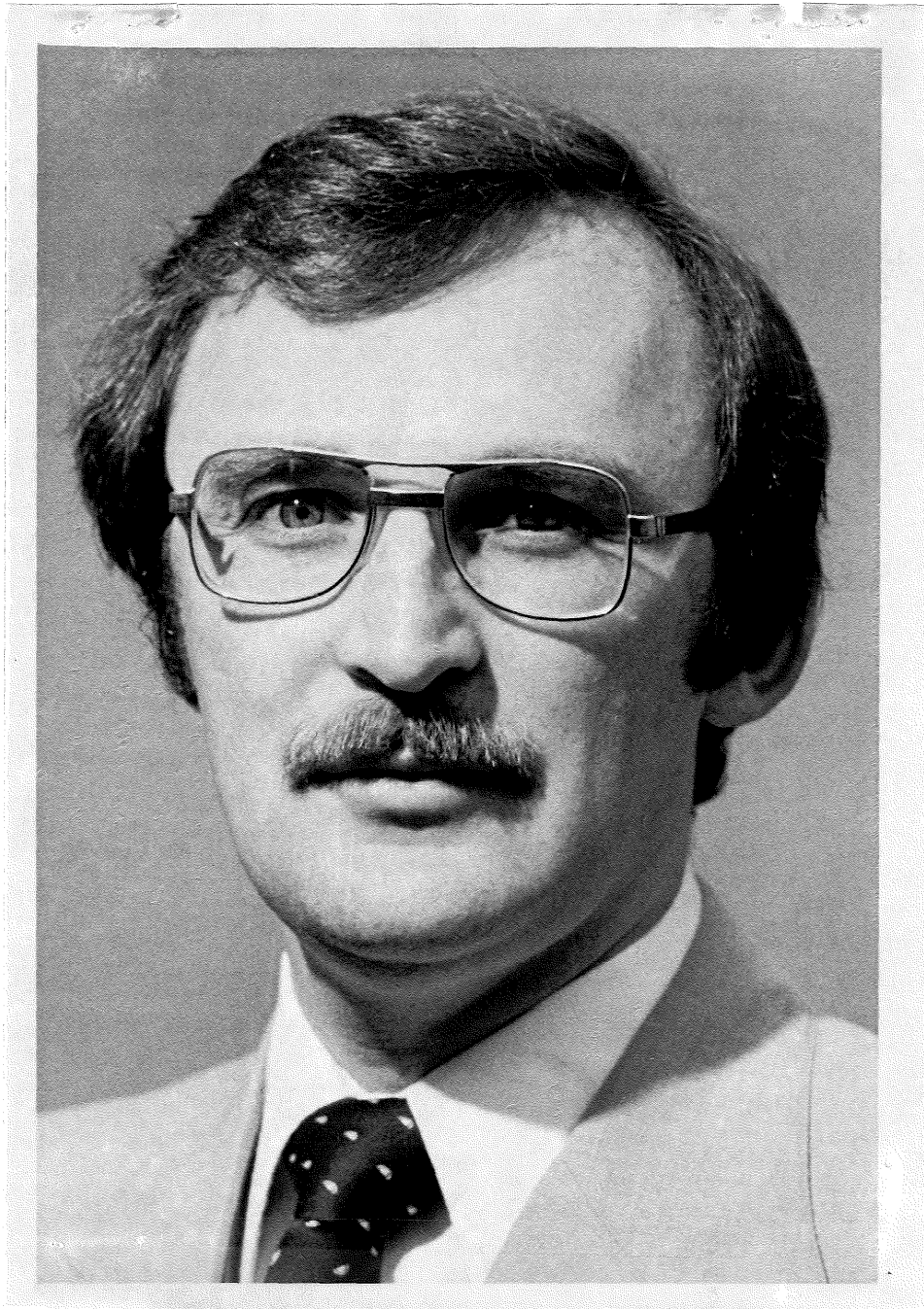
- 30 -

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Health Department Appointments Announced

Photo release to accompany #80-199P





YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 21) - The economic impacts of the Polaris Mines project on the total Northwest Territories will be small but positive, according to a socio-economic study released Wednesday.

This will be the case for most resource development projects until the territories develops a broader industrial base, the report states.

Prepared by the Yellowknife consulting firm Outcrop for Cominco Ltd., the 200-page document was presented to the Territorial government's Minister of Economic Development and Tourism George Braden Friday.

Braden, also leader of the elected executive, said the government's resource development committee would review the report and that copies were being sent to various organizations with specific interests in the development.

(more)

Cominco is estimating a total construction expenditure of \$100 million to bring the lead-zinc ore body to the production stage. The mine, located on Little Cornwallis Island about 60 miles from Resolute Bay, has a projected lifespan of 21 to 25 years.

The extent to which the mine will have a positive effect on the N.W.T. will relate to whether Cominco can and does successfully implement its current plans, the report notes.

Those plans included labour rotation rather than establishment of a permanent townsite and the study confirms that approach.

"While the townsite might lessen the impact on families, the cost, the social problems involved in establishing a new Arctic community, and the anticipated desertion of established communities, particularly Resolute, indicate a townsite should not be considered at this time," the report states.

It adds that a rotating workforce of Inuit people will have a positive social effect in that it permits employees to practice both the traditional and wage-earning lifestyles.

The report recommends a 6-4 rotation be tried, with careful monitoring of the program for the first two years. If it proves unsatisfactory, Cominco should be prepared to adjust the rotation schedule to more closely meet the identified needs of Inuit employees.

(more)

Resolute Bay is expected to benefit most from the mine.

The study concludes that marginal businesses in that high arctic community could return to a profitable position and some new business opportunities could arise. The major benefit for Resolute would be increased employment income.

Employment benefits would also be spread amongst a number of Arctic coastal communities, their extent depending on whether transportation costs between the mine and the workers home community are paid for.

Cominco, at the moment, plans to pay airfares for employees to and from hiring centres located in Montreal, Edmonton, Yellowknife, Cambridge Bay and Coppermine. Workers would be responsible to pay their own fares between home communities and the hiring centres.

The report suggests an arrangement be worked out between Cominco and the government to assist northern employees who live outside of these centres.

From a territorial perspective, the study states that much of the economic benefit to the North will result from location of the administrative-operating office in Yellowknife. Locating in the capital will not only maximize benefits resulting from direct employment, but also from employment resulting from the purchases of supplies and services.

(more)

Hand-in-hand with that recommendation is the suggestion that Cominco should implement a northern purchase policy for its Polaris Mine project.

"The matter of northern preference should be defined and the policy should be designed in such a way that northern business can be more competitive with southern businesses and have the opportunity to submit tenders for jobs they are equipped to handle."

The report also notes that the government's small business development programs should take into account the requirements of proposed major resource development projects and that Cominco should give recruitment and training of northerners high priority to ensure employment benefits of the mine remain in the N.W.T.

In conjunction with the latter, Cominco should establish goals for employment of northerners and should employ a coordinator for native recruitment-training. There should also be a full time recruiter-counsellor in Resolute with similar positions working part time in other communities that show a high interest in Polaris employment, the study explains.

It adds that the study team found that attitudes towards the project ranged from resigned acceptance to moderate enthusiasm. Community members appeared to think the project would go ahead and that they should attempt to take advantage of it.

(more)

POLARIS STUDY RELEASED - 5

The Resolute Settlement Council, on the other hand, felt there was interest in getting jobs but expressed a degree of skepticism about the project.

"They are concerned that they are hearing only the good things about the mine and are hearing many promises ... they have some doubts that the mine will follow through on these promises," the report concludes.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 21) - Elected members of the Territorial government's Executive Committee are travelling to Newfoundland and Labrador this weekend for meetings with top provincial government leaders.

Elected Executive Leader George Braden will head the delegation, scheduled to meet with Newfoundland Premier Brian Peckford and his ministers.

Accompanying Braden are James Wah-Shee, minister of local government, Richard Nerysoo, minister of renewable resources and Tom Butters, minister of justice and public services and of education.

Economic and resource development issues will figure largely in talks between ministers and officials of the two governments, Braden says.

(more)

ELECTED EXECUTIVE VISITS NEWFOUNDLAND - 2

Newfoundland's minister of rural, agricultural and northern development, Joe Goudie, and Leo Barry, minister of industrial development, will take part in the discussions with the Territorial ministers.

Arriving in St. John's Sunday, the delegation will be the guests of Premier Peckford at an official reception attended by members of the Newfoundland cabinet Monday evening.

Discussions on such topics as offshore oil and gas development and revenues, hydro power and economic development in remote areas will take up much of the ministers' three-day stay on the island.

A guided tour of economic development projects in the Conception Bay area will also provide ministers with insights into provincial programs to stimulate the economies of smaller settlements.

Development minister Goudie departs Thursday with the party for Goose Bay, Labrador where more tours of local economic enterprises are planned.

John McGrath, the assistant deputy minister of rural, agricultural and northern development for Labrador and a former Territorial economic development officer will advise the ministers on local approaches to the problems of remote settlements.

All of next Thursday and Friday will be spent in the Goose Bay area, with the party departing Saturday for the Territories.

- 30 -

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FORT SIMPSON (Aug. 21) - The very people who own the non-renewable resources of the N.W.T. - northerners - won't benefit that much from their development.

George Braden, the Territorial government's Elected Executive Leader, says that unless things change that's the case in the proposed Norman Wells oilfield expansion and pipeline and in the development of all other non-renewable resources in the N.W.T.

Braden called it a "major and alarming concern" of the Territorial government that "there are no arrangements concluded to date" with the federal government for the Northwest Territories to receive "an identifiable share of the federal royalties generated by the development of non-renewable resources in the N.W.T."

Braden brought this message home today to the Environmental Assessment Review Panel (EARP) meeting in Fort Simpson to hear representations on the Esso Resources Ltd., proposal to increase production of its Norman Wells oilfield and build a pipeline to take that oil south.

(more)

The Elected Executive Leader said that the Territorial government supports Esso's project but feels it should be delayed until several concerns are resolved.

He named these concerns as the lack of a long-term plan for the development of non-renewable resources, identifiable revenue-sharing, outstanding aboriginal claims, the absence of guarantees to ensure supplies of energy to the Territories and the need for a northern-based authority to control and regulate resource development.

These concerns were jointly presented to the federal government in June by the Territorial government, the Dene Nation and the Metis Association of the N.W.T., but there has yet to be a response from Ottawa.

"What this government has had difficulty with and continues to be frustrated with is the complete disregard of the Government of Canada in acknowledging that our aspirations are reasonable and in the national interest," Braden said.

Braden added: "We, like our sister provinces in southern Canada, believe that these resources naturally belong to the Northwest Territories and that we, as part of Canada, must also share in the benefits to be derived" from them.

Braden endorsed the environmental, business and employment opportunities and community infrastructure aspects of the proposal, on which representations will be made by his staff at hearings later in Yellowknife.

(more)

The Elected Executive Leader confined his remarks largely to the pressing issues of revenue-sharing and orderly resource development and supply for Territorial residents.

While the federal government can expect an estimated \$172 million in direct revenues per year from the Esso project, the Territories will receive only \$6 million per year from taxation.

Meanwhile, savings to the federal government's oil import compensation fund between the years 1984 and 2008 are estimated at more than \$800 million. And this is in 1979 figures not adjusted for inflation.

On the other hand, benefits to the Territories under the present tax structure are "not worth mentioning", Braden pointed out.

