87-001	Jan. 5	Payments to Foster Parents Increased
87-002	Jan. 8	Territorial Justices of the Peace and Coroners Subject of Review
87-003	Jan. 9	Norman Wells Sewage Treatment Project
87-004	Jan. 9	Department of Education rescues Lost Apprentice Jobs at Northwestel
87-005	Jan. 12	Yellowknife Events Among Top 100
87-006	Jan. 13	Test Fishery Results in Spring
87-007	Jan. 13	Funding Received for Trapping Exhibit
87-008	Jan. 13	Community Involvement in Housing Welcomed
87-009	Jan. 13	Funding Provided for transition Houses and a Crisis Shelter
87-010	Jan. 14	Future of Northern Television to be Discussed at Symposium
87-011	Jan. 15	Government Supports New Hotel
87-012	Jan. 19	North May Get its own Television Network
87-013	Jan. 19	Housing Corporation Recruiting Natives
87-014	Jan. 20	Mandin GNWT Claims Negotiator
87-015	Jan. 20	School Attendance up in the Kitikmeot
87-016	Jan. 20	Historic Expedition Receives GNWT Support
87-017	Jan. 21	Government Assists Clinic
87-018	Jan. 22	Food Conference a First
87-019	Jan. 23	Government Introduces Employee Suggestion Awards Program
87-020	Jan. 23	Consultations Scheduled
87-022	Feb. 5	Salary Subsidy for Community Recreation Leaders Available

87-023	Feb. 5	Operation Fox Moth
87-024	Feb. 5	Community Recreation Leader's Program to be Based in Inuvik
87-025	Feb. 10	Tourism Strategy Paying Dividends
87-026	Feb. 10	Updated Fishing Guide Released
87-027	Feb. 10	Family Life Education Curriculum Ready for Testing
87-028	Feb. 11	"Brighten up Your Future" At The Yellowknife Career/Job Fair
87-029	Feb. 11	Throne Speech Dwells on Need for Positive Action and Meeting Challenges
87-030	Feb. 17	Toll-Free Tourist Information Number now in Service
87-031	Feb. 16	Government Budget Presented to Legistative Assembly
87-032	Feb. 17	Conference to assist in Promoting Northern Food
87-033	Feb. 23	Municipal and Community Affairs Sets Priority on Local Involvement
87-034	Feb. 19	Growth in NWT Tourism Facilities
87-035	Feb. 20	Interest Rates Reduced for Municipal Capital Projects
87-036	Feb. 24	Compromise Sought on Aboriginal Self-Government in Constitution
87-037	Feb. 24	More Northern Students Attending Post-Secondary Institutions
87-038	Feb. 25	New and Continued Support for Northern Arts And Crafts
87-039	Feb. 25	New Territorial Judge Appointed to Live in Iqaluit
87-040	Feb. 25	University of Manitoba Welcomes Special NWT Students

87-041	Feb. 25	Dramatic Leaps in Student Attendance
87-042	Feb. 25	Fort Smith Retail Liquor Agency Contract Awarded
87-043	Feb. 26	Igloolik School Renovations and Construction
87-044	Feb. 26	Yellowknife Dairy Milk Back on the Shelves
87-045	Feb. 26	Increased Taxes will Increase Government Revenues
87-046	Feb. 26	Expo '86 Report Released
87-047	Feb. 27	Government Assists Drum Lake Lodge
87-048	Feb. 28	Protest Launched on Proposed Division of Hudson Bay
87-049	Feb. 27	Regional and Tribal Councils Meet with Review Committee
87-050	Feb. 27	Greater Control of Renewable Resources can Help Territorial Economy
87-051	Mar. 2	Daylight Savings Comes Earlier To N.W.T.
87-052	Mar. 2	March 8th International Women's Day
87-053	Mar. 2	New Northern Dene Language Scholarship Offered
87-054	Mar. 2	Personnel Minister Calls for Support of Budget
87-055	Mar. 3	"Eat Well - Live Well" - March is Nutrition Month
87-056	Mar. 3	Solution to Question of Artic Sovereignty Demanded
87-057	Mar. 3	Language and Culture Program Created for Northern Schools
87-058	Mar. 4	Appointments to Advisory Council on the Status of Women
87-059	Mar. 4	Business Managment Development Programs Announced
87-060	Mar. 5	Carving Stone Policy Announced

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

News release

Feb. 27, 1987	Diand/GNWT Dollars to Assist Yellowknife B Band
Mar. 9, 1987	Navigational Aid Sites to be Cleaned Up

87-061	Mar. 9	Public works and Highway Helps Expand Northern Economy
87-062	Mar. 9	Social Services Attempting to Address Wide Range of Issues
87-063	Mar. 10	North Warning System Contacts to include Benefits for N.S.T.
87-064	Mar. 10	Review of Workers' Compensation Board Released
87-065	Mar. 10	Economic Development offers more Programs at Same Cost
87-066	Mar. 11	Government and Mining Industry Launch Joint Effort
87-067	Mar. 13	Government Daycare Subsidies More Readily Obtained
87-068	Mar. 18	New Minister Assigned Two Portfolios
87-069	Mar. 20	Plastic Piping for Sprinklers expected to Save $$$
87-070	Mar. 20	Public Services Increased and Improved in Last Year
87-071	Mar. 23	Legislative Assembly Approves Boards of Secondary Education
87-072	Mar. 23	Punding Confirmed for Frame Lake South School
87-073	Mar. 23	Minister Sets School District Funding Levels
87-074	Mar. 24	Assembly Motion Supports Mining Industry
87-075	Mar. 25	Training Program Announced for Flight Service Specialists
87-076	Mar. 25	Floating Lab First Chance to Test New Science Policy
87-077	Mar. 25	Increases of Food Allowance for Persons on Social Assistance

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

News Release

April 1, 1987	The Agreement to transfer forest and fire management from federal to territorial control will take effect today

87-078	Apr. 1	Formal GNWT Response made to Closure of Pine Point Mines
87-079	Apr. 3	National Book Festival '87 - A World Of Words
87-080	Apr. 6	Braden Named Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Tourism
87-081	Apri. 13	Government Officer for Pine Point
87-082	Apr. 13	Smoking Ban to be Implemented in Government Office, Institutions
87-083	Apr. 13	Sibbestion Tours Baffin Region April 20-25th
87-084	April 13	Sibbestion to Present Portrait to Iqaluit
87-085	Apr. 13	Trout Lake Turns it on Officially
87-086	Apr. 16	Yellowknife Employees Get Incentives to Leave GNWT Housing
87-087	Apr. 16	NACC Receives Government Assistance
Gov't. of Canada	-- News Release	Canada/NWT Economic Development Agreement Extended
87-088	Apr. 16	Landfill Investigation Results Released
87-089	Apr. 21	Northern Firm Awarded Construction Contract
87-090	Apr. 21	A European View of Canada
87-091	Apr. 24	Cheque Presented to Sport North
87-092	Apr. 27	Baffin Businesses get Minister's Attention
87-093	Apr. 27	Stien Lal Departs for Canadian Human Rights Commission
87-094	Apr. 27	Heritage Centre's Annual Extravaganza
87-095	Apr. 30	Canada - Northwest Territories Agreement on Conservation and Alternative Energy
87-096	Apr. 30	Alcohol and other Drugs Program Ready for Schools
87-097	Apr. 30	"Open the Door to Help" Theme of Mental Health Week, May 2-9

87-098	May 5	National Tourism Week Celebrated in N.W.T.
87-099	May 5	Federal - Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Conference Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T. June 16-19, 1987
87-100	May 5	Nurses Honored May 10 to 16
87-101	May 5	Petroleum Prices to be Reduced in Trout Lake
87-102	May 7	Target Date for Implementation of Housing Policy in Yellowknife Extended until September 1/88
87-103	May 8	Exhibit Traces History of Oil Sands
87-104	May 7	Government to Review Arbitrator's Report
87-105	May 8	Protest Launched Against Some Provisions of Federal/Provincial "Meech Lake" Agreement
87-106	May 8	Fort Smith Region Decentralized in October
87-107	May 11	Bickert Named Deputy Minister of Justice
87-108	May 12	New Executive for N.W.T. Forest Industries Association
87-109	May 13	Territorial Government Backs "Play it Smart" Program
87-110	May 14	GJOA Haven New Primary School
87-111	May 14	Pond Inlet New Primary School
87-112	May 14	Calcium Chloride for NWT Highways
87-113	May 15	Safety Education Program to Continue
87-114	May 15	Psychologist will Work with Inmates, Corrections Staff
87-115	May 15	Old Eggs Will Help Scientists
87-116	May 15	Work Begins on Dene Standardization
87-117	May 15	Caribou Management Board Recommends Easing of Restrictions

87-118	May 15	Territorial Government Approves Revised investment Program
87-119	May 19	Swedish Secretary for Nordic Affairs Visits NWT
87-120	May 21	Federal Minister for Status of Women & Privitization Visits NWT
87-121	May 26	Emergency Communications System Improved
87-122	May 21	GNWT First to Have Computerized Emergency Response
87-123	May 21	Simpson Gets Emergency Cenerator
87-124	May 21	Generator Wheels into Aklavik
87-125	May 21	Emergency Responce Plan Approved
87-126	May 27	Northwest Territories to Challenge Meech Lake Agreement
87-127	May 27	Mad Trapper's Grave to be Left in Peace
87-128	May	Businesses To Get Break on Petroleum Prices
87-129	Jun 4	Fashion Show Celebrates Diversity of Inuit Clothing
87-130	Jun 5	Polar Research Report on Agenda of Yellowknife meeting
87-131	June 8	NWT Student Attends Science Program for Gifted teenagers
87-132	Jun 8	Executive Council Takes Action on Federal Funding Freeze
87-133	Jun 9	Join Hands in Conservation: Eleven Winners
87-134	Jun 10	Law Reform Committee Recommends Implementation of Jury Act
87-135	Jun 10	World Authorities Support Conservation and Development Trends for Northwest Territories
87-136	Jun 10	Artic Public Legal Education and Information Society Receives Territorial and Federal Funds

87-137	Jun 10	Bring your Sunglasses to the Northern Heritage Centre
87-138	Jun 10	Contract Security Pilot Project Extended
87-139	Jun 11	Wildlife Conference to look at Spectrum of Issues
87-140	Jun 11	Sexual Harassment Policy Adopted by Executive Policy
87-141	Jun 11	Separate Supply and Labour Contracts Successful for Northerners
87-142	Jun 11	New Elementary School Science Program Easier to Follow
87-143	Jun 17	Territorial Initiatives on Northern Accord seen as Positive
87-144	Jun 17	MeningitisControl Program Set for Northwest Territories
87-145	Jun 17	Special Training Program for School Principals
87-146	Jun 17	Co-ordination to Help Victims of Crime Proposed in Legislation
87-147	Jun 16	Beaufort - Mackenzie Delta Regional Land use Planning Commission Appainted
87-148	Jun 18	Innovative Approaches Sought in Awarding Northern Business Contracts
87-149	Jun 22	Abe Miller Workshop Receives $200,000 Contribution
87-150	Jun 23	Territorial Covernment to Collaborate on Campaign
87-151	Jun 23	Forest Fire Update
87-152	Jun 23	Business as Usual at Forest Fire Centre
87-153	Jun 26	Joint Film and Video Agreement Signed
87-154	Jun 26	Native People Play Important Role in Conservation
87-155	Jun 26	Conference Auction Raises Money for Tuktoyaktuk
87-156	Jun 29	NWT Archives Acquire Bud Orange Papers
87-157	Jun 26	Conference Recommendations Cover Variety of Topics
87-158	Jun 29	Fire Hazard High in NWT
87-159	Jun 30	Regional Councils Review Committee Continues Consultation
87-160	Jun 30	GNWT to Implement Hazardous Materials Legislation

87-161	Jun 30	Northwest Territories and Yukon Sign Agreement on Areas of Mutual Interest in Education
87-162	Jun 30	Circumpolar Education Ministers Meet
87-163	Jul 1	Administrator Appointed in Pine Point
87-164	Jul 1	Sibbeston Celebrates Canada Day in Keewatin
87-165	Jul 2	Government of the Northwest Territories Supports Cites
87-166	Jul 3	Four NWT Women to Attend Trent University
87-167	Jul 6	Transportation of Dangerour Goods Regulations Enforced
87-168	Jul 10	Renewable Resources Advisory Board Established
87-169	Jul 10	Inuvik Parks Receive Additional Funding
87-170	Jul 13	Housing Corp. Takes Part in International Year of Shelter for the Homeless
87-171	Jul 13	New Additions to Heritage Centre Collection
87-172	Jul 13	Exhibit Gives Shape to Inuit Elders
87-173	Jul 14	Housing Corp. Announces Poster Contest Winners
87-174	Jul 15	Fire Activity High in Inuvik and Norman Wells
87-175	Jul 16	Fire Activity Remains High in Inuvik and Norman Wells
87-176	Jul 17	Forest Fire Near Good Hope Under Control
87-177	Jul 20	Duke & Duchess of York Tour Yellowknife
87-178	Jul 22	Recycling Studies Released
87-179	Jul 22	Fire Hazard high in Western Arctic
87-180	Jul 23	NWT to be Represented in Yukon Court Challenge to Meech Lake Court
87-181	Jul 23	Conference to Fight Impaired Driving in NWT
87-182	Jul 25	Local Brownie Presents Royal Bouquet
87-183	Jul 25	Royal Couple to Receive Northern Gifts
87-184	Jul 30	Tourism Training and Manpower Needs Board Appointed

87-185	Jul 30	Highway Repair Contracts Awarded
87-186	Aug 6	Junior Park Ranger Program Underway
87-187	Aug 6	Government Privatizes Printing of NWT Business Directory
87-188	Aug 6	Don Pruden Post-Humously Awarded for Contribution to Parks
87-189	Aug 6	Parks Conference Convened in Baker Lake This week
87-190	Aug 7	Traditional Dene Camp Set up on Yellowknife Bay
87-191	Aug 10	GNWT Received Disaster Assistance Payment
87-192	Aug 9	Royal Couple Return Happy and Relaxed from Canoeing Adventure
87-193	Aug 11	Pool Program Makes Big Spash in NWT Communities
87-194	Aug 11	Marsh Paintings Document Inuit Lifestyle
87-195	Aug 12	Mining Investment Tour This Week
87-196	Aug 12	Housing Corp. Initiates workshops on homelessness
87-197	Aug 12	Kenyan to Share Housing Ideas with Northerners
87-198	Aug 14	NWT Residents Join in Terry Fox Run
87-199	Aug 14	Area Residents Help Uncover Past
87-200	Aug 17	Agreement Reached on Relocation Assistance
87-201	Aug 19	NWT Tourist Attractions to Receive British Media Coverage
87-202	Aug 19	Chefs Featuring Northern Foods Take the Gold
87-204	Aug 21	Public Works and Highways Contracts Awarded
87-205	Aug 21	Additional Regional Tourism Officer to be Hired
87-206	Aug 21	Travel Keewatin Awarded Service Contract
87-207	Aug 21	NWT Ministers Visit the Yakut Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic
87-208	Aug 25	Public Control of Education a Top Priority for the Department of Education

87-209	Aug 31	Coppermine Premiere for "They Look a Lot Like Us - A China Odyssey"
87-210	Sep 1	Prohibition in Fort Simpson for Papal Visit
87-211	Sep 1	Nominations to be Re-opened
87-212	Sep 8	Jobs in Justice: Funding for Arctic Plei
87-213	Sep 4	Activities Planned for YK Energy Awareness Week
87-214	Sep 3	Assistant Deputy Minister of Business Development Appointed
87-215	Sep 9	Renewable Resource Board Sets Principles
87-216	Sep 9	Larger Funding Contribution for Yellowknife Public Library
87-217	Sep 10	Commissioner Appoints New Assistant
87-218	Sep 11	Contracts Awarded to Northern Companies, Hamilet
87-219	Sep 14	Baffin Historic Sites Need Protecting
87-220	Sep 14	Pangnirtung Weavings Featured at Halifax Show
87-221	Sep 15	Exhibit Looks at work of Jessie Oonark
87-222	Sep 15	Ministers Discuss Airports with Federal Minister of Transport
87-223	Sep 16	New Health Program Ready for NWT Schools
87-224	Sep 18	Tia, Travelartic Combine Efforts
87-225	Sep 22	Dialing for Degrees: Libraries "Reach Out and Teach Someone"
87-226	Sep 23	"Brand-name Identity" in works for NWT Tourism
87-227	Sep 24	Baffin Outfitters Study Package Tour Development
87-228	Sep 24	Yellowknife Student Receives Scholarship to International College
87-229	Sep 25	Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce to Provide Services in Pine Point
87-230	Sep 28	Aids Awareness Program Launched today
87-231	Sep 28	Unusual Sculpture on Display

87-232	Sep 29	No Intervention Planned on Rideout Island
87-233	Sep 30	NWT Visitor Traffic Increased in 1987
87-234	Sep 30	Final Two Eda Sub-Agreements Signed
87-235	Oct 1	Contracts Awarded to Northern Firms
87-236	Oct 7	Opening Set for Aviation Gallery
87-237	Oct 7	Committee Recommends Proposed Date For Health Transfer
87-238	Oct 15	Agreement Reached for Transfer of Health to NWT
87-239	Oct 15	Executive Council Offers Advice to New Brunswick
87-240	Oct 15	ICG to Provide Rate Schedule
87-241	Oct 15	Dene Clothing Donated to Heritage Centre
87-242	Oct 15	Stranded Caribou: A Rare Event
87-243	Oct 19	Hay River Student Earns Top Marks
87-244	Oct 20	Community-Based Prevention is Theme for Annual Crime Prevention Week
87-245	Oct 21	GNWT Concerned Over Federal Tax Reform
87-246	Oct 26	Community Government Week to be Held Nov. 9-13
87-247	Oct 28	Petroleum Prices Increase
87-248	Oct 28	Health Transfer to be Studies by Assembly of First Nations
87-249	Oct 30	Children's Book Festival Provides "A World to Explore"
87-251	Nov 2	Attractive Package Tours Developed for Baffin Region
87-252	Nov 5	Territorial Parks Improvements Approved
87-253	Nov 6	Worker Safety Training Program Planned
87-254	Nov 9	Wale Cove Council Encourages Energy Efficiency
87-255	Nov 12	Computer Art Exhibited at Northern Heritage Centre
87-256	Nov 16	Patterson Names Portfolios for Eleventh Assembly Ministers

87-257	Nov 17	Arts & Crafts Catalogue Produced
87-258	Nov 18	Overnight Day Care at Mary Murphy Seniors Home to Continue
87-259	Nov 17	Patterson Pays Tribute to Outgoing Ministers
87-260	Nov 20	Career Show to be Held December 3
87-261	Nov 23	NWT Municipal Administrators' Association Rejuvenated
87-262	Nov 19	Highlights for NWT of Canada-Us Trade Agreement Released
87-263	Nov 25	Free Trade Gets Qualified Support from Government of NWT
87-264	Nov 24	Government Leader Welcomes Soviet Canadian Trans-Polar Expedition
87-265	Nov 23	8 from Baffin Receive Apprenticeship Awards
87-266	Nov 26	NWT Apprentices Honored
87-267	Nov 30	Mark Malone Named as Principal Secretary
87-268	Nov 30	Social Services Minister Plans Private Meeting on Day Care
87-269	Dec 1	Two Year Collective Agreement Reached with NWT Public Service Association
87-270	Dec 1	GNWT and Teachers Association Reaches Tenative Deal
87-271	Dec 1	Aklavik Program Supported by Department of Education
87-272	Dec 4	Artists in the Schools Program Underway
87-273	Dec 7	Increased use of Remote Sensing in NWT Planned
87-274	Dec 4	New Approaches and Directions Approved by Cabinet
87-275	Dec 7	Federal-Territorial Fish-Stocking Agreement Reached
87-276	Dec 11	Social Services Minister Tours Inuvik Region
87-277	Dec 14	Atlantic Fisheries Ministers Welcome NWT Participation
87-278	Dec 16	Emergency Preparedness Funding Received

87-279	Dec 16	NWT Post-Secondary Scholarships Awarded
87-280	Dec 21	New Rules on Taxation of Travel Allowances Benefit North
87-281	Dec 21	First Stage of Federal Tax Reform Gets Support
87-282	Dec 21	Minister Approves Rezonning in Hay River
87-283	Dec 21	NWT'S Laurie Dexter Hamed to Soviet-Canadian Polar Expedition
87-284	Dec 29	Emergency Distemper Vaccination Program Organized
87-285	Dec 30	Appointments to Alcohol and Drug Services Board Announced

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87-001

PAYMENTS TO FOSTER PARENTS INCREASED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 5) - Increased payments to foster parents go into effect this month, Minister of Social Services Bruce McLaughlin announced today.

"Foster parents make a valuable contribution to the lives of the young individuals in their care and to the child welfare system as a whole," the Minister said. "The new rates provide a measure of recognition for this important work."

"We also hope that the new compensation package will encourage the development of foster homes and lessen the Department's need for other, more structured forms of care."

The basic daily rate paid to foster parents varies from community to community, depending on the cost of living. With the increase, it ranges from $20 (in Yellowknife and several other neighboring communities) to $39 (in the most remote settlements). The clothing allowance has been increased to $35 a month, with an additional allotment of up to $330 for seasonal needs.

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The new rates also recognize the additional time and effort required to foster children with special needs. Rates have been set for children with physical and behavioural problems and for those who need help preparing for independence or a new placement. In these cases, the payments will depend on both the amount of extra help the child needs and the local cost of living.

This is the first increase to foster parents since 1982.

- 30 -

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87-002

TERRITORIAL JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND CORONERS SUBJECT OF REVIEW

Yellowknife (Jan. 8) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne has announced the formation of a task force to study all aspects relating to the Justice of the Peace Program and Cornoner's Program in the Northwest Territories.

"A comprehensive review is an important step to begin the process of improving the calibre and training of our Justice of the Peace and Coroners" said Mr. Ballantyne.

The task force has a wide mandate which includes recommending a program that meets the special needs of the northern justice system and the people it serves. It will examine such issues as the recruitment, qualifications, training, discipline and tenure of Justice of the Peace. It will also consider the special emphasis to be placed on increasing the representation of aboriginal people and women as Justice of the Peace.

"The Justice of the Peace Program is the backbone of the judicial system in the Northwest Territories." Mr. Ballantyne says, "it is through the Justices of the Peace functioning effectively and efficiently that we will be able to localize the justice system to the community level."

The task force will study and review the Justice of the Peace Act and recommend changes in keeping with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. It will examine the reporting relationship and the remuneration of the Justice of the Peace.

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Improved training and educational programs for Coroners will be examined by the task force. Serious consideration will also be given to developing a guide for the new Coroner's Act.

The task force has representatives from across the Northwest Territories. Members are Peter Baril, President of the Northwest Territories' Justice of the Peace Association; Tony Whitford, a Yellowknife Justice of the Peace and Coroner; His Honour Judge Robert Halifax of Hay River; Tim Dialla, a Pangnirtung Justice of the Peace and Coroner and Evelyn Storr, Justice of the Peace and Coroner from Aklavik.

Mr. Ballantyne says the task force will begin its work immediately and is to report by April 1987. He says it may draw on expertise available inside or outside the Northwest Territories. Mr. Ballantyne says at a later date, he may expand the size of the task force to accommodate any special interests.

- 30 -

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87-003

NORMAN WELLS SEWAGE TREATMENT PROJECT

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 9) - Two NWT firms have been awarded contracts to construct a sewage treatment facility and lift station in Norman Wells.

Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray announced the two contract awards today.

The project will include installation of facilities to collect sewage and divert it utilizing a lift station and a forcemain to Seepage Lake, north of the community, for natural treatment.

A.T.A. Construction of Norman Wells was awarded a contract valued at $434,391 to install a forcemain, upgrade the existing road and construct a new road to the treatment facility. Two NWT firms bid higher amounts. Work started in early December and is scheduled to be completed in March.

In addition, Clark-Bowler Construction of Yellowknife was awarded a contract valued at $253,483 to supply and construct the sewage lift station including a concrete wetwell, prefab building and twin pumps and to perform alterations to the macerator building. Four other firms, three from the NWT and one from Alberta, submitted higher bids. Work will begin in June and is scheduled to be completed by mid-September.

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Another contract for the completion of the Norman Wells sewage treatment project will be tendered this spring.

- 30 -

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87-004

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RESCUES LOST APPRENTICE JOBS AT NORTHWESTEL

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 9) - Seven apprentices laid off late last fall by NorthwesTel have been recalled as the result of negotiations by the Department of Education.

The Minister, Dennis Patterson, says the Communication Electrician apprentices were employed in Yellowknife, Hay River and Inuvik. NorthwesTel said the general slowdown in the economy resulted in a loss of revenue which in turn forced the company to lay off staff.

"This extremely visible action on the part of NorthwesTel not only resulted in the immediate loss of jobs and training opportunities for Northerners, but it also meant 7 less jobs in the future for NWT residents after the North Warning System is complete."

As a result of his concern, Mr. Patterson says his officials contacted NorthwesTel to negotiate the reinstatement of the laid off apprentices and to provide some form of funding support.

"I am very pleased that the seven apprentices have been recalled effective December 1st, 1986, and will continue their training to completion," said Mr. Patterson.

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The Department of Education will provide a salary subsidy out of the Training-on-the-Job Program up to a maximum of $200 per apprentice per week. This commitment for the 1986-87 fiscal year will draw $24,000 from the program. Support for the next year, at a cost of $70,000, will be continued if the appropriations are accepted by the Legislative Assembly.

According to Mr. Patterson, "to a certain extent this support is provided to recognize the economic situation of NorthwesTel. The economic situation could change in 1988 and we have agreed to assess the situation at that time before continuing this kind of subsidy.

- 30 -

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87-005

YELLOWKNIFE EVENTS AMONG TOP 100

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 12) - The American Bus Association has named Yellowknife's annual Midnight Sun golf tournament and Raven Mad Daze as two of the top 100 travel events in North America this year.

The selection is significant because the association, which represents the giant intercity bus industry in the U.S., heavily promotes its Top 100 as first-rate travel destinations for motorcoach tour groups in Canada and the U.S.

Announcement that the two Yellowknife events are among the Top 100 in 1987 was made today by Alan Kaylo, director of marketing for TravelArctic, the Territorial government's tourism marketing arm.

According to Norman Sherlock, president of the Bus Association, joining the Top 100 automatically means national publicity in both Canada and the U.S. and invariably increases attendance at the selected events.

The association recently unveiled its Top 100 list at the organization's Marketplace in Nashville, Tenn., the largest gathering of bus companies and travel industry members in the U.S.

"Besides the favourable publicity and additional attention generated by the Top 100, it is a significant compliment for these two Yellowknife events to make the list," said Kaylo. "Only quality attractions are ever selectled."

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87-006

TEST FISHERY RESULTS IN SPRING

IQALUIT (Jan. 13) - Quotas for a commercial arctic char fishery near Igloolik are expected to be established by the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans this coming spring.

Once the quotas are set, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism will be able to determine if the establishment of a commercial summer char fishery in the area will be financially viable.

Close to 20 well-paying seasonal jobs could be created for Igloolik residents if the commercial arctic char fishery goes ahead.

A two-year test fishery at Steensby Inlet near the community was conducted under the commercial renewable resource initiatives of Minister of Economic Development Tagak Curley. It was completed in September of last year.

"Developing viable char fisheries in the eastern Arctic requires a considerable degree of intensive field work. Before we proceed with investments in facilities, we require at least two years of test-fishing to determine if all the factors underlying a successful fishery are indeed present," said the minister.

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This was one of the largest and most-thorough test fisheries for char ever conducted in the NWT. Ten different rivers were examined in each of two years of test fishing. At the same time, local people - working in small family groups - were employed as fishermen. They also received training in the techniques of handling and processing fish for commercial sale.

Results of the test fishery have now been turned over to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans for analysis. The size and location of the commercial quotas eventually set will play a large role in determining whether or not a commercial char fishery is feasible.

Another factor which will play an important role in the final decision will be the price of arctic char in southern Canada, says Larry Simpson, economic development officer.

At the moment, char prices are fairly low - about $3 a pound wholesale. Char must also compete as a product against the more popular salmon, yet the cost of getting it to market from the north is fairly high.

Faced with such tight economics, the decision on whether or not to go ahead will have to be very carefully thought out, says Simpson, since a commercial char fishery will be expected to pay its own way.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is working on promoting arctic char to increase its popularity both regionally and in southern Canada.

The department is also working to get approval for a winter fishery when both the economics and the logistics of getting the fish to market are better.

According to regulations, the fish must arrive unfrozen for inspection at a Fisheries and Oceans licensed processing plant. If arrangements could be made for inspections and supervision in the field, says Simpson, then winter fishing through the ice might also be commercially possible.

Fisheries and Oceans is expected to announce commercial quotas for the Steensby Inlet area in March or April. It should take about two months longer to complete the financial analysis and make a final decision on the establishement of a commercial arctic char fishery for Igloolik.

- 30 -

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87-007

FUNDING RECEIVED FOR TRAPPING EXHIBIT

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 13) - The Northern Heritage Centre has received $36,000 to plan a major travelling exhibit on the importance of trapping to the people of the North.

"When it's completed, in about a year and a half, the exhibit will be shown in both northern and southern Canada," predicted Minister of Culture and Communications Nick Sibbeston. "This will be an advocacy exhibit, giving northern trappers an opportunity to present their point of view to a large national audience."

The grant, which comes from the Museums Assistance Program of the National Museums of Canada, is an indication of the Northern Heritage Centre's national reputation for high professional standards, Mr. Sibbeston said. "We're also gratified that several major institutions across Canada have already expressed an interest in hosting the exhibit."

The display will be developed in consultation with individuals and organizations in many northern communities and will consist of both objects and photographs. It will focus on the historical development of the trapping industry and its impact on human lives in the past and the present.

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The Centre will assign six staff people to contribute to the project and will hire a co-ordinator to oversee its development. Additional funding, to construct and tour the exhibit, will be sought at a later date.

- 30 -

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87-008

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN HOUSING WELCOMED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 13) - People in the Northwest Territories now have a greater say in matters relating to housing following the implementation of a recommendation by the Special Committee on Housing.

Minister Responsible for the Housing Corporation Michael Ballantyne says the move will help incorporate the practical needs and wants of northern communities.

"Community councils will have the important duty of approving or disapproving public housing lots selected for construction," said Mr. Ballantyne. "Those councils and housing associations will be asked to approve the positioning of new houses on the lots. We will use recommendations regarding changes whenever possible."

Most importantly, according to the Minister, "the councils, housing associations and people who have recently lived in public and H.A.P. (Homeownership Assistance Program) housing will have the opportunity to give their opinions on current designs."

A Design Committee of the Housing Corporation has already begun the process of consulting with about 18 communities. It visited Rae on January 8th and will finish in the Baffin Region by early April this year.

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Mr. Ballantyne says ideas to improve existing housing designs will be used where possible in the 1988 public housing and HAP designs. The criteria will include cost effectiveness, technical feasibility and legal building code requirements.

"If this community input process is successful, the Design Committee will be sent out once again to repeat the consultation exercise before any new designs are developed," said Mr. Ballantyne.

"In addition to gathering specific information about design preferences, the project will enhance and develop better communication between the communities and the Housing Corporation. It's another positive step which meets not only the direction of the Special Committee on Housing, but the goals of the Housing Corporation as well."

- 30 -

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87-009

FUNDING PROVIDED FOR TRANSITION HOUSES AND A CRISIS SHELTER

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 13) - Two Transition Houses - in Fort Smith and Iqaluit - and a Crisis Centre in Tuktoyukuk will receive more than $160,000 from the Department of Social Services over the next three months.

The Minister, Bruce McLaughlin, says "these programs have all come about through community initiatives and they will all be operated by local societies. We are convinced that this community-based approach is our most effective option for providing help to victims of family violence."

In Fort Smith, the Tawow Society opened its three-bedroom Transition House in November, with Terry Villeneuve as co-ordinator. Social Services, through its Family Violence Prevention Program, contributed $58,000 to cover operations until March 31, 1987.

"Nutaraq Place", the Transition House in Iqaluit, will be opening soon. The House takes its name from a well-known Baffin elder who has been counselling people in the region for many years. The Baffin Regional Agvvik Society has received $71,000 for operational funding until the end of the fiscal year for the shelter. It has hired Susan Sammons as director.

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The Tuk Crisis Committee has received $34,200 to provide shelter and counselling to victims of spousal assault, and others in crisis situations. The centre will operate from a two-bedroom trailer and will be open for 12 hours a day, during the night.

"The people involved in establishing these Houses have worked long and hard to build community support, locate facilities and arrange funding," said Mr. McLaughlin. "They deserve a great deal of credit."

The Family Violence Prevention Program also provides operating funds for McAteer House, the Transition House Program sponsored by the Yellowknife YWCA.

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87-010

FUTURE OF NORTHERN TELEVISION TO BE DISCUSSED AT SYMPOSIUM

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 14) - The future of television in northern Canada will be discussed by participants from across the North at a symposium being held in Yellowknife January 15-16.

The meeting, which has been convened by the NWT Department of Culture and Communications, is bringing together representatives of organizations concerned with northern television programming from the NWT, Yukon, Arctic Quebec and Labrador.

Minister of Culture and Communications Nick Sibbeston says that the symposium will present a good opportunity for potential users of television as a communications vehicle in the North to determine what they may be able to achieve together.

"Northern-oriented television programming has been increasing in recent years, with CBC Northern Services and several aboriginal communications societies starting into or expanding television production. As well, educators have begun looking to television for distance education purposes and the medium could become increasingly important for public information, including possible televising of some meetings of the legislative assemblies," noted Mr. Sibbeston.

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Among the issues to be discussed at the Northern Television Symposium will be the possible sharing of a northern television satellite transponder by various organizations and ways in which northern programming can be expanded.

The recent federal task force on broadcasting policy in Canada supported the strengthening of CBC's northern television service, and also suggested that northern producers should have easier and cheaper access to satellite time. The report also recommended that the federal government fund a dedicated satellite transponder to be shared by northern user groups.

Among the organizations which will be represented at the symposium are six northern aboriginal communications societies, the National Aboriginal Communications Society, CBC Northern Services, the Government of the NWT departments of Culture and Communications and Education, the Legislative Assembly of the NWT, and the Kativik School Board from Arctic Quebec. Resource persons are also attending from the federal departments of Communications and the Secretary of State, the CRTC and Telesat Canada.

Experiences encountered by the Learn Alaska Television Network will also be considered, including viewing of video tapes and a teleconference linkup with participants in Juneau, Alaska.

The symposium is being held in the Legislative Assembly Annex of the Yellowknife Inn.

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87-011

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS NEW HOTEL

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 15) - The Territorial government is giving Nunasi Corporation $20,000 to help it set up a company that would build a new hotel in Pangnirtung.

The money will be used by the corporation -- the business arm of Inuit Tapirisat of Canada -- to incorporate the new company, assemble land in Pang and develop the hotel concept.

The corporation's plan is to finance the hotel by offering 1 million common shares to the public, although 51 per cent of them would be reserved for Inuit-owned or controlled companies or Inuit individuals.

The government money is being contributed by the Tourism Facilities and Training Contribution Fund.

According to the corporation, a management study completed last summer proved there is a market in Pangnirtung for the new facility and a great deal of interest among companies and individuals in participating in it. The corporation's tentative schedule calls for it to be built in the fall of 1987.

"In this case, government is playing the very legitimate role of helping people with demonstrated imagination and drive to achieve their goals," said Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism. "A new facility in Pangnirtung will also help the people in the community by attracting more tourists and providing jobs."

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Tourism is on the increase in the Pang area, in part due to the creation of Auyittuq National Park near the community and the development of nearby Kekerten Island historical park.

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87-012

NORTH MAY GET ITS OWN TELEVISION NETWORK

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 19) - Northern Canada may have its own television network as a result of an agreement reached at the conclusion of a northern television symposium in this northern capital Friday.

Representatives of broadcasters and potential users of a northern network have agreed to urge the federal government to accelerate funding for a northern television transponder.

A northern transponder would give northern broadcasters a complete television channel. Programming from this new northern channel could be received by all communities of the Yukon, Northwest Territories, Arctic Quebec and Labrador, provided they had appropriate receiver - transmitter facilities.

Those participating in the two-day symposium included the governments of the NWT and Yukon; CBC Northern Services; six aboriginal communications societies from the Yukon, NWT, Arctic Quebec and Labrador; the National Aboriginal Communications Society; and the Kativik School Board (Arctic Quebec). Resource people from the CRTC, Telesat Canada, and the Federal Departments of Communications and the Secretary of State also attended. The symposium was hosted by the Territorial government's Department of Culture and Communications.

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At the request of the symposium participants, Minister of Culture and Communications Nick Sibbeston and Minister of Education Dennis Patterson are sending results of the meeting to appropriate federal ministers and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Culture and Communications.

In addition to requesting a dedicated northern satellite transponder, the deleglates agreed to carry out an implementation study of a new northern television network.

The study will examine the feasibility of various options for funding and managing the new network, and what the financial and technical requirements would be. The report is to be prepared within the next two and a half months by an independent consultant who will report to a working committee of representatives from the participating agencies.

The Department of Culture and Communications has been asked to facilitate the network implementation study and its review.

If a northern network does become a reality, viewers from Yukon to Labrador would be able to tune in a second channel which would carry a mix of programming. This could include programs produced by northern broadcasters (including CBC and aboriginal communications societies); educational programming; coverage of the legislative assemblies; and programming acquired from other sources which would be of interest to Northerners - for example from other public broadcasters, the National Film Board, or through international exchanges.

The CBC national service would continue to be available on its existing satellite channel. The new network would be established as a separate, parallel channel, giving Northerners another choice.

In order to achieve this objective without the communities having to dulicate existing satellite receiving facilities, the symposium urged Telesat Canada to review current channel assignments on Anik D1 and to identify a transponder for the potential users for 1988.

Establishing the new network would require a commitment from the federal government for the leasing of the satellite transponder, as well as some other related costs. This was a key recommendation of the recent federal Task Force on Broadcasting Policy (Caplan/Sauvageau), which recognized the current limitations on expanding northern programming via existing distribution systems.

The task force report recommended that "...native communications societies and the CBC Northern Service share a satellite transponder dedicated to serving northern communities. Furthermore, ... that the Government of Canada increase allocations to the NNBAP in order to cover costs associated with the shared transponder option.

The NNBAP (Northern Native Broadcast Access Program), which is administered by the Department of the Secretary of State, funds 13 aboriginal communications societies to produce native-language radio and television programming. The current NNBAP expires on March 31, 1987 and the program is up for renewal.

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87-013

HOUSING CORPORATION RECRUITING NATIVES

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 19) - The NWT Housing Corporation is launching an employee recruiting drive among native people.

Corporation representatives are to visit communities in every region to identify and contact people interested in working for the corporation.

While the corporation has an affirmative action plan that has already met with some success, it believes the intense community awareness program it is now launching will recruit a lot more native employees.

The awareness program was announced today by Michael Ballantyne, minister responsible for the corporation.

"Every effort will be made to contact people interested in seeking a career with the corporation," said the minister.

The corporation is looking for people to fill both existing and future positions and in-service training positions. These positions are available in the communities, regional offices and Yellowknife headquarters.

People interested in finding out if the corporation will be visiting their community should call collect to the offices of the corporation in Yellowknife at (403) 920-6531.

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87-014

MANDIN GNWT CLAIMS NEGOTIATOR

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 20) - Dan Mandin is the GNWT's Dene Metis Negotiator. He accepted the position effective January 2.

Originally from the province of Saskatchewan, Mandin came North in 1981 as editor of Native Press, a position he held until 1984.

In 1984, he became the Executive Assistant to Nick Sibbeston who was then Minister of Local Government.

In 1985, he was named Political Development Advisor for the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat.

Mandin holds a B.A. in film studies from Carleton University. When he was offered the position of editor of Native Press in 1981, he has completed 3.5 years towards his journalism degree also at Carleton.

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87-015

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE UP IN THE KITIKMEOT

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 20) - There has been an across-the-board increase in school attendance in the Kitikmeot.

According to Minister of Education Dennis Patterson, attendance in grades one to nine has improved in each of the six communities in the region. In November (the last month for which figures are available), it stood at an impressive 84% overall, 9% higher than the same month in the previous year.

"Credit for the improvement must go to local education authorities, who have been actively promoting school attendance," Mr. Patterson said. He suggested that another factor may be the recent amendment to the Education Act, which gave local authorities the power to enforce attendance. "The publicity surrounding that change has also kept the issue in people's minds."

Specific credit is due to each Kitikmeot community, Mr. Patterson said. Spence Bay takes the honour for highest attendance, with a rate of 93% for November. Cambridge Bay is in second place with 88%. Coppermine, Holman, and Gjoa Haven, all of which have reached about the 80% mark, take the prize for improvement, with increases of 19%, 15% and 12% respectively. Pelly Bay showed a more modest increase but continues to maintain the high average attendance rate of 85% that it established last year.

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"LEA's and school staff in each community are to be congratulated for their continuing interest and hard work in helping to eliminate the attendance problem in the Kitikmeot," Mr. Patterson said.

- 30 -

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87-016

HISTORIC EXPEDITION RECEIVES GNWT SUPPORT

IQALUIT (Jan. 20) - Four adventurers who plan to travel by dog team and retrace the route of the last great Inuit migration from Baffin Island to Greenland will receive close to $11,000 in support funding from the GNWT.

The assistance was announced today by Government Leader Nick Sibbeston who is also the minister responsible for the Territorial government's department of culture and communications.

The funding is being provided to the Qitdlarrsuaq Expedition in exchange for photographs, artifacts and educational and historical material from the expedition. The material will eventually be used in the NWT school curriculum and by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. The team plans to use the funding to purchase traditional caribou and sealskin clothing to be used during the four month journey over some of the toughest terrain on Baffin Island and Northern Greenland.

Mr. Sibbeston said the commemorative journey, 125 years after the arrival of the great Inuit leader and shaman Qitdiarssuaq - in Greenland - will "draw significant attention to the fact that native people were the original explorers of the Arctic."

He added that all residents of the Northwest Territories and, in particular, its young people will benefit from the increased knowledge of and pride in the traditional ways of the Inuit that will result from re-creation of the historical journey.

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Qitdiarssuaq is believed to have been born in the Cumberland Sound area of Baffin Island, near where Pangnirtung is today. Historical records indicate that he led the last gread Inuit migration to Greenland. His group of about 40 men, women and children followed a route which took them over the rugged terrain of Baffin and Ellesmere Islands and across the frozen sea ice of Smith Sound to the coast of Greeland in about 1862. Their arrival resulted in an exchange of technology that proved to be extremely useful to the survival of both groups.

The Qitdiarrsuaq Expedition team includes leader and organizer Renee Wissink, 28, team members Theo Ikkumaq, 32, and Paul Apak, 31, all of Igloolik, as well as expedition photographer Mike Beedell, 30, of Ottawa. Ikkumaq and Apak are direct descendents of Qitdiarssuaq. All four team members are experienced Arctic travellers and each brings special areas of expertise to the expedition. Three members are experienced handlers and breeders of the hardy Canadian Eskimo dog, which will be used exclusively for transportation during the journey.

The group plans to leave Igloolik in mid-March with 42 dogs in four teams. They will travel overland north to Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay and then cross the sea-ice of Lancaster Sound to Devon Island. The coast of this area is a major habitat for polar bears. From Devon Island they will travel across Jones Sound to Grise Fiord, over south Ellesmere Island, and then across Makinson Inlet where they hope to visit one of the winter campsites left by the original expedition. From Makinson Inlet, they will head further north to Pim Island, crossing several major glacier-covered headlands. This is expected to be the most arduous and dangerous portion of the journey. The team has been preparing for it by practicing glacier and crevasse rescue techniques in advance of their journey.

From Pim Island, the expedition will head across the frozen sea-ice of Smith Sound to Etah in north Greenland, where Qitdlarssuaq is believed to have arrived more than a century ago with his group. From there, the team will travel south to other small coastal communities, and hopes to meet some of the scattered descendants of the original expedition along the way. They plan to arrive at Thule Airbase for an airlift back home in late June.

In addition to support from the GNWT, the expedition is being sponsored by the Baffin Tourism Association, First Air, the Inuit Cultural Institute the Donner Foundation, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Canada North Outfitting Ltd. McLaren Advertising, Daymen Photo, Olympus Cameras, Karhu Skiis, a number of outdoor equipment firms including Trailhead and Clorothylie, and through private donations. Donations are tax deductable and may be sent to "The Qitdiarssuaq Expedition, General Delivery, Igloolik, NWT, X0A 0L0. Donors of $2500 or more will receive an audio-visual presentation by one of the expedition following its completion. Those who donate $1500 will receive five custom photographic prints from the expedition, and donors of $500 will receive a limited edition lithograph of a scene from the expedition.

Expedition members have been working with their dog teams since last summer, preparing for the gruelling journey. They have now entered a final two-month intensive training period which will be spent travelling and working in terrain similar to that which they will encounter during their three and a half month journey.

They plan to make their official departure from Igloolik in mid-March.

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(Team member profiles, expedition background and map attached).

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PROFILES

QITDLARSSUAQ EXPEDITION MEMBERS

RENEE WISSINK- 28 year old expedition leader Renee Wissink, (RENN-AY WIS-SINK) is a former high school science teacher who has been running dog teams in Canada's eastern Arctic for the past five years. He now lives in Igloolik on Baffin Island, where he breeds Canadian Eskimo dogs and operates an outfitting business, Ultima Thule Expeditions. His company supplied close to half of the Canadian Eskimo dogs used on the Steger International Polar Expedition's successful 1986 unsupported dog team expedition to the North Pole. Steger has credited the endurance and stamina of this hardy breed with getting the team over the toughest part of the journey --through the first hundred miles of formidable pressure ice close to Ellesmere Island. Wissink was a successful participant in the first descents of both the McKenzie and Arrnshow Rivers on Baffin Island, and as a guide and outfitter has conducted tours in both Auyuittuq National Park and on Bylot Island. Wissink's dream of retracing the routes of some of the great explorers by dog team and his fascination with the Qitdlarssuaq legend led to the formation of the Qitdlarssuaq Expedition.

THEO IKKUMAQ- 32 year old Theo Ikkumaq (THEE-OH IK-OOH-MAHK) is a direct descendant of Qitdlarssuaq from both the Greenland and Baffin branches of the great leader's clan. He grew up in isolated outpost camps near Igloolik, where his family maintained a very traditional subsistance hunting lifestyle. As a result, Theo grew up around dog teams and eventually became a breeder of Canadian Eskimo dogs in his own right. Following his education in Renewable Resource Technology at Thebacha College in Fort Smith, NWT, Theo served as a Wildlife Officer with the Territorial Department of Renewable Resources in a number of Baffin communities. Raised in the traditional ways of the Inuit, Theo brings to the expedition both a lifetime of experience living and travelling in the harsh conditions of eastern arctic winters as well as a strong technical background which includes expertise with polar bear deterrents.

PAUL APAK-31 year old Paul Apak (PAHL AH-PAHK) was named after Qitdlarssuaq's wife, Apak (Agpaq), and is also a direct descendant of the great shaman. He and Theo Ikkumaq are cousins. Paul was born and raised in Igloolik, the most traditional of the 14 Baffin communities. Since his father raised Canadian Eskimo dogs, Paul has been around teams all his life and is now an expert dog handler and breeder as well as a seasoned Arctic traveller. For the last six years, he has been employed as a television cameraman and producer of Inuit cultural programs with the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation. Paul will be shooting film along the way and producing a television program for IBC based on the Qitdlarssuaq Expedition's journey to Greenland.

MIKE BEEDELL- At 30, Mike Beedell (BEE-DELL) is already well-known to many Canadians, both through his book of Arctic photography, *"The Magnetic North"* and his recent journey through the Northwest Passage by catamaran with Jeff MacInnis, son of renowned Arctic scientist, Dr. Joe MacInnis. Based in Ottawa, Mike is a photojournalist with credits in a long list of Canadian and international nature, outdoor and travel magazines. He is also a wilderness guide with 9 years of experience in Arctic travel. Mike has led ski tours on the Penney Ice Cap in Auyuittuq National Park for Trailhead of Ottawa, done river running on the Coppermine and Nahanni Rivers and is an experienced ocean kayaker. In addition to providing photographic coverage of the Qitdlarssuaq Expedition's journey, Mike will also bring to the expedition his experience in mountaineering and glacier travel. By the time the Expedition departs Igloolik in mid-March, he will have acquired dog-team driving skills and will run his own team throughout the expedition.

QITDLARSSUAQ EXPEDITION

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Qitdlarssuaq was a great Inuit leader and shaman who is believed to have been born in the Cumberland Sound area of Baffin Island, near where Pangnirtung is today. Historical records indicate that he led the last great Inuit migration to Greenland. His group of about 40 men, women and children followed a route which took them over the rugged terrain of Baffin and Ellesmere Islands and across the frozen sea ice of Smith Sound to the coast of Greenland in about 1862. Their arrival resulted in an exhange of technology with the Greenlandic Inuit that proved to be extremely useful to the survival of both groups.

Qitdlarssuaq also travelled extensively on north Baffin Island during his lifetime, and became known to many people for his powers as a shaman. There are many stories and legends about this powerful man, both among the coastal people of northern Greenland and the people of Igloolik and other north Baffin communities. He was as much feared as he was respected. His name is also mentioned in the written records of a number of the European explorers of that time, giving historical validity to a saga which might otherwise remain only as legend.

Qitdlarssuaq's journey was in every sense a true exploration. Although he followed a traditional overland route to Greenland, it is believed to have been unfamiliar to the people of his time and known to them only through stories handed down from the past. Qitdlarssuaq, with a spirit of adventure and a desire to see new places led his people into unfamiliar terrain, searching for a new land.

Qitdlarssuaq's expedition differed in one major way, however, from the European explorations of the time. Instead of travelling with a group of hardy male adventurers, his expedition included small children and women carrying young babies in the hoods of their "amautiqs" (hooded caribou skin parkas). As leader he was obligated to help the group find animals which could be hunted to ensure their survival during the arduous journey. Travelling with such a large group also slowed their progress. It must have taken a very strong leader to preserve the cohesiveness of the group during the several years of difficulties encountered on this 1000 mile trek over some of the toughest terrain in the world.

In 1908, Danish explorer Knud Rasmussen recorded a detailed account of Qitdlarssuaq's migration. The story was told to him by two Greenlanders, Merquasq, an old man who was born during the actual journey and Panigpak, whose grandfather was one of the original immigrants. They described Qitdlarssuaq as being quite old when the journey began. He was balding, ("his forehead was not covered by hair") an unusual occurence among Inuit, suggesting that he was very old indeed. His hair was white. Included in their tale was a list of the names of people who followed Qitdlarssuaq, so that in later years it has been possible to trace many of Qitlardssuaq's descendants, who now live in Igloolik, Pond Inlet and Greenland.

Qitdlarssuaq is believed to have had several motives for his journey. It is thought that he may have been directly involved in the deaths of a number of people near Pond Inlet and Igloolik, possibly through using his powers as a shaman, or that he was a descendant of a murderer. Either way, he became a strong target for avenging relatives. Thus, he had a strong desire to get away to a place where the avengers were unlikely follow.

Qitdlarssuaq is also believed to have heard of a small community of people living at Etah, in coastal Greenland from Inglefield, one of the many explorers of around that time who were searching for the lost Franklin expedition. From that information, Qitdlarssuaq developed a desire to explore and find these other people.

Merqusaq confirmed this, telling Rasmussen, "After Qitdlarssuaq heard that there were Inuit over on the other side of the sea, he could never settle down to anything again. He held great conjurations of spirits in the presence of the people of the village. He made his soul take long journeys through the air, with his helping spirits, to look for the country of the strange Inuit. At last one day he informed his fellow villagers that he had found the new country! And he told them that he was going to journey to the strange people and he exhorted them all to follow him. "Do you know the desire for new countries? Do you know the desire to see new people?, he said to them"

Merqusaq said the journey began in winter after the light returned. They travelled with 10 huge sledges (kamotiqs) pulled by as many as twenty dogs each and found plenty of animals along the way. They were forced to make their way over huge glaciers to avoid stretches of open water. When the ice broke up in spring, they would establish a permanent camp near a good fishing place and from there hunt for winter supplies. As the dark season approached they built stone houses roofed with turf and from there waited until the light returned enough to resume their travels.

After two winters, recounted Merqusaq, one of the oldest men in the group, Orqe (Okee) grew homesick, and began longing to eat whale meat again. He began to encourage people to lose their trust in Qitdlarssuaq and to turn back with him. The two old men began to argue and their dissension split the group. Finally, 3 sledges and 24 people turned back, leaving the other 3 sledges and 14 people, including Orqe's son Minik, to continue the journey.

Qitdlarssuaq assured his remaining followers that it was not much farther to the new country. His strong leadership helped to convince them. It is said that he had more strength and endurance than the others even though he was the oldest. He was always the first to break camp, driving his sledge ahead of the rest. People following behind said that as they struggled along after dark, "they could see a flame burning above his head: so great was his might".

Finally they reached the opposite coast, discovering some empty dwellings, but no people. Eventually one day they saw two strange sledges approaching and met two hunters from the tribe they were looking for. One of these two had a wooden leg, and Merqusaq's story explains that at first, the Baffin Inuit thought that all Greenland Inuit had one leg made of wood.

Merqusaq said, "We taught these people many things." They showed them how to build snow-huts with an underground entrance to keep the cold out, how to make and use the bow and arrow to get caribou, how to spear "salmon" (arctic char") in streams and how to build and hunt from kayaks. All of the older Greenland Inuit had died in an epidemic and the knowledge had been lost to the young people. They could build makeshift snow huts, but didn't know how to hunt caribou, or that it was food for people. They were only sealskin clothing, and were not able to make warmer clothing from caribou skin. But the Greenlanders also taught the Baffin Inuit. The Greenlandic sledge, with its upright handles, was easier to maneuver and was quickly adopted by the newcomers.

For six years, the Baffin Inuit lived among the Greenland Inuit, inter-marrying and making their home with them. But Qitdlarssuaq, who "was old by then, with children and children's children" was struck with a desire to see his country again before he died. All who came with him, decided to return, except his son Itsukusuk, who wanted to stay behind because his child was sick.

Qitdlarssuaq died during the first winter of the return journey. After that, things did not go well for the remaining travellers. Famine broke out during their second winter, and many began to starve. Qitdlarssuaq's wife, Aggaq died of hunger with several others. Two of the men who were left began to eat the dead bodies and committed murder to get more to eat. Merqusaq saw his mother and father eaten and was almost eaten himself, but his brother rescued him in time. Merqusaq lost an eye in the struggle.

The remaining few decided to turn back. Five years after leaving with Qitdlarssuaq, having eaten all their dogs in order to survive, they arrived back in Greenland on foot. Only three or four of the original immigrants were still alive in Greenland by the time Merqusaq told his story to Rasmussen.

