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COOPER NAMED QUEEN'S COUNSEL

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 31) - N.W.T. lawyer Donald Merrill Cooper has been appointed Queen's Counsel. Mr. Cooper's appointment as one of Her Majesty's Counsel Learned in the Law was made along with other similar appointments throughout Canada.

The announcement was made today by Michael A. Ballantyne, minister of Justice for the Northwest Territories on behalf of the Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn, Attorney General of Canada.

Donald Cooper obtained a Bachelor of Laws Degree from Queen's University in 1973 and after being called to the Bar in Ontario, he practiced law in Toronto until July 1975 when he moved to the N.W.T.

In November, 1976, Cooper was a founding partner of the firm Ayotte, Cooper, Geldreich, Johnson, and Stefura. He is still with the firm which is known throughout the N.W.T. as Cooper Johnson.

Mr. Cooper is well respected member of the Law Society of the Northwest Territories. He was the President of the Law Society in 1981 and 1983 and continues to play an active role in the affairs of the organization.

"I am very pleased that the Attorney General has recognized Mr. Cooper's great contribution to the legal profession in the Northwest Territories by appointing him a Queen's Counsel. Mr. Cooper has been a credit to his profession and has carried out his professional responsibilities with the highest integrity", said Mr. Ballantyne.

Don Cooper is a very active member of the community of Yellowknife and has been involved in several sporting associations.

In the 1984 Arctic Winter Games held in Yellowknife, he was the President of the host society for the games. Currently, Cooper is the Vice-President of the Arctic Winter Games Corporation.

Donald Merrill Cooper has served as alderman for the City of Yellowknife for two terms and as Deputy Mayor.

- 30 -

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86-332

RETAIL TRAINING CENTRE OPENED

FROBISHER BAY (Dec. 31) - The Territorial department of economic development and tourism has announced a January start-up for a new retail training centre in this eastern Arctic community.

Located in the Jewellery Centre Building, the 550-square foot retail store will be officially opened January 10, 1987.

The new store will operate as a retail outlet for three GNWT-owned enterprises--the Frobisher Jewellery Centre, the Pangnirtung Weave Shop and the Frobisher Bay Parka Centre. In addition to silver jewellery and sculptures in ivory and caribou antler made in the Jewellery Centre, the store will carry a line of duffle products and northern clothing from the Parka Centre as well as knit hats, mini-kamiks, scarves and blankets from the Pangnirtung Weave Shop.

The store will operate as a test market for new products, providing information based on sales at the local level about the type of response new products are likely to receive in the wider markets outside the region. It will also give the artisans direct contact with customers and immediate feedback on the types and quality of products people are interested in purchasing. The store will also provide a sophisticated modern environment in which to train local retail sales staff in up-to-date marketing, sales and display techniques. It will also provide a management training opportunity for a native northerner interested in learning how to operate a business and develop marketing skills specific to the arts and crafts industry.

Artwork from around the Baffin region will decorate the walls and several large sculptures by artisans from the Jewellery Centre will be on permanent display in the store. The most striking of these are a rack of caribou antlers carved with human faces as well as a large narwhal tusk carved and decorated with scrimshaw work. A large glass-fronted wall-display unit will provide a space to showcase individual groupings of work by selected artists. A greatly enhanced security system has also been installed in the building.

The store is expected to prove attractive to both local people and visitors to the region who are interested in purchasing distinctive, quality crafted northern products.

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CONTACT: Craig Hall
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Frobisher Jewellery Centre
819-979-5530

OR

Sharon Bunes
Public Affairs Officer
819-979-4245

86-331

KEEWATIN REGIONAL HEALTH BOARD ESTABLISHED

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 11) - Minister of Health Bruce McLaughlin announced today plans to establish a regional Health Board for the Keewatin.

"The establishment of such a board is in preparation for the transfer of federal health services to the Keewatin," Mr. McLaughlin said. "The transfer of health services can now be realistically expected to take place during the 1987/88 fiscal year."

According to Mr. McLaughlin, his cabinet colleagues, Tagak Curley (MLA Aivilik) and Gordon Wray (MLA Kivallivik) were instrumental in the establishment of this Board which has been long sought after by Keewatin organizations.

"Once the health board is formally established, it will become responsible for the operation of both the Churchill and Winnipeg medical patient boarding homes." Mr. McLaughlin says, "this will give the new health board some practical financial management experience before taking over the total federal health program."

"The board's composition and mandate is a demonstration of the NWT government's intention of local and regional involvement in the delivery of health services. Each hamlet in the Keewatin and Sanikiluaq will be asked for a nominee to represent their community on the Regional Health Board."

The Keewatin Inuit Association, the Keewatin Regional Council and the Churchill Health Centre Board will also have members on the Board. Non-voting representation will be given to Health and Welfare Canada and the Northern Medical Unity of the University of Manitoba.

Keewatin Regional Director Gerry Tanner will be the interim chairman until the Board members have gained experience while responsible for the full health delivery system. This arrangement worked well in the Baffin where the Regional Director stepped down as chairman when the board was well established in its role.

Mr. McLaughlin said that - with the strong support of Moses Appaqaq, MLA for Sanikiluaq - the Executive Council has agreed that health services to Sanikiluaq will continue to be provided by the Keewatin administration because of the geographic convenience. Sanikiluaq will also have a seat on the new Keewatin Regional Health Board.

"It will be a few months before the board membership and procedures are in place, but I hope it can be in business early next spring."

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CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
Press Secretary
Executive Council
(403) 920-6176

86-330

NEW EXPLORERS' GUIDE START OF TOURISM PUSH

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 11) - The 1987 Explorers' Guide - bigger and better than ever -- was released today as the first step in a new three-year marketing campaign by government and industry to increase tourism in the Territories.

The 112-page, full-color Guide is again a co-operative effort of government and industry - TravelArctic, the Territorial government's tourism marketing arm, and the Tourism Industry Association of the NWT and six zone associations.

"This year's Guide is especially successful at promoting our northern cultures," said Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism. "Our unique cultures distinguish us from other travel destinations and make us especially attractive to potential visitors."

The totally redesigned 1987 Guide is an integral part of this year's major marketing campaign - which includes consumer advertising, travel trade development and media and public relations programs, and participation at consumer and trade shows.

Of the total production of 150,000 copies, 77,000 have already been requested by travel agents, wholesalers and consumers around the globe and will be mailed to them by TravelArctic before Christmas.

"The huge request for copies even before they were printed has once again demonstrated the effectiveness of the Guide in helping stimulate interest in northern vacations," said the minister.

Jack Walker of Yellowknife, president of the Tourism Industry Association (TIA) explained that co-ordination between government and industry is an important part of the new three-year marketing plan.

"While government is busy developing markets, we in the industry will be focussing on direct sales to the consumer," Walker said.

Furthermore, with the assistance of government, the industry hopes to have its toll-free 800 information line operating by the beginning of January. At that time, anyone from North America can call Yellowknife and receive travel information tailored to their needs.

The Guide was produced under contract by Inkit Graphic Arts and Silkscreen Ltd., of Yellowknife.

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CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403) 873-7251

86-329

SPLITTING OF CONTRACTS BRINGS BONUS TO NORTHERN CONTRACTORS

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 9) - Mike Ballantyne, Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corp., announced today the details for separate supply and erect contracts to be introduced throughout the public housing program.

The announcement is part of a multi-million dollar program developed under the guidance of the ministerial action force on the NWT economy chaired by the Honourable Tagak Curley.

In making the announcement, Mr. Ballantyne stated, "this tendering practice will give substantial advantages to NWT communities, as more money will stay in the north, more local companies will be awarded contracts and more northerners will be hired by those companies to carry out the products."

He says that new northern contracting firms may be formed as a result of the separation.

An experiment in this type of contracting held during a two-year period in the Keewatin and Kitikmeot districts indicated that the method can increase the number of contracts awarded to northern firms. Prior to the splitting, such contracts were beyond the financial and - in some cases - organizational means of most local northern contractors.

After two construction years, the implementation of separate supply and labour contracts will be further evaluated to determine its success. The NWT Housing Corporation will monitor the program to ensure that the anticipated benefits are achieved.

"If these separate supply and labour contracts cease to be economically effective or no longer meet their broad objectives, then the government program will revert back to tendering public housing projects on the basis of total supply, transport and labour," Mr. Ballantyne said.

Last year, the NWT Housing Corporation spent over \$25 million on public housing projects, out of a total capital budget of \$48 million.

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CONTACT: Hiram Beaubier
President
(403) 873-7850

86-328

DOCUMENTARY ON SPOUSAL ASSAULT TO BE AIRED

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 4) - "Behind Closed Doors," a six-part radio documentary on spousal assault, will be broadcast for the first time this month.

The series, which was sponsored by the Department of Culture and Communications and the Health Department of the Dene Nation, will be aired on CBC Mackenzie and CBC Inuvik at 1:45 p.m. on December 8th to 11th and at the same time on December 15th and 16th.

Broadcast dates in the eastern and central arctic have not yet been chosen.

The series was made by Patti-Kay Hamilton, a well-known northern broadcaster. It presents the problem from the point of view of those who know it best: the wives, husbands and children who live in violent homes. It also provides information on resources for community action and on sources of help that are currently available to victims and abusers.

Copies of the programs will be available upon request from Culture and Communications, Box 1320, Yellowknife, N.W.T. Printed transcripts are also being prepared.

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CONTACT: Candace Savage
Public Affairs Officer
Culture and Communications
(403) 873-7615

86-327

HEARING TO BE HELD ON CHANGES TO THE JURY ACT

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec.1) - The Law Reform Committee, chaired by Mr. Justice T.D. Marshall will be holding a public hearing on Dec. 13, 1986 in Yellowknife.

The Law Reform Committee is asking for written and oral presentations to an amendment to the Jury Act of the N.W.T.

The Jury Act was amended by Bill 5-86(1) to permit an aboriginal person who does not speak English or French but who speaks and understands an aboriginal language to serve on a jury if the person is otherwise qualified to serve as a juror.

The Committee on Law Reform in the Northwest Territories is studying the manner and method in which this amendment to the Jury Act is to be put into affect. The Committee is seeking input from interested persons and groups prior to making its recommendations to the Minister of Justice, Michael Ballantyne.

The hearing on Dec. 13, 1986, will be held in the Judges' Chambers Room, on the second floor of the courthouse beginning at 10 A.M.

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CONTACT: Beverly Latham
Public Affairs Officer
(403) 873-7343

86-326

**REGIONAL AND TRIBAL COUNCILS REVIEW COMMITTEE
MEETS**

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 1) - Reviewing their mandate and establishing meeting schedules were the first order of business for members of the Regional and Tribal Councils Review Committee when they met here last week.

The Committee was established in late October to examine historical, current and anticipated developments of all regional and tribal councils in the Northwest Territories. Members include chairman George Braden, Al Menard, Charles Overvold, Gary Black, Jack Anawak, John Hill, Mark Evaluarjuk and Joe Rabesca.

"We plan to meet, as requested, with each Regional and Tribal Council, native organizations, the N.W.T. Association of Municipalities and the Western and Nunavut Constitutional Forums," said Braden. "Our workplan includes reviewing existing proposals on the role of regional institutions within public government. For example, we will be reviewing the role of regional institutions within Nunavut."

The Committee also is developing a questionnaire which will be sent to municipalities, band councils and any other interested parties to facilitate their input on the direction and role regional and tribal councils should be playing in the N.W.T.

"One of our first priorities was to examine the definitions of regional councils, their current advisory roles and the difference between regional councils and regional governments," added Braden. "We were able to make a good start on our job and to develop a workplan outlining the research and analysis required on regional and tribal council issues."

Office and support staff for the committee is being provided by the Territorial government's Regional Operations Secretariat.

Committee members agreed to meet on a monthly basis in Yellowknife. The next full committee meeting is scheduled for mid-January.

The Regional and Tribal Councils Review Committee's final report should be completed by June and tabled at the Fall Session of the Legislation Assembly.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-325

NWT EXPO VOTED EVENT OF THE YEAR IN CANADA

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 27) - The 12,000 managers of Canada's travel industry have named the Northwest Territories' pavilion at Expo 86 the Canadian tourism event of the year.

The managers across Canada voted the NWT pavilion the nation's travel and tourism event of 1986 in an awards competition sponsored by their weekly travel trade magazine, Agent Canada.

The magazine's ninth annual awards ceremony, held Saturday in Vancouver, was attended by Tagak Curley, minister responsible for NWT Expo, and pavilion Deputy Commissioner Alan Vaughan.

"Since one of the chief objectives of our pavilion was to promote the Northwest Territories' travel and tourism industry, it is especially gratifying to be named the event of the year in Canada by the executives of that very industry," Curley said.

According to industry officials, the NWT pavilion was overwhelmingly voted the year's event.

"There was no question when the ballots were in that our 12,000 members consider the NWT presence at Expo 86 was an outstanding success in promoting Canadian and northern tourism and travel," said industry official Frank Addison of Vancouver.

The awards banquet was attended by 450 people in the travel and tourism industry across Canada. The NWT's official host for the evening was the Hotel Vancouver.

This is the second major Canadian award for the pavilion. Recently the Canadian Wood Council named the NWT pavilion the best new building in Canada in the past five years in which wood was used extensively.

Expo 86 was held from May to October. The NWT pavilion attracted even more visitors than officials anticipated it would. Over 1.5 million people went through it.

- 30 -

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86-324

**BAFFIN SOCIAL WORKERS LEARN ABOUT WORKING WITH
YOUNG OFFENDERS**

FROBISHER BAY (Nov. 26) - Social workers from every Baffin community have just completed an intensive one-week training course designed to improve both their skills in working with young offenders and their understanding of the complexities of the Young Offenders Act.

The Youth Worker Statutory Training Program was held in Frobisher Bay from November 17-21. Conducted by Young Offenders Trainer-Consultant Mary Lou Sutton-Fennell, the program is part of the on-going training provided to social workers through the Department of Social Services.

A wide range of topics were covered in the course, including effective methods of supervising young people who have been in trouble with the law. Understanding how to work with young offenders in ways which will help them to stay out of trouble in the future is not an easy task, and requires both training and practical experience, explained Mrs. Sutton-Fennell.

Social workers also learned about how to work with young people who have just become involved with the criminal justice system to find ways to help them from getting into trouble again. Identifying young people who are at risk of becoming Young Offenders and finding ways to help them stay out of trouble is another skill which was taught in the course.

The social workers were also given information about their legal role and responsibilities as Youth Workers under the Young Offenders Act. This new Act covers the rights of young people who get into trouble with the law and how they must be dealt with by police and social workers. The law gives territorial social workers some powers and responsibilities which at one time were only given to police officers.

For example, sometimes a social worker may be asked to decide whether or not to hold a youth in custody immediately following arrest for a federal offense. Later, (usually within 24 hours) a "show cause" hearing is held and a decision is made by a Justice of Peace or a Judge on whether to continue to keep the youth in custody until the case comes to court. The authority to remove a person's freedom is a very serious responsibility, says Mrs. Sutton-Fennell. Since social workers are now being asked to make interim decisions on custody arrangements, it is very important that they thoroughly understand what is required of them under this law.

During the course, social workers were also given information about how to develop public and community-based education about the Young Offenders Act. This could involve using community radio to inform people and working with individual families, young people and local Youth Justice committees to help everyone understand what the Young Offenders Act means.

According to Mrs. Sutton-Fennell, training programs such as this one are extremely important in the Baffin region. They help community social workers to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively handle the wide range of responsibilities which are part of regular duties of northern social workers.

86-323

NEW CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 25) - Jim Britton, a former Deputy Minister of Economic Development, has been appointed Chairman of the N.W.T Liquor Licensing Board. He replaces Michael Stevens of Yellowknife who served as chairman for the past three years.

"Mr. Britton brings with him a wealth of experience at the most senior level," said Michael Ballantyne, Minister of Justice, in making the announcement.

During his tenure with the GNWT, Jim Britton worked in Social Services in the Fort Smith region. He served as administrator of the Baffin Correctional Centre and later as regional director of the Baffin Region before being appointed Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. He left the public service to work in the private sector a number of years ago.

Current board members on the N.W.T Liquor Board are Bill Gower, Rankin Inlet; Paul Kaiser Jr., Fort Smith; Seamus Henry, Yellowknife; Gordon Campbell, Inuvik, and Peter Baril, Frobisher Bay.

- 30 -

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86-322

SIBBESTON CALLS FOR NEW NORTHERN VISION ON PART OF CANADA

VANCOUVER (Nov. 20) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston today challenged provincial premiers and the Prime Minister to seek a new vision of Northern Canada.

In speaking to the First Ministers' Conference on the Economy in Vancouver, Mr. Sibbeston said he preferred to concentrate on positive actions rather than dwell on the blows the N.W.T. economy has taken in the last year.

"We will need a whole new way of looking at the Canadian economy and its relationship to the North. What Canada needs today is a new northern vision - a vision that will focus our energies to unlock these resources for the benefit of all Canadians."

The settlement of land claims, constitutional development of northern governments and the integration of the North into the Canadian economy are key components according to Mr. Sibbeston.

He says the timing for the settlement of land claims couldn't be better because northern people are ready for development and they have a right to share in the resources and their management. "The settlement of land claims will produce the climate of certainty that business, industry and government require to function."

According to Mr. Sibbeston, time has also brought about changes in the way government is viewed by people in the North. "In just twenty years, the territorial government has changed from an administrative body appointed by Ottawa. We now have a responsible government fully elected and responsible to the people."

He says that the Government of the Northwest Territories must have the ability to make decisions affecting the future of the people of the North. Mr. Sibbeston says that includes full participation in First Ministers' Conferences.

Integrating the North into the national economy is not simply an effort in regional development," he said. "The creation of a northern economic strategy will result in benefits flowing to many different parts of Canada along the natural transportation and communication links that already exist."

According to Mr. Sibbeston, a new northern vision includes providing Canadians with an exotic vacationland in their own backyard and the strengthening of Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic.

"Nothing could lay a stronger claim over the North than the simple day-to-day existence of Canadians living and working there and the quiet, effective management of the North by our government."

Mr. Sibbeston maintains that nation building didn't end with the construction of a national railway from Eastern Canada to the West, nor by the adoption of a national constitution.

"I believe that as we approach the last decade of the twentieth century, the process of nation building must focus on the North. For the good of northerners, for the benefit of all Canadians, a new northern vision must be made part of the national dream."

- 30 -

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86-321

TOURIST INTEREST ON THE RISE

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 20) - U.S. tourists are more interested than ever in the Canadian North thanks to Expo 86 and the low Canadian dollar.

That's what Alan Kaylo, TravelArctic's director of marketing, discovered this month while attending one of the biggest travel industry conventions in North America -- the National Tour Association meetings in Atlanta, Georgia.

"Our pavilion at Expo 86 in Vancouver, along with the continuing strength of the American dollar over ours, is making us an increasingly attractive travel destination for U.S. residents," Kaylo said. "As a result, we can anticipate next summer that more Americans than ever before will be visiting us."

The association convention attracted more than 2,800 delegates from the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

The National Tour Association is the primary industry organization in North America for group travel. Its membership includes 475 tour companies, 500 tourist promotion agencies and over 2,000 allied groups such as sightseeing companies, hotels and restaurants.

"A great many delegates expressed increasing interest in Canada as a travel destination, including the North, because of international unrest and the lack of it in Canada," Kaylo said. "As a result, they are interested in the development of more package tours in the Canadian market."

The marketing director added that the "real challenge is for the private sector in the North to develop these new package tours to take advantage of the growing interest."

- 30 -

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86-320

TWO RETAIL LIQUOR AGENCY CONTRACTS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 19) - Ten-year contracts to operate retail liquor agencies in Inuvik and Hay River were awarded this week by the Territorial government.

Government Services Minister Tagak Curley today announced that Bush Company Limited received the Inuvik contract while K.G. Mackenzie was awarded the Hay River contract.

"We are meeting requirements of the privatization policy by contracting out portions of our liquor operations to the private sector," said Curley. "Once outstanding proposal calls for the operation of liquor retail agencies in Fort Smith, Pine Point and Fort Simpson are dealt with, the only two Government-operated retail agencies will be in the restricted areas of Frobisher Bay and Norman Wells."

No contract was awarded for the Norman Wells liquor retail agency because the only proponent to meet the proposal call withdrew the bid. Operation of a retail liquor agency in Norman Wells may be retendered at a later date.

Six proposals were submitted for the operation of the Inuvik agency. The contract, which will run from August 1, 1987 to July 31, 1997, was awarded to the low bidder Bush Company Ltd.

Five proposals were received for the operation of the Hay River agency. The contract, which will run from April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1997, was awarded to the low bidder K.G. Mackenzie.

Both successful bidders will provide self-serve liquor stores. The size of each store will be 3200 square feet with at least half, or 1600 square feet, dedicated to retail space.

- 30 -

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86-319

**GOVERNMENT LEADER ATTENDS FIRST MINISTERS
CONFERENCE ON ECONOMY**

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 18) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston and Economic Development Minister Tagak Curley will represent the Northwest Territories this week at the First Ministers Conference on the Economy in Vancouver.

On November 20-21st, premiers of the ten provinces and leaders of both northern territories will meet Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to discuss the state of the Canadian economy.

The Northwest Territories has observer status at the conference. Mr. Sibbeston will formally address the Prime Minister and the premiers on the topic of economic development in the Northwest Territories.

"Although our government is not going to be a full participant at this conference, I look forward to the opportunity to inform Canada's leaders about the northern economic situation. I don't intend to dwell on our difficulties, but plan to emphasize our promising future."

- 30 -

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86-318

ART BY YOUNG NORTHERNERS GOES TO NORWAY

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 18) - Art by students from Cambridge Bay, Jean-Marie River, Frobisher Bay and Spence Bay has been added to the permanent collection of the International Museum of Children's Art in Oslo, Norway.

"These young people are already bringing recognition to themselves, their schools and their communities," Minister of Education Dennis Patterson said. "And they are not alone. We all know of other talented students in the Northwest Territories who are achieving high standards in art and other areas of endeavour."

The twelve young artists are Ellie Haevens, 8, and Adam Egotik, 7, of Cambridge; Noleen Hardisty, 11, Adeline Sanguetz, 7, Ann-Margaret Sanguetz, 15, of Jean-Marie River; Robert Ittunga, 13, David Kootook, 10, Tony Etunga, 6, David Tulurialik, 16, Willie Mannilaq, 16, Johnny Kootook, 13, of Spence Bay; and Marie Evaluardjuk, 16, of Frobisher Bay.

The works were originally selected by Emily Carr College as part of the International Young Art display at Expo. This display has now been transferred to the Museum in Oslo.

- 30 -

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86-317

ALCOHOL AND DRUG AWARENESS WEEK TO BE OBSERVED

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 18) - "Keep the Circle Strong" is the theme of the fifth annual Alcohol and Other Drugs Awareness Week, which will be observed from November 23 to 29.

The emphasis this year will be on families. "We consulted addiction workers throughout the Territories in developing this year's theme," Minister of Social Services Bruce McLaughlin said. "They want to stress that the abuse of alcohol and other drugs does not contribute to happy, healthy families."

Activities for families -- everything from tobagganing parties to family dances -- are being coordinated by churches, schools, service clubs, community groups and alcohol and drug programs throughout the Territories. "The message of this special week is to be found in these activities. I hope that each of us finds an opportunity to enjoy and strengthen our own family circle."

For more information about Alcohol and Drug Awareness Week activities, contact your community alcohol and drug program or call the Department of Social Services, Alcohol and Drug Division at (403) 873-7904.

- 30 -

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86-316

DORSET COMPANY GETS VENTURE CAPITAL

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 18) - The Territorial government's successful Venture Capital program has attracted investment money for a Cape Dorset heavy equipment and contracting company.

Bronyk Skavinski of Frobisher Bay, a contractor and businessman himself, has invested \$256,000 in Island Equipment, a company owned and operated by Sandy and Koperqualuk Reynolds of Cape Dorset. The money is being used by Island to purchase another heavy equipment business in Dorset and acquire new equipment. The expansion will create several new jobs in the community.

Announcement of the Venture Capital arrangement was made today by Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism.

As an incentive to invest his money, Skavinski has received from Venture Capital \$76,800 -- three dollars for every \$10 he's put into equity in Island Equipment. His investment buys him a minority share of the company.

The government's Venture Capital program, started to help small businesses in smaller communities where unemployment is high and equity difficult to get, has already attracted commitments of \$2.5 million in equity capital in the seven months it's been available.

The Venture program is similar to other government programs in the rest of Canada. It gives back to investors an amount equal to 30 per cent of the equity they invest in communities where the unemployment rate is higher than the NWT average of about 17 per cent.

The \$2.5 million investors have pledged to date is destined for seven northern businesses in the fields of construction, tourism and heavy equipment. These businesses are currently negotiating with the investors. The investors have a year to commit their money. By far the majority of them are northern business people and some southern investors with well-established northern experience and corporate presence in the NWT.

- 30 -

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86-315

PROGRAM HELPS NATIVE TRAINING

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 17) - More than \$844,000 has been invested in the past year in Inuit economic planning, career counselling and employment development through a federal program administered by the Territorial government.

The money from the Indian and Inuit Community Human Resource Strategies program has and is being spent on 44 Inuit projects in 35 communities, Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism, announced.

Curley's department administers the Inuit part of the program, while Indian and Northern Affairs Canada looks after the Dene and Metis portion.

"This effective program is another example of our two governments working together to meet the need for employment development in the communities," Curley said, adding that he intends to do everything he can to ensure it continues next year.

"This important program is providing invaluable assistance to communities in their efforts to develop commercial enterprises and the people with marketable skills to staff them," the minister said.

Among the Inuit projects funded were:

- the Kataujaq Society in Rankin Inlet received \$19,000 to develop day-care workers;
- the Aklavik alcohol committee got \$37,000 for youth counselling;
- the Chesterfield Inlet Fishermen's Association was given \$17,000 for its development;

-- Spence Bay and Pelly Bay received \$21,000 for hospitality development;
-- the Coppermine Women's Group got \$28,000 to make sealskin tapestries;
-- the Clyde River Education Council was given \$34,000 for basic job readiness development and,
-- the Inuit Broadcasting Corp., received \$44,000 to develop children's educational programming for television.

The Indian and Inuit Community Human Resource Strategies program does not replace the major source of funding for native training and employment -- Canada Employment and Immigration -- but is designed to complement and enrich CEIC programs.

The decision to fund projects is made by regional approval committees made up of representatives from native organizations. This year they received requests for a total of \$2.4 million in funding.

For further information about the program contact regional superintendents of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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86-314

OIL BURNER WORKSHOPS PLANNED

FORT SMITH (Nov. 17) - A series of three workshops providing information and hands-on experience on high efficiency oil burners is being held here this week.

The workshops, co-sponsored by the Department of Public Works and Highways, Arctic College and RIELLO Canada Inc., are designed to provide oil burner mechanics and housing maintenance service apprentices with an introduction and hands-on experience on the RIELLO oil burner.

RIELLO oil burners, which can be installed in furnaces or boilers, are being widely used in the Northwest Territories. Public Works and Highways staff have monitored the installation of several RIELLO burner conversions and have found the energy, maintenance and cost savings 15-20% below conventional oil burners.

A three-day workshop is scheduled for Housing Maintenance Service apprentices. The students are from several N.W.T communities including Cambridge Bay, Sachs Harbour, Inuvik, Aklavik, Fort McPherson, Fort Good Hope, Yellowknife and Fort Smith. Housing maintainers from the local housing authority also are attending this workshop.

A second workshop is scheduled for oil burner mechanics working in various regions within the Department of Public Works and Highways. A third session for private sector oil burner mechanics is scheduled for the weekend of November 22.

The Housing Maintainer Servicemen's workshop is being considered as a pilot project. Regular training in high efficiency burners may be incorporated into this apprenticeship program based on the response to this initial experience.

"These workshops not only help to upgrade the skills of our northern oil burner mechanics but they also help keep the workers in the field informed and apprised of new technology," says Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray. "Apprentices, private sector and government oil burner mechanics benefit from the practical exposure to new technology provided in the workshops."

The workshops, held at the Thebacha Campus of the Arctic College, run from November 17-22.

- 30 -

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86-313

SPECIAL WEEK TO HEIGHTEN AWARENESS OF DISABILITIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 17) - During Territorial Disability Week (November 24-28, 1986), territorial residents will be presented with ways to make life easier for disabled persons.

"Providing all the facilities, services and programs which help those with disabilities to function as active members of our communities is not an easy task," says Minister of Health and Social Services Bruce McLaughlin. "Awareness helps us to plan our communities and buildings to better serve those with disabilities."

Territorial Disability Awareness Week helps to make all people aware of the abilities and needs of disabled people and of ways to prevent some disabilities through health and accident prevention services.

"I urge all NWT residents to take some time during this week to learn about disabilities and develop positive attitudes about disabled people," said Mr. McLaughlin. "We can make our communities and workplaces more accessible to those people who have disabilities."

Mr. McLaughlin said he was pleased to see that the NWT Council for Disabled Persons was encouraging discussion of such important areas as education, health care and employment during Territorial Disability Awareness Week. The Council is providing information packages to communities and is sponsoring a conference at Yellowknife's Explorer Hotel from November 26-28th called TOGETHER IN CHANGE: A Perspective on Disabilities and Abilities in the Northwest Territories.

- 30 -

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86-312

**TERRITORIAL PUBLIC SERVANTS AWARDED FOUR PER CENT
PAY INCREASE**

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 13) - Territorial public servants have been awarded a four per cent pay raise retroactive to April 1, 1986. The increase is for the second year of a two year contract which ends March 31, 1987.

Minister of Personnel Red Pedersen made the announcement today following the decision by E.E. Palmer, an arbitrator appointed by the territorial government and the NWT Public Service Association.

The government and the union entered into a contract on October 16, 1985, which was to be effective from April 1, 1985 to March 31, 1987. The agreement did not provide for a salary increase in the second year. Rather, they agreed to enter into negotiations with respect to an increase after the first year.

According to Mr. Pedersen, "at that time, the Public Service Association was asking for a 9% increase and the government was offering 2%. Under the circumstances, the matter was referred to arbitration."

"It is encouraging to note that Mr. Palmer recognized changes in the economic climate of the Northwest Territories in making his decision."

- 30 -

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86-311

N.W.T/YUKON AGREE ON EMERGENCY AID

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 13) - Mutual co-operation between the Yukon and the N.W.T during a civil emergency has been formalized by an agreement signed by Government Leaders Tony Penikett and Nick Sibbeston, and the two ministers responsible for emergency measures.

Piers McDonald, the Minister responsible for emergency measures in the Yukon says it's a preventative measure which could speed up reaction to an emergency.

"We're neighbours and there's no question we would help each other out in an emergency," said Mr. McDonald. "But the agreement establishes a pre-arrangement which should result in a faster response to a situation. It will also mean we can combine our equipment and people more quickly if that becomes necessary."

Tagak Curley, the Northwest Territories Minister responsible for Emergency Measures said, "the agreement formalizes the unwritten good neighbour policy which has existed between our respective governments for years."

"In very basic terms, this document says that if either of us needs help in dealing with an emergency situation, the other will provide that help if we can," Mr. Curley said.

While most emergencies are normally within the capabilities of the affected jurisdiction, it's more a matter of who can respond the quickest. For example, Tungsten is in the Northwest Territories, but its road access is from Watson Lake in the Yukon. Equipment for an emergency in Old Crow might be more readily available in Inuvik.

Response time is the key and the mutual aid agreement sets out the processes to be followed and the roles and responsibilities of those providing and receiving assistance.

The agreement also contains a disclaimer that there is no liability or commitment to provide any assistance, "except at the discretion of the responding party and only so far as they are capable of doing so."

Both territories are participants, along with the provinces, in the federal government's Joint Emergency Planning Program. Through this program all areas have been working toward improving and enhancing response capabilities.

- 30 -

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86-310

COMMISSIONER PARKER JOINS ORDER OF CANADA

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 12) - Commissioner John H. Parker received Canada's highest distinction today in Ottawa.

Commissioner Parker has been appointed to the Order of Canada by the Governor General, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Jeanne Sauve, Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order.

Mr. Parker joined twenty-two others to become an Officer and has earned the right to sign O.C. behind his name. Three Companions (C.C.) and forty-four Members (C.M.) were also recognized by the Governor General.

The Order of Canada was established in 1967 to recognize outstanding achievement and service in various fields of human endeavour.

Mr. Parker is being recognized for his close work with the members of the Legislative Assembly and his significant contributions to the evolution and development of both the municipal government of Yellowknife and of the territorial government.

His involvement with the North began in 1949 with the exploration department of a mining company through summer student employment in Northern Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. Mr. Parker's activity in public service started with his election in December 1958 to Yellowknife Town Council. In December 1963, he was elected Mayor of Yellowknife, and in 1965 returned as Mayor by acclamation.

Mr. Parker was appointed Deputy Commissioner of the Northwest Territories in 1967 and became Commissioner in 1979.

- 30 -

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86-309

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NAMED FOR ABORIGINAL RIGHTS
SECRETARIATE**

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 10) Charles Overvold has been appointed executive director of the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat. The announcement was made today by the Hon. Dennis Patterson.

Overvold, 45, has been acting executive director since Angus Mackay left the position Sept. 5, 1986.

"It's a particular pleasure for me that Charles Overvold has agreed to accept this position," Patterson said, "since it is fitting that a government organization which deals with such sensitive areas as land claims should be headed by a native northerner."

Overvold, a Metis, was born in Fort Norman and raised in the Northwest Territories. He has been the GNWT senior negotiator for the Dene/Metis land claim since 1982.

Overvold was a federal civil servant for ten years before he left the Ministry of Transport to devote himself full-time of the Metis Association of the NWT.

In 1973, he was one of the founding members of the Metis Association, being elected vice president and later president and serving organization until 1978.

Before joining the territorial government, he went on to earn a certificate in business management through formal and on-the-job training sponsored by the Northern Careers Program.

- 30 -

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86-308

FLAHERTY'S A FIRST IN HOUSING CORPORATION

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 10) - Jamie Flaherty of Frobisher Bay has become the first. And he may turn out to be the fastest.

The native of Grise Fiord took only nine months to complete his one-year on-the-job course as the NWT Housing Corporation's first-ever project officer trainee.

Flaherty, who started training with the corporation in Frobisher in February, was presented with a plaque of appreciation by Hiram Beaubier, president of the Housing Corporation. Beaubier made the presentation on behalf of Mike Ballantyne, minister responsible for the corporation.

"Flaherty's outstanding commitment to training allowed him to complete the course three months ahead of schedule," Beaubier said. "He has set a standard that's going to be a real challenge for future trainees."

Flaherty will work out of Frobisher as a project officer in the Baffin region. This involves inspecting corporation buildings and housing units and ensuring contractors doing work for the corporation deliver on budget, on time and according to their contracts.

A journeyman carpenter, Flaherty worked two years for the Territorial Department of Public Works and Highways. As part of his secondary education, he completed the settlement maintenance program. He speaks both English and Inuktitut.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Barry Craig
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PHOTO RELEASE

GRADUATE GETS PLAQUE

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 10) - Hiram Beaubier, president of the NWT Housing Corporation, (right), presents Jamie Flaherty of Frobisher Bay with a plaque of appreciation. Flaherty is the first project officer trainee with the corporation. He just graduated. The presentation was late last week on behalf of Mike Ballantyne, minister responsible for the corporation.

SEE RELEASE: Flaherty's a First in Housing Corporation.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Barry Craig
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86-307

TOP TRADES GRADUATES HONOURED

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 10) - Trades people in the Northwest Territories honoured this year's crop of exceptional graduates at an awards ceremony here recently.

Twenty-three top apprentices from all parts of the Territories received awards donated by business, unions and government agencies, at a dinner hosted by the Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Board. Overall winner was Patrick Barone, a Heavy Duty Mechanic from Pine Point, who received the award for Top Graduating Apprentice in all Trades.

"Mr. Barone and the other people being honoured here certainly deserve special credit for their exceptional achievement," said Minister of Education Dennis Patterson. "But let's also remember the 450 other people in our apprenticeship program. They are also attaining national standards in both the theory and techniques of their trades."

Apprenticeships are available in 36 trades in the N.W.T. On-the-job training is provided by employers throughout the Territories. The majority of the theory training is offered by Arctic College, with the balance of the trades going to southern institutions.

"The apprenticeship method of training is particularly well suited to the North, because it emphasizes hands-on experience, the traditional Native method of education. Apprenticeship also permits people to obtain much of their training in their home communities and equips them with skills and certification that make them readily employable."

In addition to the award winners honoured at the banquet, twenty-nine other top-ranking apprentices will be recognized in ceremonies in their home communities.

A complete list of the award winners is attached.

- 30 -

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1986 ANNUAL APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

<u>AWARD CATEGORY</u>	<u>AWARD RECIPIENT</u>	<u>EMPLOYER</u>	<u>AWARD SPONSOR</u>
**Top Autobody Mechanic 3rd Year	MIKE ANDERSON	Jay's Autobody Hay River	Delta Ford, Inuvik
Top Carpenter 1st Year	PIERRE MOREAU	Contracts North Yellowknife	Clark-Bowler Construction Ltd.
Top Carpenter 2nd Year	EWEN MORRISON	Igloo Enterprises Cambridge Bay	PCL Constructors Northern Inc.
Top Carpenter 3rd Year	TIM VORNBROCK	PCL Construction Yellowknife	Building & Construction Trades Council Northern Alberta and Northwest Territories
**Top Carpenter 4th Year	MATT ZUKIWSKY	PCL Construction Yellowknife	Carlson Construction Ltd. "A.V. Carlson Memorial Award"
Top Communication Electrician 1st Year	DAVID EVANS (Inuvik)	Northwestel Yellowknife	Northwestel
Top Electrician 1st Year	TED RICHARD	Ryfan Electric Yellowknife	International Union of Electrical Workers
Top Electrician 2nd Year	TOM ROSS	Holmes Electric Yellowknife	ICG Northern Utilities Ltd.
Top Electrician 3rd Year	DAVID MASON	Cominco Pine Point	N.C.P.C.

1986 ANNUAL APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

<u>AWARD CATEGORY</u>	<u>AWARD RECIPIENT</u>	<u>EMPLOYER</u>	<u>AWARD SPONSOR</u>
**Top Electrician 4th year	MICHAEL M. RODGER	Canada Tungsten Mining Corp.	Electrical Trade Advisory Committee
Top Glassworker 2nd Year	MICHAEL WILLIAMS (Hay River)	Territorial Glass Ltd.	Territorial Glass Ltd. Yellowknife
**Top Gasfitter 3rd Year	WILLIAM THOMSON	ICG Liquid Gas Yellowknife	ICG Liquid Gas Ltd.
Top Heavy Duty Mechanic 1st Year	CHARLES ROTHGORDT	Cominco Polaris	United Steelworkers Local 802, Yellowknife
Top Heavy Duty Mechanic 2nd Year	DANIEL COLLINGS	Municipality of Frobisher Bay	Robinson's Trucking Ltd.
**Top Heavy Duty Mechanic 3rd Year	PATRICK BARONE	Cominco Pine Point	Stan Dean & Sons
**Top Heavy Duty Mechanic 4th Year	PATRICK BARONE	Cominco Pine Point	Cominco, Pine Point mines
**Top Heavy Duty Mechanic "Inuktitut Special"	MOSESEE QAPPIK	Hamlet of Coral Harbour	N.W.T. Chamber of Mines
Top Housing Maintainer 1st Year THEBACHA	HORACE DELORME	Housing Authority Fort Smith	G.N.W.T. Public Works
Top Housing Maintainer 1st Year IQALUIT	TOOMA NESTER	Housing Association Coral Harbour	G.N.W.T. Education

1986 ANNUAL APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

<u>AWARD CATEGORY</u>	<u>AWARD RECIPIENT</u>	<u>EMPLOYER</u>	<u>AWARD SPONSOR</u>
Top Housing Maintainer 2nd Year, Part 1	PETER OKHEENA	Housing Association Holman Island	N.W.T. Housing Corporation "John Tolaganak Memorial Award"
Top Housing Maintainer 2nd Year, Part 2, THEBACHA	CHARLIE MALLA	Hamlet of Eskimo Point	Fred H. Ross & Associates, Cambridge Bay
Top Housing Maintainer 2nd Year, Part 2 IQALUIT	DAVID ILBAUT	Housing Association Eskimo Point	G.N.W.T. Education
**Top Housing Maintainer 3rd Year	DANNY KLENGENBERG	Housing Association Coppermine	G.N.W.T. Apprenticeship Program "Fred S. Jones Memorial Award"
**Top Housing Maintainer "Band G"	ETIDLOIE PETAULASSIE	Housing Association Cape Dorset	Housing Maintainer Trade Advisory Committee
Top Industrial Warehousing 1st Year	SANDRA NUTTALL	N.C.P.C. Inuvik	Finning Tractor & Equipment Co. Inuvik
**Top Industrial Warehousing 3rd Year	GLORIA MANUEL	Cominco Pine Point	G.N.W.T. Government Services
Top Millwright 1st Year	WALLACE BRENTON	Cominco Con Mine	Giant Yellowknife Mines
Top Millwright 2nd Year	ROBERT TUMCHEWICS	Cominco Con Mine	Echo Bay Mines Ltd. Edmonton

1986 ANNUAL APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

<u>AWARD CATEGORY</u>	<u>AWARD RECIPIENT</u>	<u>EMPLOYER</u>	<u>AWARD SPONSOR</u>
**Top Millwright 4th Year	BOYCE STRYDE	Cominco Con Mines	Esso Resources, Norman Wells
Top Motor Vehicle Mechanic 1st Year	DAVID ITTINUAR (Rankin Inlet)	G.N.W.T.	Mrs. June Magrum "Danny Magrum Memorial Award"
Top Motor Vehicle Mechanic 2nd Year	CRAIG ELLIS	Pluim Contractors Inuvik	Heavy Duty/Motor Vehicle Mechanics Trade Advisory Committee
Top Motor Vehicle Mechanic 2nd Year	JOHN HEATH	Delta Ford Mercury Sales Ltd. Inuvik	Age Automotives Ltd. Yellowknife
Top Motor Vehicle Mechanic 3rd Year	SOREN THOMASSEN	Active Service & Maintenance Ltd. Yellowknife	G.N.W.T. Education
**Top Motor Vehicle Mechanic 4th Year	BUDDY WILLIAMS	Age Automotives Yellowknife	City of Yellowknife "Everett Kasteel Memorial Award"
Top Oil Burner Mechanic 1st Year	ROBERT MCCALLUM	Rae-Edzo Housing Association	Circle Mechanical Yellowknife
**Top Painter & Decorator 3rd Year	STEVE CHAFFEE	G.N.W.T. DPW Yellowknife	Great Northern Lumber & Building Supplies Yellowknife
Top Partsman 1st Year	LEONARD ADAMS	RDR Sports Inuvik	Bumper to Bumper (Gas & Gears) Yellowknife

1986 ANNUAL APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

<u>AWARD CATEGORY</u>	<u>AWARD RECIPIENT</u>	<u>EMPLOYER</u>	<u>AWARD SPONSOR</u>
Top Partsman 2nd Year	GLEN RAY SEATON	Kingland Ford Hay River	Kingland Ford Hay River
Top Plumber 2nd Year	JOHN LEONARDIS	JSL Mechanical Installations Ltd. Yellowknife	Mackenzie-Liard Construction Fort Simpson
**Top Plumber 4th Year	ROBERT GUNN	G.N.W.T. DPW Frobisher Bay	Constructional Mechanical Trade Advisory Committee
**Top Refrigeration & Air Conditioning 4th Year	L. NEIL COULTIS	Cominco Pine Point	G.N.W.T. Education
**Top Sheet Metal Mechanic 4th Year	STEPHEN HILL	JSL Mechanical Installations Ltd. Yellowknife	N.W.T. Public Service Alliance
Top Steamfitter- Pipefitter 1st Year	HENRY SMITH	Cominco Con Mines	United SteelWorkers of America Area Council
Top Welder 1st Year	ROY HANSEN	Beaudril Ltd. Inuvik	Cominco Ltd. Con operations
Top Welder 2nd Year	MICHAEL CREITH	Northern Arc Shipbuilders Hay River	Sub-Arctic Welding Ltd.
**Top Welder 3rd Year	CONLEN KOSWAN	Cominco Con Mines	Nanisivik Mines Ltd.

1986 ANNUAL APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

<u>AWARD CATEGORY</u>	<u>AWARD RECIPIENT</u>	<u>EMPLOYER</u>	<u>AWARD SPONSOR</u>
**Top Welder 3rd Year	ROBIN JANZ	Giant Yellowknife Mines	Back Bay Welding Yellowknife
**Top Non-Apprentice to Obtain Journeyman Status	JOSEPH ERKIDJUK (Frobisher Bay) H.E.O.		Accommodations North Yellowknife
**Top Non-Apprentice to Attend Theory Training	GORDON VILLEBRUN (Painter & Decorator) Fort Smith	Esso Resources Norman Wells	G.N.W.T. Education
**Top Non-Apprentice to Attand Theory Training	STEVIE KARPIK (Housing Maintainer)	Housing Association Pangnirtung	G.N.W.T. Education
**Top Non-Apprentice to Obtain the Interprovincial "Red Seal"	KENNETH MILLER (Oil Burner Mechanic)	J & R Mechanical Yellowknife	Canadian Association of Smelter and Allied Workers Local # 4
**Top Non-Apprentice to Obtain the Interprovincial "Red Seal"	JAMES GREGORY KIDD Oil Burner Mechanic (Hay River)	G.N.W.T.	Northland Plumbing Hay River
**Top Graduating Apprentice in All Trades	PATRICK BARONE		Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Board

86-306

NWT EXPO FILM WINS AWARDS

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 6) - NWT Expo's main film at the 1986 world's fair has earned two awards at one of Canada's foremost film festivals.

The Emerging North, produced by Yellowknife Films, recently won a Golden Sheaf award and a Certificate of Merit at the Yorkton Short Film and Video Festival.

The Golden Sheaf was for the best musical composition on film in Canada in 1986, while the certificate of merit was for the film itself.

The Yorkton festival attracted 239 entries. Yellowknife Films won a Golden Sheaf last year for another northern film.

Yellowknife Films Alan Booth and Lanny Cooke received rave reviews for their 10-minute film of life in the NWT during the 5 1/2 months 1.6 million people went through the NWT pavilion on the Expo site in Vancouver.

The Vancouver Sun called the film one of the best at Expo and gave it and only two others a top rating of five stars. Similar accolades came from The Globe and Mail, Vancouver Province, Toronto Star and foreign newspapers and magazines.

The Emerging North was written in its entirety by Yellowknife Films' Lanny Cooke and co-produced by Alan Booth and Cooke. The majority of the filming was done by Booth, while Terry Woolf of Yellowknife provided 85 per cent of the sound recording. The music for the film was composed by Michael Conway Baker and Charles Wilkinson of Vancouver.

"The film elicited an extraordinarily positive response towards the Northwest Territories from the fair-going public as well as exhibit and film professionals," a creative consultant to the NWT pavilion, Frank Mayrs of Ottawa, recently wrote.

The Emerging North was among a handful of Expo films selected by the B.C. Government to be shown in September at a one-day government trade fair for people in the motion picture business around the world.

The film for the pavilion was sponsored by Petro-Canada Resources.

- 30 -

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86-305

TWO PLAYS ON SPOUSAL ASSAULT GO ON TOUR

YELLOWKNIFE (November 7) - Tunooniq Theatre of Pond Inlet will present two original plays on spousal assault in Pond Inlet, Clyde River, Pangnirtung and Frobisher Bay between November 18 and 24.

The plays, which were developed on contract to the GNWT Department of Culture and Communications, which initiated and supported the project. Additional funding has been provided by the Women's Secretariat.

The plays will be performed in Inuktitut, deal with ways in which people can take action on spousal assault. The first, entitled "Survival", tells the story of a woman who has been abused for many years and who finally decides that she must leave her marriage. The second, called "Help", shows a young man who learns new ways of expressing his anger, so that his wife is able to stay with him.

The scripts are based on stories written by Malachi Arreak and Jokeypak Killiktee, and then developed by the actors with help and advice from Elders and the community Social Worker. The six-member cast includes Oopah Atagutak, Pakak Innuksuk, Kitty Komangapik, Rosie Katsak, David Qamaniq and Lamechi Kadloo, all of Pond Inlet. Also accompanying the group on tour is Aiju Peter of Frobisher Bay, who will be available to talk to people and answer questions about spousal assault.

The plays are directed by Jan Selman of Catalyst Theatre in Edmonton, who has a national reputation for her work in creating plays that promote social change.

Tunooniq Theatre was formed about a year ago and has performed in Pond Inlet and at Winterlude in Ottawa, the Edmonton Folk Festival, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and Expo '86. Their first play, "Changes", dealt with the Inuit way of life and the changes that have occurred since white men arrived in the North.

The theatre group is scheduled to arrive in Clyde River on November 18, in Pangnirtung on November 20 and in Frobisher Bay on November 21.

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COMMUNITÉ

86-304

CAMBRIDGE BAY GUIDES GRADUATE

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 4) - Ten members of the Cambridge Bay Hunters' and Trappers' Association have successfully completed a guide training course sponsored by the Territorial and federal governments.

The three-week course was to prepare for professional guiding jobs on polar bear hunts in the area this winter.

Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Tagak Curley said the course was an extra one.

"The planned program for this summer had been completed and the funding exhausted," Curley said. "However, the Kitikmeot region had a great need for training before the winter season. The Department of Economic Development and Tourism, in co-operation with the Indian Community Human Resources Strategy, was able to provide funds for this course."

The minister also announced that a similar course will be held in March in the Keewatin region.

The two courses are in addition to this year's highly-successful guide training program co-sponsored by the departments of Economic Development and Tourism and of Education in which 55 northerners received training as guides in seven courses held in various part of the Territories.

The training in Cambridge Bay included a one-week trip on the land as a climax to the three-week course.

"The Territorial government is committed to helping develop the tourism industry of the north in every possible way," said Curley. "This development depends not only on the growth and improvement of facilities for tourists but also on the training of northerners to take their proper place in the industry."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Barry Craig
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86-303

CURLEY NAMED TOURISM'S PERSON OF THE YEAR

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 4) - Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Tagak Curley has been recognized by the Travel Industry Association for his considerable contributions over the last year.

In making the presentation of the 'Tourism Person of the Year Award,' President of the T.I.A. Betty Palfrey said Mr. Curley has made a "phenomenal" contribution to furthering the progress of tourism in the territories.

"He has substantially raised the profile of our industry through diligent, persevering and successful efforts to inform and educate Northerners about tourism at all levels. People right across the NWT now are talking about tourism. The industry is positively viewed."

Mrs. Palfrey said, too, that Mr. Curley has initiated a profound relationship between Government and industry that has resulted in better funding and the transfer of program responsibilities to the private sector.

"As the result of the efforts of the Minister, the government negotiated the establishment of a national park where tourism concerns and the concerns of local people were taken into account."

Mr. Curley was credited with several things including spearheading support for a program working out the division of responsibility between government and the private operators. It was noted he provided a solution when the industry was faced with an insurance crisis. Mr. Curley was also given credit for his direction in initiating the valuable regional tourism studies.

According to Mrs. Palfrey, as Minister Responsible for Expo Mr. Curley faced many obstacles and objectives. "Thanks to Mr. Curley's perseverance and belief in Expo, the NWT has one and half million ambassadors around the world espousing the attractions of the Northwest Territories."

This is the first time a minister of the territorial government has been singled out for the prestigious Travel Industry Association award.

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86-302

CRIME PREVENTION WEEK NOVEMBER 2-8

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 4) - Justice Minister Michael A. Ballantyne announced today that Nov. 2 - 8 is National Crime Prevention Week.

Mr. Ballantyne said, "The observance of this week recognizes that as much as we appreciate the fine work the police do in solving crimes, we should all be vigilant and do our part to keep crime from occurring in the first place."

Mr. Ballantyne noted that a great deal of work has been done in preparation for the week. A public awareness campaign using the resources of the northern media has touched every community in the northwest territories.

Interviews have been conducted with community leaders and members of the legal profession to gain their insights on crime prevention.

The work in preparation for Crime Prevention Week has already shown some permanent results. In Yellowknife, a chapter of Students Against Drunk Driving (S.A.D.D.) has been formed with involvement from both high schools. The Crime Prevention Week committee has shown interest in establishing itself as a permanent organization.

A Yellowknife radio station has expressed interest in broadcasting crime prevention messages throughout the year.

During the week itself, the R.C.M.P. will be conducting associated activities in Inuvik, Frobisher Bay, and other communities.

On Nov. 3, an awards ceremony was held at the Explorer Hotel honouring five NWT residents who are recipients of the Solicitor General's crime prevention award.

Mr. Ballantyne concluded by stating that crime prevention is the responsibility of each individual citizen and that Crime Prevention Week succeeds to the extent that it creates public awareness which will lead to concrete action.

He called on everyone to do their part in seeing that the goals of Crime Prevention Week are put into practice throughout the year.

- 30 -

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86-301

GOVERNMENT FUNDS TOURIST TRAIL

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 3) - A wilderness trail to scenic waterfalls on the La Martre river is to be developed with the help of the Territorial government.

The community of Lac La Martre is getting \$19,600 from the government to help it clear a 13-mile walking trail that will give people first-time access to some of the river's scenic areas. La Martre, a Dogrib community, is 13 miles east of where the trail will begin.

"We're happy to contribute to the developing tourism industry in the area," said Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism.

The money from Curley's department is out of the tourism facilities and training assistance contribution fund.

The new trail also will provide access to quality fishing and canoeing.

- 30 -

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Icicles restaurant sold about \$1.7 million worth of northern country food and the boutique grossed about \$1.25 million. Mr. Curley said, "the exposure of these products through our pavilion has already generated interest from southern wholesalers, both Canadian and American."

"The total value of goods and services purchased in the north from suppliers of arts and crafts, country foods, services and building supplies totals an estimated \$5,270,000. And, with respect to the final tally on corporate support, more than 40 friends in the business world were 'Partners in Progress' to the tune of \$1,390,000 in cash or services in kind."