Compounding this, is the "disturbing and paradoxical" prospect of dealing with uncertain and costly southern energy supplies while if the Norman Wells project goes ahead, over twice the present Territorial consumption of oil will flow south from it alone.

Braden said he would be looking into the details of Esso Resources Ltd.'s plans for continued refinement of Norman Wells production for Territorial use.

"In its present form," he said of the proposal, "the increased production will be transported to southern Canada and we will be left with the same old problem of negotiating with southern companies and the federal government to supply our energy needs."

(more)

The situation must be resolved, Braden said, before work on the Norman Wells project can be justified to the rest of the Territories.

"As a condition of this project, we demand guarantees of supply and equitable distribution of energy for our northern residents" in the Eastern as well as the Western Arctic, Braden said.

The Executive Committee's solidarity with N.W.T. native organizations was confirmed by Braden, who observed the "project will have profound effect on the native people of the Mackenzie Valley and in their view could alienate legitimate aboriginal rights if a settlement is not reached or underway prior to the approval of the project."

Earlier in his presentation, Braden called the proponents of the Norman Wells project "sensitive developers" and expressed his sympathy that they are "caught in this intergovernmental dispute."

However, he concluded, "We intend to continue our efforts to achieve a reasonable compromise with the federal government on resource matters."

And to this end, he said, "I would encourage all northern participants to join forces with this government and the native associations of the N.W.T. to present a unified stance" to the federal government.

The EARP representation is Braden's second in five months and, he speculated, his last.

(more)

The Territorial government is now enacting its own socio-economic review process.

"Later on in these hearings, you will be receiving from our officials an overview of our process and I am confident, Mr. Chairman, that you and your colleagues will respect our initiatives and thereby make a recommendation to the Minister of the Environment that all future EARP review processes in the N.W.T. restrict themselves to environmental issues," he said.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 19) - More time is needed to put together the new policy on lottery licensing procedures, says Bill Johns, chief of Consumer Services.

"We're extending our deadline from Aug. 31 to March 1," he said, "this will allow time to circulate the policy to interested parties before implementation."

Meanwhile, organizations now holding licences which expire Aug. 30 are required to re-apply for licensing. Licences issued then will expire March 1, 1981. Licence holders will be receiving letters and applications forms from the consumer affairs office.

Organizations wanting to make submissions regarding the new lottery licensing policy can send them to Laurie Harder, consumer affairs officer, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 18) - The Territorial government is providing \$800,000 in advance grant money to the City of Yellowknife for its new arena complex.

The announcement was made today by George Braden, Leader of the Elected Executive.

The financial assistance is in advance of executive approval of a new government program to assist communities with the cost of constructing public recreation facilities.

Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee gave final approval yesterday to the allocation of the advance grant monies.

He said the City of Yellowknife is also still eligible for \$276,000 under the government's existing community recreation centre grant program. The city had earlier received \$24,000 from that program.

(more)

YELLOWKNIFE GETS RECREATION CENTRE FUNDING - 2

In total, Wah-Shee said the government will have made available financial assistance of up to \$1,1 million for the project.

"The government recognizes the efforts of your city council and those of previous councils and of the citizens of Yellowknife who have worked long and hard towards realization of this worthwhile project," he stated in a letter to the city.

Wah-Shee explained that staff of his department are presently reviewing the government's existing grant program and that he expects to have their recommendations for a new program by September.

"Naturally," he said, "the city would not be eligible for additional assistance under this new program for some period of time."

Funding for public recreation facilities is not new.

Broughton Island, Frobisher Bay and Tuktoyaktuk each received over \$1 million to assist in financing construction of their complexes in previous years.

The offer of \$800,000 in advance grant money to the City of Yellowknife was accepted by Mayor Mike Ballantyne on behalf of city council. He said the city will add the money to the \$1.1 million already raised for construction of the arena complex.

(more)

YELLOWKNIFE GETS RECREATION CENTRE FUNDING - 3

The city will receive the funding in blocks as each stage of the design and construction process are completed. The agreement is similar to the way in which funds are provided to school boards for construction of new facilities, with the city invoicing the Territorial government as contractors complete project segments.

The city has agreed to hire design consultants and construction contractors while the Territorial department of public works will monitor progress of work on the complex.

DPW will maintain a "close working relationship" with the city throughout the project, assisting the city upon request in the preparation of preliminary estimates, selection of consultants and review of design and tender documents.

Wah-Shee noted that city management of the architectural and construction contracting work will result in an arena that reflects the council's design wishes and needs.

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 19) - Private and public interventions to the Northern Canada Power Commission's (NCPC) latest application for an increase in electricity rates will be heard at a public hearing set for Sept. 4 in Yellowknife, Public Utilities Board (PUB) executive secretary Dale Thomson announced today.

The PUB has also directed the utility to either explain its position at that time on the non-payment of intervention costs incurred by the City of Yellowknife at hearings last spring or pay the \$3,250 intervention expense bill prior to the new round of hearings.

Interventions are expected from the City of Yellowknife, Consumers' Association of Canada, Cominco Ltd.'s Pine Point and Yellowknife operations and Plains Western Gas and Electric.

NCPC is the sole supplier of electrical power to the majority of N.W.T. communities.

In a letter of notification to the crown corporation, the PUB has directed NCPC to be prepared to explain and defend four aspects of its present operation.

(more)

The PUB and intervenors will be addressing:

- the legality of notification periods in the contracts with Plains Western Gas and Electric and Cominco Pine Point

- NCPC's progress in developing a policy aimed at reducing the disparity between power rates paid in communities throughout the Territories

- the utility's ability to accurately forecast electrical consumption

- NCPC's rate setting practices on hydro-electricity supplied to Yellowknife, Rae-Edzo and Fort Smith consumers.

The application for rate increase is the utilities second of this year. Interventions filed with the PUB at hearings in March resulted in a reduction order on the proposed rate increases.

NCPC has sought an interim decision on the new rate proposal, although the PUB has set an early hearing date rather than grant the interim increase.

Information on filing interventions and copies of the proposed increase are available from the Public Utilities Board in Yellowknife.

Contact: Craig Yeo 873-7343

Dale Thomson 873-7494

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 14) - The Legislative Assembly's special committee on education plans to hold public hearings in all communities of the Northwest Territories.

Bruce McLaughlin, MLA Pine Point, said today the hearings should get underway in January of next year at the latest.

McLaughlin, co-chairman of the six-member committee, said "every resident of the Territories as well as its many organizations, will be provided with an opportunity to present their views".

In addition, professional personnel knowledgeable in the area of northern cross-cultural education will be hired to provide advice to the committee and to conduct surveys in special problem areas.

(more)

EDUCATION STUDY PLANNED - 2

It is the first time that such a study - expected to take two years - has been undertaken in the N.W.T.

McLaughlin co-chairs the committee with Tagak Curley, MLA Keewatin South.

Other members include Nellie Cournoyea, MLA Western Arctic; Dennis Patterson, MLA Frobisher Bay; Kane Tologanak, MLA Central Arctic; and Robert Sayine, MLA Great Slave East.

The committee, which concluded organizational meetings in Yellowknife today, was established to inquire into all aspects of education in the Territories. A further organizational meeting is planned for early September.

Details concerning the scheduling of public hearings will be announced following that meeting.

In the meantime, members of the committee are soliciting the support and eventual involvement of every northern resident and group interested in an improved educational system.

David Hamilton, assistant clerk of the assembly, has been named secretary to the committee.

The committee's final report is intended to provide the basis for recommendations to the Legislative Assembly respecting education.

(more)

EDUCATION STUDY PLANNED - 3

Curley said some areas of concern that have been talked about and must receive attention are: children dropping out of school; the place of language and culture in the classroom; administrative organization; how teachers are hired and what they should teach; and the overall quality of education.

- 30 -

Contact: David Hamilton
Telephone: (403) 873-7255

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 11) - Three candidates have announced their nomination for the Sept. 15 by-election in the Baffin Central riding.

The by-election is being held to fill the Legislative Assembly seat left vacant in May by the resignation of James Arreak.

The candidates are Stevie Audlakiak of Broughton Island and Iola Metuq and Ipeelee Kilabuk of Pangnirtung.

All three candidates are hunters. Audlakiak and Kilabuk both ran in the Oct., 1979 Legislative Assembly general election.

Nominations for the by-election closed at 2 p.m. Aug. 11.

YELLOWKNIFE (August 7) - Commissioner John Parker will escort Governor-General and Mrs. Edward Schreyer during the four days of the vice-regal couple's first official visit to the Northwest Territories.

The tour includes visits to Yellowknife, Cambridge Bay, Coppermine and Fort Simpson. Commissioner and Mrs. Helen Parker will accompany the Governor-General throughout the official tour, concluding in Fort Simpson Saturday Aug. 16.

An Honorary Patron of the Royal Society of Canada, the Governor-General was invited to Yellowknife to address the opening banquet of the society's three-day symposium "A Century of Canada's Arctic Islands".

(more)

GOVERNOR-GENERAL ON FIRST TERRITORIAL VISIT - 2

He arrives in Yellowknife about 3 p.m. Sunday at the DND Hangar. While in the capital, he will tour the city with Mayor Mike Ballantyne and visit the students' hostel at Akaitcho Hall.

The Governor-General and Mrs. Schreyer will spend two days holidaying at a private fishing lodge in the Cambridge Bay area.

The tour resumes Thursday with a visit to the Coast Guard icebreaker M.V. Bernier before travelling by helicopter to Cambridge Bay for an evening coffee reception.

Friday, the mayor of Cambridge Bay will guide the party on a tour of the community and its co-op. A visit to the local DEW Line site is planned.

From Cambridge Bay, the group travels to Coppermine where MLA Kane Tologanak (Central Arctic) and the mayor of Coppermine will guide them on a tour of the community and a visit to the local school.

Leaving Coppermine, the Governor-General will arrive in Fort Simpson Friday evening for a public coffee reception in the community hall.

The Schreyers depart Fort Simpson Saturday morning.

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 6) - Yellowknifers will be welcoming Governor-General Edward Schreyer and his family this Sunday at a public reception in honor of the vice-regal family's first visit to the Territorial capital.

Commissioner and Mrs. John Parker have invited all city residents and visitors to attend the informal reception, being held in the Explorer Hotel's Katimavik Room at 8:30 p.m.

The Governor-General is visiting Yellowknife to attend the Royal Society of Canada's symposium, "A Century of Canada's Arctic Islands".

Coffee will be served at the reception, with the public invited to take this opportunity to meet and talk with the Governor-General and his family.

YELLOWKNIFE (July 31) - Economic Development and Tourism Minister George Braden says that every time the federal government sets aside land in the Northwest Territories the future rights of its residents are being prejudiced.

His remarks came during a luncheon Thursday for an international group of broadcasters and journalists destined to visit a world heritage site at Nahanni National Park later in the day.

"Our government believes that while the Northwest Territories may be the backyard of the nation, it should not continue to be the playpen of the federal government to do with as it wishes," Braden stated.

The group, sponsored by UNESCO, is scheduled to visit eight world heritage sites during its two-week tour of North America.

(more)

Braden told the delegation the N.W.T. had a lot of problems but that many of them stem from the fact that it has not yet entered Confederation and that it is subject to well-meaning "but often misguided rule" by the government of Canada in Ottawa.