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Northwest Territories QITDLARSSUAQ EXPEDITION ROUTE TO GREENLAND

87-017

GOVERNMENT ASSISTS CLINIC

INUVIK (Jan. 21) - The Territorial government is contributing $20,000 to help a doctor here construct the first private medical clinic in the community.

Dr. Terry Fellows has been a physician in Inuvik for six years.

The government contribution, announced today by Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism, is coming from the Financial Assistance to Business program administered by Curley's department.

Dr. Fellow's clinic principally will involve family practice and obstetrics.

Meanwhile, Curley intends to ask the federal government to make the start-up costs associated with private clinics providing personal health-care services (such as medical, dental, eye clinics, etc.) eligible for business-assistance funding under the next federal-territorial Economic Development Agreement due to begin in April. Such funding is not part of the current EDA.

"This government encourages and supports the development of the service industry in the north, including personal health care," the minister said. "These services are a vital part of our lives and of our economy."

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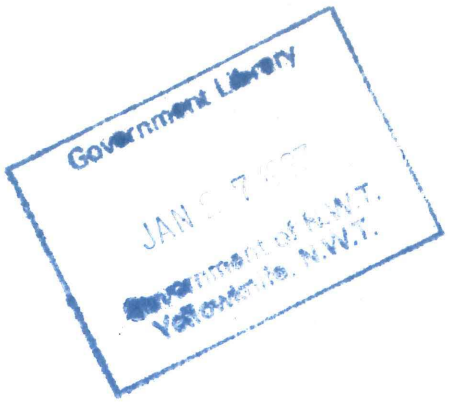

87-018

FOOD CONFERENCE A FIRST

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 22) - Canada's first-ever northern food conference will be held here Feb. 18 and 19.

The two-day meeting is being called to look at ways to expand the domestic food industry -- one that can supply northerners with a cheaper alternative to imported food -- and at the same time develop export markets in the south for the excess.

Tagak Curley, minister of economic development and tourism, is sponsoring the conference at The Explorer Hotel.

About 100 delegates are expected to attend from all sectors of the northern food industry -- producers, processors, distributors, consumers -- along with government departments, native organizations and regulatory agencies. Some southern representatives also are expected.

"The Territorial government is interested in helping stimulate our small domestic food industry in order to reduce the need for high-cost imports," the minister said. "We already have programs to help people establish country-food businesses but it's not enough."

Curley added that it's also timely to discuss the development of export markets because of the excellent reception northern country foods such as muskox, char and whitefish received at Expo through the NWT pavilion there.

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During the conference a variety of northern foods will be displayed while all meals will be specially-prepared northern dishes.

Glenn Warner, head of the NWT Water Board and an owner of Bathurst Inlet Lodge, is general chairman of the meetings.

Delegates will discuss and make recommendations in four areas: current and potential supply and demand for products across the NWT and the rest of Canada; the capacity of the existing infrastructure to meet current and future demands; food-handling and public-health regimes, and the respective roles of government and the private sector in developing the industry.

During the two days a total of seven panels will be held -- an overview of the northern food industry (chaired by Warner); the Expo 86 experience and aftermath (George Braden); Resources and production potential (Bob Wooley); Meeting demand (Harry Baim); Marketing and distribution (Peter von Lipinsky); Regulatory environment (Mike Pontus), and Traditional agriculture (Joe Kronstal).

Persons wishing more information, or a registration kit, should contact Syd Kirwan in the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in Yellowknife at (403) 873-7391 or Alan Vaughan at 873-7115. Don Anderson, manager of the NWT pavilion restaurant, Icicles, at Expo 86, is planning and co-ordinating the conference. Registration is $25.

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87-019

GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES EMPLOYEE SUGGESTION AWARDS PROGRAM

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 23) - The Territorial government today launched an innovative program to reward employees for suggestions that improve the public service.

The new Employee Suggestion Awards program is expected to more than pay for itself, says Finance Minister Tom Butters, by saving the government more money than it will award employees for their suggestions.

For most of the government's 4,500 employees it's a chance to earn from $50 to $2,500 for practical suggestions that, if implemented, save the government money or increase its effectiveness, efficiency or productivity.

"Nobody is more qualified to suggest how an organization can save money or be more effective than the very people who work in the system," said Butters.

Many organizations in North America operate incentive and recognition programs to reward employees because, in the case of most workers, it is not a condition of employment that they improve the system but solely function efficiently within it.

The size of cash awards will be determined by how much money the government saves or, in the case of intangible benefits, how much they improve the system. All successful ideas adopted by the government will be recognized by the program.

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The Employee Suggestion Awards program is being administered by the government's Financial Management Secretariat under the direction of a management committee composed of several deputy ministers.

A number of employees are excluded from participating, including deputy ministers and regional directors. Management personnel under the government's Hay Plan can only participate if their suggestions are outside the scope of their normal responsibilities.

Suggestions with regard to government policy are excluded from the program.

Explanatory literature introducing the program was distributed to all employees today.

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87-020

CONSULTATIONS SCHEDULED

YELLOWKNIFE (Jan.23) - The Regional and Tribal Councils Review Co-ordinating Committee will begin its consultations with regional and tribal councils and other groups and organizations in February, says committee chairman George Braden.

The review co-ordinating committee was created by Government Leader Nick Sibbeston in October, 1986, to carry out a major review of regional and tribal councils in order to provide a base from which future directions and policies might be developed. It will examine historical, current, and anticipated developments of all regional and tribal councils, whether incorporated under NWT legislation or not. The committee's report will be submitted to Mr. Sibbeston later this year.

At its second meeting, held in Yellowknife on January 14, the eight-member committee developed its plan for carrying out the review.

As well as developing the work plan, the committee developed and reviewed draft questionnaires to be circulated to groups throughout the NWT and to be used as a basis for discussion with regional and tribal councils. A list of groups and organizations which will be consulted during the review was also discussed.

The review committee plans to meet with Speakers and executive directors of all the regional and tribal councils on February 25.

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"The next few months will be busy," said Mr. Braden, "but our first two meetings have laid a solid foundation for the major review task which lies ahead."

Committee member Gary Black, associated deputy minister of the Executive, Government of the NWT, has been chosen as the committee's deputy chairman.

Other members of the review co-ordinating committee are: Al Menard, deputy minister, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs; Charles Overvold, Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat; former Rankin Inlet Mayor Jack Anawak; former Inuvik Mayor John Hill; Mark Evaluarjuk, Speaker, Baffin Regional Council; and Rae-Edzo Chief Joe Rabesca, representing the Dogrib Tribal Council.

More information about the committee's work and schedule may be obtained from committee co-ordinator Dennis Lowing at 873-7910.

- 30 -

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87-022

SALARY SUBSIDY FOR COMMUNITY RECREATION LEADERS AVAILABLE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Gordon Wray, has announced the introduction of a new program that will provide salary subsidies of up to 80% to help communities employ trained recreation leaders and facility managers.

According to Mr. Wray, the program was developed in conjunction with Arctic College's Community Recreation Leaders' Program (CRLP) and exists primarily to provide salary assistance for graduates of that program.

"As a government, we recognize the importance of recreation in promoting healthier lifestyles in our communities," Mr. Wray said. "In order to be assured of broad-based recreation programming, we need well-trained professional staff throughout the Territories. These two programs, the CRLP and the salary subsidy, are designed to make that goal a reality."

Students are accepted into the CRLP on the recommendation of their home communities, with the expectation that they will return home to work as recreation leaders when their two years of training is complete. The salary subsidy will be available for these graduates. An additional provision of the program will allow communities to hire trained recreation staff while their sponsored student is at the CRLP.

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The subsidy will also be available to help communities hire other "qualified northerners" -- people who have lived in the North for at least three years and whose training equals or surpasses that provided by the Community Recreation Leaders' Program. Existing recreation leaders who have these qualifications will be included in the program.

Qualified staff who operate and maintain recreation facilities are also covered by the subsidy program, provided the community owns and operates two or more major recreational facilities.

"In the past few years, our communities have enjoyed a significant expansion in recreation facilities. We are aware of the need to have these facilities staffed by competent personel," Mr. Wray said.

A manual outlining the program in detail is available from the Sport and Recreation Division of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs in Yellowknife.

- 30 -

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87-023

OPERATION FOX MOTH

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - A group of Yellowknife residents has plans to construct a $300,000 Aviation Hall at the Northern Heritage Centre, Commissioner John Parker said today.

The hall, attached to the museum, would allow for repatriation and display of the Territorial government's Fox Moth aircraft - presently on loan to the Western Canada Air Museum in Winnipeg. The Fox Moth is one of two aircraft of that type still in existence in Canada.

Members of the Yellowknife society, registered as Operation Fox Moth, plan to donate their own time and corporate efforts towards raising the necessary project funds in southern Canada and in construction of the facility at no cost to the government.

Dana Ferguson, of Ferguson, Simek and Clark and president of the newly-registered society, said its members will not compete with local charitable organizations in their fund raising efforts. He said there would be substantial "in kind" contributions by society participants and that approaches for financial assistance would be made to the aviation industry and related corporations outside of the NWT.

Once the project is completed the assets will become the property of the Northern Heritage Centre.

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Other executive members of the society include: Chris Stephens, Director of the Northern Heritage Centre (vice-president), Ted Richard, MLA Yellowknife South (Secretary) and Gerry Avery, Hinchey, Wowk, Williams, Avery & Co. (treasurer).

Founding members include the current executive as well as Mark Dodd of NWT Air, Marvin Robinson of Robinson Trucking, Nick Marach of the Territorial Department of Public Works and Highways, Fred Russel of PCL Constructors Western Ltd., David Lovell of the Yellowknife Heritage Committee and John Argue, executive assistant to Commissioner John Parker.

To date, the society has been incorporated, project costs have been itemized, a project schedule has been established and a marketing outline has been drafted.

Ferguson said that "if half a dozen major sponsors come forward, the project will begin in March with an expected completion in July of this year."

At that point the Fox Moth would be transported from Winnipeg and exhibit design and fabrication will proceed, using NWT Expo Pavilion materials. It is hoped the public will have access to the Hall in late summer.

The Fox Moth aircraft was designed and produced in the early 1930's by De Havilland in response to the demand for an inexpensive ($4,500), but high-performance carrier. The aircraft carried a maximum payload of 900 pounds and had room for three passengers in addition to the pilot. It had a cruising speed of 96 m.p.h. and an air range of 375 miles.

While the 1930s saw use of the Fox Moth on short domestic runs, the next decade saw the production of "frontier-specific" designs.

The Canadian-built Moth had the cabin area strengthened, the portside door enlarged to ease the loading of bulky freight and stretchers and the cockpit widened and covered. Mining, exploration and transport companies used this version - equipped with wheel, float or ski as one of the work-horses of the day.

Polaris Charter Co., owned by Max Ward, used a Fox Moth for transportation out of Yellowknife in the late 1940's. McAvoy Diamond Drilling and Development Co. purchased a Fox Moth (CFBNL) in May of 1946. That aircraft, piloted by Gordon Wonnacott, crashed at Porridge Lake on October 4 of 1946.

In 1977, former NWT Commissioner Stuart Hodgson approved a proposal to recover and rebuild a Fox Moth for display at the Northern Heritage Centre. The main aircraft frame came from the Porridge Lake crash site and over a seven-year period the craft, using salvage from two other Fox Moths, was restored to near-airworthy standards.

However, once the restoration was completed, there was no museum space available to properly display the Fox Moth and it was loaned to the Western Canada Air Museum. Since then, Commissioner Parker and the Yellowknife Heritage Committee have been seeking a display "home" for the aircraft.

With the proposal by business and professional interest, Operation Fox Moth was born.

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87-024

COMMUNITY RECREATION LEADER'S PROGRAM TO BE BASED IN INUVIK

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 5) - The Community Recreation Leaders' Program will be permanently based at the Inuvik Campus of Arctic College.

The program, which is a joint project of the Departments of Education and Municipal and Community Affairs, was established last year to provide trained recreation leaders in the NWT. It was delivered at the Thebacha Campus in Fort Smith during its first year, while a permanent location was being chosen.

According to Gordon Wray, the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, all regions of the Northwest Territories are represented in this program. "Each region is guaranteed at least one student each intake, with the balance of students coming from communities displaying organizational requirements such as effective recreation committees and recreation facility infrastructure."

Minister of Education Dennis Patterson points to the recreation facilities at the Inuvik Campus (formerly the Canadian Forces Base) as one reason for the choice of location. "The town of Inuvik has been very supportive of both Arctic College and the Community Recreation Leaders' Program. We see this as a flagship program that will provide a real foundation for the new campus."

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The Ministers agree that the climate and geography of Inuvik are also an advantage, since they approximate the conditions students will encounter in their home communities.

At present, there are eighteen students in the two-year program, each selected and sponsored by his or her home community. The students will return home for a term of practical training in April and recommence their courses in Inuvik in the fall.

- 30 -

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87-025

TOURISM STRATEGY PAYING DIVIDENDS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 10) - TravelArctic's new three-year Tourism Marketing Strategy is "already paying dividends," according to Economic Development and Tourism Minister Tagak Curley.

He said today that three new tour wholesalers from Alberta have been identified and are interested in establishing new tours into the NWT. The tours are scheduled to begin this summer.

The Tourism Marketing Strategy was designed to pick up on the momentum established by the highly successful NWT Expo 86 Pavilion.

The Alberta tour wholesalers are: David Thompson Tours, based in Red Deer; Arctic Adventure Holidays Ltd., based in Calgary; and Canada Motor Coach Tours of Edmonton, an affiliate of Greyhound Bus Lines.

Mr. Curley said TravelArctic has been working closely with the southern-based operators, putting them in touch with northern operators, outfitters and businesses.

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"It's our intention to organize high quality tour packages which will not only meet consumer requirements but will also demonstrate and exemplify the tradition and cultural richness of the Northwest Territories," he said.

- 30 -

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87-026

UPDATED FISHING GUIDE RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 10) - An updated version of the awarding-winning Northwest Territories World Class Fishing Guide was released today by Economic Development and Tourism Minister Tagak Curley.

The publication, a free service offered by TravelArctic, is designed to assist NWT fishing lodge operators. World-wide circulation of the guide helps to promote the Territories as a world-class fishing destination and provides a tool for smaller lodge operators to reach new markets that they would normally have difficulty reaching.

The guide contains a listing of all lodges operating in the NWT, along with their telephone numbers and mailing addresses.

The booklet also contains information regarding the Territories, various fish species found in northern waters, popular lures used to catch the fish, water safety procedures and a description of the Arctic Angler Program. A map, indicating the location of the fishing lodges along with a listing of air charters companies, is also included.

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TravelArctic distributes the guide through consulates, the travel trade industry, consumer shows, numerous fishing organizations across Canada, the United States and Europe and in response to general inquires on fishing in the NWT.

- 30 -

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87-027

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION CURRICULUM READY FOR TESTING

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.10) - The Family Life Education unit of the NWT School Health Program is now being prepared for pilot testing.

At present, approval is being sought from Local Education Authorities in two selected communities to proceed with the trial-run. The unit will be an optional part of the health curriculum and will not be tested or taught without the approval of the Local Education Authorities.

At present the Family Life unit runs from kindergarten to grade nine and is designed to teach facts and encourage the development of skills and attitudes which contribute to self-understanding, healthy interpersonal relationships and successful family life. It is based on universal values which include respect for self and others, kindness, responsibility, honesty and equality of all.

Topics covered include reproduction, puberty relationships, families, personal hygiene, sexually transmitted diseases, heredity, sex-role stereotyping, parenthood, birth planning and personal safety.

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If approval for the pilot test is granted, those teachers who will be using the materials will be provided with an in-service program to prepare them to teach the unit. The Family Life unit will then be reviewed and revised before being offered to Local Education Authorities in other communities throughout the NWT.

- 30 -

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87-028

"BRIGHTEN UP YOUR FUTURE" AT THE YELLOWKNIFE CAREER/JOB FAIR

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 11) - Residents of Yellowknife are invited to "brighten their futures" at this year's Career/Job Fair, to be held in the Katimavik Room of the Explorer Hotel from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday March 5.

Forty exhibitors, representing business, industry, government, service agencies and educational institutions, will be on hand with information on careers, training and employment opportunities.

The show is designed to provide information -- and inspiration -- to people who are choosing a first career or considering a change. This year's exhibitors include NTCL, NCPC, Transport Canada, Esso, Northwestel, Top of the World Tours, Arctic College, and the Saskatchewan Indian Federation College, among others.

- 30 -

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87-029

THRONE SPEECH DWELLS ON NEED FOR POSITIVE ACTION AND MEETING CHALLENGES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.11) - A budget that takes bold initiatives and a plebescite on the proposed boundary for division will form the major focus of the Ninth Session of the Tenth Legislative Assembly.

In his opening address, Commissioner John Parker said the devolution of power from the federal government, the continuing work for recognition of aboriginal self government in the constitution, and the serious economic problems of the north must all be dealt with.

Mr. Parker calls the signing of an historic document outlining a proposed boundary for the division of the NWT the most exciting.

"Your government continues to support this important initiative in constitutional development of the North, and urges that the boundary agreement be placed before the people of the territories at the earliest possible occasion."

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TERRITORIAL ECONOMY REQUIRES MUCH ATTENTION:

The Territorial government continues to be active in achieving land claims settlements and in national forums like Federal-Provincial conferences. "While many of the provincial governments appear to be opposed to be constitutional entrenchment of the right of aboriginal peoples to self government, your government is continuing in its efforts to play the 'honest broker' role in this process," said Mr. Parker.

The territorial economy and its serious problems require much attention from the Legislative Assembly. The devastating blows to the sealskin market, to exploration and development of oil and gas in the Beaufort Sea and to the northern mining industry require "creative responses" according to Mr. Parker. "This is not a budget that will appeal to the weak-kneed or the timid."

"This is a budget that takes bold and creative initiatives as a response to the economic crisis that we are facing. It is designed to stimulate economic activity and economic growth throughout the NWT. It is designed to provide jobs and economic opportunities for northerners in all parts of the NWT. It is a budget that very much addresses itself to the future of this territory and not simply to the narrow circumstances of today."

FOUR BROAD POLICY GOALS DETERMINE NEW MEASURES:

The Commissioner says policy measures of the government are designed to pave the way for the long term recovery of the territorial economy. "The Government of the Northwest Territories must seek to achieve a society that can be put forward as an example to other jurisdictions in Canada."

The four broad policy goals have been developed to help establish that example. They are STABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EQUAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL SURVIVAL, and EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT AND RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT.

"The cornerstone of our economic development strategy is the enhancement of the renewable resource sector. Here, while your government is pursuing initiatives to foster overall development of this important part of the northern economy, our long range goal is to create secondary and tertiary industries that utilize the renewable raw materials of the N.W.T."

NEW INITIATIVES AND APPROACHES UNDERTAKEN:

Mr. Parker outlined a wide range of accomplishments and important initiatives in the area of Social Development and Justice which include the new 135-bed Stanton Yellowknife Hospital and the creation of a smoke-free workplace for territorial government employees. A number of communities have received funding to address the issue of family violence, four new transition/emergency homes have been established and drafting for day care legislation has begun.

"In the area of culture, your government has made progress on a number of fronts respecting the development of language services," said Mr. Parker. An interpreter/translator curse will be established in the Arctic College system and work continues on amendments to the NWT Official Languages Act that will guarantee certain northern native language rights.

In the area of effective and responsive government, the Commissioner said, "there are measures that the government will introduce that are aimed at improving and upgrading our political and administrative institutions in the interest of greater efficiency and the provision of higher levels of service to the people of the north."

TWENTY-EIGHT BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION THIS SESSION:

Mr. Parker told Members of the Legislative Assembly that 28 bills will be introduced for their consideration. They will include amendments to the Education Act; Insurance Act; Write-Off of Assets and Debts Act, 1986-87; Home Owners's Property Tax Rebate Act; Advisory Council on the Status of Women Act; Criminal Injuries Compensation Act; Mechanics' Lien Act; Revolving Funds Act; Territorial Parks Act; Student Financial Assistance Act; Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act; and Elections Act.

New bills include: Charter Communities Act; Cities, Town and Villages Act; Hamlets Act; Local Authorities Elections Act; Settlements Act; Residential Tenancies Act; Financial Administration Act; Statute Law (Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms) Amendment Act; Vehicles Act; Enforcement of Maintenance and Custody Orders Act; Revision Act; and Property Assessment and Taxation Act.

Four financial bills will be presented: Appropriation Act, 1987-88; Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1986-87; Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1987-88; and Loan Authorization Act, 1987-88.

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87-030

TOLL-FREE TOURIST INFORMATION NUMBER NOW IN SERVICE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 17) - The Arctic Hotline, a toll-free tourist information line for the NWT, officially went into service today with a call between Tagak Curley, Minister of Economic and Development and Tourism and Alan Cocksedge, Assistant Deputy Minister of Tourism Canada.

"Our experience at Expo showed the need for such a service, since many potential visitors require basic information when making a vacation choice," Mr. Curley explained. "Now, for the first time, anyone in continental North America can pick up the telephone, dial the Northwest Territories toll-free and obtain information on travel and vacation opportunities."

The toll-free number will serve a range of needs. First, it will provide immediate answers to vacation planning questions. Second, it will assist all Northwest Territories operators with the marketing of their products; and third, it will help the industry to expand its data base by recording types of information requested, geographical location of callers and effectiveness of advertising media.

Jack Walker, President of the Tourism Industry Association of the Northwest Territories, who assisted at the official opening of the 800 number, explained that the service is an example of government and the tourism industry working closely to expand the industry in the Territories. The mandate to operate this government service has been contracted to industry. We have accepted responsibility to ensure that it works to the benefit of all sectors and operators within the industry."

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All people in the NWT who have a tourism product to offer are encouraged to submit their material to the Tourism Industry Association office, he said.

An extensive advertising program has been launched to publicize the toll-free number both to the consumer market and to the travel trade. Once the service is fully operational, the Tourism Industry Association expects to handle some 100 callers per week.

Data on all NWT facilities, regions, services, events, and attractions - even weather and road conditions is being assembled into an easily accessed data base in order to provide speedy responses to each caller. Service will be available from 9 to 5, seven days a week, with an answering service to record calls received outside of operating hours.

- 30 -

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Minister of Economic Development
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87-031

GOVERNMENT BUDGET PRESENTED TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb.16) - A budget focusing on essential 'people' services and helping the short-term economic performance of the NWT was released by Minister of Finance Tom Butters Monday, February 16th to the Legislative Assembly.

"Considerable progress must be made before all northerners can enjoy public services comparable to those that residents of southern Canada take for granted. We must enhance essential people services such as education, health care and recreational facilities. We must devote resources to help extend and strengthen our goal of equal employment opportunities for persons of both sexes and of all ethnic origins. We must extend and strengthen our social support system to help alleviate social problems that result in recourse to the judicial system or the breakdown of the family unit."

The budget is for $826 million. It projects a total expenditure of $790 million of which $166 million are directed to capital expenditures and $624 million to operations and maintenance. Programs which are entirely recovered from third parties are expected to slightly exceed $36 million.

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BUDGET TO HELP SHORT TERM PROBLEMS OF TERRITORIAL ECONOMY:

Revenues are expected to total $721 million, with $520 million or 72% coming from the federal government under the Formula Financing Agreement. After adjustments of $6 million for estimated supplementary requirements and $19 million for appropriation lapses -- this will leave a budgetary shortfall of approximately $55 million.

Mr. Butters told the Legislative Assembly that the government entered the 1986-87 fiscal year with an accumulated surplus of over $60 million. "This amount was intended to give our government room to manoeuvre in addressing future special situations and special needs: it was a surplus being kept for a raindy day," said Mr. Butters. "The economic downturn constitutes such a rainy day and the time has come to reap the benefits of past restraint."

Mr. Butters outlined the deterioration of the NWT economy in 1986 and the corresponding downturn throughout the country and around the world.

NWT ECONOMY NEEDS INFUSION FOR JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES:

"Fortunately, there are a few bright spots. Investment will remain our main problem area but some investment will continue. Offshore, Gulf proposes to drill two delineation wells at its Amauligak field in preparation for seasonal production next year. Onshore, some investment activity should take place in the Mackenzie Valley. Overall, investment levels will nonetheless remain depressed. Trapping should benefit from continued strong markets. Gold prices are firm and will have a favourable impact on gold mining's output and profitability. Tourism should benefit from our presence at Expo '86. However, my view is that in the absence of stimulus from government expenditures, we could experience another decline in economic activity and employment could fall to unacceptably low levels."

Mr. Butters, and his Executive Council colleagues are confident that his budget presents a sound financial strategy.

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ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE GET ATTENTION:

"It balances the need for economic stimulus with the need for essentiav people services. It balances the need for the enhancement of long-term economic opportunities for our population with the need for expenditure programs that are responsive to the unique social and cultural conditions of the north. It balances the need for equitable treatment of regions with the need to help those areas more severely affected by the economic downturn. It is an important part of the government's overall economic and social development strategy."

"I believe that our financial position allows us to meet next year's significantly higher expenditures without increasing taxes and without jeopardizing our fiscal integrity."

- 30 -

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87-032

CONFERENCE TO ASSIST IN PROMOTING NORTHERN FOODS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 17) - Growth in the northern food industry is long overdue according to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Tagak Curley says discussions and resulting resolutions from a conference to be held this week in Yellowknife on northern foods will assist in further developing the industry.

"A healthy food industry will not only reduce substantially the $130 million spent annually on imported food from the south, but will also foster expansion and growth of the renewable resource economy, and create employment opportunities in all sectors of the food industry."

Mr. Curley says everyone from harvesters and producers to processors and retailers could benefit.

The Northern Food Conference, according to the minister, is an initiative that the Department of Economic Development and Tourism has taken based on recommendations from last fall's Expo '86 Task Force.

The conference is expected to bring together 125 delegates with representatives from all sectors of the food industry, native organizations and government agencies.

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"It will provide a forum to examine existing and potential demand for NWT - produced foods and identify requirements to cope with the projected demand and supply," said Mr. Curley. "The food handling and hygiene requirements must be identified and the roles of government and the private sector must be outlined in the development of a viable northern food industry."

"The Department of Economic Development and Tourism will do its utmost to take follow-up action on the resolutions and where necessary, work to ensure that they are implemented by the responsible agency."

- 30 -

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87-033

MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SETS PRIORITY ON LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 23) - Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs Gordon Wray has told the Legislative Assembly that a departmental re-organization last June meant more than a name change.

While introducing the largest budget ever proposed for the department, Mr. Wray said MACA (formerly Local Government) reflects the growing importance of municipal institutions and community involvement in the political development of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Wray says the proposed capital budget for recreational facilities has doubled since last year.

"I am unapologetic about placing the development of recreation facilities for all communities on a level of priority at least equivalent to the priorities for good water and sanitation facilities, good roads, and proper municipal administrative offices."

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COMMUNITY RECREATION FACILITIES GET HIGH PRIORITY:

"Good recreation facilities are an invaluable support to the government's and the communities' efforts to foster social development and to alleviate disorientation on the part of community youth. As well, a community recreation centre can be used to provide a focus for numerous cultural activities, a locale for community gatherings and in general, a meeting place for people."

Mr. Wray says a proposed policy which has already received approval in principle from Executive Council will increase the authority of local governments for project management. "This will not only increase local employment opportunities," according to the minister, "it will further the government's goal of responsible, effective and involved local governments."

Mr. Wray says there have been some problems in applying the various Operations and Maintenance formulas among various communities. As a result, he says a review is underway and the prime principle guiding the development of the policy is "respect for the autonomy of local governments."

NEW POLICY ALLOWS FOR FINANCIAL AUTONOMY OF COMMUNITIES:

A water/sewage subsidy program has received the approval of the Financial Management Board which will determine the rates for water and sewage systems in non tax-based communities. The program will also provide appropriate subsidies for private residential and commercial consumers.

According to Mr. Wray, "this program is essential to achieving greater equity in the pricing of municipal water and sanitation services in communities throughout the NWT. After ensuring that the costs to consumers reflect economic costs, attention will then be focussed on programs which are truly underfunded by this government."

Effective training programs in all major aspects of community government are a high priority for the minister. A training program for locally-based Community Planning Technicians and community works has begun. Proposed funding for training recreation staff and volunteers is three times more than last year.

"These programs are intended to improve the capability of community governments to more fully take control of the planning and management of the future development of their communities. We must improve these capabilities if this government's goal of greater grass roots involvement in the decision-making process in the NWT is to be realized."

NEW POLICIES ALLOW FOR GREATER LOCAL INVOLVEMENT:

Mr. Wray says the Federal Cabinet is considering a special onetime funding for the construction of eleven airports which were left undeveloped following the expiry of a federal program two years ago.

The proposed budget for Municipal and Community Affairs totals $96,495,000. The proposed appropriations for O & M are $49,189,000 and $47,306,000 for capital.

- 30 -

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87-034

GROWTH IN NWT TOURISM FACILITIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 19) - Minister of Tourism Tagak Curley has announced the "noteworthy" results of a survey into the growth of tourist-related facilities and services.

Mr. Curley says there has been significant growth in several important areas. In 1975, there were only 39 hotels and motels, 40 lodges and 13 outfitters. "Today," he says, "71 hotels and motels, 54 lodges and 82 outfitters operate in the Northwest Territories."

"The doubling of this tourism infrastructure over the last twelve years shows that we are working together to build this important segment of our economy."

According to Mr. Curley, this growth in facilities and services means more business opportunities and employment for northerners.

"For tourists, this means they have greater choices in where to go and what to see throughout our territory. Almost every community now has some facility to accommodate tourists and visitors."

- 30 -

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87-035

INTEREST RATES REDUCED FOR MUNICIPAL CAPITAL PROJECTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 20) - A program designed to save millions of dollars on outstanding municipal loans has been introduced by the territorial government.

Minister of Finance Tom Butters made the announcement today on behalf of his department and Municipal and Community Affairs. The loans have been issued by the Government of the Northwest Territories for municipal capital projects.

Mr. Butters says all loans with interest rates greater than 10.5 per cent will have the rate reduced to this level.

"This decrease will benefit the municipalities through both savings in terms of interest payments and the potential for faster repayment of loan principal."

The total amount of interest savings over the next twenty years is expected to be approximately $2,229,000. The savings will be retroactive to each loans's 1986/87 payment date. The outstanding loans have been financed internally by the territorial government.

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"Had the government required funds obtained from long-term borrowing in order to finance such loans," says Mr. Butters, "10.5 per cent is the estimated current cost of this borrowing."

"As well," he adds, "it is a rate that will encourage the municipalities to maintain their outstanding loans with the G.N.W.T., rather than opting to refinance the loans with borrowing from private institutions."

Mr. Butters says this will help protect municipalities from the volatility of the interest rate market.

- 30 -

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87-036

COMPROMISE SOUGHT ON ABORIGINAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN CONSTITUTION

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb 24) - Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Dennis Patterson says the issues involved in establishing native rights in the constitution are very complex and sensitive.

Last week, Mr. Patterson attended a federal/provincial/territorial ministerial meeting as part of the preparatory work for the First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal Rights in the constitution on March 26th and 27th.

He says the meeting dealt primarily with one issue: the issue of self-government for aboriginal people of Canada.

"The position taken by the four national aboriginal organizations is that aboriginal people had self-governing entities before the arrival of the settlers in Canada. They take the position that Section 35(1) of the Constitution Act which recognizes and affirms aboriginal rights includes the right to self-government."

Mr. Patterson says, however, several of the provinces take the position that there is no inherent right to self-government. "The governments are also reluctant to grant a right to self-government without such a right being clearly defined in advance of the inclusion of such a right in the constitution."

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The Northwest Territories has taken a position similar to that of the aboriginal national organizations. Mr. Patterson maintains that aboriginal rights include the right to self-government. "We support the process being undertaken by the federal government, the provinces and the territories to seek the definition and elaboration of that right to self-government as opposed to the granting of the right to self-government."

In seeking a compromise between the opposing views, the province of Nova Scotia has proposed that a clause be devised giving the aboriginal people the right to self-government within the context of the Canadian Federation. It also requires that such a right would be negotiated between the governments involved and the aboriginal people in a particular community or area of Canada.

"It would appear that the Nova Scotia proposal perhaps has the best chance of success," says Mr. Patterson, " provided the various parties can agree to appropriate wording."

"The Government of the Northwest Territories will continue to pay a very active role and continue to use its best efforts to persuade the parties involved to arrive at a fair and equitable agreement."

- 30 -

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87-037

MORE NORTHERN STUDENTS ATTENDING POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 24) - There has been a significant increase in the number of students attending post-secondary institutions supported by the NWT Student Financial Assistance Fund in the last year.

Minister of Education Dennis Patterson says he has taken many steps to improve the delivery of the financial assistance programs over the last several years in an effort to increase the participation of northern students in post-secondary programs. "I am happy to say that our efforts have been effective for both native and non-native students."

There has been an overall increase of 26 per cent in the number of students being sponsored. In 1986-87, 738 students are sponsored compared to 587 in 1985-86.

"It is gratifying to note that the major reason for this increase is the number of sponsored native students. This year, 201 native students are being sponsored compared with 110 in 1985-86 for an increase of 83 per cent. This trend of increased number of native students in post-secondary programs is expected to continue in future years and this will have a major impact on the labour market as graduates take on meaningful roles in industry and government."

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While non-native participants in post-secondary studies increased last year by 13 per cent, Mr. Patterson says the statistics for native students are truly impressive.

"Dene and Metis student enrolment increased by 60 per cent over 1985-86 figures. The enrolment of Inuit students showed a dramatic change, from 28 to 70 students, for an increase of 150 per cent over the same period."

The Student Financial Assistance Fund was established in 1982 and has been a strong incentive to involve native students in higher education. Mr. Patterson says in the year before the new regulations, only 75 native students were involved in post-secondary studies.

"The current enrolment of 201 native students represents an increase of 168 per cent over five years," says Mr. Patterson.

- 30 -

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87-038

NEW AND CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR NORTHERN ARTS AND CRAFTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is taking new initiatives to support the northern arts and crafts industry.

The minister, Tagak Curley says action is being taken to encourage the production of quality fine arts and to provide promotional support to dealers and galleries. "In order to address the demands of the marketplace, arts and crafts advisors will conduct seminars and workshops in every region on printmaking, carving, sewing and crafts."

In addition, Mr. Curley says the Executive Council recently approved a new soapstone policy. "This would reduce the cost of getting carving stone to remote communities and result in more carving activity in these centres," he said.

For the future, the government is considering a policy which could allocate new capital building funds to buy decorative arts and crafts. Mr. Curley says this would stimulate local sales, provide unique attractions to visitors and instill pride in local products.

The department will make funds available for selling catalogues, national and international travelling shows, and to provide assistance for artists to attend show openings. The new Trade Show Assistance policy will also help northern craftspeople promote their products.

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"The Department of Economic Development and Tourism will continue to give strong support to artisans throughout the Northwest Territories to develop and promote their arts and crafts activities," says Mr. Curley.

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87-039

NEW TERRITORIAL JUDGE APPOINTED TO LIVE IN IQALUIT

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne announced today that Orval J.T. Troy Q.C. has been named as the territorial judge for Iqaluit. Mr. Troy was selected from a short list of four candidates recommended by the Judicial Council of the N.W.T.

Mr. Troy was first called to the bar in 1952 and is a member of the Nova Scotia, Northwest Territories and Yukon bars. He was appointed Queen's Council for Canada in 1970.

Mr. Ballantyne says he's especially pleased with Mr. Troy's appointment in light of his extensive practical knowledge of northern communities.

"Mr. Troy is well known in the Northwest Territories. He has spent 11 years as a Regional Director of the federal Department of Justice at Yellowknife, and as the Crown Attorney for the Northwest Territories, he travelled on court circuit throughout the territories between 1966 and 1977."

Mr. Ballantyne says it's important to note that the new Territorial Judge is a member of the Northwest Territories' Bar.

"We now have a very experienced legal community in the Northwest Territories, and as far as possible, we must make appointments to the judiciary from the NWT Bar."

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By doing so, Mr. Ballantyne says the government will ensure that judges are familiar with the conditions prevailing in the territories, and are sensitive to the cultural diversity of the NWT.

Mr. Ballantyne pointed to demands by the Legislative Assembly for the appointment of a territorial judge to be resident in Iqaluit. Following a motion last year asking for the judge, he says the Judicial Council of the Northwest Territories made recommendations and invited applications from suitable candidates.

- 30 -

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87-040

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA WELCOMES SPECIAL NWT STUDENTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - The University of Manitoba has made a commitment to provide seats for NWT native people in the engineering and pre-medical professional programs beginning this fall.

Minister of Education Dennis Patterson says the commitment comes following months of meetings with senior officials of the University of Manitoba and the Government of Manitoba. Mr. Patterson says the work has been done in co-operation with the Departments of Health and Public Works and Highways.

"I expect the details to be finalized shortly which would allow the first students to enroll in September of this year. The Engineering Access Program and the Special Pre-Medical Program were of great interest to us as both programs are designed for native people and include significant upgrading and counselling support."

Mr. Patterson says the government will continue to investigate the possibility of entering into this type of arrangement with other universities and colleges where there are programs which respond specifically to the educational needs of native students.

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87-041

DRAMATIC LEAPS IN STUDENT ATTENDANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - "There is a growing acceptance among parents of the need for their children to have an education," according to Minister of Education Dennis Patterson.

This need has been dramatically pointed out in growing school attendance. "There is a new determination on the part of parents and Local Education Authorities to ensure that their children are attending school regularly," according to Mr. Patterson.

Since 1982, attendance at territorial schools has gradually been improving. Mr. Patterson says at that time, "three schools had less than 50 per cent attendance and 19 other schools had less than 70 per cent attendance." Last year, the overall attendance at NWT schools was just over 82 per cent. That's five per cent higher than it was five years ago.

"We have come a long way. Last year, only eight schools had an average attendance of less than 70 per cent and as of December, no schools were below 70 per cent."

The most dramatic individual improvements were in Fort Liard and Repulse Bay. Five years ago, Fort Liard had 33 per cent attendance. At the end of December 1986, it was 85 per cent. Five years ago, Repulse Bay had 47 per cent attendance. By December of last year, it was 71 per cent.

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Mr. Patterson says the Compulsory Attendance Amendment made to the Education Act last September puts the responsibility for making students go to school on the Local Education Authority, the school principal, the parents and the child.

"Improving attendance is a co-operative effort. In the Kitikmeot region, which had the poorest attendance last year, five out of six of the school districts asked for the compulsory attendance law to apply to their communities. Two of them asked for, and got a school counsellor trainee position. As of December the average regional attendance was over 80 per cent, a 10 per cent increase over last year."

Mr. Patterson says attendance will continue to improve with the commitment of parents and Local Education Authorities. "Such improvement is the first step towards my real goal - seeing all children do well in school."

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87-042

FORT SMITH RETAIL LIQUOR AGENCY CONTRACT AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 25) - A ten-year contract to operate a retail liquor agency in Fort Smith has been awarded by the Territorial Government.

Government Services Minister Tagak Curley announced today that a proposal submitted by Jay-Corp Holdings Ltd. of Fort smith to operate a liquor store in that community has been accepted. The contract will run from April 1, 1988 to March 31, 1998.

Three proposals for the operation of the agency were received with Jay-Corp's being the lowest bidder.

- 30 -

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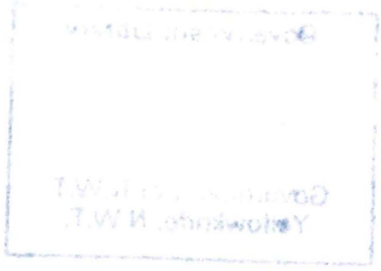

87-043

IGLOOLIK SCHOOL RENOVATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 26) - A contract has been awarded to perform major renovations and construction of an addition at Attaguttaaluk school in Igloolik.

Amittuq MLA Elijah Erkloo, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, today announced that PCL Constructors Northern of Yellowknife was awarded the $4,492,736 contract. Four other firms, two each from the NWT and Alberta, submitted higher bids.

Work includes the demolition of the oldest, centre section of the three wing school, major renovations to the support facilities of the gymnasuim wing and minor renovations to the classroom wing. The two wings to be renovated will undergo a thermal upgrade including installation of new insulation and siding to increase energy efficiency. A new 1800 square metre addition will replace and supplement the demolished wing.

Work on the addition is to start immediately after sealift in August 1987. Renovations to the existing wings will bee performed during the 1988 summer recess to minimize disruption. All work is scheduled to be completed by the end of August 1988.

Education Minister Dennis Patterson noted that the addition is a result of concerns expressed by Mr. Erkloo and the Igloolik Education Council that Attaguttaaluk school was overcrowded due to increased enrollment and the recent addition of Grade 10.

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87-044

YELLOWKNIFE DAIRY MILK BACK ON THE SHELVES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 26) - Raising two jugs of milk today in the Legislative Assembly, Minister of Health Bruce MacLaughlin announced that Yellowknife's Agriborealis dairy farm was back in operation. It had been shut down early last week by health officials and was allowed to reopen last Friday.

Mr. McLaughlin stressed that at no time was the milk unsafe for human consumption. "The dairy farm has been meeting without fail, the requirement to have each batch of milk tested prior to it going on the shelf for sale."

Changes recommended last week by the health authorities dealt with making sure the whole operation guaranteed that the milk was of a quality and standard as high as anywhere else in Canada.

Mr. McLaughlin says the dairy owner and the authorities have worked out an agreeable approach. "I am confident that these changes in the milk processing operation will further ensure the quality of product made available to the public and therefore, enhance the long-term economic viability of dairy operation itself."

- 30 -

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87-045

INCREASED TAXES WILL INCREASE GOVERNMENT REVENUES

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 26) - Municipalities in the territories will have tax increases in 1987.

Minister of Finance Tom Butters says the Executive Council has agreed to increase property taxes by 10 per cent for the 1987 year in taxation areas outside the tax-based municipalities.

These taxes are collected by the Government of the Northwest Territories in all locations outside the eight tax-based municipalities of Fort Simpson, Fort Smith, Hay River, Inuvik, Iqaluit, Norman Wells, Pine Point and Yellowknife. Based on the most recent property assessments, this increase will generate an additional $230,000 in revenue in 1987.

"Tax rates in these locations have not increased since 1967 when property taxes were first imposed," says Mr. Butters. "As a result, these taxes are much lower than they are in those municipalities which set and collect their own taxes."

The school levy set by the Government of the Northwest Territories will also be increased by 10 per cent for 1987 in the seven tax-based municipalities of Fort Simpson, Fort Smith, Hay River, Inuvik, Iqaluit, Norman Wells and Pine Point.

Mr. Butters says "these rates have also not been increased since 1967 and are much lower than in Yellowknife where the rates are set by the two school boards to cover expenses." This measure is expected to generate an additional $150,000 in 1987.

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Mr. Butters says it's not possible to compare property taxes in the various communities across the Northwest Territories. "Over the past twenty years, a property tax system has developed whereby the assessed values in different communities have been altered by applying local modifiers to the value of improvements. Different communities have been assessed in different years, which has also led to differences in assessed values between communities."

As a result of its examination of assessments and taxes, the Executive Council has requested the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs to review the method of assessing property values in various communities. Mr. Butters says this work is necessary to "ensure that the burden of property taxation is fairly spread across all residents."

- 30 -

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87-046

EXPO '86 REPORT RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 26) - Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Tagak Curley has released the report on the territorial Government's participation in the NWT pavilion at Expo '86. The report includes the financial statements, a summary of northern benefits and a description of pavilion activities.

The NWT pavilion in Vancouver attracted 1.5 million visitors over six months. It received several national awards and many accolades from international visitors and the media.

The financial highlights show that the NWT pavilion required an $11.7 million investment. However, the cost to the NWT was $6.1 million. From that amount, $5.2 million was spent on Northern residents for supplies, goods, services and salaries to pavilion staff.

Mr. Curley said Northerners received many long lasting benefits from Expo '86.

The Icicles restaurant sold $1.5 million worth of food and drink. The craft outlets sold $1.3 million of items from 192 northern businesses and artists. These items ranged from parkas to comic books.

"The sale of northern arts and crafts sparked a renaissance of traditional skills throughout the North. The NWT pavilion purchased $830,000 in crafts and $450,000 in northern foods.

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The Expo experience provided 140 temporary jobs for Northerners. These positions, during the life of the pavilion were a training ground for those interested in pursuing careers in the tourist or food service industries."

Mr. Curley implemented an independent measurement of the pavilion's role and its success. The results of this study have been released. In addition, this analysis will provide information for future marketing and tourism strategies.

Three quarters of those questioned at the NWT pavilion said they were more interested in visiting the Northwest Territories. One-half said they would consider a trip to the NWT when making future travel plans. Eighty per cent praised the educational aspects of the pavilion.

In fact, the positive attitude of European visitors to the fur harvest issues portrayed in the exhibits showed that the NWT message was coming across.

Mr. Curley said, "the public response to the Expo pavilion shows that the NWT can compete with world class competition."

- 30 -

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87-047

GOVERNMENT ASSISTS DRUM LAKE LODGE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 27) - Training in the techniques of log construction will take place at Wrigley Lake over a 16 week period thanks in part to financial assistance from the Territorial government.

The operators of Drum Lake Lodge will receive $23,322 from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism through its tourism facilities assistance and training contribution fund. A further $11,643 will be provided by Canada Employment and Immigration Commission through its Canadian Jobs Strategy/Job Development Program.

Several people while being trained in the safe use of a small sawmill and log building techniques will be building structures at the lodge to add to the existing facilities.

"This is a good example of leveraging funds for on-the-job training while assisting a viable tourism business", said Honourable Tagak Curley, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Drum Lake Lodge has operated for several years southwest of Fort Norman as a sport fishing lodge. Recently it has altered the focus of its service, by offering services more of interest to naturalists.

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87-048

PROTEST LAUNCHED ON PROPOSED DIVISION OF HUDSON BAY

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 28) - The Government of NWT has lodged a protest with the Government of Canada and Quebec on a proposal to divide Hudson Bay among the provinces.

In a recent newspaper article, a senior official with the Quebec government suggested that Hudson & James Bay be divided up between Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec before there is a big battle over potential oil and gas resources.

Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne says Hudson Bay north of the 60th parallel and certain islands (including the Belcher Islands and the community of Sanikiluaq) in Hudson Bay, James Bay and Ungava Bay belong to the Northwest Territories. "The Northwest Territories has never relinquished its legal right and jurisdiction over these areas."

Mr. Ballantyne calls it appalling that an official of the Quebec government would have "the audacity" to suggest dividing Hudson Bay without any reference to the NWT. "It is this type of arrogance and lack of appreciation for territorial positions that gives us serious concern. The time has passed for provinces and the federal government to take away portions of the NWT without reference to the people of the NWT and their elected leaders."

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Mr. Ballantyne is currently negotiating with the federal government on the issue of the boundaries of the Northwest Territories. He says when John Crosbie was Minister of Justice, the issue of competing interests in Hudson Bay was raised.

Mr. Ballantyne says, "Mr. Crosbie gave me his fullest assurances that the claim of the Northwest Territories to Hudson Bay will not be ignored -- and that if there is ever a question of division of Hudson Bay, the NWT would be involved in those negotiations to ensure that its claim is dealt with equitably and fairly."

Mr. Ballantyne says the Territories has strongly maintained its opposition to the provisions in the constitution allowing for extension of provincial boundaries without reference to the Territories.

"Our strong opposition to that proposal must be made before any steps are taken by the provinces or the federal government on this issue."

- 30 -

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87-049

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL COUNCILS MEET WITH REVIEW COMMITTEE

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 27) - The Regional and Tribal Councils Review Co-ordinating Committee met Wednesday with representatives of all NWT regional and tribal councils.

During the afternoon meeting, Chairman George Braden explained the committee's mandate, activities, and proposed schedule of travel to regional and tribal council meetings.

The review committee was established by the Executive Council in November, 1986, to review the past and present activities of regional and tribal councils and to make recommendations relating to their future development.

The regional and tribal council representatives presented eight principles on which they felt the review committee should base its recommendations, and full, frank, and cordial discussions were held on these principles.

"We look forward to continuing these discussions, individually, during our visits to the regional and tribal councils during the spring", Mr. Braden said.

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Members of the Review Co-ordinating Committee include Al Menard, Deputy Minister, Department of Municipal & Community Affairs; Charles Overvold, Aboriginal Rights & Constitutional Development Secretariat; former Rankin Inlet Major Jack Anawak; former Inuvik Mayor John Hill; Mark Evaluarjuk, Speaker, Baffin Regional Council; and Rae-Edzo Chief Joe Rabesca, representing the Dogrib Tribal Council.

- 30 -

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87-050

GREATER CONTROL OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES CAN HELP TERRITORIAL ECONOMY

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 27) - Renewable resources contribute in a major way to the socio-economic stability and prosperity of the Northwest Territories. Minister of Renewable Resources Red Pedersen says that greater authority and control of these natural resources can improve the government's abilities to foster economic development.

In presenting the department's budget to the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Pedersen says the goal is to maintain the diversity and ensure the long-term productivity of renewable resources while maintaining the quality of the environment.

"The wise management of the renewable resource sector is crucial to the future success of our northern economy, physical health, the achievement of self-sufficiency in food and fibre, and to spiritual and cultural aspirations of northern residents." Mr. Pedersen says the budget of the Department is allocated to reflect this importance.

The Department of Renewable Resources is requesting a budget of $15.9 million to carry out its goals in Renewable Resource Development, Wildlife Management, Environmental Protection and Conservation Education. Mr. Pedersen says programs like these help create a better understanding of specific wildlife resources.

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The largest part of the budget goes to providing services in the area of renewable resource development, conservation education and regulation and enforcement. Mr. Pedersen uses examples like financial assistance programs which support the hunting and trapping economy. "Education and information programs are a high priority, intended to make northern residents aware of departmental activities and conservation goals."

Twenty per cent of the budget is set aside for programs which assess the status and productivity of northern wildlife. "Efforts are focussed primarily upon caribou, polar bear, gyrfalcon and muskox, with secondary projects that deal with wood bison, Dall's sheep and furbearers," says Mr. Pedersen.

Land use activities are monitored by the department and wildlife-related concerns are dealt with through participation in the land use licensing process.

Part of the budget (5.1 per cent) is used to maintain the high standard of environmental quality that the north now enjoys. According to Mr. Pedersen, "emphasis is placed on controlling spills of petroleum and chemical products, management of hazardous wastes, controlling the use of pesticidies, unsightly premises and the administration of dangerous goods regulations."

Mr. Pedersen says in conjunction with the forest resources transfer from the federal government, a comprehensive forest policy and appropriate legislation are being prepared.

Mr. Pedersen says negotiations are underway to develop a water resource management policy for the NWT with the federal government and inter-jurisdictional agreements with neighbouring provinces and the Yukon.

"Our intention is to enhance the contribution that renewable resources make to the territorial economy and to the cultural heritage and aspirations of northern residents. Our management programs will continue to focus on the improvement of the economic opportunities provided by the sustainable use of renewable resources in the Northwest Territories."

- 30 -

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87-051

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS COMES EARLIER TO N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 2) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston has announced that Daylight Saving Time will begin three weeks earlier this year across the Northwest Territories. Clocks will move forward by one hour on April the 5th.

Mr. Sibbeston explained this is a result of a US decision to change its Daylight Saving Time to the first Sunday in April in order to save money. This extra hour of daylight during the working day will save a great deal country-wide.

"The provinces which border the US and have considerable international trade are changing in order to avoid confusion and delay. To date, all but two provinces have decided to follow the US."

Saskatchewan, which does not normally switch to Daylight Saving Time, will remain the same. Newfoundland has not yet decided.

Mr. Sibbeston says the change in daylight saving time in the Northwest Territories will coincide with the province which is directly south of each north/south corridor. The Yukon will tie its time change with the province of British Columbia.

"We are fortunate that we have only three north/south transportation corridors that are in separate time zones and these will not create problems if we follow the provinces directly south of each zone."

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"If we do not follow the provinces south of us, then great difficulties will result in transport scheduling for three weeks each year," says Mr. Sibbeston.

The Government Leader noted that even though three weeks more of daylight saving time in the north in the spring makes little difference, there will be no hardship foreseen if we do change.

- 30 -

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87-052

MARCH 8TH INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 2) - Sunday, March 8th has been proclaimed International Women's Day and is expected to bring women together all across the country.

The Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Red Pedersen, says there will be celebrations going on in various places in the Northwest Territories. "The women of Inuvik are calling their celebration 'Northern Women's Talents' and other groups are gathering in Iqaluit, Coppermine, Hay River and Yellowknife."

In 1911, European women chose a day for suffrage (the right to vote) for women. It was celebrated for 11 years in February or March and focussed on a variety of social issues affecting women. It wasn't until the late 60's and early 70's that the holiday got into full swing in North American to honour women's role in society.

Mr. Pedersen says March 8th this year is a Sunday. "Fittingly, it's a day of rest. Take a few moments of your time to reflect on the work, effort and contribution of women across the N.W.T."

- 30 -

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87-053

NEW NORTHERN DENE LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 2) - Minister of Education Dennis Patterson and the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies have announced the creation of a new scholarship.

"In 1987-88, the focus will be on Slavey and while holding the scholarship at the University of Alberta, the student will teach one course of "Introductory Slavey," said Mr. Patterson. The scholarship is available for one year of study at the University of Alberta in any area that will contribute to the preservation and/or the teaching of Dene languages in the North.

People fluent in the Slavey language who have been accepted as students to the University of Alberta are eligible for the scholarship. Individuals who are interested in studies in the area and who intend to apply their new knowledge in the north are encouraged to apply.

Mr. Patterson says the scholarship is worth $10,000 for ten months and it may be held in addition to any other financial support available to territorial students for university education.

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"This new Slavey scholarship is an exciting idea that I support to the fullest. It is one more way that our department is working with other educational institutions to promote higher learning for northerners."

The deadline for applications is April 1st, 1987.

- 30 -

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87-054

PERSONNEL MINISTER CALLS FOR SUPPORT OF BUDGET

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 2) - Minister of Personnel Red Pedersen outlined to the Legislative Assembly today the major accomplishments of his department.

He says growth of the Personnel Operations and Maintenance budget represents costs associated with the overall growth in the public service, costs associated with the Affirmative Action Program and new initiatives in the department. The budget is $18,902,000.

The department's capital budget of $5,619,000 is a reduction from last year due to the decline in the construction of staff housing.

Mr. Pedersen says the reorganization of the department into two units has helped strengthen its areas of expertise. "Our operational organization concentrates on the day-to-day delivery of personnel services to the general public and to public service employees. Our Headquarters functions address the development of policies and directives, as they apply to the entire government."

Mr. Pedersen says he's encouraged by the success of the Native Employment Policy. "It has allowed for the increased representation of native people in the public service. Overall 35 per cent of public service vacancies were filled by native people in 1986."

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Mr. Pedersen says 1987 will be busy for the department. The contract with the Northwest Territories Public Service Association expires on March 31st and the agreement with the Northwest Territories Teachers Association expires in August. The minister has directed that negotiations begin with the two associations.