Most of the useful items in the pavilion are being shipped north. Mr. Curley says everything from emergency lighting systems to smoke detectors to sound systems are targeted for distribution to community halls and other public buildings.

The financial details are not complete, but Mr. Curley said the capital cost of the pavilion is in the order of \$4 million, about \$300,000 over budget. "Half of that was for project enhancements - the lighting and sound in our mirrored gallery; our exterior lighting; the inukshuk in front of the pavilion; and the two wall hangings displayed in our theatre."

"On the operations and maintenance side, we went over budget by approximately \$790,000, because of the unexpected large volumes of pavilion visitors and because of extra staff support services which were unanticipated. Additional maintenance staff and supplies, extra receptionists and extra visitor information guides were required as a result of the extreme popularity of the pavilion."

Mr. Curley said he will present a more complete and accurate statement on the costs and benefits of the Expo 86 pavilion at the next session of the Legislative Assembly.

- 30 -

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86-299

**HOUSTON, HARRISON, WALLACE
A GALA CELEBRATION OF ART AND LITERATURE**

HAY RIVER (Oct. 31) - Plans are being finalized by NWT Public Library Services for a gala author/illustrator tour by Ian Wallace, Ted Harrison, and James Houston celebrating the 10th anniversary of Children's Book Festival in Canada.

Special funding has been made available by Canada Council this year only to establish a broad-based tour which will reach 18 NWT communities in just over one week. Specially arranged charters will allow communities such as Snare Lake, Lac La Martre, Pond Inlet, and Fort Liard to host a world class author/illustrator.

Launched under the theme, "Sharing the Spirit", the tour has as its banner a full-colour poster produced by the Department of Culture and Communications in English and all northern aboriginal languages.

The drawings in the "Sharing the Spirit" poster reflect the strong northern heritage complemented by the colors of the northern lights. The posters are available in local libraries and schools of all communities hosting an author/illustrator.

Communities are planning a variety of programs around the visits involving local artists, storytellers and writers in workshops, displays, and critiques of locally produced art.

For example, the newly organized library advisory committee in Pine Point will be holding an artists' drop-in with Ted Harrison talking about art as a career and the techniques of illustrating books.

Harrison, who has a strong background in motivating creative young adults with an interest in art, will also be visiting the communities of Inuvik, Yellowknife, Rankin Inlet, and Hay River.

In Igloolik, the library board is sponsoring a creative writing workshop with James Houston. Participants will include young writers who were involved in "Stories from Igloolik"; Emile Immaroitok, author of a dictionary of traditional words; storytellers, and other creative individuals in the community.

Houston will also visit Frobisher Bay, Cape Dorset, and Pond Inlet.

Ian Wallace will be treated to traditional storytelling at the Hay River Dene Village. As a part of his reading, Wallace shows his art and tells his audience how he links illustrations to stories.

For example, in his book, "The Very Last First Time" Wallace's illustrations show the result of a thorough investigation of the art and legends of the people of the Arctic. His most recent book, "Sparrow Song", is linked to his own childhood and the illustrations show a strong mystical theme. Wallace will bring with him pictures of illustrations for unpublished stories which he is currently working on.

Ian Wallace's tour is the most extensive, reaching the Hay River Dene Village, Fort Liard, Fort Simpson, Coppermine, Cambridge Bay, Spence Bay, Snare Lake, Lac La Martre, and Yellowknife.

Every community involved in the tour is gearing up for an extensive celebration.

Copies of the authors/illustrators books will be available in each community. Arrangements have been made so that participants' can have their personal copies autographed.

- 30 -

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(403) 874-6531

86-298

PATIENT BOARDING HOMES IN YELLOWKNIFE GET APPROVAL

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 29) - Executive Council approval has been given to proceed with arrangements to create patient boarding facilities in Yellowknife.

Minister of Health Bruce McLaughlin said, "patients from the Kitikmeot region and the communities in the Mackenzie Valley have long sought the establishment of such facilities since they have to travel great distances and are often away from home for extended periods of time."

He said support for the patient boarding facilities has come from various community groups and in particular from Nellie Cournoyea (MLA Nunakput), Red Pedersen (MLA Kitikmeot West) and Michael Angottitauruq (MLA Natilikmiot).

"The facilities will provide accommodation for patients requiring short periods of intensive or continuing investigative procedures, treatment or rehabilitation available only in Yellowknife. These people will not require direct medical supervision or nursing care. In addition, interpreter services and patient liaison services will be available."

Negotiations to lease facilities will re-commence immediately with the appropriate Kitikmeot and Dene Nation organizations. Mr. McLaughlin says discussions on leasing arrangements with the Enokhok Corporation of Cambridge Bay for a 20 bed facility are well advanced and he hopes they can be concluded soon.

In addition, Mr. McLaughlin said discussions will also continue with the Medical Services Branch of Health and Welfare Canada for recovery of operating costs associated with patients who are its responsibility. "I have found the Honourable Jake Epp, Minister of National Health and Welfare to be very sympathetic to the needs of northern residents who must leave their home communities to receive care. I expect these discussions will proceed quickly and smoothly."

Mr. McLaughlin hopes that new patient boarding facilities will be available when the new Stanton Yellowknife Health Centre is completed.

- 30 -

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86-297

NORTHERN SCHOOL DESIGN TO BE STANDARDIZED

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 29) - The Department of Public Works plans to standardize school plans throughout the territories. The Minister, Gordon Wray, said, "this will ensure that each community obtains the best teaching space possible and that this space will be provided at the most reasonable cost."

According to Mr. Wray, the government is spending between \$15 and \$20 million dollars a year on new school construction. "Yet, many schools are still overcrowded and there is a need for more classroom space. Few of our existing schools were designed to expand and not all were well enough constructed to make expansion economically attractive."

Mr. Wray says that in addition to design and physical restraints, it is necessary to expand the school administrations and to provide separate libraries. He said there is also a growing need for space for high school programs like industrial arts, home economics and science classes.

In response to these growing needs, Mr. Wray said a standard design for schools has been developed. "Instead of having five different designs as has been the case in the past, these buildings will make use of a standard central core area, and will adapt themselves to the functional needs of different communities by modular expansion in order to provide the number of classrooms and support facilities required."

Mr. Wray said the major advantage is the lower cost. "We will be able to construct more facilities with Education's limited budget, instead of building individually designed schools. In addition, we will no longer be building large lobbies, viewing galleries and other non-teaching spaces."

The special identity of each community, however, will not be lost in the standard plan. Mr. Wray explained that a series of exterior graphics has been developed that reflects the local landscape.

"As part of this system of graphics, special provision is being made for each community to contribute to the production of artwork to be mounted on the outside of each building. This artwork will be the result of original work by local artists and will be given an individual identity to each community's school for a low cost."

Mr. Wray is hopeful that the standardized approach to school facilities will be examined by other government departments so that similar benefits can be achieved throughout the territories.

The design and the ideas for the standardized school plans were done in consultation with the Department of Education. The Minister, Dennis Patterson stated that by putting the plan into action, the territorial government has already realized \$5 million, "enough to allow us to build a school in Igloolik."

- 30 -

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86-296

NEW ACT PROMOTES GREATER COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 29) - Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs Gordon Wray said today that a proposed act to be discussed at the next sitting of the Legislative Assembly will consolidate all the provisions for property assessment and taxation.

"Right now," said Mr. Wray, "these rules and procedures are found in the Municipal Act and the Taxation Act, and this has caused some difficulty in promoting public understanding of the system."

The proposed Act will accomplish several things, including introducing administrative improvements. According to Mr. Wray, the Act, in conjunction with the proposed local government legislation, would extend the opportunity for hamlets and charter community governments to apply for the authority to tax property.

"If this approach is accepted by the Legislative Assembly it would enhance the access of local governments, other than the eight tax-based municipal governments, to potential local revenue sources. This in turn promotes greater local responsibility in community government."

The proposed Act calls for areas outside the boundaries of communities with taxing authority to be grouped under one General Taxation Area covering the rest of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Wray said the change will ensure that the application of property assessment procedures and property tax rates by the GNWT are equal to areas taxed directly by the territorial government.

Mr. Wray says amendments made to the Taxation Act last winter will be carried over into the new Act. The amendments allowed for property to be assigned to eight different classes according to its use -- for example, residential, commercial, or mineral resources extraction.

Mr. Wray said the proposed Act will be considered along with the rest of the major program of local government legislation. "I will welcome the contributions of all Members and full debate and discussion in bringing forward this legislation. It has been long awaited by municipal councils, settlements, Dene band councils, regional councils, the NWT Association of Municipalities and the Dene Nation, among other bodies and organizations; and the general public."

- 30 -

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86-295

LANDLORD AND TENANT RIGHTS SET OUT CLEARLY

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 28) - A new bill has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Minister of Justice which clearly sets out the rights and obligations of landlords and tenants in the Northwest Territories.

Mike Ballantyne announced today the bill provides procedures for the enforcement of those rights and obligations. It was developed following a review of the Landlord and Tenant Act and public hearings which were held throughout the territories.

"The question of residential tenancy is one that is very important to all of us. This bill will have an impact on a great number of the residents of the Northwest Territories."

Mr. Ballantyne says major issues addressed in the bill include the creation of the office of a Rental Officer. "The Rental Officer has the power to mediate disputes between landlords and tenants, to provide information to them and to settle complaints."

The question of security deposits is addressed in the new bill. "The proposed act," said Mr. Ballantyne, "clearly sets out the amount which may be requested as a security deposit and the manner in which the deposit is to be given and returned."

In addition, the act contains specific provisions on the termination of residential tenancies.

According to Mr. Ballantyne, "the intent of the proposed act is to foster harmony between landlords and tenants of residential premises. I feel that if both parties are aware of their rights and obligations, harmony will be achieved."

- 30 -

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86-294

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES MADE TO STUDENT ASSISTANCE REGULATIONS

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 28) - Significant changes will come into effect on January 1, 1987 regarding rules for Student Financial Assistance. Minister of Education Dennis Patterson announced today that a review of the regulations has been finalized.

Mr. Patterson said that interest rates on loans will now be set at the beginning of each calendar year. This rate will then apply to all students who are required to enter into consolidated loan agreements during the course of the year.

"Students receiving basic grants will now be able to use their second trip home at a time convenient to them such as Reading Week or Easter. Previously, students had to either use this trip at Christmas or lose it."

Mr. Patterson said successful students who return to the NWT will now have their loans forgiven on the basis of residency, rather than a combination of residency and employment. "In the past," he said, "the rules failed to recognize that many people are involved in activities which do not provide wage employment, such as housewives, trappers and artists."

"As well, it seemed to be unfair since people who could afford to repay the loans because they had jobs were not required to do so. On the other hand, unemployed people who had little or no income were penalized by being required to pay."

Child care allowances will be increased for students with more than one child. Those students with more than one will receive an additional \$25 a week for each child needing day care.

Another \$11 a week is added to living allowances for each dependent beyond the fourth dependent. Mr. Patterson said this change "provides a consistent entitlement no matter what the size of the family and will no longer penalize individuals who have more than four dependents."

The courseload required in order to remain eligible for all forms of assistance has been reduced from 80% to 60%, which is more in line with other jurisdictions. The previous requirement often placed a student's full program in jeopardy by requiring the student to carry a course which should have been dropped.

"The complex and confusing system for basic student grants has been simplified," said Mr. Patterson. "All residents of the Northwest Territories applying for new basic student grants will be eligible at the rate of one year for every three years of schooling in the Northwest Territories."

"In the past, the criteria for basic grants were extremely confusing and caused administrative and legal problems, particularly when parents moved outside the Northwest Territories and older students remained in the North."

According to Mr. Patterson, "the changes we have made will result in a more responsive student financial assistance program which will help northern students pursuing post secondary education opportunities."

- 30 -

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86-293

**COMMITMENT TO ACQUIRE NORTHERN CANADA POWER
COMMISSION**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 28) - The Minister Responsible for Energy, Mines and Resources says the Executive Council has agreed to establish a fully integrated utility operation in the Northwest Territories. Tom Butters said a number of alternatives must be closely examined before determining how the transition will be managed.

According to Mr. Butters, final negotiations with the Government of Canada will involve the following objectives:

- No financial dependence on this government's long term fiscal framework
- The NWT utility should be viable and self-sustaining in the long term
- The transfer terms must be fair and reasonable for NWT consumers in the long term
- There must be equitable treatment of NCPC employees

"As a result of this decision," said Mr. Butters, "the Deputy Minister of Finance will commence financial negotiations with the federal government in early November. We remain committed to the conclusion of these negotiations by March 31, 1987."

Mr. Butters outlined the exhaustive assessment of NCPC's financial capabilities. He said there has been a full review of the debt which NCPC attributes to the NWT rate zone to ensure that the loans which are being discussed apply to assets being used for NWT customers. Mr. Butters says a major appraisal and inspection is being undertaken of all of the equipment, dams, generators and transmission lines.

"There are many steps to be taken, many matters to be resolved and much careful planning required in order to smoothly move NCPC from a federal Crown Corporation based in Edmonton, to an effective territorial Crown Corporation based in the NWT. We must accomplish all of this in as short a time as possible with a loss in the reliability of this essential service."

Mr. Butters said in the coming weeks, the Executive Committee will be reviewing two options regarding the need for competent help. He said the alternatives are to develop the nucleus of a future management team now or to contract an agency to assist with the transition with a planned phase-out once the territorial operation is established.

"Our objective is to ensure a stable and financially successful territorial utility company providing reliable and responsive service," said Mr. Butters.

"This new utility must be able to finance the new capital equipment that will be needed to meet the demands of NWT consumers. All of this must be accomplished in an environment of reasonable rates, rates which are not subject to wide fluctuations as a result of unforeseen economic or natural disruptions. Further, it must serve the NWT without drawing upon resources which this government would otherwise put to other important needs."

Mr. Butters expects to report substantial progress at the next sitting of the Legislative Assembly in February 1987.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
Press Secretary
Executive Council
(403) 920-6176

86-292

WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OFFERS IMPROVED DEAL

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 28) - The Minister Responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board announced today new assessment rates for employers.

Bruce McLaughlin said the rates are used to calculate the amounts that employers pay to insure people for compensation in the event of an injury at work.

"I am pleased to say that the assessment rates for 1987 show an overall reduction of around 25 percent compared with the 1986 rates."

Mr. McLaughlin went on to say that as a result, "the board will be collecting 13.7 percent less revenue from employers in 1987, and the vast majority of employers will be paying less for workers' compensation than they paid in 1986."

In addition to the new savings for territorial employers, Mr. McLaughlin said there is an increase in the maximum insurable remuneration from \$30,400 to \$36,800.

"This is a very satisfactory state of affairs from my point of view. The higher insurable maximum will bring improved benefits, particularly to widows and dependent children, and the reduced assessment rates will bring significant cost relief to employers."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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Executive Council
(403) 920-6176

86-291

NEW ARCTIC FISHERY LOOKS GOOD

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 28) - The 24 members of the Legislative Assembly here got a taste today of what could very well become a new fishing industry in the eastern Arctic.

It was the latest development in a promising experiment by the Territorial government and the Inuit of Pangnirtung to find alternatives to the eastern Arctic's depressed sealing industry -- the development of commercial fishing for scallops, shrimp and halibut.

"It really looks like our gamble is paying off," said Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism.

The MLAs tried bite-size samples of the scallops and Greenland halibut during their coffee-break in the Assembly.

The minister announced it is estimated from scallop beds discovered in Cumberland Sound that the people of Pangnirtung may be able to harvest \$500,000 worth of scallops a season. As well, a permanent winter fishery for Greenland halibut in the Sound looks promising from experiments conducted through the ice last winter. And it is well known there are abundant stocks of shrimp and halibut in the Davis Strait between Canada and Greenland. These are now being fished on the Canadian side by southern Canadian interests.

"If we do not act now southern fishing fleets will monopolize the quotas on shrimp and halibut in the Davis Strait," Curley said. "Therefore, it is imperative that we consult now with the federal fisheries minister to ensure that the Northwest Territories gets its fair share of these quotas."

Over the past two years the Territorial government has put up \$50,000 -- along with another \$100,000 through the joint federal-territorial Economic Development Agreement -- to help the Pangnirtung Inuit locate scallop beds and test the commercial possibilities of the halibut winter fishery with the guidance of fishery development consultants brought in from the Maritimes.

With the help of C-Mac Consultants of New Brunswick, the Inuit found one bed of scallops this summer in Pangnirtung Fiord and two more in Cumberland Sound. And other discoveries are anticipated.

"Now that the resources have been identified, it is important to help the people in Pangnirtung develop the catching expertise and the handling and marketing techniques required to solidly establish permanent commercial fisheries in both halibut and scallops," Curley said.

For example, the consultants have introduced in Pangnirtung an apparatus called a Digby Bucket that drags for scallops on the seabed but leaves enough of them behind to reproduce.

"We're very optimistic that the eastern Arctic is on the threshold of a major breakthrough in alternative commercial enterprises that will compensate for the economic downturn from depressed sealskin prices," the minister said.

Curley added: "And more than anything else, credit for it goes to the Pang fishermen who, right from the start, have shown a great deal of initiative and enthusiasm for the idea."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403) 873-7251

86-290

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACCEPTS CONCEPTS OF COTTERILL
REPORT**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 27) - The Government Leader announced today that the Executive Council has accepted the concept of reorganizing the Fort Smith Region.

Nick Sibbeston said a study conducted by Ewan Cotterill and Associates was to consider alternative organizational structures to the existing Fort Smith region. The basis for the study was to allow for more efficient and effective program and service delivery within the current and projected organizational needs of the Territorial Government.

The report was reviewed by the Executive Council against such criteria as:

- government direction related to the fair allocation of regional resources;
- the optimum use of available financial resources and physical infrastructure;
- program accessibility to those being served.

Mr. Sibbeston noted one of the key findings of the Cotterill Report was that the Fort Smith Region, which is closest to Yellowknife headquarters, has the most highly developed municipal governments and best transportation and communications facilities and systems.

"In addition to that," he said, "the Fort Smith Region has the greatest number of intermediate organizational levels and the largest number of staff assigned to co-ordinating and support functions both in terms of the number of positions and as a percentage of total positions."

The Executive Council has accepted the concept of three area offices with managers reporting directly to headquarters instead of the current situation of area offices reporting to regional offices which in turn report to headquarters. Mr. Sibbeston said the Executive Council accepts that this extra level of bureaucracy should be removed. The consultant has recommended area offices in Fort Smith, Fort Simpson and Rae-Edzo.

"Adoption of this new organizational structure will obviously have implications for our staff, particularly in the Town of Fort Smith and the town itself. The Executive Council is particularly conscious of this government's responsibilities to our staff. It is the government's intention to review the staff housing policy to safeguard employees who own their own homes."

Mr. Sibbeston noted that Fort Smith has enjoyed a steady influx of territorial government jobs over the past several years. Preliminary estimates indicate that about 25 positions could be relocated to area centres. "This means less than 7% of the GNWT establishment in Fort Smith would be affected. There is no reason to suppose that the growth experienced by Fort Smith in the past related to territorial government programs will not continue in future years."

"The Executive Council is very aware that implementation of the new organizational structure must be carried out carefully and in a manner which does not interrupt program delivery," said Mr. Sibbeston.

Gary Black has been appointed by the Executive Council to develop implementation plans for the reorganization of the Fort Smith Region by March 31, 1987. Mike Vaydik has been appointed Acting Regional Director during Mr. Black's assignment.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
Press Secretary
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(403) 873-6176

86-289

LITTLE BUFFALO RIVER BRIDGE OFFICIALLY OPENED

FORT RESOLUTION (Oct. 24) - A new two-lane permanent bridge over the Little Buffalo River was officially opened today by Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray and Tu-Nedhe MLA Eliza Lawrence.

Also attending the official opening were Pine Point MLA Bruce McLaughlin, Fort Resolution Chief Robert Sayine, members of the Deninoo Council, federal and Territorial government officials.

The new concrete bridge replaces the previous single Bailey-type bridge installed many years ago on the Fort Resolution Highway. Funding for the bridge, \$922,000, was provided by the Government of Canada under the federal northern roads program. The Territorial Department of Public Works and Highways designed the bridge and supervised its construction.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-288

TRAINING OF FIREFIGHTERS GETS NEW EMPHASIS

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 24) - Minister of Justice Mike Ballantyne said today he has honoured his commitment for a renewed emphasis on fire fighter training in the territories.

"Over the past 10 months, there have been five regional Fire Fighting seminars held. Two were held in the Baffin Region and one each in the Kitikmeot, Inuvik and Keewatin regions with a total of 90 fire fighters participating. A regional seminar is planned for the Fort Simpson/Fort Providence area for February 1987."

As well, Mr. Ballantyne said that over 150 fire fighters have been trained in their home communities by local fire chiefs and officers of the Fire Marshal's staff. In addition, 76 fire fighters in communities throughout the NWT have qualified at the internationally recognized standard of FIRE FIGHTER 1.

"This represents a major step forward in fire fighter training since it represents a formally recognized career step for fire fighters concerned."

According to Mr. Ballantyne, training plans for the next year include expansion of the regional seminars and further emphasis on training in communities. "Also," he said, "all NWT fire fighters will be encouraged to participate in the FIRE FIGHTER 1 training program. Within a year, we hope to have a more advanced course."

Mr. Ballantyne said the government's approach to training has the full support of the NWT Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters Association and consultation will continue with that organization.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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86-287

**CANADA/NORTHWEST TERRITORIES OFFICIAL LANGUAGES
AGREEMENT**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 24) - The territorial and federal governments have reached agreement on funding for the start-up of French languages services in the Northwest Territories.

The announcement was made today by the Minister of Culture and Communications, Nick Sibbeston, and Secretary of State David Crombie.

The Secretary of State is providing \$211,000 this fiscal year to hire a French language project officer, two French interpreter/translators, a bilingual word-processing operator and a bilingual receptionist-secretary.

"While full implementation of bilingualism is not scheduled to take place until December 1990, the present agreement recognizes that certain services can be provided before then," Mr. Crombie said.

"The project officer will be hired immediately under contract to monitor and develop a translation section within the existing Northwest Territories Language Bureau, to develop individual work plans for the various Territorial government departments and agencies and to be responsible for liaison and consultation with Francophone groups and individuals in the Northwest Territories," added Mr. Sibbeston.

Work plans will be developed once the government receives the overall implementation plan currently being developed, and to be submitted to the Executive Council in the new year. The project officer will ensure the completion of the plan before the official proclamation of the NWT Languages Act in December 1990.

Recruiting for interpreters and resource staff is scheduled to begin immediately so that personnel can be hired in time to start translating and publishing government documents of practical interest to the public by December 1986.

Under the Canada Northwest Territories Agreement on Official Languages, the Department of the Secretary of State will bear all costs of implementing and providing French language services in the NWT. In addition, a total of \$16 million is being provided over a five-year period to provide services in aboriginal languages in the NWT and to preserve, develop and enhance those languages.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Department of Culture and Communications
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86-286

CREATING A BETTER TOMORROW READY FOR DISTRIBUTION

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 21) - Dennis Patterson, Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, tabled a new Land Claims book entitled **CREATING A BETTER TOMORROW - ABORIGINAL CLAIMS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES** in the Legislative Assembly today.

The book is intended to give all people of the Northwest Territories a better understanding of the land claims process.

"For those who are not directly involved in this process of negotiations it is often difficult---and sometimes impossible---to fully understand what a 'land claim' is all about and what affect a claims settlement might have on one's personal life," Patterson said.

"I am confident that all who read **CREATING A BETTER TOMORROW** will have a better understanding of the purpose of aboriginal land claims, the process involved in negotiating a land claim and the many different components in the comprehensive claims of the Dene, Metis, Inuvialuit, and Inuit of the Northwest Territories," the minister added.

In recent months, the pace of land claims negotiations in the Northwest Territories has picked up and claimants and non-claimants alike are showing a greater interest in the negotiations. There have been demands for general information on claims and for information on the implications of tentative agreements.

"CREATING A BETTER TOMORROW is yet another effort on the part of the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat to provide Northerners with the kind of information they both want and need. It is my hope that **CREATING A BETTER TOMORROW** will help its readers better understand what land claims are all about, who is involved in the process of negotiating a settlement, and how the interests of **ALL** people are being accommodated," Patterson said in his statement to the Legislative Assembly.

CREATING A BETTER TOMORROW is printed in both English and syllabics. The book will be widely distributed in the Northwest Territories and it will also find its way into the hands of some Yukoners and southern Canadians.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Deborah O'Connell
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86-285

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TACKLES CHILD ABUSE

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 23) - The prevention and elimination of child abuse is the objective of a new initiative being undertaken by the Department of Education.

The Minister, Dennis Patterson, announced today that his department has developed 'Procedures for Reporting Suspected Child Abuse'. "These measures are designed to help our staff understand and deal with this sensitive issue", said Mr. Patterson. "This is a further effort by the Department of Education, working with other departments, towards helping to prevent child abuse."

The measures have been developed in conjunction with the Northwest Territories Medical/Legal Committee. Once they have been given final approval by the committee, the procedures will be introduced into schools across the north. It is expected that implementation will begin in about a month.

"These procedures have been acknowledged and supported by all the agencies involved in the treatment and investigation of child abuse," Mr. Patterson explained. "They are meant to ensure two things - that employees of the Department of Education are aware of their legal obligations to report suspected child abuse and that all staff know the correct procedures to follow in the event they have to make a report."

The information includes scenarios depicting different situations which may confront staff who suspect child abuse. They are intended to provide the employees with more understanding of the reporting procedures.

"Training has already begun for principals on this sensitive topic, and training will be available for teaching staff, in co-operation with the Department of Health. In addition, the initiatives of our Department have been sent to other Ministers of Education across Canada in an attempt to share information of mutual interest and to prevent the rehiring of professionals who have been convicted of child abuse."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
Press Secretary
Executive Council
(403) 920-6176

86-284

FEDERAL FUNDING SUPPORTS TERRITORIAL FRENCH PROGRAMS

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 23) - The Department of Education has successfully negotiated with the Secretary of State for \$645,000 for French programs in 1986-87.

The Minister, Dennis Patterson, said this amount includes the minimum contribution of \$145,000 as part of the Canada-Northwest Territories Agreement on the Official Languages in Education, as well as an amount of \$272,000 from supplementary funds for projects and activities begun in the last three years which continue this year. Also included is \$228,000 from supplementary funds for projects and activities initiated this year.

"This fall, French Immersion was expanded to Grade 11 at Sir John Franklin High School and to Grade 4 in the Yellowknife Separate School system. The Secretary of State helps to defray costs for teachers and materials for the pilot classes in Immersion. Support will also be given for the continuance of the Pre-Immersion French program offered to students in the spring at J.H. Sissons School in Yellowknife."

Mr. Patterson said the Department of Education is developing a Core French curriculum adapted to northern needs.

"Except for Nanisivik, all communities where French is offered received cultural support through visits of groups of touring performers. This has immense value and gives our students an appreciation and understanding of another culture."

Nanisivik, Frobisher Bay, Inuvik, Norman Wells, Fort Simpson, Hay River, Pine Point, Fort Smith and Yellowknife all have money for instructional assistants to help in their French programs. Adults in Yellowknife and Frobisher Bay can take advantage of teleconferencing to pursue university courses without leaving their community. Mr. Patterson also pointed to travel assistance offered to students taking French language summer courses in different parts of Canada and said that his department will seek to offer more bursaries next year.

He was especially pleased that Frobisher Bay has been funded by the Secretary of State for its French First Language Program. "Funding to hire a teacher, a French instructional assistant, a French monitor, and to supply teaching and library materials and professional development opportunities will contribute greatly to providing French educational needs identified by the Francophone parents in that community."

Mr. Patterson said his Department will continue to actively seek support from the Secretary of State for territorial French programs and will encourage any jurisdiction to initiate programs based on needs.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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86-283

**PROGRESS IN DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOLS' ABORIGINAL
LANGUAGE COURSES**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 22) - Minister of Education Dennis Patterson said today that considerable progress is being achieved in the area of native language and curriculum development. He was expanding on the Government's response to the recommendations of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages.

"A manager has been hired to head up a new section with the Department of Education to deal primarily with Aboriginal Language and Curriculum Development for in-school programs," Mr. Patterson said. "Language specialists are being hired for all language groups in the N.W.T. and we are finalizing a two-year plan to provide curriculum training for the language specialists."

Mr. Patterson noted that centres for Teaching and Learning have been set up in Fort Franklin, Fort Simpson and Eskimo Point this year. He said there are plans to establish centres next year to serve the Dogrib and Inuvialuktun language areas. Centres will also be established in the Baffin and Kitikmeot regions to provide for aboriginal language development work.

Mr. Patterson said these centres have several purposes. "They are to decentralize efforts to develop, co-ordinate, monitor and implement programs in a language area. Secondly, these centres will be used as a base for the field based Teacher Education Program, the main objective of which is to get bilingual teachers into the teaching profession."

Work on Athapaskan languages is taking place in a number of areas. Fort Franklin has a First Language program, Fort Simpson has an Immersion program, and the majority of the other communities are providing native language as a second language in the schools.

"Valuable language and cultural materials have been developed in the Loucheux Language Centre in Fort McPherson and training has been provided for school instructors through the Yukon Native Language program, specialist to serve the needs of the area.

In Inuvialuktun, curriculum work for the Department of Education continues to be done by the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement. The Kindergarten to Grade 3 program is currently being implemented in the schools. Inuinnaqtutun programs for K-3 are being revised for Kitikmeot region and will be ready for final publication by early 1987.

In the Inuktitut areas, the Kindergarten to Grade 4 curriculum is completed. Work is being done on the Grade 5 and 6 programs.

The Inuit Cultural Institute is developing a training program for language and cultural instructors in the Keewatin. It has already completed a cultural program for Junior High students which will be distributed to all Eastern Arctic schools.

"I believe that we are moving in the right direction and beginning to meet the needs of the aboriginal people of the N.W.T.," said Mr. Patterson. "I am very pleased that we now have for the first time, program specialist positions to represent each of the main aboriginal language areas and see this as another step in achieving many of the objectives in the report of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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(403) 920-6176

86-282

**MEMBERS OF REGIONAL AND TRIBAL COUNCILS REVIEW
ANNOUNCED**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 22) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston announced today the creation of a committee to undertake a major review of regional and tribal councils in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Sibbeston said the committee's work will provide a base from which future directions and policies might be developed.

"The review will examine historical, current and anticipated developments of all regional and tribal councils whether incorporated under territorial legislation or not".

The chairman of the committee will be George Braden, former NWT Expo Pavilion Commissioner. Other members are: Deputy Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs Al Menard, Charles Overvold of the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat, Fort Smith Regional Director Gary Black, Mayor of Rankin Inlet Jack Anawak (Eastern Arctic representative), Mayor of Inuvik John Hill (Western Arctic representative), Mark Evaluarjuk (Eastern Regional Council representative) and Chief Joe Rabesca (Western Regional Council representative).

Mr. Sibbeston said the review of regional and tribal councils will be prepared by June 1, 1987 for tabling in the Fall 1987 Session of the Legislative Assembly.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
Press Secretary
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(403) 920-6176

86-281

SPOUSAL ASSAULT PAMPHLET DISTRIBUTED

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 21) A pamphlet entitled "Help for battered women (and men)" has been distributed to all nursing stations, R.C.M.P. detachments, and Social Services offices in the N.W.T.

The booklet includes a definition of spousal assault, information on sources of help, simple explanations of basic legal procedures, advice on making safety plans, and emergency phone numbers. It has been published in five editions, one for each administrative region in the Territories, and is available in English and three different dialects of Inuktitut.

Additional copies can be obtained from regional Social Services offices or from the government publications office in Yellowknife.

The pamphlet is part of a public information program on spousal assault being undertaken by GNWT Culture and Communications. To date, the Department has distributed a pair of posters and five issues of a quarterly newsletter called "Spousal Assault Network," which has been well received. Also in the works are additional pamphlets, buttons, radio and TV "spots," a series of radio documentaries and experimental drama projects centered in Fort Franklin and Pond Inlet.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Candace Savage (403) 873-7615
Public Affairs Officer
Culture and Communications

The Executive Council has accepted the concept of three area offices with managers reporting directly to headquarters instead of the current situation of area offices reporting to regional offices which in turn report to headquarters. Mr. Sibbeston said the Executive Council accepts that this extra level of bureaucracy should be removed. The consultant has recommended area offices in Fort Smith, Fort Simpson and Rae-Edzo.

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- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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(403) 873-6176

86-280

**CLIMATE OF INCREASED TRUST IN FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL
MEETINGS ON ABORIGINAL RIGHTS**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 20) - Minister Responsible for Aboriginal Rights Dennis Patterson reported today that progress has been made in the latest ministerial federal-provincial meetings leading up to the First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal Rights.

Mr. Patterson said that despite the many frustrations and disappointments over the last four years, this latest round of discussions produced significant progress across a range of issues.

"Discussions took place on constitutional protection for aboriginal self government, negotiation of self government agreements, equity of access for all aboriginal people and the financing of self government.

The final outcome of the meeting was the setting of guidelines on the various aspects of self government. The guidelines will provide a basis for wording a first draft of an amendment entrenching and protecting the aboriginal right to self-government in the Constitution. Mr. Patterson expects the draft will be ready for the ministers to deal with at their next meeting.

"I don't think the prospects have ever looked brighter for us to"- as one delegate put it - "close the circle of Confederation with the inclusion of aboriginal people as full partners in Canada."

Mr. Patterson said that the stature and credibility of the territorial government were enhanced at last weeks's meeting because of the contributions made and the support given to aboriginal self government. He credits the work of Justice Minister Mike Ballantyne and the Legislative Assembly for its high priority and strong backing given to the advancement of aboriginal rights.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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86-279

BAFFIN PROJECTS RECEIVE ICHRS FUNDING

FROBISHER BAY (Oct. 20) - Sixteen projects have received a total of \$285,600 in funding in the Baffin Region this year under the Inuit Community Human Resources Strategies (ICHRS) program.

The Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Tagak Curley, and Louis Tapardjuk, the Baffin Chairman of ICHRS, are pleased to announce the approval of funding for these 16 projects which will be carried out in eight different communities during the coming year.

The ICHRS program is administered in the Baffin by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism on behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. It is designed to encourage Inuit communities to develop longer term employment development programs by complementing or extending existing programs such as those offered by Employment Canada.

The Baffin projects funded are as follows:

- Pangnirtung Tourism Committee: \$15,000, Broughton Island Tourism Committee: \$13,500 to develop walking trails and to train students as tourism hosts.
- Baffin Tourism Association: \$4,500 to train tourism hosts. Igloolik Co-operative Test Fishery: \$23,800 towards the second year of a test fishery at Steensby Inlet.
- Tujurmivik Hotel, Hall Beach; Enokseot Hotel, Arctic Bay and the Hall Beach Hotel: \$7,600 to train staff in hospitality, menu planning, and inventory control.

- Uluksatun Construction Co., Arctic Bay: \$3,200 to train a part-time employee to handle company books and prepare tender documents for the unilingual owner.
- Sanikiluaq Beach Project: \$10,000 to assist the local tourism committee to improve tourism facilities by extending the community's dock and cleaning up the beach area nearby.
- Clyde River Education Council: \$34,000 to provide a Basic Job Readiness Training program for eight students until March 1987.
- Igloolik Library Project: \$12,000 to hire three local trainees and a professional librarian to amalgamate the Adult Education and elementary school libraries in anticipation of the provision of Grade 11 in the community. The project began last year and includes computer cataloguing of all books, films, film strips, and video tapes.
- BRADIC: \$36,000 to supplement funding from CEIC, Social Services and EDA to train individual alcohol counsellors in Baffin communities.
- Inuit Broadcasting Corporation: \$44,000 to train three people as producers of children's television programs:
- Tungavik Federation of Nunavut: \$33,000 to train two Community Liaison Workers.
- Hamlet of Pangnirtung: \$5,000, Hamlet of Igloolik: \$4,000: to train a municipal employee in maintenance of a new boiler system in each community.
- Tower Arctic Construction Program: \$30,000 to provide on-the-job carpentry training to three Inuit hired for the company's Pangnirtung Visitor's Centre construction project.

Further information about the ICHRS program may be obtained by contacting the Department of Economic Development and Tourism at 819-979-5311 or contacting your local Area Economic Development Officer.

- 30 -

CONTACT:

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819-979-4245

86-279

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- Tungavik Federation of Nunavut: \$33,000 to train two Community Liaison Workers.
- Hamlet of Pangnirtung: \$5,000, Hamlet of Igloolik: \$4,000: to train a municipal employee in maintenance of a new boiler system in each community.
- Tower Arctic Construction Program: \$30,000 to provide on-the-job carpentry training to three Inuit hired for the company's Pangnirtung Visitor's Centre construction project.

Further information about the ICHRS program may be obtained by contacting the Department of Economic Development and Tourism at 819-979-5311 or contacting your local Area Economic Development Officer.

- 30 -

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86-278

LATEST CAMPUS OF ARCTIC COLLEGE OPENS

INUVIK (Oct. 18) - Minister of Education Dennis Patterson and Minister of Finance Tom Butters (MLA Inuvik) announced today the establishment of an Inuvik campus of Arctic College.

"I am delighted that the Inuvik campus of Arctic College has become a reality," said Mr. Patterson. "Not only is it an exciting addition to our unique northern education system, it is a very positive way to help people in the Mackenzie Delta develop their skills."

"The establishment of a satellite campus of Arctic College in the Western Arctic satisfies an initiative begun 20 years ago," said Mr. Butters. "I commend the territorial government for its determination, within its financial constraints, to offer post secondary and specialized educational programs in the region."

The former Armed Forces Base - CFS Inuvik - was formally handed over to the territorial government by the Federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Bill McKnight October 10. "I am certain the campus will be a success and will provide Inuvik with a much needed boost," said Mr. McKnight.

The transfer had been the subject of negotiation between the federal government and Minister of Public Works Gordon Wray since the announcement of the pending closure of the base was made last year. The territorial Department of Public Works will be responsible for the renovation and maintenance of the buildings which include a garage, a gymnasium, an administration building and a logistics building.

Programs for the Inuvik Arctic College campus are expected to start in January 1987 and more will be added in April and September 1987. These will include a Community Recreation Leaders' Program which offers a diploma following two years of study. An Introduction to Northern Business Management is a six-month course for 15 students to prepare them for the Business Management Certificate Program.

The Community Administration Certificate Program for the Western Arctic now based in Yellowknife with a field-based course in Rae-Edzo will move to Inuvik in January 1987. The course will continue in Rae-Edzo.

Extension programs like the Clerk Receptionist Course now being offered through the Thebacha campus will become Inuvik campus programs. There are plans for more courses like Advanced Cooking, Academic Studies and Driver Training to be offered through the Inuvik campus.

"The Inuvik campus of Arctic College is the result of a great deal of co-operation between governments and departments. Without their support, this new campus, these new opportunities and the new resources within the community of Inuvik would not exist. We are grateful to be able to provide so much more to the people of this region and to the people of the Northwest Territories," Mr. Patterson noted.

- 30 -

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86-277

ACID RAIN REPORT RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 17) - An interpretive map and report assessing the sensitivity of soils and bedrock in the Northwest Territories to acid rain was released today by Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen.

The map and report were prepared following a review of all soil and geology literature available in the N.W.T. This material was used to derive the buffering capacity of the soil and bedrock which is considered to be a significant factor in limiting the impact of drainage water on lakes and streams and on limiting chemical changes in the soil as a result of acid rain.

"Projects such as this one are essential for the development of appropriate management strategies to deal with acid rain in the N.W.T.," said Pedersen. "The map identifies virtually all of the Keewatin and most of the Baffin regions as highly sensitive to acid rain while the Mackenzie Mountains and southern Mackenzie Valley are shown as less sensitive.

This project is a result of an initiative of the Western Canada LRTAP (long-range transport of atmospheric pollutants) Technical Committee. Environment departments of the governments of Canada, Northwest Territories, Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Manitoba are represented on the committee.

- 30 -

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86-276

**GOVERNMENT LEADER PROTESTS CONTINUATION OF CRUISE
MISSILE TESTING**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 17) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston wants the Prime Minister to reconsider his decision to resume testing of the cruise missile in the Northwest Territories.

In a telex to Brian Mulroney, Mr. Sibbeston said he was deeply disappointed and concerned about the decision. "Despite previous requests, northerners have yet to receive concrete assurances as to the safety of further testing."

Last winter, two tests of cruise missiles resulted in accidents. In March, the NWT Legislative Assembly passed a motion to suspend the testing until the issue of safety was satisfactorily resolved. The federal government halted the testing while the accidents were investigated, but recently announced that testing would resume.

The issues, according to Mr. Sibbeston, go beyond simple safety. "The people and government of the Northwest Territories are opposed to the further escalation of the arms race and to the development of new weapons, particularly over our northern home."

In June, the NWT Legislative Assembly passed a motion declaring the Northwest Territories to be a nuclear free zone. Mr. Sibbeston told the Prime Minister in his telex that members were fully aware that defense is a matter of national interest and that Canada does have commitments to her NATO allies.

"Nevertheless, the assembly wished to demonstrate the real concerns of northern people over these new developments and their objection to the use of the north as a weapons testing ground."

Mr. Sibbeston assured the Prime Minister that the debate dealt not only with the dangers to northern residents from future cruise malfunctions, but with the broader issues of nuclear disarmament and world peace.

He has asked for a response from Mr. Mulroney before the end of this session of the Legislative Assembly.

- 30 -

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86-275

ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT UNDERWAY IN BAFFIN

FROBISHER BAY (Oct. 17) - Nine Inuit who are eager to make a go of it in business started classes this week in a new Entrepreneurial Development Program.

The program is a pilot project developed at the initiative of the minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Tagak Curley. It is designed to identify potential entrepreneurs through extensive screening and to assist them in preparing suitable business plans. Some of the participants are already in business and want to improve their business operations. Others have enrolled in order to prepare plans before starting out in business.

"Small business is the backbone of the economy in southern Canada and it is becoming obvious that it is likely to become the backbone of the northern economy as well," said Minister Curley. "If the people of the eastern Arctic want to control and develop their own economy, they must find a way to supply goods and services that are at the moment being supplied by businesses in southern Canada. To do that, Inuit need to acquire business skills, and this program is designed to help them do just that."

5 of the 9 people enrolled in the program are from the Baffin and the rest are from the Keewatin. They were selected following one-day workshops held in Frobisher Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay during September. 32 people from around the eastern Arctic participated in the workshops which outlined the advantages and disadvantages of being in business and helped participants to decide if they wanted to pursue their interest in small business.

The program is being conducted by four instructors from Ontario's Lakehead University.

The first classroom session of the program started on October 14th at the Adult Education Centre in Frobisher Bay. It will continue for three weeks until October 31st. Participants will learn a variety of business skills, including financial administration and marketing techniques. They will also develop a specific business plan based on the business they are already in or on one they are interested in starting.

Following this classroom session, the would-be entrepreneurs will return to their home communities for three weeks from November 1-21 to research their business plan and collect market information specific to their own business idea. During this time, they will be visited by an instructor who will provide them with any assistance or guidance that they might need.

The group will then return to Frobisher Bay for one week from November 24-30 to continue developing and fine-tuning their business plan with the help of their instructors.

In the final phase of the program, the group will return to their home communities to put their business plans into action, Minister Curley says. Contact will be maintained to assist in the implementation of the business plans.

At the direction of the Minister, the Department of Economic Development is also planning to hold Contractor Training Workshops next year as a further aid to developing the business skills of Inuit. It is anticipated that 30 workshops will be held across the Northwest Territories and that about ten of these will take place in Baffin communities.

Further information about the Eastern Arctic Entrepreneurial Training Program and the upcoming contractor workshops may be obtained by calling the Department of Economic Development in Frobisher Bay at 979-5311 or by contacting the Area Economic Development Officer in your area.

- 30 -

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86-274

COLORFUL HISTORY LINKED WITH ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - A man who went around the world handcuffing lions and doing other gallant -- and wacky -- deeds is one of the characters associated with an archaeology project near Snowdrift on Great Slave Lake.

The project, which was completed last summer, involved restoring and stabilizing four stone-and-clay fireplaces which were originally built in 1833 as part of Fort Reliance. The work was done under the direction of Margaret Bertulli, an archaeologist at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

According to Ms. Margaret Bertulli, Fort Reliance first served as a base camp for Captain George Back, who was on his way overland to the arctic coast. His mission was to find explorer John Ross and crew, who had left England in search of the Northwest Passage in 1829 and not been heard of since. Ross's party were picked up by whalers in the autumn of 1833, after five years trapped by ice. Although Back had no part in this rescue (in fact didn't know that Ross was safe until months afterwards), he did locate and map the river which still bears his name.

Fort Reliance next entered the historical record in 1855, when the Hudson's Bay Company directed someone named Lockhart (still a common name in the area) to rebuild the Fort. The plan was to use it as a winter camp for another rescue expedition and eventually to equip it as a trading post, but neither project came about.

The site was then abandoned by Europeans until 1897 when its final, and most colorful, occupant arrived, an American hunter named Buffalo Jones. With Reliance as a winter camp, he planned to travel to the barrenlands, capture live muskox and take them south for zoos. Because the Fort was in ruins, he and his companion, a trapper and woodsman named John Rea, built a cabin around one of the still-stand chimneys. "We built a cabin 16 by 20 feet," Jones recorded, "large enough to admit 60 or 70 Indians."

As often seemed to be the case, it was a famine year in the area and native people frequently visited the camp to ask for food. How was Jones to protect his cache of supplies while he was on his trek north? With the rough-and-ready ingenuity that seems to have been his trademark, he rigged the building with explosives, including a pistol on a string set to go off if the cabin door was jarred, and made sure everyone knew that the building was booby trapped. Needless to say, his supplies were intact when he returned.

Jones and Rea did manage to capture five muskox calves alive, using lassoes and hogties in the best Wild West tradition; but they did not get the animals south. The local people had been opposed to Jones' plan from the beginning, on the grounds that the herds might be angered if their offspring were removed. One night, someone crept up to the camp and carefully, sacrificially, killed all the calves.

The restored chimneys of Fort Reliance are on Charlton Bay, about 20 minutes by boat from the Reliance weather station and about a mile across the bay from an abandoned Dene village. A path has been built from the beach to the chimneys and a plaque will be put up in the near future.

- 30 -

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86-273

**TREATY 11 EXHIBIT TOURS SOUTH MACKENZIE
COMMUNITIES**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - A photographic exhibit about the signing of Treaty 11 began a tour of south Mackenzie communities this month.

The exhibit, which was first mounted at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife, is already scheduled to make month-long stays in eight communities: Snare Lake (October), Fort Liard (November), Fort Simpson (December), Wrigley (January), Fort Providence (February), Fort Rae (March), Lac la Martre (April) and Rae Lakes (May). It will then continue to other locations, over the next several years.

The photographs were chosen by guest curator Father Rene Fumoleau O.M.I. and produced with the assistance of the Northwest Territories Archives. They show the Dene way of life in the 1920s and illustrate such themes as the land and the people, the discovery of oil, and the signing of the first treaty. The exhibit also includes a copy of the original register of signatures to the Treaty and a replica of the medal presented to "chiefs."

This is the first exhibit produced by the Northern Heritage Centre to have titles in all five Dene languages, plus English.

Judging from the response when the exhibit was shown in Yellowknife, it is expected to be well received in the communities, where people will have the additional enjoyment of being able to recognize relatives and community members who are shown in the photographs or whose signatures are included on the register.

Photographs in the exhibit were borrowed from many sources, including the National Museums and Public Archives of Canada, the Hudson's Bay Company, Glenbow Archives, the Provincial Museum of Alberta, the Dene Museum/Library, the RCMP, Imperial Oil, the Archives des Soeurs Grises de Montreal, Native Press, and private individuals.

- 30 -

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86-272

NEW NORTHERN WILDLIFE FILM RECEIVES FIRST SHOWING

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 16) - "To Have Forever," a 26-minute film about the Bathurst caribou herd, will receive its first public showing at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife on October 26.

The film, a joint production by the Departments of Renewable Resources and Culture and Communications, follows the herd through its annual journey from its calving grounds, near Bathurst Inlet, to its wintering area, between Great Bear and Great Slave Lakes. It focuses on the different techniques and lifestyles of Inuit, Dene and sport hunters who use the herd.

The purpose of the film is to show that hunting is a significant factor in the life of the herd. "We wanted people to understand that when 'their' caribou leave for the year, someone else is hunting them," says scriptwriter Ed Hall.

Among the people seen in the film are Mackie Kaosonie, Allen Kitigon, Tom Kilaodluk, Sam Akhook, and John and Amy Etibloena of Cambridge Bay; George and Elizabeth Kodakin, Peter Baton and Alfred Taneton of Fort Franklin; and Greg Robertson and Peter Hart of Yellowknife.

Prints of the film have been sent to all Renewable Resources regional offices, and videotapes will be available through Renewable Resources area offices and the Education Resource Centres. A copy may be obtained without charge by sending a blank half-hour videotape of Conservation Education, Department of Renewable Resources, Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9.

- 30 -

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86-271

NEW DIRECTOR NAMED FOR NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 15) - Minister of Culture and Communications Nick Sibbeston has announced the appointment of Christopher Stephens, 33, as director of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife.

He replaces founding director Robert Janes who left the Centre several months ago to oversee the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Stephens comes to Yellowknife from Fort McMurray, Alberta where he spent four years directing the planning, construction and programming of a \$12,000,000 Energy Heritage Science Centre. Prior to that he worked as Special Education Co-ordinator for the Saskatchewan Native Affairs Council. He has also lectured in Anthropology at Carleton University and served as a research assistant for the Archaeological Survey of Canada.

His academic background includes graduate and undergraduate degrees in anthropology and archaeology and a doctorate in Religion and Oriental Studies from Oxford.

- 30 -

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86-270

BRADEN NAMED ECONOMIC ADVISER

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 15) - George Braden, a long-time northerner and territorial politician and now commissioner of the NWT pavilion at Expo 86, shortly will join Tagak Curley as the minister's special economic adviser.

Curley is minister of economic development and tourism and chairman of the recently-formed territorial Cabinet committee developing northern economic strategies to fight the downturn in several areas of the territorial economy--in sealskin and other fur, oil and gas, and the depressed prices of some minerals.

The special Cabinet committee is attacking these problems as part of comprehensive economic initiatives it is to develop that will take a revitalized territorial economy into the 1990s.

"Along with his impressive track record in government, Braden will bring to this critical challenge a blend of practical and academic skills that will be invaluable to the Cabinet in laying out the future direction of the territorial economy," Curley said in announcing his appointment today.

"Braden will also be able to help the government capitalize on the many economic opportunities which our presence at Expo 86 has produced," Curley added.

The minister also announced that Deputy Minister Mike Stilwell of Economic Development and Tourism has left the government to pursue interests in the private sector. Alan Vaughan, assistant deputy minister, has assumed the position temporarily.

"Stilwell has provided the department with consistent leadership in its drive to develop new programs and policies," Curley said.

Braden, who has lived in Yellowknife since 1964, was government leader from 1980-84, minister of justice from 1981-84 and minister of economic development and tourism from 1979-81. He also was minister of energy in 1980. He was first elected to the Legislative Assembly as a Yellowknife member in 1979.

Among the serious economic problems the north now is facing are the virtual shutdown of oil and gas exploration and development in the Beaufort Sea due to depressed international prices, the slide in prices for sealskin and other furs due to international anti-sealing and anti-hunting lobbies, and the low prices of some minerals.

"While there is still good reason to be optimistic about the overall future of our economy," said Curley, "we must make a special effort to revitalize the ailing sectors of it with new approaches that will take us into the next decade confident and growing."

- 30 -

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86-269

JOINT CABINET MEETINGS CALLED A SUCCESS

WHITEHORSE (Oct. 14) - The Yukon and Northwest Territories governments will jointly call upon the federal government to guarantee that cutbacks will not occur to programs under discussion for devolution to the territories.

Following a joint cabinet meeting in Whitehorse this weekend, all members agreed that federal programs now under consideration for transfer to the Yukon and Northwest Territories should not be jeopardized by cuts to existing funding and staff levels.

Both Tony Penikett, Yukon Government Leader and Nick Sibbeston, Government Leader of the NWT, say they will pursue the issue at the next First Ministers' Conference to be held in November.

Both governments agreed to further discussions in areas of common concern. Mr. Penikett said, "We wish to encourage a 'good neighbour' policy, particularly on matters relating to the economy, job training, and educational programs. I think better East-West communications can enhance the future development of both territories."

Mr. Sibbeston said, "both territories are at different stages in many of our programs and constitutional development. The sharing of experiences and the development of common strategies will only serve us both better in the future."

- 30 -

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86-268

YUKON/NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AGREEMENT SIGNED

WHITEHORSE (Oct. 10) - The governments of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories today signed a five-year transboundary agreement as the start of a formal process to discuss mutual concerns on resource development and management along the Yukon/Northwest Territories border.

The agreement was signed in Whitehorse by Yukon Government Leader Tony Penikett and Northwest Territories Government Leader Nick Sibbeston following a joint meeting of the two territorial cabinets.

"This agreement is the start of a formal process by which both governments can sit down to discuss and resolve mutual concerns on developments along our border," Penikett said.

"We have many examples, such as management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd, permits for trucks using the Dempster Highway and the Canada Tungsten Mine, where the two governments have co-operated informally in the past."

"This new process is a means by which we can work together to help further economic development along our border," Penikett said.

Sibbeston said the agreement demonstrates the growing maturity of the two northern governments to manage their own affairs.

"Many of our mutual issues would have been handled by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in the past, but agreements such as this will become more and more important as we move towards greater control and management of our own local affairs and the transfer of responsibilities from the federal to territorial governments."

"This agreement is also our way of letting everyone know that we are interested in working together to support development with a minimum of delay, public cost and regulatory confusion," Sibbeston said.

The agreement calls for the two governments to appoint three representatives to a consultative committee that will identify issues of mutual concern on natural resource development along the boundary.