He said the Territorial government supports, in principle, the concepts of preservation and conservation of historic, natural and cultural sites.

"But we believe these concepts cannot be applied using criteria that have largely been evolved from a southern perspective ... especially at a time when northern residents are seeking control over northern lands and resources."

Residents of the Territories, at the moment, are involved in intense land claim discussions with the federal government, claims that involve not only land and resources but constitutional matters as well.

Braden, who also serves as leader of the government's elected executive members, said the Territories can evolve the institutions and jurisdiction to enable it to make wise choices on the establishment of parks and on the development of natural resources for the benefit of northerners and Canadians generally.

In the interim, the government has to continue to press its federal counterparts to ensure northern interests are considered and respected in any plans for national parks, heritage sites, wilderness preserves and international biological sites.

(more)

OUR RIGHTS PREJUDICED - BRADEN - 3

"We must ensure that our present interests and our options for the future are not alienated because southerners in Ottawa want to create parks 3,000 miles from their home."

Braden added that the Territories' major challenge will be to develop the necessary jurisdiction in order that northerners and their institutions of government can exercise control over how land and resources in the N.W.T. are used.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7251
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 30) - Cost and feasibility data on recovering waste heat from diesel-generated electricity stations is now available through the Territorial government's office of energy conservation.

Researched and compiled by Yellowknife's Ferguson, Naylor and Simek engineering firm, the information surveys 42 Canadian generating stations and details their individual waste-heat output and local markets for its consumption.

Called "An Inventory of Major Diesel Generating Systems in Canada and an Assessment of the Potential for Heat Recovery", the three-volume, 1,800 page document is available to businesses, utilities and government agencies that want to reduce space heating costs and energy waste.

As much as two-thirds of the energy value of fuel is lost as heat in diesel-electrical generation. The federal department of energy, mines and resources commissioned the study in an attempt to provide information to combat this waste.

(more)

HEAT RECOVERY INFORMATION AVAILABLE - 2

Ferguson, Naylor and Simek were commissioned to complete the inventory from among eight national firms invited to submit proposals. Extensive experience in retrofitting diesel-electrical stations in remote communities figured largely in the selection of the firm.

Communities surveyed in the N.W.T. were Hay River, Fort Simpson, Norman Wells, Inuvik, Cambridge Bay, Baker Lake, Rankin Inlet, Frobisher Bay, Resolute Bay and Tungsten. Communities with generating stations of 300-kilowatt capacity or more were included in the terms of reference north of the 60th parallel, while those communities surveyed south of 60° were of 500-kilowatt capacity or more.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 29) - With Territorial demand for Eskimo dogs at an all-time high and breed registration in sight, the Eskimo Dog Research Foundation is living up to its objectives.

Established in 1976 as a non-profit organization, great strides have been made towards re-establishing a pure, registerable strain of the indigenous breed.

Today, it has all but reversed the contamination suffered over the last two centuries by a breeding pool of working dogs which traces its origins back through 2,000 years of Territorial history.

With the stock of Eskimo or Kingmik dogs now in hand, the foundation is pursuing its second objective of re-introducing the breed to its traditional place in northern society.

(more)

ESKIMO DOGS GAINING RECOGNITION - 2

"Our breeding program has received international recognition and support," says foundation executive director Bill Carpenter.

"Now, we're in the process of reaching the various plateaus necessary to produce a registered or pedigreed line of Eskimo dogs within the guidelines of the Canadian Kennel Club.

"But far more importantly to the people of the Northwest Territories, the foundation has introduced a program for providing - free of charge - breeding stocks and teams of dogs to native people in the north who want to adopt more traditional styles of life in outpost camps."

Already, the foundation has donated more than 150 of the true work dogs to outpost camps, hunters and trappers across the Territories.

Requests for more dogs have flowed into the foundation's Yellowknife-based breeding station from others wanting to reduce their dependency upon snowmobiles and costly, uncertain fuel supplies.

The foundation has offered to fill the requests of all Territorial hunters' and trappers' associations provided funding and the resulting proliferation of dogs continues.

(more)

ESKIMO DOGS GAINING RECOGNITION - 3

Interim funding to provide an emergency supply of food for the dogs until more long-term arrangements can be made was approved last week by the Territorial department of economic development and tourism.

The support comes in response to a Legislative Assembly motion passed at the winter session to examine and assess funding support possibilities for the foundation.

In all, 26,000 pounds of rough fish will be supplied to the foundation at a cost to the department of \$3,000. The donation should feed the kennel of 106 adults and 34 pups until about the end of September.

In the past, support for the foundation and its work has come from numerous government, industry and private donors.

"Veterinary care and proper feeding are crucial," Carpenter says, explaining the dogs food supply can be supplemented by no more than 10 per cent grain-based food, owing to the dogs' 2,000 year history of carnivorous feeding by their hunting masters.

So feeding is expensive, amounting to some 350 pounds of fish per day for the kennel population. To date, more than one million pounds of fish have been obtained from the commercial fishermen of Great Slave Lake.

But as the breed has grown, so has public recognition and awareness of the merits of the project.

(more)

ESKIMO DOGS GAINING RECOGNITION - 4

The National Film Board of Canada is now producing a film detailing the work of the foundation, with international distribution planned for 1981.

As well, a Canadian Kennel Club by-law has been passed to pave the way for re-registration of the dog. Plans are now underway to establish other breeding kennels, both in northern and southern Canada.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

ASSISTANT SECRETARY NAMED

80-185

YELLOWKNIFE (July 29) - Commissioner John Parker has announced the appointment of Gary Burch as the assistant secretary of the financial management board.

The appointment fills the position vacated in June, 1979 by Bill Mearns.

Burch has served as acting assistant secretary of the Territorial government's financial management board since April 1. His appointment is retroactive to that time.

A four-year Territorial government employee, he has served with the department of finance and the financial management secretariat since leaving the former department of planning and program evaluation in 1978.

(more)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY NAMED - 2

A graduate in economics from Queen's University, Burch was a consultant on the Mackenzie Delta Regional Plan and to the Berger Inquiry.

The 29-year-old economist will provide support to the board's functions - developing financial planning (including the main estimates) and taking part in financial negotiations with the federal government.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

CHANGES MADE TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

80-184

YELLOWKNIFE (July 29) - Commissioner John Parker announced today that he has transferred responsibility for the executive committee secretariat to George Braden, leader of the elected executive committee members and minister of economic development and tourism. The secretariat has been reporting to the Commissioner.

At the same time, responsibility for energy matters has been transferred from Mr. Braden to Richard Nerysoo, minister of renewable resources. The department of renewable resources includes an energy conservation division.

The changes are effective August 1, 1980.

Commissioner Parker also confirmed the role of the minister of local government, James Wah-Shee, as the minister responsible for aboriginal rights and constitutional development.

Mr. Parker said that these steps are being taken after discussions between himself and those concerned. The changes were confirmed at last Friday's executive committee meeting.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7146
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 28) - The moratorium on taxation of non-salary benefits to northern employees will apply to subsidized housing allowances.

"This will mean a refund to those employees living in private accommodation and receiving housing subsidies in cash on their pay cheque, which has already been taxed," says Territorial Treasurer Jim Nelson.

All northern employers who deduct taxes at source from employees' pay cheques will receive a kit from Revenue Canada in the next few weeks. It will explain how to file payroll information so the refunds can be made to employees. The moratorium is retroactive to the tax year '78-79.

(more)

TAXATION MORATORIUM INCLUDES HOUSING ALLOWANCES - 2

"Employers can now stop deducting tax from the housing allowance on employees' pay cheques, and they also have the option of going back to Jan. 1 of this year to refund the taxes they've already deducted, but not yet submitted to Revenue Canada," said Nelson.

The government will be refunding deducted taxes on housing allowances to its employees from Jan. 1, and will stop deducting this tax effective the first possible pay period.

The moratorium also applies to medical transportation and travel assistance, but these have not customarily been taxed anyway, said Nelson.

Any employers who have not received their explanatory kits by the end of August should contact the territorial treasurer's office at 873-7338 in Yellowknife.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 25) - Commissioner John Parker today announced the appointment of John Argue as his executive assistant.

The appointment fills the position left vacant by the recent appointment of Mike Stilwell to the position of regional director for the Keewatin.

Argue will be leaving his present position as superintendent of economic development in Rankin Inlet to assume his new duties in mid-August.

Extensive Baffin and Keewatin experience - coupled with a sound background in regional operations - were key considerations in the selection of the 10-year Territorial government employee to the position.

"He has excellent field experience and knows the economic and social issues important to the regions," Parker said.

(more)

ARGUE NEW EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT - 2

Rankin's superintendent of economic development for the past three years, he served as the superintendent of local government in the Keewatin from 1974 to 1977 and was the regional development officer for local government in Frobisher Bay from 1970 to 1974.

A political science graduate of the University of Ottawa, Argue was the resident supervisor of students at the Churchill Vocational Center, Churchill, Man., from 1967 to 1968 before returning to Ottawa for master's studies at Carleton University's school of international affairs.

Married and the father of one child, 37-year-old Argue will be moving to Yellowknife in mid-August.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 24) - Temporary assistance to maintain the breeding stock of the Eskimo Dog Research Foundation has been approved by economic development and tourism minister George Braden.

Braden has authorized the donation of up to 26,000 pounds of rough fish to sustain the foundation kennels until alternate funding arrangements can be made.

Strapped for funds, foundation executive director Bill Carpenter appealed to the Legislative Assembly at the winter session for assistance in feeding the growing population of purebred Eskimo or Kingmit dogs.

In compliance with the Assembly's motion of support for temporary assistance, the minister has directed that sufficient fish be supplied to support the dogs until around the end of September.

(more)

ESKIMO DOGS GET INTERIM ASSISTANCE - 2

To date, some 3,750 pounds of rough fish has been supplied at government expense to the foundation.

The Foundation has applied to the Special Agricultural and Rural Development Agency (ARDA) for on-going funding. The Special ARDA committee is scheduled to consider the application for funding at a meeting in early September.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

HEADQUARTERS DPW FLEET REDUCED

80-180

YELLOWKNIFE (July 23) - Increased repair and operations costs - coupled with decreased department funding - have forced the Territorial government's department of public works (DPW) to reduce its vehicle fleet at headquarters.

Eight department vehicles have been withdrawn from service and repairs will only be authorized for municipal service vehicles.

The steps are intended to reduce the sizeable budget drain of increased fuel costs while husbanding repair budget funds for use on essential vehicles.

Announcement of the economy measures was made by Bob Scott, acting deputy minister of public works.

(more)

HEADQUARTERS DPW FLEET REDUCED - 2

The move affects DPW operations in headquarters region, which includes Yellowknife, Rae-Edzo, Lac La Martre, Rae Lakes, Snowdrift and Detah.

The order reduces the combined motor pool and trades operations fleet from 29 to 21 vehicles. Only water and fuel delivery and garbage and sewage pick-up vehicles will be repaired. Other vehicles in need of repairs will be side-lined until sufficient operations funds accumulate to finance repairs.

Headquarters' vehicles operations and maintenance budget was reduced from \$204,000 in the 1979-80 fiscal year to \$89,000 this year, \$53,000 of which is ear-marked for fuel and oil costs. Both repair and fuel budget allocations have exceeded last year's expenditures for the same period, leaving only \$9,000 for repairs for the remainder of the year.