Other initiatives include an increased concentration on providing more efficient service and information, on reviewing marketing and recruitment strategies, examining the barriers to employment and the use of experts in the pension and insurance area.

- 30 -

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87-055

"EAT WELL - LIVE WELL" - MARCH IS NUTRITION MONTH

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 3) - Wearing an "EAT WELL - LIVE WELL" button, Minister of Health Bruce McLaughlin has declared March as Nutrition Month.

"Proper nutrition helps lead to a healthy body and the promotion of good nutrition is a major goal of all involved in the health care field in the Northwest Territories."

Mr. McLaughlin says there has been a growing awareness of good nutrition over the past five years. He says this increased knowledge is due to the efforts of the Nutrition Liaison Committee of the NWT and their annual campaigns for Nutrition Month.

The campaign is the result of efforts by the territorial departments of Health and Education, the NWT Region of Medical Services Branch of Health and Welfare Canada, the Native Women's Association and the Hudson Bay Company.

Mr. McLaughlin says excellent kits have been developed which promote healthy eating. They will be distributed through volunteers, nursing stations, community committees and throughout the school system.

"The quality of the NWT Nutrition campaign has received widespread recognition in both Canada and the United States at conventions of Canadian and American Dietetic Associations."

- 30 -

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87-056

SOLUTION TO QUESTION OF ARCTIC SOVEREIGNTY DEMANDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 3) - Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic cannot continue to withstand threats from other nations according to Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne.

"The time to resolve this issue is now -- before it is too late and before the situation gets out of hand."

Mr. Ballantyne says control of the Beaufort Sea has been recently challenged by a proposal of the United States to issue exploration permits for oil and gas. "Your government strenuously objects to this incursion into Canadian territory. I have made sure the Prime Minister, the federal Minister of Justice and the Secretary of State for External Affairs are aware of our objections."

Mr. Ballantyne has been told that in response to territorial concerns, a strong protest from Canada has put the proposed activity in the Beaufort Sea on hold.

"While this provides temporary relief, it is not a solution to the problem. Until this dispute over sovereignty is finally resolved, there will continue to be incursions and threats to the Canadian Arctic."

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Mr. Ballantyne is calling on the Government of Canada to assert itself by increasing its activities in those threatened areas. He says, "if exploration for oil and gas is the only issue, there is still a chance to resolve the question fairly with the United States."

"It is high time that this matter was resolved once and for all so that Canada would continue to assert its sovereignty in the Arctic."

- 30 -

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87-057

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PROGRAM CREATED FOR NORTHERN SCHOOLS

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 3) - Minister of Education Dennis Patterson has announced that a new program has been established to develop aboriginal language and cultural programs for all of the Northwest Territories. A former school principal in Fort Franklin, George Cleary, is the manager.

Mr. Patterson says centres for teaching and learning are being set up in the various aboriginal language regions as part of the plan to move the development of these language programs away from 'headquarters'.

"The transfer of these tasks away from Yellowknife to field locations will permit greater opportunities for local language resource people to become involved in this work, and will also result in more relevant and appropriate materials."

Teaching and learning centres were established this past year in Fort Franklin, Fort Simpson and Eskimo Point. Next year, plans are for more centres to serve the Baffin, Dogrib, Inuvialuktun and Kitikmeot language areas.

Mr. Patterson says the centre in Eskimo Point has developed a course for a language/cultural instructors course. It is also revising the Grade 7-9 Inuktitut Cultural Enrichment program and will have another ready for Grade 10 in the next school year.

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The centres in Fort Franklin and Fort Simpson are working on the development of programs and materials for the North and South Slavey languages. Field-based teacher trainee programs are also underway at these centres.

Mr. Patterson says the overall co-ordination of the centres for teaching and learning will be provided by Mr. Cleary from Yellowknife, but says that all aboriginal language needs for each region will be co-ordinated and provided for through the centres. "The centres will also serve as a location for field based teacher education programs and for the development of aboriginal history and cultural programs."

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87-058

APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 4) - Minister Responsible for the N.W.T. Advisory Council on the Status of Women Red Pedersen has announced two new members and re-appointed six to the Advisory Council on the Status of Women. The term for all of these appointments is for three years.

"It was a very difficult decision choosing two new members since there are so many talented women in the N.W.T.," says Mr. Pedersen. After careful deliberation Elsie Casaway and Florence Barnaby were finally selected as the two new members.

Elsie Casaway, from Snowdrift, has held a variety of positions with the Federal and Territorial governments and native organizations. The primary focus of Ms. Casaway's work has been related to native employment. She has also served as board member for a number of N.W.T. native organizations.

Florence Barnaby lives in Fort Good Hope and is currently a board member of the Drug and Alcohol Committee. Additionally, she is involved with the drop-in centre and has had a continuing interest in women's issues.

The re-appointment members are Edna Elias from Coppermine, Janet Armstrong of Iqaluit, Katherine Peterson of Yellowknife, Rita Cli of Fort Simpson, Peepeelee Nutaralak of Broughton Island, and Leonie Duffy of Coral Harbour.

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"I have been impressed with the committment of time and work members of the Council have given to the concerns of women across the Territories and am exceptionally pleased to see many of them willing to sit for another term. Much of the progress this government has made in addressing the concerns of women is thanks to the research, advice and lobbying from Council members", says Mr. Pedersen.

"The re-appointed members have served well and shown an on-going commitment to work with this government to improve the Status of Women in the North."

For further information contact can be made with the Women's Secretariat, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T., X1A 2L9

- 30 -

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87-059

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS ANNOUNCED

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 4) - The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has plans to establish a special business management career program.

Minister of Economic Development Tagak Curley says that at least four native northerners will be hired each year by his department. As part of the program, these people will attend an academic institution like Trent University which offers upgrading in economic development for native people. The Trent program in particular allows mature students as well as high school and Arctic College graduates.

The Department of Education will pay for the academic costs of the program and the Department of Economic Development will cover the balance. "These employees, as Economic Development Officers in training will be assigned during 'school breaks' to work with northern businesses," says Mr. Curley. "The combination of upgrading, formal education, private sector experience and on-the-job training will provide the Department of Economic Development and Tourism with excellent managers."

Mr. Curley says in addition to this new program, the Arctic Business Management Project will continue.

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"Last year, this project was carried out in the Eastern Arctic. The results were nine trainees for officer level positions within the department. This year, the program will be administered from Inuvik by the Department of Education. Ten trainees will be selected from the Inuvik, Fort Smith and other regions."

The project will cost $200,000 with $60,000 coming from the Department of Education, $40,000 from Economic Development and $100,000 from Canada Employment and Immigration.

Mr. Curley says, "these initiatives reflect my commitment to increasing the number of Northwest Territories residents in management and officer level positions in the Department of Economic Development."

- 30 -

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87-060

CARVING STONE POLICY ANNOUNCED

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 5) - Economic Development and Tourism Minister Tagak Curley has announced a new policy that will help ensure a consistent supply of material for northern carvers.

He said the Carving Stone Supply Policy is designed to "recognize the importance of the carving industry to the northern economy."

His department will assist agencies involved in procuring supplies of carving material with planning and financial assistance. In addition, it will provide assistance in locating deposits of stone and with the training of local personnel in quarrying methods.

The minister stated that where a reasonable supply of carving material is not "readily available to a community" that a process of inter-settlement trade, with a transportation subsidy, will be encouraged.

Under the new policy, organized community groups acting on behalf of carvers will be eligible for assistance in their efforts to provide raw materials for carvers. Those groups might be co-ops, community councils, hunter's and trapper's associations, carver's guilds, community artist associations or Inuit art foundations.

-30 -

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Mr. Wray explained there had been repeated attempts over a number of years to clear things up. "Now all the parties are involved and committed to seeking a solution."

First, the band will discuss the issues of taxation and revenue sources, recreation, housing, education, municipal services and by-laws. It will also study options for control and administration which may be open to the band under the Indian Act and the Municipal Act or proposed territorial legislation.

Once the preliminary work is done, recommendations will be discussed with the three levels of government, native organizations and band members in a series of workshops. Territorial and federal authorities plan to keep in touch with the band's progress throughout the study and provide as much information and assistance as they can.

Mr. McKnight noted that other bands in the country have similar problems being located within municipal boundaries and he hopes progress made here in Yellowknife might also serve as a model for other Indian communities.

- 30 -

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DIAND/GNWT DOLLARS TO ASSIST YELLOWKNIFE B BAND

YELLOWKNIFE (February 27, 1987) - The federal and territorial governments have agreed to contribute a total of $20 000 towards a community development study for the Yellowknife "B" Band, a Dene residential area adjoining this northern capital.

The announcement was made today by Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Gordon Wray, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs with the Territorial government.

Each government is contributing $10 000 towards the study scheduled to be completed over the next six months.

This also falls within the timeframe established for the City of Yellowknife's General Plan Review which will coordinate planning between the residents of Lot 500 and the City to ensure the compatibility of future development.

The money will pay for a preliminary community development survey and an analysis of options which will determine the residents' wishes for the future of Rainbow Valley, an area of the City in which the federal, territorial and municipal governments all have responsibilities.

This factor has caused a dilemma for residents of Rainbow Valley (Lot 500) who have often been confused about who they should turn to when problems concerning the provision of community services arise. The majority of Lot 500 residents -- who form part of the membership of the Yellowknife "B" Band -- are on federal crown land set aside for Dene use. The land, however, is located within the municipal boundaries of the City of Yellowknife.

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Mr. Wray exlained there had been repeated attempts over a number of years to clear things up. "Now all the parties are involved and committed to seeking a solution."

First, the band will discuss the issues of taxation and revenue sources, recreation, housing, education, municipal services and by-laws. It will also study options for control and administration which may be open to the band under the Indian Act and the Municipal Act or proposed territorial legislation.

Once the preliminary work is done, recommendations will be discussed with the three levels of government, native organizations and band members in a series of workshops. Territorial and federal authorities plan to keep in touch with the band's progress throughout the study and provide as much information and assistance as they can.

Mr. McKnight noted that other bands in the country have similar problems being located within municipal boundaries and he hopes progress made here in Yellowknife might also serve as a model for other Indian communities.

- 30 -

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NAVIGATIONAL AID SITES TO BE CLEANED UP

YELLOWKNIFE (March 9, 1987) -- Nine communities along the Mackenzie River will provide labour and equipment for a clean-up project to clear navigational aid sites this winter. The project, funded with $300,000 provided by Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) and managed by the Coast Guard, was encouraged by the Action Force on Arctic Initiatives.

The Coast Guard called for proposals from communities along the river almost a year ago, but was unable to proceed with contracts because of a lack of funds.

This cooperative use of available federal money was encouraged by the Action Force formed last September to help the economy of the Northwest Territories. Chaired by the Hon. Bill McKnight, Minister of DIAND, the Action Force members are Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Marcel Masse, Minister of National Health and Welfare, Jake Epp and both NWT Members of Parliament, Dave Nickerson and Thomas Suluk. The Action Force works in cooperation with their territorial counterparts.

Clearing the sites will involve cutting, removing and piling all trees, brush and deadwood around the navigational aids fixed to the shores of the Mackenzie River. When the sites are cleared, the Coast Guard expects them to be more visible and useful to people using the river,and less susceptible to destruction by forest fires.

The following contractors are being awarded contracts of up to $30,000, based on their earlier-submitted tenders: Digaa Enterprises (Fort Providence); Community Council (Jean Marie River); Nogha Enterprises (Fort Simpson); Band Council (Wrigley); Bosworth Creek Enterprises (Norman Wells); Hunters and Trappers Association (Fort Norman); Band Council (Fort Good Hope); Inc. Band Ltd. (Fort McPherson) and Adams Services (Inuvik).

The work will be completed by March 31.

The Coast Guard has 320 shore-based navigational aid sites which require clearing.

- 30 -

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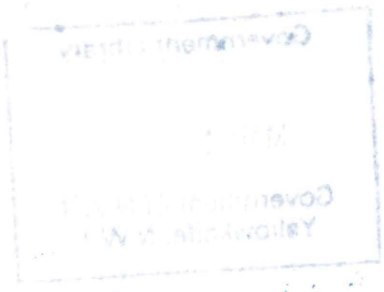

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87-061

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS HELPS EXPAND NORTHERN ECONOMY

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 9) - Minister of Public Works and Highways Gordon Wray says the responsibility of delivering highways, buildings, works and equipment programs has grown considerably.

"While continuing to ensure that we operate in an efficient and cost effective manner, the department also has now assumed greater responsibilities. We provide important leadership in this government's efforts to expand and support the northern business economy and through this support, to provide job opportunities for northern residents."

Mr. Wray says Public Works and Highways is increasingly successful in helping to support and develop northern contractors. Last year, 84 percent of its construction, operation and maintenance contracts went to northerners. The value of these contracts was more than $47 million. In 1985, 76 percent of the contracts stayed in the north and in 1984, 66 percent of the work went to northern contractors.

Northern architects and engineers were awarded 89 percent of the department's business last year. Mr. Wray believes that the policy of selecting northern professionals has greatly encouraged new consulting businesses in the territories.

Mr. Wray says the stepped-up capital project plan for next year will provide more local employment, business opportunities and new infrastructure. In an effort to enforce the local and northern involvement in these projects, Mr. Wray says contracts will call for regular reports on the inclusion of northerners.

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"We will continue to place ever increasing attention on these measures to help combat the recent downturn in our northern economy, by ensuring that a high percentage of government dollars remains in the north. My department and I persist in exploring ways of expanding both the application of our existing contracting policies. We are developing new, innovative policies, procedures and project management techniques that are unique to our northern environment and that continue to increase local involvement."

In response to concerns raised by northern communities and their residents, Mr. Wray says the priorities include controlling summertime dust problems, making small docks available and providing adequate supplies of crushed gravel.

Energy conservation and economical construction methods remain important to Public Works and Highways as well, according to the Minister.

Mr. Wray says the Residual Heat Recovery program is another priority. "It identifies, designs and constructs waste heat recovery systems for heating community buildings across the north with waste heat from NCPC diesel generating plants. To date, six systems have been commissioned and seven more will be in place by 1990."

The Minister says it's important to develop northern residents to assume jobs in the architectural and engineering fields. "As part of our Affirmative Action program, we are taking steps to address the lack of northern native candidates graduating from engineering programs at the post-secondary level, by identifying and supporting candidates to enter the University of Manitoba's Engineering Access Program."

He noted that the past year was extremely productive for the department, mainly because of its undertaking to increase local and northern participation in all aspects of its work. Mr. Wray says next year will see Public Works and Highways involved in even more construction projects.

"We look forward to the challenges facing us in 1987 to implement our assigned programs on schedule and within budget, while maximizing the economic development opportunities to the north."

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87-062

SOCIAL SERVICES ATTEMPTING TO ADDRESS WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 9) - Minister of Social Services Bruce McLaughlin says his department is trying to address a wide range of problems and issues brought forward by politicians, local councils and members of the public. The department's proposed budget for 1987-88 is $59 million.

He says the priorities include making sure that people living on social assistance are able to meet their families' basic needs for food and clothing.

Developing community services and self-help groups to deal with family violence and providing help to troubled children and their parents are high priorities. Mr. McLaughlin says supporting young people contending with alcohol and drug abuse and providing services to the elderly are also important to his department.

"I strongly support the need to provide more supervisory and specialist support to social service workers, and to continue to provide much needed training to assist staff coping with increasingly complex demands related to child sexual abuse, spousal assault, young offenders, suicide prevention, alcohol and drug abuse and other family crises."

Mr. McLaughlin says the increased budget for 1987-88 is largely due to getting more services to the communities along with social assistance payments, improved foster care allowances, alcohol and drug contributions, and personal care for the aged and handicapped.

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"Discussions are presently being undertaken to negotiate with several communities which have indicated a desire to assume greater responsibility for participating in, or delivering, social service programs," said Mr. McLaughlin. "Places like Coral Harbour, Snowdrift, Fort Simpson and Fort Providence have already let us know they are interested."

Mr. McLaughlin says the Community Corrections Program will be further decentralized by providing alternatives to jail in all regions.

Social assistance scales and food rates were increased last October and the proposed Social Services budget shows there will be a second increase on April 1st, 1987. As well, increases to foster care and clothing allowances were put into effect on January 1, 1987.

Mr. McLaughlin says, "the improved allowances are intended to adequately compensate foster parents for providing care and supervision to children who have suffered as a result of neglect or have behavioural/emotional problems."

Under the Alcohol and Drug program, more money was budgeted for community groups trying to deal with the issues. An additional $200,000 has been targeted for programs related to young people. Also in the budget has extra money to allow project groups to use existing community buildings which need minor renovations to meet fire and safety standards.

Mr. McLaughlin says major capital spending will be in the services to the Aged and Handicapped program for Senior Citizens' Facilities and group homes for handicapped adults.

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87-063

NORTH WARNING SYSTEM CONTRACTS TO INCLUDE BENEFITS FOR N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 10) - Minister of Economic Development Tagak Curley says northern employment and business plans must be part of the proposals to operate and maintain the North Warning System. The federal government has asked for proposals from five bidders.

Mr. Curley says each one has to identify goods and services to be purchased in the North. Each bidder will also be required to show how large components of the work will be broken down into smaller packages. The potential for creating new businesses must be examined. The bidders are being asked for commitments for equity participation by northerners.

"In the employment plan," Mr. Curley says, "the bidders must clearly define their plans to recruit and train local workers. They must set out affirmative action programs and opportunities for advancement."

Mr. Curley says in addition to these positive steps, there are certain requirements that have been put into the request for proposals.

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"Each bidder has to identify measures to ensure non-unionized workers and contractors have access to work if the contractor selected is unionized. Bidders also have to explain plans to transfer technology and expertise to the north." He says the successful bidder must be prepared to commit to northern benefits in their contracts.

Mr. Curley says federal Minister of Defence Perrin Beatty should be congratulated on his innovative approach to the North for ensuring that the maintenance contracts result in maximum benefits for northerners.

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87-064

REVIEW OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 10) - The Minister Responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board has made a review of the board public. It is called "Workers' Compensation in the NWT - Reports of the Review Committee".

Bruce McLaughlin says a committee was appointed last April to review the Workers' Compensation Act and the system by which workers and their dependants are compensated for injuries and death from work-related accidents in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. McLaughlin says the first committee report was made in August 1986. The recommendations were put into effect in a bill which was introduced at the October Session of the Legislative Assembly.

The final report includes 133 recommendations, including those which were dealt with by the Assembly last fall.

According to Mr. McLaughlin, many of the recommendations can be put into effect without changes to the legislation. "In fact", he says, "some of them have already been acted upon by the Workers' Compensation Board." Many of the recommendations in the report will require amendments to the Workers' Compensation Act.

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The recommendations in the report cover almost every aspect of Workers' Compensation. These include recommendations on:

A) The Board itself, its composition and its responsibilities;

B) Benefits for workers who are permanently disabled as a result of accidents;

C) Pensions for dependants of workers who are killed;

D) Workers' Compensation funds and possible ways to invest such funds;

E) And, about the overall costs of the scheme which is, of course, entirely paid for by employers.

Mr. McLaughlin says Workers' Compensation affects everyone who works in the Northwest Territories. "It affects self-employed people and it affects every employer. It is hard to think of anyone over the age of 16 who is NOT affected by the Workers' Compensation Act."

The Review Committee received at total of 37 submissions from a wide variety of sources including employers and organized labour; associations, unions, government departments, municipalities, and from individuals. The committee was chaired by Letha MacLachlan and members were George Foley and Lyle Hawkins.

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87-065

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFERS MORE PROGRAMS AT SAME COST

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 10) - Minister of Economic Development Tagak Curley says his department's budget will only grow from 3.5 percent to 3.9 per cent of the overall government budget next year. In presenting his departmnent's $34.5 million budget to the Legislative Assembly, he stressed that Economic Development is doing a great deal to create opportunities for the people of the territories.

Mr. Curley notes the economic dilemma facing the Northwest Territories. "There is a rapidly growing population scattered in a number of small remote communities. Communities with limited markets and often lacking a trained work force. There is a downturn in the oil, gas and non-precious metals industries. Prices remain severely depressed for seal skins and many commercial lenders now believe that the north is simply not a good place to invest in. The financial resources available through government to address these problems are also quite limited".

Mr. Curley says however that there are opportunities especially in tourism, arts and crafts, the renewable sector, precious metals and in the long term, oil and gas. He adds that northerners are becoming trained and are aggressively searching out opportunities.

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Mr. Curley outlines six principles which will guide the development of the NWT economy over the next several years. "Diversifying our economy, bringing smaller communities to economic self-sufficiency, developing export markets, businesses, planning and channelling of our resources so we can do more with what is available and cooperating with the non-renewable companies are initiatives which will be implemented through this budget.

Mr. Curley says the direction of the budget was taken from recommendations presented at the regional economic development conferences, at the recent Northern Food Conference and from the Nordic trip.

Mr. Curley says three million dollars will be available to suport the growth of the renewable resouce sector to support the construction of new infrastructure - such as meat and fish processing plants, abattoirs, tanneries, fishing vessels and agricultural facilities.

"The more we can produce for ourselves, the less that we will be dependent on expensive southern imports, and the greater the number of jobs that will be created for northerners. Furthermore, surpluses can be exported to generate increased profits for northerners."

Mr. Curley says the arts and crafts industry has an important role in creating jobs and businesses for all northerners. He says seminars and advisors will be helping artists and crafts people produce goods which are of consistently high quality and meet contemporary consumer tastes.

For the first time, the minister says, there is a comprehensive government tourism marketing strategy which will be used to guide the amount of money spent on tourism.

"1986 was a banner year for the NWT tourism industry. We were a hit on the world stage at Vancouver, and as a result, people from around the world know that there is a Northwest Territories in Canada. Now that we have people's attention, the challenge is to convince them to visit us."

Mr. Curley says active Business Development Programs are providing capital and management assistance for business expansion, modernization and for setting up new ventures. Last year, $28 million was generated through the Business Loans Fund, Eskimo Loan Fund, Special ARDA, grants and contributions, and the Economic Development Agreement. This year, $7.3 million is proposed for the first year of the new Economic Development Agreement. The Business Loan and Guarantee Fund will also be increased by another $2.5 million.

"Economic Development is currently working on a departmental planning framework which will tie together community, regional and territorial planning. The planning will focus on the long term; it will be based on the principle 'Grass Roots Upwards', and will support the work of the proposed Executive Council Economic Development committee."

Mr. Curley states that, "the department's budget points to the future with increased private sector employment, and a larger and healthier northern business community and increased self-reliance for all northerners through a diversified territorial economy."

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87-066

GOVERNMENT AND MINING INDUSTRY LAUNCH JOINT EFFORT

YELLOWKNIFE, (Mar. 11) - Final plans for a joint industry/government mining initiatives package have been announced by the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Tagak Curley says the idea is to maintain and increase the mining industry's contribution to the northern economy. "To achieve this, new mines are required, northern labour must be trained and northern business must be in a better position to meet the needs of the mining industry."

In an effort to create more interest in northern mining, a tour for investors is being considered which will demonstrate that the Northwest Territories is a worthwhile investment.

"The Chamber of Mines and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism will also begin to aggressively market the north's mining potential", says Mr. Curley. "The intent is to promote the NWT as a good place to develop new mines and to demonstrate that we have a well-developed service sector and a supply of skilled labour."

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Mr. Curley outlines a proposed training program for prospectors which could help northerners become involved in the early stages of the mineral development process. It would be similar to the successful program now run in the Yukon.

A service industry guide will be published to put northern businesses at the fingertips of the mining industry.

Mr. Curley says the feasibility of an assay laboratory in Yellowknife will be studied. "At the moment, all ore samples are shipped south. Such a lab in the north would benefit the mining industry and provide more jobs."

Representatives of the mining industry told the minister of their concern that tax reform may bring an end to flow-through share financing. Mr. Curley says that the territorial government shares the worry and has lobbied the federal government to continue flow-through share financing.

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87-067

GOVERNMENT DAYCARE SUBSIDIES MORE READILY OBTAINED

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. (Mar. 13/87) - Working parents who qualify for assistance with the cost of childcare will no longer have to re-apply in person each month.

Minister of Social Services Bruce McLaughlin has told the Legislative Assembly that a new streamlined system has been put in place to help parents already receiving help. " As well, this new process will attract parents who have been overwhelmed by the monthly application for aid."

Mr. McLaughlin says the day care subsidy exists to help low-income parents and to make sure they are able to remain in the workforce.

The new approach to childcare subsidies allows parents to mail in their re-application for grants. The government provides the blank form, the self-addressed envelope and the postage. Every six months, parents must re-apply in person for their subsidies. At that time, they must provide receipts for rent, heat, power, water and child care along with proof of their income.

Mr. McLaughlin says, "this new procedure allows more people asking for help to retain their dignity while making life simpler for everyone."

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87-068

NEW MINISTER ASSIGNED TWO PORTFOLIOS

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. (Mar. 18/87) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston has announced changes in Executive Council assignments.

The newly appointed Minister Ludy Pudluk (MLA High Arctic) will be responsible for the Department of Culture and Communications and for Government Services.

Mr. Sibbeston says Mr. Pudluk brings many positive qualities to his new assignments. "As an aboriginal person, he will have special insights into the cultural and language needs of native people. I am confident that Mr. Pudluk will carry forward the initiatives in this area that previous ministers have made while bringing his own fresh ideas."

Mr. Sibbeston will undertake the responsibility for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism which was left empty following the departure of Tagak Curley from Executive Council.

Mr. Sibbeston says a cabinet shuffle only a few months ago made him conscious of trying to create the least possible disruption to the current operations of government.

Mr. Sibbeston stresses that Economic Development and Tourism is among the highest priorities of this government. "The downturn in the economy and the need for strong, positive action by this government in full partnership with the business community convinced me to take on this job. I intend to give it my full and undivided attention over the next few important months."

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87-069

PLASTIC PIPING FOR SPRINKLERS EXPECTED TO SAVE $$$

YELLOWKNIFE, (Mar. 20/87) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne has announced changes in the type of piping allowed in the use of sprinkler systems in the territories.

Specially designed plastic pipe is already widely used in the United States and is now being used in Quebec. The system fully meets the legal requirements of the Fire Prevention Act and National Building Code. The NWT Fire Marshall has now given his approval to the use of plastic piping for sprinkler systems in public buildings.

Mr. Ballantyne says it's expected that this product will now be applied to construction across Canada by the end of this year.

"The advantages of this system include great cost savings produced by lower transportation and labour costs and greater versatility of the material."

Mr. Ballantyne says several hundred thousands of dollars can be saved in the construction of buildings currently planned for the Northwest Territories.

"This initiative is especially welcome at this time when capital construction costs continue to escalate," he says.

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87-070

PUBLIC SERVICES INCREASED AND IMPROVED IN LAST YEAR

YELLOWKNIFE, (Mar. 20/87) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne has told Members of the Legislative Assembly that the Public Services Program has stepped up its activities.

Mr. Ballantyne outlined increasing action in Mining Inspection Services saying that recommendations from the Bardswich Report will continue to be addressed.

"There will be an increased emphasis placed on the role of the Mine Occupational Health and Safety Committees during their visits to the mines. New resources are being devoted to the occupational health aspects of the program."

A medical consultant in Occupational Health is now working to directly address health issues in the workplace.

The Minister says the Mine Occupational Health and Safety Board will continue to meet four times a year to review a broad range of issues in the mining industry.

Safety Education and Awareness has been the focus of the Safety Division for the past year. Mr. Ballantyne says workshops in Iqaluit, Inuvik, Hay River and Yellowknife have been held. "On-site job safety continues to be monitored through inspections at workplaces throughout the Northwest Territories."

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Education and information for the public and for those holding liquor licenses are goals for the Liquor Licensing Board. Mr. Ballantyne expects the new chairman will streamline the work of the board.

"At the request of the communities, we plan to increase the funding for part-time liquor inspectors. These inspectors fulfill an important function by working in their home communities and dealing with problems such as under-age drinking."

A toll-free line is being installed for people wanting the use of the Labour Section of the department. The Labour Standards Board continues to fulfill its mandate as an appeal body. The Minister explained that it faces a large workload, with some cases involving large amounts of money.

"A number of fire fighters trained to an internationally recognized standard continues to increase and there's plenty of activity planned in this area in the next year," says Mr. Ballantyne.

"I look forward to continuing success over the next year in our Public Services program. These services are delivered directly to the people of the Northwest Territories and are, as a result, especially important in establishing the credibility of this government.

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87-071

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY APPROVES BOARDS OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 23) - On Friday, March 20, the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly passed an amendment to the Education Act permitting the establishment of Boards of Secondary Education.

"This amendment should help us resolve a long-standing issue," said Education Minister Dennis Patterson.

"Up until now, Sir John Franklin High School in Yellowknife has been a Territorial high school operated by the government. The majority of the students are from Yellowknife, but we have not been able to transfer responsibility for the school to a local body, because residents of communities across the North continue to view Sir John as their high school. Through discussion with School District #1 as well as Community Education Society #4 and communities and regions sending students to Sir John Franklin school, my department arrived at the amendment."

In the case of Sir John Franklin, the Board of Secondary Education will be made up of seven members. Mr. Patterson explained that two will be appointed from the Fort Smith region to represent the students from that region, one will represent the Kitikmeot region and four members will be appointed to represent Yellowknife.

Staff will receive direction from the new Board of Secondary Education but will continue to be members of the public service. Program decisions will be the responsibility of the board, although major changes will be made only with ministerial approval. Administration of the school will be fully in control of the board.

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Special Education funding to the Yellowknife boards has also increased substantially, from $124 per pupil in 1986-87 to $245 per pupil in 1987-88. This increase, which brings funding much closer to the actual costs incurred by the boards, accounts for a large portion of the overall increase.

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87-072

FUNDING CONFIRMED FOR FRAME LAKE SOUTH SCHOOL

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 23) - The Honourable Dennis Patterson, Minister of Education, and Diane Doyle, chairperson of the Board of Yellowknife School District #1, on Friday March 6, signed an agreement transferring funding from the Government of the Northwest Territories to the Board for the construction of a new 12 classroom school to be built in Frame Lake South in 1987-88.

The school was originally scheduled to be built in 1989-90. "A four classroom portable school was set up in Frame Lake South in 1985 to look after the community primary school needs in the meantime," said Mr. Patterson. "However, it soon became obvious, given projected enrolment growth in the lower grades, and over 90% utilization of all facilities, that the project would have to be advanced by two years to 1987-88."

Mr. Patterson also credited the efforts of local MLA Ted Richard (Yellowknife South) in advancing the school construction date.

"This new school will permit adequate school capacity for Yellowknife into the early 1990s," Mr. Patterson concluded.

The new school, which will be of standard design, will include an administration area, resource centre and gymnasium, as well as classrooms. The total project is estimated to cost $4,100,000.

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87-073

MINISTER SETS SCHOOL DISTRICT FUNDING LEVELS

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 23) - The net effect of applying formula funding to Yellowknife schools is an increase of $39,000 over 1986-87 grants to School District #1 and an increase of $281,000 to School District #2, Minister of Education Dennis Patterson announced today.

"It gives me a lot of satisfaction to be able to announce these increases," said Mr. Patterson. "They are the result of a new education funding formula which ensures that all school boards, divisional boards and regions are treated equally when it comes to educational financing from the Government of the Northwest Territories."

During the past year, superintendents from all boards and regions worked together with financial managers in the Department of Education to develop the formula.

In the case of the Yellowknife boards, kindergarten to grade 9 costs will be funded at 75% of the funding level calculated through the formula. The remaining 25% is expected to be raised through a tax levey, although the actual amount is determined by the school boards themselves.

All grade 10 to 12 schools will be funded at 100% of formula grants. This results in an increase of $110,000 for School District #2, because until this year St. Patrick's High School was funded at the same level as Yellowknife elementary schools.

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The Government of the Northwest Territories will provide full funding for all approved programs and staff allocations.

"The Board of Secondary Education is an organizational structure that successfully satisfies the needs of residents of both Yellowknife and the regions," said Mr. Patterson. "Most importantly, it is a transition to full board status when all regions have their own high schools and are no longer required to send their children to Yellowknife for completion of their schooling."

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87-074

ASSEMBLY MOTION SUPPORTS MINING INDUSTRY

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 24) - A motion passed unanimously last week by the Legislative Assembly recommends that the Federal Government retain provisions for tax deductions for people investing in the mining industry.

A request will be sent to the federal Minister of Finance asking that provisions for flow-through financing not be eliminated in tax reforms expected this spring.

In introducing the motion, MLA Michael Ballantyne (Yellowknife North) noted the flow-through program "has been the single most important incentive to keep exploration going."

The investment incentive program permits investors to purchase shares in an exploration company and receive tax deductions equivalent to $1.33 for every dollar invested. "Such an important plan attracts much needed funds to the exploration business", Ballantyne added.

During debate on the motion, Ballantyne recognized the importance of the mining industry to the NWT, with seven producing mines providing over 2000 jobs. "The total expenditure in exploration yearly is $40 million with approximately 75 per cent of that financed by flow-through shares, "he added.

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NWT Finance Minister Tom Butters also noted that the share arrangement "assists mining companies, raises money to locate new mines and provides employment to northern residents."

In seconding the motion, High Arctic MLA Ludy Pudluk said that, "because the exploration industry and any mines that might be developed create so many jobs, it is very important that the Federal Government keep this program to help the northern mining industry."

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87-075

TRAINING PROGRAM ANNOUNCED FOR FLIGHT SERVICE SPECIALISTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar.25) - Minister of Education Dennis Patterson has announced the creation of a training program at the Iqaluit Campus to train flight service specialists for the Eastern Arctic.

Mr. Patterson says the course is the result of an agreement made with the Federal Minister of Transport last year to help in locating and training northerners for employment in the air transportation industry. He says the Iqaluit program is the first joint venture resulting from this agreement.

"Five students started the program in February, and, depending on their progress, will complete the program within one to two years", says the minister. "The program includes academic upgrading at Iqaluit, participation in the Airport Observer/Communicator Training course at the Thebacha Campus in Fort Smith, and a period of training at the Transport Canada Training Institute at Cornwall, Ontario. This course work will be supplemented by periods of work experience at operating airports in the NWT."

The first group of students to participate in the program are Inuit from Rankin Inlet, Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, Lake Harbour and Igloolik.

Money for allowances during training, transportation costs and salaries during periods of work experience will come from the federal government.

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Mr. Patterson says Arctic College will provide the instructors for the Academic Upgrading and Observer/Communicator components of the program.

"I am pleased to say that the students are settling in to their new routine at the Iqaluit Campus and are making good progress in their studies. I take it as a positive sign that cooperative ventures like this particular program can provide northerners with skills they can apply in their own communities."

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87-076

FLOATING LAB FIRST CHANCE TO TEST NEW SCIENCE POLICY

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 25) - Planning the research agenda of the Polar 8 icebreaker will be a first test of the new national policy on science and technology, according to Dr. Robert Janes, executive director of the Science Institute of the N.W.T.

As science advisor to the Territorial government, Dr. Janes spoke for the N.W.T. in the national deliberations leading up to the signing of the policy. He also represented Science Minister Red Pedersen at the official signing in Vancouver last week.

The policy signals a commitment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to work together, and with the private sector, in promoting scientific and technological innovation. The overall objective is to ensure that research is focussed and coordinated so that Canadian industry can maintain and improve its place in the international marketplace.

But, as Dr. Janes explains, the agreement also recognizes the importance of equitable economic development throughout Canada. The policy pledges that all Canadians will share in the benefits and opportunities created by science and technology. This means we're not just talking about high-tech industries in the south. Northerners have a right to expect tangible benefits as well.

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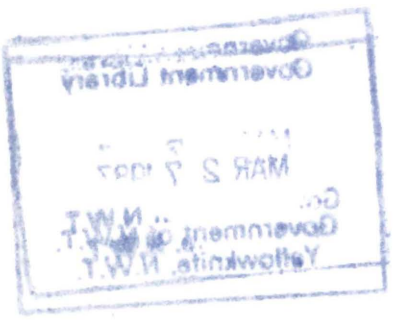
"Planning the research to be carried out on board the Polar 8 is a logical place to start. In light of the new policy, we can hope for direct and meaningful northern involvement in this project." The Science Institute has presented this view to John Crosbie, the federal Minister of Transport, and is also contacting organizations that have an interest in northern research to alert them to the potential opportunity for input.

The importance of northern input was apparent during the development of the new policy, Dr. Janes says. "In its opening position, the federal government emphasized the development of new technologies, such as robotics, artificial intelligence and biotechnology. But we took the position that high-tech industries are only one road to the future. Canada already has achieved international leadership in northern technologies -- permafrost construction techniques, arctic oil-and-gas technologies, energy conservation in cold climates, and the like. We argued that the refinement and marketing of these existing technologies was as important as the creation of new industries. I think we were successful in pressing this point of view."

In addition, the NWT called for "the decentralization of northern science policy, administration and activities" and recommended the establishment of a northern research centre and fund. "If research priorities were identified in the North, projects could be more closely directed toward the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of northerners. At present, research funding and infrastructure are generally concentrated in southern Canada." He said that the projected transfer of research laboratories in Inuvik, Igloolik and Iqaluit from the federal government to the Science Institute would be a step in the right direction.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Dr. Janes also emphasized the need for collaboration between formalized, mainstream science and the informal science of aboriginal people, whose expertise is based on many thousands of years of first-hand experience. "Scientists have no monopoly on truth or objectivity."

The signing of the national policy was the first step in an on-going process of intergovernmental consultation, which is to be carried out through seven "working groups." Dr. Janes will continue to contribute a northern view point as a member of the working group on the social and cultural impact of science and technology.

-30-

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87-077

INCREASES OF FOOD ALLOWANCE FOR PERSONS ON SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Mar. 25) - Increases to the levels of food allowances for persons on social assistance were announced today by the Minister of Social Services, Bruce McLaughlin. The increased levels of assistance will go into effect on April 1, 1987.

"Rates were increased in October 1986 and this is the second phase of the overall plan to provide more assistance to those in need," the Minister said.

Revisions to the rates resulted from the 1985-86 survey of food costs across the N.W.T. conducted by the Department of Social Services and the Bureau of Statistics. Food costs in N.W.T. communities were measured and compared to those in Yellowknife and, as a result of the survey, the number of food sales were increased from six to ten to accommodate the cost of living spread between communities.

This means, for example, that an individual living in Yellowknife would be eligible for $132 per month for food purchases, while in Pelly Bay an individual would receive $252. Calculations for families will be based on the new levels and are based on family size.

The Minister stressed that the Department of Social Services will continue in its efforts to assist individuals and families in meeting their requirements to purchase food.

-30-

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Date

For release – Pour publication

YELLOWKNIFE (April 1, 1987) -- The agreement to transfer forest and fire management from federal to territorial control will take effect today.

The Honourable Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Honourable Red Pedersen, Minister of Renewable Resources with the Government of the Northwest Territories, signed an agreement which lays out details of legislative amendments, property and housing transfer, treatment of federal employees and continuing land use under overlapping jurisdictions.

The agreement significantly affects a large portion of DIAND's resources in the NWT. It involves a program with an annual budget of $24.1 million and buildings, facilities, land and assets valued at $24.5 million. In addition, 47 full-time employees and as many as 145 seasonal employees (totalling approximately 192) have been transferred from the Northern Affairs Program to the Territorial Government.

As part of this transfer, Bill C-43, An Act to Amend the Territorial Lands Act, which was passed in March, deletes references to timber from the Territorial Lands Act, thereby removing federal jurisdiction over timber in the Northwest Territories. Together with certain Orders-in-Council, the Bill provides the Territorial Government with legislative jurisdiction and administrative control over this major resource management program.

"I am pleased that I have been able to obtain the necessary approvals for this to take place. The federal government has met all of its commitments and legislative requirements by April 1 and I congratulate all the parties involved for contributing to this success," said Mr. McKnight.

"In assuming this provincial-type role, we are taking another large step towards fully responsible government," said Mr. Pedersen. "We have learned from this experience and are applying it in areas of health, Northern Canada Power Commission, scientific resource centres and other programs up for transfer."

(2...)

Canada

The agreement includes a special arrangement for a three-year buffer period during which the federal government will supply supplementary funding if a bad fire season demands more than the $8.2 million designated for fire fighting. The agreed figure was arrived at through careful analysis of fire occurrences over the past 20 years.

The transfer also includes funds for the use of two CL-215 water bombers which operate in the Northwest Territories. These will remain the property of Transport Canada, but the GNWT now replaces DIAND as the contract administrator.

In subsequent years, funding for these programs will be provided through, and in accordance with, the Canada-Northwest Territories formula financing agreement.

"It is consistent with my approach to constitutional, political and economic development in the North," noted Mr. McKnight. "And it reflects the federal government's commitment to see the administration of government located, wherever possible, at the level closest to those directly concerned."

Mr. McKnight also took the opportunity to thank his transferring employees for their years of dedication and service to the Government of Canada.

- 30 -

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TRANSFER OF FORESTRY AND FIRE MANAGEMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

BACKGROUNDERS

- Chronology of Major Events Leading to the Transfer of Forest and Fire Management
- Principles of Transfer
- Main Features of the Agreement
- Role of the Dene-Metis
- GNWT/Legislative Requirements

CHRONOLOGY OF MAJOR EVENTS LEADING TO THE TRANSFER OF FOREST AND FIRE MANAGEMENT

April 1984	The transfer issue was raised in the Yellowknife Legislative Assembly.
July 1985	The territorial Department of Renewable Resources officially requested the transfer of the Forest Resources Program.
September 1985	An Agreement to Transfer was signed by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the territorial Department of Renewable Resources. The Agreement included a set of guiding principles for transfer negotiations.
September 1986	The Dene Nation and the Metis Association announced their full support for the transfer.
December 1986	The Government of Canada approved transfer of the Forest Resources Program.
February 1987	The Executive Council of Government of Northwest Territories approved the negotiated transfer package.
March 1987	The Federal Treasury Board approved the transfer package. The Act to Amend the Territorial Lands Act was passed by Parliament. The Governor in Council approved Orders in Council to transfer the assets of the Forest Resources Program to Government of Northwest Territories, and to authorize the Commissioner in Council, Government of the Northwest Territories to make ordinances concerning forest and fire management on territorial lands under the control of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

PRINCIPLES OF TRANSFER

The transfer agreement was negotiated according to the following principles for renewable resource management programs which were agreed to in September 1985 by both Governments.

1. Transfers will be made through a process of agreement between the Federal and Territorial Governments with the support and participation of involved native groups.

2. The Federal Government will make every effort to transfer programs identified as priorities by the Territorial Government.

3. Transfers will not prejudice further political evolution in the Northwest Territories.

4. Transfers will not prejudice land claims.

5. While specific transfers may require certain one-time incremental costs, existing levels of funding will be maintained. Specific future program enhancement will be considered where required within the established financial approval processes of both levels of governments.

6. The Federal Government will ensure that total resources devoted to programs to be transferred are identified and made known to the Territorial Government during the negotiation process.

7. Upon completion of a program transfer, all associated program policies and procedures will become the full responsibility of the Territorial Government.

8. Program transfers will be managed by both levels of government in a manner which will ensure continuity and maintain the level of service to the public during the transitional period.

9. Both levels of government will develop a joint communications strategy to keep staff and public informed of transfer activities.

10. All federal staff affected by transfer actions will be offered equivalent positions by the Territorial Government and both levels of government will work together to deal equitably with staff.

MAIN FEATURES OF THE AGREEMENT

Financial

- An increase in transfer payments to Government of the Northwest Territories — $24.1 million

  A transfer of assets estimated at — $24.5 million

  The assets are:

  (a) Land and infrastructure (office buildings, warehouses, garages, fire towers, etc.) — $12.2 million

  (b) Public property (vehicles, boats, office furnishings, fire fighting equipment, etc.) — $ 8.9 million

  (c) Housing (Department of Public Works' houses presently occupied by forestry personnel - 31 units) — $ 3.4 million

- Agreement includes a formula whereby Government Northwest Territories will have access to the supplementary estimates process for a three-year period in the event of severe fire years.

- A number of multi-year contracts including the CL-215 operation and maintenance contract are being assigned to Government Northwest Territories.

- Increase in transfer payments to Government of Northwest Territories will be offset by reductions in Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development budget and by savings to the Federal Treasury.

- Transfer of $24.1 million and 47 full-time employees and as many as 145 seasonal employees (totalling approximately 192) to Government of Northwest Territories will reduce the Northern Affairs Program, Northwest Territories, leaving it with resources of $17.9 million and 173.5 person years. The $24.1 million includes $8.2 million which is an estimate of the amount that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development would receive for fire suppression through supplementary estimates each year.

(2...)

Personnel

- Federal employees (approximately 192) affected by the transfer have been offered positions with Government of Northwest Territories.

- Transferring employees that receive vacation travel assistance while with the Federal Government will continue to receive travel assistance for a four-year period.

Legislative

- Legislative jurisdiction for forest and fire management is being transferred to Government of Northwest Territories.

- The following steps are being taken:

    - the Territorial Lands Act and the Territorial Timber Regulations are being amended to remove all reference to forest management in the Northwest Territories.

    - Orders in Council pursuant to the Northwest Territories Act to authorize the Commissioner in Council, Government of the Northwest Territories, to make ordinances effective April 1, 1987, concerning forest and fire management are being processed.

Integrated Resource Management

- The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will no longer have any responsibility for forest and fire management in the Northwest Territories but will continue to manage land and the Territorial Lands Act will continue to apply.

- A mutually acceptable administrative process is being established by both Governments to review before issuance of any approval under the Territorial Lands Act by DIAND and any timber permit by GNWT.

GNWT LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

FOREST MANAGEMENT ACT - Passed by the NWT Legislative Assembly in October 1986. Allows the Government of the Northwest Territories to undertake the responsibilities being transferred by the federal government.

FOREST MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS - Being developed through a consultative process with representatives from the Dene Nation and Metis Association as well as with a broad range of public representatives.

NWT FOREST PROTECTION ACT - Allowed fire suppression activities to be carried out in the Northwest Territories under federal management. Remains in effect under the transfer agreement.

FOREST MANAGEMENT POLICY - Will be developed as the result of consultation with groups and individuals affected.

FIRE SUPPRESSION POLICY - Remains the same as federal policy to allow the Government of the Northwest Territories access to supplementary estimates for three years. During this period, the GNWT will be consulting on a 'made in the north' policy for forest fire suppression.

87-078

FORMAL GNWT RESPONSE MADE TO CLOSURE OF PINE POINT MINES

YELLOWKNIFE (April 1) - The Government of the Northwest Territories announced today the response to the permanent shutdown of the town's main employer, Pine Point Mines Limited.

The mine announced in January that it will phase out its operations over the next three years. Mining will end by July 1987 and milling operations by the end of 1987. Shipping and sales of concentrate will continue up to three years after milling ends.

Gordon Wray, on behalf of the Executive Council, says discussions between the territorial government and the town must get underway to plan for the orderly closure of the Town of Pine Point by 1990.

Mr. Wray has been designated as Minister responsible for coordinating the territorial government's overall plan in response to the closure of the current mining operation. The Town of Pine Point has identified a number of priorities in its Community Adjustment Plan that it deems to be of the utmost concern.

In replying to those concerns, Mr. Wray says the GNWT accepts that it has responsibility to the residents and Town of Pine Point to assist where it can in addressing the effects of the closure of Pine Point Mines Limited.

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"Specifically, essential services such as health, social services, education and protection named in the Community Adjustment Plan will be provided to meet the needs of residents in the short term."

The Town of Pine Point has identified equity compensation for home owners and businesses in Pine Point as one of its priorities. Mr. Wray says the territorial government understands the importance of this issue to the residents of Pine Point.

"We consider resolution of this issue to be the responsibility of Pine Point Mines and the federal government, however, the GNWT is prepared to use our offices to assist in this regard. I have expressed this view to Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and to the president of Pine Point Mines, Dave Johnston."

Mr. Wray has told the Pine Point mayor Mike Lenton that a senior officer of the territorial government will be spending more time in Pine Point to provide information and assistance. The GNWT Steering Committee chaired by Deputy Minister of the Executive Louise Vertes will be meeting soon to continue its efforts to coordinate the territorial government's plans.

Mr. Wray says that in any community dependent on a single mining operation, the ultimate closure of the mine is inevitable. "That still does not make the situation Pine Point finds itself in any easier. The GNWT has committed that it will do all it can to ensure the effects of the announced closure of the mine on the residents of Pine Point will be addressed in a coordinated and planned approach which is ever mindful that we are dealing with people and their future."

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87-079

NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL '87 - A WORLD OF WORDS

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 3/87) - The ninth annual National Book Festival will take place from April 25 to May 2, 1987.

The theme of this year's Canada-wide celebration of published works of fiction, poetry, drama, literary criticism and writings for children is "A World of Words".

A number of public libraries in the N.W.T. have initiated community projects for National Book Festival.

In Iqaluit and Pangnirtung, Public Library Services is sponsoring a short-term writer-in-residence programme funded, in part, by Canada Council.

Renowned playwright Paul Thompson will visit these communities to talk about his highly innovative and popular theatrical techniques. As artistic director of Toronto's Theatre Passe Muraille, Thompson produced some of Canada's best known plays including Maggie and Pierre, Les maudits anglais, The Farm Show, The Spirit of '85 and Doukhobours. Thompson is currently working on a sports-related show which will tour Canada for the 1988 Games.

Thompson is famous in Canada and internationally as the major proponent of using collaborative and improvisational techniques to create dramas. Thompson will act as a resource person through community workshops with a wide variety of groups in Iqaluit and Pangnirtung to show residents how they can use the techniques he has pioneered to explore and celebrate life in their own communities.

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John Lazarus is another of Canada's most successful playwrights. His works, prduced across Canada and around the world, include Babel Rap (the one-act play most frequently produced in Canada), Dreaming and Duelling, The Late Blumer, and a number of plays and film scripts especially written for children and young adults.

Lazarus will visit Fort Smith, Yellowknife and Hay River giving drama workshops to all ages and public readings of his works.

Igloolik Library is sponsoring an exciting week-long project "From Oral to Written: the Igloolik Bookmaking Project" which will include storytelling and the writing of student literary journals. The project will culminate in the production of three original bilingual (English and Inuktitut) illustrated books for children.

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87-080

BRADEN NAMED DEPUTY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

YELLOWKNIFE, (Apr. 6) - Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Nick Sibbeston announced the appointment of a new Deputy Minister for the department today. George Braden of Yellowknife undertakes his new responsibilities immediately.

Mr. Braden has been Special Advisor to the Minister of Economic Development since October 1986. Prior to that, he was Commissioner of the highly acclaimed NWT Pavilion at Expo '86 in Vancouver. Mr. Braden was elected as Government Leader of the NWT from 1980 to 1983 while representing Yellowknife North as MLA. During that time, he was Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Justice and Public Services, and Energy.

Mr. Sibbeston says Mr. Braden brings "a great deal of expertise in many areas to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism."

"As a former Government Leader and an MLA, he brings considerable political wisdom and as the Commissioner of the territorial pavilion at Expo Mr. Braden has a proven record of success. He's a winner."

Acting Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Alan Vaughn will continue as Assistant Deputy Minister of Tourism and will have additional operational and policy responsibilities.

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87-081

GOVERNMENT OFFICER FOR PINE POINT

YELLOWKNIFE (April 13) - The Government of the Northwest Territories has made an Executive Officer available in Pine Point.

Gordon Wray is the Minister responsible for the government's response to the closure of Pine Point. He says an Executive Officer will be in the community to provide information and assistance to the residents.

Pine Point Mines Limited, the main employer in the community has begun handing out lay-off notices in anticipation of the final shutdown of the mine by 1990. In response, the Government of the Northwest Territories will close the community by 1990.

Mr. Wray says the officer in Pine Point will serve as an information contact for the Government of the N.W.T. and will be available in the government's office on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 10:30 am to 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. The officers will be Bob Snyder and Mike Vaydik from Fort Smith Regional Headquarters.

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87-082

SMOKING BAN TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, INSTITUTIONS

YELLOWKNIFE, (April 13) - Minister of Health Bruce McLaughlin has announced a No Smoking policy for all territorial government offices, schools and institutions beginning on June 1st, 1987.

"It must be clear," Mr. McLaughlin says, "this is a total ban on smoking. No special areas will be set aside for smokers in our buildings."

"As a result of evidence released by the Surgeon General of the United States, doubt no longer exists that there is a cause and effect relationship between smoking and lung cancers, between smoking and cardiovascular disease and between smoking and chronic obstructive lung disease," says Mr. McLaughlin. "In fact, smoking is implicated in causing so many diseases that it is the largest preventable cause of death in Canada."

"It is the duty of the government to protect the general public who are using government services and to provide a healthy working environment for all government employees."

Mr. McLaughlin says health hazards of smoking exist for the smoker and the non-smoker. "The non-smoker suffers the second-hand effects including eye and nasal irritation, headaches, impairment of lung function and aggravation of respiratory allergies such as asthma and an increase in pulse rate and blood pressure. Non-smokers have an increased risk of developing lung cancers as a consequence of chronic exposure to tobacco smoke."

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The ban on smoking will come into effect on June 1st for the following places:

- Headquarters
- Workers Compensation Board
- Headquarters Housing Corporation
- Housing Corporation District offices
- Regional Headquarters
- Regional and Community offices

Beginning on September 1st, 1987 the following will also be included in the No Smoking policy:

- All schools
- Arctic College campuses
- Residential Institutions (Corrections facilities, hospitals, group homes, senior citizen homes)

"It is the intent of this government to protect the general public who have access to government services and our own workers in the workplace."

Several territorial government departments and buildings have already voluntarily implemented bans on smoking in the workplace.

Clinics for those employees who wish help in quitting smoking will be available through the Department of Health.

"I strongly believe that the benefits of our No Smoking policy will be quickly felt through decreased absenteeism, lower medical costs, less on-the-job time lost through illness, and cheaper maintenance costs and less property damage," says Mr. McLaughlin.

BACKGROUNDER

The smoker in the workplace has a significantly higher risk of death and a consequent seven year reduction of life expectancy. These statistics show an increased risk of illness to a person and proof that smoking contributes to absenteeism. Tobacco use has been estimated to account for 45 million days of disability in Canada which is more than 5 % of all disability days. Increased absenteeism due to smoking has been shown in numerous studies over the past three decades. Those who smoke are absent from work 50 % more than non-smokers, and those who smoke 40 cigarettes a day are absent twice as often.

ANNUAL COST OF EMPLOYING SMOKERS

Source	Annual Cost per smoker (Cdn)
Absenteeism	$ 305
Medical Care	320
Morbidity and early death (lost earnings)	1060
Insurance (excluding health)	125
On-the-job time lost	2530
Property damage and depreciation	695
Maintenance	695
Involuntary smoking	920
TOTAL COST PER SMOKER PER YEAR	$6650

*Table adapted from information gathered by William Weis, School of Business, Seattle University, Seattle, WA (1981)

-30-

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87-083

SIBBESTON TOURS BAFFIN REGION APRIL 20-25TH

YELLOWKNIFE, (April 13/87) - Nick Sibbeston will wear two hats during his tour of the Baffin Region next week.