The committee will assess existing and proposed developments and issues of mutual interest and will recommend methods of dealing with them. Sub-agreements may be signed on specific socio-economic or environmental areas and working groups created to administer them.

The Yukon government plans to appoint its representatives from the Executive council office, Renewable Resources and Economic Development. The government of the Northwest Territories will appoint committee members from Economic Development and Tourism; Energy, Mines and Resources and Renewable Resources.

One of the first tasks of the committee is expected to be the identification of natural resource development issues requiring the shared attention of the Yukon and NWT which could lead to improvements in the economies of both territories.

- 30 -

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86-267

NWT EXPO CALLED ONE OF THE BEST

VANCOUVER (Oct. 10) - The NWT pavilion at Expo 86 here has been named one of the three best designed wooden buildings in Canada in the past five years.

The Canadian Wood Council, the national organization of the country's forest-products industry associations, will be awarding first prize in its bi-annual competition for architectural excellence to the pavilion's architect, Bing Thom of Bing Thom Architects in Vancouver, for design of the best new building erected in Canada between 1981 and 1986 in which extensive use of wood has been employed.

The pyramid-shaped pavilion, repeatedly labelled one of the most successful attractions at Expo 86, was built of wood on a steel frame.

The Council's other prize was for new buildings constructed primarily of wood. It was shared by two projects in southern Canada.

The award to Thom was announced this week in a press conference at Expo 86.

Thom is invited to a second ceremony Oct. 27 in Ottawa at which the Council will present him with a hand-lettered certificate and a wood carving emblematic of his first prize.

The purpose of the Council's awards are to promote excellence in architectural design. The organization's provincial associations represent 1200 members in the Canadian forest-products industry.

This week's ceremony also was attended by Expo 86 officials and NWT pavilion commissioner George Braden, who presented Thom with a certificate of appreciation from NWT Expo.

The NWT pavilion expects to attract as many as 1.8 million people before Expo closes Monday. The building has been one of Expo's outstanding pavilions, with some of the longest visitor lineups on the site. It has been variously called the best Canadian pavilion at Expo and one of the top five pavilions out of the 80 at the world's fair.

Meanwhile, an article in the last issue of The Canadian Architect magazine has high praise for both the interior and exterior design of the NWT pavilion and calls it one of the outstanding successes in design-if not the outstanding success-of the whole fair.

"I confess to being seduced by the exhibits and people of the Northwest Territories Pavilion," says author Peter Prangnell. "...the display of the Northwest Territories was engaging. Its appeal lies in both its artistry - the effect of the tall mirrored door, for instance, opening after the inevitable film onto the 'special effects' gallery-and in its content, including an adult discussion about hunting, with pictures of adults without gratuitous and inevitable smiles."

Dave Jensen of D. Jensen and Associates of Vancouver was in charge of the design of the pavilion's interior and exhibits.

As well this week, the Vancouver Sun's food writer named the NWT pavilion restaurant, Icicles, the second-best restaurant on the whole Expo site. (Czechoslovakia was first). And a Victoria radio station discovered that the majority of its listeners, when asked what the highlight of their visit to Expo was, named the NWT pavilion and its Icicles restaurant.

- 30 -

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86-266

THE DINOSAURS ARE COMING!

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 7) - Dinosaurs, extinct for the last 70,000,000 years, arrive in the Northwest Territories on October 15.

The giant reptiles are on the move in a travelling exhibition called "Highlights in the Search for Ancient Life." Produced by the Provincial Museum of Alberta, HIGHLIGHTS explains how palaeontologists (scientists who study ancient life) search for, excavate and prepare fossils.

The show consists of 16 units with samples of fossilized plants and animals, some original specimens, and some fiberglass casts with explanations of how they provide clues to ancient environments. These fossils and casts are presented in a predominantly hands-on setting. Sixteen acrylic paintings serve as backdrops to the specimens and provide the visitor with an imaginative reconstruction of Alberta's ancient landscapes and life forms.

HIGHLIGHTS was produced in consultation with the Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology and funded by a grant from National Museums of Canada. It will be at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife until November 28.

The Northern Heritage Centre is also presenting a travelling exhibit from the University of British Columbia Museum of Anthropology which presents the development of archaeological research in the Fraser delta region. It will be on display until November 27.

- 30 -

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86-265

**DANCE, DOGS, DIGS AND DINOSAURS AT NORTHERN
HERITAGE CENTRE**

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 7) - A seven-week series of "Amazing Sundays" begins this week at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife.

Special events have been planned on a variety of interesting subjects, including northern archaeology, dinosaurs and dog-sledding. All programs begin at 2 p.m. and admission is free. Refreshments are available in the lounge from 2 to 4 p.m.

"Our job is to make people aware of their heritage in the widest possible sense," says Lynette Harper, curator of Education/Extension at the Centre. "This includes not only history but also our natural inheritance - the birds, animals and land forms of the North. In addition, we also serve as a public gallery and have a role to play in encouraging the arts. All these areas are highlighted in our programming."

The series is one aspect of the enlarged education and extension program being undertaken by the Centre. Other projects include the development of a "discovery" gallery and the production of new travelling exhibits.

Here is a list of the "Amazing Sunday" events:

October 12 **Vanishing Villages:** Archaeologist Charles Arnold presents an illustrated talk on an archaeological rescue-mission in the Mackenzie delta.

October 19 **B.C. Prehistory:** Visiting expert David Pokotylo unveils several thousand years of B.C. history using slides, stone tools, and a travelling exhibit called "Changing Tides".

October 26 **To Have Forever:** The Northern Heritage Centre proudly presents the world premiere of a made-in-the-north film on the Bathurst Caribou herd.

November 2 **A Vision of Dance:** Dancer Tanis Tate presents a selection of films for dance students and other lovers of dance.

November 9 **Dig Those Dinosaurs:** This program offers films and activities in connection with a visiting exhibit from the Provincial Museum of Alberta.

November 16 **From Russia With Love:** Yellowknifers who have visited Russia will be on hand to share slides, videos and ideas that country.

November 23 **Going to the Dogs:** The Yellowknife Dog Trotters offer dog sled rides outside the centre. Inside there will be films on Eskimo dogs and dog sledding.

- 30 -

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86-264

EXPO SUCCESS A PARTNERSHIP

VANCOUVER (Oct. 7) - The NWT pavilion at Expo 86 here has been a tremendous success.

The pavilion enjoyed Top-Five status throughout the fair and exposed the 1.5 million people who went through it to the potential and beauty of the NWT.

Of course, the pavilion would not have enjoyed the success it has without the efforts and support of all those involved in the project.

NWT Expo received support from five corporate partners - Cominco, Hudson's Bay Company, Northwest Territorial Airways, Petro-Canada and Pacific Western Airlines. Each contributed over \$200,000 in funds and/or services. Also contributing to the success of the pavilion were 34 corporate sponsors. They each gave up to \$100,000.

Expo 86 closes Oct. 13.

"We are one of the few pavilions at Expo that got such enormous support from the private corporate sector," says Victor Irving, director of corporate affairs.

Contributing to the northern colour and flair of the pavilion were the 250 artists and entertainers from all regions of the territories who, at different times, attended Expo to perform and demonstrate their skills to appreciative audiences.

As a direct result of Expo exposure, northern entertainers find themselves in demand for international events and for tours in the north and south. Northern artists are finding customers for their works in the south as wholesalers, shops and boutiques indicate great interest in carrying their arts and crafts.

The pavilion had one of the largest boutiques and gift shops on the Expo site and retail sales surpassed \$1 million, while Icicles restaurant sales exceeded \$1.6 million. The northern food was a definite hit, and a demand has been created for food that was tried for the first time at Expo 86.

Tourism has enjoyed a substantial upswing as more and more people become aware, often for the first time, of the north as a travel destination.

Investment companies, businesses and journalists, exposed to the north throughout the fair during a series of receptions and dinners held at the pavilion, are showing interest in a land that has remained virtually untapped.

Thousands of contacts were established. Joan Hornal of Hornal Consultants, who was involved in the organization of receptions for businesses, industries, investment companies, and other interested parties, says: "The contacts that we made are very positive. There has been a lot of interest generated, especially in northern food products, seal leather and native handicrafts."

And last but not least, the pavilion owes its success to the pavilion managers, who put in long hard hours before the fair started and through its duration; to the 125 staff members who travelled from their northern communities to work in the restaurant, boutique, office, as information guides, technicians, and cleaners, and to the 350 volunteers who gave up their time to stamp passports and organize crowds at the pavilion.

"It was combined effort," says Pavilion Deputy Commissioner Alan Vaughan. "We are all proud to have been part of the project and to have contributed to its success."

- 30 -

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(604) 668-8161

86-263

**BAFFIN EXECUTIVE TO REPRESENT SIBBESTON AT ARCTIC
BAY MEET**

FROBISHER (Oct. 6) - A meeting is scheduled to take place October 7 at Arctic Bay to discuss the future of shipping in Admiralty Inlet and Strathcona sound.

Assistant Regional Director for Baffin Island, Dave Gilday, will represent Government leader Nick Sibbeston.

The meeting involves representatives of Nanisivik Mine, the federal department of fisheries and oceans and Indian affairs and northern development.

A resident of Arctic Bay lost a snowmobile in an open shipping channel following the arrival of two ships last spring.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
Press Secretary
Executive Council
(403) 920-6176

86-262

LIFE AFTER EXPO

VANCOUVER (Oct. 6) - For the 125 northern employees at the NWT pavilion here Expo 86 has represented a once-in-a-lifetime experience and opportunity that will affect their lives for years to come.

Leaving home in the NWT and travelling to a large city to live and work for six to eight months, in an environment totally foreign to anything experienced before, is bound to leave an impression.

Invaluable skills acquired in communication and organization, the awareness of large cities and hordes of people from around the world, the added familiarity with computers and other technological equipment, and the confidence gained in working on a project that has seen nothing but success, are benefits that have prepared most of the staff for their future as no training course ever could.

As Expo winds down - it closes Oct. 13 - there is an excitement to return home and begin life after Expo. There is a sadness, the realization that it will soon be over and that the people who have worked together so closely for six hectic months will be returning to separate lives and separate goals.

- 30 -

CONTACT: NWT Expo
(604) 668-8161

86-261

ENERGY-EFFICIENT HOMES OPEN TO PUBLIC THIS WEEKEND

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 3) - The Minister Responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation, Michael Ballantyne, announces there will be 15 special homes open to the public this weekend. "R-2000" houses are located in Tuktoyaktuk, Aklavik, Arctic Red River, Fort Rae, Dettah and in Yellowknife. These public viewings are part of the R-2000 National Home Tour taking place throughout Canada on October 4th and 5th.

Mr. Ballantyne said the Northwest Territories is the only territory or province to have its public housing registered under the R-2000 program.

"The major benefits of an R-2000 home include a 50 per cent or more reduction in energy needed for space heating. These homes have a 'whole house' ventilation system that provides continuous fresh air and less dust. They are virtually draft-free and provide a quieter living environment."

The public housing units being constructed by the NWT Housing Corporation in Tuktoyaktuk consist of four two-bedroom duplexes. In Aklavik, there are four two-bedroom duplexes, a one-bedroom four-plex and two three-bedroom units. Arctic Red River has two, two-bedroom duplexes that are already occupied. In Rae, there are three two-bedroom duplexes and two four-bedroom units which are nearly completed. In the Yellowknife area, there are two two-bedroom duplexes on Latham Island and a three-bedroom unit in Dettah.

The R-2000 Home Program was established by Energy, Mines and Resources in cooperation with the Canadian Home Builders' Association and other industry groups.

Mr. Ballantyne said, "this program provides a significant opportunity for northern builders to acquire skills in modern building science which include constructing homes with higher standards of energy efficiency."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Joe Solowy
Senior Project Manager
NWT Housing Corporation
Yellowknife
(403) 873-7919

86-260

SPECIAL ARDA HELPS HTA

PAULATUK (Oct. 3) - The Hunters' and Trappers' Association here is getting \$56,500 under the Canada - NWT Special Rural Development Agreement to help them purchase a sea-going vessel.

The larger 32-foot boat will allow the hunters to expand their renewable-resource harvesting, identify new fishing areas and provide more country foods for their community.

Announcement of the funding was made today by Bernard Valcourt, federal minister of state (small businesses and tourism), and by Tagak Curley, territorial minister of economic development and tourism.

Paulatuk is east of Tuktoyaktuk on the Arctic coast.

The money is being provided by the federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) under Special ARDA's primary producing activities component. This help is aimed at stabilizing renewable resource incomes and improving yields. The Government of the Northwest Territories administers the program.

The sea-going boat was built over the winter in southern Canada and transported north this summer.

The Hunters' and Trappers' Association is contributing \$3,000 to the purchase price of the boat. The bigger boat will allow them to transport larger catches and look further afield for new fishing areas.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Barry Craig
Culture, Communications
(403) 873-7251

86-259

UNIFORMS YOUNG DESIGNER'S FIRST CONTRACT

VANCOUVER (Oct. 2) - Among the talented northerners working at the NWT pavilion during Expo 86 here is Sidney Sproule of Yellowknife.

Twenty-four-years-old and just out of university, Sidney designed the uniforms worn by all pavilion staff.

There are four basic designs - for retail sales staff, restaurant staff, information guides and volunteers. As well, Sidney designed the seal-leather jackets worn by pavilion managers.

The uniforms incorporate northern blues and whites, as well as traditional Dene and Inuit embroidery and motifs. Each group has unique variations on the overall theme. The uniforms are made of washable cotton, are easy to look after and look at, and when Expo is over October 13 the staff has the option of purchasing them for 30 percent of what they cost.

"I was ecstatic when I got the contract," says Sidney. "I never expected it. When I heard they were looking for a designer, I went to the museum (in Yellowknife) and studied traditional native clothing. Then I did a series of drawings representing my ideas, wrote out the specifications, and sent them in. Three weeks later they told me I had the contract."

Besides designing uniforms, Sidney works as a receptionist at the pavilion.

"I just kept applying until I got a job," she says. "I really wanted to be here."

Sidney has been drawing, making her own clothes from her own patterns and designing jewelry for as long as she can remember.

"I made object jewelry long before it was popular," explains Sidney. "People used to say when they found a piece of junk - 'Give it to Sidney. She'll make it into an earring.'"

After Expo, Sidney has tentative offers from the NWT government for future contracts, "but nothing has been confirmed. I think I'll just relax for awhile, then decide what to do."

She hopes to open her own studio some day and concentrate on adapting period clothing to present-day wear. In the meantime, she is anxious to learn everything she can about business, design, and marketing.

- 30 -

CONTACT: NWT Expo
(604) 668-8161

86-258

ICICLES HITS \$1.6 MILLION IN SALES

VANCOUVER (Oct. 1) - The NWT pavilion's Icicles restaurant - rated one of the top five places to eat on the Expo 86 site here - has now sold more than \$1.6 million worth of northern food.

The pavilion, serving up to 1,500 people a day, has also been rated the best exotic game food restaurant in Vancouver.

Restaurant Manager Don Anderson cites the reasons for Icicles obvious success.

"First of all, it's the innovative menu," he says. "People have never tried these items before, and everyone is curious."

The menu incorporates four main northern foods: muskox, reindeer, northern white fish and arctic char, and uses them in different ways - as hamburgers, steaks, stews, kabobs, soups and pate.

Expo opened in May and closes Oct. 13.

Marcus Burkhard, Icicles chef, and Anderson devised the Icicles menu, gearing it to lie somewhere comfortably between fine dining and fast food. Swiss-trained Marcus came to the job well-prepared with innovative and delicious recipes, combined with know-how in the preparation of wild game. The meals are well-prepared and pleasing to the eye, garnished with greens and fruit and unique dressings.

"The muskox burger is the most popular item," says Anderson. "It's probably because it is the most exotic. We've sold 35 tons of muskox, 12 tons of reindeer and arctic char, and six tons of northern white fish."

The menu also features salads made entirely of northern greens and flowers, delicious desserts of rhubarb mousse and raisin bannock with honeyed blueberries, and innovative polar drinks and 'mocktails' mixed with 10,000-year-old ice from an iceberg that was trapped in the Northwest passage near Resolute.

"The second reason for our popularity," says Anderson, "is the fact that all the staff members are northerners, so they are able to answer questions and provide first-hand information. It gives the customers a sense of reality."

The restaurant employs 70 people from all Arctic regions as cooks, servers, hostesses, dishwashers and buspeople.

"The experience they are getting is invaluable," says Anderson. "After surviving Expo, they'll be able to handle any restaurant job in the north."

"The location and ambiance are also reasons for the restaurant's success," says Anderson. "A great deal of thought was put into the packaging of the whole concept. It was meant to give people a real sense of the north."

Icicles has seating for 250 people and at many times during the day is full. Record daily sales reached \$16,000 with average daily sales slightly less. The restaurant is ideally situated close to main transportation facilities including the East Gate where the majority of Expo visitors enter the site, and it has one of the best locations for viewing the nightly fireworks. The latter has allowed the restaurant to cater to capacity crowds until midnight.

Icicles has received abundant and flattering media attention, and in surveys conducted on the Expo site, it is always mentioned as one of the favoured places for dining.

"The whole northern profile has been heightened," says Anderson. "People are more aware of our potential and we have created a demand for northern food."

To keep the momentum after Expo, the NWT government is planning a Food Fair in Yellowknife to occur sometime in early '87, for the purpose of studying the marketing of northern foods across the north and throughout the south. For the first time the possibility of developing a northern foods distribution network is being considered.

So the Icicles restaurant, like all aspects of the NWT pavilion, has been a tremendous success. Staff have gained invaluable experience to use in jobs in northern communities, the south has been exposed to more than \$1.6 million worth of northern food and found they like it - and more people than ever before have been made aware of the north's potential.

- 30 -

CONTACT: NWT Expo
(604) 668-8161

86-257

EXPO HOLDS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

VANCOUVER (Sept. 30) - More than 150 people who acted as volunteers at the NWT pavilion during Expo 86 here were honoured at a special appreciation and awards reception held in the pavilion this month.

The volunteers were treated to wine, northern finger food and rousing entertainment. Women received silk scarves and men neckties with a NWT insignia. Special thanks was extended to Robert and Joan Hornal, who began work in February recruiting and organizing the more-than 350 people who signed up as volunteers. Also recognized for work beyond the call of duty were Muriel McKeown, Hildegard Mercredi, Eva Briscoe, Rick Page and Fred McKay.

Volunteers, who for the most part are ex-northerners or people who have travelled to the north and range in age from 18 to 82, are kept busy stamping passports, answering questions, providing information, attending to line-ups and crowd control, and contributing greatly to the on-going success of the pavilion. Expo ends Oct. 13.

Pavilion Commissioner George Braden, presenting the volunteers with their awards, said: "We can't thank them enough for all they've contributed towards the success of the pavilion. I don't know what we would have done without them."

- 30 -

CONTACT: NWT Expo
(604) 668-8161

86-256

TOLL-FREE NUMBER SHUT DOWN

VANCOUVER (Sept. 26) - The NWT pavilion at Expo 86 here has discontinued its toll-free 800 telephone service.

During the life of the fair, northerners could call toll-free to the pavilion. Upwards of a thousand calls were received. But with only a few weeks left of the fair - it ends Oct. 13 - the service has now been terminated.

The pavilion's regular telephone number is still in operation. That number is (604) 668-8161.

- 30 -

CONTACT: NWT Expo
Vancouver
(604) 668-8161

86-255

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FOOD RATES TO INCREASE

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 26) - The Minister of Social Services, Bruce McLaughlin, announced today that changes in food allowances for social assistance recipients will come into effect on October 1, 1986.

The method used to adjust for differences in the cost of living for food across the north has been improved. At present, there are six cost-of-living-based "scales" or levels of Social Assistance, the lowest being paid in communities on the South Mackenzie Highway System and the highest in more remote settlements. "As of October 1, we are increasing the number of scales from six to ten," the Minister said. "This allows greater flexibility in setting food allowance rates for communities."

Communities have been assigned to the appropriate scale on the basis of a food-cost survey conducted by the Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Social Services. The base rate for the food allowance has also been adjusted. The increase for individuals will vary from community to community.

The combined effect of the changes will be to ensure that people receive a more adequate allowance to cover the cost of basic food requirements in their home community.

The additional cost to the government will be in excess of \$1 million in the 1986/87 budget year. The Minister and his Cabinet colleagues have approved these changes in order to improve the ability of people to meet their basic needs.

- 30 -

CONTACT:

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Director, Social Assistance,
Department of Social Services.

OR

Candace Savage, 873-7165
Public Affairs Officer,
Culture and Communications.

86-254

VISITORS CENTRE PLANNED FOR PANGNIRTUNG

CLYDE RIVER (Sept. 24) - A new multipurpose visitors centre will be constructed in Pangnirtung next year.

Baffin Central MLA Pauloosie Paniloo, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Tower Arctic of Frobisher Bay was awarded the \$530,960 contract. Four other firms, one each from the N.W.T., Manitoba, Ontario and Alberta, submitted bids ranging to \$916,000.

This is a pilot project for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The centre will act as a marshalling point for tourists visiting Pangnirtung Fiord, Auyuittuq National Park, Kekerten Territorial Historic Park and other sites.

The Department of Culture and Communications will incorporate a museum, an elders drop-in centre room and a community library into the building.

Construction is scheduled to start following arrival of the sealift this year. The museum section is scheduled for completion by July 1987 with the remainder of the building to be finished by March 1988.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403) 873-7257

86-253

SUBDIVISION CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AWARDED

LAKE HARBOUR (Sept. 24) - Road construction and lot development in the Pitseolak Point subdivision in Cape Dorset and the Duval River subdivision in Pangnirtung will get underway this fall.

Baffin South MLA Joe Arlooktoo, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Canadrill Ltd. of Frobisher Bay was awarded the \$301,372 Cape Dorset contract. Tower Arctic Ltd. of Frobisher Bay was awarded the \$139,839 Pangnirtung contract.

Work on both projects will be done this fall as part of multi-year residential developments.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403) 873-7257

86-252

COMPANY SUPPORTS NORTHERN ARTISTS

VANCOUVER (Sept. 24) - MacLaren Plansearch, a division of Lavalin Inc., has contributed \$10,000 to the NWT pavilion at Expo 86 here and been instrumental in bringing printmakers from Holman to the pavilion to demonstrate their art.

Lavalin, a company concerned with the promotion and distribution of Canadian art, has a history of sponsoring northern arts across Canada with its travelling art program.

In appreciation of the support provided by the company, the Holman Co-operative, in conjunction with the pavilion, presented MacLaren president John Foster with a commemorative print from the Holman collection at a ceremony held at the pavilion earlier this month.

"It has been a privilege to work in the north and to be involved in this program," said Foster. "The level of interest in northern art pieces has greatly increased due to the Expo experience."

Peter Pavlik and Louie Nogoyok, two printmakers from Holman attending Expo as demonstrators, presented Foster with the print. Also attending the ceremony were Pavilion Commissioner George Braden, and Pat Buckna, director of cultural and special events. Buchna and Alan Vaughan, a pavilion deputy commissioner, generated the interest Lavalin Inc., has in northern artists at Expo.

- 30 -

CONTACT: NWT Expo
1-800-663-2171

86-251

**AUTHOR'S TOURS PLANNED FOR CHILDREN'S BOOK
FESTIVAL**

HAY RIVER (Sept. 24) - "Sharing the Spirit" is the theme for the Children's Book Festival, November 15-22, in the Northwest Territories.

Sharing their spirits and talent with N.W.T residents during the week are renowned Canadian authors and artists James Houston, Ted Harrison and Ian Wallace.

"Children's Book Festival has been an overwhelming success in the Northwest Territories for the past two years and this year's festival continues the tradition," says Culture and Communications Minister Nick Sibbeston. "The high calibre of the authors touring the N.W.T. this year guarantees increased awareness of reading and our libraries not only among school children but their parents and other adults as well."

Children's Book Festival is an annual event sponsored by the Canada Council to focus attention on Canadian children's authors and their work. The northern festivities are co-ordinated by Cate Sills of the N.W.T. Public Library Services. "Authors' tours are a key component of the annual Book Festival and offer exciting opportunities for both the authors and the communities involved to exchange knowledge, ideas, cultural experiences and realities," says Sills. "Community participation is the key to sharing the spirit."

James Houston is no stranger to the north. He spent 14 years in the eastern Arctic and is the man credited with introducing Inuit art to the world. As a children's author and illustrator, he has created many books based on Inuit and West Coast Indian legends. His children's books include Tikta'liktak, The White Archer, Wolf Run, Frozen Fire, River Runners and Black Diamonds. He also is the author of several adult novels including The White Dawn, Ghost Fox, Spirit Wrestler and Eagle Song.

Yukon artist Ted Harrison has written two children's books, Children of the Yukon and The Northern Alphabet. He also has written a book on the life and reflections of a Yukon artist called The Last Horizon. His most recent publication is his artistic interpretation of Robert Service's poem "The Cremation of Sam McGee". Examples of his brightly coloured paintings highlighting life north of 60 are contained in his books.

Ian Wallace has written and illustrated several children's books including Chin Chiang and the Dragon Dance and The Sandwich. He provided illustrations for Jan Andrews' recent book The Very Last First Time about a young Inuit girl's adventures.

The three authors will be touring the Northwest Territories during the Festival. Details on their agendas will be released soon. Many other activities and special events also are planned for the 1986 Children's Book Festival. Residents should contact their local school, library or the N.W.T Public Library Services in Hay River for more details.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cate Sills or Marion Pape
N.W.T Public Library Services
Box 1100
Hay River, N.W.T
X0E 0R0
(403) 874-6531

86-250

\$1 MILLION IN RETAIL SALES

VANCOUVER (Sept. 23) - The NWT pavilion at Expo 86 here has topped the \$1 million mark in retail sales.

Sales of northern products in the boutique and giftshop are heavy and the pace is expected to continue until Expo closes Oct. 13.

"Everything is going well," says George Ferrand, the pavilion's sales manager. "Parkas, jewelery, prints, carvings, dolls... everything. There is nothing that hasn't sold. Even the high-priced items will be gone."

The pavilion has the largest representation of goods of any giftshop or boutique on the Expo site. Every region is represented and many of the items have never been seen in the south before.

Considering the high cost of some of the products, the magnitude of sales is impressive.

"People have to think before they spend their money on some of the more expensive items," says Ferrand.

Several of the art pieces and clothing in the boutique are irreplaceable. Examples are soapstone carvings by David Piqtoukan from Paulatuk and Mark Nakoolak from Coral Harbour and a parka of rabbit and wolverine. They are unique.

The magnitude and quality of the northern products is prodigious. Prints from Holman, Pagnirtung, Cape Dorset and Baker Lake, soapstone and ivory carvings from all regions, packing dolls from Spence Bay, silkscreened tablecloths and linen from Holman, sterling silver jewelery from Frobisher Bay, sealskin tapestries from Coppermine, Dene beaded jewelery, moosehair tuftings, moccasins, and mukluks, sealskin parkas, tanned sealskin purses, jackets and wallets, books, magazines and comic books line the shelves and decorate the walls.

As examples of the favourable sales, 20,000 copies of the comic book illustrated by Nick Burns of Rankin Inlet have been sold with more orders coming in daily. The brand-new tanned sealskin purses at \$139 each have sold out, as has the video tape "The Emerging North." Twelve sealskin parkas at \$950 each were sold and prints from \$75 to \$350 are in great demand. The northern cookbooks are extremely popular and the book "An Arctic Man" by the well-known Ernie Lyall, who recently died in his home in Spence Bay, has sold more than 400 copies.

"Even the merchandise that is left on the shelves at the close of Expo will be sold," says Ferrand. "Wholesalers from the north and some from the south will come in and pick up what is left over. They are very interested in distributing the product to northern as well as southern stores."

Ferrand, who worked in the north for 39 years with the Hudson's Bay Company, spent all last summer buying northern product for sale at Expo 86.

"Every artist or craftsman who had something to sell was considered," says Ferrand. "We only turned down two items. The stipulation on everything was that it had to be made in the Territories."

Throughout Expo, the NWT pavilion has featured each of the five Arctic regions. Artists from each region travelled to Expo to demonstrate their skills in print making, sewing, tapestry making and carving.

"Sales really pick up on an item that is being demonstrated by the artist," says Ferrand. "People see the work and skill that goes into the particular piece and are better able to recognize and appreciate its merit."

With only weeks remaining of Expo 86, the influx of people into the pavilion continues.

"It has not let up since September, it has increased," says Ferrand. "We expect sales to be as good, if not better than ever, right through until closing."

After Expo, northern products will continue to be produced for southern stores, boutiques and galleries in Canada and the United States.

"Expo 86 has opened many people's eyes to the potential of northern artist" says Ferrand. "A great deal of interest has been generated that will benefit the north."

- 30 -

CONTACT: NWT Expo
1-800-663-2171 (toll-free)

86-249

AGREEMENT SIGNED FOR ELLESMERE PARK RESERVE

TANQUERAY FIORD (Sept. 20) - Federal Environment Minister Tom McMillan and Territorial Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Tagak Curley signed an agreement here today on the terms and conditions for establishing Ellesmere Island National Park Reserve.

The proposed national park reserve will protect almost 40,000 square kilometres of the most northerly land in Canada. The area includes mountain ranges, glaciers, fiords and Lake Hazen, the largest lake north of the Arctic Circle. The proposed reserve is about 700 kilometres from the North Pole and about 600 kilometres north of the community of Grise Fiord.

A national park reserve has the same protected status as a national park, except that the establishment of a reserve does not affect native land claims negotiations.

Mr. McMillan said that he will seek an amendment to the National Parks Act by parliament to establish the park reserve.

Today's agreement results from public consultations and inter-governmental negotiation which began in the late 1970's. "The viewpoints and support of the Inuit of Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay have been extremely important to every phase in the evolution of this proposal", said Mr. Curley.

When approved by Parliament, Ellesmere Island National Park Reserve will be Canada's 32nd national park. Protection of the park's fragile and unique resources will be the highest priority for the park staff, many of whom will be recruited from Inuit communities in the High Arctic.

Training of two people from Grise Fiord to work as park wardens has already begun.

Interpretive and information programs will be developed to provide visitors with an unforgettable High Arctic experience in a true wilderness setting.

- 30 -

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(819) 997-3736

86-248

**LANCASTER SOUND REGIONAL LAND USE PLANNING
COMMISSION APPOINTED**

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 22) - Lancaster Sound Regional Land Use Planning Commission members were appointed today by Bill McKnight, federal minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and Red Pedersen, N.W.T Minister of Renewable Resources.

The Regional Commission reports to the two ministers through the Northwest Territories Land Use Planning Commission, an independent agency charged with the task of developing land use plans which will contribute to the future social, economic and environmental well-being of N.W.T. residents, taking into account the interests of all Canadians.

"Land use planning in the Lancaster Sound area will represent the priorities of the residents, and the resulting plan will provide direction to the federal and Territorial governments regarding the use of land and water," said Mr. Pedersen. "Protection of the environment and sustaining the resources of the Northwest Territories is a priority with our government."

Commission members are Larry Audlaluk (Grise Fiord), George Eckalook (Resolute Bay) and David Mablick (Pond Inlet), appointed on the basis of recommendations from the region; and, Bob Hornal (Vancouver), Bob Kadlun (Coppermine) and Titus Allooloo (Yellowknife), who already are members of the N.W.T. Land Use Planning Commission.

"The Regional Commission's primary concern will be to consult with all interested parties," said Mr. Knight. "This will range from local groups, such as hamlet councils and hunters and trappers associations, to regional and national Inuit organizations, government departments and industry. Particular care and attention will be taken to ensure that land use planning will not prejudice land claims settlements in the area."

Both ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the co-operative planning process, which they noted, would be tested for the first time in Lancaster Sound, and want to ensure that it is an effective and efficient tool for establishing regional preferences and priorities and guiding future development.

Biographies of Commission members attached.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Hal Mills
Director
Land Use Planning Directorate
(403) 920-8536

Ian Robertson
Director
GNWT Land Use Planning
(403) 920-6118

Lancaster Sound Regional Land Use Planning Commission Members

Larry Audlaluk is the president of the Grise Fiord Co-op, a director of the Grise Fiord Housing Association, secretary of the local Hunters and Trappers Association and a local Justice of the Peace. He represented community interests, particularly on hunting and trapping issues, as a community delegate at the Lancaster Sound Green Paper workshops.

George Eckalook is a council member, and former mayor, of Resolute Bay. He also is one of two community representatives on the High Arctic Development Impact Zone Society. Eckalook was chairman of the the Eastern Arctic Marine Environmental Studies and participated in the Lancaster Sound Green Paper exercise. He is a board member of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada and chairman of the Board of the Baffin Regional Hospital.

David Mablick, the Mayor of Pond Inlet, is an executive member of the Baffin Regional Council, a member of the N.W.T. Benefits Committee and business manager of the High Arctic Development Impact Zone Society. He served as local field service office in Pond Inlet before being elected mayor and also worked for the Territorial Department of Municipal and Community Affairs.

Bob Hornal, a geologist, worked for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada for over 10 years including in the position of Director General, Northwest Territories Region. He was administrator for the Northern Pipeline Agency in Vancouver and a member of the Secretariat to the Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Review Panel. He now works as a private consultant specializing in geology and resource management. Dr. Hornal is a member of the N.W.T. Land Use Planning Commission.

Bob Kadiun is a past chairman of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut and a past president of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. He is chief negotiator for the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut land claims and a member of the N.W.T. Land Use Planning Commission.

Titus Allooioo is a former mayor of Pond Inlet. He was a member of the Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Review Panel and chairman for both the High Arctic Development Review Committee and the Pond Inlet Development Review Committee. He also served as executive member of the Baffin Regional Council for several years and was a member on a number of other boards and councils. He is now a vice-chairman of the N.W.T. Land Use Planning Commission.

86-247

FORESTRY TRANSFER ON TRACK AGAIN

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 22) - Solutions have been found to the outstanding issues which stalled the transfer of forestry and fire management to the Territorial government this winter, and a tentative date of April 1 has been set for transfer.

Red Pedersen, Minister of Renewable Resources with the Territorial government and Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, told a press conference today they will take a package to executive council and cabinet laying out the transfer agreement.

The Dene and Metis have given their approval of the transfer, thereby fulfilling one of the principles agreed on at the beginning of discussions, more than a year ago. "We would not go ahead without the support of native people in the Territories. We are in agreement that the transfer as we propose it will not jeopardize land claims negotiations," says Mr. Pedersen.

"You can't move hundreds of people and millions of dollars from one government to another without some delays in the process," says Mr. McKnight, "I think we have made tremendous progress in just over a year."

Both ministers agreed that the cooperation between governments would bode well for the commitment struck by the action force on Arctic initiatives which met last week in Inuvik.

Resolution to the following questions has been agreed upon:

1. Suppression funding in the event of a number of bad fire seasons in a row

A special arrangement for a three-year supplementary funding program has been struck using a provision of the Formula Financing Agreement. The scheme will include a payback arrangement, depending on the amount of surplus accumulated as a result of good fire years.

2. Legislation under which the transfer will be made

Legislative jurisdiction over forest and fire management will be transferred to the GNWT under Section 13 (z) of the Northwest Territories Act. Proprietary interest in the trees will be transferred under Section 19 (k) of the Territorial Lands Act at the appropriate time in the land claims process.

3. Upgrading of capital assets

All assets associated with the forestry program will be transferred to the GNWT in good repair.

4. Housing for transferring federal employees

Federal employees transferring to the Territorial government will take their housing with them. Details of how this fits into the Territorial government's housing policy and variables relating to owned or leased housing and community needs will be addressed in a comprehensive policy on housing transfers to be drafted by the territorial and federal governments.

The ministers noted that the creative solutions which had been found to these obstacles would serve as sound models for future federal to territorial governments transfers.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Jim Bourque
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Government of the Northwest Territories
(403) 873-7420

OR

Andrew MacPherson
Director-General
Northern Affairs Program, NWT Region
Indian and Northern Affairs
(403) 920-8111

86-246

MINISTERIAL CHANGES ANNOUNCED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 19) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston today announced portfolio changes in the Executive Council.

Mr. Sibbeston will take over the Department of Culture and Communications and his current portfolio, the Department of Personnel, will become the responsibility of Red Pedersen.

"These changes reflect the wishes of the Legislative Assembly to have a native minister leading the new initiatives for aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories. I'm looking forward to this new challenge and expect we will be able to implement a number of the recommendations of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages," Mr. Sibbeston stated.

The Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat will move from Tagak Curley to Tom Butters, the Minister of Finance while Mr. Curley will assume responsibility for the Department of Government Services.

Mr. Sibbeston said "this move will strengthen the government's overall approach to economic matters. Mr. Curley will chair the territorial approach to economic matters. Mr. Curley will chair the territorial cabinet committee recently formed to develop new northern economic strategies, while Mr. Butters will concentrate specifically on energy matters."

The Executive Council changes take effect immediately.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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86-245

INQUIRY REPORT RECEIVED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 19) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne announced today that the report of the Bardswich Board of Inquiry into the death of Gordon Lyle Davidson has been received.

"I have briefly reviewed the report and decided that the most appropriate course of action is to ask the Mine Occupational Health and Safety Board to fully review the report and its recommendations."

The Mine Occupational Health and Safety Board is a tri-partite body whose role is to advise the Minister on matters relating to occupational health and safety issues in mining. Members of the board are chairman, Dale Vitone, Chief of Mining Inspection Services; Bill Case, Management Representative; Fern Denault, Labour Representative; Dr. John Markham, Occupational Health Consultant; and George Blondin of Fort Franklin.

The terms of reference of the Bardswich Board of Inquiry were:

- (1) To conduct an inquiry into the death of Gordon Lyle Davidson pursuant to the Public Inquiries Act; this inquiry to be held in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.
- (2) To ensure that all the facts relevant to the death of the said Gordon Lyle Davidson are examined.

- (3) At the conclusion of the inquiry to submit a report to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, the report to include:
- a) The findings of the inquiry
 - b) Recommendations regarding mine safety at Con Mine, if appropriate
 - c) Any other recommendations which in the opinion of the person holding the inquiry are relevant.

Mr. Ballantyne said it is important to have the objective review by this board before taking any further action on the report, since the board represents the interests of the parties most directly involved. As soon as the board has considered the report, it will be released to the public in its entirety.

"I'm confident that a number of the recommendations in the report have already been addressed and look forward to receiving a response from the Mine Occupational Health and Safety Board with regard to further proposed action," he added.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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86-244

POND INLET LEASE CONTRACT AWARDED

POND INLET (Sept. 19) - Toonoonik - Sagoonik Co-operative of Frobisher Bay will lease 325 square metres of office space here to the Territorial government.

Amittuq MLA Elijah Erkloo, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced the awarding of the contract.

The contract is valued at \$230,160 per annum for a 10-year term with two five-year options. The costs includes rent, tenant improvements and all operating and maintenance costs including utilities. The term starts once the building is completed in July 1987.

Three other N.W.T. firms submitted bids ranging to \$483,000 per year.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403) 873-7257

86-243

NEW WATER TANK FOR GRISE FIORD

RESOLUTE BAY (Sept. 19) - Water storage capacity in Grise Fiord is being increased.

High Arctic MLA Ludy Pudluk, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Norland construction of Rankin Inlet received a \$912,810 contract to supply and erect a new 3,600 cubic metre insulated, steel water storage tank. Three other firms, two from Ontario and one from Alberta, submitted bids ranging to \$1,146,000.

The project will increase the capacity of potable water from the current steel tank capacity of 1,400 cubic metres to 5,000 cubic metres. This will meet projected community water needs to 2007. Materials will arrive on the sealift with construction scheduled for June and July 1987 to permit filling of both tanks by summer runoff in July.

The second contract, valued at \$212,340, was awarded to Universal Industries Ltd. of Lloydminster, Alberta. Two N.W.T firms submitted bids ranging to \$275,000. Universal will perform changes to the existing pumphouse and connect it to the new water storage tank. Work will be done in June 1987.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-242

FORESTRY AGREEMENT REACHED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 18) - The Government of the Northwest Territories, the Dene Nation and the Metis Association have reached an agreement on the transfer of the Forestry Program from the Federal government to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Minister of Renewable Resources Red Pedersen said: "the agreement paves the way for the final stages of negotiations with the federal government for the transfer of forestry. Both governments wanted the support of the Dene and Metis before the forestry mandate was turned over."

It has been agreed that an administrative transfer under the Northwest Territories Act will not jeopardize land claim negotiations. This would give the Government of the Northwest Territories authority to manage the forest, but the Federal Government will still own the resource. The transfer of ownership will occur under the Territorial Lands Act after Dene/Metis land selection.

It has further been agreed that a Renewable Resource Management board will be established to provide advice on management policy and planning procedures including such things as the development of forestry regulations. The Dene/Metis will appoint 50 per cent of the board's membership.

The agreement will allow the Government of the Northwest Territories to complete negotiations with the Federal Government on the transfer of forest resources and management authority, with the full support of the Dene Nation and the Metis Association.

- 30 -

John Bailey
Department of Renewable Resources
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or:

Stephen Whipp
Dene/Metis Negotiations Secretariat
(403) 920-2725

86-241

FRYS RETURN TO VANCOUVER FROM ARCTIC TOUR

VANCOUVER (Sept. 18) - Bert and Marlene Fry and son, Eric, are back home after a whirlwind tour of Canada's north as special guests of the NWT's Expo pavilion here.

Bert was awarded a trip north for his family as the one millionth visitor to go through the NWT pavilion.

The Frys six-day tour to Yellowknife and Coppermine was sponsored by Northwest Territorial Airways, Air Canada and the Explorer Hotel.

The Frys departed on their Explore-the-Arctic tour on Sept. 3. They travelled to Yellowknife via Air Canada and Northwest Territorial Airways, where they were met by the mayor and received VIP treatment. Later they went on a bus tour of the city, dined in the Explorer Hotel dining room and the Wildcat Cafe, and toured the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and Giant and Con gold mines.

"The Explorer Hotel was first-class," said Bert. "A bottle of wine and a basket of flowers were waiting for us in the room and we had a beautiful view of Great Slave Lake.

"The meals were excellent," said Marlene, "not just food, but real cuisine."

The family then travelled to Coppermine after four days in Yellowknife. "The temperature was below zero," said Bert. "My teeth were chattering when we got off the plane."

more

While in Coppermine, the Frys lived with the Bolte family. Nya Bolte took them fishing and sightseeing along the Coppermine River and to the islands along the Arctic coast. Along the way, they enjoyed tea and bannock with other families camping on the land.

The Frys were impressed with the friendliness and open hospitality of everyone they met.

"People come and go all the time," commented Marlene. "No one locks their doors, and if someone knocks before entering, the people get nervous. They wonder who on earth would bother to knock. It must be a stranger."

The Frys returned to Vancouver Sept. 9.

"The trip was tremendous," said Bert. "I learned a great deal about the north.

"We met lots of interesting people and enjoyed everything about the trip," Marlene said. "Our son had a wonderful time. He rode with the pilots on NWT Air to Coppermine and he drove one of those three-wheelers all around the community."

When Bert was picked as the millionth visitor to the pavilion, Pavilion Commissioner George Braden presented the couple with a videotape of the pavilion's movie, a Hudson's Bay blanket and a photo book of the north.

- 30 -

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86-240

LEASING CONTRACT AWARDED IN SACHS HARBOUR

INUVIK (Sept. 16) - Ikahuk Co-operative Association Ltd. will lease a three-bedroom apartment unit in Sachs Harbour to the Territorial government.

Nunakput MLA Nellie Cournoyea, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that the Sachs Harbour Co-operative was awarded the contract valued at \$26,357 per annum.

The lease is for a 20-year period and includes all utilities and maintenance except electricity. The lease will start once the building is completed in the summer of 1987.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-239

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 16) - A Fort Resolution company received a contract to perform highway maintenance in the district.

Tu Nedhe MLA Eliza Lawrence, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Nuni(ye) Construction Company was awarded the \$2,165,000 contract. The contract is for a three-year period, which started June 15, 1986 and ends June 14, 1989.

Work in the summer involves all regular maintenance operations entailed in maintaining the roads and infrastructure from Kilometre 28.7 on Fort Smith Highway #5 to the Nyarling River crossing, and from Kilometre zero, at the junction of the Fort Smith and Pine Point Highways, to Kilometre 90 at Fort Resolution. This totals about 180 kilometres of work on major roads.

Work in the winter involves these same areas plus a further 42 kilometres including the sections from the Hay River-Fort Smith junction to kilometre 28.7 on the Fort Smith Highway and the Hay River Indian Reserve Highway.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-238

NWT AIR DAY HELD AT EXPO 86

VANCOUVER (Sept. 16) - Northwest Territorial Airways celebrated its 25th anniversary here Sunday at Expo's NWT pavilion.

Some 10,000 invitations were sent to business people in Winnipeg, Edmonton, and the Territories, as well as to northern politicians at the local, municipal, and territorial levels of government. They were treated to a reception and tour of the pavilion.

Special guests at the celebrations included Brent Brodie, recently featured on the cover of National Geographic Magazine for his participation in the Will Steiger Polar Expedition, "the first successful journey to the North Pole without re-supply," and the crew members of the Odyssey 86 around-the-world DC-3 flight.

To commemorate the occasion, Northwest Territorial Airways commissioned a corporate flag. It flew over the pavilion throughout the day.

- 30 -

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86-237

BUCKNA PUTS HIS TALENTS TO GOOD USE

VANCOUVER (Sept. 15) - Since the beginning of Expo 86 here in May, the NWT pavilion has featured continuous entertainment on the Northwest Territorial Airways performing stage.

As well, northern artists and craftsmen have exhibited their skills and talents at stages set inside and outside of the pavilion. Each region of the Arctic has been represented and, in all, 250 northern artists and performers will have appeared at the pavilion before Expo is over next month.

Part of the credit for the success of the entertainment program goes to Pat Buckna, cultural program and special events manager, and his staff. Pat, a talented performer himself, has been responsible for the organization and implementation of the whole program.

Working with a \$200,000 project budget, plus \$300,000 in corporate sponsorship for cultural events and performers, Pat assembled people from all major cultural groups in the north to showcase the best of NWT talent during the world's fair.

Buckna's background in music and production prepared him for the task. A resident of Yellowknife, he works closely with northern musicians and was responsible for the co-ordination of the 1984 "Folk on the Rocks" musical experience. As well, he is the former president of the Northern Arts and Culture Centre and sits on the Canada Council Touring Advisory Board, an advisory board that represents northern artists.

In the fall of 1985, he was commissioned to compose the music for the Special Effects Gallery at the NWT Pavilion. Because there were so many requests for copies of the soundtrack, Buckna decided to release "Echoes of the Northland" on his own record label, Jamadam Records Ltd. The composition incorporates the sounds of candled ice, loons, squirrels, ravens and geese against a haunting background sound track. Says one northerner: "It makes me feel like I'm back in the territories walking on the land."

When Expo 86 closes on October 13, Pat intends to return to Yellowknife to continue his work in the music and arts of the north.

- 30 -

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86-236

IT'S HARD BUT REWARDING WORK FOR EXPO STAFF

VANCOUVER (SEPT. 12) - The staff of the NWT pavilion at EXPO 86 here has catered to more than one million people since the world's fair began in May.

And all the jobs - office and clerical work, the restaurant, retail sales, information guides - have been performed by the 150 northern workers with barely a hitch.

Cathy Aitok of Cambridge Bay, the pavilion receptionist, handles up to 300 calls a day. Staffing a phone with nine incoming lines is no easy task for someone who has never operated such a system before. Calls come in constantly, there is seldom a lull and Cathy remains cool, calm and congenial.

"At first, it drove me crazy," she says, "but now I have a system and it's not too bad."

As well as answering the phones, Cathy arranges easy access for staff from other Expo pavilions and does the typing, photocopying and filing for pavilion managers. She is also the message centre for the entire staff.

Morning shift begins at 7 a.m., meaning she must get up at 5 a.m.

"The phone starts ringing at 8:30 and it doesn't stop," she says. "Some days all nine lines will be lit up at once."

Prior to coming to Expo, Cathy worked as a receptionist in the personnel department of the NWT Government in Cambridge Bay.

"There were only two lines there," she says, "and only 30 calls came in a day."

Cathy has applied for a promotion within the department as a trainee for personnel director.

"The Expo experience has helped a lot," she says. "I'm more aware of my time, I'm better organized and I'm more confident in talking to people."

The cooks, waiters, hostesses, busboys and dishwashers at the pavilion restaurant 'Icicles' serve up to 300 people at a time.

"Everyone comes to watch the fireworks," says Keith McDougal of Yellowknife. "We have to serve all those people in an hour or hour-and-a-half. It gets pretty hectic."

Cooks work outside the grill, preparing dozens of muskox and reindeer burgers, arctic char and steaks.

"The pace is fast and constant," says Darcey Moran, a cook at the pavilion.

Information guides and retail sales personnel see up to 9,000 people a day and most of them have questions and comments. The pavilion is crammed to the rafters with eager buyers, observers and curious onlookers.

"I don't think I have ever seen so many people," says retail sales clerk Leetia Nowdluk of Frobisher Bay. "Some of their questions are strange. They don't know too much about the north."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Paul Vallillee
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86-235

LAND LEASE ONLY POLICY EXTENDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 12) - The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Gordon Wray, has announced an extension of the Land Lease Only policy until the 13th of November. The existing policy is due to expire on September 16, 1986.

"The additional time will allow the government to review the concerns of band councils, Metis locals and municipal councils", said Mr. Wray. "My officials will be seeking views on the effectiveness of the policy, and problems encountered with the implementation and they will examine whether there might be difficulties with a continuation of the policy."

During the last year, the Government of the Northwest Territories recognized concerns of the Dene-Metis that the continuation of sales and transfers of land within municipalities and communities could alienate lands that might be selected in a claims settlement.

"In response to those concerns," said Mr. Wray, "the territorial government allowed a band council, Metis local or municipal council to ask that Crown lands available to the public only be leased."

Any lands that were already committed for sale or development or some similar negotiation at the time of the request were exceptions to the policy. While the land lease-only policy was in effect, the land claims negotiating parties were expected to have completed the land selection.

The lease-only policy has been implemented on a community-by-community basis. Seven out of 28 communities have the policy put in place.

According to Mr. Wray, "there are several communities which have not yet taken advantage of the opportunity to exclude certain lands from sale or transfer. Secondly, the expired policy only allowed one year in which to complete the land selection. There were no provisions for extending the conditions of the policy past that one year."

- 30 -

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86-234

KEEWATIN REGION WELL REPRESENTED AT EXPO 86

VANCOUVER (Sept. 12) - Artists and performers from the Keewatin region have returned home after a successful stint at the NWT pavilion at Expo 86 here.

The Keewatin region of the NWT was featured at the pavilion the month of August.

Drum dancers, singers, and chanters followed each other onto the Northwest Territorial Airways performing stage to entertain large audiences lining up to see the pavilion movie.

"I don't mind waiting in line at this pavilion," said one visitor. "The entertainment is interesting."

James Ukpagaq, Lucy Kowmuk, and Myra Kuuikiyaut of Baker Lake entertained audiences with the traditional Inuit drum dancing and chanting. Well-known singer and guitar player, Charlie Panigoniak of Eskimo Point performed to audiences as appreciative and responsive as the audiences he has back home. Drummers and singers Patsy Owljool, Silas Illungiayuk, and Mary Anowtelik of Eskimo Point performed their traditional form of entertainment, while Uniaktut singers Areene, Palagie, and Mary Angalik revealed dancing and singing styles seldom seen in the south.

Stonecut printmaker Thomas Iksiraq and artist Marjorie Esa of Baker Lake showed interested observers the art of printmaking, while Mariano Aupilaarjuk and Andy Mamgaruk exhibited their soapstone carving skills at the pavilion's Producer's Stage.

A Baker Lake traditional camp was constructed by David and Nancy Mannik, displaying to pavilion visitors the unique lifestyle and living conditions of the Inuit living on the land. Marion Tuu'uuluq and Victoria Mumsugualik demonstrated their sewing abilities with sealskin, deerskin, and caribou.

The success of the program is due to the efforts of Cultural Programs and Special Events Pavilion Manager Pat Buckna and Keewatin Region coordinator Gail Oyama.

September is Kitikmeot Region month at the pavilion.

- 30 -

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86-233

GOVERNMENT FUNDS INUVIK IMPROVEMENTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 11) - The Territorial government is providing the Town of Inuvik nearly \$700,000 for water/sewer system and roadway improvements.

Announcement of the contributions was made by Gordon Wray, minister of municipal and community affairs.

A contribution of \$487,000 is 100 per cent funding for emergency repairs and upgrading to some parts of the community's utilidor sewer and water system, replacement of a portion of the powerline to the Lake B water intake system and mechanical improvements to the Hidden Lake pumphouse.

The funding will also be used to complete an engineering study started in 1985. The study work includes an assessment of the town's sewer and water system and the financial and operation implications of a transfer of the system from the Territorial government to the town.

A contribution of \$210,000 matches the town's appropriation for the cold mix paving of 5.8 kilometers of roadway in the town, including Franklin Road and Navy Road, and construction of one kilometer of sidewalk on Kingmingya Street.

- 30 -

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86-232

TRAVELARCTIC WINS AWARDS

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 10) - Promotional materials prepared by TravelArctic have won three awards in competition with hundreds of other North American promotions of the same kind.

Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism, today publicly announced the awards given to the government's tourism marketing arm.

The recognition comes from the American Economic Development Council. For 28 years the council has been evaluating promotional materials across the continent. This year's competition attracted 338 entries from Canada and the U.S.

TravelArctic received honorable mentions in the category of general-purpose brochure for both its 1986 Explorers' Guide and its World-Class fishing brochure.

The other award was in the mementos category - second-place overall with a "superior" rating for its poster series entitled World-Class Adventure and its Explore Canada's Arctic pin.

TravelArctic's winning materials were developed and produced in co-operation with tourism operators in the north and the NWT Travel Industry Association and zone associations.

"The effective promotion of northern tourism requires high-quality materials," said Curley. "This co-operative effort between government and industry is producing them."