No essential services will suffer due to the restrictions, Scott says, although trades employees may be forced to double-up in vehicles on their maintenance rounds.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

NEWS

VINTAGE GAS PUMP DONATED TO HERITAGE CENTRE

80-179P

YELLOWKNIFE (July 22) - A gravity-fed gasoline pump from the 1940's stands on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. Donated to the centre by Weaver and Devore Trading Ltd. of Yellowknife, the device featured a hand lever (lower right) for pumping the gasoline to the upper glass reservoir from where it flowed by gravity to customers' waiting vehicles. Bought by the Weavers in 1954 from a local operator, the pump serviced the gasoline needs of customers in Yellowknife's Old Town until it was retired from service in 1975.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504



YELLOWKNIFE (July 18) - Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee today announced the appointment of Phil Airhart as the department's assistant deputy minister.

Airhart will report to deputy minister Larry Elkin.

Airhart's appointment fills the post left vacant by the recent appointment of Ron Crossley to the position of deputy minister of health and social services.

Airhart will be leaving his present position as executive director of the land claims secretariat by mid-August to assume his new duties.

A 10-year member of the Territorial civil service, Airhart has served as the secretary to the executive committee as well as the executive assistant to the director of the former executive secretariat.

(more)

Other Territorial government experience includes postings with the departments of local government, finance, and with social development.

A political science graduate of the University of Manitoba, 33-year-old Airhart has lived in Yellowknife since joining the Territorial government in 1970. The Airharts have four children.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

PETROLEUM AND MINING RESOURCE
ADVISORS APPOINTED

80-177

YELLOWKNIFE (July 15) - Expert advice on the formation and impact of government resource development policy will now be directly available to the Territorial government with the appointment of two resource advisors.

Economic development and tourism minister George Braden announced the appointments today.

Walter Kupsch, noted petroleum resource expert, and Roger Blais, highly respected economic geologist and development engineer, have been retained to advise the minister on the formation of major Territorial government resource development policy and its impact on industry.

Selection of the advisors was made in consultation with the N.W.T. Chamber of Mines and the Arctic Petroleum Operators Association.

(more)

PETROLEUM AND MINING RESOURCE
ADVISORS APPOINTED - 2

The appointments fulfill the commitment made by Braden at the Mining Days convention in May to seek a direct line to the two industries through consultation with accepted experts.

"We've obtained the best services available," Braden said, "These men know the industries inside-out and can exert a tremendous positive influence on key resource development decisions in the future."

The pair will report directly to Braden, providing advice on matters referred to their attention as well as analyzing major areas of concern identified by the mining and petroleum industries.

Kupsch, the present co-chairman of the N.W.T. Science Advisory Board, has extensive consulting experience in petroleum exploration in the Arctic Islands. A member of the Science Council of Canada, he is a professor of geology at the University of Saskatchewan. A past consultant with the Saskatchewan department of mineral resources and Gulf Oil Corporation, he was the executive director of the Carrothers Commission in 1965 and 1966.

Blais, the director of resident services at the Polytechnical School of Montreal, is a director of Eldorado Nuclear Ltd. and has served as a development engineer for the Iron Ore Co. of Canada. He has spent several summers in the High Arctic directing mineral exploration and was a member of the Committee of Environmental Experts for the James Bay Project.

(more)

PETROLEUM AND MINING RESOURCE
ADVISORS APPOINTED - 3

Both men are members of the Arctic Institute of North America and both have served as resource advisors and consultants to various provincial governments.

In addition to their advisory duties, the consultants will act as a liaison to their respective industries. They will provide advice to the Resource Development Committee through the deputy minister of economic development and tourism and will consult with the department's mineral and petroleum resources section. The department will provide support staff for their activities.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

TELEVISION AND RADIO FACILITIES TO BE
EXTENDED TO FOUR NORTHERN COMMUNITIES

80-176

YELLOWKNIFE (July 14) - Preparations are well underway to extend television and regional radio to Holman Island, Snowdrift, Hall Beach and Sanikiluaq by early fall.

The department of information visited the communities last week to finalize site selection for the satellite earth stations. Equipment, including 5 metre dishes, has been shipped and installation is scheduled for August.

While the department of information provides and installs the equipment, the communities are responsible for preparing the site, including the building of a concrete pad and supplying a small utility shed to house the electronic equipment.

The communications program is designed to provide satellite-fed television and radio to locations with populations between 250 and 500.

(more)

TELEVISION AND RADIO FACILITIES TO BE
EXTENDED TO FOUR NORTHERN COMMUNITIES - 2

Six communities have received the facilities since 1978. The completion of this year's installations will bring the number of communities served to 10. Five more locations are scheduled for 1981: Lake Harbour, Clyde River, Broughton Island, Repulse Bay and Lac La Martre.

Hall Beach and Sanikiluaq will receive regional radio from the CBC satellite up-link in Frobisher Bay and Holman Island will be tied into the CBC's Inuvik radio network. Snowdrift will initially receive only TV, but facilities are being installed to connect them with the CBC's Mackenzie radio network when the corporation gets a satellite up-link in Yellowknife.

Most communities are also taking advantage of the transmitter provided to tie-in their own local radio station. Coral Harbour, Arctic Bay, Chesterfield Inlet and Fort Liard have community stations connected to the system. Pelly Bay is planning to establish a local station and Snowdrift and Hall Beach are seriously considering the option. Sanikiluaq already has a local AM radio station, but they are looking at switching to an FM operation for a cleaner signal.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7146
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 10) - A by-election will be held Sept. 15 in the Baffin Central riding to fill the Legislative Assembly seat left vacant this spring by the resignation of MLA James Arreak.

The writ of election will be issued shortly by the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada at the direction of Commissioner John Parker.

The date was set following consultation with the riding's hamlet and community leaders and the Baffin regional office.

The by-election will see a new member seated in the Legislative Assembly in time for the fall session, opening Oct. 22 in Frobisher Bay.

Returning officer Jim Currie will tabulate returns from his headquarters at Broughton Island. Voters will cast ballots at six polling stations: two at Pangnirtung and one each at Broughton Island, Clyde River, Cape Dyer and Cape Hooper.

(more)

BAFFIN CENTRAL BY-ELECTION SET - 2

Close of nominations for the east Baffin Island by-election is Aug. 11. Advance polls will be held Sept. 5, 8 and 9 at Pangnirtung.

The voters' list compiled for the October 1, 1979 Territorial general election will be used for the by-election. Eligible voters not on the list may cast ballots if their eligibility is guaranteed by an enumerated elector.

Three candidates contested the seat last October. At that time, 538 of the 768 enumerated voters cast ballots for a turn-out of 70 per cent.

Arreak resigned May 12, explaining the duties of an MLA did not allow him enough time for his family.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 8) - New regulations limiting the amount of alcohol an individual can buy in a day from the Norman Wells liquor store will go into effect July 14.

The regulations, contained in a directive issued by the commissioner, are in answer to an appeal from citizens of the surrounding communities, Fort Franklin, Fort Good Hope and Fort Norman. These communities have been having difficulty enforcing alcohol prohibition because of the proximity of Norman Wells and its liquor outlet.

A register of customers' names and addresses will be maintained in the store, and the store manager will be responsible for seeing that the limit is observed.

The daily limit has been set at:

- a) 40 oz. of liquor and one dozen cans or bottles of beer, or
- b) 40 oz. of liquor and two bottles of wine, or
- c) 2 bottles of wine and one dozen cans or bottles of beer

(more)

NEW REGULATIONS FOR LIQUOR STORE - 2

This is expected to curb the problem of people buying large amounts of alcohol and then reselling it in the prohibited communities.

Chief Territorial Judge James R. Slaven has reported that alcohol abuse still causes a large part of the criminal activity in the three prohibited communities.

The new regulations will not affect licensed premises in Norman Wells, or people holding special-occasion permits.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 8) - The Hon. Robert MacQuarrie has resigned his position as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

He said today that it has become impossible for him to ensure that the interests of his constituency are adequately represented.

Mr. MacQuarrie, MLA Yellowknife Centre, said he is looking forward to active participation as an ordinary member.

"In short, I am resigning because I feel the need for my fullest possible participation in the assembly's debates."

(more)

SPEAKER RESIGNS - 2

Mr. MacQuarrie has informed members of the assembly that his resignation will take effect at the time they choose a new speaker, but not later than the start of the assembly's fall session October 22 in Frobisher Bay.

Mr. MacQuarrie released the following statement:

"When I let my name stand for the position of Speaker in November, 1979, I was well aware that there would be certain limitations on my participation in the Assembly's debates. I believed, though, that the impact of these limitations would be minimal in a House that operated on consensus.

"With the passage of time, however, it becomes more and more apparent that consensus is not the common method of operation where important issues are concerned - that such issues are not being dealt with exclusively in the House, nor solely on the basis of merit insofar as the interest of the whole N.W.T. is concerned.

"In fact, bloc-voting is taking place according to prior arrangements. Bloc-voting is sometimes being done by the Executive Committee; it is sometimes being done by regional/cultural groupings; and it is sometimes shaped by the policies of organizations outside of the Assembly.

"In retrospect, these developments are not surprising. And they are certainly not out of keeping with the traditional practice of representative democracy. But in these circumstances, it is impossible for a Speaker who is neither associated with the Executive Committee, nor a member of a majority bloc, to ensure that the interests of his constituents are adequately represented.

(more)

SPEAKER RESIGNS - 3

"In short, I am resigning because I feel the need for my fullest possible participation in the Assembly's debates.

"I have considered it an honor to serve the Assembly as its Speaker. I have enjoyed fulfilling the responsibilities of that office. And I have appreciated the opportunity of being associated in day-to-day work with the fine Assembly staff. For all of these reasons, it is with sincere regret that I have tendered my resignation.

"I now look forward to active participation as an ordinary Member."

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

Telephone: 873-7442

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 7) - Commissioner John Parker today announced a number of senior management changes including the appointment of Ron Crossley as deputy minister of health and social services.

The changes, which also effect the administrative regions of the Keewatin and Inuvik, are scheduled to be effective in early August.

They will see Al Zariwny transfer from Rankin Inlet to Inuvik where he will become regional director for the Inuvik region. Mr. Zariwny is currently regional director for the Keewatin.

Mike Stilwell, executive assistant to the Commissioner in Yellowknife, will become regional director for the Keewatin.

(more)

SENIOR CHANGES ANNOUNCED - 2

Mr. Crossley, 43, has been with the Territorial government since 1970. He assumes the position left vacant recently by the resignation of Gordon Stangier who moved to Lethbridge to work with the Alberta government.

Minister of Health and Social Services Arnold McCallum says he is looking forward to utilizing Mr. Crossley's depth of managerial experience in administering the two major parts of his department.

Mr. Crossley first came north in 1963 as an employee of the Fort Simpson weather office.

Between 1970 and 1976 he held a number of senior positions with the Territorial government's department of personnel, including the position of acting director for a six-month period.

In October of 1976 he was appointed chief of planning for the former department of planning and program evaluation and in June of 1977 became the assistant deputy minister of the department of local government.

Mr. Zariwny has been regional director for the Keewatin since November of 1978.

He has been employed by the government since 1966 as a teacher and school principal and since 1974, until his appointment as a regional director, as a senior planning and policy officer and as chief of policy and evaluation.

(more)

SENIOR CHANGES ANNOUNCED - 3

Mr. Stilwell began his career with the government as a teacher at Arctic Bay. Since then he has had considerable experience as an administrator in the eastern Arctic and as a staff officer in Yellowknife.