As Government Leader, he has promised to visit all regions of the territories this year and as Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Sibbeston wants to meet with businessmen in the area.

Mr. Sibbeston starts his visit in Iqaluit. He will be made this year's Grand Toonik during the opening ceremonies of Iqaluit's spring festival, Toonik Time. Following that, Mr. Sibbeston will present a portrait of the respected elder Arnaitok Ipeelie to the Town Council.

The next day, he will meet with the Iqaluit Chamber of Commerce before flying to Cape Dorset and a meeting with local officials. He will return to Iqaluit that night for an awards dinner and the presentation of certificates to graduates of the GNWT's Management Development Program. Long Service Awards will also be presented to territorial government employees with ten and fifteen years of service.

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Following his visit in Iqaluit and Cape Dorset, Mr. Sibbeston will travel to Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Resolute Bay, Igloolik and Hall Beach where he will meet with local officials, tour the communities and present Long Service Awards to government employees. Mr. Sibbeston will also meet with officials of the Polaris Mine at Little Cornwallis Island.

"I look forward to returning to Baffin this spring," says Mr. Sibbeston. "I am anticipating learning more about the region, the needs of the people and the work of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism."

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87-084

SIBBESTON TO PRESENT PORTRAIT TO IQALUIT

YELLOWKNIFE, (Apr. 13/87) - A highlight of Government Leader Nick Sibbeston's six day tour of the Baffin Region next week will be the presentation of a portrait of respected elder Arnaitok Ipeelie to the Iqaluit Town Council on April 20th.

In April last year, the community mourned the loss of Mr. Ipeelie who died at the age of 61 after a long struggle with cancer. He served as Deputy Mayor and as a member of the Town Council. Mr. Ipeelie was also a Lay Reader in the Anglican Church.

Born in Cape Dorset, Mr. Ipeelie was the son of the famous carver Inutsiaq and his wife Panigag. He spent his early years living and travelling on the land.

Mr. Sibbeston says that following his arrival in Iqaluit in 1944. "Mr. Ipeelie became an important community leader, known for his common sense, generosity and tolerance. He has been praised as a man who served God by helping others, and his life was seen as a model for others to follow."

Arnaitok Ipeelie is remembered for his strong tenor voice which lead the singing of the national anthem on Canada Day in Iqaluit for many years. In 1985, he was asked to sing "Oh Canada" in Inuktitut at the National Canada Day ceremonies in Ottawa. The event was recorded by CBC and was televised across the country. The portrait to be presented to the Town Council was made from film taken during this event.

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Mr. Sibbeston is travelling to the Baffin region as Government Leader and as Minister of Economic Development and Tourism between April 20th and April 25th.

-30-

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87-085

TROUT LAKE TURNS IT ON OFFICIALLY

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 13) - The tiny community of Trout Lake (pop.80) joined its neighbours across the territories today by turning on the power.

In a ceremony with Government Leader Nick Sibbeston and drummers from Dettah, Trout Lake officially became an electrified community. Visitors from surrounding communities joined the people of Trout Lake in a feast to celebrate the day.

Mr. Sibbeston says the project to bring power to Trout Lake has been a success.

"We began our work to electrify Trout Lake last year following requests from the people who live there. I think it's exciting that as a government, we have been able to respond and give Trout Lake the ability to have television and washing machines and all the other things that many of us now take for granted."

Northland Utilities NWT Limited of Hay River began the project in early December of 1986. The work included the provision of a three-generator plant, distribution lines to serve the 31 customers and the wiring of the individual residences in Trout Lake.

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Kingland Ford of Hay River supplied and assembled the self-contained generator building and Mackenzie Electric of Hay River contracted the house wiring. Employees of Northland Utilities did the rest.

Northland Supervisor Steve Brooks says it's a job well done. "This was a $300,000 project of which 80% was funded by the Government of the N.W.T. It was completed in record time and was under budget. In addition, our compnay has trained a resident of Trout Lake to handle the day to day running of the plant."

Mr. Brooks says maintenance of the power plant will be done by Northland's Hay River staff.

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87-086

YELLOWKNIFE EMPLOYEES GET INCENTIVES TO LEAVE GNWT HOUSING

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 16) - Employees of the Government of the NWT living in Yellowknife who have overstayed their one-year entitlement to government-provided accommodation will find their housing allowances cutback beginning on June 1st.

Minister of Personnel Red Pedersen says, "this is an incentive for employees to move into the private housing market in Yellowknife."

According to the minister, "employees are given one year in government housing before they are expected to find their own accommodation. We have many employees who have overstayed their entitlement and can reasonably move into the private market." Mr. Pedersen says this initiative supports those employees who have already moved out of government housing.

As of June 1st, 1987, Yellowknife employees who have stayed past one year in staff accommodation will have their housing allowances reduced by one hundred dollars every six months to a maximum of $450.

Mr. Pedersen says, "hardship cases, trainees, term employees, employees reaching retirement and employees appointed at ministerial pleasure are to be exempted from such reductions."

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87-087

NACC RECEIVES GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 16) - Culture and Communications Minister Ludy Pudluk has approved $35,000 in emergency funding for the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre.

The funding will enable the Centre to eliminate the immediate possiblity of a shut down.

Mr. Pudluk said officials of his department will be in continuing discussions with the NACC Board of Directors in an attempt to examine optional approaches to the operation and funding of the Centre.

"For instance, we will be examining various Federal sources of financial assistance and, if necessary, make representation at the ministerial level on behalf of NACC to obtain some degree of financial support for the Centre.," he said.

At the moment, NACC is eligible for staff development assistance from Canada Council. But this assistance is in the area of Board development, rather that monies to assist with operational costs.

Mr. Pudluk added that he is hopeful that his department might be able to assist NACC in working out a solution that would see a process of joint financing develop between all levels of government and the private sector, supplemented by revenues from the northern public, either through a combination of annual donations or ticket sales.

-30-

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CANADA/NWT ECONOMIC EVELOPMENT AGREEMENT EXTENDED

YELLOWKNIFE (April 15 1987) - The Honourable Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and the Honourable Nick Sibbeston, N.W.T. Government Leader and Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, today announced the extension of the Canada/Northwest Territories Economic Development Agreement (EDA). The original EDA was signed December 21, 1982 and was designed to run to the end of March 1987.

The federal signatories to the Agreement are the Ministers of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Regional Industrial Expansion, the Honourable Michel Côté, and Employment and Immigration, the Honourable Benoît Bouchard. The Government Leader, who is also Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, and the Commissioner are the signatories for the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Following upon the original theme of the EDA as "the door to a better future", the extension of the Agreement will keep the door open for northerners to launch that future with viable businesses in key sectors. The following sectors for economic development in the Northwest Territories were jointly established as priorities for the EDA: renewable resources, tourism, mining, small business, and arts and crafts as well as continued work in economic planning by communities.

Since its creation in 1982, the EDA has supported growth in the business and tourism sectors and has helped northerners identify business opportunities arising from traditional economic pursuits such as hunting and trapping. EDA programs have enabled individuals, organizations and communities to explore opportunities in the service sector as well as in fisheries, wildlife harvesting, agriculture and forestry.

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Canada

CANADA/NWT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT EXTENDED

2 2 2 2

The federal and territorial governments are in the process of negotiating a number of subsidiary agreements to be administered under the EDA.

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NWT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

The first Economic Development Agreement for the North was signed in Yellowknife in December 1982. The objectives of that agreement were: economic diversification; improved cooperation between governments; and coordination of federal and territorial programming in economic development. These objectives remain unchanged for the extension of this agreement.

The themes of the agreement five years ago have been expanded somewhat and will look to:

- implementation of business opportunities in the renewable resource, small business, tourism and arts and crafts sectors.

- acceleration of geological mapping activities to encourage exploration by mineral development companies.

- applied economic planning for communities which will produce tangible results such as economic development projects.

Additionally, governments and the private sector will be asked to build stronger links between the environment and economic concerns and to make those links at the planning stages of development. The theme will be one of an economy-environment partnership.

The EDA Policy Committee is the intergovernmental body responsible for activities specifically related to the EDA and more generally for the progress of government economic development programs in the N.W.T. The committee closely monitors problems which emerge from the delivery of programs under the subsidiary agreements. This ensures that any administration problems will be resolved for future program delivery.

87-088

LANDFILL INVESTIGATION RESULTS RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 16) - Recent disposal of a small amount of caustic soda in an Inuvik landfill site was not proper but it does not pose a serious threat to the environment, according to an investigation by the Pollution Control Division of the Department of Renewable Resources.

Officials of the department said today the 360 kg. (about 800 pounds) of caustic soda was mixed with about 120 cubic metres of other materials transported from an abandoned petroleum exploration staging site near Fort McPherson.

The Town of Inuvik has two dumps, one for public use and another site that has been designated by the Town for the disposal of scrap metal and other light industrial material. Disposal of the soda, mixed with other refuse, took place in the industrial landfill site and was placed on top of about 4,000 tons of material from drill sites.

Regardless, officials said, caustic soda is classified as a dangerous good under the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and should not have been transported and disposed of in this fashion. As a result, Pollution Control is considering regulatory action against Points North Transportation who was operating under contract to the Federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs to dispose of the staging site materials.

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The Pollution Control Division's investigation concludes that this material does not pose a serious threat to the environment if left on site providing a cap consisting of well-compacted fill material, at least 1 metre thick, is placed over the disposal site. The cap should be graded so that runoff of water readily occurs and a drainage ditch should be constructed to divert all runoff waters away from the site. The landfill site in question is not near any major water bodies.

Results of the investigation have been communicated to the Town of Inuvik, Points North Transportation and Indian and Northern Affairs.

-30-

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The Transport and Disposal of Drilling Fluid Additives (Chemicals) to the Town of Inuvik Airport Dump by Points North Transportation Inc.

The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) awarded a contract to Points North Transportation to clean up an abandoned petroleum exploration staging site located approximately three kilometres from Fort McPherson on the west bank of the Peel River. The contract stated the removal of fuel tanks (6) and non-combustible scrap metal, burning combustible debris and disposing of fuel and drilling fluid additives in an environmentally acceptable manner.

Points North Transportation initiated clean up of the McPherson staging area in accordance with the contract conditions transporting eight (8) loads, approximately 160 m^3 of drilling fluid additives, dirt and snow, to the Town of Inuvik airport dump. Three drilling fluid additives, including an estimated 360 kg of caustic soda which were located at the McPherson site but were not included in the site inventory, were deposited at the dump site, levelled and buried with the remainder of the drilling fluid additives. Points North Transportation have stated disposal shall be completed in accordance with contract conditions during the summer of 1987.

The Town of Inuvik, in a letter to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada stated that the Town will not allow chemical disposal at this site. The Town previously authorized Points North Transportation to bury approximately 4000 tons of Shell Canada's "dry refuse" at the same site. The exact contents of this "dry refuse" are unknown, but does contain some drilling fluid additives.

The Pollution Control Division undertook an investigation (1)to determine the environmental acceptability of the manner in which the McPherson drilling additives were disposed of and (2) compliance with the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act in regard to this material's transport.

Conclusions:

A. Environmental Protection Act. All materials, with the exception of caustic soda, is suitable for disposal by landfill. Taking into consideration:

1. the estimated quantity of caustic soda being 360 kg.;
2. some weathering of the caustic soda had occurred at the Ft. McPherson staging site;
3. the caustic soda is "mixed" with approximately 120 m^3 of material suitable for landfill;
4. the 120 m^3 of material has been placed on 4000 tons of "dry refuse";
5. all of the material is located in a suitable landfill site which is not in close proximity to major water bodies;

we recommend that the drilling fluid additives remain on site.

A cap consisting of well-compacted fill material, at least 1 metre thick and extending 1 metre out from each site, should be placed on the disposal site. The cap should be graded such that runoff of water readily occurs. A drainage ditch should be constructed so as to divert all runoff waters away from the site.

B. Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act. Caustic soda is the only drilling fluid additive in question which is classified as a dangerous good under the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act. The requirements of the Act were not complied with by either the consignor or transport carrier in regard to its transport. Subsequent regulatory action is being considered.

87-089

NORTHERN FIRM AWARDED CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

YELLOWKNIFE (April 21) - The contract to construct the Iqaluit campus of Arctic College has been awarded to PCL Constructors Northern of Yellowknife. Iqaluit MLA Dennis Patterson made the announcement today, on behalf of Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray.

PCL's contract is for $4,517,653. Seven other Canadian firms, including three N.W.T. contractors, submitted higher bids. The new academic building will combine college and community adult education services in the same facility.

The 2,568 square metre building will accommodate a fullscale college program. The 16 classrooms will include a home management room, a science laboratory and a computer laboratory.

There will also be four seminar rooms for the instruction of small groups, a learning resource centre with a study carrel area, and lounge areas for students and staff. Offices will also be provided for the instructors, for counselling, as well as for the campus and adult education administration.

Construction started in early April, and is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 1988, in time for the start of the fall classes.

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A EUROPEAN VIEW OF CANADA

YELLOWKNIFE (April 21) - Quintessential Canada, a photographic exhibition produced in 1933 by Felix H. Man, will be on display at the Northern Heritage Centre beginning April 22.

The exhibit is being circulated by the Public Archives of Canada. The collection includes almost 800 black and white negatives and prints taken by the internationally acclaimed photographer while on assignment in Canada at the height of the Great Depression.

The 27 photographs on display show that the European visitor was overwhelmed by Canada's vastness and wilderness. Travelling by trian, boat and plane, he crossed the Prairies, mountains and Arctic ice. He considered his journey to the North to be one of his great adventures.

Man reduced Canada to several quintessential themes. Careful examination of his work reveals that, in order to tell his story, he was willing to manipulate his negatives, adding drama through the technique of photo-montage.

His photo essay reinforced his European audience's perception of Canada as "a few acres of snow" and "the breadbasket of the world." Life in Canada was portrayed as a struggle against the wilderness.

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Born in 1893 in Freiburg-im-Breisgau, Germany, Hans Felix Siegismund Baumann adopted the pseudonym of Felix H. Man early in his career, during which he achieved international recognition for both his photo essays and his reportage-portraits.

Quintessential Canada will be on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre until May 31.

-30-

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87-091

CHEQUE PRESENTED TO SPORT NORTH

YELLOWKNIFE (April 24) - The Territorial Government is contributing $375,300 to the Sport North Federation this year.

Dennis Adams, director of the Sport and Recreation division of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, is scheduled to make the first installment of $187,150 on behalf of department Minister Gordon Wray in Yellowknife Saturday. He will present the cheque to Sport North President Ron Kapicki at the federation's annual general meeting.

This is the second year of a two-year operating agreement between the Territorial Government and Sport North.

Sport North provides a variety of services to territorial sport governing bodies. It allocates grants to conduct annual general meetings, core administration, coaching and official clinics, player development and competition assistance, as well as administering a bulk reduction in airfare for member sport associations.

The federation is also responsible for preparing teams for the Arctic Winter Games and Canada Games.

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Sport North's funding consists of the contribution from the Territorial Government, lottery proceeds and donations from private companies or individuals.

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87-092

BAFFIN BUSINESSES GET MINISTER'S ATTENTION

IQALUIT, N.W.T. (Apr. 27) - "Business is thriving in the Baffin," declared Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Nick Sibbeston at the end of a six-day trip to the region. "I am especially pleased to see the growth of entrepreneurial spirit among native people in the area."

Mr. Sibbeston met with municipal councils, Chambers of Commerce and many individual businessmen during his seven community tour of the Baffin last week.

Throughout the region, the need to nurture the fledgling fisheries for halibut, shrimp and Arctic char was raised. Mr. Sibbeston calls the fishery a rare opportunity. "There is tremendous untapped potential for this industry and a chance to create new jobs and businesses in a region that has limited economic options."

The minister says he will pursue a meeting with federal Fisheries Minister Tom Siddon to discuss increased quotas and technical assistance for the region's fishermen.

"I will also be seeking an exception for the eastern fishery that will allow them to market fish directly to buyers in Eastern Canada rather than through the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation." This is expected to reduce costs and improve the quality of the product arriving in the South.

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In Igloolik, Mr. Sibbeston announced the Department of Economic Development and Tourism would be funding a packer boat for the local char fishery. As well, a $50,000 marketing study of the N.W.T fishing industry will be undertaken this year. The department also intends to fund the development of a fisheries course to be offered through Arctic College.

The shortage of quality soapstone for the carving industry was another issue raised in almost every community visited by Mr. Sibbeston. "In the coming months and years, the department's major thrust will be to find new quarries. This $8 million dollar industry is vital to the eastern Arctic and we will do all we can to ensure it continues to grow and prosper."

During his tour, the minister met with the Iqaluit and Baffin Chambers of Commerce. Concerns were raised about the government's Lease Only Policy for land. The policy prevents individuals from owning land in the eastern Arctic which in turn, makes it difficult for businesses to obtain mortgages and other long term financing.

Mr. Sibbeston calls this a delicate issue because of land claims but says, "progress must be made soon if business is to continue to thrive in the Baffin."

The minister also agrees with the Chambers of Commerce that the territorial government's business incentives grants and programs needed to be changed. The Chambers call them inadequate and ineffective in encouraging northern business.

Mr. Sibbeston told them the Public Works Minister Gordon Wray is working on a "Value Added" policy which would modify the present Incentive policy by replacing the 10 percent across-the-board incentive with performance-related measures tied to local employment and benefits.

"As well," he notes, "the department of Economic Development and Tourism is now studying tax incentives with the Department of Finance that could replace the grant and contributions programs for businesses now run by the government."

While in Cape Dorset, Mr. Sibbeston encouraged the communiity to develop a proposal for improved banking services. He indicated that when that is done, some help may be provided to help Cape Dorset achieve its goals.

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Press Secretary
Executive Council
(403) 920-6176

87-093

STIEN LAL DEPARTS FOR CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. (Apr. 27) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne has announced the resignation of Deputy Minister of Justice Stien Lal. Mr. Lal will be leaving the public service of the Northwest Territories in June to take up his new appointment as General Counsel to the Canadian Human Rights Commission in Ottawa.

"As with many members of our hard working public service, Mr. Lal's outstanding contributions will be unknown to most Northerners. I would like to personally thank him for his concern and commitment to the people of the Northwest Territories," says Mr. Ballantyne.

Mr. Lal served as Deputy Minister of Justice since 1981. In this capacity, Mr. Lal also served as the legal advisor to the Executive Council assisting the Government with many delicate issues and intricate negotiations. Mr. Lal advanced northern issues and concerns during the 1982 national discussions concerning the patriation of the constitution.

During this time, the minister says, "Mr. Lal served with compassion and sensitivity to the rights and impact that the constitutional process would have on the territories.

More recently, Mr. Lal represented Canada at the "International Inquiry into the Air India Disaster."

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Mr. Lal joined the Government of the Northwest Territories as a solicitor in 1977. Two years later, he was appointed as Director for Legal Division in the Department of Justice. His role included advising the Executive Council and Legislative Assembly on various legal and constitutional matters.

Mr. Lal was called to the English Bar in 1965, having received his training as a barrister at the Middle Temple in London, England. Mr. Lal practised law in India for several years before moving to Canada. He is a member of the Nova Scotia Bar and the Law Society of the N.W.T. In recognition of his service to the Government of the Northwest Territories and other achievements in the legal field, Mr. Lal was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1983.

Mr. Lal's new position as General Counsel to the Canadian Human Rights Commission will give him an opportunity to continue the work he began in the north, protecting and enhancing human rights throughout Canada.

"I know I speak for the entire government when I say that this man's moccasins will be hard to fill," says the Minister, Mr. Ballantyne.

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87-094

HERITAGE CENTRE'S ANNUAL EXTRAVAGANZA

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 27) - A human oil sand, new galleries, videos about flying and lots of contest prizes are only a few of the attractions at the Northern Heritage Centre's annual open house Sunday, May 10, from noon to 5 p.m.

This year's theme is Under Construction. You'll get the chance to see how work is going on the centre's newest additions. Construction on the aviation gallery, is scheduled to be completed by July. It will eventually house the Fox Moth, a type of bush plane used in the N.W.T. about 40 years ago. The discovery gallery, scheduled to open June 21, will give you the chance to handle those things you're not usually allowed to touch in museums.

To get the perspective from the past, the archaeology section will show how construction was done in prehistoric times. And the people from the N.W.T. Archives will show you how they build an archival collection, using Doug Wilkinson's collection of photos, books and tapes. Mr. Wilkinson's collection dates back to the 1950s, on north Baffin Island. One of his photos was used on the back of the old $2.00 bill.

The open house will mark the opening of the exhibit Alberta Oil Sands: The Long, Long Trail, which traces the history, geology and technology of the oil sands region. Bituman, Alberta's Superhero, will be there and will transform himself from sand to oil.

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The Detour Contest offers lots of prizes, including scenic flights from local operators, meals at a number of restaurants, baseball caps and hard hats from PCL Constructors Northern, and Wally Wolfe's Aviation Activity Books.

Famous bush pilot Stan MacMillan will show a video of his flying experiences with Punch Dickens. Special displays will look at the new toponomy program -- the names of places in the North.

And you'll get the chance to look behind the scenes at the day-to-day work of the Northern Heritage Centre.

If it's all too much for you to take in at once, you can take a break and revive yourself with coffee and snack at Chuck's Coffee Wagon.

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87-095

CANADA - NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AGREEMENT ON CONSERVATION AND ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 30) - A short-term agreement on conservation and alternative energy has been signed by the Honourable Marcel Masse, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Canada, the Honourable Gordon Wray, Minister of Public works and Highways for the Northwest Territories, and John Parker, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

The agreement - the eighth signed between Ottawa and the provinces and territories - is designed to coordinate and integrate some of the conservation and alternative energy activities of the Government of Canada with those of the government of the Northwest Territories, and to ensure information sharing on other energy activities implemented by either government.

"This agreement is a key element in our national conservation and alternative energy initiative," Mr. Masse said. "Despite current world oil prices, we beleive conservation and alternative energy offer attractive opportunities for increasing energy efficiency, reducing energy costs and creating new jobs."

"This agreement encourages both governments to plan and work together more effectively, in meeting the needs of the Northwest Territories," Mr. Wray said. "Effective energy management initiatives that meet our needs can significantly protect the Northwest Territories from its very expensive and vulnerable reliance on imported oil."

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The two governments estimate they will spend approximately $300,000 on jointly funded conservation and altenative energy projects during the life of the agreement.

A management committee, based in Yellowknife, with equal representation from Canada and the Northwest Territories, will implement the agreement.

The agreement includes energy conservation projects in the residential, industrial and commercial sectors and promotes the development of renewable energy technologies and alternative energy.

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BACKGROUNDER

CANADA/NORTHWEST TERRITORIES CONSERVATION AND ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AGREEMENT

- The agreement allocates up to $300,000 for projects and activities supporting conservation and alternative energy.

- The agreement also provides for increased cooperation, coordination and information sharing on conservation and alternative energy projects delivered independently by each government.

- The agreement will support consumer awareness activities, alternate energy demonstrations and technology transfer, with the goal of encouraging investment in energy efficiency and alternative energy.

- The agreement has two components: conservation and alternative energy.

(i) In conservation, the emphasis will be on information sharing, technology transfer through publications, training courses, demonstrations and other activities, including the development and implementation of energy conservation standards.

(ii) In alternative energy, the emphasis will be on demonstration of promising technologies as options for the future, and information-sharing between suppliers and users of alternative energy technologies.

The agreement expires on March 31, 1988, and has a wind-down provision on approved projects to March 1989.

87-096

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS PROGRAM READY FOR SCHOOLS

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 30) - A specially designed course "ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS PROGRAM" is now ready to be distributed to Kindergarten to Grade Six classes throughout the territories.

The ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS course will be available up to Grade Nine later this year. This particular unit has been developed jointly by the Department of Social Services and Education.

Minister of Health and Social Services Bruce McLaughlin says the development of the course was unique. "It combines the talent of addiction workers with the expertise of educators. It's an important tool in preventive education that's badly needed."

Minister of Education Dennis Patterson explains that the program is designed to promote healthy lifestyles and to help students develop a positive self-image.

The "ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS program will help young people acquire skills related to decision-making and coping and also provides them with factual information. This will allow them to make responsible decisions about the use of drugs in their own lives."

The newly-launched Kindergarten to Grade three section is the first part of the new School Health Program for territorial schools. It deals mainly with hazardous substances such as poisons. Students also learn about why people use medicines and the safety rules related to their use.

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The Grade 4 -6 portion of the program focuses on decision-making, well-being and elementary facts on specific drugs such as caffeine and alcohol.

The Junior High program (Grade 7 - 9) is expected to be ready in June. It will deal with a more in-depth look at decisions regarding the use of drugs, peer pressure, advertising and factual information on alcohol, cannabis and other drugs and the laws which relate to the use of drugs in the Northwest Territories and Canada.

The program is designed to be used by teachers and community alcohol workers cooperatively. Training sessions are being planned for both groups to assist them in using the materials.

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87-097

"OPEN THE DOOR TO HELP" THEME OF MENTAL HEALTH WEEK, MAY 2-9

YELLOWKNIFE (Apr. 30) - Minister of Health and Social Services Bruce McLaughlin is urging northerners to observe National Mental Health Week by "opening the door to help."

Mr. McLaughlin notes that emotional distress or illness strikes people from all walks of life, in all kinds of jobs.

"Mental illness and emotional distress affects more Canadians every year than all other health problems combined, including cancer and heart disease. One out of three Canadians will suffer temporary emotional problems during their lives and one out of every six will be serious enough to require professional care."

The NWT branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association is marking the special week with a series of activities to promote the concept of well-being education and awareness.

Executive Director Marjories McClelland says there are a number of programs during the week in Yellowknife designed to encourage the understanding of emotional distress and to help strengthen personal and community goals in improving the status of mental health.

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Mental Health Week kicks off with a Strawberry Tea on Saturday, May 2nd at the Yellowknife Inn. The rest of the programs will be presented during the noon hour from Monday, May 4 - 8.

Mr. McLaughlin says no one is immune to mental illness. "In the north, we face serious problems ranging from family violence to suicide. We owe it to ourselves, our friends and our families to learn how to cope, how to prevent, and how to support each other. Mental Health is within everyone's grasp."

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Yellowknife, N.W.T.
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MENTAL HEALTH WEEK, MAY 2 - 9/87

SATURDAY, MAY 2: STAWBERRY TEA
GOLD ROOM - YK INN
2 - 4 PM
$2.50 MEMBERS
$3.50 NON-MEMBERS

MONDAY, MAY 4: NOON
1) Loving Relationships
Mental Health Office

2) "Open House"
Menal Health Office

3) Film Presentation
Library, 5th Floor Precambrian

TUESDAY, MAY 5: NOON
1) Coping with Stress
Mental Health Office

2) Stress Relaxation Therapy
Tate Dance Studio - $2.00

3) "Young at Heart" film
Tree of Peace

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6: NOON
1) Self Help & Support Group
Information and Display
Mental Health Office

2) Film Presentation
Library, 5th Floor
Precambrian Bldg.

THURSDAY, MAY 7: NOON
1) Confidence Building & Self
Esteem
Mental Health Office

2) Self Massage
Tate Dance Studio - $2.00

3) Fort McPherson Youth
Tree of Peace

FRIDAY, MAY 8: NOON
1) Adult Children of Alcoholics
Mental Health Office

2) Film Presentation on Suicide
Library, 5th Floor
Precambrian Bldg.

GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

News Release CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

87-098

NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK CELEBRATED IN N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. (May 5) - In recognition of tourism's important contribution to Canada, the Northwest Territories has joined with the federal government and communities across Canada to declare May 11 - 17, the first ever National Tourism Week.

Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Nick Sibbeston urges northerners to consider the importance of tourism to their communities. "Last year, about 44,000 visitors contributed $40 million to the economy of the Northwest Territories and supported more than 1500 full time and 2000 part time jobs." In Canada, the tourism industry employs over 600,000 people and contributes $22 billion dollars a year to the economy.

"There is strong evidence to suggest considerable potential for future growth in what has become one of the world's fastest growing industries," says Mr. Sibbeston.

Jack Walker, the President of the Travel Industry Association of the Northwest Territories is pleased with Mr. Sibbeston's comments. "Literally scores of organizations, businesses and communities are affected by tourism in northern Canada. We are delighted that the territorial government is supporting the efforts of our industry with such positive co-operation".

The minister, Mr. Sibbeston says, "by all accounts, last year's Expo celebration is making the Northwest Territories a star on the world stage."

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Travel Industry Association
Yellowknife, NWT
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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-099

FEDERAL - PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL WILDLIFE CONFERENCE TUKTOYAKTUK, N.W.T. JUNE 16-19, 1987

YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - "Wildlife - An Agenda for Tomorrow" is the theme of the 51st Annual Federal-Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Conference to be held June 16-19 in Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories. The conference will be hosted by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

N.W.T. Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen says the site of the meeting is significant. "In Tuktoyaktuk, people still live traditionally - hunting, trapping and fishing - while some of North America's most important oil and gas exploration is happening just offshore in the Beaufort Sea. It is a graphic example of the challenges facing wildlife managers today."

A review of wildlife in the past and present will start the conference which will then move on to wildlife challenges for the future. Participants will be divided into workshops to decide on courses of action on a variety of wildlife issues including: wildlife values; managing endangered wildlife; environmental contaminants; and the economic aspects of wildlife.

"By the end of the week, we hope to have enough material to make up a wildlife agenda for the next fifty years in Canada," says Doug Pollock, Secretary for the conference. "We hope to leave Tuktoyaktuk with something concrete which the different participants can use to plan their strategies for wildlife management in the future."

One important activity during the conference will be a panel discussion on "The Emerging Role of Native Organizations in Wildlife Management in Canada's North". A number of native organizations will sit on the panel.

Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources David Porter will be giving a keynote address called "Wildlife Challenges for the Future".

The first federal-provincial wildlife conference was held in 1922. Several conferences were held over the next few years, and it became an annual gathering in 1945. Discussions focus on wildlife problems and ways of improving wildlife management. Recommendations of the conferences, together with input from various wildlife and conservation organizations play an important part in developing a national approach to managing wildlife in Canada.

-30-

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INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF MEDIA

Members of the media are invited to attend the 51st Annual Federal-Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Conference in Tuktoyaktuk from June 16-19. There will be a media centre established for your use. Any special requirement should be related in advance of the conference.

Members of the media are also invited to participate in the workshops. The workshops will be chaired by skilled wildlife professionals. A list is attached.

The Federal-Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Conference provides an opportunity for the exchange of wildlife management information between Canadian federal, provincial and territorial wildlife managers, as well as their U.S. counterparts. As well, in recent years, many non-government organizations have been represented: World Wildlife Fund (Canada); Canadian Wildlife Federation; Canadian Nature Federation; Ducks unlimiited; Wildlife Habitat Canada; Fur Institute of Canada; Canadian Federation of Humane Societies; Greenpeace Canada; native organizations; universities; and private individuals. Several international organizations have sent representatives in the last couple of years, i.e. International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; International Fur Trade Federation; and Counseil International de la Chasse et de la Conservation du Gibier.

If you would like to cover the Federal-Provincial/Territorial Conference or would like further information, please contact:

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Confirmation of attendance is necessary by May 29, 1987 in order to arrange accommodations.

Workshop 1

examining Wildlife Values
-ethics
-cultural
-religious
-economic
-biological
-social structure of the North
-native hunting rights

Chairperson:
Mary Simon
President
Inuit Circompola
Conf.

Rapporteur:
John Baird
Chief, Wildlife
Biology
N.B. Fish and
Wildlife Branch

Facilitator:
Kirk Smith
Executive Director
Public Information
Committee
Fur Institute of
Canada

Workshop 2

Accommodating Demands
for Wildlife
-native needs
-commercial needs
-recreational needs
-preservation
-subsistence

Chairperson:
James Bourque
Deputy Minister
Dept. of Renewable
Resources
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Rapporteur:
Al Stewart
Chief Negotiator
Ontario Wildlife
Branch

Facilitator:
Bob Andrews
Director
Alberta Fish and
Wildlife

Workshop 3

Managing Canadian Endangered Wildlife
-COSEWIC
-CITES
-New Endangered Species Recovery Fund (WWFC)

Chairperson:
Monte Hummel
President
World Wildlife Fund (Canada)

Rapporteur:
Dave Pike
Director
Newfoundland Wildlife Div.

Facilitator:
Art Martell,
Regional Director
Canadian Wildlife Service
Pacific and Yukon Region

Workshop 4

Environmental Contaminants
-toxic chemicals
-heavy metals
-radioactivity in the atmosphere
-acid rain
-long-range transport of air pollutants

Chairperson:
Michael Keating
Environmental Reporter
Globe and Mail

Rapporteur:
David Peakall,
Chief
Toxicology and Research Div.
Canadian Wildlife Service

Facilitator:
Merrill Prime,
Director,
N.S. Wildlife Division

Workshop 5

National and International Cooperative Agreements

-North American Waterfowl Management Plan
-CITES
-RAMSAR
-Canada Wildlife Act Agreement
-Polar Bear

Chairperson:
J.A. Keith,
Director
Wildlife and
Canadian Wildlife

Rapporteur:
Hugh Monaghan,
Yukon Fish and
Wildlife Branch

Facilitator:
Louis Lemieux,
President
Canadian Wildlife
Federation

Workshop 6

Piecing Together the Economic Picture
-game ranching
-hunting
-trapping
-outfitting
-tourism
-maintenance and pursuit of traditional values

Chairperson:
Hon. Nellie
Cournoyea
Mem. of the
Legislative
Assembly

Rapporteur:
George Finney
Regional Director
Atlantic Region
Canadian Wildlife
Service

Facilitator:
Don Simkin
Director of
Wildlife
Ministry of Natural
Resources Ontario

Workshop 7

New Approaches and Initiatives for Wildlwife Support
-excise taxes
-user fees
-licences and permits
-national parks fees
-stamps
-tax refund check-off
-sale of share in wildlife projects
-new cooperative arrangments

Chairperson:
Barry Turner, MP
Ottawa-Carleton

Rapporteur:
Dennis Sherratt,
Saskatchewan
Wildlife Branch

Facilitator:
Jean Cing-Mars
Regional Director
Quebec Region
Canadian Wildlife Service

Workshop 8

Ecological Reserves or the Refuge Approach
-refuges
-landscapes
-encouraging landowners
-economic values
-economic issues
-environmental contaminants

Chairperson:
Larry Jahn,
Wildlife Management Institute

Rapporteur:
Jim Walker,
B.C. Wildlife Branch

Facilitator:
Paul Griss
Executive Director
Canadian Nature Federation

Workshop 9

Participation in Resolving issues
-structures
-cooperative arrangment to enhance wildlife management

Chairperson:
Douglas Pollock,
Marketing Program and Operational Support Canadian Wildlife Service

Rapporteur:
A. Hoole, Director
Manitoba Wildlife Branch

Facilitator:
D. Stewart Morrison
Exec.
Vice-President
Ducks Unlimited Canada

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87-100

NURSES HONORED MAY 10 TO 16

YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - Northerners should take time to learn more about the N.W.T. health care system during Nurses Week, May 10 to 16, says Minister of Health Bruce McLaughlin.

"Nurses play a key role in northern health care," he says. "Their hard work and wide range of responsibilities is invaluable in ensuring quality health care in the communities."

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) has declared May 10 to 16 International Nurses Week, which coincides with the May 12 birthdate of Florence Nightingale. Miss Nightingale is recognized as the founder of modern nursing.

The ICN is an independent federation of national nursing associations in 95 couontries, representing one million nurses.

Nurses Week gives northerners the perfect opportunity to visit their local nursing stations and learn more about the services provided, Mr. McLaughlin says. It's also a good chance to find out how to become involved.

"The health care system offers northerners a variety of interesting and exciting job opportunities," he says. "Nurses Week would be a good opportunity to visit the local nursing station to learn more about them."

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87-101

PETROLEUM PRICES TO BE REDUCED IN TROUT LAKE

YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - The price of heating fuel and gasoline in Trout Lake will be reduced by 20 cents a litre, effective May 11.

The Department of Government Services has recently finished the construction of a tank storage facility in Trout Lake, which will be able to hold 90,000 litres of heating oil and 90,000 litres of gasoline.

For the first time, the department will be able to supply the community with bulk products. In the past, petroleum products were supplied in 45-gallon drums, which meant high prices.

Heating fuel prices will drop to 49 cents a litre from 69 cents, and gasoline will drop to 61 cents a litre from 81 cents.

"Normally, changes to GNWT retail prices do not occur until October of each year, but due to a large price decrease, I have decided to lower the retail prices effective May 11, 1987, to maximize the benefit to the consumer in Trout Lake," says Government Services Minister Ludy Pudluk.

-30-

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87-102

TARGET DATE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF HOUSING POLICY IN YELLOWKNIFE EXTENDED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1/88

YELLOWKNIFE (May 7) - Minister of Personnel Red Pedersen says the Government of the Northwest Territories has decided its Staff Accommodation Policy in Yellowknife will be fully implemented by September 1, 1988.

The implementation date had been set for June 1, 1987. The minister says that the territorial government recognizes that the housing situation is more difficult than it had originally thought.

The Staff Accommodation Policy is designed to encourage government employees to move out of government housing after a one-year occupancy. Mr. Red Pedersen says the government remains fully committed to its policy which supports the development of private housing markets throughout the Northwest Territories.

"It is our goal to get out of housing in Yellowknife and we are very pleased with the significant number of employees who have already moved into the private market."

Mr. Pedersen met this morning with the Presidents and Executive Directors of the Northwest Territories Teachers Association and the Public Service Association. "In our frank and open discussions, I received helpful information and suggestions that will assist the government in achieving full implementation of the housing policy."

"The territorial government will take immediate steps to cancel leases or to allow block leases to lapse," says Mr. Pedersen. "In such cases, the unit would go back to the original owners allowing the tenants to remain where they are. We feel this is especially important to long-term employees who would simply be changing landlords."

"The government will continue to meet with employee associations in an effort to resolve the difficult housing situation in Yellowknife," says Mr. Pedersen. "As well, we will inform in writing all new employees, hires and transfers about the one year occupancy conditions in Yellowknife.

The Government of the Northwest Territories will retain a small pool of housing to allow for accommodation of new employees for the first year and in particular for those people included in the native employment policy.

-30-

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87-103

EXHIBIT TRACES HISTORY OF OIL SANDS

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8) - Edmonton's streets were never paved with gold, but they were once paved with oil sands.

Ever since the first native caulked his birchbark canoe with bitumen separated from oil sands along the Athabasca River, many have seen the potential of the resource.

The story of its development is told in the exhibit **Alberta's Oil Sands: The Long, Long Trail**, on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre from May 10 to June 21.

Alberta's Oil Sands presents the history, geology and technology of the oil sands region through specimens, ethnographic and technological artifacts, historical documents, photographs, models, illustrations and audio-visual units.

Visitors will be able to feel and smell the oil sands and look through a microscope at the structure of the grains of sand and bitumen. A computerized, animated flow chart shows how the bitumen is separated from the sand and upgraded into synthetic crude oil, which can be further upgraded at refineries.

The exhibit is produced by the Provincial Museum of Alberta and funded by National Museums of Canada.

-30-

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87-104

GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW ARBITRATOR'S REPORT

YELLOWKNIFE (May 7) - Minister of Education Dennis Patterson has received the report of arbitrator H. Allan Hope, Q.C., on the matter of the removal of John Rouble's designation as principal of Sir John Franklin Territorial High School in Yellowknife.

Hope ruled in Rouble's favor.

"It's a 61 page award," Mr. Patterson said. "We have to consider all aspects of it carefully. We shall be doing a detailed review and will make our position known at that time."

-30-

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PROTEST LAUNCHED AGAINST SOME PROVISIONS OF FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL 'MEECH LAKE' AGREEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston is expressing grave concerns about some provisions of the agreement reached with provincial premiers at Meech Lake on April 30th. A letter will be hand-delivered this morning to the Prime Minister outlining the "over-riding sense of betrayal" northerners feel.

Mr. Sibbeston says that while congratulations are in order for an agreement allowing the province of Quebec to become a full participant in the country's business, he claims the agreement strikes a damaging blow to the constitutional aspirations of the NWT and Yukon.

The main thrust of the agreement is to recognize the uniqueness of Quebec and to protect it through requiring unanimity for constitutional amendment that might affect her rights. Mr. Sibbeston says the unanimity rule however also has been extended to the creation of new provinces.

"The change has made it even more difficult for Canadians living in the NWT and Yukon to achieve their legitimate long term aspirations - to become full partners in Confederation", says Mr. Sibbeston. "No other province in Canada has had to face such difficulties. The irony of this is that in the process of bringing one 'distinct society' into the club, the Prime Minister and Premiers have permanently barred other 'distinct societies' from full membership."

Mr. Sibbeston goes on to say that because the NWT has a majority of native people who make up a solid majority of the Legislative Assembly, there is a special sense of betrayal.

"Where Canada's native people were flatly denied any such recognition exactly one month ago, the Prime Minister and the Premiers should understand if the people of the NWT do not rejoice with other Canadians over the recognition of Quebec as a 'distinct society within Canada'."

Another irony according to Mr. Sibbeston is the recent discussion with the US on sovereignty in the Arctic. "If Canada wishes to affirm that the Arctic is indeed a part of Canada, nothing could strengthen that case more emphatically than the fact of sovereign provincial governments delivering their programs to northern people in the same way the ten existing provinces do for their own residents."

The Northwest Territories and Yukon were not invited to participate in the deliberations at Meech Lake. Mr. Sibbeston calls the exclusion of northern Canadians from constitutional talks on obvious injustice.

"Given that the Prime Minister either chooses to ignore or is unaware of the special interests of Canadians living in the NWT and Yukon, the Government of the Northwest Territories must be represented at all future constitutional conferences. Any achievements in conferences will inevitably be clouded by the fact of the effective disfranchisement of all northern Canadians."

-30-

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87-106

FORT SMITH REGION DECENTRALIZED IN OCTOBER

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston has announced the decision on the re-organization of the GNWT Fort Smith region.

"As a result of our review," says Mr. Sibbeston, "the present regional structure will be replaced by three area administrators located in Fort Smith, Fort Simpson and Rae-Edzo".

Mr. Sibbeston says the Executive Council has tried to be sensitive to the concerns of the community and to the needs of the territorial government employees.

"The goal of the reorganization was to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government by bringing its adminstration closer to the people being served".

"In particular," says Mr. Sibbeston, "we wanted to remove administrative roadblocks and bottlenecks so decision making could be quicker and more in tune with local needs".

The reorganization report prepared by Gary Black, the Associate Deputy Minster for the Executive shows that the primary need at this time was to create separate Finance, Personnel and Government Service operations in Fort Simpson and to strengthen Municipal and Community Affairs in both communities.

Mr. Sibbeston says that as a result, "there will be 12 additional positions created in Fort Simpson and 2 in Rae-Edzo. There will be a reduction of 15 positions in Fort Smith".

Of the 15 positions leaving Fort Smith, 9 are vacant and 2 are filled on a term basis. Only 4 permanent employees in Fort Smith will be effected by this reorganization.

Mr. Sibbeston says these individuals will have opportunity to transfer to Fort Simpson or Rae. "At most, one house in Fort Smith will have to be sold as a result of these changes so there will not be disruption of the housing market".

The reorganization of the region will be undertaken by Gary Black following his move to Yellowknife this summer.

"I am very pleased with this plan," says Mr. Sibbeston. "The government will be achieving its goal of improving the delivery of government programs to people while causing little upheaval to Fort Smith."

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87-107

BICKERT NAMED DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE

YELLOWKNIFE (May 11) - Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne has announced the appointment of Geoffrey M. Bickert of Yellowknife as Deputy Minister of Justice. Mr. Bickert replaces Stien Lal who is leaving the public service of the Northwest Territories in June to take up his new Appointment as General Counsel to the Canadian Human Rights Commission in Ottawa.

Mr. Bickert has been the Senior Counsel and Director of the Yellowknife Regional office of the Department of Justice (Canada) since 1980. In that position, he is responsible for the conduct of all civil and criminal litigation in the Northwest Territories involving the Attorney General of Canada and the N.W.T. Under Mr. Bickert's direction, Crown Counsel conduct all criminal prosecutions through the NWT and provide civil, property and advisory services to federal department and agencies operating in the NWT.

In 1979, Mr. Bickert moved to the Northwest Territories from Edmonton where he was in general law practice with Brosseau, Maccagno Hutton to become Assistant Crown Attorney with the Department of Justice (Canada). He has been active on several committees of the Law Society of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Bickert was appointed by the Territorial Minister of Justice in 1986 to the Law Reform Committee of the NWT. He is currently a member of the board of the Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society (APLEI) and a member of the Canadian Bar Association, Public Legal Education Forum.

"Mr. Bickert has a wealth of northern experience and he's well respected in Ottawa. His knowledge of issues ranging from Young Offenders, to family violence to environmental law will certainly be an asset to our government," Mr. Ballantyne noted.

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NEW EXECUTIVE FOR N.W.T. FOREST INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

YELLOWKNIFE (May 12) - One of the first jobs of the new president of the N.W.T. Forest Industries Association will be to consult with the Department of Renewable Resources regarding proposed scaling methods to be used in lumber production in the N.W.T.

Eugene Patterson of Hay River was elected president of the N.W.T. Forest Industries Association and Alan Anderson of Fort Simpson was elected vice-president at the annual general meeting held May 8th in Hay River. The N.W.T. Forest Industries Association assumes the role of the previous N.W.T. Grade Stamping Agency.

Its main objectives are to ensure maintenance of high lumber grading standards in the N.W.T., the training of operators in lumber grading in conformity with national quality control regulation for lumber, and to promote the general welfare of the forest industry and the interest of those engaged in the forest industry in the N.W.T.

The Association receives approximately 80% core funding from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. In addition, Economic Development and Tourism under its Commercial Renewable Resource Use Policy may provide contributions to industry to reduce the costs of new road construction to access timber supplies and reduce carrying costs associated with the production or acquisition of inventories of logs or lumber.

With the recent devolution of forest management to the territorial government, the Department of Renewable Resources assumes responsibility for mangement of the forest resource as outlined in the approved Forest Management Act.

Currently, Forest Management Regulations for day-to-day operations are in the final draft stage. A working group consisting of industry, the public and government has had input into the drafting process.

The need for updated stock assessments in many areas was identified for attention but priority will be given to ensure current operators have access to adequate timber rights.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-109

TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT BACKS "PLAY IT SMART" PROGRAM

YELLOWKNIFE (May 13) - The Government of the Northwest Territories will be an active participant in the Long-Term National Program on Impaired Driving, Social Services Minister Bruce McLaughlin and Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne announced today.

"We fully support the initiatives taken by Federal Minister of Health and Welfare Jake Epp in setting up this program," the ministers said.

The program is aimed primarily at people aged 16 to 24 years, and will compliment and maintain the impact of the legislative amendments on impaired driving which became law in December of 1985.

On a national basis, young people represent only 16 per cent of the population, but they account for 36 per cent of those apprehended for impaired driving. In addition, 70 per cent of all single-driver accidents that occur on weekends involve 16 to 24 year-olds. Alcohol is a factor in 50 to 60 per cent of all traffic fatalities involving people in this age group.

Despite major public campaigns, there is still a great deal of evidence to show that impaired driving remains socially acceptable. The new program is aimed at changing this attitude and reducing the heavy costs to young people, estimated at 1,900 deaths and 50,000 injuries each year.

The task is not an easy one. For this reason, the national program will involve a 20-year campaign, for which the federal government has allocated $19.5 million for the first five years.

"The Canadian public has expressed strong demand for government action in this area, and we in the Northwest Territories will be doing all we can to co-operate," Mr. Ballantyne said.

The national advertising and promotion campaign includes the message "Play it smart/J'ai toute ma tête," and is aimed at increasing public concern and community involvement to combat drinking and driving. Support for community-based activities will be the major emphasis of the program.

Another component is a Server Education Program for owners and employees of public drinking establishments, which will enable them to help their customers prevent impaired driving.

In addition, preventative education will be aimed at the new driver. It is hoped that driver education will include a substantial component on impaired driving.

Some of the activities in the Northwest Territories will include wide-spread distribution of translated versions of national resource material and an extensive multi-media campaign involving newspapers, radio stations and television spots.

Both Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Ballantyne urge all northerners to make themselves aware of and support all activities which help northerners to "Play it Safe."

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-110

GJOA HAVEN NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

YELLOWKNIFE (May 14) - A contract has been awarded to construct a new primary school in Gjoa Haven.

Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray announced today that Norland Construction has been awarded the $2,204,710 contract. Six other firms - three from the north, two from Alberta and one from Ontario submitted higher bids.

When constructed, the new school will follow the recently implemented standardized, stand-alone primary school plan developed by the departments of Education and Public Works and Highways. These standardized primary schools are expected to have significantly lower design, construction and operating costs and will enable easy expansion as student enrollment grows.

The new school will be for kindergarten to grade six. It will contain a kindergarten room, multipurpose room and six classrooms. As part of this contract, renovations will be performed to the existing school. These include the addition of a new science room and partitioning of the open teaching space to yield separate classrooms.

Local employment arrangements will be maximized through liaison with the community council. The contractor will use the Amundsen Hotel for accommodation purposes. Kudlik Construction of Rankin Inlet has been subcontracted for painting and roofing. Construction is scheduled to commence in late August and will be completed by April 1988 for the 1988-89 school year.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-111

POND INLET NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

YELLOWKNIFE (May 14) - A contract has been awarded to construct a new primary school in Pond Inlet.

Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray, announced that Norland Construction was awarded the $2,349,036 contract. Eight other firms - three from the N.W.T., four from Alberta and one from Ontario submitted higher bids.

The new school is one of the recently implemented standardized, stand-alone primary schools developed by Mr. Wray and Education Minister Dennis Patterson and their respective departments. These standardized primary schools are expected to have significantly lower design, construction and operating costs and will enable expansion when student enrolment grows.

The new school will contain a kindergarten room, resource centre, multipurpose room and six classrooms. The current aim is to remove kindergarten to grade three classes from the existing school to allow expansion of grades four to 12, due to program and enrolment growth. In future, grades four to six will be transferred to the new school.

Local employment arrangments will be maximized through liaison with the community council. The contractor will use the Sahoonik Hotel. Work is scheduled to commence with the arrival of the 1987 fall sealift and the school will be ready for classes for the 1988/89 school year.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-112

CALCIUM CHLORIDE FOR NWT HIGHWAYS

YELLOWKNIFE (May 14) - Two contracts have been awarded for the supply and application of calcium chloride to the NWT highway system.

Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray announced today that General Chemical Canada of Richmond, British Columbia, was awarded the two contracts.

One contract valued at $166,168 will encompass about 50 kilometres at 17 locations on the Dempster Highway #8. As well, calcium chloride will be applied in Fort McPherson and Arctic Red River. Work will be performed during July.

The second contract valued at $624,594 will cover about 274 kilometres at various locations on Highways #1 through #7. As well, calcium chloride will be applied in all communities accessible by the highway system. Work will be performed during June. Townsend Trucking of Hay River has been subcontracted to perform the application.

Calcium chloride is a hygroscopic chemical, meaning it continually absorbs water from the air. When applied to a road surface, it combines with the top layer forming a hard crust thereby minimizing dust.

-30-

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM TO CONTINUE

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) - The Territorial Government will continue the safety education program for workers and employers. The new agreement, in effect until December 1987, will place special emphasis on student and pre-employment safety awareness.

"Every effort must continue to be taken to prepare workers and employers throughout the Northwest Territories with the necessary knowledge to deal effectively with the dangers in the workplace," said Justice Minister, Michael Ballantyne.

The safety education program, which was sponsored by the Workers' Compensation Board and delivered through the safety division of the Department of Justice, marked the end of its trial period on March 31.

Safety division delivered 22 courses throughout the Northwest Territories and awarded 451 certificates during the trial period. 207 of the total certificates issued went to students. Courses offered were on explosive actuated tools, scaffolding, defensive driving and safety awareness.

"I have been very pleased with the public reaction to the course," Ballantyne reported, "letters of commendation have been received from employers, workers, and students."

The safety division of the Department of Justice plans to continue present programs and the development of individualized courses based on requests from employers and workers.

-30-

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-114

PSYCHOLOGIST WILL WORK WITH INMATES, CORRECTIONS STAFF

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) - It's the day-to-day contact with corrections staff that makes the difference for inmates, says Alan G. Downe, the new psychologist for the Corrections Division of the Department of Social Services. He's planning to spend about a third of his time doing clinical assessment, treatment and counselling with the inmates. The rest will be spent on staff training and program development.

"I've tried to specialize in the development of programs that call on informal helping systems," Mr. Downe says. "A guy may not want to talk to the psychologist, but he may talk to the cook, the teacher, or the security officer. I hope to help develop that counselling component of their positions."

The Corrections Division created the position of Psychologist because it is crucial to helping inmates deal with behavior problems.

"We often deal with people who have difficulty living in their community because of a behavior quirk," says Don Maeers, acting Chief of Corrections. "And that quirk leads to crime."

Mr. Downe will be working with inmates and staff at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre, the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre in Hay River and the Baffin Correctional Centre in Iqaluit. He will also act as a consultant for social workers in the communities whose caseloads include people who have gone through the corrections system.

Since joining the department in mid-February, Mr. Downe has been catching up on the backlog of inmates needing assessment and treatment. He's looking at a number of programs to start in the future, including help for people who batter their families, helping the inmates deal with the separation from their families and communities, helping the inmates make plans and set goals before they are released and stress management.

Mr. Downe holds an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Acadia University in Nova Scotia, and a Masters Degree in Counselling Psychology from the University of Calgary.

After receiving his first degree, he spent three years working in a juvenile detention facility in Calgary. He also worked there part-time while he studied for his Masters.

After finishing his second degree, he worked for the Calgary region of the Canadian Mental Health association doing workshops and training sessions on topics like suicide awareness and stress management. He later worked as the Senior Co-ordinator of Direct Services and dealt with suicide intervention, children in violent homes, counselling people who have been bereaved by suicide, and counselling people with mental illness and their families.

He later moved to Edmonton, where he was manager of programs for an agency that dealt with troubled teens and their families. Part of his job there was to develop new programs. He established a family support service in Camrose/Stettler, and another program in Grande Prairie which provided training for foster parents who were taking emotionally disturbed children into their homes.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

News Release CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

87-115

OLD EGGS WILL HELP SCIENTISTS

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) - Former Yellowknife resident William McDonald has set aside a nice little nest egg for future generations. Literally.

From 1924 to 1963, Mr. McDonald collected eggs from all types of birds in the western N.W.T. Many of these 517 eggs have been identified and are being kept at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

The eggs are valuable because most of them were gathered in the 1930s and 1940s, before there was much pollution in the N.W.T., says Joachim Obst, a fauna assistant who has been identifying them. They can be used in the future to see how pollution is affecting birds and animals.

For example, when the pesticide DDT was introduced during the Second World War, it was believed to be safe for vertebrate animals. One of the most obvious indications that it wasn't, was how it affected birds' eggs - the shells became so thin that the female would crush them as she tried to keep them warm.