The Council's entries were on display recently at its annual convention in Hamilton, Ontario. They will also be displayed this month at the council's Economic Development Institute in Oklahoma.

- 30 -

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86-230

TOWN CRIER POPULAR AT NWT PAVILION

VANCOUVER (Sept. 8) - The gentleman dressed in deerskin and cowhide, with caribou moccasins and tricorne hat, carrying a 1776 Brown Bess musket, a powderhorn rifle, a bell and a deerskin scroll is Rick Poltaruk, the NWT pavilion crier at EXPO 86 here.

A crier, of course, is one who makes public announcements on the street, so whenever the pavilion has a special event to announce, Rick's booming voice and centre stage personality ensure the announcement is heard by all.

Rick has become one of the pavilion's most dynamic personalities and his special talents have been in demand not only at the NWT pavilion but also at other pavilions and on other occasions on the Expo site. He presided at the Canada Day ceremonies at the Canadian Pavilion, at the Father's Day festivities on the site, and at B.C. Day during the farewell salute to Bill Bennett, the former premier of British Columbia.

Rick Poltaruk is one of the pavilion's core performers. As a singer, songwriter, magician and clown, he is multi-talented, entertaining audiences at the pavilion on a regular basis.

"I love being in the limelight," Rick confesses, "I've had my picture taken thousands of times. Everybody wants to be seen with the pavilion crier."

Rick has resided all over Canada and for the last six years in Yellowknife, where he also acts as a town crier. He has produced his own album consisting entirely of northern, original music. "Northern Midnight Sky" is currently on sale in the NWT pavilion gift shop.

When Expo is over, Rick plans to return to Yellowknife to resume his official duties as crier.

"I love the north," says Rick. "I can't wait to get back there. Just in time for winter."

Asked about his chosen profession, Rick says his mother asked him the same thing. "After all the education you've got," she said, "you then go out and get a job that's obsolete."

Somehow, when Rick goes into his act, it doesn't seem obsolete.

-30-

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86-231

GOVERNMENT MINISTERS MEET SPECIAL FEDERAL TASK FORCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 9) - The Government Leader, the Commissioner and several Ministers will meet on Thursday morning in Inuvik with a special federal task force reviewing the oil and gas downturn in the Beaufort region.

The Prime Minister appointed Marcel Masse, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources; Jake Epp, the Minister of Health and Welfare; Bill McKnight, the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and both northern Members of Parliament to investigate options for the Beaufort Sea. The region, the heart of northern oil and gas exploration, has suffered several economic setbacks as the result of poor international markets.

Nick Sibbeston, along with Tom Butters, Mike Ballantyne, Tagak Curley, Red Pedersen and Bruce McLaughlin, will fly to Tuktoyaktuk on Wednesday. While there, they will be briefed by Gulf Canada officials at the company's base camp on its current status and will meet informally with people in the community.

In Inuvik on Thursday morning, Mr. Sibbeston and the other ministers will meet with the high-profile federal group.

Mr. Sibbeston says, "We are preparing a number of ideas to present to the federal cabinet ministers. We want them to consider the long-term options for the North and the role the federal government can play. While having some kind of federal support to continue exploration for oil and gas in the Beaufort is ideal, our government needs to have plans that will cover off all of the eventualities."

- 30 -

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86-229

CRUSHING CONTRACT AWARDED

FORT PROVIDENCE (Sept. 9) - A Hay River firm received a contract for aggregate crushing of materials used for N.W.T. Highway #1 between Fort Providence and Fort Simpson.

Deh Cho MLA Sam Gargan, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Stan Dean and Sons Ltd. received the \$468,470 contract. Two other N.W.T. firms submitted bids.

Another contract to perform the highway resurfacing using this aggregate has been tendered.

-30-

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-228

DEMPSTER HIGHWAY RESURFACING CONTRACT AWARDED

INUVIK (Sept. 9) - An Aklavik firm is resurfacing a section of the Dempster Highway.

Mackenzie Delta MLA Richard Nerysoo, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that D. Storr and Son's Construction was awarded the \$555,712 contract. Four other N.W.T firms submitted bids ranging to \$1,232,000.

The resurfacing work involved the hauling and placing of crushed gravel on the Dempster Highway between the Peel and Rengleng Rivers, a distance of almost 100 kilometres.

- 30 -

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86-227

NWT PAVILION GETS SET FOR EXPO CLOSING

VANCOUVER (Sept. 8) - With Expo 86 ending here next month, northern officials are beginning to implement disposal and redistribution plans for the NWT pavilion and what's in it.

Much is involved in the shut-down - Expo closes Oct. 13 - and speed and organization are essential to guarantee an orderly disposal.

For a start, the pavilion's 150 employees - all northerners - have to leave their staff apartments in Burnaby and New Westminister the day Expo ends.

Meanwhile, the NWT government, recognizing the vast experience gained by pavilion staff, has asked for resumes and applications from those interested in working in government jobs in the north. Other staff members will return to jobs held prior to Expo, while still others will seek employment in related fields.

On the last day of the fair, a huge goodbye party is planned for the entire day. After that the Expo grounds will be off-limits to anybody without a specific job to do.

The pavilion has two weeks to pack up after the fair closes. Some of the carvings and other art pieces will return to private collections, while others may be donated to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife.

The pavilion's restaurant furniture and equipment was purchased with a buy-back provision. Meanwhile, display stands will be returned to the Hudson's Bay Company. The remaining items in the gift shop that were on consignment will be shipped back to the north, while others may go to southern stores interested in carrying them.

On Nov. 1, demolition of the pavilion begins. The interior must be totally gutted by then. Required staff members will work out of two trailers until all the bills are paid and everything is cleared away. Whatever is left is the property of the demolition contractor and his mandate is to leave the site exactly as it was prior to construction - a gravel pad. The only two things that will remain intact are the huge inukshuk that now stands outside the pavilion and the NWT plaque on it. These have been donated to the City of Vancouver.

But the inukshuk and plaque will not be the only reminders of the Northwest Territories' participation at Expo 86.

Says Pavilion Commissioner George Braden: "The staff has gained invaluable experience in the areas of public relations and communications and their skills will be greatly appreciated in the north in tourism, industry and government. Not only that, they now know more about the rest of Canada and the rest of the north than they ever did before."

There has been phenomenal interest generated in northern entertainment at Expo and the performers have enjoyed renewed confidence in their careers thanks to the Expo experience. Many have already received bookings to appear elsewhere in the south, including the 1988 Olympics in Calgary, and many more are thinking of producing their own albums and of touring.

The northern arts and crafts for sale in the pavilion, the packing dolls, porcupine quill work, sealskin purses, and the paintings, carvings, and prints will continue to be promoted in the south and several stores and boutiques have indicated a strong interest in carrying them.

There are plans to market in the south, the 'country food' that Icicles, the pavilion restaurant, served. Muskox, reindeer and arctic char were popular food items during the fair and Vancouver just might see another "Icicles" restaurant.

Tourism has enjoyed a substantial upswing, directly related to the Expo exposure. Travel to the north has increased since last year and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is looking at even greater increases in 1987.

The NWT Pavilion at Expo 86 has been a tremendous success. Since the beginning, it has been among the most popular pavilions, attracting up to 9,000 visitors a day. As a result, the pavilion, with its anticipated 1.5 million visitors, has achieved more southern exposure for the north in 5 1/2 months than the north has received in its history.

- 30 -

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86-225

AND NOW, A WORD FROM THE CARIBOU TRIBE

VANCOUVER (Sept. 5) - Visitors to the NWT Pavilion at EXPO 86 here are posing some unusual questions, to say the least.

NWT staff do their best to rectify visitor misconceptions but they're sometimes stumped for an answer.

How do you respond to questions such as: "What does reindeer taste like?" or "How many caribou are there in a tribe?"

A visitor to the NWT pavilion restaurant recently asked a hostess: "Well, how do you like Canada so far?" and another asked: "Are you from bannock tribe?"

A patron of the restaurant confidently tried to order a "Musk-rat" burger and another wondered if beaver and coyote were on the menu. Still another asked: "How do you serve your mukluks?" (Feet first, we suppose.)

Another customer asked for a "rainbow" burger and wanted to know what beer is typical of the north. Some thought that Yellowknife was a company and that muskox was a type of bird. Others were astonished to learn that people other than Inuit and Dene live in the Territories.

"Are you from the reindeer or muskox tribe?"
was asked by some, while others were curious as to the
difference between the two.

So perhaps as a result of EXPO 86 southerners
will have learned something about the north. They even
asked if pineapple grows in the Northwest Territories.
They were told it grows in a little country in the
Pacific Ocean.

Hawaii, isn't it?

- 30 -

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86-224

AGREEMENT ON ELLESMERE PARK

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 4) - The federal and the territorial governments will sign an agreement later this month to create Canada's most northerly national park reserve.

Tagak Curley, the NWT Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, and federal Environment Minister Tom McMillian will meet at the Arctic oasis of Lake Hazen on Ellesmere Island on September the 20th to sign the agreement.

MLAs from the Northwest Territories have been invited to the signing ceremony along with leaders from the communities of Grise Fiord and Resolute and from native organizations.

Ellesmere Island National Park Reserve will protect almost forty thousand square kilometres of spectacular scenery containing mountain ranges, glaciers, fiords, muskoxen and Peary caribou.

The national park reserve is being established in response to Canadian and world-wide demands from environmentalists and conservationists to protect this unique and remote Arctic wilderness.

A national park reserve has the same protected status as a national park, except that the establishment of a reserve does not affect native land negotiations.

Mr. McMillan said, "I am delighted that the Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories have been able to agree on the establishment of a national park reserve. It is one of the most splendid wilderness areas in the world and will greatly enrich our national park system while asserting Canadian sovereignty in that part of the country."

According to Mr. Curley, "The establishment of the Ellesmere National Park Reserve will provide significant economic benefits for the people of Grise Fiord and Resolute. I am committed to the long-term development of the tourism industry and this park is another world class attraction in the Northwest Territories."

- 30 -

CONTACT:

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86-223

GNWT FUNDS YELLOWKNIFE PROJECTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 4) - The Government of the Northwest Territories is contributing \$1,860,000 to the City of Yellowknife for water/sanitation and road/sidewalk projects.

The GNWT contributions were announced today by Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Gordon Wray.

An \$860,000 Territorial government contribution covers 100 per cent of costs associated with four water/sanitation projects planned for the capital city. Projects include providing additional sewage retention at Fiddler's lake lagoon; preparing an assessment of Niven and Kam lakes; completing a planning study and initiating design of water intake improvements into Yellowknife Bay and, designing a water treatment facility and completing modifications to the distribution pumphouse.

Another \$1 million contribution will cover 50 per cent of costs associated with reconstruction and paving of the Airport Road, from 'Suicide Corner' to Franklin Avenue, and Franklin Avenue from Airport Road to Norseman Drive. Road/sidewalk projects are cost-shared by the Territorial government and the municipality. Total costs of these two projects is \$2 million.

"Increased growth in our capital city make these improvements to the roads and the water and sewage systems imperative," said the minister. "The Territorial government is committed to improving municipal infrastructures in northern communities."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403) 873-7257

86-222

TRANSFER OF HEALTH SERVICES TO BAFFIN ISLAND

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 3) - The federal Minister of Health and Welfare, Jake Epp, and the N.W.T Minister of Health, Bruce McLaughlin, have announced the final transfer of health services to the Baffin region took place on August 30th.

In making the announcement, Mr. McLaughlin said, "This transfer means the devolution of health services from the federal government to the territorial government in the Baffin region. These services will then be devolved to the Baffin Regional Health Board, a process which is in line with the principles and wishes of the Government of the Northwest Territories."

"The transfer will not affect the quality of medical and public health services provided for Baffin Island residents," said Mr. Epp. "Indeed, their more direct participation in the delivery of health programs will lead of more responsive services with an enhanced sensitivity of the social and environmental needs of the Island."

The transfer of health services is the second phase of a two-part procedure. The first was the transfer of the hospital in Frobisher Bay in 1981 of the Baffin Hospital Board.

The latest phase has two specific areas of responsibility. The first is the transfer of insured health services, which includes 12 nursing stations, public health services, environmental health services, patient and escort travel and boarding homes in Frobisher Bay and Montreal.

The second area of responsibility is the delivery of non-insured services. These will be provided under a contractual arrangement with the federal Department of National Health and Welfare, a process which will ensure that Inuit of the region continue to receive their special benefits which include dental services, eyeglasses, drugs and prosthetics.

The funding from the federal government for these health services will amount of 5 million dollars for the remainder of the 1986-87 fiscal year. In 1987-88, it will total 9.5 million dollars.

According to Mr. McLaughlin, Dennis Patterson, the MLA for Iqaluit, has played a significant role in the transfer of health services of the region. "Mr. Patterson was heavily involved in seeing the Frobisher Bay Hospital transferred to the control of the people of Baffin. His involvement, his efforts and his keen interest in turning over all the federal health services of the Baffin communities has brought us to this point," he said.

The Baffin Regional Health Board will be entirely responsible for all health services in the area. It is made up of representatives from each Baffin community (except Nanisivik) and it receives its authority from the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Ordinance.

Mr. McLaughlin said the devolution of health services from the federal government will not stop with the Baffin. "I look forward to the transfer process continuing in the rest of the Northwest Territories. We are involved in negotiating with other groups now for the eventual transfer of health services in their regions," he said.

- 30 -

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The northern arts and crafts for sale in the pavilion, the packing dolls, porcupine quill work, sealskin purses, and the paintings, carvings, and prints will continue to be promoted in the south and several stores and boutiques have indicated a strong interest in carrying them.

There are plans to market in the south, the 'country food' that Icicles, the pavilion restaurant, served. Muskox, reindeer and arctic char were popular food items during the fair and Vancouver just might see another "Icicles" restaurant.

Tourism has enjoyed a substantial upswing, directly related to the Expo exposure. Travel to the north has increased since last year and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is looking at even greater increases in 1987.

The NWT Pavilion at Expo 86 has been a tremendous success. Since the beginning, it has been among the most popular pavilions, attracting up to 9,000 visitors a day. As a result, the pavilion, with its anticipated 1.5 million visitors, has achieved more southern exposure for the north in 5 1/2 months than the north has received in its history.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Paul Vallillee
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86-221

BIRCH CREEK BRIDGE REPLACED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 3) - Construction has started on a new bridge over Birch Creek on Highway #5, 28 kilometres east of Hay River.

Pine Point MLA Bruce McLaughlin, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Nahanni Construction of Yellowknife was awarded the \$693,069 contract to build the new bridge. It replaces the bridge which was destroyed by flooding in May 1985. The new bridge should be completed by the end of October.

Seven other firms, five from the N.W.T. and two from Alberta, submitted bids ranging to \$897,000.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-220

HIGHWAY RESURFACING CONTRACT AWARDED

HAY RIVER (Sept. 3) - Firms in Hay River and Yellowknife received a joint venture contract for the placement of a sand subbase and a granular base course on Hay River Highway #2, between Enterprise and Hay River.

Hay River MLA Don Stewart, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Stan Dean and Sons of Hay River and Robinson's Trucking of Yellowknife were awarded the contract valued at \$2,649,060. Work is expected to be completed this month.

Stanley Associates Engineering of Hay River has been subcontracted to perform site supervision. This section of highway is scheduled for paving in the summer of 1987.

An Alberta firm submitted a higher bid on this project.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-219

GOVERNMENT LEADERS TRAVEL TO KITIKMEOT

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 3) - The Government Leader and several Ministers will travel to the Kitikmeot region this week to meet with a number of groups.

Nick Sibbeston, Red Pedersen, Mike Ballantyne, Tom Butters and Tagak Curley will fly to Cambridge Bay on Thursday, September 4th to hold talks with territorial government employees and other members of the community. They will tour the new regional offices there and have a meeting planned with the Cambridge Bay Hamlet Council.

On Friday, the ministers will be in Coppermine to officially open the new multi-purpose group home. The home will act as a short-term emergency shelter for the victims of family violence and to accommodate young people in the care of the Department of Social Services or the courts.

The Government Leader, Mr. Sibbeston, says the members of the Executive Council are touring the Kitikmeot for several reasons. "We see it as an opportunity to bring ourselves up to date on issues in the region and to help clarify concerns that people there may have."

- 30 -

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86-218

NORTHERNERS CHEER NORTHERNERS

VANCOUVER (Sept. 3) - The Northwest Territories Ladies' softball team participating in the national senior "A" softball championships here in August were cheered on by a large crowd of northerners.

The enthusiastic supporters were staff members of the NWT Pavilion at EXPO 86, who regularly attend northern cultural and sporting events to support home teams and entertainers.

At the softball tournament the staff entertained teams and spectators with their humorous antics. They waved large polar-bear flags and handed out souvenir flags to the fans and verbal invitations to visit the NWT pavilion and the Northwest Territories.

"This kind of activity typifies the spirit of comradeship which has been generated among the NWT pavilion staff since coming to Expo 86," said pavilion spokesman Paul Vallillee.

"They have all proved to be tremendous ambassadors for the Northwest Territories."

- 30 -

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86-216

REPAIRS CONTINUE ON HIGHWAY #3

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 2) - Upgrading on Mackenzie Highway #3 between Edzo and Yellowknife continues.

Rae - Lac La Martre MLA James Wah-Shee, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister, today announced that Robinson's Trucking was awarded the \$407,150 contract.

The Yellowknife firm will produce granular materials to be used on Highway #3 between the Rae access road and Edzo. Other contracts over the next three years will involve improving this road surface and upgrading the Rae access road. Work has already started and should be completed by the end of the month.

A \$108,970 contract to replace culverts at kms. 286 and 301, between Rae and Yellowknife, was awarded to Curry Construction of Yellowknife. Two other Yellowknife firms submitted bids ranging to \$405,000.

- 30 -

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86-215

TEMPORARY COURTHOUSE LEASED IN INUVIK

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 29) - Hutton Properties Ltd. is leasing temporary law court facilities in Inuvik to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Inuvik MLA Tom Butters, on behalf of Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne and Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced the awarding of the contract to the Inuvik firm.

The contract is valued at \$81,365 per annum, which includes rent and operating and maintenance costs. Five other valid proposals for leased properties from N.W.T. firms were submitted. Proposals were evaluated according to combined economic and functional criteria.

The lease is for a five-year term. The new courthouse facilities, comprising 453 square metres, will be located on the third floor of the Mack Travel Building. The existing court facilities must be vacated by March 31, 1987 for use by the Federal government.

The Department of Justice is now evaluating requirements for establishing permanent court facilities throughout the N.W.T. The study will be completed in the next few months with the process of budgeting, tendering and construction of facilities to follow in the next three to five years. The department has therefore decided to lease temporary court facilities in regional centres such as Inuvik.

"With the current downturn in our economy, I am pleased that the Territorial government is providing this business opportunity in Inuvik," said Butters.

Ballantyne stated that he was confident the leased facility will meet the requirements of the judiciary and residents of the Inuvik Region.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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GNWT RECEIVES DISASTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 28) - William B. Snarr, executive director of Emergency Preparedness Canada, presents a \$345,000 cheque to Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne. The cheque is provided under the terms of the Disaster Financial Assistance arrangements, and is the federal payment for disaster-related expenditures incurred during the 1985 floods in Hay River.



86-214

GNWT RECEIVES DISASTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 28) - The Government of the Northwest Territories today received \$345,000 in disaster financial assistance from the federal government.

Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne, acting on behalf of the Minister Responsible for Civil Emergency Measures Tom Butters, accepted a cheque for \$345,000 from William B. Snarr, executive director of Emergency Preparedness Canada. The cheque is provided under the terms of the Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) arrangements. This federal payment relates to the May 1985 floods which caused extensive property damage in Hay River. Total disaster-related expenditures amounted to \$645,564. The federal government agreed to share these costs to a maximum of \$479,208 and today's contribution represents a significant advance on this payment.

DFA arrangements provide the federal government with a mechanism for responding to provincial and territorial requests for financial aid in the wake of major disasters. A formula relating disaster expenditures to the population of the affected territory or province is used to calculate the appropriate federal share. Since the program's inception in 1970, the Government of Canada has paid out more than \$90 million in post-disaster assistance to the provinces and territories.

-30-

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OR

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Emergency Services
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86-213

MILLIONTH EXPO VISITOR COMING

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 27) - A Vancouver man was to arrive here today with his family to tour the Canadian north as the millionth visitor through the NWT pavilion at Expo 86 in Vancouver.

Bert Fry, accompanied by his wife, Marlene, and 13-year-old son, Eric, was to fly into Yellowknife today for a six-day visit to the NWT, courtesy of Northwest Territorial Airways, Air Canada and the Explorer Hotel.

The trio, never in the north before, will spend two days touring Yellowknife and then fly NWT Air to Coppermine for a three-day stay. They'll return to Yellowknife Monday night and Vancouver Tuesday morning.

Fry was identified as the millionth visitor Monday as he and his wife were waiting in a long lineup to see the pavilion's feature movie. They had come to Expo specifically to visit the NWT pavilion.

"This is absolutely tremendous," said Bert, an electrical engineer with B.C. Hydro. "We've never been to the north even though we've always wanted to go there."

The popularity of the NWT pavilion at Expo has exceeded the most optimistic forecasts. At the current rate of 8,000 to 9,000 a day, more than 1.5 million visitors will go through the pavilion before Expo closes in mid-October.

"When you consider the population of the Territories is 51,000 people, 1.5 million visits to the pavilion is a monumental number," said Pavilion Commissioner George Braden.

The Frys are flying Vancouver to Edmonton return courtesy of Air Canada and Edmonton to Yellowknife and Coppermine return thanks to NWT Air. While in Yellowknife they will be guests of the Explorer Hotel and will lunch at the Wildcat Cafe. In Coppermine they will stay with an Inuit family.

Braden presented the couple with northern gifts Monday in a ceremony in the pavilion's Governor's Lounge, including an HBC blanket, a photo book of the north, a copy of the pavilion's feature film and the Explore the Arctic package tour to Yellowknife and Coppermine.

Said Mrs. Fry: "We're very excited and surprised. Our son will love it too."

- 30 -

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OR

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(re: travel itinerary in north)

86-212

SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

VANCOUVER (Aug. 28) - In eight days the NWT pavilion at EXPO 86 will feature artists and performers from the Kitikmeot or Central Arctic Region of the Northwest Territories.

Performers, artists, storytellers, and other people demonstrating the Inuit way of life will be on hand Sept. 5 to Oct. 1 to reveal the unique customs, traditions, and forms of entertainment particular to the Kitikmeot Region.

Jim and Nellie Hikok of Coppermine will appear on the NWT Airways Stage from Sept. 5 - 15 to highlight traditional Inuit drum dancing and singing. Dressed in colourful and interesting clothing, the Hikoks are always popular with southern audiences.

Printmakers and artists from Holman Island will demonstrate their artistic skill on the Producer's Stage, creating their unique soapstone prints. Celina Tucktoo of Spence Bay will show how packing dolls are made.

Meanwhile, Ida Jane Kapakapoak of Coppermine will be demonstrating sealskin tapestry and Jim Green of Fort Smith will entertain with northern poetry and story-telling, accompanied on the guitar by Pat Buckna, the pavilion's cultural director. And on Sept. 13 there's a special fur fashion show sponsored by The Bay.

Ernie and Nipisha Lyall of Spence Bay were scheduled to appear during the first weeks of September. Unfortunately, Ernie, author of "An Arctic Man", died of a heart attack July 27. Ernie lived in the Arctic over 65 years and was one of the first people to settle in Spence Bay. He and Nipisha had 11 children and countless grandchildren, most of whom still reside in the north.

Cultural director Buckna, who has been responsible for gathering together the 250 performers and artists appearing at the pavilion, says "the whole program has been a tremendous success. The rest of Canada and the world have had the chance to see the diversity of talent in the north that they didn't realize existed. Not only that, the Expo experience will no doubt foster their careers. The exposure and favourable reception has given the performers and artists new incentive."

To give some indication of the response the northern performers are receiving, one Expo visitor, after waiting in line 2 1/2 hours to see the pavilion's feature movie, decided to stay outside until the outdoor performance was over.

Buckna is excited about the Expo aftermath.

"There is a lot of interest generated in the northern performers, thanks to Expo," he says. "Already, they are being called to perform at other events, such as the 1988 Olympics in Calgary. The performers and artists are thinking more about touring, producing albums and about polishing up their acts for southern audiences."

The performers are appearing in front of 8,000 people a day. Many who were nervous at the size of the crowds have learned to relax and enjoy the audience.

Beginning Oct. 1, the NWT pavilion will feature the Western Arctic Region. Various popular performers and artists will be returning for a second stint at Expo.

-30-

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86-211

LIQUOR PRICES INCREASES

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 27) - Prices for imported, and some domestic, liquor products in the Northwest Territories increase today.

Price hikes for imported liquor products include: an 11.5 per cent increase for spirits, 7.6 per cent for liqueurs, 31 per cent for red wines, 33 per cent for white wines and 5 per cent for beer.

As previously announced by Government Services Minister Tom Butters, these price changes are the result of the decline of the Canadian dollar and increases in products costs. The N.W.T Liquor Commission purchases the majority of its imported liquor products directly from Europe once a year.

A standardization in bottle size, from 710 ml to 750 ml, means a 6 per cent rise in prices for some domestic spirits. Domestic beer prices also increase - 4.3 per cent for canned beer and 4.2 per cent for bottled beer.

However, prices for domestic wines decrease. Prices for red wines drop 10 per cent while white wine prices decrease by two per cent.

The last general liquor price increase on April 1, 1986 was the result of a 2 per cent increase in the federal excise tax and an increase in suppliers' costs.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-209

A NEW ERA IN HOUSING FOR HAY RIVER BAND

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 28) - The Hay River Band will be delivering its own Homeownership Assistance Program this year, thanks to a new block funding agreement just signed with the N.W.T. Housing Corporation.

The signing of the agreement, worth \$231,000, was announced this week by Michael Ballantyne, minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. The minister said he was pleased with the agreement as it's in line with the new approach to housing adopted by the Corporation and follows the recommendations of the Special Committee on Housing. The Corporation is now working to consider housing issues in the wider context of accountability to communities, community development and economic development.

The popular Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP), usually delivered to individual families, can now also be delivered by community groups provided the group can produce the housing at comparable cost. In Hay River, Chief Pat Martel and the Band Council will be responsible for the design, the ordering of materials and the construction of houses.

The community of Fort Good Hope has also used the block funding approach to HAP housing and has an agreement this year for the delivery of seven houses.

86-208

CAMBRIDGE BAY AND COPPERMINE CONTRACTS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 26) - Contracts to construct a multi-purpose group home in Cambridge Bay and to lease housing units and office space in Coppermine have been awarded.

Kitikmeot West MLA Red Pederson, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced the awarding of the three contracts.

Fred H. Ross and Associates of Cambridge Bay received a \$533,400 contract to build a multi-purpose group home in Cambridge Bay. The two-storey wood frame group home, 293 square metres (3,000 square feet) in size, will accommodate 10 children from the Kitikmeot Region. The facility will provide a safe place for children in crisis and at risk of neglect or abuse and provide for the needs of children under the care of the Superintendent of Child Welfare. It also will provide care and supervision for open custody young offenders whose needs are compatible with the group home population. Work started in July with completion of the project scheduled for January 1987. Two other firms, one each from the N.W.T. and Alberta, submitted bids ranging to \$692,000.

Fred H. Ross and Associates also received a contract to build, and lease to the Territorial government, 24 housing units in Coppermine. The contract, for six two-bedroom duplexes, six single family detached three-bedroom houses, one fourplex of one bedroom units and one duplex of one bedroom units, is valued at \$563,000 per annum for a period of 20 years. After 20 years, the GNWT will purchase the units for one dollar. Three other N.W.T. firms submitted bids ranging to \$583,000 per annum. Construction begins this month. The units should be ready for occupancy by April 1987.

Enokhok Development Corporation of Cambridge Bay will lease 975 square metres of office space in Coppermine to the Territorial government. The contract is valued at \$448,427 per annum for a term of 10 years, with an option to renew for two further terms of five years each. The lease cost includes base rent, tenant improvements, operating and maintenance costs. The lease starts once the building is completed in June 1987. Four other firms, three from the N.W.T. and one from Alberta, submitted bids ranging to \$687,000 per annum.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-210

BEAUFORT PULLOUT DISCUSSED WITH MCKNIGHT

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 26) - Two territorial government ministers say they had an excellent meeting with the federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Bill McKnight, this afternoon regarding the pullout of Gulf Canada from the Beaufort Sea.

Both Tom Butters, the Minister of Finance, and Tagak Curley, the Minister of Economic Development flew to Saskatoon to discuss the downturn in the NWT economy as the result of Gulf Canada closing down its oil exploration program in the Beaufort Sea.

"We covered all of the areas in which Mr. McKnight might be able to influence some federal decisions which could require fast action" said Mr. Butters. "He was very receptive to our ideas about encouraging employment on the North Warning System construction, about stepping up work on capital projects and about creating smaller contracts from larger ones to allow more northerners to participate in work.

Mr. Butters was especially encouraged by Mr. McKnight's determination that Gulf's project not be mothballed. "Instead, he was suggesting that Gulf winterize its rigs which means that there could be work next summer."

Tagak Curley, the Minister of Economic Development, said that as a result of the meeting with Mr. McKnight, "the door is open to finding answers to relieve the hard-pressed economy of the territories."

"We were able to bring the federal minister up to speed on the state of the economy involving sealing, oil and gas and mining. I'm excited that Mr. McKnight seems to realize the problems and can see areas that could be worked on."

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
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86-207

SOUTHERN ACTIVITIES

VANCOUVER (Aug. 26) - The staff, entertainers, and artists at the Northwest Territories pavilion at EXPO 86 here are seeing part of Vancouver and surrounding areas that few visitors, let alone the people who live here, have had the chance to see.

Thanks to the pavilion's recreation director, Marilyn Paradis of Yellowknife, northerners have been camping and swimming, have travelled to Whistler Mountain Village, a ski and summer resort 75 kilometres from the city, to Gibson's Landing, where the ever-popular Beachcombers television show is filmed, and to White Rock, a sleepy beach town 60 kilometers from Vancouver, just to name a few.

They have been to Victoria on Vancouver Island. Many were stunned by the vegetation, flowers and giant trees they saw. Seventy-year-old James Ukpagak, a drum dancer from Baker Lake, says: "I saw live trees, horses and cows for the first time in my life."

While they were in Victoria, the capital city of British Columbia, northerners toured the Provincial Museum and the Legislative Buildings. Mark Nakoolak, a soapstone carver from Coral Harbour, especially enjoyed the ferry ride through the picturesque Gulf Island to Victoria. Stuart Hodgson, chairman of the board of B.C. Transit, and former NWT Commissioner, arranged complimentary ferry passes for NWT pavilion personnel.

Other northerners have travelled to Long Beach on the north end of Vancouver Island, where white sand beaches stretch for miles and huge waves comparable to those in Hawaii, crash against the shore.

A five-day camping trip took northerners to Golden Ears National Park outside Vancouver, where staff members could come and go for one, two, or five nights, depending on their work schedules.

Maggie Quayaqguaq, a hostess at the restaurant, who camps every summer on the land surrounding her village of Igloolik, wondered what it would be like to camp in the south. She says southern camping is very different. "You have to pay to camp," she says, "and there are showers and toilets. You can wear shorts and T-shirts and you get there by van or car. Up north we travel by dog team, canoe or snowmobile and stay wherever we want. We wear caribou skins to keep us warm, even in the summer."

Some staff members recently attended the Yukon Pavilion's street party held on Yukon Street in Vancouver. There were games and entertainment throughout the day. NWT staff participated in one game where each team received a list of seven people, who had to be found. The NWT team won first prize.

All the camping and sporting gear is at the staff's disposal to use whenever they like. Volleyball sets, bats and balls are just some of the equipment that is provided.

"There's something for everybody to do all the time," says Marilyn Paradis, who works out of the New Westminster accommodation site. "People are only bored if they want to be. As for me, well, I think I have the best job at the pavilion."

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86-206

CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNERS MEET IN YELLOWKNIFE

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 25) - Civil emergency planners from across Canada will meet here August 26-29 at the Interprovincial Conference on Civil Emergency Planners.

Representatives from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the N.W.T. will attend the three-day conference. Also attending the conference is W.B. Snarr, the national director of Emergency Preparedness Canada, and the Alberta/N.W.T director of the federal agency.

"Mr. Snarr's attendance at this conference provides a unique opportunity for private discussion between federal representatives and their provincial and territorial counterparts," says Tom Butters, minister responsible for civil emergency measures.

Topics to be discussed at the meeting include mutual aid agreements, national warning and emergency broadcasting program, emergency response procedures, transportation of dangerous goods/emergency response co-ordination, workers' compensation agreements, emergency measures descriptive symbol, overview of the N.W.T Emergency Response System and report on the 1986 National Training Symposium. Updates on various federal and provincial/territorial matters also will be discussed.

Conference participants also will travel to Coppermine. Presentations on Coppermine's emergency response plan and the Territorial government's regional emergency response plans are scheduled.

The Interprovincial Conference on Civil Emergency Planning is an annual event.

- 30 -

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86-205

FROBISHER BAY LEASE CONTRACT AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 26) - Fro-build Construction Ltd. of Frobisher Bay will lease 1,031 square metres of office space in the community to the Territorial government.

Iqaluit MLA Dennis Patterson, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced the awarding of the contract which is valued at \$399,887 per annum for a 10-year term with an option to renew for two further terms of five years.

The lease cost includes base rent, tenant improvements, operating and maintenance costs and commences once the building is completed in June 1987.

Six other N.W.T firms submitted bids ranging to \$992,000 per annum.

- 30 -

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86-204

EIGHT CONTRACTS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 25) - Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray today announced the awarding of eight contracts.

The contracts range from performing siteworks for a school to constructing and leasing housing units to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Eskimo Point Lumber Supply of Eskimo Point received an \$258,912 contract to perform siteworks for the new school in the community. Work includes fill and grading of both a building pad for the school and a playfield for community use. Building pad sitework started in July and should be completed this month to allow for settlement before construction on the school starts next year. Playfield sitework will be completed by November. A contract for construction of the school will be tendered in January.

M and G Plastics of Renfrew, Ontario received a \$125,000 contract to perform panel repairs to the Frobisher Bay Nakasuk School. Damage to 10 fiberglass panel sections was caused by a fire in a garbage bin beside the school. The original molds for the school, build in the 1970's, no longer exist. New molds and panels for the school will be formed in the community. Local labour will be used for the work.

Hovat Construction of Yellowknife received a \$161,364 contract to perform energy retrofits on three staff houses in Holman. Work, scheduled for September or October following barge arrival, includes adding exterior insulation and siding to upgrade the energy efficiency of the houses.

Nu-Rise Construction of Hay River received a \$150,047 contract to perform energy retrofits on three staff houses in Spence Bay. Work includes upgrading the energy efficiency of the houses by adding exterior insulation and siding. Work is scheduled for September or October, depending on barge arrival. Three other firms, two from the N.W.T. and one from Alberta, submitted higher bids.

Enokhok Development Corporation of Cambridge Bay will build, and lease to the Territorial government, a 12-unit apartment building in Baker Lake. The contract is valued at \$280,696 per year for a period of 20 years. After 20 years, the GNWT will purchase the building for one dollar. Three other N.W.T. firms submitted bids ranging to \$397,000 per annum. Construction starts this month. Occupancy date is April 1987.

Qamanittuaq Development Corporation of Baker Lake received a contract to lease 435 square metres of office space in the community to the Territorial government. The contract is valued at \$217,947 per annum for a 10-year period with options to renew for two further terms of five years each. Lease cost includes rent, tenant improvements and all operating and maintenance costs including utilities. Three other N.W.T. firms submitted bids ranging to \$252,000 per year. The term will begin in July 1987 when the building is completed.

Arviat Development Corporation of Eskimo Point received a contract to lease 648 square metres of office space in the community to the GNWT. The contract is valued at \$275,542 per annum for a 10-year period with options to renew for two further terms of five years each. Lease cost includes rent, tenant improvements and all operating and maintenance costs including utilities. Three other N.W.T. firms submitted bids ranging to \$371,000 per year. The term will start once the building is completed in July 1987.

Sanajit Ltd. of Rankin Inlet will build, and lease to the Territorial government, a total of 16 housing units in Eskimo Point. One contract, for the leasing of five two-bedroom duplexes, is valued at \$239,000 per annum. Two other N.W.T. firms submitted bids ranging to \$288,000 per year. The second contract, for the leasing of a one-bedroom fourplex and a one-bedroom duplex, is valued at \$89,170 per year. Two other N.W.T. firms submitted bids ranging to \$140,000 per annum. Each lease is for a 20-year period with options to purchase the units after three years at the appraised market, value. Each lease cost includes rent and operating and maintenance costs, excluding all utilities. The terms are scheduled to start in January 1987 once all units are completed.

- 30 -

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86-203

TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS NUNASI

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 22) - Nunasi Corporation today received a vote of confidence and a pledge of continued support from the Government of the Northwest Territories.

"Nunasi is breaking ground in many aspects of economic development in the north, so that once land claims are settled a quicker expansion can follow," said Economic Development and Tourism Minister Tagak Curley in announcing Executive Council support for the corporation. "While Nunasi now may be experiencing some cash flow problems, our government has every confidence in the management and financial health of the corporation. It is a fact of life that any new corporation may lose money in its early years of operation, and Nunasi is no exception to this rule. If Nunasi fails, it may take Inuit years to regain the credibility it has taken 10 years to earn."

Nunasi became a legitimate development company in the eyes of the Canadian business community when it financed the \$27 million Cullaton Lake Gold Mine project in 1982. This is the largest single investment ever undertaken by a native development corporation. In a three-year period Nunasi hired over 250 northerners, 80 per cent Inuit and netted \$800,000. Combined mining operations netted over \$4 million.

Nunasi's properties include extensive real estate holdings: the Arnakalluk Building in Frobisher Bay housing the Royal Bank, courthouse and offices; Iglu Hotel in Baker Lake; Bootleg Apartments in Inuvik; an office building in Rankin Inlet; and other small assets.

Nunasi is a 50 per cent shareholder of the Northern Transportation Company Limited, a major transportation company operating throughout the western Arctic and Keewatin region, with an appraised value of \$42 million.

Nunasi is the owner of Nunasi Central Airways and although the western Arctic and Keewatin region, with an appraised value of \$42 million.

Nunasi is the owner of Nunasi Central Airways and although the company has incurred significant losses, Nunasi is pursuing negotiations to form a joint venture. This would result in a revitalized company with stronger management, ensuring that Inuit retain a strong presence in the airline industry.

In response to the serious downturn in the sealskin industry, Nunasi has developed sealskin products which are highly marketable. Should the project go ahead as Nunasi has planned, there is the potential for \$850,000 in extra income in the first year and 76 jobs rising to \$6.9 million by 1990 with 230 jobs. The restoration of a market for sealskins will give 1,500 hunters an opportunity to earn income from the harvest of seals.

Concerns regarding the financial stability of the corporation were raised recently by the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN) and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Nunasi's bankers. The TFN, the body responsible for negotiating a lands claims settlement for the Inuit, had issued a loan guarantee against future land claims compensation payments. Nunasi's bankers are concerned about the corporation's cash position and loan guarantees which are dependent on the completion of a land claims settlement. The bankers want a guarantee from the Federal government for Nunasi's \$8 million loan.

The minister noted that a report prepared for TFN by Ernst Whinney was done in a very short period and does not take into account Nunasi's accomplishments in the past decade. An option put forward in this report is to liquidate the company's assets. "To do so would be an erosion of tremendous economic progress made by Inuit during the last decade", said Curley. "Opportunities now available to Inuit with their growing experience would be lost to outsiders.

"Native development corporations are a vital vehicle of development in the north," the minister continued. "They allow native people to pool their collective resources and take part in major activities."

"Aboriginal corporations such as Nunasi are critical to the success of land claim settlement implementation," said Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Minister Dennis Patterson, "since they are good vehicles for developing the required expertise for management of the post-settlement affairs of aboriginal groups." He added that he hopes these current problems will not jeopardize on-going claims negotiations.

"Patterson stated his concerns that some Inuit representatives are saying that land claims talks are holding up economic development and others are saying that economic development should not proceed in advance of a claims settlement. He suggested that it is critical for representatives of TFN and the Nunasi Board of Directors get together to resolve an issue in which all Inuit have a common interest.

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86-201

CITY LIFE

VANCOUVER (Aug. 22) - The majority of staff, entertainers, and artists at the Northwest Territories pavilion at EXPO 86 here reside in either Burnaby or New Westminster, two of Vancouver's adjoining suburbs.

The apartment buildings, leased by NWT Expo, are brand new, surrounded by flowers and trees, and close to public transit.

Residents catch Vancouver buses and the connecting Sky Train, the city's new rapid transit system that takes people directly to the Expo site in less than 45 minutes.

Stuart Hodgson, chairman of the board of B.C. Transit and former NWT Commissioner, arranged complimentary passes for staff to use throughout Expo.

Three northerners share the two-bedroom suites. Each suite is fully furnished with colour T.V.'s and fully equipped kitchens (including dishwashers). Staff members buy and cook their own food or dine out. Many have tried crab, lobster, and West Coast salmon for the first time. The fresh fruit and vegetables found in abundance in the south are a rare treat for northerners.

But northern food is missed by many. When Maggie Quaygguag arrived from Igloolik, she asked for frozen caribou or frozen fish at the NWT restaurant. Unfortunately, they had neither, so she did without her 'country food.' However, in late June, thanks to the combined efforts of northerners back home and NWT Expo officials, 150 pounds of arctic char and 250 pounds of frozen caribou were sent south for the staff's enjoyment.

"Nothing is better liked than frozen caribou," says accommodations counsellor Dave Grundy, "not beef jerky, not McDonald's hamburger, or even filet mignon. The country food really puts a smile on their faces."

Homesickness and loneliness are expected maladies among a large group so far away from home. On hand to alleviate some of the problems are Grundy of Fort Smith and fellow counsellor Sharon Firth of Inuvik. Temporary counsellors include Wilf Wilcox of Cambridge Bay and Bernice Gadut, also of Inuvik. Nurse Donni Stevens and recreation director, Marilyn Paradis provide added invaluable services.

Staff members seem to enjoy their accommodations and many are getting out on their own to experience Vancouver and big-city life. Says Cathy Aitaok of Cambridge Bay, a receptionist at the pavilion: "I love Vancouver, especially the sun, beaches, theatres and restaurants. Cambridge Bay is going to seem awfully small after this."

Lily Anikin of Tuktoyaktuk, a cook at the pavilion, has travelled all over Vancouver. She has also attended several concerts including Bob Dylan, Parachute Club and Loretta Lynn. Lily has a friend also from Tuktoyaktuk working at the pavilion. Her friend's name is Holly.

"Before I go home," says Lily, "I'm going to have a T-shirt made that says 'Expo' on the front and 'Ask Holly' on the back."

There is an amazing fellowship among staff, managers, entertainers and artists at the pavilion. Everyone seems proud of what they are doing and glad to be part of such a successful enterprise.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience," says Darcy Moran of Yellowknife, a cook. "I will never forget Expo 86. I'm to get two T-shirts made. One will say 'I survived Expo 86', the other will say 'Expo is a four letter word.'"

- 30 -

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86-200

IMPRESSIONS OF THE SOUTH

VANCOUVER (Aug. 26) - Imagine leaving your family, your friends and your way of life and travelling somewhere totally different - say the moon - to work at a job you've never done, to live with people you've never met.

Such is the experience of many northerners working at the Northwest Territorial pavilion at EXPO 86 here .

Considering the change in climate, the big city, the noise, the people - and in some cases the language - it is clear that the northerners have adjusted remarkably well.

Most are anxious to return home, but all have appreciated the opportunity to work at the pavilion and many would not have missed it for anything. They say they have learned a great deal and will benefit from their experiences.

The majority of the staff members reside in either Burnaby or New Westminister, two Vancouver suburbs, and travel to the Expo site via bus and connecting Sky Train. The latter is a new rapid transit system that roar along overhead tracks at 75 km/hour.

Sharon Firth of Inuvik has been in Vancouver since February. Employed as a counsellor at the accommodations facility in Burnaby, Sharon has handled a lot of problems with adjustment.

"The first weeks of Expo were difficult," she says. "Some people were homesick and others just couldn't adjust, so they went home. But now everyone seems to be enjoying it and things are relatively quiet."

Symatuk Itorcheak, 22, of Frobisher Bay, a hostess at the NWT restaurant, loves Vancouver and the opportunity to work at Expo.

"I was very excited when they phoned to interview me for the job. My mother was happy about it too, but she warned me to stay out of trouble," she laughs. "My brother asked me to say 'Hi' to Relic." (Relic, one of the characters on the T.V. show, the Beachcombers, seen every Sunday night in the Territories, seems to be an unanimous favourite of northerners.)

Symatuk likes the people and enjoys answering their questions even if they are a little strange sometimes. She says several people have asked: "Are you a real live Eskimo?"

Jeannie Komak of Eskimo Point works throughout the night as a cleaner at the pavilion. As a wife and mother of nine, Jeannie had never had the opportunity to travel outside the Territories. Vancouver is her first southern experience and everything is different for her, including the language. But she makes her way, on her own, after dark, every night from Burnaby to the site and has not missed a shift.

Cathleen Tagoona, of Rankin Inlet, at Expo for two weeks to work at the NWT travel desk, feels Vancouver is beautiful, but she prefers the north. "We have the best of both worlds up there," she says. "We can travel south for a visit, but we can always go home."

Although Cathleen's mother has not been to Vancouver, she has heard about the traffic. She wrote Cathleen a hasty letter to remind her to look both ways before crossing the street.

"All of a sudden I'm a little child again," Cathleen laughs.

Leetia Nowdluk of Frobisher Bay, working at the retail sales counter, loves the Vancouver vegetation, and although she gets homesick, she hates the thought of leaving Vancouver.

"I know I am going to miss it," Leetia says.

When asked about the Expo visitors, Leetia thinks they are very nice, but misinformed about the north.

"The people thought seals are all different colours, just because the sealskin purses I was showing them were. Some people say 'poor seal', but that's like me saying 'poor cow.'"

It's different to find any northerner who hasn't enjoyed his or her experience in the south, but it's just as difficult to find one that prefers it over the north.

"It has been a wonderful learning experience," says 26-year-old accommodations counsellor Bernice Gadut, "but I am ready to go home to Inuvik. All the pavement makes me tired and the city scares me a little. I won't go out unless someone comes with me."

Accommodations counsellor Dave Grundy of Fort Smith may be the exception. When asked if he would like to stay in Vancouver, he laughs: "Yes, I am going to purchase a little plot of land right over there."

He points to a huge grassy area. The sign at the entrance to it says: "Burnaby Cemetery."

- 30 -

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86-202

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 22) - The Government of the Northwest Territories says there are no 'quick fixes' in answer to the pullout of Gulf Canada from the Beaufort Sea.

Gulf announced yesterday that its world class oil discovery off the Arctic coast was being mothballed. The company and its partners had not been successful in gaining federal government concessions or incentives to continue the expensive northern exploration program.

Gulf's withdrawal strikes a hard blow to the Inuvik region and to the territorial economy. It is the last company to maintain a significant presence in the Beaufort. In 1984 - the oil and gas industry contributed 187 million dollars to the Northwest Territories economy. There are no plans for any work next year, following the wind-down.

The Government Leader - Nick Sibbeston - says "We must realize that the downturn in petroleum exploration in the Northwest Territories is a result of the drop in world oil prices. Until oil prices stabilize at higher levels - government actions can do little to bring about new exploration work."

Mr. Sibbeston does say that the Gulf news was not unexpected and that the territorial government has been planning for the economic downturn for months.

The Minister for Economic Development says however that "real answers are not easy." Tagak Curley says however, "Our government is committed to long-term industries - tourism has immeasurable potential in that region. We are currently doing a study to determine strategies for marketing tourism and what needs to be put in place to accommodate the expansion of the industry."

Mr. Curley says the promotion of privatization of many government services throughout the Northwest Territories would create an economic boost. "Letting private enterprise do work that our government is currently doing maintenance and construction and many other areas."

The Minister of Finance - Tom Butters - agrees that solutions are going to be hard to come by. "Already this year, Inuvik has experienced the closure of its Armed Forces Base. The shutdown of Esso's Beaufort operation earlier this year was a body blow but the Gulf announcement heralds an end of a Canadian exploration endeavour that began 28 years ago."

Mr. Butters - who is also the Member of the Legislature for Inuvik - says the territorial economy is vulnerable and narrow. "It relies heavily on our renewable and non-renewable resource activities, and regrettably, is agonizingly subject to international market forces."

The Government of the Northwest Territories makes it clear through the statement of its leader, Mr. Sibbeston, that the government is doing what it can with its limited resources. "We need strong, creative support from the federal government to help us meet the newest demands."

- 30 -

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86-199

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 21) - The Minister of Economic Development, Tagak Curley, has hired a prominent expert to examine ways of providing economical electricity to people of the territories.

Mr. J. Norman Olsen, P.Eng., is the former president of B.C. Hydro. Mr. Olsen was selected from a number of candidates because of his extensive experience in all aspects and levels of utility operation. He began his career with the BC Power Commission in 1946 and was President and Chief Operating Officer between 1978 and 1985. Mr. Olsen now acts as a consultant.

Mr. Curley says the first priority will be to assess and advise on an option for an electrical utility, owned and operated by the Government of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Olsen will have to compare that with a proposal to contract out the delivery of electricity.

The work is part of the examination of the role of the Northern Canada Power Commission in the territories. The federal government says it's willing to sell its crown corporation and the territorial government has the first option to purchase N.C.P.C.

Since last November, the Government of the Northwest Territories has been considering the viability of running its own electrical utility. It hired Peat Marwick and Partners to study the options of running the utility as wholly owned and operated by the people of the territories or of contracting out to an established utility company.

The options were presented to the Legislative Assembly in June of this year. However, the members wanted to obtain an independent analysis of the proposals with more information for them to consider.

In announcing the appointment today, Mr. Curley said "I expect Mr. Olsen's expertise will be very instrumental in helping the territorial government with N.C.P.C. negotiations."

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86-198

GRANT MEANS MORE SIGHTSEEING

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 26) - With the help of the Territorial government, a Coral Harbour businessman is buying a bigger boat for tourist sightseeing.

Raymond Ningeocheak is getting 17,500 dollars from the government's tourism budget to expand his sightseeing and wildlife tours to Coats Island near the mouth of Hudson Bay. Coral Harbour is on Southampton Island north of Coats.

Ningeocheak has been operating small tours to Coats Island in the Keewatin region for the past three years. Coats is well known for its abundant marine mammals and birds. His tour business is growing, and the bigger boat allows him to meet the market demand.

"When small business in the NWT succeeds, the community also benefits," says Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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86-197

GOVERNMENT HELPS BAND IN BUSINESS

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 21) - The Dene band in Arctic Red River is getting \$23,500 from the Territorial government's tourism budget to help the band provide the first visitor's accommodation in the community.

The band has acquired several large construction trailers in Inuvik and is renovating them for visiting business people and tourists. Arctic Red River is on the Dempster highway 73 miles south of Inuvik. About 120 people live there.

The Dene received \$6,500 from the government last year to begin the project.

"The band is to be congratulated for its innovative approach to business development and tourism," said Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

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86-196

SMITH CAMPSITE GETS A FACELIFT

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug.21) - The Territorial government is spending \$30,000 from its tourism budget to help renovate the Thebacha campsite near Fort Smith.

Local 50 of the Metis Association in Fort Smith is getting the money to refurbish the facilities - picnic tables and public washrooms - clear additional brush, and maintain the premises. The work will employ six people for two months.

The campsite, which is located on the Salt River 14 kilometres from town, is a popular recreational attraction for both residents and visitors.

"The efforts of the Metis local to spruce up the site will probably attract even more users," said Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism. "It is money well spent."

- 30 -

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(Released on behalf of the Beverly and Kaminuviak
Caribou Management Board)

86-195

CARIBOU USERS SUPPORT MANAGEMENT PLAN

ESKIMO POINT (Aug. 19) - Joint government - user management of the huge Beverly and Kaminuriak caribou herds, which roam west of Hudson Bay, is a fact.

After two days of discussion here last week, some 45 caribou users, biologists and wildlife managers gave approval-in-principle to a draft long-term management plan for the two herds.

Other interested parties, including individuals, universities, environmental organizations and governments, are still being heard from but the approval by native users is regarded by many as crucial to the plan's future. Such approval was unthinkable a few years ago, but years of hard work by the Beverly and Kaminuriak Caribou Management Board, whose members authored the plan, has brought about a working atmosphere in which the five government members and eight user members have been able to overcome most of their differences and agree on a common approach.

"This is a memorable day for caribou management and demonstrates that the Caribou Management Board is a model for similar government-native ventures that will follow," said Manitoba representative Ross Thompson, who chaired the Board meeting, immediately after approval was received to complete the public review process.

Dr. Fred Bunnell, a noted wildlife scientist with the University of British Columbia, was appointed to co-ordinate the review and give a measure of independence to the analysis of public reaction. He will report his conclusions and recommend changes to the present plan by March 15, 1987. The Caribou Management Board will meet in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to consider his recommendations.

The Board declined by a very narrow margin, after much discussion and strong viewpoints, to support a request from the Fort Smith Hunters and Trappers Association for a commercial quota of 200 caribou.

Delegates to the Users Assembly and Board members found time in the evenings to enjoy the hospitality of the Inuit of Eskimo Point. Chipewyan and Metis caribou users, many on their first visit to the tundra, tried their hand at Inuit drum dancing, stomped their way through a square dance, and spent their last evening enjoying a barbeque at a tent hotel set up for them on the tundra.

Board members also announced that a Chipewyan language supplement to the Caribou Schools Program was being developed so students in northern Saskatchewan could learn about caribou in the Chipewyan language.

Long-time member Peter Alareak of Eskimo Point resigned because his new job as by-law enforcement officer did not permit him to travel.

Hugh Hunt of the Saskatchewan Wildlife Branch will replace Ross Duncan of La Ronge as the new Saskatchewan government member.