Mr. Stilwell, fluent in Inuktitut, French and English, was settlement manager at Grise Fiord and Hall Beach and became executive assistant to the Baffin regional director in Frobisher Bay in January, 1977.

In October of 1978 he was appointed executive assistant to Commissioner Stuart Hodgson, an assignment he continued in April of last year when John Parker was named to replace the former commissioner.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

Telephone: 873-7442

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 7) - Inuvik regional director Ted Bowyer has been appointed deputy minister of renewable resources for the Territorial government.

The appointment, effective August 4, was announced today by Commissioner John Parker.

Mr. Bowyer, 48, has 14 years management experience with the government, beginning his employment as superintendent of corrections in 1966.

He also served as area service officer at Fort Smith, assistant regional director in Inuvik and senior executive assistant to the deputy commissioner in Yellowknife before returning to Inuvik as regional director in 1978.

(more)

BOWYER NEW DEPUTY MINISTER - 2

Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo said Bowyer's regional experience and personal interests in the renewable resource field made him an obvious choice for the position, left vacant recently with the retirement of former deputy minister Ivor Stewart.

Mr. Nerysoo also announced that Norm Simmons, superintendent of renewable resource's fish and wildlife service, will assume responsibilities as the department's assistant deputy minister.

The promotion will result in a broader management role. The division of responsibilities between the deputy minister and the assistant will be worked out in the near future.

The department of renewable resources is responsible for wildlife, fisheries, forestry, water, land management and environmental protection and energy conservation.

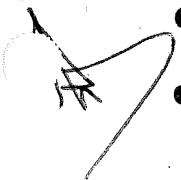
- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7442
Telex: 034-45504

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NEWS

BAKER LAKE SESSION COSTS REVEALED

80-170

YELLOWKNIFE (July 3) - The cost of holding the recent N.W.T. Legislative Assembly session in Baker Lake totalled \$169,365.

Robert MacQuarrie, Speaker of the House and member for Yellowknife Centre, said today the expenditure was roughly \$50,000 more than what would have been spent had the session been held in Yellowknife.

He said most of the additional cost resulted from transportation of people and freight, accommodation and meals for MLAs, executive committee members and support staff ordinarily resident in Yellowknife.

The Baker Lake session began June 11 and ended June 20. The assembly plans to begin its legislative session in Frobisher Bay in late October.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7442
Telex: 034-45504

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The Baker Lake session began June 11 and ended June 20. The assembly plans to begin its legislative session in Frobisher Bay in late October.

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7442
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (July 2) - H.R.Y. Holdings Ltd. of Fort Liard has accepted an offer of up to \$90,000 in Special ARDA funding towards construction of a new retail store in the community.

Announcement of the acceptance of the offer was made jointly by Pierre De Bane, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, territorial government Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Funds will be provided by DREE on the basis of \$30,000 for each of three jobs expected to be created by the operation.

Initially, the new store will offer 4,200 square feet of heated space in the basement and first floor. The second floor will be used for cold storage, with future plans calling for its conversion into three modern motel units.

(more)

SPECIAL ARDA FUNDS FORT LIARD STORE - 2

H.R.Y. Holdings, owned by Harry Deneron, presently operates a small combination store and hotel. This will be renovated to provide the hotel operation with an adequate meal-service area.

The joint Canada - Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism offices.

- 30 -

Ref: Ron Johnson
DREE - Saskatoon
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey
GNWT - Yellowknife
(403) 873-7146

YELLOWKNIFE (July 2) - A Special ARDA offer of \$7,700 will provide Hay River's Slavey Band hunters and trappers with a radio link between their hunting grounds and home base.

The funds will be used by the band to purchase a base radio station and antenna as well as four portable units for use in the field. In addition to allowing hunters, trappers and fishermen to maintain contact with the band office, the units will permit better co-ordination of search and rescue efforts.

Announcement of the band's acceptance of the offer was made today by Pierre De Bane, federal minister of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) and George Braden, territorial Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Funds will be provided by DREE.

(more)

COMMUNICATIONS LINK FOR HAY RIVER SLAVEY BAND - 2

The joint Canada - Northwest Territories Special ARDA program is designed to provide financial help to enable Northwest Territories residents, particularly those of native 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 Northwest Territorial Government's Economic Development and Tourism and Wildlife Services offices.

- 30 -

Ref: Ron Johnson
DREE - Saskatoon
(306) 665-4422

Ross Harvey
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(403) 873-7146

YELLOWKNIFE (June 27) - Retroactive old-age benefits will be received by eligible elderly persons under a new policy on the payment of Territorial senior citizens' benefits announced this week.

Payment of the \$50-per-month income supplement will now be made retroactive to the recipient's date of eligibility.

Formerly, benefits were paid from the date the department of social services was notified of recipient eligibility, a two-to-three-month lag in some cases.

Announcement of the change was made by Arnold McCallum, minister of social services.

The payments will be made to eligible recipients under the federal guaranteed income supplement program guidelines and will be retroactive to April 1, 1980. Some recipients could receive up to three months worth of retroactive benefits.

(more)

SENIORS' BENEFITS NOW RETROACTIVE - 2

The total amount of retroactive benefits paid will depend upon the number of persons who have turned 65 years of age since the policy was implemented.

McCallum says payments of Territorial benefits will now begin simultaneously with commencement of federal benefits thanks to information exchange between the two programs.

"The two administrations are well linked and organized," the minister said, "There should be no problems."

As well, McCallum said Territorial benefits will be paid in addition to the recent \$35 per month increase in federal benefits, rather than including the federal increase in the Territorial benefits.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (June 27) - Don Hilton of Inuvik and Kenneth Parker of Hay River have been awarded the Governor General's Bronze Medal for their outstanding scholastic achievements in the 1978-79 school year.

Commissioner John Parker made the announcement this week on behalf of Governor General Edward Schreyer.

The Governor General's Bronze Medal is awarded annually to the two students in the Territories achieving the highest standings in the N.W.T. Grade 12 examinations.

Hilton attained the highest grade average of all N.W.T. students. The former Samuel Hearne Secondary School student is now attending the University of British Columbia. His parents, Ron and Jean, now live in Yellowknife.

Hay River's Parker placed second Territory-wide. A former Diamond Jenness Secondary School pupil, he is now attending the University of Alberta. His parents, Frank and Jessie, live in Hay River.

YELLOWKNIFE (June 25) - The Native Women's Association has begun operating a refreshment facility in the Northern Heritage Centre, and will be offering tea, coffee and light meals to visitors to the museum over the summer.

"We intend this facility to be a service and a convenience to the people who come to visit the centre," said Dr. Robert Janes, Director of the Centre.

"It is also a way for a community group to raise some funds," he said.

The hours of operation of the snack counter are 12 to 3 p.m. on weekdays (except Wednesday) and 12 to 4 p.m. on weekends.

There is no set menu; the women are serving different light lunches and snacks each day.

(more)

REFRESHMENT FACILITY OPENED IN HERITAGE CENTRE - 2

The food and beverage service is being run on an experimental basis this summer. Provisions had been made for it when the Centre was constructed, but museum personnel used last summer to see if the service was required.

The Centre invited community groups to submit proposals on running the facility earlier this spring, and accepted the Native Women's Association's bid.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (June 24) - School terms suited to local conditions are the result of a new approach to school year timetables coming into effect this year.

Starting this term, local education authorities are being permitted to determine when the school year should run and then holidays will be scheduled.

Announcement of the move towards more local control over educational procedure was made this week by Tom Butters, minister of education.

Given scheduling power, the local school board, society or committee can slate a school year which allows pupils holidays during annual hunting seasons, summer months or whenever they feel holidays should be given.

(more)

SCHOOL TERMS LOCAL DECISION - 2

Timetables must conform to one main restriction: that the school year consist of 195 total days of pupil attendance. Statutory holidays must be honored under the locally drafted timetables.

"They can begin whenever they want and end whenever they want," Butters said of the arrangement, "The attempt here was to accommodate the communities."

Notice of about 20 different timetables for the coming term have been filed with the department. Commencement dates range from July 23 in Paulatuk to the common September opening date.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (June 19) - A herd of 28 wood bison was released in the South Nahanni River Valley this week, the first of the endangered species seen in the area in more than 50 years.

Announcement of the joint N.W.T./Canadian Wildlife Service effort to re-introduce the bison was made by Richard Nerysoo, minister of renewable resources.

"The idea is to re-establish a number of free-roaming herds of wood bison so ultimately they can be removed from the endangered species list," the minister said.

A breeding herd of the bison or buffalo -- 12 males and 16 females -- was trucked into the valley this week from the Elk Island National Park east of Edmonton.

Barged up the South Nahanni River from a landing between Fort Simpson and Nahanni Butte, the herd has been released to form the nucleus of the Territories' second wild herd.

(more)

BISON MAKE SECOND N.W.T. STAND - 2

Eighteen of the bison were released near Fort Providence in 1964 and have since multiplied to more than 600. The success of the Providence transplant has wildlife officials hopeful of comparable success in the South Nahanni effort.

Local hunters' and trappers' associations and the Fort Liard/Nahanni Butte Dene Band have been consulted from the outset of the project. They have given their consent to this effort to re-introduce the species to the area. As well, members of Chief Harry Deneron's Fort Liard Band had asked the wildlife service to consider re-introducing the species to the area some years ago.

There is no guarantee the herd will either stay together or within N.W.T. borders. Ten of the bison have been fitted with electronic radio location collars and their movements will be monitored.

Funding for the transplantation came from the Canadian Wildlife Service while the Territories will finance the continuing monitoring and care of the herd.

The species -- formidable mammals weighing an average of 680 kg. -- is native to the area, though the breed was exterminated in the wild by the late 1920's.

(more)

BISON MAKE SECOND N.W.T. STAND - 3

Surveys of the area show limited but sufficient forage is available to support the breed again. Slightly larger and darker than the plains bison, the breed is well-adapted to survive long winters and rigorous weather.

N.W.T. and Canadian Wildlife Service staff, as well as a Canadian Wildlife Service biologist and veterinarian, travelled with the animals on their trip from Alberta. All of the bison arrived safe and healthy for their release Monday.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

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SATELLITE TV LINK TO BAKER LAKE SESSION

80-162

YELLOWKNIFE (May 30) - When the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly begins its eight-day session in Baker Lake, June 11, it will be linked to senior officials of the Territorial government 1,000 miles away in Yellowknife by a unique TV satellite teleconference facility.

The experimental video conference will be via Canada's Anik B Communication Satellite, with three-metre ground stations installed in the Territorial capital and near the Baker Lake School where the June 11 to 20 session will be held.

The service is being provided by the department of information in conjunction with the federal department of communication's Anik B project. Satellite dishes are being provided by DOC as well as the related hardware and technical assistance required to conduct the experiment.

(more)

SATELLITE TV LINK TO BAKER LAKE SESSION - 2

The facilities will enable ministers, assembly members and the government administration to communicate with deputy ministers, directors and other staff members in Yellowknife.

In addition to demonstrating Canada's capabilities in satellite communications, the teleconference facility will save travel and accommodation costs and help to ease a communications block that could occur were it not in place.

The central Keewatin community of Baker Lake has only four telephone lines to the outside and telephone contact can be difficult at the best of time.