"It's important to have a collection of old eggs, free from chemicals and pollution," says Mr. Obst. "If there is another environmental disaster like there was with DDT, we can measure the effect by comparing the shells for thickness and changes in chemical composition."

Researchers at the University of Alberta have already done some tests on the eggs. Part of the collection was willed to the University after Mr. McDonald and his wife, Alice, died in 1971. The eggs were sent to the Northern Heritage Centre in 1977.

Some of the eggs from the original collection were also given to the centre by Dr. Robert Bromley, a Yellowknife bird of prey biologist.

The collection contains eggs from 81 species of birds, gathered from an area ranging from Hay River to north of Great Bear Lake, and from the Mackenzie River to the Eastern Arm of Great Slave Lake. There are just over 200 species of birds in the N.W.T.

The eggs were gathered from 145 clutches, or nests. Identifying the eggs isn't a simple task. Although Mr. McDonald had left labels with the different types, they have become mixed up over the years. And identifying an egg's species isn't the only consideration.

"It's important to know which region they're from, because there are variations in color and size within the same species," Mr. Obst says.

He's still working to identify the rest of the eggs, and will probably be given a helping hand by Dr. Bromley, who has also done work with the collection in the past.

-30-

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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WORK BEGINS ON DENE STANDARDIZATION

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) - Five working committees will soon start to formulate standard alphabetic writing systems for each of the five Dene languages. The standardization project was initiated in response to recommendations of the N.W.T. Task Force on Aboriginal Languages.

The five languages, Chipewyan, Dogrib, Loucheux, North Slavey and South Slavey, use Roman orthography alphabets produced in the 1950s and 1960s. But because of different pronunciations between communities, the spelling of words differs within each language. That means information or teaching materials produced for Fort Providence has to be revised for Hay River, Fort Simpson, Fort Liard, and so on.

"The result is that the publication of Dene language material has been seriously delayed. That hurts language preservation, since Dene language educators can't get the materials they need," says Assistant Deputy Minister of Culture and Communications Ethel Blondin-Townsend, who is overseeing the standardization work.

The project is only concerned with establishing standard spellings, and is not intended to standardize the speech of the Dene.

Organized by the Department of Culture and Communications, the project started several months ago. A planning committee has been holding regular meetings to define the project and appoint the working committees.

Besides Ms. Blondin-Townsend, the planning committee consists of: Edna Elias, Director of the NWT Language Bureau; George Cleary, Manager of Language and Cultural Programs for the Department of Education; Enna Vittrekwa, Andy Norwegian, Margaret Mackenzie and Sabet Biscaye.

The job of the working committees will be to agree on a standard set of Roman orthography symbols to make up the official alphabet of each language and to decide on standard spellings for words within each language group

The working committees are made up of native language specialists and elders. They will be holding their meetings in the regions, to give people from the communities a chance to voice their opinions. The members will also keep people informed of the committees' progress. The working committees will hold their first meetings by the end of June, and are expected to complete their part of the project by December 15.

The information then goes to a co-ordinator/writer, who will put together the final report and develop a reference guide for the production of aboriginal language material.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-117

CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD RECOMMENDS EASING OF RESRICTIONS

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) - The Beverly and Kaminuriak Caribou Management Board has recommended to Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen that restrictions on caribou use be eased.

The Board, at a recent meeting in Saskatoon, has recommended that people who have lived in the N.W.T. for at least two years be allowed to take five caribou annually, as they did in the 1970s.

At present, the limit is three caribou per year. The recommendation was made in view of the healthy condition of the herds and the excellent survival rates of yearling calves.

The Board is made up of caribou users from the Keewatin, the western N.W.T., Manitoba, Saskatchewan, representatives from the Governments of the N.W.T., Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Canadian Wildlife Service. The Kaminuriak herd moves between the N.W.T. and Manitoba, while the Beverly herd moves between the N.W.T. and Saskatchewan.

The Board also passed resolutions recommending that some native groups be allowed to make limited, local commercial use of the herds.

One resolution supported a request from the Fort Smith Hunters and Trappers Association (HTA) that a local commercial use quota of 200 caribou annually from the Beverly herd be approved. The quota will allow caribou meat to be sold locally from the HTA store. Strict conditions were applied in recommending the quota, which will expire on March 31, 1989.

The Board also passed a resolution recommending approval of a request from the Keewatin Wildlife Federation for a local commercial use quota of 350 caribou until March 31, 1989. The animals would be sold in Baker Lake, Rankin Inlet, Whale Cove and Eskimo Point. Conditions identical to those developed for the Fort Smith request were applied. This would replace an existing inter-settlement trade quota of 350 caribou for the same communities.

At its next meeting, to be held in Winnipeg in August, the Board will consider a request for a limited, licenced hunt for Manitobans, particularly residents of Churchill.

Dave Nutter, general manager of the N.W.T. Chamber of Mines, gave a presentation in which he argued for the removal of the boundaries of the caribou protection areas established under the auspices Caribou Protection Measures. These areas are established to assist resource managers in their efforts to manage human activities during the critical calving and post-calving periods. The Board agreed that the Protection Measures were working well and were flexible enough, although more research into caribou-human interaction is needed.

The Board put the finishing touches on its Caribou Management Plan, which has been in preparation for several years. Members voted to set aside $25,000 from the operating budget so that a committee can visit people in the N.W.T., Manitoba, and Saskatchewan in order to explain the plan. A special sub-committee will visit the Manitoba communities of Lac Brochet and Tadoule Lake after the August Board meeting to meet with caribou users.

Budget allocations were made to execute other parts of the plan. Thse include a preliminary assessment for a study to look at the value of wildlife and human activities on the caribou range to enhance fire management strategies. Money was also designated to establish a scholarship fund for students studying caribou or caribou-related work. Board members agreed to allocate $1,000 annually for an awards program for school children in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the N.W.T.

An independent consultant reported that the Barren Ground Caribou Schools Program is extensively used and rated highly by teachers. Money was budgeted to keep the program current. The program is supplied to schools in caribou-using communities in the N.W.T., Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, and concentrates on the ecology, biology, and behavior of the caribou. It also focuses on the cultural and economic importance of caribou to the communities.

Members got their first look at a Dene-language supplement to the program, which will soon be shipped to Dene schools in northern Saskatchewan.

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87-118

TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT APPROVES REVISED INVESTMENT PROGRAM

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) - Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Nick Sibbeston has announced the expansion of the successful Venture Capital Program.

"As a result of consultation with Chambers of Commerce, native development corporations and individual businessmen, the Venture Capital Program will be expanded to include all communities in the north and businesses located on the land between communities". The $500,000 budget for the program is expected to bring $1.7 million in investment capital to territorial businesses.

Investors are invited to put a minimum of $50,000 into eligible northern businesses. Through the Venture Capital Program, investors would be reimbursed $3 for every $10 put into the companies. Mr. Sibbeston says, "the program allows large infusions of cash into small businesses and encourages investment in the northern economy".

Proposed changes to the federal Income Tax Regulations will entitle investors in venture capital corporations to benefit from preferential treatment given under the Income Tax Act, effective for 1986 and subsequent years.

Mr. Sibbeston says half of the $500,000 fund is guaranteed for smaller communities. In addition, he says the program for Yellowknife will be limited to those businesses involved in the renewable resource industry because of its more developed business and financial community.

In addition, the lower-risk government lease-back construction projects will be excluded from the program. Last year, such projects made up half of the approved contribution payments.

"I expect the Venture Capital Program to grow because the business and legal community is more familiar with it", says Mr. Sibbeston.

The program was initiated in February 1986 to increase investment capital available to small businesses located in a restricted list of territorial communities with high unemployment.

Mr. Sibbeston says, "the adoption of this improved Venture Capital Program will expand the number of northern businesses and locations eligible and it indicates our willingness to listen to the business community of the Northwest Territories".

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87-119

SWEDISH SECRETARY FOR NORDIC AFFAIRS VISITS N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (May 19) - The Swedish State Secretary for Nordic Affairs, Bernt Carlsson is visiting the Western Arctic this week. He is the guest of Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Nick Sibbeston.

Also on the tour from Sweden are Per Carlsson, Head of Section of Nordic Questions, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Ake Edin, National Chairman of Remote Areas, Nordic Commission.

According to Mr. Sibbeston, "the tour by Mr. Carlsson and his party will further relations between NWT and Sweden in the interests of Economic Development and planning in northern areas." Last year, a group from the Northwest Territories were on a Nordic tour to explore areas of similar concern.

The party arrives in Inuvik from Whitehorse on Tuesday, May 19th where meetings with local officials will take place. On Wednesday, May 20th, Mr. Carlsson and his group will travel to Fort Simpson where they will be met by Nick Sibbeston. A community tour and a visit to Nahanni National Park has been arranged.

On Thursday, May 21st Mr. Carlsson will be in Yellowknife for meetings with the NWT Business Council and local officials.

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FEDERAL MINISTER FOR STATUS OF WOMEN AND PRIVITIZATION VISITS NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (May 21) - The Honourable Barbara McDougall, Minister of State (Privitization, Regulatory Affairs) and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women begins a three day tour of the NWT on Saturday, May 23rd. Ms. McDougall is visiting at the invitation of territorial Minister of Finance Tom Butters.

She will be met in Inuvik on Saturday, May 23rd by Mr. Butters, Mayor Gordon Campbell, Deputy Commissioner Agnes Semmler and GNWT Regional Director Dan Norris.

Ms. McDougall will meet with local women, members of the Progressive Conservative Party and community representatives.

On Sunday, May 24th, the minister and her party will fly to Yellowknife and depart immediately for Snowdrift. Later that evening, a reception and dinner will be held for Ms. McDougall in Yellowknife.

On Monday, May 25th - the minister will travel to Iqaluit where she will tour the community, visit the sewing centre, the jewellry shop and the museum. Ms. McDougall will also go to the newly-opened spousal assault home in Iqaluit.

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87-121

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IMPROVED

YELLOWKNIFE (May 26) - To facilitate communications between Emergency Services staff and headquarters during emergencies, the territorial government has bought three hand-held VHF radio telephones.

The new equipment will improve communications between Emergency Services staff in the field and emergency headquarters in Yellowknife, said Gordon Wray, Minister responsible for Civil Emergency Measures, in making the announcement.

Emergency Services bought the radios under the Joint Emergency Planning Program, a joint-funding agreement between the territorial government and Emergency Preparedness Canada. The federal government contributed 60 per cent of the funding for the purchase, and the territorial government contributed 40 per cent.

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GNWT FIRST TO HAVE COMPUTERIZED EMERGENCY RESPONSE

YELLOWKNIFE (May 21) - The territorial government is the first jurisdiction in Canada to acquire a computerized emergency response system developed by Emergency Preparedness Canada.

The new software system will put the names and addresses of all people and resources needed to combat a domestic emergency at the finger tips of Emergency Services staff.

"The purchase of the microcomputer is the first step in meeting the government's objective of developing a computerized resource inventory file for all Emergency Measures Organizations in the NWT," says Gordon Wray, Minister responsible for Civil Emergency Measures.

Emergency Services will be combining the Emergency Resource Database software with a microcomputer it bought last year.

The territorial government will be spending $13,500 under the Joint Emergency Planning Program on a consultant and computer accessories; such as a printer and back-up system, to make the system operational.

Sixty per cent of the project costs will come from Emergency Preparedness Canada, and 40 per cent from the territorial government under the Joint Emergency Planning Program.

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SIMPSON GETS EMERGENCY GENERATOR

FORT SIMPSON (May 21) - The Village of Fort Simpson now has a standby generator capable of powering enough buildings to shelter the entire community during an emergency.

The new generator, purchased with funds from the federal-territorial Joint Emergency Planning Program can supply power to two schools and a student residence. During a local emergency, the 1,100 people in the community can be moved to those locations.

Each spring the island community is threatened by flooding. The back-up generator will provide electricity to the three buildings where Fort Simpson residents can seek shelter.

The buildings serviced by the back-up generator will also be used as a temporary shelter for the outlying communities of Jean Marie River, Nahanni Butte, Fort Liard, Trout Lake, and Wrigley, in emergencies.

The $160,000 cost of the generator was split 60-40 between the federal and territorial governments respectively.

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GENERATOR WHEELS INTO AKLAVIK

AKLAVIK (May 21) - A generator on wheels will make its home in Aklavik as a standby power system. It may be put to the test in the next few weeks as the community experiences spring break-up and the accompanying threat of flooding.

"I am pleased that the federal government was quick to respond to our proposal for a new generator. I am especially pleased that it will be in place during this year's spring break-up," said Gordon Wray, Minister responsible for Civil Emergency Measures.

The generator will be housed in the hamlet office-fire hall complex - the only building in the community that's above flood-level.

The $5,500 emergency generator is being supplied under the Joint Emergency Planning Program in which the federal government picks up 60 per cent of the cost, and the territorial government picks up the other 40 per cent.

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN APPROVED

SACHS HARBOUR (May 21) - An emergency communications block has been removed in Sachs Harbour with the installation of a pager repeater system.

Funded by the settlement, the territorial and the federal governments, the pager repeater system on a VHF frequency will cover communications to and from the community as well as within the community, to the command centre, and to the disaster site. In an emergency situation, it will also provide immediate notification of key personnel within a seven mile radius of Sachs Harbour.

Previously, using NorthwesTel and local radios, the community could only operate an emergency communications service to and from the community. The new system will allow emergency communications to continue even if there is a power or telephone failure.

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES TO CHALLENGE MEECH LAKE AGREEMENT

YELLOWKNIFE, (May 27) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston announced today he will file a challenge to the Meech Lake Accord in the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories on Friday, May 29th.

"I want to stress that I am filing this petition as an individual whose rights are being denied. While the territorial government is supporting my action, this is not a squabble between two governments. It is a matter of fundamental freedom and equality. I am acting on behalf of all private citizens in the Northwest Territories."

Mr. Sibbeston says among other things, he will be seeking redress under Section 15 of the Charter which guarantees equality before and under the law and provides equal protection from discrimination.

"These rights have been violated by the proposed amendments that would deny any territorial resident the opportunity to be appointed to either the Canadian Senate or the Supreme Court of Canada."

Mr. Sibbeston claims that his individual rights are being violated by the failure to allow territorial participation in First Ministers' conferences and by the Constitutional Amending Formula.

"The political development of the Northwest Territories will be frozen in time by these amendments," he told Members of the Legislative Assembly. "I, as a territorial resident, will never enjoy the rights and privileges of provincial residents because the Northwest Territories will likely never achieve provincial status."

Mr. Sibbeston went on to say, "moreover, because the territorial government is not allowed to participate at First Ministers' conferences where major policy issues are debated, I and all territorial residents have been effectively disenfranchised."

Yukon Government Leader Tony Penikett filed a similar but separate petition in the Supreme Court of the Yukon this morning. Mr. Sibbeston says, "our interests in this matter are identical."

Both territorial government leaders will be in Ottawa next week despite the fact they have not been invited to take part in further discussions on the Meech Lake Accord.

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MAD TRAPPER'S GRAVE TO BE LEFT IN PEACE

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YELLOWKNIFE, (May 27) - An application has been denied to disinter the body of Albert Johnson, known as the Mad Trapper of Rat River.

A Whitehorse author, Dick North, has published a book about Albert Johnson. He now wants to establish the identity of the Mad Trapper as that of John K. Johnson, who was jailed at least twice in the United States. Mr. North intended to have the grave in Aklavik dug up with fingerprint experts in attendance in the hope that any evidence would settle the question of identity. He then planned to write another book.

Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne says that while approval for the proposed venture has been obtained from the Hamlet of Aklavik, consent is also needed from the owner of the cemetery - the Anglican Bishop of the Arctic.

Mr. Ballantyne says, "while the proposal may be an interesting one, the negative reaction from church authorities, elders and others in the community coupled with the fact that the true identity may not be found suggests that this should not go ahead."

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87-128

BUSINESSES TO GET BREAK ON PETROLEUM PRICES

YELLOWKNIFE (May) - Some business organizations in Aklavik, Inuvik and Norman Wells will get a break on the price of petroleum products from the Norman Wells refinery, effective June 1.

The Government of the NWT and Esso Petroleum Canada have reached an agreement in which Esso will charge businesses that qualify under the GNWT Business Incentive Policy the same rates as those charged to small consumers. The discussions were initiated by Tom Butters, MLA for Inuvik, while he was Minister of Government Services.

A "small consumer" is defined as a northern consumer using less than 45,000 litres annually.

The large consumer price is about eight cents per litre higher than the small consumer price. It's been causing concern for business organizations in Aklavik, Inuvik and Norman Wells, who have had to pay the higher price.

The new plan will allow northern, community-based organizations using more than 45,000 litres annually to buy petroleum products at a lower rate than other large consumers.

"The large consumer price cannot be eliminated entirely, due to the limited amount of refined product available at the Norman Wells refinery," says Government Services Minister Ludy Pudluk. "But the extension of the small consumer price to organizations that qualify under the GNWT Business Incentive Policy is considered to be a significant change."

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87-129

FASHION SHOW CELEBRATES DIVERSITY OF INUIT CLOTHING

YELLOWKNIFE (June 4) - Inuit Annuraangit: Our Clothes is a living exhibition of Inuit clothing from across the Canadian Arctic. This unique fashion show celebrates the diversity, history and art of Inuit material culture.

The exhibit will have two showings at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre: June 7 at 2 p.m., and June 11 at 7:30 p.m.

The fashion show was created with the encouragement and advice of Inuit elders. Over the last 15 years they have noticed a decline in the number of young women who know how to prepare skins and create skin clothing. The exhibit is intended to encourage young Inuit seamstresses to learn traditional skills, while giving others a glimpse of Inuit styles.

The show features clothing for men, women and children from the Baffinland, Igloolik, Caribou, Netsilik, Copper and Mackenzie Delta Inuit. The styles range from elaborate, beaded parkas for festive occasions to everyday clothing.

One of the parkas in the display was made by Agnes Nigiyok, an 81 year old resident of Holman Island. Her creation is a replica of the short-waisted, long tailed style that was worn by the Copper Inuit in the early 1900s.

A contemporary Copper and Mackenzie Inuit style parka was made by June Klengenberg of Coppermine. The hood is finished with a halo of wolf and wolverine skin called a sunburst. Trim made from tiny geometric pieces of skin and rows of crocheted red and blue yarn accent the parka.

Selma Karetak of Rankin Inlet has lent a rare parka style worn by young, unmarried, childless women. The beadwork on the parka was done 50 years ago by Hattie Niviaqsarjuk and Mrs. Poop for Winnie Crawford of Baker Lake. Winnie used a small mouth drill to make holes in a number of caribou teeth, which were attached to the end of beaded fringes.

Inuit Annuraangit: Our Clothes was planned by Inuit Silattuqsarvingat, a project of the Inuit Cultural Institute. The show is co-ordinated by Jill Oakes, Department of Clothing and Textiles, University of Manitoba, with the assistance of Sally Karetak, Museum Development Officer for Inuit Silattuqsarvingat.

The exhibition will be shown in communities across the Canadian Arctic, as well as Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa.

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POLAR RESEARCH REPORT ON AGENDA OF YELLOWKNIFE MEETING

YELLOWKNIFE (June 5) - Organizations with an interest in the development of northern science met here this week to debate the recommendations of a recently released federal report.

A dozen institutes and associations from across northern and southern Canada were represented at the workshop, which was organized by the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a collective response to Canada and Polar Science, which was released early last month by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

"The large attendance at this meeting is a clear indication of the importance of the issues under discussion," says Robert Janes, Executive Director of the Science Institute. "We must seize the opportunity to make our views on the report known."

Canada and Polar Science makes a number of recommendations including the creation of a National Polar Research Commission; the development of a comprehensive Polar Information System; the increased involvement of northern institutions in polar science; greater emphasis on northern research by federal government departments; and the establishment of a national center for scientific communication, based in Ottawa.

The organizations represented at the Yellowknife meeting expressed general agreement with the report's recommendations but called for an even greater concentration of activities in the North.

The organizations participating in the discussions included the Dene Cultural Institute, Northern Heritage Society, Dene Nation, Metis Association of the NWT, Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat, Churchill Northern Studies Centre, Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies, Arctic Institute of North America, Boreal Institute, Center for Frontier Engineering Research, and the Science Institute of the NWT. Another dozen or so organizations were unable to send representatives to the meeting but will be consulted by phone and mail over the next few weeks.

A collective response should be ready for release by mid July.

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NWT STUDENT ATTENDS SCIENCE PROGRAM FOR GIFTED TEENAGERS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 8) - The Science Institute of the Northwest Territories is providing a $3,100 sponsorship to send a NWT student to the Shad Valley Program for Gifted Teenagers.

Carol Boudreau, a graduate of Samuel Hearne Secondary School in Inuvik, will be the first northerner to participate in the program, which is described as "a school for scientific entrepreneurs". Following a four week, residential session at the University of Calgary (June 28 to July 25), Carol will be provided with two weeks of employment by Ferguson, Simek and Clark, engineers and architects, in Yellowknife.

Before entering the program, students go through two screenings, one by program faculty and the other by local sponsors. To be successful, applicants must be in grade 11 or 12 and show high academic achievement, especially in math and sciences. They also must provide indications of creativity, demonstrated initiative and drive, and good interpersonal skills. There are only 250 places Canada-wide.

Carol earned entrance into the program with a record that includes an honours academic standing and four Arctic Winter Games medals for speedskating. She is also a debater and a member of Junior Achievement in Inuvik.

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The Shad Valley Program combines lectures by university professors with hands-on learning experiences. Subjects dealt with include mathematics, computing, engineering and business, with an emphasis on developing independence of thought and an innovative approach to problem solving.

The program is organized by the Canadian Centre for Creative Technology in Waterloo and is funded through sponsorships like the one provided by the Science Institute. As more northern organizations choose to sponsor students, the participation of NWT students can be expected to grow.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TAKES ACTION ON FEDERAL FUNDING FREEZE

YELLOWKNIFE (June 8) - The Executive Council is seeking an emergency meeting with key federal ministers respecting a funding freeze on projects related to Special ARDA, the Native Economic Development Program and the Economic Development Agreement.

Last week, the Government of the Northwest Territories was informed that the federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) had cut off funding worth more than 175 million dollars to the NWT economy.

Government Leader and Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Nick Sibbeston says the Executive Council has placed priority on securing Treasury Board Agreement to the DIAND components of the Economic Development Agreement.

"To this end, GNWT ministers will be calling Treasury Board ministers to seek their support this week. In addition, the Executive Council will be taking measures to ensure that the DRIE components of the Economic Development Agreement are considered by the Treasury Board as well."

Mr. Sibbeston says senior officials are now travelling to Ottawa to begin making arrangements for a meeting with Bill McKnight (DIAND), Bernard Valcourt (Small Business and Tourism) and Michel Cote (DRIE).

Federal support is also being sought to have the Special ARDA and Native Economic Development Programs immediately reinstated as well. "We simply cannot afford to have the program frozen for even a short period of time," says Mr. Sibbeston.

Mr. Sibbeston says he will be attending a meeting of federal, provincial and territorial ministers for Small Business on June 22nd in Montreal. At that time, he will discuss the matter with other affected governments and with the federal minister.

"I must emphasize the Executive Council's deep concern over the federal government's current and long term commitments to funding the EDA, Special ARDA, and the NEDP."

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JOIN HANDS IN CONSERVATION: ELEVEN WINNERS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 9) - Eleven winners have been picked in the 1987 GNWT Wildlife Week Poster Contest.

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The posters, done by students 6 to 17 years, have been sent to Ottawa to represent the NWT in the National Wildlife Week Awards Contest.

Each artist receives a prize of $100 and an awards button.

The annual spring contest, sponsored by the GNWT Department of Renewable Resources, drew 1,547 entries this year. Ten schools received class and school awards. More than 200 entries won honorable mention and an awards button.

This year the theme of the contest was "Join Hands in Conservation: Wildlife Needs You". The theme is set by the National Wildlife Federation which also judges the national competition in Ottawa.

So far NWT students have represented the territories notably well. Last year, for the third time in six years, the national winner was from the NWT.

NWT National Wildlife Week Poster Contest 1987 winners are: Sharlyn Carter, age 16, grade 11, Diamond Jenness Secondary School, Hay River - "Be Wise. Keep us around to see for future eyes"; Bobby Drygeese, age 15, Kaw Tay Whee School, Dettah - "Give Room for Them to Give Life"; Devon Kruggel, age 13, grade 7, Diamond Jenness Secondary School, Hay River - "Let Wildlife Never Become Old News"; Oqituq Laisa, age 10, Pitseolak School, Cape Dorset - "Save My Babies"; Bernice Lyall, age 16, grade 9, Ilihakvik School, Cambridge Bay - "God Gaveth Why Take Too Much Awayeth"; Angela Marie McInnes, age 14, Samuel Hearne Secondary School, Inuvik - "Shield Our Heart Don't Let Wildlife Die; Kim Norwich, age 16, grade 11, Samuel Hearne Secondary School, Inuvik - "Join Hands in Conservation Wildlife Needs You"; Donna Sammurtok, age 16, grade 9, Victor Sammurtok School, Chesterfield Inlet - "Think Twice Before Killing You!"; Leanne Taneton, age 6, grade 1, Great Grandfather Ayah School, Fort Franklin - "Animals Need Homes"; Lionel Vegso, age 17, Diamond Jenness Secondary School, Hay River - "Saving One May Save Many"; and Justin Washie, age 13, Rae Lakes Territorial School, Rae Lakes - "Keep to the Spirit of Our Land".

This year there are 10 awards for schools and individual classes. These awards recognize general excellence, high participation, originality, and understanding of conservation issues.

Each winner will receive an engraved plaque and Arctic Animals, a recently published book by Fred Breummer. The winners are: Diamond Jenness Secondary School, Hay River; Netsilik School, Spence Bay; Nuiyak School, Sanikiluaq; Princess Alexandra School, Hay River; St. Joseph's Elementary School, Yellowknife; Class 3, Aquiggiq School, Lake Harbour; Grade 1, Great Grandfather Ayha School, Fort Franklin; Grade 4, J. B. Tyrell Elementary School, Fort Smith; Class 5 and 6, Mezi Community School, Lac la Martre; and Grade 6A and 6B, Nakasuk School, Iqaluit.

- 30 -

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LAW REFORM COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS IMPLEMENTATION OF JURY ACT

YELLOWKNIFE (June 10) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne says the Committee on Law Reform is actively seeking solutions to the legal problems facing the Northwest Territories that recognize cultural uniqueness.

It has completed its first working paper, in which it examines the recent amendment to the Jury Act, permitting unilingual aboriginal people to sit as jurors at a trial. The paper explores the legal and constitutional validity of the amendments, as well as ways to implement it.

Mr. Ballantyne says the Law Reform Committee report calls the aim of the amendment beneficial, but says implementation is not without difficulty. It goes on to say the amendment is worthwhile and should be put in place. The report will prepare its final report after the report has been circulated publicly.

According to the minister, the Law Reform Committee has made substantial progress on its next project, aimed at thorough reform of the Mechanic's Lien legislation of the NWT. "A great deal of research material has been gathered, and submissions have been sought from a wide range of interested parties."

Other subjects to be studied include implications of culture on the justice system, the role of community elders as resource people in the criminal justice system, family law, and a study of the circuit court in the north.

Mr. Ballantyne says, "the government will continue its efforts to ensure that the people of the Northwest Territories have a legal system that is in keeping with their needs, aspirations and cultures."

- 30 -

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WORLD AUTHORITIES SUPPORT CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRENDS FOR NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

YELLOWKNIFE (June 10) - Minister for Renewable Resources Red Pedersen today outlined four recommendations which apply directly to the NWT from the "Only One Earth Forum" held last month in New York City.

The forum, sanctioned by the United Nations Environment Program, brought over 100 international authorities together to discuss conservation and development trends. Mr. Pedersen says they also proposed practical steps for the world community to address critical issues.

"During this forum, I spoke of conservation and development in the NWT", he says, "emphasizing that long term economic health will be intimately bound to the health of the natural environment."

"We need to build a stable and balanced economy which can withstand external pressures caused by changes in the prices of minerals, oil or furs. The work of the Department of Renewable Resources is to develop an NWT Conservation Strategy as a primary tool in promoting sustainable development."

The four recommendations were agreed to unanimously by the "Only One Earth Forum".

1. Nature conservation and management practices should take into account not only the information and policies developed in academia and government, but also traditional knowledge, values and current management practices to be found among the actual users of the natural environment.

2. Development policies, projects, and legislation influencing traditional hunting and fishing areas used by indigenous people shall be planned and implemented together with those people and without adversely affecting their food procurement possibilities.

3. Dominant societies shall take prime responsibility in promoting, through legislative or other measures, the development of markets for products originating from aboriginal subsistence economies.

4. Military installations and activities should be located so as to avoid negative effects on civilian populations, particularly in terms of interference with traditional land uses as well as impacts on important ecosystems.

Mr. Pedersen says the territorial government must develop strategies to manage natural resources, renewable and non-renewable, so they yield the greatest sustainable benefit to present generations, while maintaining the potential to meet the needs of future generations.

"The NWT Conservation Strategy being developed by my department will help provide such direction and identify specific actions which promote the integration of environmental and economic goals." Mr. Pedersen says the first phase of this work will be completed this summer resulting in a conservation policy to be presented for formal approval.

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ARCTIC PUBLIC LEGAL EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SOCIETY RECEIVES TERRITORIAL AND FEDERAL FUNDS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 10) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne has announced that funding for the Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society will continue for another year.

Mr. Ballantyne has signed an agreement with the federal Minister of Justice Ray Hnatyshyn for $70,000 for Arctic P.L.E.I. The Government of the Northwest Territories will contribute $52,000 towards the operating expenses of the Society.

Arctic P.L.E.I. is a non-profit organization set up in December 1985 to explain the law and the legal system to northerners.

According to Mr. Ballantyne, the Society has been very successful in a short period of time by undertaking several projects to educate people in the north about the law. "This summer, two law students will travel to several NWT communities to hold seminars on everyday topics such as common law relationships, divorce, spousal assault, wills and impaired driving. The students will also explain the criminal justice system and court procedures."

Among Arctic P.L.E.I.'s other projects are a videotaped puppet show designed to teach children the moral and legal consequences of stealing. The show, produced in Yellowknife with local puppeteers has been translated into the native languages and will be distributed to elementary schools in the fall. The organization has also produced mock trial kits based on two famous northern court cases for use in junior and high schools and ran the 'Brown Bag Law Series' this year at the Yellowknife Public Library.

Mr. Ballantyne says, "Arctic P.L.E.I. works closely with lawyers, courtworkers and police to produce materials of interest to the public. Public education of the law is of vital importance and I support the fine work being done by Arctic P.L.E.I."

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BRING YOUR SUNGLASSES TO THE NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE

YELLOWKNIFE (June 10) - The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre will be celebrating this year's summer solstice with the opening of its new Discovery Gallery.

"It's completely different than what people usually expect from museums," says Lynette Harper, Curator of Education/Extension and Professional Programs. "They'll be able to handle the displays and discover for themselves. The gallery will be of particular interest to families."

The Discovery Gallery offers all sorts of things to learn about. There will be a wardrobe of clothing from across the North, and the world, for people to try on, including moosehide clothing, an Inuit parka designed for carrying a child, a Mexican poncho and Japanese farm work clothing.

Another area features the northern version of Noah's Ark and materials to build your own inukshuk.

The Heritage Centre is preparing a Northwest Coast Indian-style button blanket, and people will be able to add to it by sewing on buttons. There will be activity kits on hand so people can learn about trash can archaeology, how feathers work, spices from across the world and much more.

Also included will be collections of rocks, bones and archaeological artifacts, a plastic human skeleton and a mounted muskox.

The Discovery Gallery will open Sunday, June 21 at 2 p.m. The festivities start at 1:30 p.m., with a parade leaving from the Yellowknife Public Library, which will feature music and colorful characters like Ramona the Raven and the Pied Piper. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Since the event is being held on the solstice, the theme is the sun. People will be able to draw their own sun calendar, the Pied Piper will be telling stories about the sun, and lemonade and sun-cookies will be served in the auditorium.

Although some parts of the Discovery Gallery will be open during the Heritage Centre's regular hours, most of the displays will be open only part of the time. Summer hours for the Discovery place will be Wednesday to Saturday, from 1 to 3 p.m.

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CONTRACT SECURITY PILOT PROJECT EXTENDED

YELLOWKNIFE (June 10) - The Minister of Economic Development and Tourism is pleased to announce that the Contract Security Pilot Project is being extended throughout the Northwest Territories.

"In addition to the program being extended, the $50,000 ceiling on the amount of security provided for any one project is being raised to $100,000," said Nick Sibbeston.

The announcement followed a recommendation, supported by the NWT Housing Association, the construction industry, and the Territorial Business Loan Board, that the successful program be extended and the ceiling raised to $100,000.

"Since its inception two years ago, the pilot project has helped 11 contractors in obtaining a total of over $4.2 million in contract securities," said Mr. Sibbeston. "This has levered contractors of over $4 million and has created about 20 northern man years of employment."

In 1985 the Department of Economic Development and Tourism initiated the two-year pilot project to combat a trend whereby northern contractors, who could not meet bonding or security requirements, could not get construction contracts. The project applied to NWT Housing Corporation and Department of Public Works and Highways contracts.

No money is physically transferred to the contractor, but funds are allocated for this purpose, and are payable to the owner if the contractor defaults on the terms of the contract.

"To date, I am pleased to say, no contractors have defaulted, and no funds have been paid to the owner," Mr. Sibbeston said.

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WILDLIFE CONFERENCE TO LOOK AT SPECTRUM OF ISSUES

YELLOWKNIFE (June 11) - Delegates to the 51st Annual Federal-Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Conference will be looking at a broad spectrum of issues during their stay in Tuktoyaktuk next week.

"The delegates will be looking at the past and present realities of wildlife in Canada," says Red Pedersen, Minister of Renewable Resources. "They will be divided into nine workshops and asked to develop a future course of action for a variety of wildlife issues."

Mr. Pedersen is hosting the conference, on behalf of the territorial government.

Mary Simon, President of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference will chair a workshop in which delegates will examine wildlife values within the context of ethics, culture, religion, the social structure of the North and native hunting rights.

Ways to accommodate the various demands placed on wildlife by traditional users, commercial operators and recreational hunters will be addressed during a session chaired by James Bourque, NWT Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources.

Managing endangered wildlife in Canada will be the topic of a workshop chaired by Gordon Kerr, Director of the Western and Northern Region of the Canadian Wildlife Service. Michael Keating, a reporter with the Globe and Mail, will head a workshop designed to examine the effects of environmental contaminants like toxic chemicals, heavy metals, acid rain and the long-range transport of air pollutants on the environment.

Delegates will examine some aspects of the economics of wildlife management, including game ranching, hunting, trapping, outfitting and tourism, as well as the maintenance and pursuit of traditional values during a workshop chaired by Nellie Cournoyea, MLA for Nunakput.

New approaches and initiatives for wildlife support will be the topic of a workshop chaired by Barry Turner, MP for Ottawa-Carleton. Excise taxes, user fees, licences and permits, tax refund check-offs, sale of art prints and gold medallions and other sources of revenue for wildlife support, sharing funds for wildlife management and how to do more with less will be reviewed.

Land management for wildlife will be examined during a workshop chaired by Larry Jahn, President of the Wildlife Management Institute. This session will look at refuges, ecological reserves, landscapes (both public and private), economic values, economic issues and environmental contaminants.

National and international co-operative agreeements will be looked at in a workshop chaired by J.A. (Tony) Keith, Director, Wildlife Toxicology and Surveys Branch of the Canadian Wildlife Service. And participation in resolving issues will be studied during a workshop headed by Dr. Peter Pearse, Professor of Forestry and Economics, University of British Columbia.

The recommendations from these workshops will be formally submitted to each jurisdiction in Canada to assist wildlife managers in planning for the future. A number of provincial and territorial wildlife ministers, senior government representatives and non-government delegates will attend.

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SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY ADOPTED BY EXECUTIVE POLICY

YELLOWKNIFE (June 11) - Minister of Personnel Red Pedersen has announced details of a policy protecting all GNWT employees from sexual harassment in the workplace.

Mr. Pedersen says the policy was developed in consultation with the Canadian Human Rights Commission, the employees' associations and all departments and regions of the territorial government, including the Women's Secretariat.

"Sexual harassment is coercive and one-sided," says Mr. Pedersen. "Both males and females can be victims of it. It may occur one time only, or many times. It may be initiated by a co-worker or supervisor."

In order to protect territorial government employees, Mr. Pedersen says investigation of complaints will ensure confidentiality. The minister goes on to say "disciplinary action will be taken in all substantiated cases."

The nature of the action will depend on the severity of the case, but can include dismissal. "As well, false accusations will be viewed as serious offenses and could result in similar disciplinary action." Mr. Pedersen says the policy is designed to be progressive and compassionate.

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SEPARATE SUPPLY AND LABOUR CONTRACTS SUCCESSFUL FOR NORTHERNERS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 11) - Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation Michael Ballantyne says a new process of tendering for supply and labour contracts has created greater economic opportunities for northern businesses and communities.

Eighty-five per cent of the 1987 housing contracts have been awarded so far. Mr. Ballantyne says approximately 96 per cent of these contracts have gone to northern companies.

"That is a substantial increase over last year, when only 41 per cent of the 1986 capital project contracts were awarded to northerners."

Mr. Ballantyne says in addition, northern suppliers continue to win a significant share of corporation supply contracts. So far this year, northern suppliers have been awarded 91 per cent of the contracts totalling $13 million.

"This is the first year that separate supply and labour contracts have been let for projects throughout the entire NWT," says Mr. Ballantyne. "The fact that 96 per cent of Housing Corporation labour contracts and 91 per cent of supply contracts have been awarded to northern firms indicates this method of tendering successful. It has met the objective of creating greater economic opportunities in the north."

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NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCIENCE PROGRAM EASIER TO FOLLOW

YELLOWKNIFE (June 11) - Students in grades one to four will be learning an exciting new science program next year as the result of a fresh focus on science education.

Minister of Education Dennis Patterson explains that the main goal is to provide a framework for building science concepts, skills, attitudes and language so that students can achieve literacy in science.

He says unique science units are being produced for grades one, two and three which combine both science and elements of language development. "These units have been developed carefully so that they can be adapted for all language situations in the NWT," says Mr. Patterson.

Traditional science teaching methods have been mixed with many elements of second language teaching. Mr. Patterson explains, "students are practicing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in a science context. Students will be learning the language of science, and how to use it in the natural setting they are familiar with."

The new program will be easier to follow and provides teachers with more resources and teaching units than the earlier version. The minister says the units were created for a northern context and encourage students to explore their unique relationship with the environment from both a traditional and a contemporary perspective. The units cover such topics as arctic and subarctic land animals, polar bears and black bears, birds, marine mammals and fish of the territories.

Mr. Patterson calls it the most comprehensive program and curriculum guide that education has produced to date. "As a result the Elementary Science Program is being extremely well received in our schools, and has received many favourable comments from other jurisdictions as well."

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TERRITORIAL INITIATIVES ON NORTHERN ACCORD SEEN AS POSITIVE

YELLOWKNIFE (June 17) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston says there has been a positive response to the territorial government's efforts to negotiate an oil and gas accord with the federal government.

"The federal government has indicated through its Frontier Energy Policy that it wants to move towards shared management and shared revenues from oil and gas resources - both offshore and onshore," says Mr. Sibbeston.

He credits the Honourable Tom Butters, Minister for Energy, Mines and Resources for the work so far. "The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs has indicated to Mr. Butters his willingness to seek a detailed negotiating mandate from the federal cabinet."

For onshore resources, the Government of the NWT is seeking responsibility for the management of oil and gas resources including: the approval and regulation of exploration, development and production projects; the determination of royalties; and the management of benefits.

For the federal offshore areas, the territorial government wants a management regime that will represent both governments equally.

"The Northern Accord that the Executive Council proposes would constitute still another important step in the direction of placing northern development in the hands of northerners," says Mr. Sibbeston. "It will allow the Government of the NWT to foster oil and gas resource development in a manner that is compatible with other territorial priorities such as environmental protection, renewable resource development and aboriginal rights."

Mr. Sibbeston says as well, such an Accord will affirm the importance of the North and of northern governments in the broader national perspective.

"It recognizes that we in the North have a responsibility to all Canadians, to act as the custodians or protectors of a national treasure, while at the same time, allowing northerners to share fully in that wealth."

"Finally," says Mr. Sibbeston, "the Northern Accord provides yet another opportunity for northerners to provide an example for all Canadians. We can demonstrate that the rights of aboriginal peoples are compatible and complementary to the functioning of public government."

According to the Government Leader, the involvement of aboriginal groups in the negotiating process will ensure that their rights are provided for in the final agreement.

"More significantly, it gives the Government of the NWT an opportunity to entrench in the Accord, provisions for the meaningful participation of native people in the management regimes for petroleum resources. This is particularly important to the native organizations today, given that the so-called 'generalized interest' concept has been explicitly taken off the claims negotiation table by the recent federal comprehensive claims policy."

Mr. Sibbeston says the Executive Council is optimistic that an oil and gas accord can be worked out between the Government of the NWT and the federal government. "Through the full participation of the aboriginal groups and through ongoing consultation with the oil and gas industry itself, the resulting accord will be one that is beneficial not only to northerners, but to all of Canada as well."

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MENINGITIS CONTROL PROGRAM SET FOR NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

YELLOWKNIFE (June 17) - Minister of Health Bruce McLaughlin has announced the highlights of an important effort to protect northern children from a form of meningitis, Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib).

Hib meningitis causes death in about 5 to 10 percent of those children infected and leaves another 20 to 40 percent with permanent disabilities affecting the lungs, bones and middle ears. Ninety percent of Hib meningitis occurs in children under the age of two years, but the preventive shots are not effective for this age group.

According to Mr. McLaughlin, new vaccines have now been developed to protect children under the age of two years. A Canadian company, Connaught Laboratories of Toronto, has found its vaccine to be safe and a protection against Hib meningitis in a study involving 61,000 infants in Finland.

"My department and Health and Welfare Canada are collaborating with Connaught Laboratories in a project to provide protections for our children," says Mr. McLaughlin. The project will consist of two parts and be conducted over the next three years.

"First, we will confirm that the vaccine is just as safe and as effective in producing antibodies against Hib in northern native infants as it is in the infants of Finland. This part of the project will involve 200 infants between two and three months old. Half of them will receive their regular vaccines as well as Hib shots. A blood sample taken at seven or eight months of age will confirm that the second part of the project should proceed."

Mr. McLaughlin says in the second half of the project, "those infants who did not receive the Hib vaccine in part one, and all others infants and children in the NWT between the ages of 2 and 23 months of age will be offered the Hib vaccine."

Connaught Laboratories is providing all the vaccine needed over the next three years and with laboratory support. The other costs will be shared by the territorial and federal governments.

"As a result of this project," says Mr. McLaughlin, "people may expect a major reduction in the number of cases of Hib meningitis and in other serious Hib infections in the Northwest Territories."

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SPECIAL TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 17) - Minister of Education Dennis Patterson has announced a program to train territorial school principals as administrators.

"The development of an effective education system is dependent on the quality of the teaching staff and skilled leadership," says Mr. Patterson. "If we hope to make significant progress in improving our schools, the principal as leader and administrator is a crucial element."

The six-week training program will begin this October. The training will take place in regional centres throughout the territories. The training will be broken into one and two week sessions over a two year period.

When they have completed the course, individuals will have a probationary period as a principal and will receive certification as a school administrator in the NWT.

The NWT is in the forefront in Canada in instituting principal training and certification programs. Only the Ontario Department of Education determines both criteria and specific content for training school principals, and only three provinces - Ontario, Manitoba and New Brunswick - require principals to obtain certification as school administrators.

"This training program will provide our principals and prospective principals, with access to knowledge, and practice in skills, that will equip them to work effectively and efficiently to improve our schools," says Mr. Patterson.

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CO-ORDINATION TO HELP VICTIMS OF CRIME PROPOSED IN LEGISLATION

YELLOWKNIFE (June 17) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne plans to table draft legislation in the Legislative Assembly which would provide the establishment of a committee to co-ordinate help for victims of crime.

Mr. Ballantyne says victims of crime legislation is a high priority throughout Canada and the Northwest Territories has been involved for several years. He points out however, that a great number of deficiencies exist in providing information and assistance to the victim and making services available.

"It is important that this be done on a co-ordinated basis so that social, legal and community assistance is available to them," says Mr. Ballantyne. "Victims of crime need help and counselling for crimes involving violence or sexual abuse. Information and counselling services for witnesses and victims of criminal acts will also need to be provided."

Mr. Ballantyne says ways to provide statements to the court about the impact of a crime is being explored, along with the quick return of seized property being used as evidence.

"In the Northwest Territories," says Mr. Ballantyne, "it is crucial that services provided to the victims are available not only in English, but in aboriginal languages."

The minister notes that these initiatives are important and long overdue. "If the criminal justice system is to continue to enjoy credibility with the people that it is supposed to serve, it is imperative that these initiatives are taken without further delay."

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BEAUFORT - MACKENZIE DELTA REGIONAL LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTED

OTTAWA (June 16) - The Honourable Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Honourable Red Pedersen, NWT Minister of Renewable Resources, appointed members to the Beaufort - Mackenzie Delta Regional Land Use Planning Commission today.

The establishment of this commission provides the means through which federal, territorial and regional priorities and preferences can be realized. "With indications of renewed interest in hydrocarbon development in the Mackenzie Delta, it is imperative that a regional land use plan be completed as soon as possible," said Mr. McKnight. "Such a plan will provide the necessary framework to guide future economic development decisions in the region."

"The Commission will provide a plan which represents the priorities of residents and will advise federal and territorial governments on the use of land and water," said Mr. Pedersen. "Protection of the environment and sustaining the resources of the Northwest Territories are priorities of our government."

The Beaufort - Delta Commission serves not only the Northern Land Use Planning Program but also satisfies the specific provisions of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

Canada

It reports to the two ministers through the Northwest Territories Land Use Planning Commission. This is an independent agency which develops land use plans which will contribute to the future social, economic and environmental well-being of the NWT residents, taking into account the interests of all Canadians.

Both ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the co-operative planning process and want to make sure it is an effective tool for establishing regional preferences and priorities.

Commission members are Les Lee Carpenter (Sachs Harbour), Billy Day (Inuvik), Charles Haogak (Sachs Harbour), and Bill Mair (Victoria), appointed on the basis of recommendations by the Inuvialuit. Charlie Furlong (Aklavik) and John Itsi (Fort McPherson) were recommended by the Mackenzie Delta Regional Council. Representing the Northwest Territories Land Use Planning Commission are Alex Aviugana (Inuvik) and Tom Beck (Calgary).

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Biographical Data

ALEX AVIUGANA, a resident of Inuvik, has had a long involvement with the game council, renewable resources, environmental concerns and issues affecting hunters and trappers. He is a member of the Inuvialuit Game Council, the Joint Fisheries Management Committee, and the Northwest Territories Land Use Planning Commission.

TOM BECK, a resident of Calgary, was formerly with Aquitane. He is well respected by the oil and gas industry and northerners. He served on the Task Force on Northern Conservation and as Chairperson of the Canadian Environmental Advisory Council. Mr. Beck now works as a private consultant. He is a member of the Northwest Territories Land Use Planning Commission.

LES LEE CARPENTER, Mayor of Sachs Harbour, formerly worked as Secretary Manager to the Sachs Harbour Settlement Council and as a CBC announcer. He was also President of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation. He now serves as Commissioner of the Inuvialuit Land Administration Commission and Chairman of the Board of the Inuvialuit Petroleum Corporation.

BILLY DAY, a resident of Inuvik, worked for the NWT Department of Social Services before returning to his Mackenzie Delta Trapline in 1975. He was a strong supporter of the WARM proposal, a Western Arctic Regional Municipality with strong legislative powers. He served as President of the Committee for Original People's Entitlement, and has recently joined the Board of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and has been elected Chief of the Inuvik Community Corporation.

CHARLIE FURLONG, a resident of Aklavik, where he is the Metis Local President and worked for ten years as Band Manager for the Aklavik Band Council. He acted as Regional Co-ordinator for the Berger Commission. He has served as President of the Mackenzie Delta Regional Council for the past two years, and was a National Committee Member of the Dene Nation and Chairman of the Denendeh Development Corporation.

CHARLES HAOGAK, a resident of Sachs Harbour, served both as Vice-President and acting President for the Committee for Original People's Entitlement. He also served as the Director for the Inuvialuit Development Corporation and as a Director of Madison Oil and Gas Limited of Calgary. Presently he is the Chief Community Councillor for the Sachs Harbour Community Corporation and a member of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation.

JOHN ITSI, a resident of Fort McPherson, where he is President of the Hunters and Trappers Association and works a trapline. He has served as Chief of Fort McPherson and worked closely with the Dene Nation on the beginning of land claims negotiations. The band has given Mr. Itsi an unofficial portfolio on land issues and specifically seeks his advice on Yukon harvesting and land issues.

BILL MAIR, a resident of Victoria, B.C., where he works as a private consultant. He formerly served as the Deputy Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management in Manitoba, as the Director General for the western provinces for the Department of Regional Economic Expansion and as a member of the Task Force on Northern Conservation. Presently he is the Chairman of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Joint Secretariat formed under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

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INNOVATIVE APPROACHES SOUGHT IN AWARDING NORTHERN BUSINESS CONTRACTS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 18) - Several innovative and unique approaches to awarding and carrying out territorial government capital projects have been made public by the Minister of Public Works and Highways.

In tabling a discussion paper on Maximizing Local and Northern Employment and Business Opportunities on Construction Projects in the Legislative Assembly, Gordon Wray noted the need to ensure that a higher level of government money remains in the Northwest Territories.

"As extensive capital facilities are required in virtually every NWT community to support the programs and services of the government, the manner in which we deliver our construction program is very important to the northern economy. As a result, the Department of Public Works and Highways and the NWT Housing Corporation have been highly involved in developing and implementing policies and procedures related to achieving a high level of local and northern involvement in our construction."

Already, DPW has put several requirements in place which include the use of local commercial accommodations in communities, preference to northern architectural and engineering consultants and recording the amount of local and northern involvement in contracts.

The NWT Housing Corporation has also been actively involved in developing new policies which include the use of separate supply and erect contracts for most of its projects.

Mr. Wray says the continued use of more local and northern workers and businesses calls for significant financial and staff input from a number of government departments. "Also," he says, "implementation of these local and northern involvement approaches will increase the cost of projects, construction time will be extended and more time will be required for planning."

Mr. Wray goes on to say that buildings of wood are more labour-intensive and provide more opportunities for local involvement and carpentry training. He warns that project management workload and government overhead costs will be increased.

"However," says Mr. Wray, "the Executive Council fully believes that the overall benefits to the NWT will outweigh the initial added cost and effort by all concerned."

The Legislative Assembly, communities, the NWT Construction Association and the business sector are being solicited for their views on the discussion paper. Mr. Wray says the new approaches will be finalized in three months to make sure they can be in place for the 1988-89 capital projects.

"We have a unique opportunity to maximize the northern employment benefits from capital construction in virtually every community. Let's take full advantage of it."

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ABE MILLER WORKSHOP RECEIVES $200,000 CONTRIBUTION

YELLOWKNIFE (June 22) - Michael Ballantyne (MLA Yellowknife North) has announced an Executive Council decision to contribute $200,000 towards construction of the new Abe Miller Workshop. The Yellowknife Association for the Mentally Handicapped has been conducting a campaign - Project 20 - to raise $500,000 for a new centre.

Mr. Ballantyne says, "the government's commitment to the new facility will provide the money necessary for construction of the new centre to begin this year." Some $300,000 has been raised privately towards the pre-vocational training centre for handicapped adults from across the NWT. Much of the fundraising has been done through the Lion and Lioness Club of Yellowknife.

In the last ten years, 67 people have taken part in programs at the Abe Miller Workshop.

"I am proud of our government's support for this much-needed northern centre," says Mr. Ballantyne. "My colleagues, Education Minister Dennis Patterson and Social Services Minister Bruce McLaughlin have joined me in supporting the Association's goals and objectives 100 percent."

Mr. Ballantyne also notes the strong support of the two other MLA's for Yellowknife - Ted Richard and Bob MacQuarrie and the untiring campaigning by Dave Matthews, President of the Yellowknife Association for the Mentally Handicapped.

The new 4,400 square foot community-based training facility will replace the existing centre which is a 22 year old double-wide classroom on 53rd Street in Yellowknife. It will include a large work area for students, along with classrooms, storage space, a meeting room, office space and an administration area. Chong Park and Associates Ltd. of Yellowknife are the project consultants.

"The pre-vocational Centre provides services and training to mentally handicapped individuals striving to gain a greater degree of independence," says Mr. Ballantyne. "It's a matter of great pride that people in Yellowknife and the Government of the Northwest Territories continue to provide ever-improving services for our mentally handicapped citizens."

- 30 -

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TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT TO COLLABORATE ON CAMPAIGN

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YELLOWKNIFE (June 23) - Social Services Minister Bruce McLaughlin says the Territorial and Federal Governments will be collaborating on a public awareness campaign dealing with alcohol and other drugs.

The campaign is part of Canada's Action Plan on Drug Abuse announced by Federal Minister of National Health and Welfare Jake Epp on June 11.

Its first phase is aimed at young people aged 11 to 13 and is designed to teach them the benefits of being "drug free." The second phase, due to start in September, will be aimed at the parents of young people. It will promote communications between parents and their children, as well as provide information to better equip parents to discuss drugs and alcohol use with their children.

"The Territorial Government is now starting to work more closely with the national campaign," says Mr. McLaughlin. "The NWT will again be involved with the national Drug Awareness Week to be held in November and there is some discussion on joining in on a national forum."

The Department of Social Services is planning a number of projects for the campaign, including a new booklet on the types of drugs and their characteristics.

- 30 -

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87-151

FOREST FIRE UPDATE

FORT SMITH (June 23) - Fifty-four of the 62 forest fires reported this year in the Northwest Territories were located in the Yellowknife, Fort Simpson and Fort Smith districts.

Eight fires were reported in the Norman Wells/Inuvik area.

The Territorial Forest Fire Centre has spent $1.5 million this season on fire suppression and about 105 hectares have burned. The Government of the Northwest Territories assumed responsibility for the fire suppression program in April, 1987.

Report forest fires to your local renewable resources officer or call the operator and ask for the toll free number Zenith 5555.

- 30 -

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BUSINESS AS USUAL AT FOREST FIRE CENTRE

YELLOWKNIFE (June 23) - It's business as usual for officials at the Territorial Forest Fire Centre in Fort Smith.

Responsibility for the management of forestry and fire suppression programs transferred from the federal government to the Government of the Northwest Territories in April. Both programs now are administered by the Territorial Department of Renewable Resources.

"There will be no basic changes in the fire fighting policy at this time," says Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen. "The established system of fire attack zones with priority and observation zones are being maintained."

However, changes in the fire suppression program could be initiated once the three-year term of the transfer agreement is complete. The Territorial government agreed to maintain the current system and to operate with the current budget for three years.