- 30 -

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86-193

BAKER LAKE ARTISTS DISPLAY THEIR TALENT

VANCOUVER (Aug. 19) - On the Producer's Stage at the Northwest Territories Pavilion at EXPO 86, artist Marjorie Esa and printer Thomas Iksiraq have been demonstrating the art of stone cut/stencil print-making for the past two weeks.

Thomas and Marjorie are from Baker Lake in the Keewatin region of the N.W.T.

Marjorie, a wife and mother who also works part-time at the Baker Lake Hotel, is a well-known artist and printer, a rare combination in the field.

Marjorie's drawings show more of a southern influence than most Baker Lake drawings. Other Baker Lake artists, such as Nancy Pukingrnak (Aupaluktuk), concentrate on the memories of stories told to them by elders of the traditional life of the Inuit and of Inuit mythologies. Victoria Mamnguqsualuk's drawing centers on themes of starvation and conflict in the north and are alive with tension and psychological stress.

Several other Baker Lake artists will be attending Expo and their different styles and theme content will become evident to the southern observer.

Thomas Iksiraq comes from a large family of artists and printers. His mother, Marion Tuu'luuq (Anguhadluq), a well-known artist with a wallhanging in the pavilion, will also be attending Expo as an artist.

Thomas began his work as a printer 16 years ago, never expecting that it would become his life's work. He is currently production manager at the Sanovik Co-operative, the Inuit-owned company in Baker Lake responsible for buying and producing prints for distribution and sale in southern galleries.

The production of a limited-edition print requires the combined talents of a creative artist and a skilled printer. The artist submits the drawing to the co-operative. To encourage artists, all the drawings are purchased - the higher the quality, the higher the price. The drawing is traced on to paper, then on to a soapstone slab, where the printer meticulously carves in stone an exact replica of the drawing. Coloured inks are brushed on to the carvings, Japanese rice paper is pressed on to the slab and the first colour - usually the outline of the drawing - is transferred.

Next, stencils are cut and each additional colour is transferred, layer by layer, until an exact replica is produced. Some 50 prints are made from one carving. Each is signed by the artist and printer, titled and stamped with the Sanovik seal.

The Sanovik Co-operative produces a yearly collection of 28 to 35 different prints and distributes them to southern galleries for sale. Prints range in price from \$75 to \$800.

Says Iksiraq: "The drawing or print will tell you what the traditions of the Inuit are. Today, northern children are exposed to so much of the southern ways that our old ways are often forgotten. The drawings and prints help children remember the Inuit, the language, traditions and skills. They all tell a story; they seem to move; they make sense."

Expo visitors are fascinated with the print-making procedure and noticeably impressed with the finished products. Judging from the constant audience that Thomas and Marjorie have enjoyed while they produce the prints, the time they have spent at Expo has been highly beneficial.

- 30 -

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86-194

EDA AIDS 'EXOTIC' WATER MARKETING STUDY

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 19) - Selling northern fresh water as an exotic product in southern markets will be examined with assistance supplied under the Canada-N.W.T. Economic Development Agreement (EDA).

Matonabee Transport Ltd. of Yellowknife is receiving \$21,825 in funding towards the more than \$24,000 study under the Opportunity Identification Program of the EDA'S Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement. The federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) is supplying 90 per cent of the assistance and the territorial government 10 per cent.

Announcement of the funding was made today by Bernard Valcourt, federal Minister of State (Small Business and Tourism), and by Tagak Curley, N.W.T. Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

The study will examine the market potential for sale of bottled or packaged northern mineral water, ice cubes or water for use in home beer brewing. For all three possible products, the study will attempt to assess whether cultivation of an exotic marketing image would be sufficient to generate sales for a viable processing operation.

Matonabee Transport owner Fred Richinger anticipates that low costs of shipment to markets made possible by backhauling on road transport out of the N.W.T. could make the operation viable.

Treeline Planning Services Ltd. will carry out the study, which will be made public in one year if identified opportunities are not pursued by Matonabee.

The Opportunity Identification Program can provide assistance for up to 90 per cent of the eligible costs of studying opportunities to establish, modernize or expand business enterprises. All N.W.T. residents are eligible for assistance under the program.

- 30 -

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MEMO TO ALL NORTHERN MEDIA

A series of news releases related to northern staff, entertainers, performers, visitors, their activities, and impressions, at the NWT pavilion at Expo 86, will be sent each week to northern news outlets for the duration of the World's Fair.

It is expected news outlets throughout the NWT are interested in receiving feature information about employees, entertainers, and visitors, their working environment, accommodation facilities, job related experiences, and the contribution and benefits of the Expo program to northerners.

Contact will be established with northern radio stations to arrange on-air interviews with local northerners at Expo, if desired. Special requests for coverage, photos, or information will be considered. Please contact Paul Vallillee, Senior Liaison and Media Relations Officer at NWT Expo 1-800-663-2171.

86-192

PRICE INCREASES FOR IMPORTED LIQUOR PRODUCTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 14) - Imported liqueurs and wines will cost more in the Northwest Territories by the end of the month.

The N.W.T Liquor Commission purchases the majority of its imported products directly from Europe in sufficient quantities to last for one year.

"Over the past year we have been protected from the decline of the value of the Canadian dollar and increases in product costs," said Government Services Minister Tom Butters. "However, this year's supply is arriving and we must increase prices to reflect our suppliers' costs."

The Northwest Territories now has some of the lowest imported wine prices in all of Canada. For example, a 1000 ml bottle of Blue Danube wine costs \$7.70 in British Columbia, \$8.70 in the Yukon, \$7.30 in Alberta but only \$5.90 in the N.W.T.

"The price increases on imported wines and liqueurs will bring our prices into line with other Canadian jurisdictions," added the minister.

- 30 -

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86-191

EDA AIDS HOTEL CONFERENCE SERVICE

FROBISHER BAY (Aug. 13) - Assistance supplied under the Canada-N.W.T. Economic Development Agreement (EDA) will enable this community's Navigator Inn to offer simultaneous interpretation for conference guests.

The \$21,300 in total funding is supplied under the Small Business Development Incentive Program of the EDA's Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement, 90 percent by the federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) and 10 percent by the Territorial government.

Announcement of the assistance was made today by Bernard Valcourt, federal Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism), and by Tagak Curley, N.W.T. Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

The hotel's conference and banquet facilities will be renovated to accommodate new public address and recording equipment purchased to provide simultaneous interpreting services.

One new full-time job is expected to be created by the expansion, which the hotel management predicts will result in 15 to 18 more conference bookings each year.

The Small Business Development Incentive Program can provide assistance for up to 30 percent of the eligible costs of equipment and facility modernization or expansion, to a maximum of \$50,000. All N.W.T. residents are eligible for assistance under the program.

- 30 -

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86-190

MINISTER UPHOLDS APPEAL COMMITTEE DECISION

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 12) - The Minister of Personnel, Nick Sibbeston, has upheld a unanimous decision to deny the appeal of a Fort Smith man for a territorial government job and has further accepted the recommendations of an appeal committee.

Edward Kokoszka had applied as Administration Officer in the Department of Education in the Fort Smith regional office. Mr. Kokoszka was verbally offered the position. Following complaints about the job requirements, the territorial government reopened the competition, with amendments to the qualifications. The position was then offered to Ethel Chalifoux.

Mr. Kokoszka took the matter to an appeal committee made up of representatives from the Public Service Alliance and the territorial government with an independent chairman. It unanimously recommended that the appeal be denied and that the appointment of Ethel Chalifoux be confirmed.

The Appeal Committee also recommended that Mr. Kokoszka be offered six months leave with pay to upgrade his accounting qualifications.

Mr. Sibbeston says he feels the actions in this case were necessary for the good of the public service. However, he acknowledged that the manner in which this competition was run was irregular and resulted in some hardship to Mr. Kokoszka.

CONTACT: C. Clegg
(403) 920-6176

86-189

SIBBESTON CALLS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION IN PREMIERS'
CONFERENCES

EDMONTON (Aug. 11) - The Government Leader of the Northwest Territories told the annual meeting of provincial premiers today that the north shares a lot of their economic interests. The Northwest Territories is an observer to the 27th annual Premiers' Conference being held this week in Edmonton.

In addressing the provincial premiers this morning, Nick Sibbeston said because of those shared interests, the Northwest Territories should be a full participant in federal-provincial talks.

"Our perspective is distinct and has far more in common with provincial than federal concerns. It is my hope that soon, both our territory and Yukon can be granted full participation in meetings of this nature."

Mr. Sibbeston said the North shares many common problems with other jurisdictions in Canada. "The recent fall in the price of oil along with depressed mineral prices have lead to real concerns that the territorial economy could be in for a rough couple of years."

Mr. Sibbeston told the provincial premiers that the drop in oil prices could not have happened at a worse time. Last year, exploration for oil and gas contributed close to \$100 million to the northern economy. Mr. Sibbeston says plans have been severely curtailed for this year, and little or no work is planned for 1987.

He went on to say that like the oil industry, the north's largest private sector is experiencing difficulties. "Several mines may be forced to cease production if world prices do not rise. Of particular concern to our government is the present threat of countervailing U.S. duties on zinc." Despite this, Mr. Sibbeston says northern mining has a bright future and his government will be seeking ways to work with the federal and provincial governments to promote mining.

He said the need to develop alternatives to the non-renewable resource sector has been recognized. "We have focussed on three main areas: renewable resources, tourism and the development of a strong private sector in the service and construction industries."

The increased interest and involvement of native people is encouraging according to Mr. Sibbeston. He said the individual entrepreneurs and development corporations are becoming active in a wide range of activities from construction to transportation to oil exploration. "Native people have become more supportive of economic development because they now know they can participate and benefit from it."

"Although the economic outlook of the Northwest Territories is far less promising than it was a year ago, there is still much to be optimistic about."

Mr. Sibbeston argued the key to continued economic growth in the north is the steadily increasing role played by northerners in the decisions affecting their economic life. "The transfer of federal powers to our government - which has been proceeding rapidly over the last decade - is only one mechanism to permit northern participation in decision making. Equally important is our role in intergovernmental relations."

"At the same time, we also have special interest and particular perspectives that reflect our unique northern heritage. These interests cannot be adequately expressed either through brief statements, as observers at meetings such as these, or as part of the federal delegation at First Ministers' Conferences.

- 30 -

CONTACT: Cindy Clegg
Press Secretary

(403) 427-1986 - Conference Headquarters
(403) 42807111 - Four Seasons Hotel

86-188

COUNTRY FOODS TO EXPO STAFF

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 8) - The northerners working in the NWT pavilion at Expo 86 have a fresh supply of country foods thanks to the generosity of Cambridge Bay and Inuvik.

The Ikalutotiak co-op in Cambridge Bay has sent the pavilion staff 100 pounds of arctic char, while Inuvik has given them a large quantity of dried fish, with whale meat and muktuk to follow.

The NWT pavilion has a staff of 126 northerners. About a third are native people from small communities. The country foods they ordinarily eat are unavailable in Vancouver.

The fish from Cambridge Bay was sent by air courtesy of Northwest Territorial Airways. Some months ago, Bob Engle of Yellowknife, NWT Air's president, agreed to ship free to Expo country foods delivered to any location in the north out of which his aircraft fly. The first shipment was caribou donated by the Hunters and Trappers Association of Cape Dorset in June.

The latest shipments were organized by Bill Lyall, a resident of Cambridge Bay, and Fred Koe of Inuvik, regional superintendent of the Territorial government's department of economic development and tourism.

- 30 -

Contact:
Paul Vallillee
NWT Expo
604-668-8161

86-187

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY ACTION ON SPOUSAL ASSAULT

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 9) - More than \$1.2 million is now available to assist communities to develop services for victims of spousal assault, Minister of Social Services Bruce McLaughlin has announced.

"Ever since the Legislature approved the government's three-year plan of action on spousal assault, our new Family Violence Prevention Program has been working on guidelines for the allocation of funding to community groups," the Minister said. "That process is now complete and we look forward to receiving proposals from interested groups."

Any registered, non-profit organization with a record of community service is eligible to apply. Funds may also be available to assist the development of groups dedicated to dealing with spousal assault.

"Our goal is to assist people in the communities of the NWT to seek solutions to the problem at the community level, on their own terms," Mr. MacLaughlin said. "They will provide the initiative and the ideas, while we offer funding, guidance, training and other support."

A little more than a third of the budget has been allocated for "community development" projects. "We have intentionally left this area undefined, so we can respond to proposals as they come in," Mr. McLaughlin said. "For example, one community might want to concentrate on establishing an emergency shelter, while another may decide to hire a counsellor or field-worker. In another case, public information might be a priority. We are open to any effective approach."

Another third of the funding will provide for transition houses in Fort Smith, Frobisher Bay and Yellowknife. The budget will cover basic operating costs and will permit the hiring of a coordinator, a full-time and a part-time counsellor, and part-time office and housekeeping staff for each house. Associations in the three centres have submitted proposals which are being considered.

The remainder of the funding has been earmarked for safe houses, private homes in which one or two rooms are set aside to provide temporary shelter for a victim and her children. People who provide this service will receive a small monthly retainer plus a fee for the days when their home is actually in use.

In addition to offering financial assistance to community projects, the Family Violence Prevention Program will provide training for safe house operators, transition house volunteers and other concerned individuals. It will also establish a pilot project to test the effectiveness of therapy for batterers as a method of preventing spousal assault.

For more information about any aspect of this program, please contact the Coordinator, Family Violence Prevention Program, Department of Social Services, Government of the Northwest Territories, Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9, 403-920-6257.

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Iris McCracken 920-6257
Coordinator
Family Violence Prevention Program
Social Services

OR

Candace Savage 873-7615
Public Affair Officer
Culture & Communications

86-186

ORIGINAL OILS, CARVINGS COMING

Yellowknife (Aug. 1) -- The works of well-known artist Gabe Gely go on sale here next week, along with an exhibition of recent Inuit carvings from Eskimo Point.

The sale of about a dozen Gely original oils and exhibition of about the same number of carvings opens Tuesday at Arctic Art Gallery and runs until Aug. 15.

Gely, who lives in Eskimo Point, selected the carvings and brought them here with the assistance of the arts and crafts section of the territorial government's department of Economic Development and Tourism.

Born in France, Gely is primarily a portrait artist, although he also paints landscapes. He has lived in the Arctic on-and-off for the past 30 years and is an Inuit arts and crafts advisor to the Keewatin region. His works hang in such places as the Glenbow museum in Calgary, the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and the Courthouse in Yellowknife, and Ottawa museums and archives. He is represented by art dealers across Canada.

Gely himself will be at the gallery Aug. 5 - Aug. 8 from 5 - 7 p.m.

Arctic Art Gallery is open 9:30 - 6 p.m. weekdays, 10 - 5:30 p.m. Saturdays, and noon - 4:30 Sundays.

- 30 -

CONTACT:
Barry Craig
(403) 873-7251

86-185

NWT PAVILION HOLDS BAFFIN ISLAND DAY AUGUST 2nd.

Vancouver (July 31, 1986) An appearance by the Steger International Polar Expedition with one of their sled dogs, donation of traditional Inuit transportation equipment to two museums and an Inuktitut dance are highlights scheduled for Baffin Island Day at the Northwest Territories Pavilion on August 2, 1986.

Throughout the day, the traditional skills and lifestyle of the Inuit of Baffin Island will be celebrated with music, displays and gifts to some of the thousands expected to visit the Pavilion.

The day will start at 11:00 a.m. with a ceremony on the Northwest Territorial Airways Stage in front of the Pavilion. During the ceremony, the people of Baffin Island will present a 22 foot sealskin kayak to the University of British Columbia's Museum of Anthropology.

Next, the leaders of the Steger International Polar Expedition will present their polar kamotiq (dog sled) to Pavilion Commissioner George Braden, accepting on behalf of the Nunatta Sunaqtangit Museum in Frobisher Bay. The Steger team will also present six photographs from the Peary expedition to the Pole at the turn of the century on behalf of the National Geographic Society, which helped to sponsor their expedition.

The sealskin kayak will become part of the Museum of Anthropology's permanent collection and will be placed on display for the thousands of visitors who tour the Museum each year.

It was made by Paul Idlout of Pond Inlet on Baffin Island. Idlout is one to the group of Inuit depicted on the back of the Canadian two dollar bill. It was his father's kayak, also seen on the two dollar bill, which inspired Idlout to begin a revival of the art of making sealskin kayaks. He has just completed a two week appearance at the NWT Pavilion, where he and his wife, Abigail, demonstrated the techniques used in constructing a sealskin kayak. Idlout presented a two dollar bill to Brian Mulroney during the Prime Minister's recent visit to the Pavilion.

The Steger International polar Expedition, led by Will Steger and Paul Schurke of Minnesota, arrived at the North Pole by dog sled on May 2, 1986 - the opening day of Expo 86. The Expo 86 flag was among the international flags planted at the Pole with the successful completion of the gruelling journey.

The Steger team is the first documented expedition to reach the North Pole without re-supply. The eight-member team, which included one woman, used close to fifty dogs and took close to two months to complete the journey. Canadian members of the team include cross-country ski champion Richard Weber and Baffin Island guide and outfitter Brent Boddy.

Other members of the team who reached the Pole are Ann Bancroft of Minnesota and Geoff Carroll of Alaska. Bob Mantel, also of Alaska and Bob McKerrow of New Zealand were forced to drop out near the end of the journey due to injuries.

The Steger team will appear at the Pavilion's Baffin Island Stage with a display of their polar equipment and clothing from August 2-4 inclusive. With the team will be one of their Canadian Eskimo breed sled dogs, "Tip" who lead one of their dog teams all the way to the Pole.

Periodically throughout Baffin Island Day, a striking Baffin Island poster will be given to people waiting in line to tour the NWT Pavilion. In addition, Inuit staff will be making up the popular Baffin Island buttons which say "My name is _____ in Inuktitut".

Baffin Island musicians-accordionist Simeonie Keenainak and singer/songwriter Etilu Itidlouie will entertain on the Northwest Territorial Airways stage throughout the day.

Finally, at 10:30 p.m., Pavilion staff and special guests who have helped to make Baffin Island Month a success will be treated to an Inuktitut dance at the Folklife Pavilion Big House.

Inuktitut dancing is the term used to describe the dances Inuit learned from Scottish whalers at the turn of the century. The dancers will be accompanied by Simeonie Keenainak and his accordion.

There will also be a whip cracking demonstration by outfitter and dog team owner Looti Pijamini and northern food columnist Kitty Pope will be preparing barbecued Arctic char and bannock at the Folklife barbecue pit.

For further information contact:
Sharon Bunes,
Baffin Island Month Coordinator
(604) 668-8161

86-184

SENIOR MANAGERS NAMED

Yellowknife (July 28) - the appointment of two northerners with extensive experience in the area of languages and culture was announced today by Minister of Culture and Communications Red Pedersen.

Ethel Blondin-Townsend has been named Assistant Deputy Minister of Culture and Communications and Edna Elias has been named Director of that departments NWT Language Bureau.

Both are expected to begin their new duties by August 18.

Townsend, who received her Bachelor of Education degree in 1980 and has extensive experience as an employee of the Territorial department of education, is currently National Manager of Northern Careers and the National Indigenous Development Program of the Public Service Commission of Canada, based in Ottawa.

As assistant deputy minister of culture and communications, she will be responsible for all culture-related programs within the department - the language bureau, museums program, cultural affairs grants and contributions program and the geographical names activity.

Elias, co-chairperson of the recent government Task Force on Aboriginal Languages, has teaching experience as well as administrative experience as the Mayor of Coppermine.

As director of the Language Bureau, she will be responsible for assisting in development of language policy and programs - including implementation of French/English bilingualism - and the provision of programs designed to provide interpreting and translating services and audio-visual programming materials in all aboriginal languages of the NWT.

Both Townsend, Slavey, and Elias, Inuktitut, are fluent in their respective aboriginal languages and have a long-standing interest in their use and development as working languages of the Northwest Territories.

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CONTACT: Culture and Communications
(403) 873-7556

86-183

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE ADDED TO APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

YELLOWKNIFE (July 28 -) Northerners can now receive certification as Aircraft Maintenance Engineers without moving south, Education Minister Dennis Patterson announced today.

Aircraft Maintenance Engineering has just become the thirty-sixth accredited trade in the NWT Apprenticeship Program. Graduates will be certified by the Ministry of Transport to repair and maintain fixed-wing aircraft.

The three-year apprenticeship combines on-the-job training by a northern employer with ten weeks per year of classroom instruction in Winnipeg. The cost of tuition, travel and accomodation for the in-school training is covered by the federal government through CEIC.

Apprenticeships in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering are open to anyone who can find an employer to work with. Apprentices are paid by their employers throughout their studies at a rate that increases annually as they become more skilled.

In the past, people who wanted to enter the trade had to go to southern technical schools for courses ranging from one to four years in order to become qualified.

Additional information on this and other apprenticeship programs is available from Apprenticeship Training Officers in Rae, Yellowknife, Inuvik, Norman Wells, Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, Hay River, Fort Smith, Fort Simpson and Frobisher Bay.

CONTACT: Marion Ross
Co-ordinator,
Apprenticeship Program
Department of Education
(403) 920-6214

OR

Candace Savage
Public Affairs Officer
Culture and Communications
(403) 873-7615

86-182

INSURANCE AVAILABLE TO TOURISM OPERATORS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 25) - Northerners in the tourist business can now get public liability and fire insurance at a reasonable cost.

The announcement follows a four-month search by the Territorial government and the NWT Travel Industry Association to find a company willing to provide practical coverage.

The coverage will be provided by Sovereign General Insurance Company through Mones and Associates Insurance Brokers Inc. of Edmonton.

The insurance will cost tourism lodges, operators and outfitters who want it between \$2.60 and \$4 per thousand dollars of sales revenue. The coverage will be limited to \$1 million per incident.

"It is important that tourism operators are covered by insurance to protect their investments," said Finance Minister Tom Butters. "The government is pleased that it has been able to help the industry find insurance at affordable rates".

The departments of finance and economic development and tourism assisted the TIA in finding the coverage.

"Under this insurance plan tourism operators will be able to finance their own coverage without government assistance," said Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism.

An alternate proposal submitted to the industry has been turned down because it would have required significant financial assistance from government.

Tourism operators interested in the coverage should contact either their regional tourism officer or their zone association in the TIA.

Because of rising settlements and low premiums, it is generally difficult for all sectors of the economy to obtain liability insurance anywhere in North America.

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CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403)873-7251

86-181

NORTHERNERS CAN AVOID EXPO LINEUPS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 24) - The NWT pavilion at EXPO 86 in Vancouver is now offering a special service to Territorial residents - the chance to visit the popular pavilion without having to line up outside it.

Just phone the pavilion well in advance and they'll arrange a date and time for your visit. Then, when you arrive, they'll have a guide take you through the quick-access door to avoid the long lineups.

To make arrangements call the pavilion's toll-free number between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. Vancouver time any day of the week. But, remember, you've got to make the arrangements well in advance.

The toll free number is 1-800-663-2171.

Ever since Expo with its 80 pavilions opened May 2, the NWT pavilion has been one of its star attractions. While it hardly seems possible, visitor attendance is still climbing. It now averages 9,000 people a day. At its current rate, 1 million visitors will have gone through the pavilion by Aug. 20, and the world's fair doesn't end until Oct. 13.

People are now having to line up 1 1/2 to two hours to get into the pavilion.

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CONTACT: Paul Vallillee
NWT pavilion
EXPO 86
(604)668-8161

86-180

GOVERNMENT FUNDS TOURISM GROWTH

YELLOWKNIFE (July 23) - Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism, is making \$270,000 available to the NWT's Travel Industry Association to promote tourism in the north this year.

Each of the TIA's six zone associations is getting \$40,000 for programs ranging from displays for sports shows to hospitality training programs, while the association executive is to receive \$30,000. This program money is in addition to \$280,000 the Association gets this year in core funding.

The contributions are to finance the third year of a five-year program jointly developed by the Travel Industry Association and the territorial government to improve tourism in the NWT.

"This co-operative effort of government and industry is money well spent," said Curley. "The five-year program is significantly contributing to both the growth of the tourism industry and the increasing quality of its facilities and service."

The majority of tourist operators and outfitters in the north belong to the association.

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CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403)873-7251

FORESTRY TRANSFER TALKS CONTINUE

YELLOWKNIFE (July 22) - Despite progress on a number of outstanding issues, the transfer of fire and forestry management will not go ahead October 1 of this year as planned. No new date will be set until a number of points have been agreed upon by the Government of the Northwest Territories and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).

An agreement to transfer the federal program to the Territorial government was signed by Renewable Resources Deputy Minister Jim Bourque and Indian and Northern Affairs Associate Deputy Minister Jacques Gerin last September. It set out a tight schedule for moving on transfer, with negotiators aiming toward agreement before this summer, to meet Treasury Board and federal cabinet timetables. But the issues of a reserve fund for bad fire seasons, staff housing, a legislative framework and capital assets slowed negotiations.

A meeting in Ottawa last week brought Territorial and federal officials closer together on most of the points, but details of the new alternatives cannot be released until they are reviewed and approved by both governments.

Besides awaiting final approval by Territorial and federal governments, the actual date for transfer will be set to avoid disrupting preparations for the fire season, or operations during the fire season itself.

A great deal of preparatory work for transfer has been done over the past 10 months. Working closely, Territorial and federal officials have determined staff members, dollars and buildings and other inventory to be transferred. They have visited all INAC district offices a number of times to discuss transfer with staff. Staff with the Territorial Department of Renewable Resources were briefed on what the transfer could mean to them.

Both governments came up with charts of what their post-transfer organizations would look like. Job descriptions were written for the new positions created. Renewable Resources drafted legislation on forest management for consideration of the Legislative Assembly. Agreement was reached on a budget for the fixed costs (\$16.6 million) and for fire suppression (\$8.16 million). A memorandum of understanding on devolution was signed by the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Dene Nation and the Metis Association, and Territorial government officials have been discussing transfer proceedings with the native groups.

As transfer of fire and forest management is being seen as a model for transfer of further resource management functions, both parties are committed to ensuring a workable arrangement is struck.

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Renewable Resources
(403)873-7769

OR

Jack Hiscock
Indian and Northern Affairs
(403)920-8112

86-178

EDA FUNDING TOTALS \$13,951,410 IN FIRST 30 MONTHS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 21) - Funding totalling \$13,951,410 was approved for 320 projects under the Canada-N.W.T. Economic Development Agreement (EDA) since January 1, 1984.

The agreement provides assistance for the development of business, natural and human resources in the Northwest Territories. It is jointly administered and funded under three sub-agreements by the Territorial government and three federal government departments: Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE); Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC); and, Employment and Immigration Canada (CEIC).

The majority of applications have been approved under the Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement (DMD), providing assistance to business and tourism development. The DMD is administered by DRIE and the Territorial Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

The DMD has provided \$8,079,410 in funding to July 15, 1986 for a total of 188 approved applications. Of these funds, \$4,024,053 was approved in direct support of business and tourism development, expansion, modernization and marketing. Planning for regional tourism development accounted for \$805,651, while expansion of business opportunities and optimum methods for enterprise development received \$1,206,235. A total of \$2,043,471 was provided to 29 communities for the hiring of economic planners to identify local business opportunities and requirements. A total of \$10.75 million is allotted to the DMD during the life of the sub-agreement.

The Natural Resources Development Sub-Agreement (NRD) has approved 55 projects, providing assistance to regional product development, agriculture, forestry, fisheries and the fur industry.

Funding for the projects totals \$3,486,000 to July 15, 1986. Of this \$1,150,000 was allotted to feasibility studies and product development while \$775,000 was used for resource inventory assessment. Another \$911,000 was provided for enhancing forestry, agriculture and fisheries in the regions. And \$650,000 was provided for the expansion and development of the fur industry. The total allotment for the life of the NRD Sub-Agreement is \$4.68 million.

A total of 77 projects were approved under the Human Resources Development Sub-Agreement, providing \$2,386,000 for 40 projects under the Options North Program and \$1,964,000 for 37 projects under the Business Management Development Program.

In the Options North Program, assistance was given to hire counsellors and trainers to provide workshops and individual counselling/instruction in improving employment skills. Under the Business Management Development Program, consultants were contracted to assess individual company/band/corporation operations and outline management development and employee training programs.

One-year extensions to the Domestic Market Development and Natural Resource Development Sub-Agreements were approved in March of this year. Applications for assistance will be accepted until March 31, 1987, depending on the availability of funds remaining under each sub-agreement and program.

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CONTACT: Craig Yeo
Dept. of Regional
Industrial Expansion
(403)920-8571

OR

Judy Wilson
Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada
(403)920-8189

OR

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Employment and
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OR

Judy McLinton
GNWT Dept. of
Culture and Communications
(403)873-7257

86-177

NEW FIREHALL PLANNED FOR PAULATUK

TUKTOYAKTUK (July 21) - An Inuvik construction firm received the contract to construct a new firehall in Paulatuk.

Nanakput MLA Nellie Cournoyeva, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that B.A.T. Construction Ltd. of Inuvik was awarded the \$378,897 contract.

The three-bay gargage will provide storage for two fire fighting vehicles and a water delivery truck. A mezzanine, office and storage space also will be included in the building located across the street from the community hall.

Construction begins this month for completion by November 1986.

Four other bids, two each from the N.W.T. and Alberta, ranged from \$488,000 to \$1.5 million.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-176

SULIAK TO HEAD NEW PERSONNEL OFFICE

YELLOWKNIFE (July 18) - John Suliak has been appointed manager of a new Yellowknife personnel office, Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Personnel announced today.

Suliak, who most recently held the position of personnel manager for the City of Yellowknife, has extensive experience in job classification, recruitment and organizational development. This experience, including 3 years with the department of Personnel, makes him well-qualified to head up a new section of Personnel designed to meet the employment needs of headquarters staff and the Yellowknife public, Sibbeston said.

The development of a personnel office for Yellowknife streamlines headquarters' operations and brings employment services for the area into line with the regional system, a spokesperson for the department explained. Until now, these services for the Yellowknife area were delivered out of the department's headquarters office.

The Yellowknife personnel office will have its own storefront location in the near future. Suliak starts in his new position on July 28.

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CONTACT: Jake Heron
Deputy Minister
Personnel
(403)873-7310

86-175

ROOF RETROFITS PLANNED FOR YELLOWKNIFE BUILDINGS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 14) - Christensen and McLean Roofing Company of Edmonton received a \$511,035 contract to perform roof retrofits to Sir John Franklin High School and Akaitcho Hall in Yellowknife.

The announcement was made today by Yellowknife Centre MLA Bob MacQuarrie, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray.

The roofing firm will remove the existing roof membrane, add insulation to increase its value to current energy efficient standards, and install a new roof deck and roof membrane on both buildings. The construction will be performed during summer vacation, between the end of June and the end of August 1986, and will not disturb school activity.

Five other companies, three from Alberta and two from B.C. submitted higher bids ranging from \$553,000 to \$939,000.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-174

NEW CHIEF OF MINE SAFETY APPOINTED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 8) - The appointment of Dale Vitone to the position of chief, Mine Safety Division, was announced today by Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne.

A mining engineer, Vitone has broad experience in mines and mine construction - both engineering and operations, Ballantyne said. He has also taken special course experience in mine safety and sound analysis and mine gases and ventilation.

Vitone's 25 years of experience in the mining industry includes work in the Northwest Territories as assistant mine manager and as project manager responsible for mine design, contract co-ordination and administration of all mining contracts for a new gold mine.

His most recent position was manager of a mining and milling complex, responsible for the safe and efficient operation of an underground trackless mine and two surface open pits. The mine has operated for 2 years without a lost-time accident.

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CONTACT: Culture and Communications
(403)873-7343

86-173

KEEWATIN CONTRACTS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 8) - Contracts to build a maintenance garage in Repulse Bay, a temporary classroom and development for a subdivision in Rankin Inlet were awarded in June.

Aivilik MLA Tagak Curley, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced details on the contracts.

Arctic Alert Construction of Oshawa, Ontario received a \$369,000 contract to construct a three-bay maintenance garage in Repulse Bay. Construction is scheduled to start at the end of August and be completed by January 1987. The garage will house Department of Municipal and Community Affairs vehicles. Five other bids, three from the N.W.T. and two from Ontario ranged from \$456,000 to \$540,000.

Sklar Ltd. of Yellowknife received a \$324,895 contract to construct a temporary classroom for the Keewatin Regional Education Centre in Rankin Inlet. The firm will construct a two-classroom wood frame building to be used as a temporary facility for senior high school students. Architectural plans for the structure are based on a Housing Corporation fourplex housing design so the building can be converted to housing units once a permanent school building is constructed in Rankin Inlet. Construction is scheduled to start this month after the summer sealift and be completed by November 1986. Four other bids, three from the N.W.T. and one from Alberta, ranged from \$364,000 to \$472,000.

Tower Arctic Ltd. of Frobisher Bay received a \$942,000 contract for development of the Area 5 subdivision in Rankin Inlet. Stage one development work includes road and lot development for 17 new lots. Y and C enterprises of Rankin Inlet has a \$528,000 subcontract with Tower Arctic to perform all earthworks this year. Work gets underway this month and should be completed by September. Stage two development work, scheduled for 1987, includes installing underground water and sewer services. Piping and access vaults needed for stage two are being shipped on this summer's sealift. Four other bids, two each from the N.W.T. and Alberta, ranged from \$1.15 million to \$1.6 million.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

EEGESIAK NAMED SECRETARY TO MINISTER

YELLOWKNIFE (July 7) - Okalik Egeziak of Frobisher Bay has accepted the position of secretary to Minister of Education Dennis Patterson.

"Ms. Egeziak is well qualified for this job," Mr. Patterson said, "and is already proving herself to be efficient and capable. I also appreciate her linguistic abilities, as we now provide service to the public in both English and Inuktitut."

Ms. Egeziak, who moved to Yellowknife in June last year, is fluent in both languages. Her last position was interpreter/communicator in the GNWT Language Bureau. Prior to that she had been enrolled as a management trainee with the Department of Education in Frobisher Bay. She also completed clerical training at the Adult Education Centre there and has several years experience in clerical work.

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CONTACT: Marina Devine
Executive Assistant
Minister of Education
(403)873-7132

OR

Candace Savage
Public Affairs Officer
Culture and Communications
(403)873-7615

86-172

EDA AIDS MANAGEMENT HIRINGS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 7) - Two western arctic businesses are hiring professional personnel with assistance provided under the Canada-N.W.T. Economic Development Agreement (EDA).

The \$30,000 in total assistance is being supplied jointly under the EDA's Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement, 90 per cent by the federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) and 10 per cent by the Territorial government.

Announcement of the funding was made today by Bernard Valcourt, federal Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism), and by Tagak Curley, N.W.T. Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Qaivvik Ltd. of Yellowknife receives \$15,000 to supplement the salary of a manager of marketing and tour packaging. The new employee will be responsible for carrying out market research for the firm's big game hunting, fishing and lodge operations and for integrating Qaivvik's marketing activities to maximize returns on promotional expenditures. One new permanent job is expected to be created.

Dowland Contracting Ltd. receives \$15,000 for the hiring of a new business manager. The new employee will be responsible for improving financial control of the company and management of its day to day operations. Dowland Contracting provides general and mechanical contracting, maintenance and construction services to commercial, residential and industrial clients in the Tuktoyaktuk area. One new permanent job is expected to be created.

The assistance is provided under the Small Business Intern program of the EDA's Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement. The program provides for funding of up to 50 per cent of the salary of new professional employees to a maximum of \$1,250 per month for 12 months. All N.W.T. residents are eligible for assistance under the program.

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86-171

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS CONTRACTS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 7) - Two contracts, one for dust control on the Dempster Highway and the other for construction of a water reservoir in Eskimo Point, were awarded in June by the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Details on both contracts were announced today by Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray.

Eskimo Point Lumber Supply received a \$933,235 contract to construct a new water reservoir, with a capacity of 27,200 cubic metres, in the community. The new reservoir combined with the existing reservoir is expected to meet community demand for the next 20 years. Work is scheduled to start this month following the arrival of the barge and be completed by October. Next summer the liner and fencing will be installed and in 1988 a pumphouse, truckfill building and water intake will be built. Four other bids, two from Yellowknife and one each from Alberta and Manitoba, ranged from \$1.2 to \$2.4 million.

Allied Chemicals of Mississauga, Ontario received a \$12,610 contract to supply and apply calcium chloride on the Dempster Highway. This contract is part of the annual dust control program. Work includes applying about 207 metric tons of calcium chloride on 17 areas, about 50 kilometres in total, of the Dempster Highway between the N.W.T. - Yukon border and Inuvik. Work started in early July and is scheduled for completion by the third week of July. Allied Chemicals was the only firm to bid on this contract.

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86-170

CROWDS PACK THE NORTH'S PAVILION AT EXPO

VANCOUVER (July 7) - More than half a million people - 10 times the population of the NWT - have already visited the Northwest Territories pavilion at EXPO here in the two months the world fair's been open.

The pavilion, one of the most popular at Expo, reached the half-million visitor mark on Canada Day July 1 when an Alberta family came through the doors. Expo runs until mid-October.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bradford of Grande Prairie, Alta., their children - daughters Kal and Lyn and son, Don - and family friend, Alice Boyd of St. John, New Brunswick, were given NWT pavilion umbrellas and complimentary dinners in the pavilion's popular Icicles restaurant in recognition of the half-million milestone.

The pavilion has been averaging more than 8,000 visitors a day since Expo opened May 2. One day 8,900 people went through the exhibits.

NWT Expo had originally predicted the pavilion would be very successful if it were able to attract 7,000 visitors a day. Now, with more than 8,000 visitors a day, the pavilion will welcome more than 1.2 million people during the life of the fair.

Meanwhile, NWT Expo believes in a good neighbour policy. On Canada Day the pavilion presented a huge cake to its next-door neighbour, the China pavilion. The cake, about two feet by four feet, was made of raisin bannock. On it were the words: "Happy Birthday, Canada, to the Chinese pavilion from the NWT pavilion." The Chinese also received a large polar-bear flag.

The following day the NWT pavilion held a private reception in its second-floor Governor's Lounge for the commissioner of the China pavilion. Chinese cakes and tea were served and commemorative pins and gifts were exchanged.

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86-169

**ITEMS FROM WORLD-FAMOUS INUIT COLLECTION DISPLAYED
IN NWT**

YELLOWKNIFE (July 7) - The spiritually and artistically rich culture of the nineteenth century Bering Sea Eskimo is the focus of an exhibition on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre from July 18 to September 15.

The exhibition, on loan from the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian Institution, includes 121 works from the Edward W. Nelson collection, the largest and finest body of nineteenth century Inuit material in existence.

Entitled "Inua: the spirit world of the Bering Sea Eskimo," the exhibit illustrates the artistic and technological traditions of the Bering Sea people from prehistoric times to the present day. All of the items crafted by the Bering Sea Eskimo had a useful purpose, as hunting equipment, clothing, household implements, children's toys, or ceremonial objects. At the same time, everything was also intended to be beautiful, not for art's sake, but to please the Inuas or spirits. Thus, every item has been embellished with geometric designs or carved images, to endow it with a spiritual nature.

Every material object or living thing has a spirit, the Bering Sea people said, and this Inua is capable of taking a variety of physical forms. Usually it will reveal itself in the form of a small, humanlike face somewhere on the creature or thing. People get only fleeting glimpses of these semihuman images, some of which are represented on items in the exhibit.

E.W. Nelson was a natural historian and collector who worked for the U.S. Signal Corps at a weather station in St. Michael, Alaska between 1877 and 1881. He travelled extensively between the Kuskowkin and Bering Straits regions and along the Arctic coast, collecting ethnological specimens and documenting their use. The collection has 10,000 beautifully crafted objects used by the Alaska Eskimo on ceremonial occasions and in everyday life. Until now, the collection has never been re-examined and only a handful of items have ever been displayed.

The tour of the travelling exhibit was arranged by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. A 300-page catalogue has been published by the Smithsonian Press to mark the tour.

Also on display at the Northern Heritage Centre: artwork by young people from the eastern Arctic and exhibits on unusual arctic clothing and modes of transportation.

The galleries are open from 10:30 to 5:30 everyday, with service at the concession from 11:30 to 4:00.

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86-168

**INUIT THEATRE GROUP TO OPEN BAFFIN ISLAND MONTH AT
NWT PAVILION**

VANCOUVER (July 4) - A play about the changing life of Canada's Inuit will premier at the NWT Pavilion on July 4 to kick off a month long salute to the people of Baffin Island.

Opening ceremonies for Baffin Island Month will take place at the Northwest Territorial Airways Stage outside the Pavilion at 11:00 a.m. on July 4. The play will open following the ceremony.

Former NWT Commissioner Stuart Hodgson will be on hand for the opening ceremony along with Deputy Government Leader Dennis Patterson and NWT Pavilion Commissioner George Braden. Patterson is an MLA from the Baffin Region.

The brief ceremony will include the presentation of a very special gift from the Baffin Region to Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson.

The play called "Changes" was written by eight young Inuit actors from the Toonoonik Theatre Group of Pond Inlet. It tells the story of the arrival of traders and Christian missionaries in the Eastern Arctic and the transition Inuit faced as they moved from shamanism to Christianity. Costumes for the play are based on traditional Inuit designs.

Although the Toonoonik Theatre Group has been performing for less than a year, they have already delighted audiences at Ottawa's Interlude festival. They are also scheduled to perform at the 1988 opening of the Museum of Man in Ottawa.

During Baffin Island Month, visitors to the NWT Pavilion will be treated to performances by Inuit drum dancers. A kayak maker and his wife will begin making a traditional skin kayak on July 4. It should be ready to test in the waters of Falco Creek outside the Pavilion about 10 days later. Inside the Pavilion, two talented sculptors from Baffin Island will demonstrate their skill in carving soapstone and ivory. Weavers from the world famous Pangnirtung Weave shop will show how the internationally collected tapestries from the community are made.

The Baffin Region is the largest geographic administrative region in the NWT. About half of the NWT's Inuit population reside in 14 communities which stretch from Hudson's Bay in the south close to the North Magnetic Pole. The region is quickly becoming a popular tourist destination for people from all over the world who are drawn by its sweeping landscapes filled with Arctic wildlife. Baffin Island is easily accessible from Ottawa, Toronto and Montreal.

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86-167

**PANGNIRTUNG PRINTMAKERS FEATURED AT EXCLUSIVE NWT
PAVILION RECEPTION AT EXPO 86**

PANGNIRTUNG (July 4) An exclusive reception pre-viewing a retrospective of works by world renowned Inuit printmakers from the Baffin Island community of Pangnirtung will be held at the NWT Pavilion at Expo 86 on July 4.

This special advance showing by printmakers from the Pangnirtung Eskimo Co-operative will feature stonecuts, stencils and etchings depicting traditional Inuit life and mythology. Work by Pangnirtung printmakers is sold in close to 35 galleries across North America, but has rarely been available on the west coast. Some of the works included in this retrospective will be the last available from limited edition series.

Guests will be given the opportunity to view an actual work in progress during the evening. Printmakers Imona Karpik and Jacoposie Tiglik are travelling from their home on Baffin Island in the Eastern Arctic to Expo 86 especially for this event. They will be on hand during the evening to demonstrate and explain their stonecut and stencil printing processes.

The event is being held at the NWT Pavilion at Expo 86 in an effort to attract international interest in the distinctive work being produced at the Pangnirtung Eskimo Co-operative. Guests will include representatives from foreign trade delegations and international ambassadors as well as art collectors from western Canada.

Works by internationally collected artists Lypa Pitseolak, Nicodemus Nowyook, Simon Shaimaiyuk, and Josephee Kakkee will be a highlight of this collection. Many of the artists featured still maintain their traditional connection to the land, the wildlife and their Inuit culture.

The retrospective will move to Vancouver's Inuit Gallery on July 5 for three weeks following this exclusive preview.

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86-166

GREENHOUSE COULD MEAN HOME GROWN SALADS FOR BAFFIN

Frobisher Bay (July 2) - Guests at the hotel in Pond Inlet are going to be served fresh, locally-grown salads and vegetables this summer - an almost unheard of treat for northerners, thanks to territorial and federal government support for an experimental greenhouse project.

If the experiment proves successful over the coming year, growing vegetables in greenhouses for profit may become a feasible business opportunity for entrepreneurs in other Baffin communities.

Fred Hunt, manager of Pond Inlet's Tahoonik Sagoonik Co-op, is really enthusiastic about the results of the first year of this experimental project. He recently picked the ingredients for the first salad ever grown at the hotel. It included spinach, chinese cabbage and three varieties of leaf lettuce.

"There's absolutely no comparison with the way this salad tasted next to the one with greens flown in from the south. It was simply fantastic," he said.

The idea began last summer when Hunt heard about a federal government study on Arctic horticulture using a special greenhouse design. He thought that a greenhouse might be an added tourist attraction at the hotel and that it might also help reduce the high costs of buying fresh vegetables from the south for at least part of the year.

Under an Indian and Northern Affairs Canada program, an agreement was made for the Co-op to borrow an experimental greenhouse. The capital cost of the building was close to \$30,000. The greenhouse was shipped north and constructed last summer. It is attached to the Co-op's new hotel which was built at the same time.

In addition, the federal-territorial Economic Development Agreement (EDA) provided \$55,575 (75%) of the \$74,100 in funding needed to hire a specialist in Arctic horticulture who would run the experimental program. He was also required to train two local people in greenhouse growing techniques. The Department of Economic Development and Tourism will contribute the balance.

Hunt gives credit for the success of the greenhouse so far, to Arctic Horticulturalist Mark Roemer who was hired to coordinate the project. Roemer recently spent four years in Rankin Inlet developing a variety of northern growing techniques.

The objectives of the experiment are to:

1. Examine the varieties of produce capable of being grown under the long Arctic summer day.
2. Examine the greenhouse's environmental parameters and temperatures.
3. Examine the effectiveness of passive solar heat sources (a solar collector and a sand foundation).
4. Examine the overall production possibilities during each season, using artificial light and heat in winter.
5. Produce an economic analysis of the project over each season and compare the costs of greenhouse grown vegetables to the costs of those that are flown in.

The experimental greenhouse is 16 square feet with a frame of 4 inch cedar posts. It has double glazed unbreakable clear acrylic windows. The window panels are corrugated to refract the light, making it more suitable for growing.

On the roof, there is a solar heat collector. Heat from the sun is collected and blown by fans through a pipe system into a special sand-filled heat storage foundation. This helps to retain the collected heat for longer periods of time.

Inside the greenhouse are three types of growing beds - two are hydroponic and the other uses gravel culture. Outdoor cold frames are also being tested with vegetables like potatoes and carrots, which need deeper soil. All soil components being used were acquired locally. The nutrient mixtures used in the hydroponic and gravel beds are imported.

Hunt is now hoping that further testing over the winter will prove that the greenhouse project is cost effective. That will depend on heating costs and the quantity and variety of vegetables that can be grown over the coming year. Bush beans, beets, carrots, cucumbers, kale, kohlarbi, peas, radishes, potatoes, swiss chard, zucchini, squash and turnips have also been planted.

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86-165

GOVERNMENTS TO SURVEY FISHING IN EAST ARM

YELLOWKNIFE (June 30) - The federal and territorial governments are undertaking a joint study this summer of sports fishing in the east arm of Great Slave Lake.

Anglers are being asked to co-operate by telling the government what they've caught and where they caught it.

The purpose of the study is to determine what level of tourist activity the east arm of the lake can support.

As explained recently in the Legislative Assembly by Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism, lodge development on the lake was frozen 13 years ago, and the number of outfitters using the lake frozen two years ago. This was done to protect trophy fishing.

The freeze will be reviewed in the fall after the census results are completed.

The creel census is being undertaken by the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the territorial government's Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

Anglers are being asked to drop into a government field camp on the east arm of the lake northeast of Narrow Island. They'll be given a simple questionnaire to complete.

Participants will be given a free Fisheries and Oceans promotional cap.

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86-164

**ART BY EASTERN ARCTIC YOUTH DISPLAYED IN SOUTH,
WEST**

YELLOWKNIFE (June 30) - Art by young people from the eastern Arctic, which has already been shown in galleries in Montreal, will be displayed at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife from June 30 to October 3.

The show, which travels under the name "Voices from the Eastern Arctic," includes work by Inuit and non-Inuit youth, aged 12 to 18. It represents the first multicultural collection of northern materials and reflects the blending of cultures that has taken place in the East. The influence of both Inuit and southern artistic traditions is evident.

The exhibit includes lithographs, etchings and illustrations, plus written commentary.

Also on display at the Northern Heritage Centre this month are a show on meteorites and exhibits on unusual arctic clothing and modes of transportation.

The galleries are open from 10:30 to 5:30 daily, with service at the concession from 11:30 to 4:00.

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86-163

DISASTER ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS APPROVED FOR HAY RIVER

YELLOWKNIFE (June 27) - Disaster assistance payments totalling almost \$51,000 and covering damages incurred during the spring flood in Hay River, have been approved by the Territorial government.

Tom Butters, minister responsible for civil emergency measures, today announced that claims submitted by the Town of Hay River, the Hay River Reserve and individual residents have been approved. Payments are provided under the Territorial government's Disaster Assistance Policy.

Approved claims included in the Town's costs for machinery, road crews, etc. used to deal with the flood and costs for losses and damage incurred by residents in the West Channel.

"I must commend the Town Council and residents of Hay River for precautions taken this year to limit flood damage," said Butters. "Proper and responsible measures were taken to protect property."

In 1985 disaster assistance payments for Hay River totalled \$618,000. This year the Town prepared a flood prevention action plan which included air surveillance, drilling holes and blasting river ice.

Under the Disaster Assistance Policy, unconditional payments are made to claimants to help them restore their homes and buildings to pre-flood conditions. Payments are available for 80 per cent of approved expenses and are subject to specific limitations and exclusions.

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86-162

**APPOINTMENTS TO AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE
ANNOUNCED**

YELLOWKNIFE (June 27) - The members of the newly-formed Affirmative Action Advisory Committee were announced today by Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Personnel.

Chaired by the director of Equal Employment, Daryl Bohnet, the committee is responsible for recommending overall strategy on affirmative action to the Executive Council, the Minister said.

The 10 member committee has representation from management, unions, native organizations, the NWT Advisory Council on the Status of Women and the NWT Council for Disabled Persons. Appointments are for a 3 year term.

The members of the Advisory Committee are:

Sue Enge, president of the Native Women's Association of the NWT;

Karen Ridgely, an academic resource teacher at Mildred Hall school in Yellowknife, representing the NWT Teachers' Association;

Darm Crook, president of the NWT Public Service Alliance;

Leona Lafferty, representing the Dene Nation;

Allan Heron representing the Metis Association of the NWT;

Rauymond Ningeocheak, vice-president of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada;

Shirley Kisoun, Committee for Original People's Entitlement;

Allana Shore, Executive Director of the NWT Council for Disabled Persons; and

Toni Graeme, representing the NWT Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

A tenth representative from the Baffin Region will be announced in the near future.

The first official meeting of the Affirmative Action Committee was held in Yellowknife yesterday.

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86-161

GNWT PETROLEUM PRODUCTS PRICES DECREASE

YELLOWKNIFE (June 26) - Prices for gasoline, naphtha, aviation and heating fuel in most communities where the Government of the Northwest Territories acts as distributor of petroleum products are decreasing.

"We are passing on savings from our suppliers to N.W.T. consumers," said Government Services Minister Tom Butters. "The decreased prices in gasoline and naphtha will benefit hunters, trappers and fishermen while the reduction in aviation fuel should mean a decrease in the high cost of transportation in the N.W.T."

The Territorial government provides petroleum products to 41 communities located throughout the Northwest Territories which are not served by the private sector. The Department of Government Services purchases petroleum products from suppliers once a year.

The decrease in prices vary depending on the community and product. Gasoline price decreases range from two cents a litre in Lac La Matre to five cents a litre in Coppermine.

Prices for aviation fuel 100/130 drop four cents a litre while prices for Turbo B fuel drop six cents a litre in the Inuvik and Kitikmeot Regions and four cents a litre in the Keewatin Region. Prices for turbo A fuel drop three cents in the Kitikmeot Region and four cents a litre in the Baffin Region.

Naptha price decreases range from 30 cents a litre in Trout Lake to 57 cents a litre in Hall Beach while heating fuel price decreases range from two cents a litre in Nahanni Butte to five cents a litre in Cape Dorset.

"Retail prices will be re-examined by November 1, 1986, after resupply to the communities is over, to determine what further price reductions can be made," added the minister.

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86-160

TRAVEL OPERATORS PROMOTE NWT AT TRADE SHOW

YELLOWKNIFE (June 25) - U.S. buyers of vacation travel are significantly interested in motorcoach tours of the Mackenzie, Liard and Dempster highways, while Asian buyers look on the NWT as an exotic tourist destination to which they are sending select clients.

This is what TravelArctic, the territorial government's tourism marketing arm, and the NWT travel operators learned recently at the huge Rendez-Vous Canada trade show in Montreal.

Each year TravelArctic invites travel and tour operators who promote tourism in the NWT to attend Rendez-Vous Canada, an intensive international travel marketplace that brings together the sellers of Canadian tourism products and international buyers. This year more than 265 buyers from 29 countries attended the show in early May.

Private-sector participants from the NWT were Top of the World Tours, Nuna-Kuuk Outfitting, Arctrek Tours, Liard Air, Canada North Outfitting, Travel Keewatin, Goligers Tours and High Arctic International.

The NWT participants also found that some European buyers are considering northern tour packages in the next two years. As well, they discovered potential buyers are very positive and optimistic about the North as a tourist destination.

During the four-day show TravelArctic met with a record number of 66 buyers from 14 countries.

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86-159

NWT EXPO RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING WORKERS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 23) - Two northerners working at the NWT pavilion at Expo have been honored for their contributions on and off the job.

Cathy Aitaok of Cambridge Bay, receptionist in the pavilion office, and Marilyn Paradis of Yellowknife, a hostess in the pavilion restaurant and an accommodations supervisor, have been presented Special Employee Awards by Tagak Curley, minister responsible for NWT Expo.