The video conferencing centre will be set up in a caucus room adjacent to the school gymnasium where the assembly will be meeting. In Yellowknife, the ground station and studio will be set up at the government's warehouse site in Frame Lake South.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

Telephone: 873-7243

Telex: 034-45504

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(more)

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- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

Telephone: 873-7243

Telex: 034-45504

ASSEMBLY ASSISTANT CLERK NAMED

80-161

YELLOWKNIFE (May 30) - David Hamilton of Fort Simpson has been appointed clerk assistant of the Legislative Assembly, effective June 7.

Hamilton assumes his new duties in time for the first day of the Assembly's summer session, commencing June 11 in Baker Lake.

He replaces former clerk assistant Peter de Vos who resigned in April to take up a position with the government of Alberta.

Hamilton brings to the job extensive experience in municipal and Territorial administrations.

Secretary-treasurer of the Village of Fort Simpson prior to his appointment, Hamilton has also served with the Territorial department of local government as a resource person and as area supervisor for Cambridge Bay. Further experience includes terms as hamlet secretary-manager and Territorial settlement manager in Aklavik.

(more)

ASSEMBLY ASSISTANT CLERK NAMED - 2

As clerk assistant, Hamilton is responsible for providing advice and administrative and support services to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, MLAs and committees. He also acts as Clerk of the Assembly in the senior clerk's absence and assists in the administration of Territorial elections.

Married and the father of two children, Hamilton will move to Yellowknife to take up his new duties.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 28) - Elected officials of the two Territorial governments in Yukon and the N.W.T. have asked the prime minister to confirm the participation of their governments in coming talks on the Canadian constitution.

In a joint telex today to Prime Minister Trudeau, representatives of the two jurisdictions say that because neither territory has been consulted about the talks they are anxious for the prime minister to confirm that Yukon and the N.W.T. will participate in them.

The telex was issued from Pagnirtung, N.W.T., where the Executive Council of Yukon and their N.W.T. counterparts - elected members of the Territorial government's Executive Committee - held a joint meeting during their week-long visit to the eastern Arctic. Tuesday they were in Frobisher Bay, today they are in Pagnirtung, and Thursday they will visit Lake Harbour.

The telex was sent by Chris Pearson, Yukon Government leader, and James Wah-Shee of the N.W.T. Executive Committee as minister responsible for constitutional development.

YELLOWKNIFE (May 23) - Commissioner John Parker will be visiting Lake Harbour, Frobisher Bay, Sanikiluaq and Cape Dorset next week in a four-day tour of Eastern Arctic communities.

The commissioner will be meeting with community councils and residents, hearing local concerns and refamiliarizing himself with area issues first-hand.

Parker will be accompanied on his tour by MLAs Moses Appaqaq (Hudson Bay) and Joe Arlooktoo (Baffin South) during his visits in their respective constituencies.

The commissioner arrives in Frobisher Bay Monday and will host a dinner in honor of members of the N.W.T. Executive Committee and Yukon Executive Council. The two elected groups will be in the Eastern Arctic for a series of meetings next week.

(more)

COMMISSIONER TOURS EASTERN ARCTIC - 2

From Frobisher, Parker travels to Sanikiluaq Tuesday for a tour of the community, dinner with the hamlet council and a public meeting with the hamlet council at the Adult Education Centre.

Parker departs Sanikiluaq Wednesday for Cape Dorset. A tour of the community and lunch with the local council are planned before the commissioner's return to Frobisher that evening.

Parker heads on to Lake Harbour Thursday for a tour of the community and lunch with the settlement council.

Depending on ice conditions, a visit to Keejukjuak Outpost Camp is planned for that afternoon.

Parker then returns to Lake Harbour to depart for Yellowknife via Frobisher Bay Thursday.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 23) - Elected members of the Territorial government's Executive Committee will be holding meetings with their Yukon government Executive Council counterparts next week in several Eastern Arctic communities.

The two elected groups are meeting to exchange views on matters of common concern. Political and constitutional development talks and discussions on provision and management of programs and services will figure largely in the five days of meetings.

The Yukon Executive Council party consists of Government Leader Chris Pearson, and council members Dan Lang, Geoffrey Lattin and Meg McCall.

(more)

YUKON EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO VISIT - 2

Elected N.W.T. Executive Committee members are George Braden, minister of economic development and tourism; Tom Butters, minister of education and minister of justice and public services; Arnold McCallum, minister of health and minister of social services; Richard Nerysoo, minister of renewable resources, and James Wah-Shee, minister of local government.

The Yukon government party arrives in Yellowknife Sunday before travelling on to Frobisher Bay Monday. A dinner hosted by Commissioner John Parker will be held Monday evening in Frobisher before the party travels on to Pangnirtung Tuesday.

The commissioner will be in Frobisher Bay on the first leg of his current Eastern Arctic tour featuring stops in Cape Dorset, Lake Harbour and Sanikiluaq. Although Parker will not be taking part in the joint Executive Committee/Council discussions, he will join them for the final hour of their meeting Wednesday.

The Yukon-N.W.T. party will hold joint discussions in Pangnirtung on Tuesday and meet with the hamlet council.

The party returns to Frobisher Bay Wednesday for further meetings before travelling on to Lake Harbour Thursday.

More meetings, a tour of Lake Harbour, and a visit to a nearby outpost camp are planned before the party departs for Yellowknife via Frobisher Bay. The whole Yukon party returns home Friday.

(more)

YUKON EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO VISIT - 3

N.W.T. intergovernmental affairs co-ordinator Don Stewart says the travelling meetings are designed to give the Yukon party insight into life in the Eastern Arctic.

The Yukon party's N.W.T. visit is the follow-up to the trip to the Yukon by an elected N.W.T. executive group in January. Similar talks were held at that time.

Stewart says the trip is an indication that personal contacts will likely form an important part in all future intergovernmental relations.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

Telephone: 873-7343

Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 23) - In the workplace, what you don't know can hurt you.

So in her new position as head of the safety division's occupational health unit, Laurie Nowakowski is virtually surrounded by the best defence against health hazards in the workplace: information.

And it's her full-time job to share that information, making sure every worker is aware of hazards and risks involved in their occupation.

Awareness, Nowakowski says, is the best defence any worker can have against occupational health hazards.

To continually improve that awareness, Nowakowski works hand-in-hand with the safety division's industrial, fire and electrical and mechanical safety units.

(more)

AWARENESS BEST DEFENCE - 2

Apart from simply enforcing the occupational health health regulations of the Industrial Safety Ordinance, Nowakowski and the department inform businesses and government agencies of recent safety developments and dangers affecting their particular occupations.

Information, education and advice are provided through seminars, consultations and on-site inspections. Nowakowski also strives to keep abreast of the work of similar agencies throughout the country in both industry and government.

"We don't want to just enforce rules and regulations," Nowakowski says. "We want to encourage good work habits and outlooks into every worker's activity in the workplace."

Nowakowski took over as the head of occupational health this month, replacing Mike Hewitt, now chief of the safety division.

Nowakowski is available to provide information or referral on any matter of occupational safety at occupational health's offices in Yellowknife, at 873-7486.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) - L. D. (Les) McPhee has been appointed N.W.T. Fire Marshal while J. Ian Milligen has been named to the post of Deputy Fire Marshal.

Announcement of the appointments was made this week by Vic Irving, deputy minister of justice and public services.

McPhee's appointment follows nine years' service as deputy fire marshal. He has served as acting fire marshal since the departure of Len Adrian from the position in January.

As fire marshal, McPhee is head of the fire safety section and will report directly to the safety division chief.

Milligen's appointment as deputy fire marshal follows more than 10 years' service as a fire inspector with the safety division.

The two men have a combined total of 52 years' experience in fire prevention.

YELLOWKNIFE (May 14) - Gordon Stangier, deputy minister for the departments of social services and health, will be leaving the Territorial Government towards the end of June to assume a position with the Government of Alberta.

Mr. Stangier will be regional manager of services for handicapped people for the Alberta department of health and social services. He will be located in Lethbridge.

He has been deputy minister of social services for the Government of the N.W.T. since January 1979, also assuming responsibility for the department of health during the past month.

From 1975 to 1978, Mr. Stangier was assistant director of the department of social services. He also worked for the department from 1971 to 1973, developing social assistance programs.

Commissioner John Parker said he expected to find a replacement for Mr. Stangier from within the N.W.T. public service.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information Telephone: 873-7146
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 13) - The Wildlife Regulations have been amended to remove the closed season on caribou introduced last year in the South Keewatin/Baffin area.

The action comes as a result of a Legislative Assembly motion calling for an end to the two-month closed season May 15 to July 15 in the South Keewatin, Southampton Island and South Baffin Island.

Commissioner John Parker had promised Inuit Tapirisat of Canada at their annual general meeting in Igloolik last September that the government would review the ban.

Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo announced the lifting of the ban this week following Executive Committee approval of the amendment.

Nerysoo says greater co-operation with area hunters and trappers associations and native organizations in herd management is being sought in place of the closed season.

(more)

CLOSED CARIBOU SEASON LIFTED - 2

"Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, regional Inuit associations and hunters and trappers associations have indicated a willingness to work with the government in developing a comprehensive program for the herds," Nerysoo says.

The closed season was initiated in an attempt to cut population losses in the area's declining caribou herds by protecting pregnant females prior to, during and immediately after calving.

While the regulations called for a closed season May 15 to July 15 last year, the ban did not take effect until July 1.

Nerysoo says that while the area herd populations are still in decline, he is hopeful "the objectives of the closed season provision can be better met through other means."

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
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Telex: 034-45504

MORRISON APPOINTED DEPUTY MINISTER
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

80-153P

YELLOWKNIFE (May 12) - Rod Morrison has been appointed deputy minister of economic development and tourism. The appointment, announced today by Commissioner John Parker, takes effect May 20.

Mr. Morrison has been director of regional operations since October, 1979. In that capacity he coordinated the activities of the Territorial Government's four regional offices located in Fort Smith, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay.

He first joined the Territorial Government in 1969 as finance officer for the N.W.T. centennial celebrations and in 1971 became chief of administration for the department of legal affairs (now justice and public services).

From 1972 to 1975 he was executive assistant to the Commissioner.

(more)

MORRISON APPOINTED DEPUTY MINISTER ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM - 2

He started his field work in 1975, serving for one year as assistant regional director in Inuvik, followed by two years as Keewatin regional director. During that time he gave very high priority to economic development projects in the communities.

He moved back to Yellowknife in 1978 to become director of personnel, a position he held for one year, before becoming director of regional operations.

George Braden, minister of economic development and tourism, said he was especially pleased to find someone for the position with Mr. Morrison's combination of training and experience at both headquarters and in the field.

Mr. Morrison, 33, was born and raised in Wawa, an iron ore mining town in northern Ontario.

He studied economics and commerce at Simon Fraser University and gained private industry experience as a cost accountant for a mining company in British Columbia, before joining the Government of the Northwest Territories.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information
Telephone: 873-7146
Telex: 034-45504

Morrison Appointed Deputy Minister,
Economic Development and Tourism

Photo to accompany release #80-153P



YELLOWKNIFE (May 12) - James Arreak has resigned from the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly.

His resignation was announced today by Commissioner John Parker who said a by-election will be held in time to have a new member in place for the assembly's fall session.

Mr. Arreak, 27, represented the Central Baffin constituency. His resignation was effective last Friday.

Mr. Parker said the member, elected last October, cited personal and family reasons for leaving his position.