"Our mandate is to deliver a program reflecting the wishes of NWT residents," adds Pedersen. "A number of avenues are open for investigation such as determining what, where and when to spend money in particular areas."

Administrative procedures for hiring fire fighting crews and purchasing goods and services now follow the Territorial government's Business Incentive and Affirmative Action policies. A greater emphasis is placed on northern hiring and the use of northern suppliers, states the minister.

Routine decisions on fire fighting issues are handled by the district managers in Fort Smith, Fort Simpson, Yellowknife, Norman Wells and Inuvik.

The agreement resulted in the transfer of 200 employees from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to the Government of the NWT. Fire crews and resources are in place at various locations throughout the Mackenzie Valley and Delta. Contracts for the provision of fire crews have been signed with native development corporations in Fort Smith, Hay River, Rae-Edzo, Fort Providence and Fort Simpson. Additional emergency fire crews will be hired locally, when required, in other communities.

"A reorganization of our department was required to accommodate these changes, particularly at the community level, and an amalgamation of programs now is underway," says Pedersen. "This requires renewable resource officers to take on the additional work of fire officers and former INAC resource management officers to assume the duties of our renewable resource officers."

The Territorial government received a $24.1 million budget and buildings, facilities, land and assets valued at $24.5 million under the transfer agreement. The budget includes funding for the use of two Transport Canada CL-215 water bombers and an $8.2 million annual operating budget.

"We consider forestry management and fire suppression an integral part of our overall resource management strategy," adds the minister. "Greater involvement from local residents, native and community organizations is expected following the establishment of a Resource Management Board."

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JOINT FILM AND VIDEO AGREEMENT SIGNED

YELLOWKNIFE (June 26) - The National Film Board of Canada (NFB) and the Government of the Northwest Territories today signed a film and video distribution agreement which will make it easier for northern residents to obtain NFB productions.

Government of N.W.T.
JUN 29 1987
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

The agreement was signed by Government Film Commissioner and NFB Chairman Francois N. Macerola, Deputy Minister of Culture and Communications Art Sorensen and Acting Deputy Minister of Education Gail Joyce.

Under the terms of the agreement, the NFB will provide the Department of Education and the Department of Culture and Communications with 150 video cassettes of NFB productions over a three-year period, at a unit cost of $24 per cassette. Electronic reproduction rights will be granted to the departments at a rate of $3 per minute for a three-year period.

The new agreement will enable the Department of Education to supplement its collection of NFB 16mm films with video cassettes of the most popular productions.

"Video is a highly popular medium for education, culture and entertainment," said Mrs. Joyce. "We predict it will have popular appeal as an alternate form of education."

The Department of Culture and Communications will be able to provide community-based libraries with video cassettes of Canadian instructional and cultural material. Videos will be available from public library depots and school resource centres in 25 communities in the NWT.

"The type of free video loan service that has been available in southern libraries will be available for the first time in the NWT," said Mr. Sorensen. "These videos, about Canada and Canadians, will be an extension of the information traditionally available in libraries."

"This agreement provides several much-needed access points in the Northwest Territories for NFB productions," said Mr. Macerola. "I am extremely grateful that the officials of both the Department of Education and the Department of Culture and Communications are helping the NFB achieve its objective of facilitating public access to our films and videos by sharing the distribution of our productions."

The signing of the agreement coincides with a meeting of the NFB's Board of Trustees in Yellowknife. The trustees will be addressed by the Honourable Nick Sibbeston, Government Leader and MLA for Nahendeh, and by Francois Paulette, Chairman of the Dene Cultural Institute.

Board members and the public last night attended a screening of two NFB productions in Yellowknife. Foster Child, a documentary by Metis film maker Gil Cardinal, traces his search at age 35 to find his natural family. Edge of Ice is an hour-long award-winning documentary about the sub-Arctic ice eco-system, directed by William Hansen.

During their stay in the NWT, the trustees will also be guests at a dinner in Detah, hosted by the Government of the NWT.

Joining the Board of Trustees for the first time are four members recently appointed for three-year terms:

- Hanna Fisher, Executive Director of the Vancouver International Film Festival;
- Marc Dorion, a Quebec City lawyer who practices commercial, tax and corporate law;
- Jocelyne Bourgon, Assistant Deputy Minister of Corporate Policy and Communications, federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources;
- Gaetan Lussier, Deputy Minister and Chairman of Employment and Immigration Canada.

The appointments complete membership of the NFB's Board of Trustees which consists of nine members, four of whom are from the public service and five of whom are prominent citizens representing the various geographical regions of the country.

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NATIVE PEOPLE PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN CONSERVATION

YELLOWKNIFE (June 26) - "The future of the Northwest Territories is intimately tied to the fate of the natural environment," Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen told delegates to the 51st Federal-Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Conference held recently in Tuktoyaktuk.

"The natural environment has shaped northern society since the beginning of human occupation some 2,500 years ago," he said. "It's only because conservation has been practised for thousands of years that we have something to conserve today."

Mr. Pedersen says however that life in the NWT has changed radically in the past 30 years.

"The people of the Northwest Territories live in a world of two economies: a traditional economy based on the renewable resources found here, which is contingent upon a high standard of environmental quality, and a wage economy based largely on non-renewable resource development, which tends to reduce environmental quality."

According to the minister, many northern residents want to participate in the wage economy, while keeping strong ties to the traditional ways and their cultural heritage. He says the decisions facing northern residents right now are confusing, and a wrong choice could jeopardize the existence of northern cultures.

"Long-term survival and stability will depend on the methods we develop to ensure that the contrasting, often conflicting, demands of our modern society are compatible and mutually supportive."

The Department of Renewable Resources has developed programs to handle these demands, including a NWT conservation strategy based on the philosophy that balanced development provides the only solution to the economic, cultural and environmental issues.

The strategy is designed to maintain the ecology and life support systems on which human survival and development depend. It is also intended to preserve the genetic diversity of wildlife and achieve a level of use which will support domestic, recreational and commercial renewable resource activities.

"It will provide a decision-making tool which will ensure the stewardship and 'wise-use' of all our natural resources," Mr. Pedersen says.

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CONFERENCE AUCTION RAISES MONEY FOR TUKTOYAKTUK

YELLOWKNIFE (June 26) - Tuktoyaktuk hockey players will be skating in style this winter, thanks to money raised during the 51st Federal-Provincial/ Territorial Wildlife Conference, held in the community last week. Bids from a fund-raising auction and cash donations totalled about $14,000.

"We originally thought we'd raise $4,000 or $5,000," said Paul Gray, a member of the conference organizing committee. "The bids probably went so high because the auction was held to raise money for the community. And speeches given by key people like NWT MLA Nellie Cournoyea and Yukon MLA Norma Kassi encouraged the bidding to continue."

Since the auction raised more than enough money to outfit Tuk's hockey players, it will be left up to the community to decide what to do with the rest.

About 115 people, including conference delegates and residents of Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik bid on about 60 items. They were donated by governments and non-government organizations in Canada, the United States and Great Britain, as well as private industry.

Local children donated a small, sealskin replica of a muskox, which normally retails for $15. It sold for $200. Two representatives from Ducks Unlimited Canada were relieved of the sweaters on their backs. The sweaters were then put on the auction block.

Other items included a Robert Bateman print, which sold for $1,350; lunch with federal Environment Minister Tom McMillan; supper with Senator Rheal Belisle; a duck telephone; native crafts, carvings, art prints, and trinkets.

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NWT ARCHIVES ACQUIRE BUD ORANGE PAPERS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 29) - The Northwest Territories Archives has recently acquired the papers of Robert "Bud" Orange, a civil servant who worked extensively throughout the North before representing the NWT in Parliament for seven years.

Trained as an economist, Mr. Orange joined the federal civil service in 1948, transferring to the Northern Affairs Department seven years later. In 1961 he was promoted to the position of regional administrator, stationed in Iqaluit (then Frobisher Bay). In 1963 he moved to Fort Smith, becoming the regional administrator for the Mackenzie, a post he held until he resigned to run as a Liberal candidate for Parliament in the 1965 election.

He was re-elected in 1968 and retired from politics in 1972. Mr. Orange is now the chairman of the Water Transport Committee of the Canadian Transport Commission.

The newly acquired documents relate primarily to Mr. Orange's career as a Member of Parliament. The material is of considerable historical significance because Mr. Orange represented the NWT during an important period in its political evolution - it was during this time that the Territorial Government was created and the capital city of Yellowknife was established.

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CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS COVER VARIETY OF TOPICS

YELLOWKNIFE (June 26) - The Porcupine Caribou Herd, migratory birds, trapping standards and sustainable development were some of the issues that concerned delegates to the 51st Federal-Provincial/ Territorial Wildlife Conference.

The delegates passed 17 recommendations at the end of the conference, held in Tuktoyaktuk last week.

One of the most important concerns is managing resources so that they aren't depleted, says Ken Brynaert, chairman of the conference's recommendations committee.

"We run into problems when trying to manage habitat because several agencies share responsibility for habitat management, like forestry, agriculture or fisheries. And these various jurisdictions don't always take wildlife interests into account when implementing plans," he says. "Everyone has to be included, because a comprehensive land use policy for Canada can't be drawn up without all the actors."

The delegates also emphasized the need for international co-operation to conserve the Porcupine Caribou Herd, which migrates between Alaska, the Yukon Territory and the NWT. Although Canada and the U.S. have taken measures to protect habitats of the herd, the U.S. is considering opening the key calving and post-calving areas for hydrocarbon development.

One of the recommendations calls on the governments of the two countries to ensure conservation of the herd through effective population and habitat management. It also recommends that U.S. congressional delegates who are planning to tour Alaska be encouraged to travel to the Yukon so they can better understand the importance of the herd to native people living in Canada.

The Migratory Bird Convention between Canada and the U.S. also came under the scrutiny of the delegates. They recommended that before April 1, 1988, the two countries negotiate a change to the existing regulations to enable northerners to harvest a reasonable number of migratory birds. The existing convention prohibits hunting between March 10 and September 1, which does not provide equitable access for northerners.

Delegates also supported the establishment of a minimum level of trapper education, mandatory trapper education and the establishment of trapping standards in Canada.

Since aboriginal peoples play a vital role in wildlife management it was recommended that they be encouraged to participate in future Federal-Provincial/ Territorial conferences.

The use of remote sensing technology was recommended to keep track of different types of habitat. This would provide information to help predict the impact of development projects and wildlife programs.

More than 80 delegates from across Canada, as well as the U.S. and Britain, attended the four-day conference. They included politicians, civil servants and employees of non-government organizations.

The conference was hosted by the NWT Department of Renewable Resources.

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FIRE HAZARD HIGH IN NWT

FORT SMITH (June 29) - There's a lull in forest fire fighting activity in the NWT today.

However, the fire hazard in the Fort Smith, Fort Simpson, Yellowknife, Norman Wells and Inuvik districts is calculated at moderate to extreme.

Sixty-six fires have been reported, and about 119 hectares have burned this year in the NWT.

Report forest fires to your local renewable resources officer or call the operator and ask for the toll free number Zenith 5555.

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REGIONAL COUNCILS REVIEW COMMITTEE CONTINUES CONSULTATION

YELLOWKNIFE (June 30) - The Regional and Tribal Councils Review Co-ordinating Committee has almost completed its consultation with individual Regional and Tribal Councils, says Committee Chairman Gary Black.

The Committee held discussions with members of the Deh Cho Regional Council at its meeting in Fort Liard last week, but was unable to attend the Dogrib Tribal Council meeting in Snare Lake because of bad weather.

In May, the Committee attended a regular session of the Kitikmeot Regional Council in Coppermine, but was unable to attend a meeting of the Keewatin Regional Council in Coral Harbour.

The Committee hopes to meet with the executives of both the Dogrib Tribal Council and the Keewatin Regional Council in order to hear the views of both Councils on the future development of Regional and Tribal Councils.

A second meeting will be held in Yellowknife with representatives of all Regional and Tribal Councils before the Committee completes its consultation and research work.

The Review Committee was established by the Executive Council last November to review the past and present activities of Regional and Tribal Councils, including existing legislation and funding, and to make recommendations relating to their future development. The Committee's report is to be presented to the Government Leader sometime this fall.

During the Fort Liard meeting, Deh Cho Regional Council Speaker Roy Fabian noted that the matters on which the Regional Council is asked to comment are increasing, and listed all the activities in which the Council has been involved since its creation. He noted that the Council only has funding to hold two meetings a year, and felt that putting together recommendations on the future development of Regional Councils would require further research and at least one additional meeting.

- 30 -

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GNWT TO IMPLEMENT HAZARDOUS MATERIALS LEGISLATION

YELLOWKNIFE (June 30) - The Government of the NWT plans to implement the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System designed to provide employers and employees with information vital to the safe and proper use of hazardous materials.

"In Canada, industrial accidents, fires, illnesses and the loss of life as the result of workers misusing hazardous materials costs billions of dollars and millions of work days each year, not to mention the pain and suffering of those affected," says Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne.

The Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) is a Canada-wide data network. The system was developed with input from labour, employers, and governments.

Federal legislation will set up the basic requirements for the WHMIS program, and it will work through the existing occupational health and safety regulations of the federal, provincial and territorial governments.

"We have already reviewed the model occupational health and safety regulations and fully intend to apply them to existing legislation as quickly as possible," the Minister said.

"Legislation will make it mandatory for anyone using hazardous products to be informed about the hazards and the proper usage of these products. The territorial government will ensure this is done by monitoring workplaces and helping employers and employees understand and apply the information provided on safety data sheets. The staff of both the safety division and mining inspection services will play a key role in this innovative and essential program," Mr. Ballantyne said.

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND YUKON SIGN AGREEMENT ON AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST IN EDUCATION

IQALUIT (June 30) - The Northwest Territories and Yukon will look at ways of sharing educational resources and opportunities through a Letter of Intent, signed today in Iqaluit by Education Minister Dennis Patterson and his Yukon counterpart, Piers McDonald.

NWT Education Minister Dennis Patterson said "The Northwest Territories and Yukon have common concerns and common interests in education. By exploring ways we can share expertise and research results on northern issues, both territories will benefit."

"Working together we will be examining a wide range of initiatives that could lead to curriculum and program development, shared workshops and seminars, and joint development of distance education technology," said Yukon Minister of Education Piers McDonald.

Possible joint initiatives to be explored include:

- sharing of curriculum and program development and expense;
- joint workshops and conferences of teachers and staff;
- joint development of distance education programming and technology;
- exchange of research findings;
- improved access to education for interchange students, including a review of fees and financial assistance;
- exchange of information on policy and legislative issues.

The Letter of Intent was signed at the Circumpolar Education Conference held in Iqaluit.

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CIRCUMPOLAR EDUCATION MINISTERS MEET

IQALUIT (June 30) - On June 29 and 30, 1987, the Minister of Education for the Northwest Territories, Honourable Dennis Patterson, hosted a first meeting of Ministers of Education with Circumpolar Education responsibilities at Mingutuq Lodge, 85 miles east of Iqaluit.

The Honourable Loyola Hearn, Minister of Education for Newfoundland and Labrador, Honourable Piers McDonald, Minister of Education for the Yukon Territory, and Dr. William Demmert, Commissioner of Education for Alaska, participated. Honourable Claude Ryan, Minister of Education for Quebec was represented by Jean Paul Olivier. Henrick Lennert represented Honourable Jens Lybert, Minister responsible for Education and Culture for the Home Rule Government of Greenland.

Consensus was reached on a number of issues for future co-operation and it was agreed that continuing meetings of Ministers responsible for Circumpolar Education would be beneficial.

A memorandum of understanding between all Ministers represented will be signed. This document will include agreement to pursue possibilities for sharing program information and services as well as research findings.

A second agreement was to co-ordinate education program development to avoid duplication in areas of common interest. Family life education and drug and alcohol education were identified as examples of areas for co-operation in development tasks.

A joint publication outlining exemplary policies and programs which have been proven will be prepared this year. Although it was noted that a wide variety of educational organizations and priorities exist, there are far more commonalities.

Exploratory discussions were held on the possibilities of future exchanges of staff and students in schools and post secondary institutions. The concept of "sister schools" or twinning of schools was agreed to as being useful.

A second meeting of Ministers with Circumpolar Education will be held in Juneau, Alaska, in late May 1988. The primary topic of discussion at that meeting will be the application of distance education technology to Circumpolar regions.

This first meeting of Circumpolar Ministers was held in conjunction with a Circumpolar Seminar on Education at Iqaluit June 27 - July 1. The Ministers joined educators from around the Circumpolar North for plenary sessions focussing on the topic of Inuit control of Inuit education.

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ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTED IN PINE POINT

YELLOWKNIFE (July 2) - Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs Gordon Wray today announced the appointment of an administrator for the Town of Pine Point.

He is Charles Scarborough, the Secretary Treasurer of the Town of Pine Point. His appointment, effective July 1, 1987, was made by Commissioner John Parker.

The appointment of Mr. Scarborough marks the end of the elected Pine Point Town Council. After a regular meeting of the Pine Point Town Council on June 25, it became clear that by August 1, there would only be three elected members left. "By that time the Council will no longer have a majority of Council members with an elected mandate," said Mr. Wray. "Under these circumstances, I feel now is the appropriate time to appoint an administrator. The decision to appoint an administrator was taken earlier in June in consultation with the Mayor and Council."

The Town Council has now been dissolved and its duties, authority and responsibilities have passed to the administrator, explained the Minister. "It is appreciated that Pine Point's situation is not a result of any matter or action of the Council or administration but of extraordinary circumstances over which the Council, or our government, has no control."

The town's main employer, Pine Point Mines Limited, is shutting down its operation and expects to be closed entirely in three years.

"I have confidence in Mr. Scarborough's administrative capabilities and in his good standing with the residents of Pine Point," said Mr. Wray. "These qualities should ensure the continuity of an efficient and stable administration."

In addition to the appointment of Mr. Scarborough, the Minister will recommend that the Commissioner appoint the three remaining elected councillors to a local committee to consult with the administrator on the conduct of affairs of the community. These councillors are Ron Friesen, Dennis Boyer and John Morin.

- 30 -

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SIBBESTON CELEBRATES CANADA DAY IN KEEWATIN

YELLOWKNIFE (July 1) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston celebrated Canada Day in three Keewatin communities today. Mr. Sibbeston attended ceremonies in Eskimo Point, Whale Cove and Rankin Inlet.

The celebrations are part of the Government Leader's week-long visit to the region. He was in Baker Lake before going on to Eskimo Point, and will stop in Chesterfield Inlet, Repulse Bay and Coral Harbour before returning to Yellowknife.

The Keewatin tour is part of Mr. Sibbeston's commitment to Members of the Legislative Assembly to visit all regions of the Northwest Territories before this autumn.

"I find that by seeing the regions and communities and the people who live there, I have a better understanding of what we are all seeking from the Government of the Northwest Territories."

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES SUPPORTS CITES

YELLOWKNIFE (July 2) - Minister of Renewable Resources Red Pedersen has released the following information regarding CITES - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna.

According to Mr. Pedersen, the issue of international trade in animals and the politics of conservation, preservation and animals rights are crucial to the Northwest Territories.

"To that end, the Government of the Northwest Territories through the federal government has been supportive of CITES and its aims," says Mr. Pedersen.

The CITES conference will be held in the Conference Centre in Ottawa from July 12th to 25th. Northern representatives from the territorial government, native organizations and hunters and trappers associations will attend.

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CITES

In the full title of CITES - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) - the words "endangered species" seem to be the attention-getters. In reality, much of the interest at a CITES meeting is generated, not by endangered species, but by issues of international trade in plants and animals and the politics of conservation, preservation and animal rights.

The CITES treaty, inspired by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and natural Resources (IUCN) and the United Nations, and drafted in 1973, now has 95 signatory nations as members and is the largest conservation treaty in the world. Endangered species are important in the treaty, which gives them additional protection by controlling trade. Today, about 41,000 species of plants and animals come under CITES controls. But only about 1000 of those are endangered species - less than 1/4 of one per cent of the total.

The other 40,000 plants and animals are species that closely resemble endangered and threatened species, the look-alikes. The look-alikes are by far the largest group: for example, there are only a handful of endangered orchids but more than 15,000 species of look-alike orchids are listed.

Why control trade? To use a simple example, it's almost impossible to stop poachers in the field from killing an endangered animal, especially in underdeveloped countries where there are not the resources to provide protection and enforcement. CITES ensures that in this instance, there is no legal way to sell what has been illegally killed. This diminishes economic incentives by forcing poachers to go to the additional risk and expense of smuggling.

Trade restrictions have direct effects on many economies. In many resource-poor countries and even in certain Canadian regions, the use and sale of wildlife and wild plants is vital to the economy. Trade restrictions by CITES can have a dramatic economic impact - cash incomes and export dollars can literally disappear overnight.

Non-use of a species isn't always helpful to the plant or animal in need of protection. If an economy depends on sale of a species which can no longer be commercially used, then in order to replace the economic loss, people may use the land that supported the species to produce a replacement cash crop. The result is the loss of the essential habitat and long-term, permanent damage to the protected species.

In many cases, continued use of the species is an incentive to protect it. Income provided by controlled, sustained-yield harvesting produces income which can be used by governments to continue management programs. The ecological and economic systems become mutually supporting and tend to produce conditions that will provide animal and plant populations for future generations.

The economic importance of wildlife and wild plants leads to national politics becoming involved in decisions that might otherwise be purely scientific. There's usually more to consider than just the degree of endangerment of the species.

But national governments are assisted in making these decisions by Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). NGOs are voluntary groups with strong interests in wildlife, wild plants and the environment; among Canadian NGOs at this meeting, for example, are the World Wildlife Fund and the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

NGOs were primarily responsible for pushing governments into creating CITES in the years before 1973 and are entitled to participate as observers at the meetings. There is a great deal of diversity among NGOs. In broad terms, they fall into three camps:

- conservationists, who support wise use of resources,
- preservationists, who favour non-use of resources, and
- animal rights advocates, who believe that all use of animals is immoral.

NGOs attempt to influence CITES' decisions in order to have international law reflect their philosophy. NGO politics mesh easily with national interests. Countries that export plants and animals tend to take conservationist positions. Highly industrialized countries that have extirpated many of their native species are sometimes more inclined to support preservationist or even animal rights positions.

In the past, some CITES listings have been highly beneficial. For example, some of the crocodilians (crocodiles and alligators) that were threatened with extinction have, with protection, recovered to the point that a surplus exists and trade has now resumed. On the other hand, other decisions may well be harming species like the gyrfalcon, which some wildlife specialists maintain would be in a stronger long-term position for survival if trade were allowed and the bird once again became economically valuable.

There is a worldwide trend towards rising populatins of formerly protected plant and animal populations. CITES participants are thus facing decisions to delist many species formerly on Appendix I. Delisting a species also brings into focus the contrasting views of conservationists and preservationists.

There are stories at CITES about endangered species; but discussions and decisions at CITES will reveal a subsurface ebb and flow of philosophies and national interests that will determine the future of the world's invaluable flora and fauna.

Why Conservationists Support CITES

Conservationists are among the strongest supporters of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) because what's good for endangered species is good for all species - and that's good habitat, places where wildlife can survive in abundance.

The World Conservation Strategy sets out the main principles for conservation as maintaining essential ecological processes, preserving genetic diversity and ensuring the sustainable use of species and ecosystems. In short, conservation is the wise use of renewable resources by humans; it is not non-use of our resources.

Conservationists may be resource users. They see the value in using wild flora and fauna in medical and pharmacological research. They may also hunt, trap, fish, or simply observe and photograph wildlife. It is important to conservationists to have both an abundance and a diversity of plant and animal life and the habitat to support both.

Unlike preservationists, who tend to focus attention on the life of each individual animal, conservationists look to the survival of entire populations and species. In order to ensure the survival of any species, its habitat must be maintained. This is where we have a problem. Deteriorating habitat is the root cause of declining animal populations. Conservation organizations are committed to preserving habitat.

A wide variety of conservationist groups function as Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) at CITES. Their role is to support trade restrictions on species that need protection from over-exploitation, to preserve genetic diversity and to promote the other principles of the World Conservation Strategy.

Conservation organizations also advocate improving habitat for threatened species. While restricting trade may provide a safeguard for a species, only improved habitat can lead to a species' recovery. The conservationist's goal is not to make an ever-lengthening list of endangered species - it's to improve living conditions for every species of wildlife. Conservationists want to shorten the list of threatened and protected species. This is beginning to happen around the world.

When species, such as some of the crocodilians, have recovered to the point that a controlled harvest is possible, then the surplus wildlife can be used. Resource users are front-line conservationists. If people use wildlife, they have a vested interest in protecting and enhancing the habitat that produces an abundance and diversity of wild plants and animals.

CITES Glossary

The Appendixes

The CITES treaty has three appendixes listing species of plants and animals that are protected by restrictions on international trade. The most severe trade controls are put on Appendix I species, with lesser restriction on trade in Appendix II and Appendix III species.

Appendix I

Appendix I lists about 1000 species of plants and animals that are threatened with extinction, and that are or may be affected by trade. All commercial trade is banned. No private individual or business may buy or sell:

- the plant or animal itself;
- any part of the plant or animal, such as teeth, feathers or blossoms; or
- any derivative or product made using the plant or animal such as perfumes, oils or carvings.

Controlled trade in live and dead specimens of endangered species continues in special circumstances. These are primarily exchanges for scientific study and the movement of live specimens for captive breeding programs. This trade must not be detrimental to the survival of the species.

A double-permit system works to ensure that trade in Appendix I species is not abused. The country of export must provide an export permit and the receiving country must issue an import certificate that allows the receiver to legally possess the specimen.

Putting a species on Appendix I is not always based on purely scientific criteria. Controversy can arise easily. For example, one country may have managed their wildlife to produce an abundance of falcons and can sell surplus fledglings for $50,000 each without reducing the population as a whole. Other countries with the same species may have allowed the populations to decline to the brink of extinction. If that species is listed on Appendix I, then the country with abundance is penalized for another country's neglect.

Appendix II

Appendix II lists 40,000 species in two groups: threatened and look-alikes. Threatened species have diminished populations and could become endangered. Look-alikes are plants and animals that resemble species that are endangered or threatened. Look-alikes are listed because customs officers cannot be expected to distinguish between, for example, an endangered orchid and a common one. Thus, while less than a dozen species of orchid are listed on Appendix I as truly endangered more than 15,000 species are listed on Appendix II.

Trade in Appendix II species is restricted by a one-permit system - an export permit issued by the country of export. Again, trade must not be detrimental to the survival of the species.

Appendix III

Appendix III has a cooperative aspect to it. Any CITES country can declare its intention to manage a species, issue export permits for any specimen leaving the country and ask for the cooperation of other CITES participants in enforcement. About 50 species are currently listed on Appendix III.

Proposals and Resolutions at CITES

At CITES, proposals are applications to list or delist species. Decisions on proposals are based primarily on scientific evidence regarding the survival of the species. They can be controversial. Heavily industrialized and habitat-poor developed nations frequently take a more protectionist position than countries in Africa and North America that have habitat to produce abundances of certain species and need to derive sustainable economic benefits from these species. Countries that desire to use and manage wildlife on a scientific basis take a conservationist approach to CITES proposals.

Not all debate is over proposals. Resolutions are proposed that may deal with administrative matters, definition of terms, implementation or interpretation. Proposals, if approved, affect only the species directly involved. A resolution on interpretation of a CITES ruling, however, can affect trade all over the world and the economies of many nations.

NGO Terminology

NGOs are Non-Government Organizations that have no vote at CITES but are allowed to participate as observers. In fact, their right to do so is written into the CITES treaty, primarily because NGOs were instrumental in creating CITES.

By the late 1960s, public worry about loss of wildlife and destruction of habitat was building rapidly, spurred by the 1962 publication of Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring." Later in the decade, the worldwide NGO organization, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) was actively promoting the concept of control of international trade in wildlife. In 1972, Washington, D.C. was the site for the treaty conference that led to CITES, and NGOs were among the participants. Today, the number of NGOs at a CITES meeting normally outnumbers the government delegations. In Ottawa, up to 85 governments will be represented as well as over 200 NGOs.

NGOs are most commonly voluntary organizations made up of interested people from the public, including scientists. Their expertise, which can be independent of government influences and national interest, is important to the work of CITES. Some NGOs, in fact, are international organizations that participate actively not only with CITES but also with various branches of the United Nations.

NGOs are as diverse as the nations that belong to CITES, and can be loosely grouped as conservation organizations, preservation organizations and animal rights organizations.

Conservationist NGOs favour wise use of renewable resources. The most elaborate statement of the conservationist position is the World Conservation Strategy, a document produced by the United Nations, IUCN and several other international organizations. The basic goal of the conservation strategy is to use resources wisely in order that the resources will be there for the use of succeeding generations of people. (See the accompanying backgrounder, "Why Conservationists Support CITES.")

The focus for conservation groups tends to be on populations of animals and plants rather than individual organisms and on the habitat needed to produce healthy populations. When the scientific evidence indicates that a listed species has recovered to the point that wise use can be made of the plants or animals, conservation groups tend to support resuming use rather than continued listing.

Preservationists have some common ground with conservationists in that both recognize the importance of habitat and the environment in promoting a diversity of species. Most of these groups, however, are not resource users.

When a debate arises over listing a species, preservationists and conservationists often disagree, with conservationists favouring more use of the resource than preservationists.

Animal rights groups are a third important and distinct element which is now present at CITES meetings. The concept of animal rights was almost unheard of when the CITES treaty was signed in 1973, but has since become a significant movement. Animal rights advocates believe that all use of animals is immoral - they should not be used for food, fur, research, zoos, or even as pets. Animal rights groups have recognized that CITES can be used to achieve some of their goals by controlling trade, thus reducing the treatment of animals as chattel or property.

Animal rights groups are the polar opposite of conservationists and have yet to forge strong links with the preservationists because animal rights has little real concern with either habitat or the environment. Their emphasis is on the individual animal's "rights."

In the past year, the links of animal rights groups to violent animal liberationists have received a great deal of publicity in Canada and abroad. The result is that many animal rights activists are backing away from the term and presenting themselves as animal protectionists or animal welfarists.

Animal welfare groups have traditionally supported use of animals. Their agenda is the humane and responsible treatment of animals, based on the premise that our society needs to use and will continue to use animals. The policies of many animal welfare groups have been affected by animal rights activists, who support goals of humane treatment while actually working towards non-use.

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FOUR NWT WOMEN TO ATTEND TRENT UNIVERSITY

YELLOWKNIFE (July 3) - Four women from the NWT will be attending Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario this fall under the territorial government's new Special Departmental Management Career Program.

Brenda McDonald of Inuvik, Martina Jacobson of Tuktoyaktuk, Jessie Adams and Selma Karetak, both of Rankin Inlet, will be enrolling in the university's six-week screening and preparatory session on July 20. University instructors will assess their progress at the end of the session to determine if they are suitable for a two-year diploma program in business administration.

"When we encourage northerners to become involved in the public sector, we must also encourage them to seek an education that will prepare them to fill management positions within the government. I personally wish them every success in their studies," said Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Nick Sibbeston.

There are three integrated components to the Native Management and Economic Development Program -- a two-year diploma course, a three-year Bachelor of Arts, and a four-year Bachelor of Administration. Each year of study under the program can be applied to a higher level of education. For example, someone successfully completing two years under the diploma program may use those credits towards a B.A.

"The students will receive practical on-the-job training in the private sector when they return to the North during the summer months. Those who successfully complete either the diploma or the degree program will be offered jobs with the Government of the NWT," the Minister said.

In conjunction with Trent University, this program combines core funding from the Department of Education's budget with funding from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

"This program provides an excellent opportunity for these women to not only get a valuable education, but also to participate in an international program that will allow them to meet, learn, and work with other native people from around the world," Mr. Sibbeston said. "This sharing of cultures and experiences will be invaluable when they begin their professional careers," he said.

Mature students who have been out of school for at least two years and have at least a Grade 11 education are eligible for the program.

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TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS REGULATIONS ENFORCED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 6) - The Territorial government is encouraging 'voluntary compliance' in the enforcement of the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Program on the N.W.T. highway system and in communities.

Enforcement of the Act and regulations begins today at the weigh scale stations in Enterprise, Fort Liard and Inuvik. The Act and regulations were proclaimed in 1985 to ensure public and environmental safety during the transport of dangerous goods by road.

The Pollution Control Division, Department of Renewable Resources, oversees the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Program. Pollution Control Division officials are working closely with the trucking industry to assist in the compliance of the regulations in three main areas. These include ensuring that all shipments carry proper safety marks and documentation and that all operators have adequate training in all aspects of transporting dangerous goods.

-30-

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RENEWABLE RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD ESTABLISHED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 10) - A special board is being established to provide advice on wildlife and forestry management in the Dene/Metis settlement area.

Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen today announced the establishment of the Mackenzie Valley Renewable Resource Advisory Board. The board's main priority is advising the minister on renewable resource issues in the area.

The advisory board's main responsibilities include:

* providing recommendations, consistent with principles of conservation, public safety and health, on policy and legislation to the Renewable Resources Minister;

* providing a public forum for discussion and debate on renewable resource issues;

* promoting the conservation and wise use of renewable resources in the area while emphasizing the traditional renewable resource economy and considering national and international interests; and,

* ensuring recommendations are consistent with the intent of the interim Dene/Metis wildlife agreement and initialled sub-agreements of the Dene/Metis claim pertaining to renewable resources.

The board will consist of 10 members and an independent chairman appointed by the Renewable Resources Minister. Five members will be nominated by the Dene/Metis Negotiations Secretariat and the other five will be direct appointments by the minister.

"This co-ordinated effort is an important first step to an integrated renewable resource management system in the Northwest Territories," said Pedersen. "I look forward to the advice and work the board will provide on renewable resource management issues".

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INUVIK PARKS RECEIVE ADDITIONAL FUNDING

INUVIK (July 10) - The territorial government will be upgrading two parks in the Inuvik area this summer by re-allocating funds within the tourism and parks budget, and by making a contribution to the Town of Inuvik.

The government has increased this year's capital funding for Chuk Park from $50,000 to $150,000, and has made a $60,000 contribution to the Town to upgrade Happy Valley Campground.

Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, says the additional $100,000 in funding was allocated for the park because of a greater interest, on behalf of visitors, in the area.

"We have already seen a tremendous increase in the number of tourists in the Inuvik area this summer. Figures show that the Dempster Corridor has had about three times as many visitors from the middle to the end of June this year, than it did last year," Mr. Sibbeston said. "And we haven't yet hit the most popular season for tourists to visit the North."

Chuk Park, located just outside of Inuvik, will have 17 new camp sites, better road surfaces, and group pull-throughs by the end of the summer. As well, tent sites will be completed, the kitchen shelter will be renovated, and barrier screens will be installed to improve the look of the park.

A $60,000 contribution to the Town of Inuvik will permit the municipality to upgrade the sewage pump station at Happy Valley Campground in the downtown. It will also supply 15 power outlets for recreational vehicles, and provide funding to upgrade the playground and barbecue sites.

"These renovations will immediately improve the condition of the campsites in the area and make travellers visiting the North more comfortable. Being more comfortable, they will be encouraged to stay a bit longer, and perhaps return to vacation in the North next year," Mr. Sibbeston said.

Construction at Happy Valley will be completed before construction at Chuk Park begins in order to minimize the inconvenience to travellers in the Inuvik area.

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NEWS RELEASE

Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 2100, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2P6

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HOUSING CORP. TAKES PART IN INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 13) - The Honorable Michael A. Ballantyne, Minister Responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation announced today that the corporation will participate in the United Nation's International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (I.Y.S.H.).

In recognition of I.Y.S.H., the Housing Corporation will sponsor a series of presentations and discussions on how to alleviate homelessness through community action. It will also sponsor a program with a housing expert from a third world country designed to exchange ideas on self-help housing.

The Corporation has already sponsored a poster contest for students to increase awareness of the problem of homelessness in Canada and throughout the world.

These activites will heighten public awareness of homelessness and will encourage community groups and government agencies to work together to improve housing conditions.

Although Canadians are well-housed in comparison to residents of other countries, there are thousands of people in Canada who do not have permanent shelter.

According to a recent survey by the Canada Council on Social Development, homelessness is a grim reality for at least 100,000 people in Canada. In addition to those people who are absolutely homeless, there are thousands more who live in unacceptable conditions of overcrowding or inadequate accomodation.

In the Northwest Territories, the Government has identified housing as one of its main priorities. In announcing the initiatives taken by the Housing Corporation to observe I.Y.S.H., Mr. Ballantyne said, "In the NWT, every year is a year of shelter for the homeless."

In recognition of the high priority of housing in the NWT, the Minister has committed the Housing Corporation to a new approach for delivering housing. The new approach recognizes the close relationship between building houses and building communities, and commits the Corporation to creating partnerships with communities to solve housing problems.

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NEW ADDITIONS TO HERITAGE CENTRE COLLECTION

YELLOWKNIFE (July 13) - The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre has a number of new additions to its collection, thanks to the generosity of private donors.

"We usually have a steady flow of donations," says Pat Freeman, a cataloguer at the Northern Heritage Centre. "But every now and then we receive a number all at once."

Most of the Centre's artifacts are donated, while only 5 to 15 per cent are purchased.

Anne Ackerman Finnie, of Belvedere, Calif., has donated a Dogrib drum and an axe that was made by either the Dogrib or the Coronation Copper Inuit. Both belonged to her husband, Richard Sterling Finnie, an historian, author and film producer who worked in the North.

Mr. Sterling had many adventures during his time north of 60. He made the first flight across the North Magnetic Pole and the first direct flight from Norman Wells to Whitehorse. He lived with the Copper Eskimo for a year. Eventually, he became affectionately known as "Klondike Dick."

After 25 years with the Bechtel film corporation, he retired in 1968.

Iris Kogiak, of Yellowknife, has donated a pair of sealskin mukluks, made following the style of the Alaska Eskimo. They were sewn by Thea Gordon of Aklavik, whose ancestors came from Alaska.

The mukluks are made with sealskin on the outside, are lined with muskrat, and trimmed with Arctic fox. The soles are made of seal flipper. The toes of the mukluks feature a unique design, made of caribou skin that's been dyed different colors.

Stephen Hume, former editor-in-chief of the Edmonton Journal, has donated a tin pot autographed by delegates to the Nunavut Constitutional Forum in Coppermine in March 1985.

Hume had gone to cover the forum, which was supposed to be open to the press. When the news media were told to leave, he referred to the delegates as behaving in the manner of "tin-pot dictators in a banana republic." The delegates thought this was quite funny, since the tin pot is the symbol of everything that's good about Inuit culture. They presented him with his own tin pot.

Mary Bryant (nee Harrington), of Ottawa, has donated 15 oil paintings on canvas board she painted while she taught in Tuktoyaktuk and the Delta area during the 1940's. Instead of using a brush, Mrs. Bryant used a small knife to apply the paint.

The paintings were on exhibit in Tuktoyaktuk, and are being sent to Inuvik, where they will be displayed until September.

A stone-cut print on cloth has been donated by Mrs. Lorna Vale, of Somerset, England, whose first husband, John Stanners, was a long-time employee of the Bay in the North. They lived at a number of northern locations, including Spence Bay, Bathurst Inlet and Holman Island.

The print was made around 1962-64 by Mrs. Vale's friend, Kalva Kadlak of Holman Island.

Denny May, of Calgary, has donated a number of items that belonged to his father, bush pilot Wop May. They include a hatchet, a small box of matches from a ship's life boat, and an anemometre -- an instrument for measuring and indicating the force or speed of the wind.

Lorne C. James, of Yellowknife, has donated a number of items, including a fossil fish that's about 90 million years old. It was found in northern Brazil, but similar formations have been found in the NWT. He has also donated a rock geode, a piece of agate with a cavity lined with calcite crystals or quartz, and a number of art prints. One pictures a walrus, and was created by author James Houston. The rest include two prints by James Lumbers and two prints by Vera Zimmerman. They were bought at CanArctic in Edmonton several years ago.

Garth Wallbridge, also of Yellowknife, has donated 35 cameras and accessories that date back to the turn of the century. He collected them from 1970-75 around Winnipeg. They include Kodak, Anco, Coronet and Spartus models.

The Heritage Centre has also been given a dental chair from St. Therese's Home, which was formerly the hospital in Chesterfield Inlet. It was donated by the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Hudson Bay. It is part of a larger collection of medical equipment and books that has already been received by the Centre.

- 30 -

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

News Release CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

87-172

EXHIBIT GIVES SHAPE TO INUIT ELDERS

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Yellowknife, N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (July 13) - The richness of traditional Inuit myths will be brought to life through sculpture and photography with a new exhibit, opening July 19 at 2 p.m., at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

"Paulatuk - Mythology and Photography" features the sculpture of David Ruben Piqtoukun and the photography of Thomas Skudra.

Piqtoukun's sculpture brings to life the myths of the Inuit - Sedna the sea goddess, a man who becomes a bear, eyesight that is magically lost and regained, spirits, a shaman's trip to the moon and back. The sculptures of soapstone, ivory, wood, whalebone, and caribou antlers, teeth and sinew, mark Piqtoukun's journey home, back to the lore and language of his ancestors.

The artist was born in Paulatuk in 1950, to parents who lived on the land. At the age of four, he was sent south to attend a Roman Catholic boarding school, returning home only in the summer. By the time his parents had settled in Paulatuk, he had moved south to Edmonton, and then Vancouver, where he started to carve.

He now returns to Paulatuk for several months each year to renew his link to traditional Inuit culture.

Thomas Skudra's photos document the environment that has shaped Piqtoukun and his art. They show dog teams, wooden crosses in the graveyard, the local co-op store, someone cutting muktuk and a plane wreck. They show the clash of past and present, a place of television screens and whale hunts.

Piqtoukun's sculpture has been displayed in many exhibits across Canada, the United States and abroad. Thomas Skudra is an award-winning photographer who has contributed to a number of Canadian and American magazines. He has also worked for a wide range of commercial clients.

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NEWS RELEASE

Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 2100, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2P6

87-173

HOUSING CORPORATION ANNOUNCES POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 14) - The Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Board of Directors is pleased to announce the 18 winners in its poster contest to recognize the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

The NWT Housing Corporation sponsored the contest to help raise public awareness about issues and concerns of the homeless in the NWT and in the world, during this, the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, said Chariman of the Board Gary Jaeb.

"While it was a delight to judge the 176 posters in the contest, it turned out to be a difficult task as indicated by the large number of honorable mentions," Mr. Jaeb said. "All of the entries showed a great deal of thought about the plight of the homeless in today's society."

NWT judges will select four posters from among the winners here and send them to Ottawa where they will be displayed at the Canadian conference for IYSH.

First prize in the kindergarten to Grade 1 category went to Shawntelle Dupuis, a Grade 1 student at Norman J. McPherson Elementary School in Yellowknife. Raymond Kamookak Jr., a Grade 1 student at Kekertak Ilihakvik Territorial School in Gjoa Haven took second prize.

Linda Qattalik in Grade 2 at Ataguttaaluk School in Igloolik won the Grade 2-3 first prize, while 10-year-old Terry Putulik of Victor Sammutok School in Chesterfield Inlet took the second prize.

Among the Grade 4-6 entrants, Terra Ward in Grade 4 at J.B. Tyrrell Elementary School in Fort Smith won first prize, and Mary Jane Lafferty in Grade 4 at Snare Lake Territorial School in Snare Lake won second prize.

Fifteen-year-old Clara Kayotak won first prize in the Grades 7-9 category, and 16-year-old Jack Haulli won second prize. Both are students at Ataguttaaluk School in Igloolik.

An honorable mention went to Cody Fennell of Norman J. McPherson Elementary in Yellowknife in the kindergarten to Grade 1 category.

Bernard Alaralak, a Grade 2 student at Ataguttaaluk School in Igloolik, won first honorable mention in the Grade 2-3 category and classmate Christine Quassa won an honorable mention.

In the Grade 4-6 category, first honorable mention went to Alastair Hill, in Grade 4 at J.B. Tyrrell Elementary in Fort Smith. Classmates Brent Dean and Vinad Viswallingham picked up honorable mentions. Honorable mentions also went to Melissa Bonnetplume of Chief Julius School in Fort McPherson, and to Brian Kattegatseak and Gloria Mimialik of Victor Sammutok School in Chesterfield Inlet.

A first honorable mention went to James Takazo, a Grade 8 student at Fort Franklin Territorial School in Fort Franklin, for his entry in the Grades 7-9 category.

First place winners from kindergarten to Grade 3 won $25 prizes while second place winners won $15. First place entrants in Grades 4 to 9 won $50 in cash and second place entrants won $25.

All poster contest winners, including honorable mentions, received an International year of Shelter for the Homeless t-shirt, and all entrants received an IYSH button

- 30 -

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

News Release

CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Government of N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

87-174

FIRE ACTIVITY HIGH IN INUVIK AND NORMAN WELLS

FORT SMITH (July 15) - Thunderstorm activity in the lower Mackenzie Valley over the past five days has resulted in a rash of fire starts in the Norman Wells and Inuvik districts.

Thirty-five new fires in the Norman Wells district were reported to the Territorial Forest Fire Centre here this week. Many of the fires were detected and successfully fought in the fire attack zone at a small size.

Twenty-two new fires were reported in the Inuvik district.

Both districts have been preparing for heavy fire activity since late June. Rainfall in the Norman Wells/Inuvik areas has been limited this summer. Significant rainfall hasn't been noted in either area for over 30 days.

Fire hazard in the Norman Wells and Inuvik districts has been high to extreme since July 1. Increased air attack capability now is a priority in both areas. The Territorial government's two CL-215 water bombers moved from Yellowknife to Inuvik. Two DC-6 air tankers, one from Hay River and one on loan from British Columbia, now are stationed in Norman Wells and Yellowknife. Extra medium lift helicopters, capable of carrying crews, fire gear and water buckets, are positioned in both districts.

Initial attack camps, one in Inuvik district and two in Norman Wells district, are now operational. Each camp is supplied with a medium helicopter, fire crews and emergency camp help. Trained fire fighter crews, from Yellowknife and Fort Smith districts, moved to the camps. These camps increase the effectiveness of the fire protection program by placing men and equipment in strategic locations within fire attack zones.

Extra personnel has been hired locally to act as fire fighters and service personnel.

The fire hazard in Inuvik and Norman Wells remains high to extreme for the rest of the week. Cooler, wet weather is expected to move into both areas this weekend.

The Yellowknife district reported 10 new fires since the weekend. All fires in the fire attack zone are under control except for one burning near Snowdrift. However, rain in the Snowdrift area has assisted in suppression efforts at this fire. The fire hazard remains extreme in the Yellowknife district for the rest of the week.

Fire hazard in the Fort Smith and Simpson districts ranges from moderate to high. No new fires were reported in the Fort Smith district. Seven fires are burning in the Simpson area. Five of the seven fires reported in the Simpson area have been contained. One fire, east of Fish Lake, is burning in the observation zone.

A total of 156 fires have been reported in the Northwest Territories this season.

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Yellowknife, N.W.T.

87-175

FIRE ACTIVITY REMAINS HIGH IN INUVIK AND NORMAN WELLS

FORT SMITH (July 16) - Warm, dry weather throughout the Mackenzie Valley is causing increased forest fire activity north of Great Slave Lake.

Thirteen new fires over the past 24 hours in the Norman Wells district were reported to the Territorial Forest Fire Centre. Reports show there are three new fires burning in the Inuvik district, six in the Yellowknife district and three new fires in the Fort Simpson district.

Equipment and crews remain active in the Inuvik, Norman Wells and Yellowknife districts. The fire hazard is extreme in these three districts as the hot, dry weather continues.

The fire hazard south of Great Slave Lake remains moderate to low.

- 30 -

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87-176

FOREST FIRE NEAR GOOD HOPE UNDER CONTROL

FORT SMITH (July 17) - A forest fire which threatened the community of Fort Good Hope earlier this week, is under control.

Lightning started the fire, located four miles northeast of Fort Good Hope, on July 15. It quickly spread to cover four hectares.

Two fire crews responded and took initial action on the fire. The initial ground crew was evacuated from the area for safety reasons. However, a DC-6 air tanker and birddog aircraft, passing overhead when the fire was spotted, were able to contain it so the ground crews could return. Two Bell 204 helicopters also were used in this action.

Mop-up operations now are underway and the fire should be declared out this weekend.

Fire crews have a small fire, located about six miles northwest of Inuvik, under control. The fire, started by lightning this morning, covered an area of about half an acre.

Over the past 24 hours, 15 new fires were reported to the Territorial Forest Fire Centre. Eight of these were discoverd in the Norman Wells district, five in the Yellowknife district and two in the Inuvik district.

British Columbia has loaned a second DC-6 air tanker to the Territorial government. Two DC-6 tankers are operating out of Norman Wells and the third DC-6 is in Yellowknife. Both GNWT CL-215 water bombers are operating out of Inuvik.

Fire hazard in the Inuvik, Norman Wells and Yellowknife districts remains extreme while the fire hazard in Fort Smith and Fort Simpson districts is moderate to high.

Thunderstorm activity is expected today in the Inuvik and Norman Wells districts before cooler weather arrives this weekend. Yellowknife, Fort Simpson and Fort Smith districts are expected to experience warmer temperatures this weekend.

A total of 196 forest fires have been reported this year.

- 30 -

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87-177

DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK TOUR YELLOWKNIFE

YELLOWKNIFE (July 20) - Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of York are expected to arrive in Yellowknife on Saturday, July 25th. The couple has been touring Canada since July 15th.

Prince Andrew and Lady Sarah will attend several functions in the city following their arrival at 4:25 on Saturday afternoon. They will be met at the Department of National Defence hangar by Commissioner John Parker and Mrs. Helen Parker. A motorcade will bring the Royal couple into Yellowknife where they can be seen by members of the public along 48th Street, Franklin Avenue and Matonabbee Street.

At 4:50 p.m., the Duke and Duchess will be met at the Matonabbee Street entrance of Pettitot Park by Government Leader Nick Sibbeston and Mrs. Karen Sibbeston and by Yellowknife Mayor Mike McGrath and Mrs. Cec McGrath. They will then walk through Pettitot Park.

Strolling entertainers from Folk on the Rocks will be there, along with young people from Camp Antler, Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts. The Native Women's Association will be selling refreshments. Special areas have been set aside for the elderly and the disabled.

The walk through Pettitot Park ends in the parking area beside the Curling Rink. Gifts from the Government of the Northwest Territories and from the City of Yellowknife will be presented to the Duke and Duchess before they leave for the Explorer Hotel.

On Sunday morning at 10:50, the couple will leave the Explorer Hotel for a service at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church. H.R.H. Prince Andrew will read the Lesson to invited guests and church members. The service ends at noon.

In the afternoon at 2:50, the couple will visit Giant Yellowknife Mines for an underground tour. The tour will last about two hours.

Their Royal Highnesses plan to stay in the Northwest Territories for two weeks following their official visit for a private canoe trip. Prince Andrew paddled the Nahanni River with Canadian friends three years ago.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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JUL 23
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Yellowknife, N.W.T.

87-178

RECYCLING STUDIES RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 22) - Two studies dealing with recycling options for the Northwest Territories were released today by Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen.

The first study, An Inventory of and Recycling Alternatives for Wasted Liquid Petroleum in the Northwest Territories explores options for recycling waste lubricating oil. Options looked at include the re-refining and burning of waste oil for heating purposes.

The second study, Recycling of Beverage Containers in the Northwest Territories, investigates the viability of recycling beverage containers in the N.W.T.

"Both these studies provide valuable information in this era of consumer awareness of environmental and energy conservation concerns," said Pedersen. "N.W.T. residents should consider these options seriously."

Copies of both studies are available from the Pollution Control Division, Department of Renewable Resources, in Yellowknife or telephone (403) 873-7654.

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FIRE HAZARD HIGH IN WESTERN ARCTIC

FORT SMITH (July 22) - The fire hazard remains high throughout the western Arctic.

Since Friday, 51 new fire starts were reported to the Territorial Forest Fire Centre. Sixteen of the new fire starts were reported in the Yellowknife district, twelve in the Inuvik district, eight in the Norman Wells and Fort Smith districts and seven in the Fort Simpson district.

A fire burning in the Yukon is causing dense smoke conditions in Fort McPherson and along the Peel River. Yukon fire operations officials are not taking action on this fire. Travellers are advised to stay off the Peel River because of the dense smoke conditions.

Renewable Resource fire operations officals established a fire camp 150 kilometres southeast of Inuvik to fight a fire burning in the Tavaillant Lake area. Forty fire fighters and three helicopters are working out of this camp. Lightning started the fire on July 14.

In the Norman Wells district, firefighters are conducting mop-up operations on a fire located 32 km east southeast of Fort Norman.

Mop-up operations are continuing at a fire which threatened the Big Spruce Lake power complex. This complex supplies power to the City of Yellowknife and both Yellowknife mines. It was started by lightning on July 17. Sixty-five men and seven aircraft were used to bring the fire under control.

Men and equipment were also used to bring a fire, located 35/km east southeast of Snowdrift, under control. Mop-up operations are continuing.

A total of 245 fires have been reported in the N.W.T. this year.

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N.W.T. TO BE REPRESENTED IN YUKON COURT CHALLENGE TO MEECH LAKE COURT

YELLOWKNIFE (July 23) - Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne has retained counsel to represent the Government of the Northwest Territories in the Yukon's court challenge to the Meech Lake Accord.

The petition, launched by Government Leader Tony Penikett and the Yukon Government, comes before the Yukon Supreme Court in Whitehorse for a hearing on Monday, July 27th, 1987.

The federal government is attempting to have the Yukon's petition struck down on a preliminary motion. Federal government lawyers claim that the Yukon Government does not have the necessary status to bring the petition to court. They also argue that the proposed constitutional amendment which would give all provinces a veto over the creation of new provinces cannot be challenged under the Charter of Rights.

John Sopinka of Toronto has been retained to represent the Government of the Northwest Territories in its intervention in the Yukon case.

According to the Justice Minister, "there is obviously a similarity of issues between the Yukon's court challenge to the Meech Lake Accord and the one brought by NWT Government Leader Nick Sibbeston."

Mr. Ballantyne says, "it is vital we support the Yukon case and have our own counsel present arguments there on behalf on the people of the Northwest Territories.'

"While recognizing there will be significant additional arguments to make in our Supreme Court, it is important that we stage a case in the Yukon for the issues we have in common."

The petition filed by Government Leader Nick Sibbeston in the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories will likely be heard in Yellowknife in early September.

- 30 -

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87-181

CONFERENCE TO FIGHT IMPAIRED DRIVING IN N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (July 23) - Social Services Minister Bruce McLaughlin and Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne announced today that a conference will be held this Fall to help combat impaired driving in the N.W.T.

"Despite major publicity campaigns, impaired driving remains a problem across the country," said Mr. McLaughlin. "We must make a greater effort to get the message across--and the place to start is in the communities."

The conference, to be held October 20 to 22, will bring together about 30 delegates from across the N.W.T., including elders and youth. They will be shown how they can initiate community programs to increase awareness of impaired driving laws and develop campaigns geared to specific problems faced by individual communities.