Of the 126 northerners working at the pavilion, Cathy was singled out because, despite the intense pressure of her receptionist's job, she remains especially enthusiastic and unselfish both on the job and off it.

Marilyn, meanwhile, has been especially sensitive to the needs of performers who are regularly coming to Expo for days and weeks at a time from northern communities and took particular interest in seeing to it that a northern performer who became ill and had to be hospitalized in Vancouver was looked after and visited regularly.

"Your sensitive attitude and understanding of the needs of our northern performers and demonstrators has added greatly to the enjoyment and pleasure they experienced while visiting Expo," Curley said in a letter to Marilyn.

The minister wrote to Cathy: "Your off-site activities have proven you to be one of the best ambassadors for the pavilion, as well as the Northwest Territories."

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86-158

NWT DAY'S A BIG HIT AT EXPO 86

VANCOUVER (June 23) - The world came to EXPO 86 here Saturday to celebrate Northwest Territories Day with everything from the glamorous musical ride to Pat Burke's belly.

A holiday crowd of 130,000 people from around the globe - 2 1/2 times the entire population of the territories - poured into the world's fair to help the NWT and its pavilion celebrate their day at Expo with both the beautiful and the bizarre.

From morning to midnight EXPO 86 - the most successful world exposition in history - toasted the top one-third of Canada and the Territories' iceberg-shaped pavilion, so successful it's attracted one out of every 10 of the 5.5 million people who have so far come to Expo since it opened May 2.

The beautiful was NWT Commissioner John Parker taking the salute from the world-famous RCMP musical ride in a special performance Saturday in which the police riders - to honor the Territories - flew polar-bear pendants from their lances.

The bizarre, meanwhile, was back at the NWT pavilion on the other end of the Expo site; Metis singer Pat Burke of Fort Smith and performer Rick Poltaruk of Yellowknife entertaining the long lineups waiting to get into the NWT pavilion with a musical interlude the likes of which the world has probably never seen - Poltaruk whistling the Broadway song, Singin' in the Rain, while Burke's hands rapped out the rhythm to the song on his (Burke's) huge stomach. The pavilion lineups - some of the longest of the 80 pavilions at Expo - loved it.

But NWT Day hasn't been all fun and frivolity.

The members of the NWT Legislative Assembly, who came here almost en masse to help celebrate NWT Day, are spending a good part of their time making valuable business contacts for the Territories by taking part in formal tours of the pavilions of potential trading partners, including the provinces and such countries as West Germany, France, Japan, Korea and the United States.

And on Monday, led by Government Leader Nick Sibbeston, the NWT Executive Council is to formally meet with the British Columbia government's Cabinet to discuss issues of mutual concern.

Meanwhile, in official ceremonies launching NWT Day Saturday, Government Leader Sibbeston told the huge crowd of northerners, ex-northerners and other friends of the north here especially for the Territories' special day at Expo that "we northerners are proud that our pavilion has met with such an enthusiastic response here at EXPO 86.

"The North is an emerging region of Canada, largely unknown to many Canadians and Expo 86 has given us the opportunity to showcase our territory," Sibbeston told the crowd.

The NWT pavilion now has a reputation as one of the top five pavilions out of the 80 at Expo - several newspapers have even called it the best one of all - with an average of 8,000 visitors a day going through its displays. And its restaurant, Icicles, is equally popular, with its exotic northern foods and Pacific Western polar ice off an iceberg that was stranded near Resolute. It is anticipated that close to 2 million people at Expo will go through the pavilion before the fair closes in October.

Says Tagak Curley, minister responsible for NWT Expo: "Thanks to the hard work of a great many northerners, people both here and at home throughout the Territories, our pavilion is even more successful than we ever dared to think it could be. The public acceptance of our pavilion and its message about the north and the northern way of life is phenomenal."

NWT Day also was an opportunity for many northerners - some of whom came here Friday by commercial air charter from Yellowknife - to meet with hundreds of ex-northerners and friends of the north now living on Canada's West Coast. They got together all day on the site and shared a musk-ox banquet in the evening.

One of their most memorable moments came when the pavilion unveiled its special NWT Day theme song.

"Here's to the People," composed by Bill Carpenter, Ethel Blondin-Townsend and son Troy, was selected in a theme-song contest co-sponsored by the pavilion and Roland Canada Music Limited. Bill, Ethel and Troy are northerners currently living in Ottawa.

Another highlight of the day was performances in the Xerox international theatre on the Expo site by the more than 20 performers of the Arctic Show from all over the north, from the Cape Dorset throat singers to singer-songwriter David Gon of Fort Simson.

June 21 was selected as NWT Day at Expo because it is the longest day of the year. But here in Vancouver it was dark enough at midnight Saturday to enjoy the special firework Expo set off to end NWT day.

The NWT pavilion also took the time Saturday to thank its corporate partners for their invaluable contributions to the success of the northern pavilion, including Petro Canada Resources, Northwest Territorial Airways, Pacific Western Airlines, The Hudson's Bay Company and Cominco.

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86-157

FIRST NEWSLETTER ON ABORIGINAL CLAIMS LAUNCHED

YELLOWKNIFE (June 20) - The publication of a monthly newsletter on aboriginal claims and constitutional development has been announced by Aboriginal Rights Minister, Dennis Patterson. He tabled the first issue of the newsletter in the Legislative Assembly yesterday.

Called "Building Blocks", the newsletter is part of a general information campaign by the Government of the Northwest Territories to promote greater public understanding of the issues involved in claims, division, devolution and constitutional development, Patterson said.

"For some time, concern has been expressed about the lack of information on these matters," he explained, "and this situation has caused a lot of unnecessary - but understandable - fears about the future of the North and the kind of society and government that will emerge out of the current debates. I believe 'Building Blocks' is a good start in attempting to fill-in the information gaps."

The newsletter is produced by the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat, an office in the territorial government's Executive. The Secretariat provides support to the Executive on the territorial government's involvement in claims and constitutional development matters, which includes negotiating the 2 main claims in the N.W.T., implementing the Inuvialuit settlement and supporting and developing constitutional issues initiated by the territorial government.

The first issue of "Building Blocks" provides updates on Dene/Metis claim negotiations and on the claim being negotiated for the Inuit of the Eastern Arctic by the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut. Other articles are on municipal concerns about land selection; progress at a recent northern leaders' conference; what devolution is all about; and, workshops on implementing the Inuvialuit settlement. One of the regular features, "Lingo", provides definitions for some of the jargon used in claims negotiations and constitutional talks.

The June issue will focus on the wildlife agreements that have been negotiated at the claims table. As the newsletter progresses, there will be commentaries and guest editorials on a variety of topical issues and readers are invited to participate by writing to express their views about matters discussed in the newsletter or issues they feel ought to be addressed.

The newsletter is being distributed around the Northwest Territories. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy should contact the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat, Government of the N.W.T., Box 1320, Yellowknife, N.W.T., X1A 2L9.

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86-156

CARTER JOINS BOARD OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION

YELLOWKNIFE (June 20) - Ted Carter of Gjoa Haven has been appointed to the Workers' Compensation Board. His appointment took place this week on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly which has been meeting in Yellowknife.

Carter, 38, is manager of the Gjoa Haven Co-op. Previous to that, he worked in Yellowknife as purchaser for Arctic Co-operatives Limited and before that with the Canadian National Railways out of Peace River.

He replaces Charlie Evalik who resigned recently, following his appointment as assistant regional superintendent for Economic Development and Tourism in the Kitikmeot region.

-30-

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86-155

NEW NAME FOR DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (June 20) - Department of Municipal and Community Affairs is the new name for the Department of Local Government.

The name change was announced today by Gordon Wray, the minister responsible for the department.

"This new name better reflects the department's responsibilities to promote effective political development and improve the physical development of N.W.T. communities and to promote healthy lifestyles among community residents," said the minister. "The majority of other Canadian jurisdictions have similar names for the departments dealing with the same matters."

The name change follows an earlier request by the Executive Council to raise the profile of the community planning and physical development functions of the department.

The name change goes into effect on Monday June 23, 1986.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-154

BAFFIN RESIDENTS DONATE NATIVE FOODS TO EXPO STAFF

CAPE DORSET (June 19) - Northern staff at the NWT Pavilion at Expo 86 are enjoying the taste of food from home thanks to the generosity of NWT Air and hunters from the Baffin Island community of Cape Dorset.

Northwest Territorial Airways President Bob Engle has agreed to fly up to 300 pounds of country food (caribou, seal and Arctic char) to Expo every month at no charge providing northern communities are willing to donate it to Expo staff. This first shipment of caribou provided by Cape Dorset was sent straight to Vancouver from NWT Air's office in Frobisher Bay.

A large percentage of the 126 northerners working at the NWT Pavilion are native people used to eating country foods on a daily basis. They've really missed eating these foods that are normally part of their diet. When Engle learned of this problem through the Minister responsible for NWT Expo, Tagak Curley, he agreed to transport the food free.

"I'm delighted with the generosity shown by NWT Air and the Hunters and Trappers Association of Cape Dorset" said Curley. "They are really helping our Expo staff to feel at home at mealtimes and I hope other communities will soon follow their example."

NWT Air flies into Frobisher Bay, Rankin Inlet, Pelly Bay, Spence Bay, Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, Holman Island, Coppermine and Fort Simpson, in addition to Yellowknife.

Engle has said the if people in northern communities can get their foods to NWT Air offices at these locations, the airline will see that it gets to Expo.

Communities wishing to donate country food must send it fresh-frozen and properly boxed and well insulated so it won't thaw out on its journey to Expo. The airline has no freezer facilities in the communities, but it does in Yellowknife. All shipments should be labelled: "Native Foods, Expo 86, Yellowknife."

Because there are no freezer facilities, donated foods should be brought into NWT Air offices only in the last week of every month. This month, it's the week of June 23.

-30-

CONTACT: Sharon Bunness
Culture and Communications
(819)979-5311

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REQUEST FOR FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

OF PAGES 1 + COVER

DATE: June 18/86

Art

TO: ART SORENSEN
CULTURE & COMMUNICATIONS
YELLOWKNIFE



FROM: SHARON BUNESS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
BAFFIN REGION

COMMENTS: Attached press release prepared at the request of Barry Craig as a follow-up to his release of several days ago. It has already received approval of Minister through Rose Mary Kames. Please distribute to all media ASAP. Thanks! Sharon Buness.

819-979-534
PHONE # TO BE CHARGED

[Signature]
SUPERINTENDENT'S SIGNATURE

FACSIMILE # 819-979-5986

CONFIRMATION # 819-979-5567

86-154

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For further information, contact:
Sharon Buness
Public Affairs Officer

86-153

CANADA-NWT SIGN LEGAL AID AGREEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (June 16) - A legal aid cost-sharing agreement was signed last week by Michael Ballantyne, Minister of Justice for the NWT and John Crosbie, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. Ballantyne announced details of the agreement to members of the Legislative Assembly in Yellowknife today.

"The agreement provides much more money for our legal aid program which will be put to use expanding and enhancing legal aid services for our citizens," Ballantyne told the Assembly.

Financially, the joint agreement accomplishes four things:

First, the agreement was based on the federal government accepting the principle that - for the Northwest Territories - legal aid costs will be shared on a 50 per cent basis.

Second, the Government of the Northwest Territories will recover a total of \$757 thousand in retro-active payments from the federal department of Justice, for the adult portion of the legal aid agreement, for the years 1982 to 1986. This breaks down to:

- \$55,500 for 1982-83;
- \$143,000 for 1983-84;
- \$224,000 for 1984-85; and
- \$334,500 for 1985-86.

Third, the federal government's share for 1986-87 - on a 50-50 basis - will increase from a ceiling of \$415,000 to a ceiling of \$930,000. This is an increase of over \$500,000.

Finally, the ceiling on the federal contribution for Young Offenders' legal aid has also been raised. The territorial government will recover from Ottawa, \$60,000 retro-actively for 1985-86. And, the ceiling on the federal share for 1986-87 has been raised to \$150,000 from \$40,000.

Overall, the net increase in federal contributions for legal aid in the NWT is close to \$1.5 million.

"With the signing of the agreement, I am very pleased to now be able to respond to 2 long-standing requests from this House with respect to legal services," Ballantyne said. "First, we will move immediately to establish a second resident legal aid lawyer in the Baffin Region. We will also start working immediately to establish a much-needed legal aid clinic in the Mackenzie Delta - a service people in the region have been requesting since 1975."

"Negotiations are now underway to secure long-term legal aid arrangements with the federal government for 1987-88 and beyond," Ballantyne added.

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CONTACT: Culture and Communications
(403)873-7343

86-152

NWT EXPO FILM ONE OF THE VERY BEST

YELLOWKNIFE (June 16) - NWT Expo's exceptional feature film about Canada's North has been judged one of the best three films at Expo 86 in Vancouver.

The Vancouver Sun, reviewing every audio-visual production on the huge Expo site, recently gave an outstanding rating -- five stars -- to only three pavilion films - the Canadian pavilion's, Alberta's and the NWT's.

There are 80 pavilions at Expo.

Yellowknife Films made the 10-minute color production, *The Emerging North*, especially for NWT Expo. It is about the people of the Territories, their cultures and their feelings for the land.

"It is a very significant award," said Tagak Curley, "when you consider that Yellowknife Films is competing at Expo with dozens and dozens of other productions from all over the world, some of them made by world-famous directors, some of them costing a great deal more than ours. *The Emerging North* even ranked higher than a production nominated for an Academy Award." Curley is territorial minister responsible for NWT Expo.

The paper's two critics said of the NWT film: "One of the best. Not high tech. Just high-art. Ten unforgettable minutes that make a third of the second-largest country in the world intimate. The images are full of tension and so is the haunting music, not needing words or an uplifting theme to tie Expo and NWT all together. This place just is. Expect long line-ups."

Curley added that Petro-Canada Resources Ltd., also is to be congratulated for its part in the Emerging North. The country's largest Canadian-owned oil company sponsored the NWT film.

The film is shown continuously in the pavilion on a screen 23 feet wide and 18 feet high.

An average of 8,000 visitors a day are visiting the NWT pavilion at EXPO 86. The international and national media have repeatedly called the pavilion one of the highlights of the six-month exposition. The New York Times said that of all the Canadian pavilions the Territories' could become the "surprise hit of the fair," while syndicated Canadian columnist Allan Fotheringham says it is, and the Globe and Mail picked the NWT pavilion as one of the six best on the whole site. Meanwhile, the Vancouver Province has given the NWT pavilion and only 10 other pavilions a five-star rating, while the Seattle Post-Intelligencer has given only the NWT and four other pavilions five stars. In both cases five stars is a "must-see" attraction.

Yellowknife Films producer Alan Booth says The Emerging North is a successful production for several reasons.

"First of all, the people who run NWT Expo gave us the creative freedom to do what we thought we should," says Booth. "Secondly, the production crew that worked on it was very committed and hard-working. The success of The Emerging North largely belongs to them."

The film was written and co-produced by Ms. Lanny Cooke of Yellowknife and directed and filmed by Booth. Other cameramen were David Geddes of Vancouver and Douglas Cole of Edmonton. Film editor was Raymond Hall of Vancouver's Petra Productions. Sound design was done by Patrick Ramsay of Vancouver. Sound recordist was Terry Woolfe of Yellowknife.

It took 14 months to complete The Emerging North and involved thousands of miles of travel by a camera-crew and visits to many communities as far north as the upper reaches of the High Arctic and in the southern parts of the Territories.

"I'm sure that the hundreds of northerners who see the film on NWT Day June 21 at Expo will agree that it truly depicts our land and our people," said Curley.

Petro-Canada has also purchased copies of The Emerging North for Canada's National Film Board and for the Department of Education for use in schools. As well, about 12-15 hours of film footage shot to make the 10-minute film will be made available to a variety of northern groups.

-30-

CONTACT: Barry Craig
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86-151

MINISTERS AGREE NORDIC TOUR A SUCCESS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 12) - A recent tour of the northern parts of Sweden, Norway and Finland by Northwest Territories businessmen and politicians has been heralded as "a great success."

Economic Development and Tourism Minister Tagak Curley and Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen led the N.W.T. tour to the Nordic countries on May 12-24.

"I was very impressed with the integrated economies we witnessed in each of the Nordic countries," said Curley. "There are many small manufacturing companies and factories which are highly capitalized and range from high tech to highly labour intensified."

"All three countries have thriving commercial renewable resource developments," added Pedersen. "Their forestry industries are especially well developed."

Tour participants included N.W.T. Business Council members Jim Robertson, Jacques Belleau, Marion LaVigne, Andrew Clark, Don Fergusson, John Manton and Jim Britton. Also included were Nunasi Corporation President John Hickes, Denendeh Development Coporation President James Wah-Shee, Metis Development Corporation President Ronald Bailey and Territorial government officials.

The tour began in Finland where the N.W.T. representatives visited the city of Rovaniemi and several small businesses including a jewellery factory, a woven wall hangings manufacturing company, a knife factory, a heavy equipment and forestry machinery plant, and a reindeer and game company. They also met with Mr. Asko Oinas, the governor of Lappi Province (Lapland).

In Skelleftea, Sweden the N.W.T. group toured a log house factory, a pine tree furniture factory, a small scale hydro power plant, a metal fabricating company, a fish farm, a reindeer farm, a fox farm and a mink farm. They also met with members of "Expolaris", an industry and trade group of 200 companies providing joint services. The group also travelled to Kiruna, a mining town on the decline to learn about their programs, a small community outside Kiruna which is geared to tourism and berry and reindeer processing plants in the city of Haparanda.

The Norwegian leg of the tour included visits to the city of Kautokeino, a freshwater fish farm and the Alta Hydro Dam. The N.W.T. representatives also met with officials from the Ministries of Agriculture, Justice, Sami Rights Commission and Municipal Affairs and Labour and were briefed on Sami handicrafts and the importance of the reindeer industry.

"It was interesting to see, particularly in Finland, a Crown Corporation-type agency handling funding from all sources at the state, region and municipality levels," said Curley. "This agency, which operates at arms length from government, provides all grants, loans and operating subsidies for industry and business."

Pedersen noted that the N.W.T. could benefit from co-operating and twinning with the "Nordkalot" Council, a legislative body set up by the Council of Nordic Ministers to administer jointly the Arctic regions of Scandinavia.

"Exchanging ideas and information with the Nordkalot Council could provide benefits to our government and to N.W.T. residents," added the Renewable Resources Minister. "Information on small businesses, industries and commercial renewable resource developments operating in the Nordic countries could be adapted and used here in the Canadian North.

"There is a a very good perception of the need for a strongly developed small business sector because it is the backbone of the economy," said Curley. "The key is to develop manufacturing industries around your raw materials and this was well demonstrated in all three countries."

The N.W.T. Business Council is preparing a report on the tour. It will include recommendations on how Northwest Territories residents can learn from the Nordic countries.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
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86-150

**FEDERAL-TERRITORIAL SOCIAL HOUSING AGREEMENT
SIGNED WITH NWT**

YELLOWKNIFE (June 12) - The number of social housing units available in the Northwest Territories will increase this year as a result of a new federal-territorial housing agreement signed today in Ottawa.

The Honourable Bill McKnight, Minister Responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, signed on behalf of the federal government, while the Honourable Michael Ballantyne, Minister Responsible for Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, signed on behalf of the NWT.

In 1986, the two governments will cost-share assistance for approximately 500 households through a range of programs which include:

- Homeownership Assistance Program - assists native and non-native rural households in need to build for themselves affordable housing.

- Rural and Native Housing - supplies new housing (rental and ownership) for needy households in communities with populations of less than 2,500.

- Rent Supplement - provides assistance to reduce rents for those facing affordability problems.

- Emergency Repair Program - assists residents in making their houses habitable pending completion of permanent repairs.

Under the new agreement, the Homeownership Assistance program costs will be shared 50/50. The Rural and Native Housing, Rent Supplement and Emergency Repair Programs will be cost-shared 75 per cent by the federal government and 25 per cent by the territorial government.

Administration of all jointly-funded programs will be the responsibility of the NWT Housing Corporation.

In addition, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation will fund and administer the following federal programs:

- Non-Profit Housing
- Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program

The Ministers noted that the arrangements will enable both governments to more effectively provide a mix of programs to respond to the needs of NWT residents. The two governments will be entering into a joint planning process of social housing strategies which will ensure that federal and territorial housing objectives are met.

Mr. McKnight said: "This new agreement focuses federal housing resources more directly on those in need and is more flexible and responsive to territorial concerns."

Mr. Ballantyne added: "The north is entering a new era in housing. The signing of this agreement will help provide a choice of solutions to a growing variety of housing needs in the NWT."

The new agreement is the result of extensive discussion and negotiation over the last fourteen months. Over that time federal, territorial and provincial housing ministers have worked closely together in a spirit of co-operation to ensure that social housing programs are effectively targeted to households in need and that duplication in delivering the programs is avoided.

The signing is the latest in a series of cost-sharing agreements between the Government of Canada and territorial and provincial governments.

-30-

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Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
(613) 748-2435

86-149

CLEGG APPOINTED EXECUTIVE PRESS SECRETARY

YELLOWKNIFE (June 11) - Cindy Clegg is the new press secretary for the Executive Council.

"Ms. Clegg will advise and brief ministers on matters involving northern and southern media and will handle media relations for the Executive Council," said Government Leader Nick Sibbeston today in announcing her appointment.

A Yellowknife resident, Clegg is well-known in the north for her years of work with CBC Radio. She has travelled extensively throughout the Northwest Territories and is familiar with constitutional, political and resource development and native and community affairs. She is the executive director of the Arctic Legal Public Education and Information Society and is a member of the Board of Directors for the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre.

She begins her new duties as press secretary in early August.

-30-

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-148

WORKERS' COMPENSATION PENSIONS INCREASED

YELLOWKNIFE (June 11) - Pensions are being increased for widows and children of workers killed on the job. The increases apply to pensions awarded before July 1, 1985.

Bruce McLaughlin, Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB), told the Legislative Assembly yesterday that widows' pensions will go up to \$836 a month from \$726. Children's pensions will increase to \$170 from \$165.

Pensions for disabled workers are also going up. The maximum monthly pension for workers who are totally and permanently disabled as a result of accidents before July 1, 1985 will be increased to \$1,900 from \$1,650.

In his statement, the Minister said the increases would add \$4.7 million to WCB's pension liability, but this liability would be met from within the Accident Fund without extra cost to the employers.

"I am very pleased to be able to announce these increases," McLaughlin said. "For the first time, the Workers' Compensation Board is in a position to put all its pensions for dependents and disabled workers on the same basis - that is mainly because of good returns on pension fund investments."

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86-147

GNWT RESPONDS TO CLAIMS TASK FORCE REPORT

YELLOWKNIFE (June 10) - The Government of the Northwest Territories has responded favourably to "Living Treaties: Lasting Agreements", the report of the Task Force to review federal comprehensive claims policy.

The territorial government position on the report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly today by Dennis Patterson, Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development.

"Generally speaking, the Executive Council is pleased with the report. It deals positively with many of the recommendations our government made." Patterson said.

"There are however, some important points we want to have an opportunity to address: especially those dealing with aboriginal self-government and how it might relate to the political and constitutional development of the Northwest Territories as well as our government's role in the claims process."

Patterson said that because the North may be undergoing radical changes in government, the Task Force recommendations on the issue of aboriginal self-government may not be appropriate for the N.W.T. Instead, the territorial government makes the following recommendations:

- That the Constitutional Alliance through its two Forums should continue to develop forms of public government with which all peoples of the NWT can identify.
- That memoranda of understanding should be reached as soon as possible between the territorial government and aboriginal groups on the process for resolving division of the Northwest Territories.
- That if the scope of the claims negotiations on political and constitutional development is broadened further, the GNWT should be afforded equal status at the table during talks on these matters.
- Claims settlements should in no way bind future northern governments to the status quo respecting the division of powers between them and Ottawa.

The development of framework agreements is supported by the territorial government, Patterson said. These agreements would be made with each individual aboriginal group early in the negotiations process to clearly map out a claim and decide what will be on the table for negotiations.

While the Dene/Metis and Inuit claims are fairly well advanced, the government agrees there is still time to set up framework agreements for these groups. Because the scope of the topics will be wide-ranging and perhaps deal with political and constitutional development issues, the territorial government wants equal status at the negotiations table when these agreements are being negotiated.

In addition, the territorial government realizes its obligation to ensure that third-party interests must be respected and dealt with equitably at claims negotiations.

"Consultation and briefings with non-claimant organizations are vital to ensure that all interests are taken into account", Patterson stated. He added that the government was currently stepping-up its efforts in this regard and will be encouraging a co-operative approach to develop a public information strategy to help improve public understanding of the claims process.

In addition, the minister stated the government is in complete agreement with the statement from a recently-held Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC) symposium that a formal implementation procedure "is an integral part of the claims policy."

Any new policy would have to emphasize this aspect and settlement agreements must include detailed implementation plans.

In respect to the matter of extinguishment, the minister noted that "no question is more fundamental to the creation of a new, ongoing relationship." The territorial government continues to support the belief that rights should be affirmed rather than extinguished.

On pre-settlement implementation, the territorial government feels that on a case-by-case basis, certain parts of sub-agreements could be put in place before the settlement is final.

This would include such things as setting up the management board portion of sub-agreements respecting wildlife management and harvesting, prior to the whole package being in place. Such action would require careful planning in terms of timing, funding and responsibility for implementation, the position paper states.

Meanwhile, with respect to economic and financial matters "the new policy must recognize that mechanisms are necessary to enable aboriginal people to meet the purpose and objectives of settlements. The GNWT strongly urges the sharing of resource revenues amongst governments and claimant groups" the documents says. As well there should be no ceiling placed on resource development revenue flow.

In addition, "subjects traditionally within the jurisdiction of public government should not be negotiated at the claims table unless they are included in a framework agreement."

With regard to negotiating rights for Offshore, the paper restates the GNWT position that "within the limits of its jurisdiction and subject to the requirements of sovereignty, Canada should be as open to negotiating with aboriginal groups with respect to the Offshore as it is with respect to the land".

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 (403)873-7143

Or

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(403)873-7343

86-146

**MARRIED STUDENTS' RESIDENCE PLANNED FOR FORT SMITH
CAMPUS**

FORT SMITH (June 6) - A local firm has entered into a lease agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories to provide a married students' residence here.

Slave River MLA Arnold McCallum, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Grande De Tour Developments Ltd. was awarded the \$377,495 a year contract.

Under the agreement, Grande De Tour Developments Ltd. will construct the student residence and lease it back to the Territorial government. The contract calls for the construction of 28 one and two bedroom apartment units for married students attending the Thebacha Campus of the Arctic College. Construction started immediately and should be completed this year.

Four other higher bids from the N.W.T. ranged from \$407,356 to \$498,202.

-30-

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-145

NO BUTTS ABOUT IT

YELLOWKNIFE (June 6) - They're not smoking anymore at the Department of Education here and they've a burning desire to keep it that way.

It's all part of a move by Education Minister Dennis Patterson to encourage departmental offices in the north and NWT schools to become smoke-free.

Headquarters in the department went permanently smoke-free last weekend when its 70 people moved from the Laing Building in Yellowknife to two floors of the new Lahm Ridge Tower.

"It's not only important that we tell children about the health risks of smoking but also that we teach by example," says the minister. "Most behavior children learn is by modelling and smoking is not a good example for adults to set."

Education's headquarters staff are not the first in the department to go smoke-free. Among those locations in the NWT that have done so already are the elementary school in Frobisher Bay, J.H. Sissons school in Yellowknife, the office of the Baffin regional board of education in Frobisher and, elsewhere, the Department of Health's programs and standards area on the fifth floor of the Precambrian Building in Yellowknife and the Audit Bureau on the third. And on Sept. 1 all schools and education offices in Yellowknife school district 1 go smoke-free.

Meanwhile, the education minister is encouraging his department's regional offices and all other schools in the NWT to become smoke-free as soon as possible.

Deputy Minister Joe Handley says the response at headquarters to the new smoke-free environment is excellent.

"The staff enjoy the fresh air," says Handley.

While 13 of the headquarters personnel are smokers, the deputy minister says nearly all of them view their non-smoking environment as "an opportunity to cut down or maybe even quit.

"It is, of course, toughest for the smokers," Handley says. "But their attitude is very positive and by and large they support the move." For those who must smoke, a room vented to the outside is available.

The department occupies the first and third floors of the Lahm Ridge Tower. The federal department of Health, which moved into the second floor before Education, is already smoke-free.

"There's only one air-circulation system in the building and with us above and below federal Health it would have meant they would have ended up with our smoke. And that hardly seemed fair."

Handley says the Public Service Association - the government employees' union - has been "very supportive" of the idea.

The Lahm Ridge Tower is the first multiple-use office building in the NWT to be smoke-free.

"All those people in our education system who have gone smoke-free are to be congratulated for their initiative and responsibility," Patterson said.

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CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403)873-7251

86-144

**GNWT FULLY SUPPORTIVE OF NEW LAWS AGAINST DRUNK
DRIVING**

YELLOWKNIFE (June 5) - The territorial government welcomes the tough new federal laws against impaired driving and is urging N.W.T. residents to know the laws and follow them to the letter, the Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne said today.

"All too often the lives of northerners have been lost to accidents involving drugs and alcohol," Ballantyne said. "These new impaired driving laws are meant to protect people from further tragedy and we are very supportive of the no-nonsense stand the federal government has taken in amending these sections of the Criminal Code."

The new laws against drunk driving are included in an Act called "C-19", and deal severely with people convicted of operating any vehicle, vessel or aircraft while impaired. The penalty for a first conviction is a fine of \$300 or more and a prohibition from driving for 3 months or more. If it's the second conviction, the judge must order 14 days in prison and a prohibition from driving for 6 months or longer. On the third conviction a person will be sent to jail for 90 days or longer and be prohibited from driving for 1 year or longer.

The laws apply to all types of vehicles - cars, trucks, motorcycles, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and heavy equipment. It covers boats - motor boats, sailboats and other commercial and pleasure vehicles. For aircraft, C.19 not only covers the pilot but anyone else assisting in its operation.

It is an offence to operate these vehicles while impaired by alcohol or drugs. It doesn't matter if the vehicle is on the street, in a parking lot or even in the driveway. A person can be charged with having committed an offence if they are impaired and behind the wheel - even if they haven't started to drive.

The legal limit of alcohol in the blood is .08 per cent. For some people, only a couple of drinks will put them over that limit. If a police officer suspects a person has been drinking, he can tell the driver to pull over and may request a breath sample. To refuse to give a breath sample is also an offence and the penalty is the same for being convicted of impaired driving. Under certain conditions, the police may request that a blood sample be given.

The new laws also cover impaired driving offences that cause bodily harm or death. A person may be sent to prison for up to 10 years and be prohibited from driving for up to 10 years if the offence is impaired driving causing bodily harm.

If there is a death resulting from impaired driving, a person can be sent to jail for up to 14 years and prohibited from driving for up to 10 years. In very serious cases the person could be charged with manslaughter for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment and a lifetime prohibition from driving.

For further details on C.19 contact Winnie Fraser-McKay, Alcohol and Drug Services, Department of Social Services in Yellowknife at (403)873-7904.

-30-

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Legal Counsel
Justice
(403)873-7465

OR

Catherine MacQuarrie
Public Affairs Officer
Culture and Communications
(403)873-7343

86-143

REPORT OFFERS NEW PERSPECTIVE ON NWT ECONOMY

YELLOWKNIFE (June 5) - A statistical report on Social Assistance in the NWT has just been published by the Department of Social Services.

"The report offers answers to many of the questions that are commonly asked about Social Assistance," Minister of Social Services Bruce McLaughlin explains. "The information presented here may be of particular interest to those who are trying to understand how our economy works -- and why and how it fails."

One of the central facts that emerges from the data is a correlation between Social Assistance and lack of economic opportunity. According to the report, "Approximately two-thirds of the social assistance program shores up a failure in the economic system to provide employment for persons in the Northwest Territories."

Published in English and Inuktitut, the report examines data for the period from April 1980 to March 1985 and can be used to answer such questions as

"How much is spent on Social Assistance, in my community, in my region, in the NWT? What have the trends been over the last five years?"

"How heavily dependent on Social Assistance are we in the NWT? What percentage of our income comes from welfare? How much do we earn from other sources such as wages or furs?"

"Who gets Social Assistance and why do they need it? Is the problem illness, responsibility for young children, lack of work, lack of education?"

"How does my community compare with others in its reliance on Social Assistance?"

"How are Social Assistance funds allocated? What percentage is spent on food, clothing, shelter...?"

Copies of the report have been distributed to municipal councils, Social Services Advisory Committees, native organizations and MLA's.

Additional copies may be obtained from the Director of Social Assistance, Department of Social Services, Bag 1320, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9 or by phoning 403-873-7160.

-30-

CONTACT: G. Richard Clarke
Director of Social Assistance
Department of Social Services
(403)873-7160

OR

Candace Savage
Public Affairs Officer
Culture and Communications
(403)873-7615

86-142

TEMPORARY COURT FACILITY PLANNED

YELLOWKNIFE (June 4) - A Fort Smith firm has received the contract to provide a temporary court facility in Fort Smith, while requirements for a permanent court facility are being addressed.

Slave River MLA Arnold McCallum, on behalf of Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne and Minister of Public Works and Highways Gordon Wray, today announced that North of 60 Fashions of Fort Smith was awarded the contract. The GNWT Financial Management Board approved the contract award.

The contract covers a three-year period with an option for a further two years for the leasing of a building located at the corner of Portage and Calder Avenue. The term will begin after renovations are completed in early October.

Four valid bids were received and evaluated according to financial and functional criteria. The successful bidder was also financially the lowest tenderer. Three other Fort Smith firms submitted bids.

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CONTACT: Culture and Communications
(403)873-7556

86-141

J.H. SISSONS RECEIVES SMOKE-FREE AWARD

YELLOWKNIFE (June 3) - Students and teachers at Sissons school in Yellowknife have earned a "100 per cent Smoke-Free School" award.

The award, a flag and engraved plaque, will be presented to school principal Louise Jovanovic at 1 pm on June 6 by Jim Peterson of the territorial government's department of Health.

The 100 per cent Smoke Free award is part of the "Smoke-Free Spaces for Kids" program co-sponsored by the Alberta Heart and Stroke Foundation and the Alberta Federation of Home and School Associations. The program is supported by the department of Health. To qualify, Sissons' school staff and students do not smoke while on school premises or when participating in school-sponsored events.

Awards are also available for smoke-free classroom and smoke-free spaces occupied by non-school groups such as day care centres, workplaces and sports teams. For more information about the "Smoke-Free Spaces for Kids" program, contact Jim Peterson at 920-8946.

-30-

CONTACT: Dept. of Culture and Communications
(403)873-7343

86-146

**MARRIED STUDENTS' RESIDENCE PLANNED FOR FORT SMITH
CAMPUS**

FORT SMITH (June 6) - A local firm has entered into a lease agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories to provide a married students' residence here.

Slave River MLA Arnold McCallum, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Grande De Tour Developments Ltd. was awarded the \$377,495 a year contract.

Under the agreement, Grande De Tour Developments Ltd. will construct the student residence and lease it back to the Territorial government. The contract calls for the construction of 28 one and two bedroom apartment units for married students attending the Thebacha Campus of the Arctic College. Construction started immediately and should be completed this year.

Four other higher bids from the N.W.T. ranged from \$407,356 to \$498,202.

-30-

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-140

EDA AIDS CABLE TV EXPANSION

FROBISHER BAY (June 2) - Eastern Arctic TV Ltd. is expanding its service to community subscribers with assistance provided under the Canada-NWT Economic Development Agreement (EDA).

The \$31,128 in total funding towards the almost \$160,000 expansion is being supplied under the EDA's Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement, 90 per cent by the federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) and 10 per cent by the Territorial government.

Announcement of the funding was made today by Andre Bissonnette, federal Minister of State (Small Businesses), and by Tagak Curley, N.W.T. minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

The expansion will increase the service's channel selection from four to 11 stations. The assistance will supplement the cost of receiving equipment, installation and transportation.

One new full-time job and one part-time job are expected to be created as a result of the expansion.

The Small Business Development Incentive Program of the Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement can provide assistance for up to 30 per cent of the eligible costs of expanding or modernizing a business, to a maximum of \$50,000. All N.W.T. residents are eligible for assistance under the program.

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CONTACT: Craig Yeo
Dept. of Regional
Industrial Expansion
(403)920-8571

OR

Judy McLinton
GNWT Dept. of Culture
and Communications
(403)873-7257

86-139

GNWT PLEASED THAT WILDLIFE AGREEMENT ACCEPTED

FROBISHER BAY (June 2) - Calling it a "significant move", Aboriginal Rights minister Dennis Patterson said he is pleased the federal government has finally accepted a sub-agreement on wildlife with the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN) that was initialled in 1981.

The wildlife sub-agreement is a major component of the aboriginal claim being negotiated between Canada and the Inuit of the Eastern Arctic who are represented by the TFN.

"I am gratified that the federal ministers have finally accepted the initialled provisions of the sub-agreement," Patterson said, "and I am confident that the balance of the TFN claim will now proceed quickly to an overall agreement-in-principle."

The sub-agreement provides for the establishment of a Nunavut Wildlife Management Board made up of members appointed by a "designated Inuit organizations", the government of the Northwest Territories and the federal government. A chairman is appointed by the Governor-in-Council, based on recommendations from the board members.

This board will be the main body responsible for managing wildlife in the TFN settlement area. It will be the main regulator for access to wildlife, will conduct primary harvesting studies and allocate resources. With the board's establishment, the residents of Nunavut will have a major role in the management of wildlife resources on which many Northern communities depend.

Patterson noted that the government of the N.W.T. is pleased with the major role given to the prime-users of wildlife on the Management Board, since they have the biggest interest in the effective management and conservation of the resources.

The Inuit wildlife harvesting rights affirmed in the sub-agreement are based on traditional and current use of resources and are governed by generally accepted conservation principles. As well, the interests of people not included in the claim settlement benefits are respected in the agreement.

"A working group of aboriginal and government personnel will be put together shortly to examine the possibility of implementing some portions of the agreement before the whole package is settled," Patterson added. "It is hoped that the important work of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board can begin in the very near future."

-30-

CONTACT: Dennis Patterson
Minister,
Aboriginal Rights and
Constitutional Development
(403)873-7123

Aboriginal Rights and
Constitutional Development Secretariat
(403)873-7143

BACKGROUND

TUNGAVIK FEDERATION OF NUNAVUT CLAIM

SUMMARY OF WILDLIFE PROVISION OF
AN AGREEMENT-IN-PRINCIPLE

The Wildlife Provisions set out a comprehensive system of wildlife management to ensure a healthy renewable resource economy for the TFN claims area. The instrument of wildlife management will be a joint Inuit/Government management board that will oversee the harvest of wildlife subject to the principles of conservation. The provisions recognize Inuit as the traditional and current users of wildlife, and set out specific rights they will enjoy with regard to harvesting and associated economic opportunities. These rights are balanced with protections for non-Inuit.

I. Wildlife Management System

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board will be made up of nine members; four appointed by Inuit and four and an independent chairman appointed by government. The government appointees may be officials or members of the public. The Board, supported by a secretariat, will be funded by government.

The Board will:

- institute a management system that reflects conservation principles; serves and promotes long term economic, social and cultural interests of Inuit harvesters; and invites public participation;
- be the main instrument for establishing and allocating the harvest of various species and for establishing restrictions on times and methods of harvesting;
- have an active role in the establishment of parks and sanctuaries, in habitat management, and several other matters related to wildlife management. The final agreement will provide further clarification;
- have an informed effective role in wildlife research.

In order to allow for greater public input into its management decisions, the Board will be empowered to hold public hearings. The Board's power to make decisions will be subject to the ultimate authority of Ministers. A Board decision will be forwarded to the appropriate Minister who can disallow that decision, giving written reasons, within a fixed time period.

If a Minister does not accept a Board decision, the Board will reconsider and send its final decision back to the Minister who may then accept, reject or vary it. If the Minister does not respond to a Board decision within a specified time limit, the decision will be considered accepted and the Minister will take steps to implement it.

For certain decisions affecting the Inuit share of the allowable harvest, the Minister will only be able to disallow a Board decision if that decision:

1. is not supported by or consistent with the evidence that was before the Board or available to it;
2. conflicted with the reasonable wildlife harvesting activities of Canadians in other parts of Canada including other claims settlement areas; or
3. conflicted with the terms of a Domestic Interjurisdictional Agreement or an International Agreement respecting wildlife.

There is also provision for three Inuit Regional Wildlife Organizations and for an Inuit Hunters' and Trappers' Organization in each community. These organizations will be responsible for sub-allocation of harvest quotas among Inuit, and for performance of various local management functions.

II. Inuit Harvesting Rights

1. Subject to conservation and provisions of the agreement, beneficiaries will have the right to harvest any species of wildlife including plants in their claims area.
2. In exercising their harvesting rights, beneficiaries will have the right of access to all lands throughout their claims area except on privately owned lands, on lands used for military purposes and on surface leases.
Inuit will have access to parks and sanctuaries to harvest wildlife subject to conservation restrictions and a bilateral agreement between the beneficiaries of the area and the management authority of the park or sanctuary.

3. Beneficiaries will be able to harvest without requirement for licences or fees unless they are involved in commercial or sports operations.
4. Beneficiaries will have the right to dispose freely of wildlife lawfully harvested through sale, barter, exchange or gift inside or outside the claims area, subject to certain constraints.

III. Allocation of Harvest

For wildlife species where there is no conservation limit, beneficiaries will have the right to harvest as much as they need. Where harvesting quotas are required for conservation purposes, a total allowable harvest limit will be set to protect the species. In such cases, the total allowable harvest will be allocated in the following order of priority:

1. Inuit Basic Needs Level - Inuit will be guaranteed the right to harvest up to their full level of need. The level of need will be calculated from data gathered through a five year harvest study of how much wildlife Inuit take.
2. Adjusted Basic Needs Level - Inuit may be given the right to harvest an increased amount of wildlife as their needs increase over time.
3. Allocation for resident non-beneficiaries for personal use (calculated by formula).
4. Allocation to sustain existing sports and commercial operations.
5. Allocation for economic ventures sponsored by Inuit Regional Wildlife Organizations or Hunters' and Trappers' Organizations.
6. Allocation for commercial, commercial sport, recreational and other uses.

Beneficiaries will be presumed to need the total allowable harvest of certain species which are in short supply, such as musk-ox, polar bear and bowhead whales.

10. Inuit Economic Opportunities

1. Inuit organizations are to have the right of first refusal to establish the following types of operations:
 - new sports hunting, fishing and naturalist lodges (existing sports hunting and fishing operators will not be affected by these rights);
 - facilities for husbandry or cultivation of indigenous species of wildlife, plants and reindeer;
 - commercial operations for collection of non-edible wildlife parts and products.
2. Beneficiaries may assign a portion of their quota to non-beneficiaries for remuneration.
3. The agreement stipulates that non-beneficiaries who harvest big game will be required to have an Inuit guide for two years following acquisition of a licence. (People who have held a licence for two years before settlement legislation would not be affected by this provision.)

U. Protection of Third Parties

1. Trapping rights of individuals presently holding general hunting licences are protected.
2. Resident non-beneficiaries will be allocated a fixed percentage of the allowable harvest beyond Inuit needs for personal consumption. This allocation can be supplemented.
3. Special quota allocation is to be made for the continued operation of existing sports, fishing and hunting lodges.
4. Non-beneficiaries will have access to commercial harvesting through a limited entry system which favours residents, but not specifically Inuit.
5. Where resources are adequate, allocation may be made for general recreational harvesting under laws of general application.

VI Related Matters

1. The parties have agreed to defer the question of compensation for damages until negotiation of the overall agreement-in-principle.
2. The parties, recognizing the problem of escalating costs of harvesting, have agreed to examine appropriate remedial action during the negotiation of the economic provisions of the agreement.
3. Provision has been made to deal with the overlapping harvest rights of the Inuit and other aboriginal groups.

86-138

FIRST-EVER OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY WEEK

YELLOWKNIFE (May 30) - On June 15 to the 21, Northerners will observe the first annual Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Week. Sponsored by the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering, the week is designed to promote good safety habits and attitudes on-the-job.

The week's activities in the Northwest Territories are being coordinated by the Safety Division of the department of Justice and the Worker's Compensation Board. Both agencies are involved on a year-round basis in preventing work-related accidents.

"All of us depend on the health and safety of our workers," said Justice minister, Michael Ballantyne. "If people cannot work safely, are injured or are exposed to substances that create long or short-term health problems, the effects can be disastrous - not only for the worker but for their families, the business that employs them and ultimately for the whole community."

"For that reason we must all take responsibility for making sure we have safe work-habits and that our working environments are also safe," Ballantyne said, "whether we make our livings on the land or in the bush, in industry or in an office."

Individuals can do many things to prevent work-related injuries and accidents from happening to them, their co-workers or their employees. They can start by making sure they themselves practice the right safety precautions - wear the right equipment and do the job properly according to safety standards. Individuals should be urging their co-workers to do the same and employers should make sure their workers are trained properly for the job and are following safety procedure.

Workers should not be afraid to point out potential hazards on the job-site and should read up on their rights to work in a safe environment. Workers and employers can develop a health and safety program together and set up a health and safety committee for the job-site.

"I hope all of us will remember that safety is a year-round effort, not just something for one week every year," Ballantyne added. "But Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Week is an important time to reflect on how much we need to improve our safety record, and that each one of us is the key to that success."

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CONTACT: Safety Division
 Department of Justice
 (403)873-7648

86-137

PERSONNEL HAS THREE NEW SENIOR STAFF

YELLOWKNIFE (May 28) - Three appointments to senior positions in Personnel were announced today by Nick Sibbeston, Government Leader and Minister responsible for Personnel.

"I am pleased to announce that Sheila McDonald has been appointed regional personnel manager for the Baffin, Herb Hunt has taken up the position of chief of staff relations at Headquarters and Susan Cunningham will become the chief of finance and administration for Personnel in Yellowknife," Sibbeston said. "These people are all very well qualified for the jobs, and I'm especially pleased to note that for the first time, two of these senior positions are held by women."

Susan Cunningham joins the territorial government after serving as accounting manager for the City of Yellowknife for 5 years. Raised in Fort Smith, she holds degrees in both science and commerce and is a certified management accountant. Cunningham starts her new job on June 2, replacing Al Delmage who has moved to Local Government.

Herb Hunt first joined the territorial government in 1969, working as settlement manager in several Baffin region communities over a 9 year period. In 1978 he joined Personnel and most currently has been the manager of personnel services in Yellowknife. Hunt also served a 3 year term with the Housing Corporation as regional manager for the Baffin, from 1982 to 1985. Hunt replaces Derek Aindow who has joined the department of Education.

Sheila McDonald has also worked for Personnel for many years. She first started with the department in 1979 as manager of classification services, later moving to manager of personnel services. Most recently she has been the manager of labour relations for Personnel, providing advice and guidance on grievances, interpretations of the Collective Agreement, and co-ordinating the government's collective bargaining positions. McDonald starts her new position in Frobisher Bay on June 9, replacing Tom Demcheson who has moved to Education.

-30-

CONTACT: Catherine MacQaurrie
(403)873-7343

86-136

COMPETITION TOUGH IN 1986 WILDLIFE POSTER CONTEST

YELLOWKNIFE (May 27) - An unprecedented flood of entries for the National Wildlife Week poster contest were received this year from Northwest Territories schools.

Fourteen winners were chosen from the 2,600 posters received. Another 200 were singled out for honourable mention.

A total of 59 schools participated and 10 received school awards.

The winning posters were sent to the National Wildlife Federation in Ottawa to represent the N.W.T. in a national contest which will be judged next month.

The Territorial winners each receive a \$100 prize. Schools will be presented with a plaque and a wildlife book, The Wonder of Canadian Birds by Candace Savage. The prize for honourable mention is an "I'm a Winner" cap.

The N.W.T. portion of the contest is conducted by the Department of Renewable Resources to mark National Wildlife Week and promote conservation.

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(A list of the poster contest winners and school award winners is attached.)

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

1986 SCHOOL AWARD WINNERS

This year seven schools received school awards and three classes were singled out for awards of excellence.

Kindergarten Class
Atausiunasuarniq School
Coral Harbour

Kaw Tay Whee School
Detah

Kreterklerk School
Eskimo Point

Thomas Simpson School
Fort Simpson

Acho Dene School
Fort Liard

Grade 4
Nakasuk School
Frobisher Bay

Chief Sunrise Education Centre
Hay River

Princess Alexandra School
Hay River

Attagutaluk School
Igloolik

Class 3 and 4
Chief Jimmy Bruneau School
Rae Edzo

1986 POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

Coppermine-Kugluktuk School

Melvin Klengenber 6 yrs
Tagged caribou help us to learn more about them

Grade 1

Detah-Kaw Tay Whee School

Bobby Drygeese
Keep their shadows growing

Eskimo Point-Kreterklerk School

Thomas Katuaq Komak 16 yrs
Don't let the sun set for-ever

Frobisher Bay Nakasuk School

Shamus Armstrong 11 yrs
Let's do it again Save our Wildlife

Grade 6

Gjoa Haven-Kerkertak Iiihakvik School

Kerry McGrath 14 yrs
We have wildlife today What about tomorrow?

Grade 8

Hay River-Diamond Jenness School

Adam Aylward 14 yrs
It's your move...Help conserve wildlife

Grade 8C

David Harrison 12 yrs
Don't let them go up in smoke

Grade 8

Hay River-Chief Sunrise School

Brian Martel 14 yrs
Sometimes it's best not to interfere

Grade 7

Inuvik-Samuel Hearne School

Angela Marie McInnes 13 yrs
Joining together gives them more than just a chance

Grade 8

Pangnirtung-Attagoyuk School

Sandra Shoapik 14 yrs
Mothers and babies are all the same - we need them all

Grade 5

Rankin Inlet -Maani Ulujuk School

Grade 1 & 2 Class
Jan Swietlik Teacher

Tungsten-Territorial School

Shannon Joyce 14 yrs
If we all work together we can help

Grade 9

Yellowknife-Sir John Franklin School

Sarah Kamimmalik 14 yrs
If we all work together we can help

Grade 10

Lena Tiriganeak 16 yrs
No wlarus is an island We depend on each other

Grade 10

86-135

LABOUR STANDARDS BOARD APPOINTMENTS

YELLOWKNIFE (May 22) - The appointments of Rosemary Cairns, Leo Hardy and Louise Neilsen to the Labour Standards Board were announced today by the Minister of Justice, Michael Ballantyne.

Their appointments, effective May 20, are on a short term basis until October 1, 1986 because "over the summer the Labour Standards Act will be reviewed in order to improve the Board's ability to provide services," Ballantyne said.

Rosemary Cairns, a Yellowknife resident since 1975, has run her own writing and editing business in the city for the past 2 years. She has served 2 terms as an alderman on Yellowknife City Council, from 1982 to 1985, during which time she chaired the Financial, Legislative and Administrative Committee and the Community Services Committee. She has been involved in community activities, ranging from day care to support for Northern entertainers, over the past decade.

Leo Hardy, a Metis, was born and raised in Fort Norman. He has been involved with small business over the past 20 years and is owner of Norwel Developments which operates a number of affiliated companies. He has held the position of president of the Metis Development Corporation and now sits on the N.W.T. Economic Development Board. Hardy will be representing the small business sector for the Labour Standards Board.

Louise Neilsen of Yellowknife works with Echo Bay Mines as a liaison officer with the territorial and federal governments. She has been a member of the Board of Yellowknife Education District #1 and from 1979 to 1983, served as its chairman. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Alberta.

The 5-member Labour Standards Board acts as a tribunal to hear any appeals or decisions of the Labour Standards Officer. The chairman of the Board, Gail Cyr, said she is confident the new members will make valuable contributions to the work of the Board.

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CONTACT: Catherine MacQuarrie
(403)873-7343

86-134

PARKER RECEIVES OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

YELLOWKNIFE (May 22) - Commissioner John H. Parker is one of five recipients of the 1985 Outstanding Achievement Award, the highest award in the Public Service of Canada.

Governor-General Jeanne Sauve, in the presence of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, presented Commissioner Parker with a citation at an awards ceremony held in Government House last night. Mr. Parker also will receive a selected work of Canadian art.

The Outstanding Achievement Award is the highest form of official recognition within the Public Service of Canada. Established in 1966, the award honours career public servants for continued and outstanding accomplishment and distinguished service of national and international importance. Only 27 individuals have received the award since 1966.

Recommendations for Outstanding Award nominees are made by a selection committee comprised of eminent Canadians, from outside the public service, appointed by the Prime Minister.

John Parker served for two years on the federal Advisory Commission on the Development of Government in the Northwest Territories before joining the Public Service of Canada as Deputy Commissioner of the N.W.T. in 1967. He was appointed Commissioner of the N.W.T. in 1979.

Mr. Parker's association with northern Canada began in 1949 when he worked for Eldorado Mining and Refining. In 1955 he took up permanent residence in Yellowknife and served as Town Councillor from 1959-1963 and as Mayor from 1964 to 1967.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(430)873-7257

86-133

**1986 HAY RIVER DISASTER COMPENSATION COMMITTEE
APPOINTED**

YELLOWKNIFE (May 20) Ron Whittaker, area service officer for the GNWT in Hay River, will head up the 1986 Hay River Disaster Compensation Committee, the Minister of Government Services has announced.

The committee will be reviewing disaster compensation claims from area residents that have been submitted to the territorial government following the flood of Vale Island on May 6, Tom Butters explained.

The other members of the 1986 committee announced by the Minister are Tom Liss, department of Finance, Yellowknife; Eric Gutland, Audit Bureau, Yellowknife; Isadore Tourangeau, Local Government, Fort Smith; Pat Bobinski, Federal Fisheries, Hay River; Roger Readman, Northwestel, Hay River; Pat Martel, chief of the Hay River Dene Band.