Mr. Arreak, a resident of Clyde River, said the amount of travel associated with being a member of the assembly made it difficult to spend enough time with his wife and three children.

He indicated to the commissioner how much he enjoyed being a member of the assembly and that his interest in Territorial affairs would continue.

Mr. Parker said details concerning the by-election would be announced at a later date.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information Telephone: 873-7243
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 13) - A government delegation from Greenland will be visiting the N.W.T. next week on the final leg of a trans-Canada tour.

Heading the delegation is Peder Hansen, Denmark's minister for Greenland. Home rule was introduced in Greenland in 1979.

Hansen will arrive Monday to a special reception by Commissioner John Parker and various members of the Executive Committee.

While in Yellowknife, Hansen and his party will be given a guided tour of the capital by Mayor Mike Ballantyne.

From Yellowknife part of the delegation will travel to Frobisher Bay Tuesday for a tour conducted by Mayor Bryan Pearson and village councillors.

(more)

GREENLANDERS TO VISIT TERRITORIES - 2

The party returns to Denmark via Greenland Tuesday.

Accompanying Hansen on the tour are Jonathan Montzfeldt, chairman of the Greenland Home-Rule administration; Gart Vigh, raw materials administration director; Alibak Steenholdt, the Home-Rule administration director, and Kreston Kruce Due of the Danish Embassy to Canada.

The bulk of the party's week-long tour has taken place in southern Canada and included talks in Ottawa with Indian and Northern Affairs Minister John Munro.

Tour stops included a visit to an open pit coal mine in Cranbrook, B.C. and talks with Atlantic Richfield oil executives in Anchorage, Alaska.

For one member of the delegation, the Yellowknife stop-over is a return visit. Hansen's executive assistant, Lars Vesterbirk, spent six months in Yellowknife two years ago on an N.W.T. - Denmark government exchange program.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 12) - With all the wood in the southern Mackenzie, there must be a way it can be used to meet more of our energy needs.

Coal also exists in vast reserves in the Territories. What's the best way to develop it and to how many uses can it be put?

And in the Arctic, where the wind always seems to blow, there must be a way to harness cheap, reliable electrical power.

It could be that you have the solution to one of these energy situations. All that's lacking are the funds to put your idea into action.

With the help of a new funding program, a solution to your problem - and Canada's energy needs - may be at hand.

(more)

MONEY AVAILABLE FOR ENERGY PROJECTS - 2

Sound ideas for thrifty and innovative energy use are now being put to work through the Energy Conservation Demonstration Program.

A joint Federal/Territorial effort, the program offers funding - in whole or in part - to put proven, existing energy technology to more efficient use. It's an opportunity for people to turn well-considered energy ideas into economic realities of lasting benefit to Canada and the Territories.

Anyone can apply - businesses, government agencies, consumer groups, utilities, private individuals and groups; anyone who thinks they have a better idea.

If the project points the way to conserving non-renewable energy resources or improves renewable energy use, funding could be approved.

Program administrator Jim Cumming is quick to point out though, that the thrust of the program isn't research and development. New uses for the tools at hand are what's being sought.

At the same time, projects that increase public awareness of the need to husband our energy supplies can also get a share of the funds.

Mr. Cumming is chief of the office of energy conservation. The office is part of the department of renewable resources.

(more)

MONEY AVAILABLE FOR ENERGY PROJECTS - 3

In all, \$3.3 million has been set aside for the program over the next four years, with the federal government providing \$2.5 million.

A realistic, substantiated need for energy innovation here in the Territories is another prime qualification for funding approval.

So a solar heating project, limited in efficiency by the seasonal lack of sunlight, would have difficulty gaining funds unless it was economically sound.

On the other hand, ideas addressing energy problems or conditions unique to the N.W.T. will be given priority consideration, Cumming says.

While the office of energy conservation wants to work as a partner in realizing new ideas, Cumming says applicants should also look to including financial contributions from "third parties" in their proposals.

For example, industrial and public energy users trying to improve their recovery of waste heat from electrical generation would do well to co-ordinate their efforts under an umbrella funding package. Built into the program is a safeguard to ensure no duplication of efforts nationally or territorially.

Proposals will be reviewed by a four-person board, with two federal and two Territorial representatives examining project merits for funding approval.

(more)

MONEY AVAILABLE FOR ENERGY PROJECTS - 4

Information on how to put your idea to work is available from the office of energy conservation, department of renewable resources, in Yellowknife.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 7) - Energy conservation measures introduced by the Territorial government last fall are expected to save \$84,000 in power costs, according to officials of the department of public works.

This expected saving is for the 12-month period ending this fall.

"We're more than pleased with the results of our energy-saving campaign so far; it has exceeded our early estimates," said building and works engineer Doug Squires.

To date, power consumption has been reduced by 18 per cent over the same period last year. The reduction is valued at \$46,395 at today's power rates.

The year's savings will exceed the installation costs of the power-saving devices by about \$9,000.

(more)

ENERGY SAVINGS EXCEED EARLY ESTIMATES - 2

"That cost figure includes the installation of low-energy lights in the Courthouse, but we only did that at the beginning of April, so no savings have been documented yet," said Squires.

The cost figure also included the conversion of electric hot-water heaters to oil-fired heaters in Lac la Martre, but savings won't be determined until a few months' bills come in.

The half-hour-on, half-hour-off parking plug project in government building parking lots in Yellowknife was responsible for a 46 per cent reduction in power consumption compared to last year. This amounts to a saving of \$12,300.

"We installed a thermostatic control which turned the power on full time when it dipped to -30°C , but it was such a mild winter that seldom happened," said Squires.

Cleaning government buildings in daytime is expected to save another \$20,000 in power next year as a result of lights not being on in the evenings.

"We've been able to effect these savings without cutting services, only waste," said Squires.

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 9) - Improved air service should result from improvements and extensions to runways in six Arctic communities over the next five years.

Announcement of the improvements was made this week by Minister of Local Government James Wah-Shee.

His comments follow the successful conclusion of negotiations with the federal department of transport (D.O.T.) to upgrade the strips to accommodate larger aircraft.

Under the agreement, airstrips in Whale Cove, Repulse Bay, Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven, Spence Bay and Igloolik will be lengthened or reconstructed, Wah-Shee says.

Five of the airstrips will be reconstructed or extended to a licenced length of approximately 3,500 feet. Planned overshoot areas 200 feet long at both runway ends will provide an additional 400 feet for take-off and 200 feet for landing if such distances are required by larger aircraft. Pelly Bay, the sixth airstrip, will receive special consideration since re-supply to this community is totally by air.

(more)

ARCTIC AIRSTRIPS TO BE IMPROVED - 2

Airports division chief Lynn Bishop of the department of local government says the new runway lengths will accommodate unrestricted operation of such aircraft as the medium weight turbo-prop HS-748.

"Runway length at Pelly Bay will be determined on the basis of Hercules aircraft requirements and planned improvements will reflect further detailed discussions with the carriers using this type of aircraft," Bishop adds.

Private carriers and the Northern Air Transportation Association (N.A.T.A.) were consulted by the airports division throughout the negotiations with D.O.T.

Previous plans called for the improvement of load-bearing capacities and strip lighting to a licensed length of 3,000 feet. In some cases, this would have meant a reduction in runway lengths, a point of contention in the two-year long negotiations.

Under the standing Federal/Territorial Northern Airports Program, D.O.T. finances capital improvements to airstrips while local government's airports division is responsible for operations and maintenance.

Work on strips in Spence Bay and Whale Cove is scheduled to be completed this summer. Tenders will be called this month on the Spence Bay extension project and a contract amendment will be made to complete the Whale Cove runway to the newly-agreed-upon length.

(more)

ARCTIC AIRSTRIPS TO BE IMPROVED - 3

Bishop says an early start on work at these two strips is vital since construction equipment from the two sites must be relocated to other sites for the next season.

Equipment will be moved from Spence Bay to Gjoa Haven this fall for construction of a new strip next year. Completion of the Gjoa Haven strip is expected in 1983/84.

Repulse Bay and Igloolik are expected to be completed during the 1981/82 construction season. Work on the Pelly Bay strip is planned to begin in the 1984/85 season.

Carriers now providing scheduled air service include First Air to Igloolik in the Baffin region, Calm Air to Repulse Bay and Whale Cove in the Keewatin and Northwest Territorial Airways to Spence Bay, Gjoa Haven, and Pelly Bay on the Arctic Coast.

The renegotiated runway lengths are intended to accommodate scheduled air service by medium weight turbo-prop aircraft. With certain restrictions the new lengths will permit the benefits of bulk charters by larger aircraft, Bishop says.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - The Northern Heritage Centre is throwing open its doors to any community group with the best idea for a small-scale refreshment facility in its lounge area.

The Centre wants such a group to operate the service, and it wants to give it a trial run this summer.

"We have a small kitchen and it was in our original plans to provide light refreshments - mostly for people visiting the Centre who want a cup of coffee or tea and a light lunch or snack," said museum administrator Carol Billyard.

"Our first year of operation demonstrated a need for this kind of service - we had approximately 13,000 visitors to the Centre last summer," she said.

(more)

REFRESHMENTS TO BE SERVED IN HERITAGE CENTRE? - 2

"Our own staff cannot handle this job in addition to their own, so we are asking community groups to come to us with innovative proposals of how they would serve high-quality, simple food on the premises," said Billyard.

The proposals should include the group's idea for a cost-sharing arrangement, menu theme, hours of operation, etc.

"It is not our intention to go into competition with restaurants in town," said Dr. Bob Janes, the Centre's director.

"We would be offering very light refreshments - mainly for the convenience of visitors to the Centre," he said.

Further information is available from Carol Billyard at the Northern Heritage Centre.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

SAFETY SEMINAR PRECEDES SAFETY WEEK - 2

The speakers at the seminar will discuss various types of industrial injuries and how to avoid them. They will also cover compensable injuries and the Workers' Compensation Board's role in safety.

As well, several films will be shown during the two-day seminar, which will be held in the Yellowknife Inn.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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RANKIN INLET (May 1) - The first steps in the transfer of responsibility for wildlife management from the Government of the N.W.T. to the local hunters' and trappers' associations were agreed upon following a two-day meeting in Rankin Inlet.

Minister of Renewable Resources Richard Nerysoo met with members of the Keewatin Hunters' and Trappers' Associations, the Keewatin Inuit Association and representatives of Inuit Tapirisat of Canada to discuss issues of mutual concern.

Following the meeting, it was announced that a region-wide hunters' and trappers' association will be formed to assume a co-ordinating role and the body to which responsibility will be transferred. This regional organization will have direct communication with the minister.

The meeting also addressed mutual concerns surrounding the Kaminuriak caribou herd. It was agreed that a task force would be set up to make recommendations to the minister on what measures should be taken to deal with the herd.

(more)

TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY PLANNED - 2

In addition, delegates to the meeting presented a list of actions which they saw as being necessary to effectively transfer control of wildlife management to the people of the Keewatin.

Following the meeting, the minister said he was impressed with the level of detailed discussion the participants brought to the meeting.

"I am eager to respond in a positive way to the concerns expressed by the delegates," he said.

"Some requests are more complex and will require much thought before decisions can be made."

He noted that discussions with local hunters and trappers brought the issues and concerns of the residents into focus.

"I am looking forward to working with this association in the future," Mr. Nerysoo said, "and feel we can effectively address wildlife concerns."