"Northerners need to know that it's illegal to drive any kind of vehicle while impaired," said Mr. Ballantyne. "That includes snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, boats and planes. Impaired driving is illegal on private property, as well as public roadways."

The conference will feature panel discussions and a series of rotating workshops with resource people from various legal, social and law enforcement agencies, as well as media.

The conference, co-ordinated by Northerners Against Impaired Driving, has been made possible with a Justice Canada Grant of $49,500 through the Government of Canada's initiative to fight impaired driving.

The federal government is focusing on community action to stop the problem. Each province and territory has an inter-agency co-ordinating group dedicated to reducing alcohol-related accidents.

In the N.W.T., that group of Northerners Against Impaired Driving, chaired by Winnie Fraser-McKay, co-ordinator of Alcohol and Drug Services of the Department of Social Services. The group has been meeting on a regular basis for neary a year, trying to develop ways to fight the N.W.T.'s unique problems.

The October conference is seen as an important step in the ongoing program to alleviate the social, medical and legal impact of impaired driving.

- 30 -

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87-182

LOCAL BROWNIE PRESENTS ROYAL BOUQUET

YELLOWKNIFE (July 25) - Aurora "Rory" Butler, representing the 4th Yellowknife Brownie Pack, today presented a floral bouquet to Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of York.

Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of York, are in the Northwest Territories capital city on the final leg of their official Canadian tour.

Seven-year-old Rory was chosen to present the bouquet by the N.W.T. Girl Guide Council. She was born in Yellowknife. Her family moved to Whitehorse several years ago and returned to the N.W.T. in January. Rory has finished her first year in the Brownie program. She has an older sister enrolled in Girl Guides.

"Rory was chosen because she exemplifies all the qualities a Brownie should possess," says her Brown Owl Hazel Wainwright. "She is a happy, cheerful girl who learned to curtsey in her ballet classes."

Rory's parents are Brian and Pat Butler. Her father works for NorthwesTel.

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87-183

ROYAL COUPLE TO RECEIVE NORTHERN GIFTS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 25) - A selection of gifts exemplifying the diverse cultural and artistic riches of the Northwest Territories will be presented to their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of York, when they visit here this weekend.

On behalf of the people of the NWT, territorial Government Leader Nick Sibbeston will present Lady Sarah with a beaded, white caribou-hide vest produced by Treeline Trappings, a local arts and crafts company. The vest was designed and sewn by Ruth Edgson who is the head of Treeline Trappings' sewing centre and beaded by Antoinette Desjarlais who is the company's "resident beader". Both women live in Yellowknife.

The white hide, produced in Snowdrift, is rare. It is prepared by bleaching it through long exposure to the sun and wind and is used only for special garments.

His Highness Prince Andrew will receive a pure wool sweater made by Kawtysie Kakee of Pangnirtung. The "Baffin blue" pull-over features grey detailing on the neck and cuffs and a large white band inset with a light blue design of ulus (a type of Inuit knife) and traditional Inuit fishing spears.

The territorial government will also be giving the Royal couple the book, "Nahecho Keh - Our Elders", produced by the Slavey Research Project of Fort Providence featuring photos by Tessa Macintosh, a well-known northern photographer.

The City of Yellowknife has chosen the symbol of the City as its gift to their Royal Highnesses - two gold knives: a lapel pin for Prince Andrew and a pendant for the Duchess of York.

On behalf of the Dene Nation, president Steve Kakfwi and his five-year-old daughter Kyla, will present the Duke and Duchess with the book "Denendeh - A Dene Celebration". The book was published by the Dene Nation and features photographs by Father Rene Fumoleau, a Catholic priest who has lived and travelled throughout the Mackenzie Valley since 1952.

A copy of the award-winning film "My Land Is My Life: A year of life on the land among Native people of Canada's Western Arctic" is another gift to be presented by the Dene Nation. The film was produced by Goldi Productions of Yellowknife.

After attending services at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church on Sunday, the Duke and Duchess of York will receive a gift of photographs from Dr. and Mrs. George Gibson of Yellowknife. Dr. Gibson attended Prince Andrew on his last visit to the North in 1977 when His Highness visited Cape Columbia, the most northerly tip of North America and the most northerly point ever reached by any member of the Royal family. One photograph, taken by Dr. Gibson on that trip, is of a Long-Tailed Jaeger, a rare and graceful bird that is one of the few species found only in the very high Arctic. The other photographs are of Prince Andrew himself, flying the helicopter on that same expedition.

On Sunday afternoon the Royal Couple will visit Giant Yellowknife Mines and they will receive a gold ingot poured at the Yellowknife refinery. The ingot contains 104.6 grams of gold and is set in a handcrafted oak case designed and crafted by Raymond T.C. Lam of Toa Chen's Art Gallery of Yellowknife.

- 30 -

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87-184

TOURISM TRAINING AND MANPOWER NEEDS BOARD APPOINTED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 30) - Members of the N.W.T. tourism industry will now be able to tell the Minister of Education what kind of training and occupational standards are required for successful northern tourism.

The Tourism Training and Manpower Needs Board has been formed to provide a formal means for the private sector of the N.W.T. tourism industry to advise Education Minister Dennis Patterson on general conditions governing tourism occupations in the Territories.

In the past, many different tourism training courses had been offered throughout the N.W.T., but there had been no consistent control over content, quality, focus or effectiveness of the programs. The Board was formed after several studies indicated a need to find exactly what is required to train Northerners to work as tourism professionals.

The newly-appointed board has seven members from across the Northwest Territories. It will review and make recommendations on all tourism courses offered by Arctic College, recommend certification standards for people in designated tourism occupations and hear from members of the industry and general public on most matters related to training, examination and certification of people in tourism occupations.

Members of the Board include; Chummy Plummer from the Sport Fishing Lodge Operators Association, Robert Lauzon, representing the N.W.T. Hotel Association, Seanna Atagootak from Pond Inlet, representing the Baffin Region Hunters and Trappers Committee, Darlene Mandeville from the Travel Industry Association of the N.W.T., Raymond Ningeocheak of Coral Harbour from the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, Alex Nitsiza of Lac La Marte representing the Dene Nation and Linda Walton, representing the Metis Association.

The board will also help establish Tourism Occupation Advisory Committees to investigate, consider and recommend training, course curriculums, examinations, certification and registration requirements for various tourism occupations.

Several representatives from tourism-related territorial government departments, Arctic College and Canada Employment and Immigration serve as non-voting advisors to the Tourism Training and Manpower Needs Board.

Members of the Board are appointed by the Minister of Education and will serve two-year terms. They reflect a cross-section of the industry and geographic areas of the Northwest Territories and are all active participants in the N.W.T. tourism industry.

- 30 -

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HIGHWAY REPAIR CONTRACTS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 30) - Highway and road repair contracts worth over 4.5 million were awarded by the Department of Public Works and Highways between June 23 and July 15.

Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray today announced the awarding of the following eight contracts:

- $193,300 to Beaver Enterprises, of Fort Liard, to provide emergency grade pairs on the Liard Highway;
- $817,212 to Edmonton firm, Everall Construction, to apply cold mix/granular base to the Mackenzie Highway;
- $195,727 to Rowes Construction, from Hay River, to provide access road drainage at Fort Providence;
- $696,640 to an Edmonton company, Carmacks Construction, to provide granular base/surface treatment on the Fort Smith Highway;
- $2,626,672 to Everall Construction, of Edmonton, to provide asphaltic concrete paving on the Hay River Highway;
- $130,598 to a Hay River firm, Stan Dean and Sons, to provide land development/drainage in Fort Providence;

- $143,780 to Yellowknife firm Clark-Bowler Construction to perform renovations to the Legislative Assembly Building in Yellowknife; and,
- $235,400 to Unico Contractor/Bond A Ply Roofing, from Yellowknife, to perform roof retrofits to two apartments in Cambridge Bay.

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Yellowknife, N.W.T.

87-186

JUNIOR PARK RANGER PROGRAM UNDERWAY

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 6) - Six Yellowknife teenagers are spending the next four weeks learning new skills under the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's junior park ranger pilot project.

"The program was developed this summer as a pilot project to provide jobs for teenagers who had little experience and no job prospects. If it proves successful, it may be expanded next year to include 20 youths from Yellowknife with similar programs being set up in the Fort Simpson, Hay River and Fort Smith areas," said Minister of Justice, Michael Ballantyne.

He was at Prelude Lake last week to present a cheque to the Tree of Peace Friendship Centre on behalf of the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, and to meet the junior rangers. Tree of Peace is under contract to manage the project.

Participants in the program, aged 15 to 18, are now building fences, painting, transplanting trees, and upgrading trails. They and their supervisor live at a tent camp at Prelude Lake Territorial Park during the week. Each junior ranger is paid $1,000 for working the four week period.

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GOVERNMENT PRIVATIZES PRINTING OF NWT BUSINESS DIRECTORY

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 6) - The territorial government has put a previously run government service into the hands of the private sector in keeping with the privatization policy.

Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, today announced that a three-year contract has been awarded to Orion Datacom of Yellowknife to publish annual NWT Business Directories.

"The Business Directory is a valuable tool for promoting northern businesses, and this is an excellent opportunity for the private sector to use its expertise in what has previously been a government publication," Mr. Sibbeston said.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism and the Bureau of Statistics have produced two NWT Business Directories - one in 1983 and one in 1985.

While neither of those publications carried advertising, the 1987 directory, published by Orion, will give business people a chance to advertise their specialties. The directory, which is used by customers to locate goods and services in the NWT, will be widely distributed in northern and southern Canada.

"Advertising in the directory will give the businesss community exposure to often untapped markets across Canada as customers turn to it when trying to locate northern products and services," the Minister said.

Orion expects to begin compiling its list of NWT businesses soon, and will not charge for this service. To be listed, businesses should contact Orion or their local Economic Development Officer.

The three-year contract with Orion will cost the government $75,000 the first year, $64,000 the second year, and nothing the third year. If the government had continued to produce the directories, it would have cost an estimated $130,000 per year.

"As a result of awarding the contract to a private firm, the government is not only lending its support to the private sector, but is also saving taxpayers money," Mr. Sibbeston said.

The contract insures a minimum of 4,000 directories will be printed each year and will be sold for no more than $15 each. The contractor is responsible for all aspects of printing the directory.

The call for proposals was made in November, 1986, and five proposals were received. Two firms were given a further test to prove their capability. Orion was the low bidder.

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DON PRUDEN POST-HUMOUSLY AWARDED FOR CONTRIBUTION TO PARKS

BAKER LAKE (Aug. 6) - The late Don Pruden was post-humously honored Tuesday for his contribution to parks in the Northwest Territories.

Tom Butters, Minister of Finance, presented the Merit Award to the widow of the one-time Chief of Tourism and Parks, Gwen Pruden, at a dinner during the Annual Federal Provincial Parks Conference in Baker Lake.

"The Northwest Territories nominated Don Pruden for the award because of his long and dedicated involvement with territorial parks," the Minister says. "He was involved with parks at its fledgling beginning, and nurtured them to their current status.

"He helped develop the few isolated campgrounds we had back in the late 1950's and early 1960's into the chain of parks, campgrounds and picnic sites on the Mackenzie, Dempster, and Liard Highways we have today," Mr. Butters said.

The NWT now boasts 24 wayside parks, 12 community campgrounds, and three historic parks. Recreational parks, started by Mr. Pruden, are now being developed at Blackstone on the Liard Highway, Campbell Hills in the Inuvik region, and Hidden Lake near Yellowknife.

"It was his foresight and hard work that led to the development of Ellesmere National Park. It is the first national park developed as a result of territorial-federal negotiations, and it is the only national park to be established in the NWT in the last decade," he says.

"It is appropriate that we are presenting the award in Baker Lake as Don began his career in the Keewatin area when he worked for the Government of Canada in 1959," Mr. Butters says. Mr. Pruden's career with the territorial government began 10 years later in 1969. He retired in 1982 due to poor health, and died last year.

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PARKS CONFERENCE CONVENED IN BAKER LAKE THIS WEEK

BAKER LAKE (Aug. 6) - Over 50 delegates from across Canada gathered in Baker Lake this week for the 26th Annual Federal Provincial Parks Conference.

"Discussions focused mainly on the requirements for the establishment of national parks. One of the main items on the agenda was the report of the Task Force on New Park Establishments," says Minister of Finance Tom Butters. He attended the conference on behalf of Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Nick Sibbeston.

Dr. John Theberge of the Univesity of Waterloo, who chaired the task force, also chaired a discussion and review of the report. The task force, which made its final report a few months ago, looked at conflicts with resource users, problems with provincial jurisdiction, concerns of the general public, and the problems of establishing parks in the North.

Mr. Butters addressed delegates from federal and provincial agencies, national interest groups, and hunting and trapping associations about the people and places of the NWT. Many of the conference delegates had never before visited the territory.

Panel discussions throughout the four-day conference included a review of new parks establishment, the creation of parks on northern and southern lands, heritage lands, marine parks and tourism considerations in park development.

The annual conference concluded yesterday with a picnic and community dance, followed today by a field trip to Wager Bay.

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TRADITIONAL DENE CAMP SET UP ON YELLOWKNIFE BAY

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 7) - Residents and visitors to Yellowknife will now be able to get a taste of traditional native life by visiting an historical Dene Camp on Yellowknife Bay.

Muriel Betsina of Rainbow Valley is setting up the camp with a $5,000 grant from the territorial department of economic development and tourism. The balance of the start-up costs were privately financed.

Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, says he is pleased with Mrs. Betsina's iniative in getting the project off the ground, and hopes other operators will become involved in similar ventures.

"This Dene camp is truly a landmark in tourism operation out of Yellowknife," Mr. Sibbeston said. "It is the only opportunity in the Yellowknife area for tourists to get out of the city and get a glimpse of traditional native life and culture. It is through seeing native life first-hand that southerners will begin to understand our ways."

Day trips to the camp are being organized by the Yellowknife-based company, Canada North Expeditions. Two trips, one in the afternoon and one in the evening, will take visitors on a 20 minute boat ride from Rainbow Valley to the mouth of the Yellowknife River.

Groups of up to 16 will dine on a traditional Dene meal of fish or caribou and can expect to learn about native culture from elders who will be demonstrating crafts, tanning hides, netting and smoking fish. Visitors will also be able to learn about the history of the camp by taking a guided tour of the island.

The camp will get underway in the next couple of weeks and may continue into the winter with snowmobile expeditions to the island.

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GNWT RECEIVED DISASTER ASSISTANCE PAYMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 10) - A final disaster assistance payment of $68,342 was presented to the Territorial government last month by the Government of Canada.

Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Gordon Wray accepted the contribution on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

This payment is the final installment of federal contributions provided under the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA) related to the May 1985 floods in Hay River. Total disaster-related expenditures from the floods amounted to $645,564. The federal government, through Emergency Preparedness Canada, agreed to share these costs to a maximum of $479,208. An initial $345,000 federal contribution was provided last August.

The DFAA provides 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 federal share.

A total of $618,000 in disaster assistance was paid to Hay River residents who suffered losses and property damage in the 1985 floods. The Territorial government, due to the special circumstances facing local hunters, trappers and fishermen, extended the assistance to include areas considered ineligible under the DFAA.

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ROYAL COUPLE RETURN HAPPY AND RELAXED FROM CANOEING ADVENTURE

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 9) - After paddling 300 kilometres on the Hanbury and Thelon rivers, Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of York and their 6 Canadian canoeing partners returned to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories on Saturday, August 8. This two-week expedition to the Arctic Barren Lands concluded their Canadian tour.

The expedition was the first arctic canoeing experience for the Duchess and the third trip for the Duke. The Royal Couple said the trip was a great success and the Duchess remarked on her return, "I've had a tremendous two weeks. the experience was challenging and demanding but I feel a great sense of achievement."

Some facts of the journey:

- There were 13 portages and on one particular day a distance of 10 kilometres was walked in three separate portages.

- The total distance paddled was 300 kilometres over which distance the river dropped nearly 250 metres.

- Over 40 separate rapids were canoed.

The party saw many caribou, including some wandering through the campsite; several small family groups of muskox; several moose on the river banks; and, a wolf, both seen and heard by the group. But, "sadly" according to Prince Andrew, "there were no grizzly bears."

There was no external support for the group. All the equipment and food needed for the trip was carried with them. One evening, the Duchess caught dinner for everyone - a Lake Trout.

The canoeists experienced abnormal weather conditions for the area and the time of year. It was either hot, still and humid with plenty of bugs or they faced strong, cold, headwinds coming from the polar ice cap.

The Hanbury and Thelon rivers wind through a huge, isolated and uninhabited part of Canada. To reach the starting point of the journey and to return to Yellowknife, the Duke and Duchess and their partners had to travel by float plane.

The canoing team was:

The Duke and Duchess of York
Terry Guest and Sue Guest
David Thompson
Donald Grant
Al Pace
John Ellis, Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

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POOL PROGRAM MAKES BIG SPLASH IN N.W.T. COMMUNITIES

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 11) - Our program just keeps getting bigger and better every year, says Kathyrn Youngbludt.

Kathryn is the summer Aquatic Co-ordinator for the Northwest Territories and the program she's talking about is one of the most popular ones offered by the Sport and Recreation Division of Municipal and Community Affairs -- the Above Ground Pool Program.

"Seventeen pools were staffed and operating this summer throughout the N.W.T.," says Kathyrn. "There are six pools in the Inuvik Region, five in the Fort Smith region, four in the Keewatin and two in the Baffin Region."

The Kitikmeot Region is scheduled to receive its first pool next summer when a new pool is constructed in Cambridge Bay.

Regional aquatic co-ordinators now work out of Hay River and Inuvik. A third regional aquatic co-ordinator, for the Keewatin, will start in 1988.

The pool assistants and junior leaders training programs remain favourites among young northern swimmers. "This year we had 176 participants in our junior leader program and many of them were returning for the second year," adds Kathyrn. The junior leader program, for youths between 12 and 15 years of age, is designed to expose more people to different aspects of the pool program and to ready a core of youths for the pool assistants program. Aspects of the program vary from community to community. Ninety-seven junior leaders completed the program in 1986.

Pool assistants work with the pool supervisors to learn the basics about operating a pool and teaching swimming and safety programs.

"Trina Wright of Pine Point is the success story of our pool assistants program," states Kathyrn. "Trina was a pool assistant last summer and this year she's running her own pool, as the pool supervisor, in Pine Point. She continued her training through the winter, while attending University, by taking additional courses sponsored by the Territorial government."

Regional workshops for pool assistants and more advanced junior leaders were held this year in Aklavik, Norman Wells, Hay River, Coral Harbour and Cape Dorset.

A new how-to video, on constructing an above ground pool, was available to communities this year. New test kits for water quality also were introduced.

Another innovation this summer was the pilot water front program offered in Lac La Martre. This safety-oriented program was run by the pool supervisor and assistant. Componets of this program include small craft safety survival and general water safety.

Popularity of the above ground pool program is clearly shown in the numbers of awards presented during the 1986 season -- 1651 Red Cross Swimming Awards, 303 Royal Lifesaving Awards and 22 First Aid Awards.

Swim meets are the new rage among the above ground pool set. Not only did each community pool host its own local swim, five regional swim meets were held. Inuvik and Norman Wells each hosted the Inuvik regional meets, Fort Providence welcomed Fort Smith regional swimmers, Coral Harbour entertained Keewatin swimmers and Cape Dorset played host to Baffin Swimmers. Ribbons were presented to each participant and for first, second and third finishers.

Future plans for the above ground pool program include exploring options for better enclosures for seasonal swimming pools and a busing proposal. "We're looking at the feasibility of busing people from communities without pools to those with them to meet the increasing demand for services," says Kathyrn. "For example, people from Arctic Red River could bus into Fort McPherson to use the pool. The same system could work for Arctic Bay and Nanasivik or Hay River and the Hay River Reserve."

Assistance is also provided, through the summer aquatic program, to tax-based municipalities for staff training and participation in regional events.

However, the above ground pool program, started in 1967 with a portable pool in Fort Simpson, shows no signs of abating. "It's one of the most successful recreation programs offered by the Territorial government," says Recreation Manager Roland Gosselin. "We want to keep up the momentum and let the program get bigger and better every year."

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MARSH PAINTINGS DOCUMENT INUIT LIFESTYLE

YELLOWKNIFE (August 11) - People of the Willow, an exhibit of 18 watercolours documenting the lifestyle of the Padlimuit band of the Caribou Eskimo, will be on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, August 20 to September 20.

Nine of the paintings look at the general aspects of the band's lifestyle. The other nine focus more closely on ethnological motifs, like the special designs of the amouti, the parka designed especially for women with children.

Mrs. Marsh painted the watercolours between 1933 and 1944, while a resident of Eskimo Point with her husband, Bishop Donald Marsh.

The collection was donated to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre by the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire (I.O.D.E.)

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MINING INVESTMENT TOUR THIS WEEK

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 12) - Twenty-eight investment analysts and brokers from across Canada arrived in Yellowknife on Monday to begin a four-day tour of northern mining operations.

Organizers from the department of economic development and tourism hope the tour will result in increased mining investment in the Northwest Territories. The mining industry has responded positively to the Mining Investment Tour by sponsoring receptions, dinners, and paying for air charters for the group.

Accompanied by a Toronto Stock Exchange representative and two reporters, the group will spend the first two days in Yellowknife and the last two days visiting field operations in the area.

The NWT Mining Investment Tour kicked off yesterday morning with federal and territorial government officials giving the southern brokers an overview of past, current, and potential mining and exploration activities. Federal and industry representatives also provided overviews of the exploration belts and properties the group were to visit. In the afternoon, the brokers and analysts toured Giant and Treminco Mines.

Today and Thursday will be dedicated to field tours. Those on the tour will visit Thor Lake (Highwood), Courageous Lake/Tundra (Noranda/Getty), Salmita (Giant/Giant Bay), Contwoyto Lake (Echo Bay-Lupin Mine) and Indin Lake (Neptune).

Delegates will visit Nerco Con Mine on Friday morning, followed in the afternoon by brief presentations by property holders, including Aber, Borealis, Bow Valley, Equinox, Goldak, Kelmet, Noble Peak, Roxwell, and Urangesellschaft.

- 30 -

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NEWS RELEASE

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HOUSING CORP. INITIATES WORKSHOPS ON HOMELESSNESS

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 12) - In recognition of the United Nation's International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (IYSH), the NWT Housing Corporation has initiated a series of workshops on homelessness that will take place across the territory.

"When we think of the homeless, we generally think of people who live on the streets of southern cities. In the North, we tend to think that it's not our problem, but being homeless is more than just not having a roof over your head," says Michael Ballantyne, Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

"The homeless are people who do not live in adequate housing. The homeless are the elderly and the disabled who do not have proper facilities at home; they are victims of spousal assault who are forced to flee their homes for safety; and they are people who live in overcrowded conditions," he says.

"In the NWT, every year is a year of shelter for the homeless, but in 1987, we want to focus particularly on finding solutions to meet the housing needs of the homeless," Mr. Ballantyne says.

The five workshops organized by the Housing Corporation will provide a forum for government and non-government agencies to discuss the causes of homelessness and possible solutions to the problem.

The findings and recommendations from the workshops in Hay River, Eskimo Point, Inuvik, Cambridge Bay, and Iqaluit, will be presented at a public meeting in each of the districts. In conjunction with the Housing Corporation, the Dene Nation organized a conference on homelessness held recently in Yellowknife.

The report from the conferences will be sent to the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD) and presented at the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless Conference being held in Ottawa from September 13-16.

It will form part of CCSD's national inquiry into the scope and issues of the homelessness in Canada. As well, the information gathered from the NWT workshops will be included in a report to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) by the end of September.

- 30 -

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KENYAN TO SHARE HOUSING IDEAS WITH NORTHERNERS

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 12) - A housing and social development leader from Kenya will arrive in Yellowknife on August 18 to observe workshops on homelessness in the NWT and present information to the public about his community development project in Kenya.

The NWT Housing Corporation sponsored Robert Kilonzo under the Canadian Study Program for Developing Countries as part of a series of activities to observe International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. The training program matches people from developing countries with a sponsoring organization with similiar needs and expectations.

Michael Ballantyne, Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, says he is pleased that the Corporation was able to become involved in the study program.

"The NWT Housing Corporation is particularly interested in the work that Mr. Kilonzo has done to organize and train communities to work towards local solutions to housing problems. Although housing needs are very different from Aftica to North America, the principles behind community development are certainly international," Mr. Ballantyne said. "Throughout the three-week program, the Housing Corporation staff will be exchanging ideas and experiences with our Kenyan delegate. This sharing of ideas is likely to result in positive ways to meet the housing needs in both countries."

As head of a Village Improvement Project in Nairobi, Mr. Kilonzo provides training workshops for local leaders, advises them on using local materials and traditional skills for construction, and helps them gain access to resources. Village Improvement Projects operate in three different parts of Kenya which differ in climate, available materials, and cultural background.

While in the North, Robert Kilonzo will travel throughout the NWT to meet with Housing Corporation staff and local groups to discuss community development and community participation in housing. He will also observe district workshops on homelessness and, in the evenings, speak to the public about his Village Improvement Project in Kenya.

A schedule of his presentations follows.

Yellowknife	Aug. 19	8:00 pm	Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre Auditorium
Hay River	Aug. 21	7:30 pm	Ptarmigan Inn Banquet Room
Eskimo Point	Aug. 26	7:30 pm	Inuit Cultural Institute
Inuvik	Aug. 31	7:00 pm	Eskimo Inn
Cambridge Bay	Sept. 3	7:30 pm	Community Hall
Iqaluit	Sept. 9	7:30 pm	Navigator Conference Room

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N.W.T. RESIDENTS JOIN IN TERRY FOX RUN

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 14) - Northwest Territories residents will take to local thoroughfares, tracks, trails and tundra again this fall as they run, walk, jog, bike, wheel or ride in the 7th Annual Terry Fox Run.

Terry Fox, after losing a leg to cancer, decided in 1980 to help raise funds for cancer research. Terry's dream was that a cure for cancer be found. It was this challenge that inspired his Marathon of Hope. He ran three quarters of the way across Canada, raising $27 million, before his cancer spread and he was forced to quit. The annual 10 kilometre Terry Fox Run keeps alive the hope that one day a cure for cancer will be found.

Runs in Northwest Territories communities could be staged at any time between August 16 and October 11. The national date for the Terry Fox Run is Sunday, September 13.

Last year 4,886 northerners participated in the Run. They raised $50,808.78, or about $1.05 per N.W.T. resident, for cancer research. Forty-seven communities staged Terry Fox events in 1986 including personnel at Polaris Mine and the military station in Alert.

The N.W.T. portion of the Terry Fox run is co-ordinated by the Sport and Recreation Division of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs on behalf of the Canadian Cancer Society. The Territorial government, as a sponsor, covers the administration costs associated with the Run. Individual communities organize and supervise their own Runs. This year receipts for donations of $10 or more will be available.

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AREA RESIDENTS HELP UNCOVER PAST

YELLOWKNIFE (August 14) - An archaeological team organized by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre has unearthed what it believes to be Sir John Franklin's winter fort in Fort Franklin. The belief is based on the oral history of the Dene and on artifacts found.

"The artifacts include parts of ceramic tea cups, a metal awl, beads and British gun flints. We've also found a lot of animal bone, from which we can reconstruct the inhabitants' diet," says project director Chris Hanks, Subarctic Archaeologist with the Heritage Centre. He and 10 others worked at the site throughout the month of July.

The excavation's goal was to salvage the area of the site, which had been slightly uncovered by a front-end loader, and to give Dene people the opportunity to learn more about themselves.

"The artifacts show them what their ancestors were doing centuries ago. This, combined with oral history, helps them put together the complete picture," Hanks said.

Franklin used the fort during the second, and most successful, of his three expeditions to the North. He and members of his company mapped most of the northern coast, from Alaska to the Coppermine River, during the summer of 1826. The expedition could not have been accomplished without the help of the Dene people.

During the excavation, the team uncovered a building which fits the description of the officers' quarters, kitchen and main hall noted in Franklin's journal. These remains are located in one of what the archaeologists believe to be five layers built up during different occupations.

The bottom layer contained flakes of stone, which signifies a pre-historic site. The second layer contained the remains of an historical Dene site, including a lot of bone tools and bead.

The next layer is believed to contain remains from a trading post occupied by the Northwest Trading Company from 1798 to 1807.

Remains of Fort Franklin, 1825 to 1827, are included in the next layer. Areas of this level have been burned, which corresponds to information recorded by Father Emile Pettitot, who was in the area during the mid 1800s.

This summer, Hanks was aided by George Pellissey of Fort Norman, who has been involved in similar projects for the past five years, and Andrew Hammond of Norman Wells, who has four years of experience.

Both of these men helped set up and run the Northern Heritage Centre's field school at Drum Lake, which was in operation during the summers of 1985 and 1986. Except for Hanks and Sue Cross, a Conservator for the Heritage Centre, all the people who worked on this summer's project were from the Fort Franklin area.

Two graduates of the Drum Lake field school, Tony Tatti of Fort Franklin and Betty Ann Betsedea of Willow Lake River, returned to further their studies. There were also four newcomers to the field of archaeology from Fort Franklin: Greg Baptiste, Dennis Kenny, Linda Modeste and George Vital. Baptiste will be brough to Yellowkknife to help analyze the artifacts with the financial assistance of the Northern Heritage Society (NHS) and the Fort Franklin Dene Development Corporation. NHS also sponsored his position at the field school.

The Heritage Centre teaches the workers surveying, archaeological excavation techniques, treatment and handling of artifacts, accurate observation and recording, and interpretation of sites.

"Learning how to interpret what we find is an important part of te process," Hanks says. "The people doing the work are an integral part of it all -- they're not just labourers."

Even if the students do not continue in archaeology, the skills they learn can be applied to other area of scientific research, like wildlife biology and geology.

The project was sponsored by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, with additional funding from the Science Institute of the N.W.T., the Northern Heritage Society and the Fort Franklin Dene Development Corporation.

- 30 -

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AGREEMENT REACHED ON RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

YELLOWKNIFE (August 17) - The Honorable Gordon Wray today announced that the Government of the Northwest Territories has entered into an agreement with the Town of Pine Point and the Federal Government to provide employee relocation assistance to residents of Pine Point not covered by other plans. Mr. Wray is the minister responsible for co-ordinating the Territorial Government's involvement in the Pine Point mine shutdown.

Under the terms of the agreement, the Town of Pine Point will act as an umbrella agency representing employers who cannot provide relocation assistance to their staff. The GNWT will fund fifty percent of the cost of relocation up to a maximum of five thousand dollars. A matching amount will be provided by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission through its Community Futures Program.

"Most residents of the town will be eligible for relocation assistance from their employers," said Mr. Wray. "This new program will not replace that assistance, but will be an avenue of last resort to ensure that all eligible candidates are able to relocate, if they wish, to areas of Canada where employment is available."

Bruce McLaughlin, MLA for Pine Point, said he was pleased with the GNWT's response. "The unusual difficulties faced by the town's residents required an innovative and unique solution," he said.

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NWT TOURIST ATTRACTIONS TO RECEIVE BRITISH MEDIA COVERAGE

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 19) - International reporters and photographers say their trip to the Nahanni following the visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to Yellowknife was the highlight of their trip to Canada.

"As a result of the Nahanni media trip, the Northwest Territories will be featured in British newspapers and magazines as an exciting vacation destination. It is important that we take opportunities such as these to expose the NWT's tourism potential to the rest of the world," says Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Seven members of the British media covering the royal visit flew to Fort Simpson and into Nahanni National Park to get an idea of what tourists can expect to find on a visit to the NWT.

In Fort Simpson they met with papal visit organizer John Sheehan and were shown the site of the 1987 papal visit, before flying into World Heritage Site national park.

The media representatives hiked into Virginia Falls, one of the largest unmanaged waterfalls in North America, and there encountered a group of white water rafters returning from a trip down the Nahanni River.

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"The purpose of the tour was to create a higher level of awareness of the tourism potential of the NWT. The very fact that they were fortunate enough to meet with people returning from a northern vacation will do a lot to boost the adventure-type vacations we encourage in northern Canada." says Mr. Sibbeston.

- 30 -

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-202

CHEFS FEATURING NORTHERN FOODS TAKE THE GOLD

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 19) - Canadian chefs cooking up northern foods took the gold in the World Culinary Arts Festival in Vancouver. As well, the festival meant a round-trip to Coppermine for a lucky Vancouver woman and her husband.

The NWT sponsored Canada's team of five chefs in the international cooking competition which was held this year for the first time in North America. Chefs from 14 countries put their talents to the test, but none could beat the outstanding performance of northern country foods.

In a continuing effort to promote northern foods in southern Canada, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism also put up a booth at the festival. That's where Vancouverite Barbara Fraser won her trip.

People trying out the northern foods on display were asked to fill out a short questionnaire that asked such things as, had they ever before tasted northern foods, if so where had they tasted them, and how would they rate the foods. Mrs. Fraser's name was drawn, and she was declared winner of the four-day trip.

She was one of many of the 600 respondents who had tried the northern foods at the NWT pavilion at Expo last year. Although an Inuit art and sculpture collector, Mrs. Fraser had never before visited the NWT.

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She and her husband left Vanouver Aug. 4, and overnighted in Edmonton where they visited the West Edmonton Mall. The following morning they headed north to Yellowknife where they were given a tour of the city before leaving for Coppermine. They returned to Vancouver that Friday.

- 30 -

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87-204

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS CONTRACTS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 21) - Eight Public Works and Highways contracts, valued at almost $1.45 million, were awarded between July 15-31.

Details of the contracts, awarded for highway and utilidor repairs, roof retrofits, access road construction and other work, were released today by Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray.

Three contracts were awarded for work in Iqaluit. These included a $154,952 contract to Pro Insulation of Stoney Creek, Ontario for utilidor upgrade and pipeline reinsulation; $264,750 to Standard Roofing Corp. Ltd. of Grande Prairie, Alberta for roof retrofits on 18 staff housing units in the community; and $115,000 to local firm Baffin Building Systems for partitioning the Nakasuk School.

Highway repair contracts were awarded to Stan Dean and Sons Ltd. of Hay River and Beaver Enterprises Construction Ltd. of Fort Liard. The Hay River firm received $189,650 to replace culverts on the Mackenzie Highway, N.W.T. #1, while Beaver Enterprises received $224,464 to replace culverts at seven sites along the Yellowknife Highway, N.W.T. Highway #3.

Access road construction contracts were given to Arctic Coast Enterprises Ltd. of Coppermine and the Hamlet of Pelly Bay. An access road to Pelly Bay's water supply will be constructed for $105,475 while an access road to the solid waste site in Coppermine will be constructed by the local firm for $198,099.

Arctic Tech. Contracting Ltd., a Yellowknife firm, received $190,000 to produce crushed granular material in Arctic Bay.

- 30 -

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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87-205

ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TOURISM OFFICER TO BE HIRED

RANKIN INLET (Aug. 21) - The Honorable Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Deveopment and Tourism is pleased to announce that a second Regional Tourism Officer will be added to the Regional Office staff of the Department in Rankin Inlet on January 1, 1988.

"We are pleased that we are able to reallocate some of Economic Development and Tourism's resources within the Region to reflect the growth of the tourism industry in the Keewatin. In 1984 there were only 600 visitors to the Region, this year there will be in excess of 2,500. This type of growth requires more support for the industry and our department is happy to provide that support where and when possible," Mr. Sibbeston said.

"The tourism industry in the Keewatin has experienced tremendous growth over the last three years. It is for that reason that pressure on both industry and government has been very great indeed.", said Don Baker, President of Travel Keewatin. "We are most pleased to see the Government is reacting to the need for increased support for the industry."

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87-206

TRAVEL KEEWATIN AWARDED SERVICE CONTRACT

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 21) - The Honorable Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism is pleased to announce the award of a service contract to Travel Keewatin, the Tourism Zone Association for the Keewatin Region.

The Contract, valued at $25,000 is for the Development and Management of a Product Development Seminar to be held in the Keewatin this September. The seminar will be attended by the tourism operators of the Region as well as others who specialize in the tourism product development.

"These funds allow our operators to hold discussions with their colleagues to determine and design their own tourism products. With the feedback from the strong marketing initiatives of Travel Keewatin, it is important that the tourism industry react to the needs and desires of its customers to enhance existing product and to design new offerings. This seminar will allow us to do just that," said Don Baker, President of Travel Keewatin.

"We continue to support the impressive and aggresive tourism development initiatives of the Keewatin Region's tourism businesses," said Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. "This contract supports the industry in providing the kind of products that the market wants."

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87-207

N.W.T. MINISTERS VISIT THE YAKUT AUTONOMOUS SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 21) - From high Arctic reindeer herds to community preschool centres and state-of-the-art hydrofoils built for the North, Education Minister Dennis Patterson and Gordon Wray, Minister of Public Works and Highways, say northern Canada can learn a lot from the Soviet Union.

The two ministers have just returned from a trip to the far corners of the USSR. In April, Mr. Wray and Mr. Patterson were invited to visit the Yakut Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic this summer.

"Soviet hospitality was overwhelming. This visit convinced us that the prospects for dialogue, contacts and cooperation between Canada and the Soviet Union, particularly with Yakutiya, are excellent," says Mr. Patterson.

Yakutiya, in the far eastern region of the Soviet Union, has an area only 200,000 square kilometres less than that of the Northwest Territories.

During the two-week visit, July 8 to 22, Russian officials and the delegation met with Soviet native people, especially the Yakuty, Eveny, Evenki and others living in communities where emphasis is placed on native languages, culture and traditional pursuits.

"It was obvious that new contacts with Yakutiya, and the Soviet Union in general, could open the way for new commercial opportunities between both countries," Mr. Patterson says.

The group had a close look at all levels of the Soviet educational system, including pre-school centres, elementary, junior and high schools, vocational training centres and extra-curricular programs.

They also examined the Soviets methods for developing and maintaining high-level regional self-sufficiency and their use of local resources in northern industrial and economic development.

How to plan communities for people living and working in traditional occupations and non-renewable resource development was another high priority of the ministers' visit.

"In education and culture there were many areas from which we can learn," says Mr. Patterson. "These include day-care centres, culture preservation, development of pride and self confidence among Soviet native children, performing arts programs in schools, the award system for teachers and students, teaching of second and third languages and teacher training and evaluation.

"In turn, the Soviets wanted to know about our approach to educating disabled children and the use of computers and audio visual material in our classrooms. We are sure that an exchange of teachers and students could benefit both countries."

"In construction and municipal services, the Canadian North can learn and benefit from the Soviets' experience in research and design of foundation and pilings and the construction of small sewage treatment plants," says Mr. Wray.

"The Soviet Union was very interested in our use of lightweight materials and quality control methods we employ in small settlement construction.

"In the transportation sector, we looked at the feasibility of testing the Soviet hydrofoil in our North, while the Russians had many questions about our northern highway construction," he added.

Both ministers felt their visit demonstrated the need to expand the existing Canada-USSR Arctic Science Exchange Program, which was renegotiated in February 1987.

This program, in which the Government of the Northwest Territories takes a leading role, established contacts between scientists of both countries and provides Canadian scientists with access to Soviet research and experience in the Arctic.

The GNWT is especially active under Theme III, Northern Construction, chaired by Larry Elkin, Deputy Minister of Public Works and Highways and in Theme IV, Education and Ethnography, chaired by Joe Handley, Deputy Minister of Education.

A delegation of ministers and high-level officials in education and construction from the Soviet Union will visit the Northwest Territories September 10 - 19.

- 30 -

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87-208

PUBLIC CONTROL OF EDUCATION A TOP PRIORITY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

YELLOWKNIFE (Aug. 25) - During the next few years Northerners will take over control of schools throughout the N.W.T. Divisional Boards of Education will be established in all regions by 1990, says Minister of Education Dennis Patterson.

"Public control of education has always been a firm objective of the Department of Education. We want to make sure the public has total control of their schools as soon as possible.

"By setting 1990 as our target date to hand control of schools over to the people of the Northwest Territories, it will allow ample time for consultation with current education authorities, ensuring all needs are met," Mr. Patterson says.

The target for divisional education boards was one of many objectives to come out of the Department of Education's annual senior management conference, held recently at Great Bear Lake Lodge.

To make sure there is complete coverage of adult programs within one jurisdiction, the responsibility for adult education will be transferred to Arctic College, once the Divisional Education Boards are established.

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Several parts of the Education Act will be revised during the next two years, in response to recommendations made by the Special Committee on Education. Through public consultation, changes will be made to portions of the Act, addressing issues raised by the committee in its report, "Learning Tradition and Change."

School-initiated performing arts programs will also be examined. After his recent trip to the USSR, Mr. Patterson was impressed with the many cultural, performing arts programs included in Soviet school curriculums.

"Soviet students enthusiastically take part in many facets of the performing arts as an integral part of their core school programs; I was very impressed with their abilities and confidence as a result of their performing arts studies.

"That kind of programming is something we must look at providing for northern students," Mr Patterson says.

Other items discussed at the conference included training program plans, equal access, native language programs and Arctic College.

- 30 -

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85-209

COPPERMINE PREMIERE FOR "THEY LOOK A LOT LIKE US - A CHINA ODYSSEY"

Yellowknife (August 31) - "They Look a Lot Like Us", a video documentary of twelve Coppermine students' journey to China, is to premiere in the youths' home community September 3.

The travellers, their parents, teachers and special guests will view the show at Kugluktuk School in Coppermine after attending a special dinner for the group. Later in the evening, the whole community will be invited to see the video. Other Northerners will get a chance to watch the show when it airs on CBC North this fall.

Last May, twelve students - ten of them Inuit - and three teachers from Kugluktuk School travelled to the Peoples Republic of China for a sixteen-day cultural tour. The kids of Kugluktuk School raised the money for the journey themselves, and the trip included visits to Shanghai, Xian, Guitin, Beijing and Hohhot (Inner Mongolia).

China was chosen as the destination because of a theory that the Inuit may be descended from people who came from Mongolia many thousands of years ago, travelling over an ice-bridge that once linked North America with present-day China. Indeed, the students found surprising similarities to their home in the far Arctic, from the bare, wind-swept grasslands of Inner Mongolia to the shape of tiny ivory knives found in a marketplace that one student says look just like ones his Inuit grandfather made. On meeting face to face, it was sometimes difficult for the two distinct cultures to tell themselves apart.

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Viewed from the perspective of the students themselves, the video documentary captures the experiences and reactions of these new world travellers, some of whom had never left their community before.

The half-hour show is a co-production of Kudluk Productions of Yellowknife and the Department of Culture and Communications which made a $20,000 contribution to the video. The Department of Education also provided $5,000. Culture and Communications holds non-broadcast rights to the program and will be distributing copies (including native language versions) to all of the department's video centres and to public libraries in the communities. Education has also been provided with the program and will be making copies for their Social Studies courses in the schools.

- 30 -

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87-210

Prohibition in Fort Simpson for Papal Visit

Yellowknife (September 1)-The consumption, possession, purchase, sale and transport of liquor in and around Fort Simpson will be prohibited September 15 to 23, Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne announced today.

The alcohol ban was requested by the community's Papal committee with the support of the Village Council, Band Council, Metis Association and the Dene Nation. This period of prohibition coincides with celebrations surrounding the visit of Pope John Paul the Second to Fort Simpson. The Pontiff is scheduled to arrive in the community on September 20 where he will say mass and speak with northern and national leaders.

"The Papal visit is a very important event for Fort Simpson and the people of the Northwest Territories," the Minister said. " After the disappointment in 1984 when the Pope was unable to visit the Village, especially the sadness of the elders who had travelled to meet him, this government feels it is very important that we assist the community in making sure the celebrations run as smoothly as possible."

The prohibition request involved three separate Territorial government jurisdictions, Mr. Ballantyne said.

First, the NWT Liquor Licensing Board will close all licensed premises in the village from September 15 to 23 inclusive. In addition, no beer may be sold under Off Sales licence during the days or times the liquor store is closed.

The liquor store, a responsibility of Ludy Pudluk, Minister of Government Services, will also be closed September 15 to 23.

Finally, the Minister of Justice has approved special regulations stating that no person shall consume, possess, purchase, sell or transport alcohol within a 65 kilometre radius of the centre of Fort Simpson between September 15 and 23 inclusive. The RCMP have been asked to enforce the prohibition.

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Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 2100, Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2P6

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87-211

NOMINATIONS TO BE RE-OPENED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 1) -- Michael Ballantyne says he will re-open nominations to the Board of Directors for the Inuvik Housing Authority.

After reviewing the nominating procedure, the Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation says he is concerned about questions of fairness and equity that arose from the recent nominations of Board members. Mr. Ballantyne is particularly concerned that nominations were received and considered after the deadline for nominations closed.

"My objective is to establish a fair and open process in which all those interested in volunteering for the Board feel they have an equal opportunity. If nominations are received and processed after the established and published deadlines have passed, the process can hardly be described as fair. It will certainly not carry the respect of those who honoured the deadline, and it will not carry the respect of the public," Mr. Ballantyne says.

The decision to re-establish the process has been discussed with, and has the support of, the Inuvik Housing Authority's nominating committee.

In the meantime, the terms of the current Board have been extended by three months to allow enough time for a new nominating process. "Once a new slate of members has been nominated and appointed, the transition from one Board to another can be properly managed," Mr. Ballantyne says.

"I regret that the election process had to be interrupted, but it is worth the extra time to have a system in place that is fair and which operates in the interest of the public," he says.

He extended thanks to everyone interested in serving on the board and assured all applicants that their continued interest would be conveyed to the nominating committee.

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87-212

JOBS IN JUSTICE: FUNDING FOR ARCTIC PLEI

Yellowknife (September 8) - Northern native people will soon be getting information about jobs in the legal profession, the Territorial government's Minister of Justice announced today.

Michael Ballantyne said the Arctic Public Legal Education Information Society (Arctic PLEI) will receive $11,500 from his department to produce a video that will concentrate on employment opportunities for legal secretaries, legal researchers and paralegals in the department of Justice. Arctic PLEI is a non-profit organization set up to explain the law and the legal system to the northern public.

The video will explain how the justice system works in the communities and outline the various job opportunities for native people, the Minister explained. It will detail such things as the education required for various careers in the legal profession, where to get it, and how the jobs fit in with other positions in Justice. The show will also feature interviews with people already employed in the department as legal secretaries, legal researchers, paralegals, lawyers and court reporters.

Arctic College's proposed program for legal secretaries also will be covered, as well as other courses available to Northerners interested in law-related careers.

"In addition to making native people aware of the jobs available to them," Mr. Ballantyne said, "we hope this video will also serve as a tool to educate the general public about the Northwest Territories' legal system."

- 30 -

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87-213

ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR YELLOWKNIFE ENERGY AWARENESS WEEK

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 4) - Energy management workshops and exhibits by manufacturers and suppliers are major events planned for Energy Awareness Week here September 13-19.

Energy Awareness Week is sponsored by the N.W.T. Department of Public Works and Highways; Energy, Mines and Resources Canada; and the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce.

Other activities scheduled for the week include contests for students, energy information videos on Yellowknife Cable 6 and a course for Heat Recovery Ventilator installers.

Workshops on a number of energy management issues will run from September 15 -17 in Boardrooms A and B of the Yellowknife Inn. Topics covered include home energy audits, heating and electrical safety codes, retrofitting, insulation products, solar energy and photovoltaics, the R2000 housing program and wood heat. Films and slide shows will accompany discussions on these topics. Day sessions are designed primarily for tradespeople, professionals, managers, contractors and building operators while evening sessions are geared to homeowners.

Manufacturers and suppliers of energy-related equipment and building supplies will set up exhibits in the same location.

The registration fee for workshops and exhibits is $5 per person while the fee for the Heat Recovery Ventilator installers course is $75 per participant.

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Agenda Attached.

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87-214

ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT APPOINTED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 3) - The first native northerner to get a Registered Industrial Accountant's degree has been named Assistant Deputy Minister of Business Development with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Fred Koe's appointment was effective September 2.

Mr. Koe was most recently the Regional Superintendent of Economic Development and Tourism in Inuvik. During his 16 years with the government, he has worked in a number of senior government finance and administration positions. He was Special Facilitator for the Mackenzie Delta Beaufort Sea Co-ordinating Office, and Senior Economic Development Liaison Officer with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Fred Koe is the founder of the Beaufort Industry Group (BIG), and is a member of The Society of Management Accountants of Canada.

He received his Business Management Diploma from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton in 1970, and earned his Financial Management Certificate from Ottawa's Algonquin College in 1975. He received his Certified Management Accountant's Degree in 1977. Mr. Koe is married with four children.

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RENEWABLE RESOURCE BOARD SETS PRINCIPLES

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 9) - Guiding principles clarifying the role and mandate of the Mackenzie Valley Renewable Resource Management Board were set by members at a meeting held here in late August.

Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen established the Mackenzie Valley Renewable Resource Management Board to provide advice on wildlife and forestry management in the Dene/Metis land claims settlement area.

Board members are Albert Adams (Inuvik), Harold Cook (Fort Good Hope), Harry Deneron (Fort Liard), George Kurszewski (Fort Smith), Joe McBryan (Hay River), James Rabesca (Rae), Greg Robertson (Yellowknife), Pat Scott (Fort Simpson), Stan Stevens (Norman Wells) and Jack Van Camp (Fort Smith). All members were appointed by the minister. Larry Hagen, senior policy adviser for the department, will act as executive director for the Board.

At their first meeting, Board members discussed and clarified their role and mandate, their relationship with similar boards operating in the N.W.T., and established an operational framework.

Members also approved three guiding principles. According to these principles, the Board will:

1. Provide recommendations, consistent with principles of conservation, public health and safety, to the Minister of Renewable Resources on policy and legislation.

2. Provide a public forum for discussion and debate to formulate these recommendations.

3. Promote conservation and wise use of renewable resources for the benefit of local residents while emphasizing the traditional renewable resource economy and considering national and international interests.

The Mackenzie Valley Renewable Resource Management Board will meet in early November to discuss specific wildlife issues.

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Larger Funding Contribution for Yellowknife Public Library

A contribution of $60,813 is going to the City of Yellowknife from the department of Culture and Communications to assist with operation of the city's community library program.

Minister of Culture and Communications Ludy Pudluk says the contribution is almost $14,000 higher than last year's, due to a new funding formula for community libraries that are members of the Northwest Territories Public Library System.

Ten communities have accepted contribution agreements to date and a further five agreements are being negotiated.

Mr. Pudluk says NWT Public Library Services is placing increased emphasis on community control of local library programs while its headquarters staff in Hay River works on better methods for cataloguing and distributing new library materials and improved inter-library communication.

- 30 -

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COMMISSIONER APPOINTS NEW ASSISTANT

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 10) - Tony Whitford is Commissioner John Parker's new executive assistant.

His appointment, effective Sept. 14, was announced today by Commissioner Parker.

Mr. Whitford, who was born and raised in Fort Smith, is a graduate in Social Work from the University of Calgary. He worked for many years in a variety of positions including social work. More recently, he worked for Energy, Mines and Resources Canada.

He has served as a Justice of the Peace in the Northwest Territories since 1973 and is a member of the Task Force on Justices of the Peace and Coroners.

Mr. Whitford replaces John Argue, who is now Director of Municipal Affairs with the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs.

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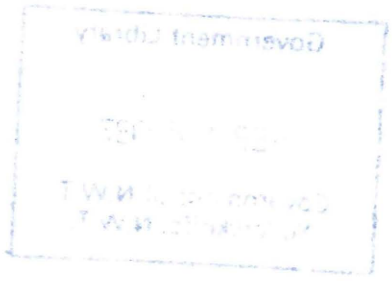

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87-218

CONTRACTS AWARDED TO NORTHERN COMPANIES, HAMLET

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 11) - Public Works and Highways contracts totaling over $2.5 million have been awarded to four northern firms and one hamlet.

Details of the contracts, awarded between July 31 and August 20 for land development, tank farm expansion, highway repair and road construction, were announced today by Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray.

Land development in Eskimo Point will be done by a local firm, Eskimo Point Lumber Supply, Airport Services Ltd. The contract is valued at $161,035.

A road, between Victor Bay and Arctic Bay, will be constructed by the Hamlet of Arctic Bay for $323,820.

Break-away Energy Ltd., of Yellowknife, received a $115,892 contract to expand the tank farm in Fort Franklin.

Highway repair contracts were awarded to Hay River and Yellowknife firms. Rowe's Construction Ltd. of Hay River received $358,540 to provide aggregate crushing on N.W.T. Highways #5 (Fort Smith) and #6 (Pine Point). Robinson's Trucking Ltd. were awarded $737,500 to provide aggregate crushing on the Yellowknife Highway (N.W.T. #3) and $836,250 for providing the same services on the Mackenzie (N.W.T. #1) and Liard (N.W.T. #7) Highways.

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BAFFIN HISTORIC SITES NEED PROTECTING

Iqaluit (Frobisher Bay) NWT (Sept.14) - Some visitors to the site of an historic Inuit dwelling place near Iqaluit have been damaging the site looking for artifacts.

According to Regional Tourism and Parks Officer David Monteith, people who disturb an archaeological site or remove artifacts from it without an archaeological permit are in violation of the NWT Archaeological Sites Regulations, and may be charged by the RCMP or a Renewable Resources Officer.

He said that the Department of Economic Development and Tourism has recently received complaints about damage at the Qaummaarviit Historical Site from a number of concerned citizens. Qaummaarviit is located at Peale Point, a short boat trip across Frobisher Bay from Iqaluit.

The site contains a number of semi-subterranean stone houses, kayak stands, graves, and food caches from the Thule period. It was extensively excavated by archaeologists a number of years ago and then returned to the state in which it was originally found. All artifacts have been removed for preservation.

Qaummaarviit is now being developed by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism as an historical site for local people and visitors to enjoy. Wooden walkways have been built, a brochure is being produced and interpretive signs in English, French and Inuktitut will be installed as soon as they are completed.

Unfortunately there is nothing at Qaummaarviit right now to explain the significance of the site. People causing the damage may not be aware that their actions are in violation of the law.

Some of the rock walls of the Thule houses have been torn down, whale bones and ribs once used as roof supports for the Thule stone houses have been taken from the site and some digging has been done. Removing the old pieces of whalebone makes it harder for visitors to imagine what the houses were like close to 500 years ago.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism and the Baffin Tourism Association request that all visitors to the site respect the historical significance of Qaummaarviit and try not to disturb anything when they visit.

""It is very important that this unique and valuable site be preserved for future generations to enjoy," said Monteith. "It's disappointing that this damage has been done, but we are hopeful that when the people responsible hear about the significance of the site, they will cooperate".

- 30 -

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87-220

PANGNIRTUNG WEAVINGS FEATURED AT HALIFAX SHOW

Iqaluit (Frobisher Bay) NWT (Sept. 14) - Woven tapestries from the internationally acclaimed Pangnirtung Weave Shop will be featured at a show scheduled to open at the Arctic Visions Gallery in Halifax this month.

This will be the first time this gallery has shown weavings from the Inuit community of Pangnirtung on Baffin Island. Sixteen original works will be on display from September 25 to October 17.