The territorial government's Disaster Assistance Policy provides the guidelines for the committee's review of claims. Under the policy, disaster assistance payments do not provide 100 per cent reimbursement for damages and losses. The payments are grants intended to help people re-establish their homes and small businesses to pre-flood conditions.

After last spring's flood in Hay River, \$618 thousand was paid out by the territorial government to Hay River residents who suffered losses from the flood.

Since that time, Government Services has been conducting a public information program for residents of flood-prone areas, advising them to prepare and protect their property.

In particular, 2 pamphlets were mailed directly to all of the people who submitted claims after last year's flood in Hay River. The first pamphlet, "Preparing for the Overflow", outlines general flood precautions and the second, "When disaster strikes..." explains the government's Disaster Assistance Policy.

Hay River residents can obtain more information on Disaster Compensation claims by contacting Ron Whittaker, area service officer, department of the Executive in Hay River.

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CONTACT: Minister
 Government Services
 (403)873-7128

86-132

**PLANS UNDER WAY FOR COLLEGE/ADULT ED CENTRE IN
FROBISHER BAY**

YELLOWKNIFE (May 20) - Planning has begun for a building to house the Iqaluit Campus of Arctic College and community Adult Education programs in Frobisher Bay, Minister of Education Dennis Patterson announced today.

Construction of the joint-use facility, the first of its kind in the Northwest Territories, is scheduled to begin in the summer of 1987. In addition to classrooms, the centre will have a library, administration offices and laboratories for science, food preparation, computer studies and secretarial training.

Representatives from the staff of the Baffin Divisional Board of Education and the Arctic College have been working closely with Department officials throughout the planning process, Mr. Patterson said.

At the same time as the building is being designed, a long-range plan for the Iqaluit Campus is also being drawn up, taking into consideration future needs for student housing and classroom space. This will ensure that campus expansion occurs in a careful and planned manner, the Minister said.

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CONTACT: Mark Cleveland
Vice-President
Arctic College
(819)979-6284

OR

Candace Savage
Public Affairs Officer
Culture and Communications
(403)873-7615

86-131

**N.W.T. RESIDENTS CELEBRATE NATIONAL PHYSICAL
ACTIVITY WEEK**

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) - 'Sneaker Day' will kick off National Physical Activity Week (NPAW), May 24 to June 1, in the Northwest Territories and the rest of Canada as residents participate in the fourth annual fitness week.

"Spring in the Arctic is the perfect time to celebrate National Physical Activity Week," says Local Government Minister Gordon Wray. "I encourage all N.W.T. residents to greet the arrival of spring by joining family and friends in some type of physical activity whether it's walking, playing softball or enjoying the spring hunt."

NPAW is co-ordinated by Fitness Canada in co-operation with provincial and territorial governments. On May 23, the day before NPAW begins, every Canadian in the workforce is invited to celebrate 'Sneaker Day' by wearing their sneakers to work.

In the Northwest Territories, each community is encouraged to arrange their own special events for the official start of the week on Saturday May 24.

"In past years the Northwest Territories has led the rest of the country in the number of residents per capita who participate in National Physical Activity Week," adds the minister. "Let's make 1986 no exception and try to double the number of events and participants during the week."

N.W.T. residents may be able to participate in 14 national events and projects scheduled for the week. These events include:

- A Smashing Event: Sponsored by the Canadian Badminton Association.
- Run for Light: A nationwide twilight fun run sponsored by the Canadian Blind Sports Association and Fitness Canada.
- Just for Kicks: A program designed so elementary school students can get a real "kick" out of NPAW. Events highlight the kicking components in various physical activities.
- Fitnic: Last year close to 100,000 people in communities across Canada participated in the fun and festivities of a Fitnic.
- Let's Dance: Square and round dancers celebrate NPAW.
- Rally to Squash: On May 28 squash clubs open their doors to their communities to teach people about the sport and their facility.
- Run Canada: Sponsored by the Canadian Track and Field Association.
- Fitness '86: Girl Guides of Canada join Fitness Canada in promoting active and healthy lifestyles for Canadian girls and women.
- Play for Play's Sake: Co-operative games and activities promote fitness, good health and active involvement for all members of the community including individuals with disabilities.
- Elderobic Moonwalk: Canadian seniors, 55 years-of-age and over try to walk to the moon and back - 766,000 km or 476,000 miles.
- The CrownLife PARTICIpaction Challenge: A one-day fitness contest between rival communities May 28.
- MOGA Madness: A contest for the Most Outrageous Group Activity ever held by Canadian youth. An event organized by and for High School Students.
- Catch the Wave: Events are planned for those N.W.T. communities with year-round swimming pools.
- You're A Winner: An open house event sponsored by the YWCA designed to include activities which appeal to all ages, interests and abilities.

Communities can also design truly northern events to meet their special circumstances and register their participation. Rankin Inlet plans a community tug-of-war and Fort Smith will organize a community fitnic, an event which was hugely successful last year. Yellowknife has a full schedule of events planned for the week.

-30-

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403) 873-7257

86-130

THREE COMMUNITIES GET NEW SWIMMING POOLS

YELLOWKNIFE (May 13) - Eighteen communities in the Northwest Territories will be participating in the Territorial government's above ground pool program this summer.

"Residents in Cape Dorset, Norman Wells and Pine Point will be able to participate in this very successful recreational program this summer when new pools open in their communities," said Local Government Minister Gordon Wray. "Subsidies to cover costs of hiring a local person to act as lifeguard and instructor at the pool also will be available for each participating community for the first time this year."

Pool supervisors will be in Pine Point May 21-28 attending a pre-employment training workshop where they will learn the mechanical operation of the above ground pool and other program procedures.

The Department of Local Government has hired a regional aquatic co-ordinator to assist in the leadership development of the program in the Inuvik region.

The NWT Above Ground Pool Program serves over 15,000 residents mainly in the smaller isolated communities.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES 1986
ABOVE GROUND POOLS

() population as of December '84

FORT SMITH REGION

INUVIK REGION

(659) Settlement Council
General Delivery
Fort Providence, N.W.T.
X0E 0L0

(764) Hamlet of Aklavik
P. O. Box 164
Aklavik, N.W.T.
X0E 0A0

(466) Deninoo Community Council
General Delivery
Fort Resolution, N.W.T.
X0E 0M0

(542) Dene Community Council
Fort Good Hope, N.W.T.
X0E 0H0

(1,512) Hamlet of Rae-Edzo
P. O. Box 68
Rae, N.W.T.
X0E 0Y0

(701) Settlement Council
P. O. Box 57
Fort McPherson, N.W.T.
X0E 0J0

(1,054) Village of Fort Simpson
P. O. Box 438
Fort Simpson, N.W.T.
X0E 0N0

(299) Hamlet of Fort Norman
General Delivery
Fort Norman, N.W.T.
X0E 0K0

(1,604) Town of Pine Point
P.O. Box 180
Pine Point, N.W.T.
X0E 0W0

(612) Village of Norman Wells
P. O. Box 5
Norman Wells, N.W.T.
X0E 0V0

(3,421) Town of Inuvik
P. O. Box 1160
Inuvik, N.W.T.
X0E 0T0

KEEWATIN REGION

BAFFIN REGION

(997) Hamlet of Baker Lake
Baker Lake, N.W.T.
X0C 0A0

(849) Hamlet of Cape Dorset
Cape Dorset, N.W.T.
X0A 0C0

(264) Hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet
General Delivery
Chesterfield Inlet, N.W.T.
X0C 0B0

(758) Hamlet of Igloolik
Igloolik, N.W.T.
X0A 0L0

(445) Hamlet of Coral Harbour
Coral Harbour, N.W.T.
X0C 0C0

(397) Hamlet of Repulse Bay
Repulse Bay, N.W.T.
X0C 0H0

86-129

**SERVICES FOR "SPECIAL NEEDS" KIDS AN EDUCATION
PRIORITY**

YELLOWKNIFE (May 9) - "Children with special needs should be with their peers in a regular school. They can't live in a hospital or an institution for the rest of their lives."

Dennis Patterson, the Minister of Education for the N.W.T., speaks with conviction, citing the situation of three multi-handicapped young people who are in a northern hospital. Two have lived in a hospital ward for eight years.

Until a few months ago, the youngsters were cared for by hospital personnel, because there was no money for extra staff and special programming. But in the last four months, the situation has changed dramatically, thanks to funds made available by the Department of Education as part of a Territories-wide initiative to improve opportunities for children with "special needs". This year, approximately 35% more will be spent in providing individualized, non-institutional programs for disabled students in their home communities.

For the purpose of departmental budgeting, special needs students are defined as those who, after careful assessment, are judged to require an Individual Education Program to achieve their potential.

"Special needs education has been neglected for too many years, due to a lack of funds," Patterson admits. "I'm glad to say that we are now making progress."

Fiona O'Donoghue, the Coordinator of Special Needs Education for the Department has examples to prove the minister's statements. "The young people in hospitals to whom he referred are now receiving a special program for five hours each day," O'Donoghue says. "They're talked to, walked around, taken out and dressed in clothes appropriate for their age." One of the girls, aged 15, had spent a great deal of time with her head down on the tray attached to her wheelchair. "She didn't respond spontaneously. With the new program, she's already greeting people and offering them hugs."

The program is a step toward integrating the students into the school system. Although they will not be able to complete all the academic tasks in a regular classroom, they will learn simply by being with people their own age and enjoy a sense of belonging, of being part of the group. Each student will be accompanied by a locally hired "special needs assistant" trained to offer the student a program tailored to his or her capabilities.

The Department's objective is to provide an Individual Education Program of this sort for each special needs student in the N.W.T., as funds permit. Already, O'Donoghue has a long list of "happy endings" to credit to the new approach: Judy in Frobisher Bay; Mimi in Igloolik; Emily in Chesterfield Inlet; Cathy in Hay River; Joey in Pelly Bay; Anthony in Cambridge Bay.

Take Judy for example, a young woman with cerebral palsy who used to live in a centre for the handicapped in Montreal. Says O'Donoghue, "It was an excellent placement, but to Judy it was a forced exile. She wanted to be with her family."

Now she's home with her mother and enrolled with her age group in the Gordon Robertson Education Centre in Frobisher Bay. When she came back to school recently after an operation, the Students' Council threw a surprise party in her honour, complete with a huge cake. "She is very much a part of the school; there's just no question about that."

When Judy reaches adulthood, she will already be recognized as part of the community. She won't have to be "reintegrated" because she already belongs.

"Another advantage is reduced cost. The program in Montreal cost over \$30,000 a year. We are providing Judy with equivalent support in her own community for \$24,000."

According to O'Donoghue, there is nothing mysterious about providing community-based programs for special needs kids. "A lot of it is common sense: what do we need to do, how are we going to do it, whose help should we have?"

There is a need for training if parents and educators are to meet the challenge easily, she says. "We're finding that teachers and principals are generally supportive of the integrated approach and are eager to improve their qualifications in this area." Fourteen educators will attend a special needs education course in Frobisher Bay in May, while another twenty-four have signed up for a similar program in Rae this summer. "We had to turn people away. Obviously, we'll have to run a lot more courses, with that kind of demand."

Over the next two years, the Department intends to add significantly to the special needs education budget for the Territories, to upgrade the services that are offered to gifted children and those with behavior problems and moderate handicaps. Ultimately, it is hoped that approximately 10 per cent of the total schools budget will be directed towards children with special needs.

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86-128

GOVERNMENT LEADER TOURS BAFFIN

YELLOWKNIFE (May 7) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston began a week-long community tour of Baffin region today.

Meetings have been scheduled with the municipal councils in Clyde River and Cape Dorset for May 8th. The following day the party will travel to Pangnirtung where Sibbeston will make a presentation to the Baffin Regional Council.

Following the visit to Pangnirtung, the party will return to Frobisher Bay where a reception for members of the Steiger expedition to the North pole will be held.

On Saturday, the government leader will join, with his Deputy Minister of Personnel Jake Heron and government staff members in a hockey game against the Baffin Correctional Centre. The evening will be spent in a meeting with the Frobisher Town Council.

Sibbeston will then travel to Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet for meetings with Hamlet councils in those Keewatin communities and return to Yellowknife May 12.

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86-127

SOME OIL-FILLED HEATERS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS

YELLOWKNIFE (May 7) - N.W.T. residents are being warned to take precautions with oil-filled heaters manufactured by the De'Longhi company.

The warning follows an announcement last week by federal Environment Minister, Tom McMillan, regarding a potential hazard with oil-filled radiator-heaters sold under the brand name "De'Longhi Canada" or "Sears". The oil in these heaters was found to contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's), which are potentially harmful to human health and the environment.

A number of these De'Longhi heaters have been sold throughout the Northwest Territories in recent months. People who have purchased one are asked to unplug or disconnect the units and store them in a safe area. This is as a precaution only; units where the oil is sealed inside are not an immediate problem. Leaking units should be placed in a plastic bag and stored until recall instructions are issued.

In addition, owners of any type of electric, oil-filled radiator heater made outside of Canada should take the same precautions until Environment Canada has completed its investigation on the extent of the problem. Heaters with the trade names, "Solaray", "West Bend", "B.D. Waite" and "Laminox" have been tested and no PCB contamination was found. The testing of other brands will continue.

Owners of the De'Longhi heaters are asked to contact the store where they purchased the units to identify themselves as having one of these heaters.

Somerset Appliance Ltd., distributors for De'Longhi in Canada, and Sears Canada have been asked to organize a recall of the units. N.W.T. residents will be notified once the recall is started.

For further information contact the Environmental Protection Service office in your area.

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86-126

TOURISM MARKETING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - Representatives from the Northwest Territories travel industry, the territorial and federal governments met recently to establish a tourism marketing committee.

The marketing committee answers to the Travel Industry Association of the Northwest Territories (TIA-NWT). The committee's main responsibility is to structure a cohesive marketing strategy which will meet the needs of all levels of the travel and tourism industry in the N.W.T.

"By establishing this committee, we eliminate much of the duplication and overlap occurring in travel and tourism programming," said TIA-NWT President Bette Palfrey. "By combining and directing our marketing efforts together rather than separately, we will achieve a much greater impact."

Marketing committee members include TravelArctic representatives Bill Graham and Al Kaylo, federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion representatives Rae Bradford and TIA-NWT representatives Klaus Roth, Esther Braden and the managers of the six travel zone associations.

Aimee Britten of Briar International Business Resources Ltd., an Ottawa consulting firm, has been hired to devise a strategy for the marketing committee and to prepare a three-year plan for marketing and promotional purposes. She will consult with the marketing committee and present a draft plan at a committee meeting in June. Amendments and approval of the three-year action plan and a preparation of a funding submission to the Canada-N.W.T. Economic Development Agreement. The Marketing Committee will meet again in July to review and approve both the strategy and the EDA submission.

"The formation of a marketing committee is long overdue," said Palfrey. "Ideas and recommendations from association boards and members at the zone level, aspects of the Territorial government's new five-year tourism strategy and Tourism Canada ideas will be incorporated into the strategy."

A main component of the strategy plan will be the fostering of full involvement, and promotion of, current native operations and the furthering of native participation in the tourist industry.

"This committee provides a great opportunity for identifying products and their market potential, for co-operative promotion and communication between industry and government," said Economic Development and Tourism Minister Tagak Curley. "It also provides a chance to deal with regional and community-based issues."

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86-125

SPORT NORTH RECEIVES FUNDING

YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - The Territorial government is contributing \$338,700 to the Sport North Federation this year.

Sport and Recreation Division Director Dennis Adams, on behalf of Local Government Minister Gordon Wray, presented a \$169,350 cheque to Sport North Federation president Ron Kapicki at the federation's annual general meeting held here last weekend. The cheque is the first installment of the Territorial government's contribution to the N.W.T. sport federation.

Sport North delivers a variety of programs and services to sport groups and organizations in the Northwest Territories. Sport North is responsible for preparing teams for the Arctic Winter Games and Canada Games. The federation also provides grants to Territorial sport bodies to conduct annual general meetings, technical coaching and officials clinics and to cover costs of Territorial championships in their sport. Sport North runs the Northstars competition, co-ordinates the Junior Olympics program and bulk fare travel program with reduced air fares for member sport associations.

Sport North co-ordinates its activities, programs and services with the Sport and Recreation Division of the Department of Local Government.

The federation's budget consists largely of funds earned as the marketing agency for Western Canada lotteries and the GNWT contribution.

Groups or individuals interested in the programs and services offered by Sport North can contact the office in Yellowknife at (403) 873-7770.

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86-124

HAY RIVER FIRMS AWARDED CONTRACTS

YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - Two Hay River firms have been awarded contracts by the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray today announced that King's Welding was awarded a \$236,728 contract to construct a bulk fuel storage facility in Trout Lake while A.V. Industries Ltd. will receive \$188,300 to perform refit work to the Merv Hardie ferry.

King's Welding will construct storage tanks and metered dispensers for heating oil and gasoline, each fuel with a tank capacity of 90,000 litres. The facility will replace the current 45 gallon drums used for fuel storage in Trout Lake. Work will start in June and should be completed by August.

"This contract was awarded on the basis of the Business Incentive Policy where a ten per cent adjustment is applied to bids from northern firms," said the minister. "This resulted in King's Welding becoming the low bidder."

Four other bids, two from the N.W.T. and one each from Alberta and Manitoba, ranged up to \$450,000.

As part of the annual refit of the Merv Hardie ferry, A.V. Industries Ltd. will perform steel work including repairs to the deck, hull and piping systems. Painting and engine maintenance will be performed using other contractors.

Work started immediately in Fort Providence and will be completed in May before the spring launching of the Merv Hardie. Five other N.W.T. firms submitted higher bids ranging from \$200,300 to \$322,000.

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86-123

EDA HELPS BUILDING STORE MANAGEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - A capital city building supply store is improving its financial management with assistance provided under the Canada-N.W.T. Economic Development Agreement (EDA).

Great Northern Lumber and Building Supplies Ltd. is receiving the \$15,000 in total funding under the Small Business Intern Program of the EDA's Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement. It is being supplied jointly, 90 per cent by the federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) and 10 per cent by the Territorial government.

Announcement of the funding was made today by Andre Bissonnette, federal Minister of State (Small Businesses), and by Tagak Curley, N.W.T. Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

The assistance will supplement the first year's salary of a new Chief Executive Officer in charge of the firm's management and finances. He or she will be responsible for improving inventory control, financial reporting procedures and staff management, resulting in increased efficiency and profitability.

One new full-time job is expected to be created by the project.

Assistance is available under the Small Business Intern Program for up to 50 per cent of the salary of new management and professional personnel, to a maximum of \$1,250 per month for one year. All N.W.T. businesses are eligible for assistance under the program.

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86-122

EDA AIDS RAE MINING FIRM

RAE-EDZO (May 5) - Ghost Lake Resources Ltd. will examine ways to broaden its mineral exploration and development operations with assistance provided under the Canada-N.W.T. Economic Development Agreement (EDA).

Ghost Lake is receiving the \$51,000 in total assistance under the Opportunity Identification Program of the EDA's Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement. The federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion is providing 90 per cent of the funding and the Territorial government 10 per cent.

Announcement of the assistance was made today by Andre Bissonnette, federal Minister of State (Small Businesses), and by Tagak Curley, N.W.T. Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Trigg, Woollett and Olson Consultants of Edmonton, Alberta will carry out the study, expected to be completed early next year. The consultants will review the firm's management structure and suggest changes to improve Ghost Lake's ability to identify and develop mineral properties.

The consultants will carry out an examination of properties held by other companies to identify possible opportunities for development by Ghost Lake.

Ghost Lake Resources Ltd. was established in 1983 under the ownership of the Fort Rae Dogrib Band, the Rae-Edzo Dene Band Development Corporation and community firms and individuals.

Assistance is available under the Opportunity Identification Program for up to 90 per cent of the eligible costs of examining ways to establish a business or improve operations. All N.W.T. residents are eligible for assistance under the program.

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86-121

INTERPROVINCIAL SPONSORING EXPO COSTUMES

VANCOUVER (May 2) - The owners of the Territories' largest oil pipeline ever built are going to help NWT Expo tell the world about the culture of the Dene.

Interprovincial Pipe Line Limited - the biggest oil pipeline company in Canada - is sponsoring the re-creation of authentic turn-of-the-century Dene clothing that will be displayed in the NWT pavilion and then returned to a public institution in the north as a cultural legacy of the company's contribution.

Announcement of the company's involvement as an Expo contributing sponsor was made jointly today by Tagak Curley, territorial minister responsible for NWT Expo, and Gordon A. Cole, vice-president and general manager of Interprovincial.

"As a northern company with on-going operations in the north and plans for future expansion, we wanted to contribute something of lasting value to the NWT," says Cole.

The authentic Dene clothing was made in Fort Simpson and Fort Norman using the same techniques that were employed at the turn-of-the-century. Three costumes have been produced in each community for a man, woman and child.

The costumes were unveiled here today at the Northwest Territories Pavilion.

The project includes documentation of the clothing and the methods used to make it.

Interprovincial also is sponsoring two crafts people from the north to demonstrate at Expo the traditional skills employed in making the clothes.

The company last year finished building the Norman Wells pipeline to Zama, Alta., at a cost of 360 million dollars.

The significant assistance NWT Expo is receiving from Interprovincial will have a major and very positive impact on the cultural aspects of Dene life we will be presenting at Expo," said Curley. "This major financial contribution will go a long way to helping us do justice to our pavilion's native cultural displays.

"The Dene are using this opportunity to provide NWT Expo with educational and exciting demonstrations of their culture," Curley added.

Expo 86 will be held on the Vancouver waterfront from May 2 to October 13. About 14 million visitors are expected to tour the site. The NWT pavilion, and the 126 northerners employed in it, will tell the story of the north, its people, their cultures, lifestyles and economy.

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OR

Barry Craig
NWT Expo
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86-049

NEW LIQUOR MANAGER APPOINTED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 28) - Ron Courtoreille is the new liquor manager of the Northwest Territories Liquor Commission.

His appointment, effective March 1, was announced today by Government Services Minister Tom Butters.

He replaces Ed Pugh who retires today.

Courtoreille was raised and educated in Hay River and is a former mayor of the town. He is the assistant manager of the Hay River Liquor Store, a position he has held since January. Over the past 15 years, Courtoreille has held management positions in the private sector and has been self-employed.

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86-048

**PREHISTORIC FOSSIL AND OTHER NEW ACQUISITIONS ON
DISPLAY**

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb 28) - The fossilized jaw of an Ichthyosaurus, a fish-like reptile that lived near present-day Hay River a hundred million years ago, is now on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife.

The fossil is one of a number of recent acquisitions which are being put on display for the first time. Other items in the exhibit include a hand-operated film projector from the Roman Catholic Mission at Eskimo Point, several Inuit dolls, household articles from early days in Yellowknife and a lead sundial that was installed at Fort Simpson in 1888.

The show has been prepared in response to public interest in seeing objects that are "hidden" in the museum storage areas.

Also on exhibit during March: a show of photographs chronicling the Canadian ascent of Mount Everest in 1982.

The Northern Heritage Centre is open to the public from 10:30 to 5 Tuesday to Friday and noon to 5 Saturday and Sunday. Closed all day Monday.

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86-047

CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THE WORLD AT NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 28) - "Everest '82 photographs by Pat Morrow," an exhibition produced by the Still Photography Division of the National Film Board, will open at the Northern Heritage Centre on March 11.

Pat Morrow, the expedition photographer, became the second Canadian to reach the summit of Mount Everest on October 7, 1982. Thirty-three colour prints retrace this historic expedition in its 7,500 metre climb from Katmandu, Nepal to the highest point on earth. Excerpts from "Everest: the expedition chronicle" by Bart Robinson accompany the photographs.

Pat Morrow, born in 1952, is a free lance photographer and contributing editor of Equinox. He lives in Kimberley, British Columbia.

Also on display: "What's Happening," an assortment of objects that have recently been acquired by the Northern Heritage Centre and have never been displayed before.

The Northern Heritage Centre is open to the public from 10:30 to 5 Tuesday to Friday and noon to 5 Saturday and Sunday. Closed all day Monday.

-30-

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86-046

EDA FUNDING APPROVED FOR N.W.T. FUR SYMPOSIUM

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 28) - The Hon. David Crombie, federal minister of Indian and northern affairs, and the Hon. Red Pedersen, N.W.T. minister of renewable resources, today announced the approval of a \$125,000 grant to stage an industry-wide fur symposium.

The symposium will be held March 5-6 in Conference Room A, Lower Level of the Legislative Assembly Quarters at the Yellowknife Inn.

The funding, granted under the Natural Resources Development Subsidiary Agreement of the joint Federal-Territorial Economic Development Agreement (EDA) and cost-shared 90/10 by the Federal and Territorial governments respectively, will go towards the cost of the conference and to airfare, honoraria and accommodation for members of N.W.T. hunters' and trappers' associations who will be attending as delegates. Members of northern native groups, Territorial and Federal government officials and other representatives of the fur industry also will attend the two-day conference.

The objective of the fur symposium is to provide delegates with information on the performance of the N.W.T. fur sector in relation to the rest of Canada's, and on trends occurring in the industry on a national and international level, particularly the anti-trapping movements. It will also assist trappers, native organizations and public servants to heighten their awareness of the problems and potential of the N.W.T. fur sector.

The symposium will serve as a forum for primary, secondary and tertiary producers, marketing groups and government agencies to discuss ways of enhancing the N.W.T. fur sector. Recommendations will be presented to delegates involved in the fur industry on their roles in enhancing the fur sector, while advice will be given to government officials on the funding of future assistance programs to promote the industry.

Resource Management Consultants (RMC) of Yellowknife will co-ordinate the planning of all symposium arrangements.

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86-045

FEDERAL BUDGET HAS MAJOR IMPACT ON NWT RESIDENTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 27) - The federal budget, released yesterday by Finance Minister Michael Wilson, proposed several far-reaching measures with significant effects on the Northwest Territories.

"The federal deficit is forecast at \$29.8 billion in 1986-87 and \$25.9 billion in 1987-88," said Territorial Finance Minister Tom Butters today in announcing his reaction to the budget. "The estimated deficit for the current fiscal year is \$33.8 billion and approximately two-thirds of the 1986-87 deficit reduction will result from tax increases."

Personal income tax changes will cost Canadians an additional \$1.1 billion in 1987 when most revenue generating measures come into effect. Commodity tax increases will net the federal government an additional \$825 million in 1986 and \$1.2 billion in 1987.

The largest source of additional revenues will result from the three per cent surtax on personal income tax payable, which will provide \$1.2 billion in 1987. Additional tax revenues resulting from the one per cent increases in the federal sales tax will average about \$1.1 billion per year to 1990.

"With a relatively strong Canadian economy in 1985 and 1986, it was felt that this combination of both spending cuts and tax increases would not impede economic growth, particularly if the deficit reduction resulted in lower interest rates," added Butters.

The federal government forecasts an increase in the Gross National Product of 3.7 per cent in 1986, down from a 4.5 per cent increase in 1985. Unemployment, however is expected to remain over nine per cent throughout 1986-87.

Northern Issues

"Following intensive consultation between our two governments, and with diligent representation from northern interest groups, an equitable solution to the taxation of northern benefits is finally accomplished," said the minister. "Winners are residents who are self-employed or those who don't receive northern benefits. Losers are two-income families where both members are receiving benefits, residents who live in shared accommodation and those who receive travel benefits in cash."

Starting January 1, 1987, the value of employer-provided housing benefits must be included as income for tax purposes. This will be offset, however, by a tax deduction. Individuals with a minimum of six months continuous residency in the N.W.T. will be eligible for a deduction equal to 20 per cent of their income up to a maximum of \$225. The maximum deduction can be increased to \$450 per month for taxpayers who maintain and reside in a self-contained domestic dwelling. A taxpayer's deduction will be restricted to \$225 if, another resident of the dwelling, including the taxpayer's spouse, claims a housing deduction for a month.

"All communities in the N.W.T. and Yukon fulfill the necessary criteria to be eligible for this deduction," noted Butters, "but the deduction will apply only for the number of full months in the year during which the taxpayer resided in the north."

The value of employer-provided travel benefits also will be included as income for tax purposes. As compensation, employees will be allowed a deduction equal to the cost of the return economy airfare to the nearest designated city. The employee and his or her family will be eligible for this deduction up to a maximum of two trips each per year. The limit of two trips will not apply to travel for medical purposes.

"We are pleased that Ottawa has acknowledged the special circumstances of northern travellers," said Butters. "In response to representations by long distance travellers, including residents of the north, the federal budget purposes a ceiling of \$50 on the tax on domestic flights."

The federal government, to offset this initiative, will increase the rate of tax on air transportation from nine to ten per cent. These changes will apply on tickets sold in Canada on or after May 1, 1986, and on tickets sold outside Canada after August 1, 1986.

Personal Tax Measures

A new federal surtax of three per cent of federal personal income tax payable beginning July 1, 1986 was introduced. All Canadians paying federal income tax will be affected. Most taxpayers earning over \$30-40,000 a year also will pay the surtax introduced in the May 1985 federal budget, until its expiry in December 1986.

The one per cent increase in the federal sales tax, effective April 1, will cost NWT residents about \$2 million in 1987. The increase is levied at the pre-retail level and affects all Canadians equally. Residents of more remote Canadian communities will not be taxed on the transportation component of prices.

The federal government is instituting a Federal Sales Tax Credit equal to \$50 per adult and \$25 per child in 1986 to offset the impact of the sales tax increase on lower-income families. This credit will be reduced by five per cent of net income in excess of \$15,000. For example, the credit will be reduced to zero for a married taxpayer with two children who has a family income level of \$18,000. The credit is refundable so residents who pay no income tax will receive a full refund of the credit.

Changes in the Dividend Tax Credit will result in a decrease in the value of the Credit to people with dividend income. The cost of this decrease will vary with the taxpayer's taxable income. For a taxpayer in the 25 per cent federal tax bracket, net federal tax payable on \$1,000 of dividend income will increase by \$86. "Few taxpayers in the NWT will be affected by this measure," stated Butters.

Low income earners, including some of those who pursue traditional livelihoods, will receive an advance of \$300 from the 1986 child tax credit in November. The advance will be paid to families who filed 1985 income tax returns and had a net income below \$15,000. This measure should reduce the problems associated with tax discounting.

The disability deduction has been increased by \$250, effective in the 1986 and following tax years, bringing the total deduction to \$2,680 for 1986. This provision should benefit about 185,000 Canadians.

Starting in the 1986 taxation year, no matter what the date of marriage, spousal income for the entire year will be deducted from the basic married exemption. This returns the married exemption to its original intent which is to allow an exemption for dependent spouses, ones who earn little or no income.

Corporate Income Taxes

Several new corporation income tax measures have been proposed by the federal government. The most significant are the elimination of the Investment Tax Credit and the introduction of a federal corporate income surtax. The surtax is equal to three per cent of income tax payable by all corporations and is effective in 1987. The five per cent corporation surtax, introduced in 1984, expires at the end of 1987.

"While the 10 per cent Investment Tax Credit for qualifying investments in the N.W.T. will be phased out by 1989, the 25 per cent tax credit for high-cost exploration remains," stated Butters. The credit was introduced as part of the Western Energy Accord in 1985.

General business income tax rate reductions will be phased in over the next three years. By 1989, the general large business tax will decrease from 36 to 33 per cent and the small business rate will decrease from 15 to 13 per cent.

The three per cent inventory allowance introduced in the 1970's to compensate businesses for value of inventory lost because of high inflation has been eliminated.

These corporation income tax changes should net the federal government \$240 million in 1986 and \$20 million in 1987.

Expenditures

The federal budget attempts to balance tax increases with expenditure restrictions, noted Butters. Federal expenditures are forecast to grow at a rate of four per cent in 1986-87 and 2.8 per cent in 1987-88.

"The cornerstone of federal expenditure reduction is a \$500 million spending cut, equal to about two per cent of federal discretionary funding," he added. "Particular emphasis will be placed on grants and operation and maintenance spending."

Foreign aid will be cut back by the spending restrictions. Planned expenditures on foreign aid will be reduced by \$1.5 billion over the next five fiscal years. Real increases in defence spending will be held to 2.75 per cent in 1986-87 and two per cent in 1987-88.

Other Issues

"Contrary to pre-budget speculation, and of positive interest to taxpayers, no changes were made to the proposed increase in limits for Registered Retirement Savings Plans," said Butters. "Provisions were included which will make withdrawal of maturing RRSP funds flexible."

Other positive measures noted by the Territorial Finance Minister include the absence of any fuel tax increase and the retention of the \$500,000 capital gains tax exemptions."

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86-043

COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS APPROVED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 21) - The Executive Council has agreed to renew existing Community Council Agreements, but has suspended negotiations on future ones.

Minister of Local Government Gordon Wray says that the Fort Good Hope and the Fort Resolution agreements will be renewed for one year in order to give enough time to develop legislation dealing with community councils.

The agreements were developed to give the Band Councils a means to participate in the municipal government of the community. In the past, the Bands have not been recognized under the Municipal Act. Each community negotiated with the Department of Local government for a community council whose membership would reflect the political interests in the community, enabling both Band Councillors and other citizens of the community to sit jointly on the council.

However, Mr. Wray says that until the government had proper legislation to cover community council agreements, it could encounter legal problems.

"The question of liability has been raised because under the agreements community councils are not legally incorporated entities."

The Executive Council has supported Mr. Wray in his decision to discontinue talks with other communities that have expressed interest in these agreements. Mr. Wray expects to have the new legislation completed before the end of the year.

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86-042

EDA ASSISTS COMPUTER TRAINING SCHOOL

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 21) - A training centre for students of micro-computer use is being established in the capital city with assistance from the Canada-NWT Economic Development Agreement (EDA).

Nor-Dat Computer Services Ltd. is receiving \$20,000 towards the cost of establishing the centre, \$18,000 from the federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE), and \$2,000 from the territorial Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

Announcement of the assistance was made today by Andre Bissonnette, federal Minister of State (Small Businesses), and by Tagak Curley, NWT Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Nor-Dat owner Marylyn Hinchey will apply the assistance to the almost \$120,000 cost of purchasing micro-computers, furnishings and software and renovating the centre's downtown premises. Training will be available for such clients as small business operators, federal and territorial governments and native organization employees. Computer camps will be offered to elementary and high school age students during the summer months.

The project is expected to result in the creation of one-and-a-half full-time jobs. The new service will eliminate the need for southern instructors to travel to the Territories to teach these skills.

The funding is being supplied under the Small Business Development Incentive Program of EDA's Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement. Assistance is available under the program for up to 40 per cent of the eligible costs of establishing a business enterprise.

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86-041

CHEAPER MORTGAGE SWITCHING AVAILABLE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - It's now easier and cheaper for people with mortgages in the NWT to take them to another bank if they feel like it.

As a result of discussions with the Territorial government's Department of Finance, Canadian banks - all of which offer mortgage-switching programs in the south - for the first time are making them available to their customers in the north.

"We initiated discussions with the banks because we thought services they offer in the south should also be offered in the north," said Finance Minister Tom Butters.

Usually switching a mortgage from one bank to another costs \$500 - \$800, including appraisal and legal fees. But with the switching programs, transfers cost a lot less - probably less than \$200 - because you don't need a new mortgage.

NWT legislation doesn't require banks to transfer mortgages. All the banks have voluntarily agreed to make the service available.

"It means people who want to can now transfer their mortgages at a reasonable cost," said Butters. "Prior to our discussion, they really had no choice but to take out an entirely new mortgage."

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86-040

WOMEN DISPLAY TRADITIONAL SKILLS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - Two native women from Fort Smith plan to demonstrate moosehide preparation to B.C. schoolchildren at the NWT's Expo 86 pavilion in Vancouver next month.

Mrs. Jane Dragon and Mrs. Elizabeth Bourke will be preparing eight moosehides on pole frames that will form part of the pavilion exhibitry for the world exposition May 2 to October 13 on the Vancouver waterfront.

The week of March 3 the two will demonstrate and explain on the Expo site the traditional skills of cleaning, stretching and drying hides. NWT Expo is now arranging to have classrooms of B.C. native schoolchildren attend from schools in the Vancouver area. The two women will prepare the hides with traditional cleansing tools made from moose shin bone.

The eight moose were harvested in the Fort Smith area by local hunters. Traditionally moosehide is used for clothing, including footwear.

Mrs. Dragon was instrumental in opening the Thebacha craft guild in Fort Smith and for the past three years has offered a course in traditional mooseskin tanning at her summer camp north of Smith.

"The demonstration of these unique traditional skills will be a wonderful opportunity for the children of B.C. to share in the cultural heritage of the NWT," says Pat Buckna, NWT Expo's manager of cultural programs. "This cultural sharing is a big part of why the NWT is at Expo."

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86-039

NCPC AGREEMENT REACHED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - Tagak Curley told the Legislative Assembly yesterday that the agreement with the Federal government and the Yukon to transfer NCPC should ensure good power rates for the North in the future.

Mr. Curley said that his objective was to achieve a dependable self-financing utility operation that could provide power at reasonable and stable rates throughout the NWT.

He said the transfer has been divided into three issues, the operating structure, the location of its headquarters and the financial arrangements under which the GNWT will accept responsibility.

Curley told members that the negotiations have been approached very carefully because he wants to make sure that it does not become a financial burden on the people in the future.

"They (Federal Government) will want to transfer it with no strings attached. That means we will have to make sure that the company can generate enough funds in the future to protect consumers from price increases due to unusual events, like mines shutting down", Curley stated.

The location of the headquarters has generated a lot of interest. because of this the Minister says he is allowing for full consultation with the four communities (Yellowknife, Ft. Smith, Hay River and Inuvik) that have expressed interest. Although the Assembly's Committee of the Whole had passed a motion in 1980 requesting the federal government to consult, Mr. Curley noted, the then Minister, John Munro, chose not to. "This is a process I do not wish to rush as the parties must have adequate time to prepare," he said.

Curley outlined three options for the structure. The traditional position of the government has been a utility operation owned fully by the government. It would operate as a fully integrated company he said. The second option being considered is a crown corporation, the 'NWT Energy Company'. It would hold all of the assets transferred from the federal government. The third proposal would be to privatize the operation through a contractual arrangement with a larger company.

"Curley said that he had asked the Northland Utility Company to develop a scenario on a NWT operation.

Regardless of the structure decided upon, Mr. Curley told the Assembly that all employees would be protected. "No one employed by NCPC here in the NWT is going to be forced out of their job," he said. "If we choose an operating contract, than the people operating would become employees of the contract company."

Mr. Curley hopes to have a decision on the structure and the location of the headquarters announced before the end of this session.

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86-038

**TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATES IN WINTER
CITIES FORUM**

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - Officials from the Departments of Public Works and Highways, Local Government and the NWT Housing Corporation are in Edmonton this week participating in the 1986 Winter Cities Forum.

Gordon Wray, minister of public works and highways and local government and Mike Ballantyne, minister responsible for the Housing Corporation announced this week that their officials will present a lecture and an exhibition on the work done by their departments in providing services and facilities for northern communities.

The Winter Cities Forum follows the initiative begun in Sapporo, Japan, in the 1970's and continues the growing exchange of ideas on designs for living in a winter environment. The forum brings together leaders, planners and policy makers, architects, engineers and scientists, with special interests in the north, from more than 15 countries. Keynote speakers at the forum include Peter Broberg from Sweden, founder of the Landskrona Group; Frederick Rohles, director of the Institute for Environmental Research; Ernest Balmer, president of the Credit Realty Group, and noted Canadian author Richard Rohmer.

Both ministers noted that the Territorial government's participation in conferences and seminars of this nature are a strong indication of the government's growing expertise in northern construction and maintenance techniques.

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86-037

TRAVELARCTIC SEEKS NEW MARKETS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 18) - TravelArctic is aggressively seeking new tourism markets for the Northwest Territories.

New markets for the Northwest Territories travel industry will be found through TravelArctic's new membership in the American Bus Association and the National Tour Association (NTA).

The NWT will be showcased as an exciting and unique destination to the increasing bus tour market in the Motorcoach Marketer, the American Bus Association publication. The publication is issued to a large segment of tourism industry participants throughout Canada and the United States.

TravelArctic's new membership in the National Tour Association provides significant exposure in the North American travel industry. Over 95 per cent of all U.S. and Canadian government travel bureaus are NTA members. It also offers access to the group travel market through interaction with NTA's tour operators based in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Membership in the NTA provides TravelArctic with the opportunity to present the NWT's services and facilities to a large number of tour operators at the annual Convention and Tour and Travel Exchange. This week-long event draws over 2,500 delegates and features tour and travel exchange information, educational seminars and an opportunity to discuss issues crucial to the travel industry.

The Northwest Territories also will be included in the NTA's annual Tour Operator Directory and Tour Supplier Member Directory. The directories will provide the NWT with an excellent marketing tool which will be used by members throughout North America who are planning tour programs.

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86-035

NWT AND CHINA TO BE NEIGHBOURS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 17) - A flashy poster in which the NWT moves next door to China is being distributed world-wide to promote the Territorial pavilion at EXPO 86 in Vancouver.

The full-color poster is a joint promotion of NWT Expo and the Territorial government's tourism promotion agency, TravelArctic.

Some 3,500 copies are being sent nationally and internationally to travel agencies, chambers of commerce, tourist information centres and automobile associations.

The poster tells the story of the NWT pavilion and its attractions and invites the world to see native people display their skills and enjoy fascinating visual displays of northern life and culture.

The poster takes advantage of the fact the pavilion of the People's Republic of China is just around the corner from the NWT pavilion.

Meanwhile, TravelArctic, in conjunction with the NWT Travel Industry Association, is setting up a travel desk in the NWT pavilion to promote tourism in the Territories during the life of the fair - May 2 to Oct. 13 . As well, the NWT Explorer's Guide, an annual product of TravelArctic, will be distributed to selected visitors. So will copies of a special NWT supplement that is now appearing in the February issue of PWA's inflight Skyword magazine. And plastic bags that will be used to package all kinds of information for an estimated 20,000 visiting media and others will feature TravelArctic's new tourism slogan: World Class Adventure, Just Minutes Away.

Closer to home, Top of the World Tours in Yellowknife is now offering an NWT Airways charter to Expo 86 on June 20-22. June 21 is NWT Day on the Expo site.

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86-036

**YOUTH PREVENTION DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAM PROVES
THAT "KIDS CAN"**

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 17) - Can young people help one another and keep out of trouble with alcohol and other drugs? Yes, they can.

In fact, since November, ten young people in five northern communities have been doing just that, as part of a four-month experiment sponsored by the GNWT Department of Social Services.

According to Minister of Social Services Bruce McLaughlin, the Youth Prevention Drug and Alcohol Pilot Project was designed to find out how young people would respond to prevention programs run by someone their own age. "We thought they might respond better to their peers than they do to adults," Mr. McLaughlin said. "Overall our expectations have clearly been met."

"The Pilot Project has also provided on-the-job training for the youth workers, adding to the supply of skilled resource people in their communities."

Project coordinator Doreen Redshaw rates the project as "an outstanding success." She says the youth workers have participated in school presentations and radio programs, organized youth groups and recreational events, and conducted research in their communities. "One young woman in Frobisher Bay has even been talking to kids in the bars and persuading them to try other, healthier activities."

The youth workers have also been acting as role models in their communities - getting elected to band councils, LEA's - "showing that young people can be leaders, part of the community." In Rankin Inlet, the workers played Santa at Christmas, collecting food from local businesses and delivering it to needy families.

But Mrs. Redshaw acknowledges that there have been frustrations. Of the original group of youth workers, five quit, mostly because of personal problems. The short span of the project has also created some administrative and supervisory difficulties.

"But the bottom line is 'the youth can do it'," she says. "Simple as that." She is hoping that funding can be obtained thorough the Alcohol and Drug Coordinating Council to keep the youth workers in Frobisher, Cambridge, Rankin and McPherson on the job until the end of the fiscal year.

The youth workers are meeting in Yellowknife from Febraury 19 to 23 for a wind-up workshop on peer counselling with K.A.L. Newell Guidance Counsellor, Regina Board of Education.

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86-034

PEDERSEN ANNOUNCES ACTION PLAN

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - The Territorial Government has announced plans to establish a three-year action plan to address the problems of spousal assault in the Northwest Territories.

Red Pedersen, minister responsible for the Status of Women Secretariat, made the announcement in the Legislative Assembly, sitting in this northern capital to consider the government's budget estimates for 1986-87.

"The honesty with which people throughout the territory are acknowledging the pain and suffering of the victims as well as the remorse and guilt of the batterers is an important step in our attempt to reduce the incidence of the problem," he said.

In response to the recent Task Force on Spousal Assault, Pedersen stated the Minister of Health will be requesting three new positions for the Family Life Unit. They will assist the communities in dealing with the problems of family violence through community workshops.

As well a co-ordinator will be hired by the department of social services to develop a counselling/anger control therapy program for batterers. The co-ordinator would also assist with community initiated projects.

Pedersen said his department of culture and communications is in the process of launching a three-year information awareness program on spousal assault. The program will make use of print, radio, television spots and films designed to further increase public awareness and provide information on what can be done to combat spousal assault.

The minister also requested funds to assist the smaller communities with the establishment of safe houses. In addition he recommended that additional funding be made available for safe houses in Fort Smith, Inuvik and Yellowknife.

Pedersen noted that the Task Force had reported that the communities clearly indicated that they did not want the government to establish a large infrastructure and program.

He agreed.

"No amount of government buildings and staff will change people's attitudes and behaviour if they don't want to change themselves," he said. "Like other social problems, the solution to spousal abuse problems lies with the individuals."

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86-033

CO-ORDINATOR OF TRAINING NAMED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 14) - Elizabeth Biscaye has been appointed co-ordinator of training for the Department of Culture and Communications' Northwest Territories Language Bureau.

Biscaye, 28, has been employed as an interpreter with the bureau's Dene language section for the past two years.

As co-ordinator of training, she will be responsible for the development and implementation of staff training programs as well as programs designed to assist interpreter/translator groups outside the government.

The position is new to the Language Bureau and was made possible under the Language Agreement between the federal Secretary of State and the Territorial government.

For the past few months, Biscaye has been on secondment to the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages created by the government to examine aboriginal language needs in the Northwest Territories and to make recommendations to Government Leader Nick Sibbeston and the Executive Council. She will assume her new duties when the work of that task force has been completed.

Biscaye, a Chipewyan speaking member of the Language Bureau, is a graduate of the teacher Education Program in Fort Smith and taught elementary school in Fort Providence from 1981 to 1984.

A graduate of Joseph Burr Tyrell High School in Fort Smith, she has also attended the Summer Institute for Linguistics for Native Americans in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and has taken accredited linguistic courses at the University of Calgary.

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86-032

**NWT SUPREME COURT TO DECIDE HAY RIVER EGG
PRODUCTION FACILITY'S FUTURE**

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - The Territorial government is asking the courts to decide whether the Canadian Parliament, or the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency, can stop Northwest Territories residents from exporting agricultural products into other provinces.

Government Leader Nick Sibbeston today announced that the question has been referred to the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories.

The matter stems from negotiations started in 1984 between the Hay River Dene Band and two Alberta companies, involved in the poultry business, to establish a joint venture to produce eggs at Hay River.

Economic Development and Tourism Minister Tagak Curley strongly supported these negotiations. "This venture would provide economic benefits for members of the Hay River Dene Band and could provide potential benefits to other businesses in the Northwest Territories," he said.

The Territorial government applied to the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency (CEMA), and later to the National Farm Products Marketing Council, to grant NWT residents the right to produce eggs for interprovincial and export trade. The consumer market for eggs in the NWT is limited and a Hay River egg production facility would produce more eggs than the NWT market demands. CEMA refused the request and their position was upheld by the Council.

Under the Farms Product Marketing Agencies Act, which regulates the marketing of agricultural products for interprovincial trade, CEMA established egg production quotas for each of the 10 provinces. No quotas were allocated to the NWT. CEMA refused the Territorial government's request on the grounds that no provincial allocation had been made to the NWT under the Act.

At a hearing, to be held here on June 3, the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories will be asked three questions by the territorial minister of justice: Is the Farm Products Marketing Agencies Act inconsistent with the mobility rights and equality rights of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms? Is the Farm Products Marketing Agencies Act ultra vires on the grounds that it prevents agricultural products in the NWT from being admitted freely into other Canadian provinces? Is the Parliament of Canada or, alternatively, the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency, authorized in law to prohibit NWT residents from exporting agricultural products grown by them in the NWT into other Canadian provinces?

Notices of the hearing have been sent to the Attorneys-General of Canada and the 10 provinces, the Commissioner of the Yukon and the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency. Should any of these people wish to intervene in the hearing, they must provide a Notice of Intention to Intervene to the NWT Supreme Court by March 17.

The territorial minister of justice is empowered by the NWT's Legal Questions Act to put reference to questions to the NWT Supreme Court.

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86-031

**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES THERAPISTS MEET IN
YELLOWKNIFE**

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - Occupational and Physiotherapists from across the north will meet in Yellowknife February 25-28 for the their third Northwest Territories Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Conference.

The Department of Health has contributed the major funding for the conference with additional support from Stanton Yellowknife Hospital and Northwest Territorial Air.

The meeting will be attended by therapists from Frobisher Bay, Hay River, Fort Smith, Inuvik and Yellowknife. The focus of the meetings will be podiatry (the treatment and prevention of conditions of the feet).

Keynote speaker, Lynne Rutherford, an Occupational Therapist who has done a significant amount of teaching of foot care, will be travelling from Kingston, Ontario.

In addition to the session planned for therapists, Ms. Rutherford will present an in-service entitled "Managing Your Foot Woes" on Thursday, February 27 at 1:00 p.m. at Stanton Yellowknife Hospital.

Interested health care professionals will be admitted to the conference as space permits. Conference sessions include examination of the foot and fabrication of orthotics.

If anyone is interested in attending the in-service or any of the conference sessions, please call Sheila Howick at 920-4111 extension 203 or extension 244.

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86-030

JEAN MARIE RIVER GETS NEW GYM AND OFFICE COMPLEX

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - A Rankin Inlet construction firm will construct a community gymnasium and office complex in Jean Marie River.

Nahendeh MLA Nick Sibbeston, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that Kissarvik Construction has been awarded the \$614,220 contract.

The complex will provide office and meeting facilities for the community and a convertible space to be used for either indoor sports or community social activities. A kitchen, washrooms, changerooms and showers will also be included.

Materials will be delivered by winter road before the end of March. Construction will begin in June with an anticipated completion date in November.

"Community leaders have appointed a representative to liaise with Kissarvik in order to maximize the use of local lodging, labour and materials," said Wray. Locally cut and milled wood will be used on the outside of the building."

Eight other unsuccessful higher bids, three from both the NWT and Alberta and one each from the Yukon and British Columbia, averaged about \$711,000.

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86-029

MAJOR INITIATIVES ANNOUNCED IN TERRITORIAL BUDGET

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - Major initiatives in housing, education and employment creation highlight the \$714 million 1986-87 Territorial government budget presented today to the NWT Legislative Assembly by Finance Minister Tom Butters.

The budget contains a 10.6 per cent increase in expenditures over the revised 1985-86 budget but does not contain any tax increases for NWT residents.

The minister told the Assembly that while the 10.6 per cent increase in expenditures is higher than any increases likely to be implemented by other Canadian jurisdictions, it was justified in light of the deficiencies in housing, institutional facilities, municipal infrastructure and service levels in the NWT.

"It is far easier to tighten your belt when your basic needs are already met," said Butters. "It is much more difficult when you are still striving for basic levels of housing, education and jobs."

Revenue growth between the 1985-86 revised budget and the 1986-87 budget is 7.9 per cent, almost three per cent less than expenditure growth. In addressing the lower rate of revenue growth, the minister explained that current uncertainties facing NWT taxpayers made the Executive Council unwilling to impose new tax burdens at this time. The uncertainties involved include the impact of the upcoming federal budget on consumers; taxation of northern benefits; current circumstances of the NWT mining industry; possible restructuring of unemployment insurance; increases in Canada Pension Plan contributions effective January 1, 1987; and, ever present higher inflationary conditions faced by northerners.

The minister, however, tempered the government's reluctance to impose new taxes at this time. "While the formula financing arrangement provides for a basic level of expenditure growth, the Government of Canada cannot be expected to provide additional revenues to support demands for new or expanded programs," he added "...some of the financial burden of paying for increased services must be borne (in future) by northerners."

The 1986-87 budget projects a deficit of almost \$16 million. In recommending this deficit to the Legislative Assembly, the minister stated his belief that a \$16 million deficit could be incurred without impairing the financial health of the government. He noted that it was necessary for the government to return to a balanced budget in the near future and to bring expenditure growth in line with revenue growth.

Expenditure priorities announced in the budget were largely in the areas of housing, education and employment improvements. Significant initiatives in other key areas also were presented.

In housing, a major increase in the Home-Ownership Assistance Program was identified and an \$8 million increase in funding to the NWT Housing Corporation was announced. It will be used to increase the maintenance standard of public housing, implement an Experimental Home Improvement Program, increase technical and administration support to housing associations, and, increase the salary benefits package for housing association staff allowing the associations to compete for and retain qualified staff.

Educational programs receive an infusion of \$9.7 million in operational funding primarily to increase the emphasis on native language curriculum development, provide additional grades in many small communities, expand adult training programs and increase the numbers of teachers and assistants working with children requiring special instruction and attention.

In the area of employment, Butters projected that the NWT labour force would increase by at least 1,500 new participants between 1984 and 1986, an eight per cent increase. He noted that unemployment among native northerners is estimated to be 31 per cent or higher and is seven per cent among non-native northerners.

Due to this unbalanced employment situation, the government must do everything possible to improve job opportunities for native northerners while maintaining the employment rate of non-native northerners, said the minister.

Measures, to create necessary business and job opportunities for the expanding labour force and native northerners, introduced by the government include:

- \$3 million for increased marketing of northern products and attractions at Expo '86;
- A 47 per cent increase in capital spending on tourism and park facilities;
- Introduction of a privatization policy to support the expansion of the northern private sector; and,
- Approval of a Native Employment Policy, in conjunction with the establishment of an Equal Employment Directorate and regional Native Employment Counsellor positions, and enhancements to training-on-the-job subsidies to small businesses training northerners who lack job skills and work experience.