The minister will hold similar meetings in Cambridge Bay and Frobisher Bay in the near future.

- 30 -

Contact: Bob Desarmia
Regional Information Advisor
Rankin Inlet

Telephone: 819-645-2701

NEWS

NORTHERN CONTRACTS AVAILABLE

80-142

YELLOWKNIFE (May 1) - Northern businesses are being called on to bid on contracts for goods and services recently put out to tender by Esso Resources Ltd.

The work involves Esso's maintenance and upgrading program at Norman Wells.

Announcement of the opportunity for Territorial firms to fill \$4 million in upcoming contracts was made this week by the department of economic development and tourism.

Information on contract and bidding requirements is available from Ron Milligan, co-ordinator of business development for the department.

Program requirements call for the rental of 43 items of heavy construction and transportation equipment ranging from trucks and boats to bulldozers and air compressors. Rental of equipment is scheduled to begin as early as June 1.

(more)

NORTHERN CONTRACTS AVAILABLE - 2

As well, Esso is calling bids for a large block of personnel and construction services. Catering for a crew of up to 40 workers, surveying, painting and carpentry are among the services needed beginning June 1.

In a recent series of N.W.T. community visits, Esso has been soliciting bids on the contracts from local firms, Milligan says.

Contractors may contact Esso directly by calling Bob Hill at 267-2046 in Calgary or Rudy Zarowny at 420-8354 in Edmonton. Esso Resources offices are located at 500 Sixth Avenue S.W. in Calgary.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
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Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 1) - A further six months' funding for the Rae-Edzo Native Women's Health Committee was announced this week by N.W.T. Health Minister Arnold McCallum.

The health committee is funded jointly by the federal department of health and welfare and the N.W.T. Department of Health.

The committee will use the \$17,000 funding for three projects: a spring clean-up of the community, a breast-feeding promotion campaign in June, and an immunization campaign in the fall.

Committee members do not give treatment. Their function is to educate and create health awareness among Rae-Edzo citizens. In this next six-month period, the committee will be more involved in specific projects, and will provide reports and evaluations of their progress.

(more)

RAE-EDZO HEALTH COMMITTEE FUNDED FOR SIX MONTHS - 2

"We work with the N.W.T. Department of Health, public health nurses, environmental health officers and community health representatives in doing our work," said committee member Terry Douglas.

"If someone is supposed to go in for a chest X-ray and they (health officials) haven't been able to get them in, we go to their house and make sure they go for the X-ray -- that's part of our work," she said.

"The success of the health committee is dependent on the fact that people who are known and well respected in the community are talking to the citizens in their own language, and explaining the individual's responsibility towards his own health," said Mr. McCallum.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
Telephone: 873-7615
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (May 1) - Preliminary work will begin this summer on a \$10 million construction project to replace the Maani Ulujuk School in Rankin Inlet, destroyed by fire in 1978.

The announcement was made this week by Minister of Education Tom Butters.

Construction tenders will be called shortly and will close in June. Butters says he expects initial foundation construction can be completed by freeze-up of this year. Work will then resume in the spring for a planned completion date of Oct. 1981.

The Territorial government's Executive Committee approved the call for tenders at its April 25 meeting in Yellowknife.

Plans for the new facility include provision for 18 classrooms, facilities for home economics, industrial arts, science and adult education programs, a gymnasium and a library.

(more)

RANKIN SCHOOL REPLACEMENT BEGINS - 2

The school has been designed to accommodate 500 students, filling the community's projected classroom needs for the five years following completion.

Butters says the school is designed to maximize energy conservation and blend architecturally with the community.

Fire destroyed Rankin's school in March, 1978. Since then, approximately 300 kindergarten to grade nine students have been taking classes in 13 Territorial government-owned homes converted for classroom use.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo
Telephone: 873-7343
Telex: 034-45504

YELLOWKNIFE (April 30) - Two long-service Territorial Government employees have been promoted to senior positions.

Jim Nelson has been appointed Territorial Treasurer and John Quirke will be the new director of the department of government services. Commissioner John Parker announced the appointments today.

Mr. Nelson, 37, has held financial positions with the Territorial Government since 1969. For the past two years he has been on education leave, completing requirements for a financial management diploma and a management accounting degree. His appointment is effective immediately.

(more)

SENIOR APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED - 2

Mr. Quirke, 33, has been with the Territorial Government since 1971. He has been assistant Baffin regional director for the past 2 1/2 years. He will assume his new position towards the end of May.

Commissioner Parker said he is especially pleased that the administration was able to find people with excellent abilities and experience within the Territorial public service for promotion to the senior jobs.

As Territorial Treasurer, Mr. Nelson will head the finance department, which includes responsibility for comptrollership (general accounting, accounts payable, payroll), revenue and investment management and financial systems and training.

His Territorial Government experience includes three years as finance officer for the Baffin region, in addition to headquarters positions. He was chief of the budgets division in Yellowknife for four years and became assistant secretary to the Financial Management Board on returning from education leave.

John Quirke will be the first director of government services, a new department created when certain service functions were separated from the finance department. His responsibilities include supply services, computer systems, petroleum products distribution, transportation and office services.

(more)

SENIOR APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED - 3

He also has a good combination of headquarters and regional experience, having served as the finance officer in Frobisher Bay and Inuvik, as well as being the assistant chief accountant in Yellowknife. In his capacity as assistant Baffin regional director he has been directing the personnel, finance, supply services and economic development and tourism functions.

He has a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of New Brunswick.

- 30 -

Contact: Department of Information

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TAX INCREASES FIXED

80-138

YELLOWKNIFE (April 30) - Commissioner John Parker has fixed May 1 as the date for increases in petroleum products and tobacco taxes to come into effect.

Approximately \$900,000 in additional revenues is expected to result from the amendments to the Petroleum Products Tax and Tobacco Tax Ordinances.

The tax increases are as a result of amendments to the two ordinances introduced and passed by the Legislative Assembly during its February sitting.

Adjustments of taxation rates under the Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance are primarily on fuels used for transportation purposes.

The increased petroleum taxes are expected to raise an additional \$600,000 to \$650,000 in revenues in the coming year. The former rates generated some \$4.2 million annually.

(more)

TAX INCREASES FIXED - 2

The amendment to the Tobacco Tax Ordinance raises the tax per cigarette by one-fifth of a cent to 1.2 cents per cigarette. The total tax increase amounts to five cents per package of 25 cigarettes.

The tobacco tax increase is expected to raise an additional \$250,000 in revenues per year. The former tobacco taxation rates raised approximately \$1.4 million in revenues annually.

There will be no increase in the tax on loose tobacco for hand-rolled cigarettes.

The largest increase in petroleum taxes is on diesel fuel used by railway locomotives. The tax per litre for railway motive fuel is increased to four cents from seven-tenths of a cent.

An additional \$50,000 in revenue is anticipated from the increase, for an annual total of approximately \$60,000.

The amendments also create a new taxation category in response to the increased use of propane as a fuel for motive power. Propane and butane used in trucks and cars will be taxed at 3.5 cents per litre, the same rate as the newly-set gasoline taxation rate.

(more)

TAX INCREASES FIXED - 3

New petroleum product taxes include:

- a tax of 3.5 cents per litre on gasoline for a revenue increase of approximately \$155,000

- a tax of seven-tenths of a cent per litre on aviation fuel for a revenue increase of approximately \$124,000

- a tax of four cents per litre on diesel truck fuel for a revenue increase of approximately \$245,000

The Petroleum Products Tax Ordinance has been amended to recognize a conversion from Imperial to metric measurement.

Rounding of figures to the nearest tenth of a cent in the conversion will result in additional revenue from fuel taxes of approximately \$50,000.

Increases in tobacco taxes will be assessed on the total inventory of tobacco products held by individual retailers on May 1.

- 30 -

Contact: Craig Yeo

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ENERGY CRITICAL TO PEACE - PARKER TELLS
STUDENT INTERCHANGE

80-137

YELLOWKNIFE (April 28) - Tremendous imbalance in energy consumption, with some countries using so much, and others having access to so little, is seriously threatening world peace. That was a message Commissioner John Parker had for 322 senior high school students gathered in Yellowknife for the 1980 Interchange on Canadian Studies.

Mr. Parker addressed the students at the opening banquet of their week-long forum Sunday evening. The theme of the Interchange is "Perspectives on Energy".

"World peace will be disturbed if we affluent people do not reduce our use of hydrocarbons.

"Care in energy use must become a life pattern -- a habit -- an attitude -- which can be learned and must be adopted," said Commissioner Parker.

He noted that Canada's energy position is comparatively very favourable, but our high standards of living and high costs make us barely competitive.

(more)

ENERGY CRITICAL TO PEACE - PARKER TELLS STUDENT
INTERCHANGE - 2

Different and new sources of energy will become available, but are likely to be very costly.

He told the youthful audience that the challenge facing them in the energy field was exciting at the technological, attitudinal and political levels.

"Energy may well be at the base of what will make our country and the world work."

Delegates at the Interchange come from all provinces and the two territories. The goal of the forum is to increase understanding, knowledge and appreciation of Canada by bringing together students to discuss topics of major significance to the country's future.

Mr. Parker noted that with such a representative group gathered at this particular time, we "dare not avoid the subject of unity".

"There is a growing tendency for us to think small and to be a bit selfish. We talk of 'our own area' and 'our own resources', as if we were true owners and not merely trustees for future generations."

He said that regionalism carried to its ultimate conclusion could result in tiny states, composed of people of like mind and background, but with no real political power in a world sense, and no economic viability.

(more)

ENERGY CRITICAL TO PEACE - PARKER TELLS STUDENT
INTERCHANGE - 3

"We must get over our selfish interests and recognize the strength in our diversity -- and make the accommodations necessary to live and work together.

"By sharing our resources, energy and talents, we can achieve so much more."

He also reminded the delegates that Canada has a world responsibility because it is so wealthy by world standards.

The Interchange starts into full gear today with panel discussions, workshops and plenary sessions. Keynote speaker is Richard Rohmer, the well-known Canadian author with outspoken views on energy and the Canadian nation.

Throughout the week all aspects of the energy issue will be tackled, including how it relates to government, industry and northern development.

The students will also have the opportunity to visit parts of the N.W.T. outside of Yellowknife. Trips are planned to Coppermine, Fort Providence, Snowdrift, Pine Point, Dettah and Rae.

(more)

ENERGY CRITICAL TO PEACE - PARKER TELLS STUDENT
INTERCHANGE - 4

An important part of the exchange program is the opportunity it affords young people from across the country to get to know each other better and to share experiences. All of the out-of-town delegates are being billeted with Yellowknife students, who also participate in the forum. Later in the summer, the Yellowknife students will pay return visits to the homes of the students they billeted.

- 30 -

Contact: Ross Harvey
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Telex: 034-45504

PHOTO DISPLAY

80-136

YELLOWKNIFE (April 23) - Photographs of China from the period 1894 - 1918 will be on display in the Northern Heritage Centre beginning May 1.

The travelling exhibit is on loan from the Edmonton Art Gallery, and is a collection of photographs by John Henry Hinton, a London-born photographer who spent several years in China.

The Hinton collection was stored in Victoria, B.C., where the photographer spent his retirement years and died in 1948.

The exhibition of black and white photographs will be in the museum, on the mezzanine floor, from May 1 - June 13.

- 30 -

Contact: Judy Paul
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