Other initiatives announced by the minister include: \$1.9 million for a spousal assault program; over \$600,00 for enhancements to the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program; a \$1.3 million increase to strengthen the resource management capability of the government; over \$500,000 for recreation and youth programs; \$2 million increase for highway design and construction; and, \$12 million capital spending increase to the Department of Health for the new Stanton Yellowknife Hospital construction.

Butters also announced the establishment of a Ministerial Task Force to eliminate duplication and identify ineffective or inefficient government activities by conducting a fundamental review of all government programs.

The government also committed itself to live within the 1986-87 Main Estimates appropriations except in extreme circumstances and reduced the supplementary appropriations reserve to \$6 million. The 1985-86 reserve was \$17.5 million.

"We have struck a balance between the government's obligations to address current problems and its responsibility to maintain a financially sound government," concluded Butters.

The budget is the main item of consideration during the Legislative Assembly's winter session in Yellowknife. The session is expected to last five to six weeks.

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86-028

SIR JOHN INQUIRY LEADS TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 11) - The findings of the Minister's inquiry into alleged improprieties at Sir John Franklin High School in Yellowknife during the December municipal election campaign warrant disciplinary action against four staff members, Education Minister Dennis Patterson announced today.

After a ten-day suspension to permit completion of the investigation, Principal John Rouble has been reinstated, but only for the balance of the school year. Mr. Rouble has been notified that his designation as principal will be removed, and that he will be offered an ordinary teaching position with the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Yellowknife Mayor Michael McGrath had been on a two-year leave of absence with a guarantee to return as vice-principal of Sir John Franklin High School. As the only staff member with administrative experience in programming and time-tabling he acted as principal of the school during Mr. Rouble's suspension to allow an orderly start to the new semester. Mr. McGrath's new guarantee of employment will specify only that he will receive a teaching position at the conclusion of his leave.

Teacher Kenneth Amrow will be sent a letter of reprimand, with the condition that should he be responsible for any future improprieties, his position will be terminated.

McGrath's campaign manager Lorne Parker, also a teacher at the school, will receive a letter of reprimand to be placed on his personnel file.

"There is no doubt whatsoever that school facilities, equipment, staff and students were used to support the McGrath campaign," Mr. Patterson said. "In each case the use was not in itself extensive, but the fact remains that use was made."

The inquiry, conducted by three investigators over a two-month period, uncovered a variety of violations of both GNWT and Community Education Society policies on political activity. School space was used for storage of material from the last municipal election, and for the preparation of campaign signs and posters; school furniture was used at McGrath campaign headquarters; staff and students were involved in sign and poster preparation during school hours; staff and students were involved in delivering and receiving campaign funds during school hours; and one student made bank deposits during class time.

The Community Education Society for the school has been informed of the inquiry results and has assured the Minister of its full support for the disciplinary actions taken. "What is perhaps the most reprehensible factor in these incidents is the school administration's failure to observe the sensitivities of the Community Education Society," Mr. Patterson said. "On their advice, Superintendent Eleanor Ingalls met with both Mr. Rouble and Mr. McGrath. The improprieties occurred in spite of her specific direction, before the campaign, that school facilities were not to be used."

In the course of the investigation, Mr. McGrath did admit to knowing, during the campaign, that staff were involved in some campaign work during school hours and that school facilities and equipment were used both at the school and at his campaign headquarters. Mr. Rouble maintains that he was not aware of these activities, but conceded that he personally did, on occasion, deliver campaign funds during the school day to the teacher responsible for having these deposited at the bank.

"Ignorance is no excuse," Mr. Patterson said. "In Mr. Rouble's case, my primary concern is his apparent inability to maintain control over the school, staff and students."

"I can only assume that if he was not aware of what was taking place in this case, that he is not likely in control of other activities. Monitoring of activities of the school and staff, including the vice-principal, would have brought the issues to his attention early in the campaign. Mr. Rouble did become involved in campaign-related activities at school and in some cases during the school day. But it is the fact that he appears not to have had any control over many campaign-related activities going on in his school and his failure to ensure that the Society's concerns were scrupulously respected that justifies his removal from a leadership position at Sir John Franklin."

A principal's designation cannot legally be removed until the end of a school year. Mr. Rouble's performance will be monitored closely in the meantime.

" Mr. McGrath also used extremely poor judgement in not exercising more control over staff and student involvement in his campaign," Mr. Patterson said. "He chose to allow the use of school facilities for campaign purposes against Education Society policy which had been explained to him, and without seeking approval from the principal or superintendent.

"There is no excuse for Mr. McGrath's indiscretion. As vice-principal and as a professional educator, Mr. McGrath should have known better."

While the final responsibility for policy contraventions at the school rests with its administration, the actual involvement of students in sign painting happened under Mr. Kenneth Amrow's direction. Mr. Amrow assumed at the time that the administration knew and approved of his course of action.

"Common sense tells us that students are at school to be educated, not to further the political campaign of one individual," Mr. Patterson said. "I regard Mr. Amrow's actions as a serious neglect of a teacher's responsibility."

Other school staff who had some involvement in the campaign activities included Lorne Parker, who was campaign manager for Mr. McGrath. No evidence was found to link Mr. Parker directly to any improper action, but he was advised by several teachers that they knew students were being used to prepare signs.

"Mr. Parker, as a staff member and campaign manager, should have passed this information on to the school administration or at least to the campaign committee," Mr. Patterson said.

Several school staff members played lesser roles in the campaign. Facts established during the investigation do not support claims that their involvement during school time was significant. Unless new information becomes available, further action will not be taken against other school staff.

In order to prevent future problems of this nature, the Department of Education will draft a policy and regulations specifically for schools, regarding involvement of staff and students in political campaigns. A student/teacher information brochure emphasizing basic principles and ethics of democratic election will be prepared for distribution before upcoming elections.

"The NWTTA may feel that I have taken rather stern measures in this case," Mr. Patterson acknowledged, "but I must ask them to remember that what is at stake here is nothing less than our young people's faith in the democratic process."

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86-027

HEALTH BURSARY DEADLINE MARCH 31ST

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 7) - If you want to obtain or further your training in one of the health-care professions, the NWT Department of Health may be able to help.

Bursaries are available for full or part-time students in a variety of health-care fields. Preference will be given to applicants who wish to work in professions that are needed in the North: medicine, nursing, x-ray technology, physio- and occupational therapy and health education, for example.

"The Health Training Bursaries have two purposes," according to Minister of Health Bruce McLaughlin. "On one hand, they help us ensure a supply of skilled health professionals for northern communities. On the other, they assist northerners in obtaining advanced education."

People who receive bursaries will be required to work in the NWT for a period of time following completion of their training. The length of service will depend on the amount and type of funding.

Deadline for receipt of applications is March 31st. Allowances are available for tuition and living expenses.

Application forms and additional information are available from Health Programs and Standards, Department of Health, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9 or by phoning 403-873-7711.

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CONTACT: Margie Crown
Department of Health
(403)873-7711

OR

Candace Savage
Culture and Communications
(403)873-7615

86-026

**YELLOWKNIFE'S FIRST HERITAGE AWARDS TO BE
PRESENTED**

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 6) - Alex Czarnecki, Susan Jackson and the Old Stope Association will receive Heritage Canada awards for "outstanding service in preserving the heritage of the community." These are the first such honors to be awarded in Yellowknife.

The presentation will be made as part of a Heritage Day program at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Monday February 17, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Other highlights of the evening will include exhibits and videos on the history of Yellowknife and a slide-talk by Commissioner John Parker.

Czarnecki receives his award for the film Heart of Gold, which looks at the history of Yellowknife. Jackson is being honored for her contribution to Yellowknife's fiftieth anniversary "Homecoming", and the Old Stope Association is being recognized for its work to promote and preserve Old Town.

The award winners were originally selected for the honor by the heritage committee of Yellowknife city council. The nominations were then endorsed by the whole council and ratified by Heritage Canada in Ottawa.

Heritage Day is observed across Canada, as a reminder of the importance of tradition and history.

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CONTACT: Judy Edgar
Administrator
Prince of Wales
Northern Heritage Centre
(403)873-7686

OR

Candace Savage
Culture and Communications
(403)873-7615

86-025

NORTH POLE TEAM COMPLETES FIRST TRAINING JOURNEY

FROBISHER BAY (Feb. 4) - Team members of the Steger International Polar Expedition say they are "very encouraged" about their prospects for reaching the North Pole by dogsled later this winter, following the first in a series of training exercises in Canada's eastern arctic.

During its four day trek across rough pack ice near Frobisher Bay, Northwest Territories, the 7-man, 1-woman team tested equipment and techniques for their attempt to complete the first confirmed journey to the top of the world without resupply.

"We were able to keep the sleds moving along steadily over extremely rough pack ice and this gave us a new edge of optimism," said expedition co-leader Will Steger.

With four dog sleds each laden with 800 pounds of sand bags to simulate the heavy loads of food and fuel they will need to transport during their 60-day polar journey, the team maintained a 15-mile per day pace in temperatures as low as -52 degrees F. "This compares favorably with the pace we'll need to maintain to traverse some 1,000 miles of frozen ocean before the spring thaw," Steger said.

The only serious problem the team encountered was continual over-heating from heavy exertion said co-leader Paul Schurke. "This could lead to moisture problems in our clothing from excess perspiration," he said. "I think this will be worked out once team members become more adept at adjusting their clothing systems throughout the day in accordance with its workload."

The team returned to its base camp in Frobisher Bay for three days before heading out for another two-week training journey later this week. While in Frobisher, members will be honoured at a dinner hosted by John Parker, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories - the expedition's Canadian patron. The team recently signed a memorandum with the Government of the Northwest Territories confirming its intention to help promote arctic tourism and the use of northern fur products through expedition publicity. The team will fly to Ellesmere Island to begin its polar journey March 3.

For further information, team members and staff can be contacted at their base camp in Frobisher Bay at (819)979-6026. During the polar journey, information can be obtained from Jennifer Kimball at (212)279-9220.

-30-

CONTACT: Sharon Bunes
(819)979-4245

86-024

NWT EXPO OFFICES MOVING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 4) - NWT Expo has closed down its office here for the Territories and, with the opening of EXPO 86 in Vancouver only three months away, will shortly be moving into the NWT pavilion on the Expo site.

NWT Expo's temporary office off the site, in Burnaby, will remain open until Feb. 21. After that, all staff will be working out of the offices in the pavilion.

As a result, the two mailing addresses for NWT Expo are now: NWT Pavilion, Bag 8686, Yellowknife, X1A 2R3, and NWT Pavilion, Mail Box 42, Expo 86, P.O. Box 8788, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5C4.

Meanwhile, NWT Expo's toll-free number will remain unchanged and will be in service for the life of the world's fair. It is 1-800-663-2171.

However, NWT Expo's other telephone numbers are changing. Until Feb. 21, the numbers are 604-299-5477 and 604-299-2446. After Feb. 21, there will be a single number other than the toll-free number. It will be 604-668-8161.

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CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403)873-7251

86-021

GET YOUR TICKETS FOR NWT DAY AT EXPO

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 3) - Tickets are on sale now for one of the biggest events in NWT history - Northwest Territories Day June 21 at Expo 86 in Vancouver.

June 21 is the day on which the entire world exposition on the Vancouver waterfront takes time off to celebrate the culture and accomplishments of the NWT - with official ceremonies, performances and special events all over the huge site, and even fireworks.

It's also the day on which the unique NWT pavilion at Expo and its restaurant will be open especially for northerners and other friends of the north, but only if they've bought a special badge or activities package.

"We're selling the badges and package on a first-come basis, and there's only so many of them, so if people want to ensure they get into the pavilion on June 21 we advise them to get theirs now," says Bob Hornal of Vancouver, a former Yellowknifer who is chairman of the B.C. section of the NWT Volunteer Co-ordinating Committee. The committee is selling the badges and activities package for NWT Expo.

The badges and package will only go on sale on the Expo site a couple of days before June 21 if any are left over from the current pre-sale.

Expo 86, with pavilions and attractions from about 60 countries, provinces and corporations, runs May 2 to Oct. 13. About 86,000 people a day are expected to visit for 5 1/2 months.

"June 21 - the longest day of the year in both the NWT and Vancouver - is going to be very special for northerners," says Hornal. "If people in the north are thinking of going to Expo, that's a good time to come. It should be quite a massive reunion of old friends."

NWT Day on the site will include official ceremonies involving members of the Legislative Assembly, including Territorial government ministers, an Arctic show, jigging contest, evening dance, northern feast and all kinds of northern entertainment.

There are two ways northerners and other friends of the north can participate. They can purchase participant badges for \$5 each or an activities package for \$25.

The badges and packages are available only by writing the NWT Volunteer Co-ordinating Committee at either Box 2785 in Yellowknife, X1A 2R1, or at 4707 Blenheim St., Vancouver, V6L 3A5, and enclosing a cheque or money order payable to the committee.

Neither the \$5 badge nor the \$25 package includes gate admission to Expo. That has to be purchased from Expo 86 itself, either in advance or at the gate.

The badge includes entrance to the NWT pavilion and the 10 p.m. jigging contest. The \$25 activities package - \$12.50 for ages 12 - 18 - includes the same benefits as the badge but also tea and bannock in the morning, the evening dance, and the northern feast of native foods at various times - four, five, six or seven o'clock. The activities package is free for anyone over 65 or under 12 years-of-age, although they still have to obtain them.

"Northerners who want to take part in NWT Day should write us soon, because ex-northerners in B.C. and other friends of the north are really expressing a great deal of interest in attending," says Hornal.

The Volunteers co-ordinating committee is now sending information packages on NWT Day to 2,700 ex-northerners around the world who were invited by the City of Yellowknife to the city's 50th anniversary homecoming celebrations in 1984.

In conjunction with NWT Day, Top of the World Tours of Yellowknife has a two-night charter package from Yellowknife to Vancouver by Northwest Territorial Airways Electra which leaves Yellowknife June 20, and includes entrance to both Expo 86 and the NWT pavilion and two nights' accommodation. Curiously, the Electra seats exactly 86 people.

A complete list of NWT Day activities on the Expo site is as follows:

- the Expo site, including the NWT pavilion, will be open all day and all evening.
- 10 a.m. is NWT entertainment at the Plaza of Nations, the central location for all Expo 86 ceremonies.
- 11 a.m. is the official ceremony declaring June 21 NWT Day and the NWT flag goes up all over the Expo site.
- 11:20 a.m. in the Plaza of Nations will be the kick-off of northern entertainment and cultural events throughout the day.
- 7:30 p.m. will be the Arctic show and tea dance at the Xerox International Theatre.
- 10 p.m. is the jigging contest and dance.
- at midnight there will be an Expo fireworks display and June 21 finale, with a toast to the NWT.

Meanwhile, volunteers to help the NWT Expo pavilion during the life of the world's fair are being recruited in both the north and in B.C., where many ex-northerners now live. Hornal and his wife, Joan, have so far lined up 40 people in B.C. to help regular staff in the NWT pavilion.

In the north, Grant and Marilyn Hinchey of Yellowknife are in charge of recruiting NWT Expo volunteers. Northerners wishing more information can write them at Box 2785, Yellowknife. X1A 2R1. Ex-northerners should contact the Hornals at 4707 Blenheim Street in Vancouver.

People who arrive on the site June 21 and can't get the participants badge or special activities package can still get into Expo 86 and see some of the NWT events, but - if the badges and activities package are sold out - they won't be able to get into the pavilion or pavilion restaurant and take part in some the special events.

For more information on NWT Day, or about ordering badges or the activities packages, call Marilyn Hinchey of the volunteer co-ordinating committee in Yellowknife at (403)873-5975.

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CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403)873-7251

86-023

GNWT PETROLEUM PRODUCTS PRICE INCREASES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 3) - Prices for gasoline, naphtha, aviation and diesel fuel in communities where the Territorial government acts as distributor of petroleum products rise today.

Consumers served by the private sector are already paying the tax increases.

The Territorial government provides petroleum products to 41 communities located throughout the Northwest Territories which are not served by the private sector.

"There will be no increase in the price of heating fuel," Government Services Minister Tom Butters said today in announcing the increases. "This is the first price increase for petroleum products in over three years."

The increases reflect a two cent a litre increase in the federal excise tax, effective September 1, 1985; a one per cent increase, from 10 to 11 per cent, in the federal sales tax, effective January 1, 1986; and, an increase in the GNWT petroleum tax, which was announced on December 12, 1985. The federal sales tax varies at different supply points as the taxes are based on a percentage of the product cost at the refineries.

The increases range from 2.0 to 4.5 cents per litre depending on the product and community. For example, Pond Inlet consumers will pay two cents a litre more for naphtha while Arctic Red River consumers will realize a four cent a litre increase in gasoline prices.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-022

HAY RIVER DISASTER PAYMENTS READY

HAY RIVER (Feb. 3) - Residents of Hay River who suffered losses and property damage as a result of the flood last May are receiving a final compensation payment from the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The announcement was made today by Hay River MLA Don Stewart on behalf of Government Services Minister Tom Butters.

"We conducted a detailed review of all claims and consulted with Emergency Planning Canada before taking the final package to the Executive Council for approval," stated Butters.

The final payment brings the total amount of compensation paid by the Territorial government to \$618,000. Cheques and compensation details, totalling \$265,000, are ready and can be picked up at the GNWT Hay River office today.

The minister also stated that the Territorial government, with assistance from Jim Hoffman, Regional Director for Emergency Planning Canada, will be designing a public awareness program to ensure that all residents, particularly those in flood prone communities, will be aware of the limitations of the Territorial government's Disaster Compensation Policy.

"All persons residing in flood prone areas must protect their property and belongings as best they can," he added. "Where insurance coverage is available for such things as snowmobiles and equipment, we will not consider reimbursement for damages suffered to them."

Butters is seeking the Federal government's assistance in exploring ways to reduce effects of floods. "Emergency Planning Canada has provided us with a great deal of assistance over the past few months and we are making use of their expertise to help us determine how best to minimize any future damage in those flood prone areas," he added.

The disaster assistance payments do not provide 100 per cent reimbursement for damages and losses. The payments are grants intended to assist people reestablishing their homes and small businesses to pre-flood conditions. While 80 per cent of approved expenses were reimbursed, all claims were subject to specific limitations and exclusions.

The Department of Government Services is reviewing the recommendations of the Hay River Flood Assistance Review Board, in consultation with Emergency Planning Canada, and will be acting on the recommendations.

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-020

BUSINESS LOAN FUND HOPING TO ENCOURAGE APPLICANTS

INUVIK (Jan. 31) - Inuvik's Department of Economic Development and Tourism is hoping more businesses in the Inuvik region will take a look at the services offered by the Regional Loan Board.

The Regional Loan Board was one of the initiatives established by Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Tagak Curley. It provides an alternate for businesses having difficulties in obtaining loans from a private institution.

"The Business Loans and Guarantees Fund acts as a lender of last resort," notes Regional Superintendent of Economic Development and Tourism Fred Koe. "If someone is turned down by the banks for a business loan they can apply to the loan board."

Regional loan boards consider loan and guarantees to business enterprises to a maximum total of \$50,000. However in order to apply a business must first have a written refusal for the loan from a bank. Applicants must be residents of the region of application and have three years residency in the Northwest Territories. The interest rate is two percent over the price rate at the time of approval.

Since its inception on April 1, 1985, Inuvik's Regional Loan Board has received seven applications from businesses in the region - with all but one of those approved - for a total of \$180,000. All of the successful applicants had previously been turned down by the banks.

Despite the number of applications, the Inuvik regional board is hoping more local businesses will take advantage of what the board has to offer.

"We would like to have more businesses apply from the region if they require financial assistance," said Koe, who as regional superintendent also acts as the chairperson for the loan board. "After all, our objective is to help those businesses having difficulties in obtaining funds in a conventional manner."

The Regional Loan Board was set up under the Territorial government's Business Loan Fund, which operates under the authority of the Business Loan and Guarantees Fund Act and Regulations. The operation of the fund is directed by decisions of the minister of economic development on the recommendation of the loan board consisting of regional economic development superintendent and three long-term northern residents. Very few applications are rejected by the board and those who are can appeal to the Minister.

The Regional Loan Board has the same authority and responsibilities as the NWT Business Loan Board up to the loan limit of \$50,000. Any amount higher than that must go to the Territorial board.

Information on how to apply to the board and further information on how it operates can be obtained by contacting the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in Inuvik at 979-7230.

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CONTACT: Reid Masson
Culture Communications
Inuvik, NWT
(403)979-7108

86-019

NWT EXPO LOOKING FOR HIT TUNE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - Now's your chance to become a famous northern songwriter.

And you can win a free trip to EXPO 86 in Vancouver if you're successful.

NWT Expo is co-sponsoring a song-writing contest for a pavilion theme song. The contest is open to all residents of the Territories.

"We're looking for words and music suitable for performance by both choral and instrumental groups," says Pat Buckna, NWT Expo's manager of cultural programs and special events.

Co-sponsoring the competition is Roland Canada Music Limited of Vancouver, supplier of the NWT pavilion's sound systems.

Buckna says the song should reflect the theme of the NWT Pavilion - the Emerging North, in Search of Balance - and acknowledge EXPO 86's emphasis on world progress and developments in transportation and communication.

The contest winner will be awarded a one-week trip to Expo during the life of the world exposition, May 2 to Oct. 13. If a youngster wins, the trip will include a parent or guardian.

Songs will be judged by a panel of three people made up of a representative of Roland Music, Yellowknife radio station CJCD and Bob Rhodes of Yellowknife, CBC area manager.

"The contest is an opportunity for a creative northerner to have his or her music performed before millions of people," says Roland Music's Barry Creamer.

Entries must be on cassette tape and submitted to NWT Expo, Bag 8686, Yellowknife, NWT. X1A 2R3. They must be postmarked no later than March 15. Entries will not be returned.

Employees and their families of NWT Expo and Roland Music are excluded from the competition.

NWT Expo will retain all rights to the winning song during the life of the world's fair.

Songwriters wishing more information should contact Buckna at the NWT pavilion office in Vancouver at 1-800-663-2171.

"The song will be an important part of our message to the world," says Buckna, "so we want something very special."

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CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403)873-7251

86-018

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY APPOINTED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 30) - Mike Whittington has been appointed Principal Secretary to Government Leader, Nick Sibbeston.

In an announcement today, Mr. Sibbeston said Whittington will begin his responsibilities on a full-time basis May 1 at the conclusion of the academic year. Until that time he will provide advice to the Government Leader and Executive on a special assignment basis.

Whittington is currently a professor of political science at Carleton University.

"As we enter the era of full responsible government we enter a new political situation - one which requires political advice on all matters," Mr. Sibbeston said. "We require someone with broader views. Someone who has not only a knowledge of the North but also of the other political jurisdictions in Canada. I'm confident Mr. Whittington brings that to us."

Mr. Sibbeston pointed out that the government has had administrative and program advisors in the past but he said that the role of the principal secretary will be to advise the Leader and Executive Council on the political impacts of their decisions on other governments, the Assembly, native organizations and special interest groups.

The Principal Secretary will also be providing advice to the Government Leader on issues arising at First Ministers' Conferences and will be the link between the Executive Council and the senior public service.

Mr. Whittington has been active in the North throughout most of his career. He has co-authored five books about the Canadian Political System. In 1983 he wrote Division of the Northwest Territories: Administrative Structures for Nunavut, for the Legislative Assembly. Last year Mr. Whittington published The North, as part of the MacDonalld Commission report.

He has taught at both Queen's University and Carleton. In the seventies Mr. Whittington worked as coordinator and lecturer on extension courses at Northland College and St. Lawrence College.

Mr. Whittington, 43, is an avid skier, and was coach of the Carleton Ski Team for a number of years. He has travelled extensively in the North, both on business and on vacation. He says that he is looking forward to finally settling in the North.

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CONTACT: Patrick Scott
920-6176

86-017

LIQUOR PRICES TO INCREASE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 27) - Liquor prices in the Northwest Territories will be increased January 29 announced Government Services Minister Tom Butters today.

The new prices reflect a Government of Canada increase of one per cent in the excise tax, effective January 1, and an increase in domestic beer and other suppliers' costs.

The increase means that all domestic beer brands will cost 20 cents more per case while 750 ml bottles of domestic spirits will cost an additional 15 cents.

The last general liquor price increase on June 5, 1985 was due then to a two per cent increase in the federal excise tax and an increase in domestic beer suppliers' costs.

-30-

CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-016

TOLL-FREE NUMBER PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 27) - The Territorial Department of Health now has a toll-free number -- Zenith 06025.

People from anywhere in the NWT can call without charge for information about programs administered by the Department, including Medical Transportation, Pharmacare, Health Insurance, Physician Recruitment, Family Life Education and Health Promotion.

"We want to provide the best possible service throughout the NWT," Minister of Health Bruce McLaughlin said. "The toll-free number should make our program staff in Yellowknife more accessible to people in other communities."

Mr. McLaughlin explained that the telephone service is a temporary measure. As the Territorial government takes over responsibilities now held by Health and Welfare Canada, the Department of Health will add field staff in the regions. When these people are in place, a free phone link with headquarters in Yellowknife will become unnecessary.

"In the interim, the phone service is there and we encourage people to use it freely."

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CONTACT: Michael Pontus
Assistant Deputy Minister
Department of Health
(403)873-7722

OR

Candace Savage
Public Affairs Officer
Culture & Communications
(403)873-7615

86-015

**N.W.T. LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS
ANNOUNCED**

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 23) - A Northwest Territories Land Use Planning Commission was appointed today by Territorial Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen and Federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs (INAC) David Crombie.

The eight members of the commission are Titus Alloofoo, Alex Aviugana, George Barnaby, Tom Beck, Bob Hornal, Ben Hubert, Bob Kadlun and Dolphus Lennie.

Commission members were nominated by the Dene Nation, Metis Association, Tungavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN), Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement (COPE), Territorial and federal governments.

"After extensive discussion between our two governments and the native organizations, we have chosen what we think is a top-notch Land Use Planning Commission," said Crombie.

Ben Hubert will be responsible for the preliminary activities of the commission until commission members and all parties involved have an opportunity to discuss selection of a chairperson.

The commission's first meeting is scheduled for March 5 in Inuvik. Pedersen and Crombie, while on a northern tour, plan to attend the meeting.

"This will be an excellent opportunity for my colleague and me to personally meet with the members and to discuss the challenging tasks they have before them," said Crombie.

"We look forward to the early development of land use plans which will be suitable and acceptable to the people of the Northwest Territories," added Pedersen. "Two priority areas for planning are Lancaster Sound and the Beaufort Sea/Mackenzie Delta."

Spokespersons for the northern native organizations have endorsed the appointments.

"The Inuit are pleased that land use planning efforts in the N.W.T. will now begin in earnest," stated Paul Sammurtok, TFN executive director. "This initiative is the culmination of a number of years of hard work. It serves as a model in co-operation between government and aboriginal interests."

"With the formation of the commission, land use planning for the Beaufort Sea/Mackenzie Delta now can get underway," said COPE President Billy Day. "This has been a priority with the Inuvialuit for some time."

"The Dene are very pleased to see the commission finally appointed," added Dene Nation Vice-president John Bekale. "As a participant, we will be pushing INAC and the rest of the federal government to provide the commission and land use planning process with the priority and resources to continue this momentum."

The establishment of the N.W.T. Land Use Planning Commission fulfills the 1983 Agreement on Land Use Planning in the N.W.T. This agreement, concluded by northern native organizations and the federal and Territorial governments, provides the basis for a joint and co-operative land use planning process in the N.W.T. designed to reflect, and be responsive to, local and community concerns.

The active participation of concerned and interested individuals and communities in the N.W.T. is critical for the land use planning program to succeed, noted Pedersen.

Both ministers stressed that northerners' knowledge and expectations are essential to ensure that the land use plans developed will contribute to the future social, economic and environmental well-being of all people of the N.W.T.

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Biographies of Commission members are attached.

CONTACT: Garth E. Bangay
 INAC
 (819)997-2728

OR

 Ian Robertson
 GNWT
 (403)920-6118

Land Use Planning Commission Members

Titus Allooloo is a resident and former mayor of Pond Inlet. He was a member of the Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Review Panel and chairperson for both the High Arctic Development Review Committee and the Pond Inlet Development Review Committee. He also was an executive member of the Baffin Regional Council for several years and a member of various other boards and councils.

Alex Aviugana, an Inuvik resident, is Chief of the Inuvik Regional Corporation which represents Inuvialuit and also is member of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation. He has been involved in such issues as the game council, renewable resources, environmental concerns and issues affecting hunters and trappers.

George Barnaby is a resident of Fort Good Hope. He has 20 years experience in community and territorial politics. He was the MLA for Great Bear during the mid-70's after which he became vice-president of the Indian Brotherhood of the N.W.T. (now the Dene Nation). For a number of years George served as a member of the Fort Good Hope Community Council. He was vice-chairperson of the Great Bear Development Impact Zone Group and has been actively involved in developing native position statements.

Tom Beck, a Calgary resident, was formerly with Aquitane. He is well respected by northerners and people involved in the oil and gas industry. He served on the Northern Conservation Task Force and ~~was~~ ^{is} chairperson of the Canadian Environmental Advisory Council to the federal Minister of the Environment. He is now working as a private consultant.

Bob Hornal, a geologist and Vancouver resident, worked for INAC for over 10 years. His last appointment was as Director General for the N.W.T. Region. He then spent time with the Northern Pipeline Agency and was involved in the Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Review Process. Most recently, he has been working as a private consultant specializing in geology.

Benjamin Hubert, an ecologist and Yellowknife resident, has worked for the Government of the Northwest Territories as a wildlife specialist for Wildlife Services. He then spent some time with the Northwest Territories Science Advisory Board. He established Boreal Ecology Services Ltd., where he presently acts as a consultant on renewable resources for native organizations, government and industry.

Bob Kadlun, a Coppermine resident, is a past chairperson of TFN. He also was president of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and most recently was negotiator for the TFN land claim.

Dolphus Lennie, a Yellowknife resident, was formerly a hunter, trapper and river pilot. He has held various positions with the federal and Territorial governments and is well known throughout the western N.W.T.

86-014

DAY CARE ASSISTANCE FOR ARCTIC COLLEGE STUDENTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 23) - Emergency assistance for Arctic College students who are facing financial difficulties because of the high cost of day care will be provided by the Territorial Government.

Education Minister Dennis Patterson today announced that for the remainder of this academic year he will review each student's case individually to determine the appropriate assistance required.

"My department plans to review the Student Financial Assistance Regulations to provide a higher allowance based on the number of dependents in a family," said Patterson.

Now, single students receive a supplementary grant of up to \$100 per week while students with four dependents receive up to \$153 per week. Students with more than four dependents are not eligible for increased rates. Proposed amendments to the regulations will increase the weekly child care allowance from a maximum amount per week per family (\$45) to a structure which provides a set amount (\$25) for each child per week. Amendments to the Student Financial Assistance Regulations should be complete by the beginning of the new school year.

The Territorial government also is reviewing day care assistance provided to all residents of the Northwest Territories. A study on day care assistance for northern residents is now underway and will be completed by mid-year.

"We certainly don't want to hamper anyone's educational opportunities," added the minister, "and will assist any student who is considering leaving the Arctic College programs because of the increased financial burden caused by day care costs."

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CONTACT: Judy McLinton
(403)873-7257

86-013

NEW ASSISTANT JOINS CURLEY'S OFFICE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 23) - A person who has worked 10 years in northern oil and gas development has become executive assistant to the Territorial minister of economic development and tourism and of energy, mines and resources.

Rose Marie Karnes of Inuvik has been seconded from the Territorial government's regional executive there to serve as Tagak Curley's assistant for two years.

Karnes, who has lived in Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik for the past five years, was manager of resource development activities for the government's Inuvik region until her new appointment Jan. 15.

"Ms. Karnes brings to headquarters a comprehensive expertise of the oil and gas industry and an understanding of the communities based on 10 years of extensive travel in the north," said Curley.

Before joining the Government of the Northwest Territories in Inuvik in January of last year, Karnes was with Dome Petroleum Ltd., for 10 years as manager of northern affairs for its Beaufort Sea division. She was responsible for Beaufort employment development, training, economic and business development, social and cultural support programs, community consultation and government liaison.

During her one year with the regional executive in Inuvik, it was Karnes' job to evaluate northern resource development for the government, analyze industry activities and work closely with communities, other governments and industry on energy development.

A graduate of St. Francis Xavier University in the Maritimes, where she earned a bachelor of business arts degree, Karnes has visited oil and gas development areas around the world, including Britain's North Sea, Alaska, Canada's east coast, the Netherlands, Sweden, Belgium, Norway and Denmark.

One of Karnes' chief tasks as executive assistant to the minister will be to continue to promote effective consultation between his office and other governments, community councils, native organizations, DIZ groups (development impact zones) and business and special-interest organizations.

Karnes replaces Cheryl Grant Gamble, who has been appointed senior tourism marketing officer for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's Travel Arctic.

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CONTACT: Barry Craig
(403)873-7251

86-012

HOUSING PRESIDENT LEAVING TO JOIN NWT PAVILION AT EXPO

YELLOWKNIFE (January 21) - NWT Housing Corporation president, Victor Irving, will be leaving his position to become Executive Director of Corporate Affairs with the NWT Pavilion at Expo 86 in Vancouver, the minister responsible for the Corporation announced today.

Michael Ballantyne said Irving, who has been with the Territorial government for almost 10 years, will also be responsible for security and emergency services at the Pavilion.

Irving began working for the Government of the NWT in 1976 after a distinguished 25-year career with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He served for five years as deputy minister of Justice and Public Services and has been president of the Housing Corporation since 1981. He is expected to assume his responsibilities with the Expo Pavilion on February 1.

Irving has been involved in many community activities in Yellowknife, particularly with the St. John Ambulance Society. Over the past 10 years, he has served in various capacities on the society's Executive and is its immediate past president.

The position of Housing Corporation president is currently being filled by open competition.

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CONTACT: Catherine MacQuarrie
TELEPHONE: 873-7343

86-011

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSURES NORTHERN CONTRACTS ON
N.W.S.**

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 20) - The Territorial Government has been successful in getting a commitment from the Minister of National Defence that northern interests will be protected during the construction and operation of the North Warning System.

The N.W.S. is estimated to be three (3) times the cost of Norman Wells Pipeline. Canadian companies will design, manufacture, install and maintain all of the communications equipment.

In September the Government Leader told the Standing Committee on National Defence that the North Warning System represents one of the biggest projects to take place in the Northwest Territories. He said government must address the social, economic and environmental concerns associated with major development, as was done with the Norman Wells Pipeline, so that a positive impact is experienced by northern residents during the life of the project.

Although the federal government has refused to sign a formal agreement, Harvie Andre says in a letter to Government Leader, Nick Sibbeston, that the federal government's intent is to provide every access and opportunity to northerners. "I can assure you" states Andre "we have similar objectives in so far as

providing employment and contracting opportunities to northern residents and contractors."

It is expected the project will have a minimum of a ten year life span after construction is completed. The Territorial Government will be pressing all contractors to identify service and employment opportunities so that northerners can be mobilized to fill the requirements. The Minister of Economic Development has been designated by the Executive Council as the lead Minister for the North Warning System. Mr. Curley says that he is optimistic about the business and employment opportunities for northerners. "We are going to make sure that northern businesses are well aware of the opportunities available in this project so that they have every chance to acquire work" said Curley.

Officials from his department have been assigned to work with the Department of National Defence and its contractors to make sure that northern concerns are properly addressed.

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86-010

PILOT TAKES OTTAWA POSTING

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 17) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston today announced the appointment of Deputy Minister Bob Pilot to the government's Ottawa office.

Effective April 1, the move is designed to provide for a more senior level of Territorial representation in that office. Pilot is presently Deputy Minister of the Territorial government's executive department.

"Both myself and the Executive Council are pleased that Pilot is prepared to take this assignment," Sibbeston said. "His administrative abilities, contacts and long northern experience will be a great asset, particularly in the negotiations presently underway in the areas of devolution and languages."

Pilot is a former Deputy Commissioner of the Territorial government, leaving that post in December of 1983 to become the deputy minister of the executive.

He joined the Territorial government in 1969 as assistant regional director in Fort Smith and was named regional director in Frobisher Bay in 1971, senior executive assistant to the commissioner in 1975 and, in 1976, director of the executive offices.

Earlier, as an employee of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, he was an area administrator in Broughton Island and in Pond Inlet. He held these positions between 1966 and 1969, after completing university courses in northern studies in Ottawa.

Pilot also has 13 years of service with the RCMP, most of it in the NWT. His first posting was at Frobisher Bay in 1953. He also served at Craig Harbour on Ellesmere Island, Grise Fiord, Pond Inlet and Fort Providence.

A new deputy minister of the executive department will be named after a complete review of the support structure to the Executive Council has been completed.

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86-009

**TERRITORIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS SUPPORT
CONSERVATION PRINCIPLES**

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 16) - Conservation principles, goals and a broad strategy outlined in the Report of the Task Force on Northern Conservation have been endorsed "in principle" by the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Yukon Government and the federal departments of Indian and Northern Affairs (INAC) and Environment.

Earlier this year, the Task Force on Northern Conservation presented its report to the Territorial Ministers of Renewable Resources and the federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs.

The 11-member Task Force, representing a broad spectrum of northern interests, examined resource development issues from the perspective of native people; oil, gas and mining sectors; conservationists; Territorial and federal governments. The report reflects not only a conservation orientation but also includes diverse political, social, cultural and environmental views.

Since receiving the Task Force Report, the ministers have obtained extensive reviews of the report from interested parties. General support has been demonstrated for the proposed concepts.

David Crombie, INAC minister, stressed that the Territorial governments now must take the lead in developing details of northern conservation strategies for their regions. The federal government will continue to provide their full support to these initiatives.

NWT Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen and Yukon Renewable Resource Minister Dave Porter both stated clearly that the development of the N.W.T. and Yukon conservation strategies is a high priority and that the Task Force Report will serve as the basis for this initiative.

Tom McMillan, federal minister of the environment, endorsed the approach taken by the Task Force and underlined that its recommendations represent a consensus of many different views. "This consensus," he said, "shows that now is the time to take the steps necessary to achieve our northern conservation objectives. I intend to work closely with all concerned, in particular the northern governments and native organizations, to ensure that our common objectives are met as soon as possible."

In their report, Task Force members proposed the adoption of a northern conservation strategy consisting of two goals. These goals are to develop a system of integrated resource use and a comprehensive network of areas that require a measure of protection. Together, these two goals form a conservation strategy for all land, freshwater and marine areas of the Yukon and N.W.T.

The Task Force also recommended a number of other procedures important to the implementation of a conservation strategy. These procedures included: native land claim settlement and land use planning processes; use of conservation management agreements with industry allowing the resource user to play a more active role in resource management; major communications programs; improving the legislative base; preparation of a marine conservation strategy and changes in the institutional agreements to provide more effective management and decision making by governments.

Work has begun in a number of areas to assist in the preparation and implementation of northern conservation policies. Native land claims discussions are ongoing. The northern land use planning program has been implemented in the Northwest Territories and is being developed in the Yukon. The GNWT and INAC have initiated work to develop a working model of conservation management agreements between industry and government. The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans has initiated action toward the preparation of an Arctic marine conservation strategy for possible release during the World Conservation Strategy Conference in June 1986. Talks between the federal and Territorial governments on program transfers and devolution in conjunction with land claims are addressing possible institutional changes to assist resource management and decision-making.

Department of Renewable Resources officials have initiated a joint study with INAC to identify those values important to a protected area system, noted Pedersen. He said that any protected area system developed must be effective in contributing to better resource management decisions. Mr. Porter added that work on Herschel Island and Coal River Springs in the Yukon also fall within the framework of a protected area system. He also stated that the recent signing of the Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement by three governments and native users is a good indication of the way in which co-operative management in the north can work.

In concluding, all three ministers stressed that a key component in the development and implementation of any northern conservation strategy is the full participation of native organizations and that land claim settlements are an essential element of a comprehensive conservation strategy.

The ministers also agreed that the goal of northern resource conservation strategies must benefit people by ensuring the best use of all land and resource use potential in an integrated and comprehensive way; provide a context for dealing with protected area proposals and allow flexibility in dealing with resource management issues.

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86-008

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 14) - The following statement was released today by Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne.

The Minister of Justice, the Honourable Michael Ballantyne announced to-day the outcome of the proceedings arising out of complaints of Judicial misbehaviour against the Chief Judge of the Territorial Court, James R. Slaven. The matter as investigated by the Judicial Council constituted in accordance with the Territorial Court Act. The act requires a judge of each of the Supreme Court and Territorial Court of the Northwest Territories, together with two persons, one appointed by the Law Society and one appointed by the commissioner to sit on the Judicial Council. The Territorial Court Act requires that the proceedings of the Judicial Council should not be public but it may inform and advise the commissioner respecting matters that it has investigated or reviewed. In view of the attention given to the matter in the press, the Minister of Justice felt that it was appropriate to inform the public of the outcome of the investigation by the Judicial Council.

The procedure for disciplining a territorial judge or for his removal is contained in the Territorial Court Act. The Minister of Justice does not have the legal authority to remove or discipline a Territorial judge.

This was the first time any complaint of judicial misbehaviour had been made to the Judicial Council. The complaints were based solely on a transcript from a case heard before Judge Slaven in July, 1985. In particular complaints arose from comments made by the Territorial Judge and from the perception of some residents of Coppermine and Cambridge Bay that sexual assault cases were not being decided in a just manner.

The Judicial Council in reviewing the

transcript of the hearing considered several comments which Judge Slaven directed against what he considered to be an error on the part of the police at Coppermine in detaining the accused and sending him to Yellowknife at considerable public expense without sufficient justification.

In fact the accused had been detained and sent to Yellowknife by an earlier order of another Territorial Judge sitting in Coppermine. The Judicial Council indicated in its report that these comments about the police should not have been made from the Bench, but they were not so grave as to bring the administration of justice into disrepute. The Judicial Council further noted that Judge Slaven said nothing in the course of the proceedings that could be taken as a reflection upon the efforts of the public to correct the very serious social problem of violence in northern society. Nor did the Judicial Council find Judge Slaven's use of words in any sense rude, off-colour or otherwise offensive.

Consideration was given to Judge Slaven's use of the phrase "mickey mouse" to describe two previous convictions of the accused for assaults which were entered before a Justice of the Peace in Coppermine in May, 1985. The transcript from the May proceedings indicated that one conviction resulted when the accused punched a man in the face under unclear circumstances. The other conviction apparently resulted from the accused's act of throwing coffee at some girls. The Judicial Council expressed the view that use of the term "mickey mouse" should have no place in court in reference to a criminal record, but acknowledged that the convictions did not appear to be of a very serious nature.

As to the complaint that the Territorial Judge had shown leniency in sentencing criminals, the Judicial Council found no foundation in the evidence before them to support this complaint. The complaints had indicated that the legal system gave greater consideration to the accused than to the victim by allowing the accused to remain in the community pending trial. The Judicial Council pointed out that any decision of the Territorial Court to grant interim release to an accused may be brought before a higher court for review. In this particular case, this was done and the accused was detained by order of a judge of the higher court. The report of the Judicial Council states that "error, which is inherent in all

86-007

MOTOR VEHICLES DIVISION GETS COMPUTERIZED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 14) - Computerization has arrived at the Motor Vehicles Division of the Department of Government Services.

The division is now in the process of transferring from a manual system to a computer system which will result in the automation of the issuance of drivers' licences and vehicle registrations.

"This new system, which uses modern technology over an outdated manual system, will result in much more efficient services to the public," says Government Services Minister Tom Butters.

"All drivers' licences on the new two-year system, vehicle registrations and driver records are being entered into the computer banks," says Motor Vehicle Registrar Judy Collard. "The new computer system will speed up our delivery of services to the public and allow for a much speedier response to police and by-law enquiries on driving records."

Computers will be used only at headquarters in Yellowknife. Other N.W.T. issuing offices will have to follow certain procedures when issuing licences and vehicle registrations.

1986 licence plates and vehicle registrations will go on sale at issuing offices across the Northwest Territories this month. A fee of \$40 will be charged for plates and vehicle registration.

Plates and vehicle registrations will go on sale in the Baffin Region on January 27 and in the rest of the N.W.T. on January 20.

Renewal applications for vehicle registrations are found inside last year's registrations. The 1985 plates and vehicle registrations expire on March 31, 1986.

Payment for vehicle plates and registrations must be made by certified cheque, money order or cash.

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86-006

OFFICIAL NAMES PROGRAM NOW NWT GOVERNMENT'S

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 9)---The Territories has taken over from the federal government responsibility for researching and officially naming geographical features in the NWT.

And for Randolph (Randy) Freeman that means a lot of travel in the north and a lot of conversations with northerners.

Freeman is a toponymist, a specialist in researching and naming geographical locations, and has been hired to head up the NWT's new program.

"There is a tremendous amount of work to be done in the north," says Freeman. "On the one hand there probably are upwards of 90,000 locations and features in the north that have yet to be officially named, while at the same time a great many names already given to locations are not the names the local people use for them."

Announcement of the takeover from Ottawa was made today by Red Pedersen, minister of culture and communications. Freeman and his program will be part of Pedersen's department.

"Names, and the story behind them, are an important segment of our history," said Pedersen, "so this work is imperative to the preservation of our cultures in the north."

Freeman began work with the Territorial government in November and is scheduled to have his program fully operational by April.

One of his jobs will be to receive and process requests from the public to officially name or re-name geographical features and locations in the north.

"It is very common to discover on maps that a great many places are unnamed, or the wrong name is on the map, or the name is misspelled, or the name is not the name the local people give to a location," said Freeman. "And there is an urgency to collecting this information before it is lost, especially a name given to a location by local people."

For the past 8 1/2 years Freeman was with the Alberta government's toponymic program, the past five years as its head. He has an MA in historical geography, specializing in toponymy (the first one in Canada) and is a former archaeologist with a BA in physical anthropology.

Freeman says field work--getting out and talking to the people of the north and actually visiting locations--is extremely important in his work if maps are to be accurate.

"In the federal government there was little emphasis on field work because all they had was one man in Ottawa," he said. "Our approach is going to be more intimate. We are going to spend as much time in the field as we possibly can."

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86-005

COLUMBIA, CHINA FEATURED IN JANUARY EXHIBITS

YELLOWKNIFE (January 7) - There will be an international flavour to exhibits at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre this month, with art from the NWT, Columbia and the People's Republic of China.

"A Travelling Celebration of Inuit Sculpture"--37 exceptional works by established and lesser-known northern artists--remains on display until mid-month. Dave Sutherland, Arts and Crafts Officer for the GNWT, will offer insight into the various styles represented and put the works into the context of world sculpture in a discussion entitled "Ways to Look at Sculpture," at 2 p.m. on Sunday January 19.

"Columbia - Land of Contrasts," a display of photographs sponsored by the Institute for Development Education through the Arts (IDEA), will be on exhibit from January 9 to 31. The work of Ottawa photographer Anthony Scullion, the show is part of IDEA's attempt to teach Canadians about the lives and cultures of the Third World.

On January 21 a large exhibition of contemporary Chinese graphics comes to Yellowknife, under the sponsorship of the People's Republic of China and the International Programme of the National Museums of Canada. Eighty works, most of them woodcuts, will be on display.

The galleries are open from 12 to 5 Saturday and Sunday and from 10:30 to 5 Tuesday to Friday. Closed all day Monday. Refreshments are available on Sunday from 2 to 4.

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86-004

FROBISHER BAY MUNICIPAL INVESTIGATION COMPLETED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 6) - Local Government officials have completed a municipal investigation of the Town of Frobisher Bay announced Local Government Minister Gordon Wray today.

The investigation follows the recent municipal elections where some alleged irregularities were reported.

"I am happy to advise that after a thorough review of financial records and administrative practices, no irregularities were found," said the minister. "The Town is financially and administratively sound and should end the 1985 fiscal year with a surplus."

Should election irregularities be established, it is felt that they were related to the election only and not reflective of any financial or administrative irregularities generally, stated Wray.

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86-003

**INVESTIGATIONS ON DEMPSTER HIGHWAY FATALITY
COMPLETED**

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 6) - Results of investigations into a fatal accident on the Dempster Highway last September were released today by Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray.

On September 13, 1985, a Yukon Freight Lines Ltd. tractor-trailer was involved in a single vehicle accident on the Dempster Highway, approximately 260 kilometres west of Inuvik and 8.5 kilometres east of the Yukon border. The truck was empty and travelling west when it hit a pothole, went out of control and rolled in the ditch. As a result of the accident, the driver and lone occupant of the truck Andrew Philipsen sustained fatal injuries.

The Northwest Territories Department of Public Works and Highways immediately commenced engineering investigations to determine the cause of the pothole, described in the RCMP report as being a "four foot by four foot by two foot deep hole in the middle of the road". EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd. of Whitehorse was retained to undertake geotechnical investigations at the site. Their report was received by the GNWT on December 24.

The consultant stated in the report that the pothole resulted from the melting of a wedge of ice in the subgrade and subsequent sudden collapse of the unsupported road embankment. This ice wedge was a

natural feature of such permafrost areas and existed under the organic ground cover prior to construction of the highway. As is normal under such conditions, the highway was designed and built to prevent disturbance of the natural permafrost. In this case, it is believed that sun warmed surface water seeped into a permafrost crack causing the ice wedge to thaw. The road fill acted as a bridge over the growing cavity until finally vehicle loading caused the fill to collapse suddenly and without warning. EBA states that this is a natural phenomenon which is virtually impossible to predict.

This highway is maintained by the Fort McPherson Incorporated Band Ltd., under contract to the Department of Public Works and Highways. Wray states that as there was no visible evidence nor any other reason to suspect an impending collapse, he cannot conclude that the contractor or his department officials were negligent in maintenance of the road.

The hole was not there one hour before the accident.

The minister also notes that potholes, settlements and heaves are common occurrences on gravel roads, especially in permafrost areas. Such defects normally appear and worsen gradually and are corrected through routine maintenance before becoming hazardous. In this case, the pothole appeared suddenly and without warning.

Wray says his department will continue to closely monitor and inspect the road surface and investigate any evidence of similar problems developing.

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86-002

MINISTER LAUDS BEAUFORT FIND

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 2)--Tagak Curley, minister of energy, mines and resources, says Gulf's announcement of a major oil find indicates the Beaufort Sea has the potential to become one of Canada's major oil-producing regions.

Gulf Canada Resources disclosed Monday that its Amauligak drilling site on the Beaufort seabed 48 miles northeast of Tuktoyaktuk could contain an oil field in excess of 400 million barrels.

"This is by far the largest oil find ever in the Beaufort," said Curley. "And it doubtlessly will spur Gulf and the other main Beaufort players to intensify their exploratory efforts on the seabed to locate other fields."

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Tom Butters said he is "delighted" at Gulf's success and enthusiastic about the future of the Beaufort and the positive effect it will have on Western Arctic business. Butters also is MLA for Inuvik.

The Gulf field (below 100 feet of water) appears to be twice the size of all of Norman Wells' reserves. It is expected to yield about 35,000 barrels a day, the rate at which Norman Wells now pumps.

"The find could not have come at a better time," said Curley. "Both Gulf and the other players consider the 1985-86 drilling season as a make-or-break year and, as a result, have been drilling more in the Beaufort than ever before. It appears now that their determination and tenacity have been rewarded."

The minister suggested that the Gulf find, along with smaller concentrations of oil in the Beaufort, could make production practical.

"With this major field the economics of extraction are dramatically changed," said Curley. "It means that concentrations that up to now have not been commercial could become so."

In addition, said Curley, if a pipeline is built to bring out the oil it will probably follow the Mackenzie River south, meaning an increase in exploration all along its route down the Delta and the Valley.

"The same economics will be true in the Delta and the Valley," Curley said. "With a pipeline already in place oil that might not be commercially supportable on its own could be."

At the same time, Curley said, Gulf's production would not begin until probably the 1990's, "giving all of us sufficient lead time to address all social and environmental issues."

"As a government, while we are delighted with the find, we also are aware of the need to ensure that it is extracted without damage to our environment and to the direct benefit of our people," Curley said.

86-001

JANES APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE INSTITUTE

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 2) - Dr. Robert R. Janes has been appointed executive director of the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories.

His appointment, effective March 3, was announced today by Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen, on behalf of the Board of Governors of the Science Institute of the NWT.

The Science Institute, operating as an independent body, is charged with fostering an indigenous scientific community in the NWT; extracting knowledge of value to the NWT from on-going northern research; acting as a focus for research being conducted in the NWT by southern scientists; conducting needed northern research on topics that are not now being covered and encouraging young people of the north to adopt science as a career.

Dr. Janes was appointed the first director of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in 1976. He received a BA cum laude in Anthropology from Lawrence University in Wisconsin and a Ph. D. in Subarctic Archaeology from the University of Calgary.

He has done archaeological field work in the Mackenzie Valley, the Thelon Game Sanctuary and the High Arctic. His most recent work has been among the

Willow Lake Dene, resulting in a book which was published in 1983. This ethnoarchaeological research was completed while Dr. Janes held a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Arctic Institute of North America in 1981-82.

Dr. Janes is currently President of the Canadian Archaeological Association, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Arctic Institute and a member of the Inuit Silattunsarvingat Development Committee in Eskimo Point. He also is a Foreign Fellow of the American Anthropological Association, an Associate of Current Anthropology, an Accredited Member of the Canadian Museums Association and a Fellow of the Arctic Institute of North America. He has published numerous articles, reports and reviews in such publications as: Ethnohistory; The Western Canada Journal of Anthropology; Current Anthropology; Arctic; Musk-ox and the Canadian Journal of Archaeology.

As executive director of the Science Institute, Dr. Janes will report to the Board of Governors and be responsible for the overall planning and development of the Institute.

The Science Institute offices will be located on the fourth floor of the Scotia Centre in Yellowknife. The permanent staff of the Institute will consist of four people with space provided for visiting scientists and researchers. This will provide, for the first time, a physical focus for science in the north.

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