Depicting scenes from Inuit traditional and spiritual life, the collection will include works dating back to 1977, some of which are the last still available in these limited edition series.

Figurative imagery dominates the colourful tapestries of Pangnirtung. Woven using centuries-old European tapestry techniques, the simplicity and honesty of the original Inuit drawings are effectively preserved. The talents of Pangnirtung's best artists and weavers come together in an unusual art form which has brought international acclaim to this tiny village of about 1000 people.

Among the outstanding designs featured in this show are:

#254 "Dancing in a Snow House" by artist Eleesapee Eshulutak and weaver Kawtysee Kakkee shows a family of Inuit dressed in traditional skin clothing dancing in the lamplight of their igloo.

#269 "Trotting Caribou" is one of the larger pieces in the show, measuring close to five feet square. Designed by artist Annie Kilabuk and woven by Kawtysee Kakkee, it depicts a woman in a traditional tailed woman's parka riding a trotting caribou across the tundra.

#312 "Pulling a Whale" is a lively design showing a family wearing white parkas who are pulling a white whale onto the beach. The tapestry, featuring blues, greens, earth tones, and white was designed by Annie Kilabuk and woven by Towkie Etoangat.

#323 "Woman and Her Tools" celebrates the traditional skills of Inuit women. The design shows the head of a woman whose dancing braids are surrounded by the tools she uses to scrape skins and prepare food for her family. It was designed by Annie Pitslulak and woven by Olassie Akulukjuk.

The works in this collection range in size from 24 x 31 inches to 59 x 60 inches and range in price from $725 to close to $3000. Two more shows from the Pangnirtung Weave Shop are scheduled to take place this fall, one at the Pitakvik Gallery in Iqaluit, NWT in October and another at the Pitakvik Gallery in Calgary in November.

- 30 -

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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EXHIBIT LOOKS AT WORK OF JESSIE OONARK

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YELLOWKNIFE (September 15) - Jessie Oonark's brief, but productive, career as an artist will be featured in the exhibit "Oonark: A Retrospective" at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, from September 27 to November 8. More than 80 of her drawings, wall hangings and prints will be on display.

Oonark began drawing in 1959, soon after she moved to the community of Baker Lake.

"In her fifties, a widow who had raised a large family, Oonark brought a great knowledge to her new occupation," says exhibit curator Jean Blodgett. "Experience of traditional life on the land characterized by hardship and hunger but rich in cultural heritage; experience of the changing times in the North with the move to community residence and the introduction of new systems of religion and education; experience in visual pursuits such as sewing and decorating clothes."

A number of recurring motifs show up in Oonark's work. These include figures of people in decorative clothing, birds, ulus, tattoo markings and circles. But Oonark does not dwell on any one subject -- her art deals with people, animals, daily life and legends. Her works reflect the natural and supernatural worlds of the Inuit.

The influence of white culture also shows up from time to time. Snowmobiles, outboard motors, pipes and Christian subjects appear, but not as frequently as traditional Inuit motifs.

She worked with a variety of materials, including coloured pencil, felt pen, brush and ink, duffle, felt and embroidery floss. Her works range from small drawings to large, brightly coloured wall hangings.

Oonark continued her work almost until her death in 1985, although she lost the use of her hands in 1979, due to a neurological disorder. Even though she could no longer control her sewing needle or her pencil, she did try to continue drawing. Included in the exhibit is a sketch from March, 1982. It is believed to be her last effort.

"These last shaky sketches, put down on paper as though by sheer force of will, are particularly moving testaments to Oonark's determination and talent," Ms. Blodgett says.

"Jessie Oonark: A Retrospective," was organized for the Winnipeg Art Gallery by Jean Blodgett, as Guest Curator, and Marie Bouchard, Curatorial Assistant. The project has been supported by the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Canada Council and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

-30-

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MINISTERS DISCUSS AIRPORTS WITH FEDERAL MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. (September 15) - Several important territorial transportation issues were discussed at a meeting last week in Iqaluit with the federal Minister of Transport John Crosbie. Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs Gordon Wray and Minister of Education Dennis Patterson say new or improved airports, the need for port facilities and community docks were the main topics.

Transport Canada was criticized for failing to make use of northern contractors and suppliers at its northern sites. "As a result," Mr. Wray says, "Transport Canada will investigate contractor capabilities, construction standards and the advantages of using northern contractors."

At the meeting, the federal minister was urged to seek Cabinet approval for the devolution of the Arctic Airports Program, which is tentatively planned for April 1, 1988.

According to MACA Minister Gordon Wray, the construction of new airports is a key element in negotiations for the transfer to the territorial government. "Since the program ended in 1983, there have been no new airports in the north. With Mr. Crosbie's support, we can begin building new airports in Paulatuk and Rae Lakes next year."

Speaking on behalf of Eastern Arctic residents, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Wray complained about the absence of any port facility for the growing fishing industry. "It's unfortunate that shrimp and other fishing vessels in the Baffin region have to travel to Greenland or the Maritimes to offload and resupply," said Mr. Patterson.

Marine Facilities Policy which provides for funding and construction of dock and port facilities in the north.

Mr. Patterson also discussed progress on the Native Employment Accord which was signed in March, 1986 between his Department of Education and the Ministry of Transport. Mr. Patterson said that he and Mr. Crosbie agreed that, "plans to increase the number of native people working at airports and the joint efforts of the federal and territorial senior managers to continue this work are progressing satisfactorily."

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NEW HEALTH PROGRAM READY FOR N.W.T. SCHOOLS

YELLOWKNIFE (September 16) - A new school program is aimed at helping students in the Northwest Territories develop attitudes which lead to healthy lifestyles.

Studies show that in the N.W.T. many children and young people smoke or use tobacco products, many teenage girls have babies, many teenagers have sexually transmitted diseases, many teenagers try to commit suicide, and that accidents are the leading cause of death in the North.

To try to prevent some of these health problems, students will learn from the N.W.T. School Health Program. The program will enable students to develop skills, which along with the factual information, will allow them to make informed choices relating to health.

The new School Health Program has been developed by the territorial Departments of Education and Health and is a required part of the N.W.T. school curriculum.

Students in kindergarten will be the first grade level to receive the new health program, later this month. Curriculum for the Grade 1 through Grade 9 portion of the program will follow shortly afterwards.

The major goals of the new health program are to promote healthy lifestyles, to help students increase their self-esteem, to provide factual information on the human body, to enable students to develop skills which allow them to make informed choices about their health and develop attitudes which lead to positive lifestyles.

There are seven units in the program which include: mental and emotional well-being, growth and development, family life, alcohol and other drugs, nutrition, dental health, and safety and first aid. The first four units will be introduced into schools now, the other three during 1988.

To ensure that the program would meet the needs of Northwest Territories students, people in every community in the N.W.T. were asked what students should learn about health. This was done before development began on the program materials.

Starting this month, the Department of Education will also be conducting in-service sessions for teachers of the N.W.T. School Health Program to ensure they become familiar with the program and use it effectively in classrooms.

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87-224

TIA, TRAVELARCTIC COMBINE EFFORTS

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 18) -- The Tourism Industry Association (TIA) of the Northwest Territories has developed a program to help individual tourism operators attend consumer shows in Canada and in the United States.

Funded under the Economic Development Agreement, the Consumer Show Program will generate increased travel to the Northwest Territories by stimulating interest in the North via an information booth and by providing space to NWT operators at consumer shows.

TravelArctic, the territorial government's tourism marketing agency, will be working in co-operation with the TIA by hosting trade receptions at the consumer shows.

Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism says the government is pleased that its tourism efforts are being combined with those of the private sector.

"With TravelArctic's help in the venture, operators will be given an additional opportunity to develop trade contacts by allowing them to reach consumers and members of the travel trade in one marketplace," he said.

The 1988 program now being circulated to all NWT tourism operators, through TIA's tourism zone associations, provides for extensive media coverage in each of the marketplaces; trade receptions and presentations for local wholesalers, media, and special interest groups; collection of market data; provision of booth space and award-winning dome displays; transportation assistance and the distribution of general information and operators' brochures.

"The program may well be the first of its kind in Canada," says Jack Walker, President of the TIA. "Feedback from last year's program, including two awards for the best displayed and informative booth, has been extremely positive. We anticipate this year's program to be even more successful."

The program will include shows in California, Washington, Colorado, Texas, Minnesota, Illinois, Alberta, and Ontario. Sportshows in New York, Arizona and Massachusetts will be tested this year for possible inclusion in next year's program. These shows focus on canoeing, camping, wilderness viewing, cultural experiences, and photographic safaris.

"Support and assistance from Canadian Airlines has been crucial in making the Consumer Show Program a success," says Marketing Co-ordinator, Kelly Wilson. "Canadian Airlines' assistance has demonstrated its understanding of the need to participate in co-operative marketing efforts."

Northern operators have saved thousands of dollars on airfare. This has allowed some operators, who otherwise would have been unable, to attend the consumer shows, impact the marketplace, and gain needed market exposure.

The program kicks off with a show in Anaheim, California beginning January 2, 1988 and ends in Calgary, Alberta in March.

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87-225

DIALING FOR DEGREES: LIBRARIES "REACH OUT AND TEACH SOMEONE"

Yellowknife (Sept. 22) A black box, a microphone or three, and voices from across the miles...

This isn't a science fiction setting - it's the basis of an exciting new project in learning being brought to Hay River residents by the department of Culture and Communications this fall. It's a project NWT Public Library Service organizers hope will one day provide new education opportunities for people all across the Northwest Territories.

Using the technology of teleconferencing, Library Services, in cooperation with the Thebacha Campus of Arctic College and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (S.A.I.T.), is offering a course in Rural Library Training. The course starts at the end of this month and runs until the end of December. The teleconferencing will connect students in Hay River and a number of Alberta communities with a teacher at S.A.I.T. in Calgary. They won't be able to see each other, but they'll be able to interact just as in a real classroom.

Classes by teleconference have been available to many Alberta communities since 1981. Lecturers from S.A.I.T., Athabasca University, the University of Calgary and the Alberta Vocational Centre now offer about 50 different courses by teleconference. Last year, Fort Smith's Thebacha Campus hooked into the system. Lynda Wilson, head of Academic Studies, says the three courses offered were a great success.

"Maybe the anonymity in teleconference classes means the students feel less threatened," Wilson wonders. "But for some reason, the student retention and successful completion rate in teleconference courses is found to often be higher than for regular classroom settings." The method is certainly far more successful than correspondence courses, she says, where the dropout rate can be as high as 75 per cent.

The real benefit, however, is that teleconferencing can provide further education to people in communities where no other opportunities exist. It doesn't require anything but a room, a "convenor" (the black box), a microphone, a long-distance telephone line and, of course, at least one student.

The people at Public Libraries' headquarters in Hay River are excited about the training possibilities teleconferencing may some day provide for staff in remote communities.

"Training has always been a key part of our program," says Marion Pape, director of Library Services. "Libraries are a relatively new and unfamilar service for many Northern communities and if we're encouraging people to be involved in developing their local libraries, we have to be able to back that up with skill-sharing and opportunities for further education."

For a number of years, NWTPLS has supported and facilitated training programs for their local librarians and support staff, mainly through the use of correspondence courses. Lately, those courses have included telephone tutors, who discuss course materials with students at least four times a school term.

"We found that the support and advice of a tutor really helped correspondence students with their courses," Pape says,"especially when a person has no local support for learning library operations. With teleconferencing, the support network can be that much greater and provide a wider range of ideas and discussion."

Although teleconference course technology may be simple and effective, it isn't cheap. The problem, Pape and Wilson say, is finding a more cost-effective way to provide the service than exists in the North. The classes now take place over regular telephone lines, and long distance charges are added to the cost of taking a course. Both women are determined to find a way to offset the extra costs, perhaps using "dedicated" phone lines which charge a flat rate for long-distance calls.

"Anywhere we can identify dedicated phone lines," Wilson says, "we'll look at making teleconference courses available in communities where there's enough interest."

"I really feel this (teleconferencing) is a revolution in education and communications," Pape adds. "Library Services strongly supports the initiatives that have been taken in distance-education. We're going to keep working with Thebacha and with the Territorial government's Communications Services to find ways to deliver library teleconference courses to as many interested communities as possible."

- 30 -

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"BRAND-NAME IDENTITY" IN WORKS FOR NWT TOURISM

YELLOWKNIFE (September 23) -- TravelArctic, the territorial government's tourism marketing division, and the Tourism Industry Association of the NWT have combined their resources to hire Camp Associates Advertising Ltd. of Toronto to develop a comprehensive advertising campaign for the Northwest Territories.

"By having TravelArctic and the TIA combine their marketing budgets and strategies, the NWT is assured of a coordinated approach to attracting tourism dollars. Camp's promotional program will mean a positive, reinforced, and effective set of messages get across to the travel trade and to prospective Northern travellers," says Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

In conjunction with the Yellowknife companies Outcrop and Inkit, Camp Associates will raise the profile of the NWT as a tourism destination by creating a "brand-name identity" of the NWT, complete with logo and slogan.

"Camp's tourism expertise, combined with the knowledge and experience of Inkit and Outcrop, will give us the kind of resources required to promote our tourism product efficiently and effectively in today's highly competitive environment," says Mr. Sibbeston.

"As well as creating an overall image campaign that will heighten the awareness of the NWT, Camp will be identifying affordable opportunities for smaller operators to participate. This is an added benefit for all," says TIA president, Jack Walker.

Camp Associates has previously designed very successful tourism marketing campaigns for Tourism Canada, Tourism New Brunswick, Tourism Ontario and the Toronto Convention and Visitors' Association.

Nine national agencies submitted proposals for the three year contract. Four agencies were shortlisted. The selection committee unanimously chose Camp Associates.

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BAFFIN OUTFITTERS STUDY PACKAGE TOUR DEVELOPMENT

IQALUIT (September 24) - Outfitters and tour operators in the Baffin Region who are interested in packaging and marketing their own tourism products will receive specialized training during a Package Tour Development Seminar later this month. It will be conducted at the Iqaluit Campus of Arctic College from September 29 to October 4, 1987.

Through the Baffin Tourism Association, outfitters from around the region expressed the desire to become more involved in the packaging of tours, with the hope of increasing the number of visitors to their communities. As a result of their requests, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism arranged to sponsor this course.

Package tour operators based in southern Canada are continually looking for new products to sell, particularly to lesser known destinations such as the Northwest Territories. Increased interest in the Arctic in 1987 resulted in seven new tour operators seeking pre-packaged Baffin experiences for their clients. Increasingly, the Baffin is being viewed by tour wholesalers as a new exotic destination for adventure travellers.

If the Northwest Territories is going to compete with similar destinations around the world, then it must offer comparative experiences and quality services to tourists. Training seminars delivered by experienced industry wholesalers will provide northern operators with the knowledge and expertise to market their adventure holidays.

The Package Tour Development Seminar will cover 16 major topics. Outfitters will learn how to understand and meet the needs of visitors from outside the north, build a solid client base, develop effective marketing tactics, receive and confirm reservations, offer optional tours and events, and develop an effective tour package. The course will also include general information about the Baffin region as a tour destination, as well as insurance and safety information.

16 outfitters from Arctic Bay, Igloolik, Iqaluit, Clyde River, Pangnirtung, Cape Dorset and Pond Inlet have enrolled in the course.

- 30 -

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YELLOWKNIFE STUDENT RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP TO INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

YELLOWKNIFE (September 24) - A Yellowknife student from Sir John Franklin Territorial High School has been awarded a scholarship to the Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific.

The independent selection committee has chosen Lara Lewis to be the recipient of the annual scholarship award. Lara is a 1987 Grade 12 graduate from Sir John Franklin High School. She will begin her first year of the two-year International Baccalaureate program at the college this month.

The major portion of the scholarship is provided by Gulf Canada, with additional support from the N.W.T. Department of Education.

All Grade 12 students from across the Northwest Territories are eligible to apply for the scholarship through their school principal.

Scholarship applicants are assessed on their overall academic achievement, leadership qualitites and artistic abilities, as well as their involvement in community and school activities.

The Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific, in Victoria, B.C., is one of the United World Colleges and accepts students from around the world into its programs.

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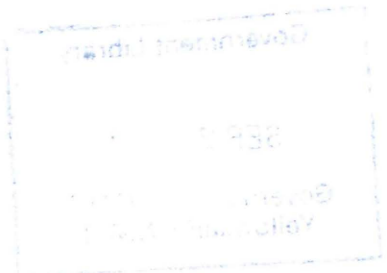

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CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE TO PROVIDE SERVICES IN PINE POINT

YELLOWKNIFE (September 25) -- Pine Point residents soon won't have to drive the 100 km to Hay River to do their banking. The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce has agreed to provide one day a week banking services in Pine Point, starting October 2 and running well into 1988.

The CIBC will be setting up shop in the Town Hall and hiring tellers from Pine Point. Senior management from the Hay River branch will oversee the bank's Friday operation.

Pine Point has been without a bank since July 31 when the Bank of Montreal, the town's only bank, unexpectedly pulled out because of declining business due to the shutdown of the lead-zinc mine there.

"I wish to thank Mr. Gordon Lewis, Senior Vice-President of the CIBC, who was instrumental in getting banking service to Pine Point. The CIBC, with seven of the 14 NWT bank branches, has again shown its commitment to the people of the North by providing this innovative arrangement on very short notice," says Finance Minister Tom Butters. "I would also like to congratulate Pine Point MLA Bruce McLaughlin, Pine Point Mines Ltd., and the Town of Pine Point for their extensive efforts in getting this project off the ground."

The Town financially supported the move to have the CIBC offer its services, and is also providing the bank with office space.

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"It is a good move all round," says Mr. Butters, "With residents doing their banking in town, they are more likely to shop in town and therefore extend the life of the few remaining stores in Pine Point. It will not only benefit the residents of Pine Point, but also those of Fort Resolution.

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AIDS AWARENESS PROGRAM LAUNCHED TODAY

YELLOWKNIFE (September 28) -- The NWT AIDS Program launched its public awareness campaign in Yellowknife today with the unveiling of a poster and pamphlet series.

NWT AIDS Program Co-ordinator Judy Geggie says the written AIDS information will be distributed to all communities in the NWT within the next few weeks. Audio tapes, containing the same information, will follow.

To date a three-pamphlet series -- The Facts on AIDS, Safe and Less Safe Sex, and Protecting Yourself Against AIDS -- has been produced in English and Inuktitut, with plans to produce additional material in the Dene languages. They describe what AIDS is, high risk groups, how to protect yourself against AIDS, as well as safe and less safe sexual practices.

The poster produced in English, French, and all of the northern native languages features the campaign slogan "Stopping AIDS is up to you".

"The slogan sums up what our program is about," says Ms. Geggie. "What we're saying is that stopping the spread of AIDS is a personal responsibility and that it's only by changing sexual behaviour patterns that we will keep AIDS infection to a minimum."

"What people have to realize is that even one sexual encounter with an AIDS-infected person could cause them to become infected. While some people may never develop the disease, they can still pass the virus to other people by having sexual intercourse with them," she says.

The pamphlets will soon be available at schools and nursing stations throughout the NWT. The material will be distributed to other community centres following regional meetings.

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Some communities have already seen the material as it is being sent with nurses and family life educators on routine visits.

In late October a team of AIDS educators will begin traveling to the regional centres instructing nurses, teachers and community health workers, who will then pass information on AIDS to the community. As well, the AIDS education team will hold public meetings in the communities following the seminars. Ms. Geggie expects the six or seven member team to visit all the regional centres before Christmas.

A proposal call for ten television spots on AIDS will begin appearing in northern newspapers this week. The first of the series is expected to air before the end of 1987.

The NWT AIDS Program will be setting up its permanent quarters in the Keewatin Building, Franklin Avenue in Yellowknife by mid-October.

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UNUSUAL SCULPTURE ON DISPLAY

YELLOWKNIFE (September 28) - An unusual sculpture of a woman and child now on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, was inspired by an ancient Inuit legend.

The grey soapstone sculpture, which depicts a dead woman holding a crying child, was created by Judas Ooloolah of Gjoa Haven. The woman's face is embellished with caribou antler inlay, and her pegged teeth are also made of antler. Muskox horn inlay accents the child's nails and tears. The woman's eyes, made of caribou antler and inset with soapstone, roll back into the head.

The sculpture depicts an ancient story of a woman who turned to stone after eating whale parts, represented in the carving by a piece of antler running from her hand to her mouth. The child she is carrying in her arms is crying in terror.

The sculpture's size also makes it unusual. About 75 centimetres high, 50 centimetres wide and 20 centimetres deep, it is larger than sculptures usually produced in the Spence Bay/Gjoa Haven area. It is the first sculpture of this size Judas Ooloolah has carved.

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NO INTERVENTION PLANNED ON RIDEOUT ISLAND

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 29) - The Territorial government will not intervene in a natural situation where several hundred caribou cows and calves are apparently stranded on Rideout Island in Bathurst Inlet.

Renewable Resources Minister Red Pedersen announced the decision today following extensive consultations with the people of nearby Bay Chimo and careful consideration of several options.

The caribou, part of a larger herd of 400,000 animals, apparently have been stranded on Rideout Island since the sea ice broke up in early July. The small island, about 35 square kilometres, is separated from the mainland by a 2.5 km wide strait and from another larger island by a 1.2 km wide passage.

Since July, the caribou have stripped the small island of foliage. Only coarse shrub and heavily grazed grasses and sedges remain. Renewable Resources officials believe the caribou have been starving for some time. Their observations are based on the retarded antler growth, slow molting of winter hair and the deaths of some caribou. Physical examinations of several of the strongest survivors indicate that even these animals are starving to death.

Renewable Resource officials cannot explain why the caribou have become stranded. "Caribou are renowned as strong swimmers and we don't know why they are stranded on Rideout Island," says the minister. "Some of the animals have been seen swimming to the next island where foliage is more plentiful. But others have been found dead floating in the sea, the apparent victims of exhaustion and, possibly, hypothermia."

A number of options dealing with the situation have been examined. These options include forcing the caribou to swim to the next island or the mainland; capturing the animals and airlifting them to the mainland; shooting them for food; or, providing air drops of feed.

"Unfortunately, none of these options were feasible," states Pedersen. "Any attempts to capture or chase the animals will, without doubt, result in the death by exhaustion of many caribou. Artificial feeding until the ice forms in early November will just postpone their death because none of the animals will have accumulated the muscle and fat reserves normally required to survive the winter. And shooting the animals for food isn't a viable option since the meat is unsuitable for human consumption."

The small band of animals stranded on Rideout Island are part of the large Bathurst caribou herd. Bathurst caribou, the largest population of barren-ground caribou in the Canadian Arctic, range over a vast area in the north central barrenlands. The herd is increasing rapidly. Studies show the Bathurst caribou herd has grown from just under 200,000 in 1982 to 400,000 in 1986.

"Incidents such as this one on Rideout Island affect only a small percentage of the herd," adds the minister. "However, in a very large caribou population, such as the Bathurst herd, even a small fraction involves a large number of animals."

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87-233

NWT VISITOR TRAFFIC INCREASED IN 1987

YELLOWKNIFE (September 30) -- More and more people are choosing to spend their holidays in the Northwest Territories, according to preliminary data from TravelArctic.

TravelArctic reports ferry service at Fort Providence is up almost 25 per cent over the past year, and, for the first time in several years, over 10,000 signatures are on the books of the 60th Parallel Visitors' Centre on the Mackenzie Highway.

"The success of our pavilion at Expo last year and TravelArctic's stepped-up marketing efforts are mirrored by this season's tourism figures," says Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. "As we continue to promote the NWT as an attractive holiday destination, we fully expect these trends to continue."

Prelude Lake campground had over $7,000 in permit sales for June, July and August. That's up from $5,000 in sales for the entire 1986 season.

Registrations were also up considerably over other years at the Town of Fort Smith's information centre. The preliminary information, based on surveys and opinions left at Regional Tourism Offices throughout the Northwest Territories, is from June to August. Figures for September are not yet available.

The Keewatin Region reported a very busy season with the Rankin Inlet Hotel at times overflowing.

Traffic on the Dempster Highway was up 50 per cent over 1986, as were campground registrations at Chuk Park in Inuvik and Natuiluie Park in Fort McPherson.

"Earlier this year, work was completed on the Dempster Highway and the Inuvik parks were upgraded, which may account for the high number of travellers in that area," says Mr. Sibbeston. "This year was also the first time a NWT tourist booth was operated at Dawson, Yukon Territory."

Travellers tended to visit friends and relatives in the Kitikmeot Region, bringing figures up over those of 1986.

Hotels were full in the Baffin Region this summer, which is also reflected in the use of parks in the area. There were 700 registrations at Auyuittuq National Park, compared to 200 in 1986, and about 500 registrations at the Peele Point Historic Park. That's also a substantial increase from the 200 registrations the park had in 1986.

-30-

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Northwest Territories / Territoires du Nord-Ouest

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87-234

FINAL TWO EDA SUB-AGREEMENTS SIGNED

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 30) - Subsidiary agreements dealing with small business and tourism development were approved today by federal Minister of State for Small Business and Tourism Bernard Valcourt, on behalf of Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (DRIE) and Minister of State for Science and Technology Robert de Cotret, and N.W.T. Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Nick Sibbeston .

"These two subsidiary agreements expand, and surpass, initiatives contained in the previous Domestic Market Development Sub-Agreement," said Sibbeston. "Small business and tourism are very important to the economic growth and stability of the N.W.T. and these sub-agreements will assist in the development and strengthening of both these sectors."

The sub-agreements are part of the recently renewed Canada-Northwest Territories Economic Development Agreement (EDA). They will inject $21.3 million into the N.W.T. economy over the next three years.

Funding for both sub-agreements is cost shared 70/30 by the federal and Territorial governments. The federal share is $14.91 million while the Territorial government's share is $6.39 million. The total EDA program, including the Renewable Resources, Mineral Development, Arts and Crafts, and Applied Economic Planning Subsidiary Agreements signed in July, is valued at $38.3 million.

Canada

"I'm pleased to finally announce approval of these two sub-agreements which will provide substantial benefits to Northwest Territories residents," said de Cotret. "New business, industries, markets and increased employment opportunities are just a few of the advantages resulting from these agreements."

The Small Business Development Sub-Agreement is designed to stimulate the development of new business opportunities and private sector investment in the N.W.T. Funding is also available for the establishment, expansion and modernization of certain small and medium-sized enterprises and to enhance industrial productivity and competitiveness.

The tourism sector in the Northwest Territories has been identified as a priority sector for development. Under the Tourism Development Sub-Agreement, funding is available for tourism opportunity identification, further development of travel products, market strategies and greater participation by communities in tourism development.

The EDA Secretariat, jointly funded by the Territorial and federal governments, will continue to provide administrative support for the program.

-30-

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Backgrounders attched.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT

Program 1: Opportunity Identification

Small businesses are an important vehicle of economic development. This program encourages entrepreneurs to undertake investigation of business opportunities in the N.W.T. which will capitalize on development opportunities emerging in this frontier economy. Contributions are available for businesses to conduct feasibility studies related to the establishment, modernization or expansion of potentially viable small businesses.

Funds available: $600,000

Program 2: Development Incentives

Adverse conditions for small business in the north make it necessary to provide some capital assistance so entreprenuers can take advantage of development opportunities such as import replacement, industrial development and spin off from resource development. Incentive programs also are required to encourage entrepreneurs to invest in the N.W.T. Funding is available for enterpreneurs to establish, expand or modernize viable small businesses.

Funds available: $6.8 million

Program 3: Business Service Centres

Business Service Centres are used successfully in many developing economies. The majority of business failures in the N.W.T. occur during the first three years of operation. Three demonstration Business Service Centres could relieve new business operators of some the high start-up costs by providing managerial and pooled technical resources and reduced operation costs. New businesses then should stand a much better chance of survival.

Funds available: $1.5 million

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT

Program 1: Market Development

Tourism offers an attractive development option. It is labour intensive and compatible with northern skills and lifestyles. It also produces expanded spin-off markets for arts and crafts and faces a growing profitable market. Funds under this program, and its two sub-programs - Marketing Incentives and Market Information Support - are available to increase the number of visitors and revenue from tourism.

Assistance is available for the Tourism Industry Association and the tourism zone associations, and in some cases the private sector, for the marketing of tourism products, facilities, services and special events. Funds also will be available, on a one-time only basis, for surveys on visitation, accommodation occupancy, visitor expenditures, market conversion, community attitudes to tourism awareness and other tourism related data requirements.

Funds available: $3 million

Program 2: Product and Facility Development

A basic, but sound and viable, tourism industry in the N.W.T. requires strategy and planning. This program will assist in making good quality accommodation and food services available at tourism destinations, in enhancing the visitor's experience by offering a range of tourism opportunities, and in developing major attractions or products to draw tourists to the N.W.T.

Funding is available for feasibility studies and for the establishment, modernization/upgrading and expansion of accommodation facilities, attractions, recreational services, events, travel generators and theme development.

Funds available: $7.9 million

Program 3: Tourism Industry Support

The historical, cultural and natural resources base for a viable tourism industry exists in the N.W.T. However, these resources must be developed. This program, and its two sub-programs - Tourism Awareness and Standards and Ratings - encourages the tourism industry and associations to raise the level of understanding of tourism in communities and its importance to our economy. This can be accompolished by increasing the public awareness of the economic and social benefits of tourism and developing a system of standards of classification of tourism products and services.

Funds available: $600,000

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87-235

CONTRACTS AWARDED TO NORTHERN FIRMS

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 1) - Baker Lake Construction received a $129,750 contract to renovate the community's nursing station.

King's Welding of Kingland Ford Mercury Sales Ltd, a Hay River firm, is relocating the tank farm in Arctic Red River. The contract is valued at $439,533.

Details of the contracts, awarded between August 20 and September 15, were announced today by Finance Minister Tom Butters, on behalf of Gordon Wray, minister of public works and highways.

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OPENING SET FOR AVIATION GALLERY

YELLOWKNIFE (October 7) - The Fox Moth, the light plane that is a symbol of development in the North, has come home to the Northwest Territories. It will be the featured exhibit at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre Aviation Gallery, which will open October 17 at 2 p.m.

The Fox Moth has a long association with northern Canada. Having proved its worth in the mountains of India and the deserts of Australia, De Havilland of Canada produced a special version to suit Canadian needs in the 1940s. It was ideal for the variety of demands that were placed upon it. Its design was simple, it was agile, small and economical. A strengthened design made it ideal for scientific mapping and surveying, carrying mail and freight, general transportation and medical evacuation. In all, 53 of these planes were built.

"It is impossible to think of northern development and all the advantages and challenges brought on by it, without thinking of the pilots and flight engineers, as well as the companies which made the aircraft," says Commissioner John Parker. Mr. Parker has a long-standing interest in northern aviation.

The aircraft which will be on display in the Aviation Gallery has been put together with the parts from three planes. One was built in 1946, and crashed near Yellowknife the same year. The other two crashed near Gordon Lake and Morris Lake. Parts were gathered by the N.W.T. Department of Public Works with the help of private citizens and sent to Alberta. There they were reassembled by Don Allinott of St. Albert. He was helped by Max Ward, who provided him with the original design specifications, an undercarriage and propeller, and the help of an engineering assistant.

When the plane was fully restored in 1985, no place could be found for it in the North. The Western Canadian Aviation Museum in Winnipeg offered to look after it, until a place could be found.

The plane has finally been brought home through the efforts of the Operation Fox Moth Society, a group of private citizens who recognized that aviation history should have a proper place in the North. The group acquired non-profit status, and began to approach companies, organizations and individuals for donations. The result was that all services and monies needed to build the Aviation Gallery have been donated by the private sector.

Much of the support came from airlines and from companies whose business benefited from northern aviation, like oil and pipeline companies, as well as mining companies. The construction industry also made major contributions to the project. And the Canadian Armed Forces played an important role by bringing the restored Fox Moth to Yellowknife from Winnipeg on a Hercules training flight.

The donors' board will be unveiled at the opening ceremonies by Punch Dickins, Stan McMillan and Keith Greenaway, all members of the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame.

A significant role has also been played by the Yellowknife Heritage Committee. It has been a primary advocate of having the Fox Moth returned to the N.W.T., and a representative of the committee is also a member of the board of directors of the Operation Fox Moth Society.

"Operation Fox Moth has been made possible by companies and people who have been involved in the on-going development of the North," says Dana Ferguson, President of the Operation Fox Moth Society. "Some donated money, some donated services, but all of them were interested in giving something back to the North. Their help came from the heart."

Even though the Aviation Gallery will be opening shortly, new displays will be added during the next couple of years. The Operation Fox Moth Society is continuing to collect more information and anecdotes about the early years of aviation in the North, to develop the additional displays.

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COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS PROPOSED DATE FOR HEALTH TRANSFER

YELLOWKNIFE (October 7) - Health Minister Bruce McLaughlin has announced that March 31, 1988, has been recommended by the health transfer steering committees as the target date to transfer the remaining responsibilities for health to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The three steering committees, representing native, regional and community organizations, have all agreed with the proposed date, says Mr. McLaughlin. This information has been passed on to the Honorable Jake Epp, Minister of National Health and Welfare.

The territorial government currently operates hospitals in Yellowknife, Hay River and Fort Smith. In the Baffin region, the hospital in Iqaluit, the community nursing stations and public health are administered by a Regional Health Board appointed by the N.W.T. Minister of Health.

"The steering committees are in favor of completing the transfer in order to bring control of health care to northern people," Mr. McLaughlin says.

The transfer of health services from the federal government began in December, 1982, with the hospital in Iqaluit, which was followed by the transfer of the community nursing stations and regional public health in September, 1986.

"The plan now," he says, "is to transfer the rest of the hospitals, nursing stations and health services to the Government of the Northwest Territories, so that control can go to regional and area health boards made up of community representatives."

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AGREEMENT REACHED FOR TRANSFER OF HEALTH TO N.W.T.

OTTAWA/YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 15) - Federal Minister of Health and Welfare Jake Epp and Minister of Health for the Government of the Northwest Territories Bruce McLaughlin announced today they have reached an agreement to transfer the remainder of the responsibility for health care to the Government of the Northwest Territories on April 20th, 1988, subject to the successful completion of negotiations.

At the present time, Health and Welfare Canada has responsibility for the Fort Simpson and Inuvik General Hospitals as well as public health and treatment services provided through community nursing stations and health centres. The Regional Headquarters and zone offices of Health and Welfare Canada offer support and direction to these facilities and services.

The Government of the Northwest Territories operates hospitals in Yellowknife, Hay River and Fort Smith. In the Baffin region, it operates the Hospital and Public Health Services in Iqaluit and Health Centres in each of the communities. Through Regional Health Boards, it also runs Patient boarding facilities in Montreal, Winnipeg and Churchill and an extended care facility in Inuvik. In addition to hospitals, the Government of the Northwest Territories is responsible for the Territorial Hospital and Medical Care Insurance System, Supplementary Health Programs and some aspects of health promotion and information.

Transfer of Health Services began in the Baffin Region when the hospital was transferred in December 1982. It was completed there in September 1986 when all Nursing Stations and Public Health Services in Baffin became the responsibility of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

This latest aspect of the transfer got underway in January 1986. At that time, the federal minister, Mr. Epp met in Yellowknife with Dene, Metis, Inuit and Inuvialuit leaders and with the territorial minister, Mr. McLaughlin.

When the transfer is complete, there will be a further decentralization of Health's organizational structure to enable more Regional Health Boards to assume responsibility in the planning, management and delivery of health care.

-30-

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFERS ADVICE TO NEW BRUNSWICK

YELLOWKNIFE (October 15) - Government Leader Nick Sibbeston and members of the Executive Council extended their congratulations today to the newly-elected Liberal premier of New Brunswick Frank McKenna.

In a telephone call the ministers of the N.W.T. government offered their assistance to the 58-seat one-party government in creating a workable system with no official opposition.

The NWT method of using committees within the consensus-style Legislature was recommended to Mr. McKenna as an effective forum for dissent and consultation.

During their conversation, territorial ministers took the opportunity to lobby for support in their opposition to the Meech Lake Accord and for support in achieving full status at First Ministers' Conferences.

- 30 -

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(Released on behalf of the N.W.T. Public Utilities Board)

87-240

ICG TO PROVIDE RATE SCHEDULE

INUVIK (Oct. 15) - ICG Northern Utilities (ICG) Ltd. has been ordered by the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board (PUB) to provide a schedule of rates to recover $365,000 in utility operating costs.

The decision, which follows a major review of the utility company's operations held last April in Yellowknife, was announced today by PUB Chairman Jack Heath.

The public review dealt with ICG's application for a rate increase. A major issue was whether the company was entitled to recover a $280,000 shortfall in its 1986 earnings. The Board concluded that ICG was not entitled to make this recovery. It also reduced the 1987 allowed company revenue by $85,000 and the return on equity from the requested 15 per cent to 13.5 per cent.

ICG was directed to prepare and file within 30 days revised rate schedules reflecting the PUB decision.

Intervenors at the review included the City of Yellowknife, the Consumers' Association of Canada and the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce.

Copies of the Board's order are on file at the Public Utilities Board office in the Scotia Centre in Yellowknife.

-30-

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DENE CLOTHING DONATED TO HERITAGE CENTRE

YELLOWKNIFE (October 15) - Interprovincial Pipeline Limited (IPL) has donated several sets of Dene clothing to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. The donation ceremony will take place in the Discovery gallery on Saturday, October 17, at about 2 p.m.

The contribution includes three caribou skin outfits made in Fort Simpson, and three moose skin outfits made in Fort Norman. The collections from both communities include styles for men, women and children. IPL commissioned the clothing for Expo '86.

Some of the outfits will be displayed in the Discovery gallery during the opening of the Heritage Centre's Aviation Gallery. The clothing will later be used in education programming and loaned to different institutions.

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STRANDED CARIBOU: A RARE EVENT

BAY CHIMO (Oct. 15) - The actions of several hundred caribou near this tiny northern community have left Inuit hunters and northern wildlife biologists shaking their heads. The animals stranded themselves on Rideout Island in Bathhurst Inlet this fall.

"It's a very rare event," says Dr. Anne Gunn, a wildlife biologist with the Territorial Department of Renewable Resources. She's been monitoring the situation since mid-September.

Every June the Bathurst caribou herd, 400,000 strong, moves to its calving grounds located east of Bathurst Inlet. Part of the herd often moves to one of the inlet's islands for the summer to feed, put on fat for the coming winter, and complete their molt and antler growth.

"It's common knowledge that caribou cross the ice to spend a month or so on the islands," says Dr. Gunn. "The islands are well vegetated and the breezes keep the bugs down."

Inuit hunters from Bay Chimo, 193 air km southwest of Cambridge Bay, report watching thousands of caribou move on and off the island as usual this year. It wasn't until mid-September they noticed something was wrong. Several hundred caribou stayed on the island.

"The hunters noticed how skinny the caribou were and what little vegetation was left on the island," explains the biologist. "Joseph Tikhak, the wildlife guardian in Bay Chimo, notified our office in Coppermine, while hunters cut willows to try and feed the animals."

Unfortunately Renewable Resources officers couldn't travel to Rideout Island immediately because of bad weather. Finally on September 22, two officers from Cambridge Bay reached the island to assess the situation and collect specimens. They estimated that between 700 to 800 caribou were stranded on the island. Dr. Gunn's examination of the caribou specimens showed the caribou had no fat reserves and were near starvation.

"Once caribou have used all their fat reserves, they begin to use their muscle," she says. "A highly nutritious diet is required to reverse this trend and rebuild the muscle and fat."

Two other wildlife biologists, Doug Heard and Dr. Cormack Gates, visited the site on September 26 to collect more specimens. Their examinations confirmed Dr. Gunn's findings.

The biologists' reports and hunters' observations were used to decide on a course of action to handle the natural crisis. There were three options for active intervention: herding the animals off the island, feeding them or shooting them. Each was carefully considered and rejected.

"Herding the caribou off the island and forcing them to swim 2.5 km to the mainland or 1.5 km to a larger island would have caused the animals more stress," says Dr. Gunn. "Most of the caribou would have died from hypothermia because they didn't have any fat reserves or good coats. Inuit hunters in the area told us that quite a few animals did try to swim off and many never made it."

The idea to drop food to the animals also was rejected. According to Dr. Gates the caribou would require a high protein diet, and "feeding the animals such a diet at that point in time would have killed them because they wouldn't be able to digest it. It takes from three to five weeks for caribou to change their diet."

Shooting the animals was seriously considered. However, not only was the meat unfit for human consumption but biologists felt it would deny the stronger animals a chance to survive. "These animals are tough and resilient," Dr. Gunn stresses. "We had to give them the last chance to survive. Some may have been able to swim to the mainland."

Inuit hunters later reported watching about 16 caribou enter the water and swim across. "Some of them died," she says, "but the others may have survived."

Renewable Resources officials decided on September 29 to let nature take its course on Rideout Island. Dr. Gunn and two Inuit hunters later visited the island. About 100-200 caribou were left.

"We can't really explain why this happened but when there are losers, there are always winners," Dr. Gunn notes. "In this case, the young wolves, wolverines and foxes, who often have a tough time getting food in their first winter of hunting, will benefit."

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HAY RIVER STUDENT EARNS TOP MARKS

YELLOWKNIFE (October 19) - A 1987 graduate at Diamond Jenness High School in Hay River has earned the award for highest average in several Grade 12 subjects.

Rosie Day Smith, currently attending university, excelled in four Grade 12 subjects required for N.W.T. graduation. She scored top marks in English 30 (89%), Math 30 (99%), Chemistry 30 (93%) and Physics 30 (90%), giving her the highest average among 1987 graduating students in the Northwest Territories.

Day Smith is in her first year of post-secondary study at the University of Saskatchewan, studying towards a degree in pharmacology.

She obtained all her education in Hay River. While a high school student at Diamond Jenness, Day played basketball and volleyball and was a driving force behind the school's year book.

Another Hay River graduate, Andrew Pape, scored 92% in Biology 30, to win the award for the highest average in the subject. Pape is currently studying biological sciences at McGill University.

Two Yellowknife students also won awards for highest averages in 1987. Saint Patrick's High School 1987 graduate Elizabeth Hart also earned an 89% in English 30, to share the top spot with Smith. Sunita Lal, a Grade 11 student as Sir John Franklin last school year, earned the highest mark in Social Studies 30 (94%). The course is usually taken in Grade 12.

Hart, currently enrolled in her first year of a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Therapy at the University of Alberta is well-known throughout the Northwest Territories for her involvement in cross-country skiing. She was named the top N.W.T. female athlete in 1986 and also earned a berth on the N.W.T. cross-country ski team.

Sunita Lal was active in many school functions while in Yellowknife, including intramural indoor soccer and several student council activities.

"It is with great pride that we acknowledge these outstanding northern students," says Minister of Education Dennis Patterson.

"Their hard work and academic achievement sets new goals and standards for all N.W.T. students."

- 30 -

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COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION IS THEME FOR ANNUAL CRIME PREVENTION WEEK

YELLOWKNIFE (October 20) Community workshops and a trip for two northern students to a national conference in Prince Edward Island are among the activities being planned for Crime Prevention Week in the N.W.T.

Justice Minister, Michael Ballantyne, has proclaimed November 1 to 7 Crime Prevention Week in the Northwest Territories. This annual, national event is sponsored by the federal Solicitor General. Arctic Public Legal Education Information Society (Arctic PLEI) is heading up the co-ordination of NWT activities for the week.

"Substance Abuse" is the national theme for this year's week, but the Northwest Territories is concentrating on a slightly different message says Wendy Morrison, Arctic PLEI's Crime Prevention Week organizer.

"We hope that Crime Prevention Week in the North will be a community-based event and our approach," she explains "is to encourage crime prevention through social development with community residents getting together to work out local problems. We especially are supporting the exchange of ideas between elders and youth."

Monies provided by the federal government for Crime Prevention Week in the NWT will mainly be used to fund workshops in three communities.

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One community, Coppermine, has already held a conference. A meeting of young people from the Kitikmeot was held last August where youth discussed concerns about their futures, opportunities for education and employment and the alarming numbers of young people involved in crime, drugs and alcohol abuse. Similar conferences are planned for Iqaluit, Rae/Edzo and Yellowknife between November 1 and 7.

Aimee Philpot of Yellowknife and Deedee Steinwand from Rae/Edzo, both Sir John Franklin High School students, have been selected to attend a National Youth Conference on Crime Prevention. They'll be travelling to Prince Edward Island on November 3.

Pamphlets, posters, buttons and brochures promoting Crime Prevention Week also will be sent out to Northern communities and schools. Native language audio tapes introducing the topic of community-based crime prevention will be sent to community radio stations to promote informal discussion about crime prevention through phone-in shows and local panels.

- 30 -

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GNWT CONCERNED OVER FEDERAL TAX REFORM

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 21)- Finance Minister Tom Butters says he is concerned about the impact of a 10% federal telecommunications tax and a multi-stage sales tax on consumer goods and services in the Northwest Territories.

He told the federal standing committee on finance and economic affairs earlier this month in Ottawa that a "key objective of tax reform should be the achievement of maximum inter-regional equity".

Mr. Butters explained that northern residents face a higher tax burden than other Canadians. Higher costs of living, over which residents have little if any control, trigger higher wages which in turn push wage earners into higher tax brackets.

The Territorial submission, presented by the Minister, requested changes to the proposed telecommunications tax which would be applied to all business telephone charges and to residential long distance charges.

"The sparse population and isolation of the NWT demands a higher usage of long distance telephone services by both native and non-native residents," Mr. Butters stated.

Based on available data, he estimated the tax would cost northerners (on average) an additional $125 per year compared to a cost of $45 for other Canadians.

He also stressed the need to provide relief for northerners in the implementation of a proposed multi-stage federal sales tax that would apply to all goods and services.

The first part of federal tax reform, which will introduce changes to personal and corporate income taxes, will be beneficial to northern residents, he said.

"Individuals will face lower personal income tax rates and in doing so soften the high burden of taxation in the north. Corporations will benefit from lower rates through the elimination of many costly tax preferences of doubtful value."

In his submission, he expressed overall support for the federal objectives of greater fairness, simplicity, consistency, international competitiveness and economic efficiency that are being pursued by the tax reform measures.

Mr. Butters stressed, however, the need to avoid introduction of changes that would penalize the mining industry. He expressed concern that the combination of proposed changes to personal and corporate income tax could eliminate the use of flow-through share financing by mining companies, one of the main sources of recent financing for northern exploration activity.

The GNWT submission specifically recommended the retention of earned depletion (a provision that allows mining companies to deduct 133 per cent of exploration and development costs), the exemption of flow-through shares from the cumulative net investment loss provision and the rejection or relaxing of the "put-in-use" rule for capital cost allowance.

In conclusion, Mr. Butters noted that recommendations presented in his government's submission, were not requests for "special tax preferences" for northern residents. They were, instead, recommendations for change which in the view of the Territorial government were necessary to promote equity between Canada's regions.

(30)

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GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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OCT 2 8
Government of N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T

87-246

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT WEEK TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 9 TO 13

YELLOWKNIFE (October 26) - Residents of the Northwest Territories will have a chance to learn more about their local governments during the N.W.T.'s first Community Government Week, November 9 to 13.

"This is the level of government closest to the people," says Gordon Wray, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. "It is essential that everyone in the N.W.T. understands how local governments work and services they provide. That's why we chose 'Community Government: Working for You' as the week's theme."

The week is also intended to raise awareness of the municipal elections, to be held December 14. The nominations close November 16, the Monday after Community Government Week.

"We hope the week will bring added attention to local politics, and encourage people to run for their community council," says Mr. Wray.

Each community will organize its own events during the week. The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs has sent out "Ideas Kits" to help people get started. Some of the ideas include bannock or pancake breakfasts; an open house at the community hall; inviting community representatives to speak about their jobs; and appointing a citizen as council member or community employee for a day. The kits will also include posters and buttons.

A special kit has been sent to teachers, to encourage them to conduct related projects during the week. Some of these ideas include visiting the community office; inviting elders or the local band chief into the classroom to talk about traditional leadership, rules and problem solving; holding a mock election or a mock council meeting; and a creating a trivia game about the community.

"Not only will Community Government Week add life and meaning to the Social Studies and Civics Program, it will demonstrate that community government can, and does, work for all citizens," says Education Minister Dennis Patterson.

-30-

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87-247

PETROLEUM PRICES INCREASE

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 28) - Consumers soon will pay two cents a litre more for gasoline, heating and aviation fuel.

The increases, effective November 1 in communities where the Government of the Northwest Territories acts as distributor of petroleum products, were announced today by the Department of Government Services. The Cost of Naphta products, primarily used by hunters, trappers and fishermen, will not be increased. The Territorial government provides petroleum products to 43 N.W.T. communities which are not served by the private sector.

This is the first product price increase due to increased product costs in three years. Other recent increases in retail prices were caused by tax increases. Last year, the GNWT decreased prices by about five cents a litre. These prices reflected the favourable world prices obtained for the 1986-87 petroleum products resupply. Since November 1986, crude oil prices have increased from $19.17 per barrel to $24.64 per barrel.

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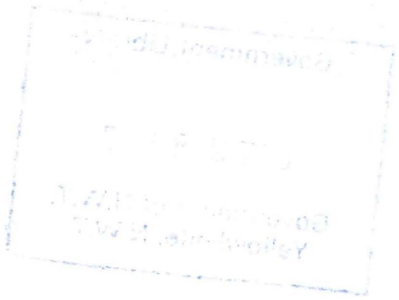

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87-248

HEALTH TRANSFER TO BE STUDIED BY ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. (October 28) - Minister of Health, Bruce McLaughlin, has been invited by the Assembly of First Nations to participate in a panel discussion at the National Indian Health Transfer conference to be held in Montreal November 2 - 3. Mr. McLaughlin will address the delegates on issues arising out of the transfer of responsibility for the delivery of health services from the Federal Government to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The conference is being sponsored by the Assembly of First Nations to examine such issues as Indian rights to health care, First nation's health jurisdiction, health services and funding and relationships with the Canadian health care system.

"I am pleased to take part," says the Minister, "and to be able to share with the delegates the importance of the transfer to the aboriginal and non-native peoples in the N.W.T. Our system will be widely examined from across the country and will provide a great deal of information to other organizations."

The final transfer of responsibility for health services will be completed on April 20, 1988. At that time over 400 employee positions and a budget of approximately $50,000,000 will be transferred to Territorial control.

"Our system of service delivery by Regional Health Boards will be unique in this country," state Mr. McLaughlin. "It will provide a mechanism for direct input and representation by native organizations at the Territorial, Regional and community levels. The direct representation on Boards of Management will ensure that those who are directly affected by the services have major roles in managing the system of health care in that region of the N.W.T. This will be one of the strongest messages that I will pass on to the delegates."

The Minister and some of his officials will also be available to delegates at various workshops to be held during the two day conference.

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87-249

CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL PROVIDES "A WORLD TO EXPLORE"

HAY RIVER (October 30) November 14-21 will be a busy week for libraries across the N.W.T as they celebrate the eleventh annual Children's Book Festival.

The theme of this year's festival, sponsored by the Canadian Children's Book Centre, is "A World to Explore". Organizers hope to create a greater awareness of all the many, interesting science and technology books available for kids.

Since this year's theme deals with science, the Science Institute of the N.W.T. has collected $2500 in donations from across the country for science books for northern libraries and schools. As well, the Canadian Institute of Technology is actively involved in supporting the festival across the country.

Local Book Festival celebrations throughout the week will vary with each library. Centennial Public Library in Hay River, for example, is holding a special birthday party for local girl, Moira Green, who has been made famous by children's author Robert Munsch. Munsch stayed with the Green family and wrote about Moira's birthday when he visited Hay River for the 1984 Book Festival. The special surprise is that Munsch will be phoning on the day of the party and will tell the published story, "Moira's Birthday", to everyone gathered for the party.

Pine Point Community library will be showing various children's films and will be sponsoring a poster contest with book prizes awarded to the winners. The Fort Smith library will be holding bedtime storytelling sessions and children are invited to come in their pyjamas and listen to the stories. Hot chocolate will be a special treat afterwards. Yellowknife Public Library is running several

contests throughout the week including one to "name the hamster", the library's new mascot. There will also be a special wind-up party at the Yellowknife library on November 21.

Three authors will be touring Northern communities to help celebrate the festival. They are: Susan Atkinson-Keen, author of "The Adventures of Broughton Bear", Janet Foster, well-known author, naturalist and television host, and local writer, Candace Savage.

The three authors will be traveling to different communities throughout the N.W.T. Susan Atkinson-Keen will visit Yellowknife, Snowdrift, Inuvik, Aklavik, Fort McPherson, Norman Wells, and Fort Norman. Janet Foster will travel to Rankin Inlet, Eskimo Point, Yellowknife, Coppermine, Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, Igloolik, and Iqaluit. Candace Savage will be in Lac La Martre and Yellowknife.

A "launching" party to send the writers off on their tours will take place on Sunday, November 15, starting at 2 pm at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre in Yellowknife. Susan Atkinson-Keen and Janet Foster will give slide presentations and the Discovery Area of the centre will be open for exploration.

- 30 -

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87-251

ATTRACTIVE PACKAGE TOURS DEVELOPED FOR BAFFIN REGION

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 2/87) - Two outfitters from Pangnirtung have been quick off the mark to benefit from a special seminar last month in Iqaluit.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism and Arctic College in Iqaluit sponsored a "package tour development seminar" for twelve outfitters in early October.

Two weeks later, two of them with Canadian International Expeditions and Worldwide Adventure Tours produced a seven day package tour for Pangnirtung. The tour will allow tourists to experience many of the area's attractions and activities. It is now hoped that enough interest will be created for four tours in 1988.

This is the first tour package to be produced as a result of the seminar. The Pangnirtung outfitters credit the skills and ideas learned at the seminar with helping them to work successfully with the southern travel experts to develop a tourism product they are proud to offer.

"The development of packaged tours through the department's recently created "product development section" is exciting," says Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. "We look forward to helping co-ordinate with the private sector to create a greater number of attractive packages available to tourists."

- 30 -

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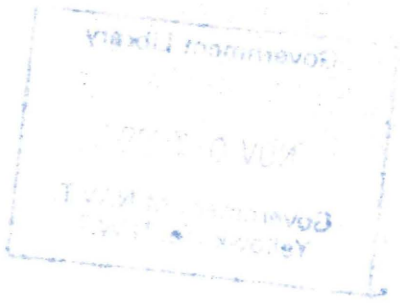

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TERRITORIAL PARKS IMPROVEMENTS APPROVED

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 5) - Improvements to Yellowknife area Territorial Parks have been approved by the Government of the N.W.T.

Two Way Enterprises of Yellowknife received a $119,526 contract to make improvements at Fred Henne, Reid Lake and Prelude Lake Territorial parks.

An Iqaluit firm, Canadrill Ltd., received a $191,815 contract to construct a breakwater at Pond Inlet. This breakwater will form a protective harbour in the community.

Both contracts were awarded by the Department of Public Works and Highways between September 15 and October 2. Details of the contracts were announced today by Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray.

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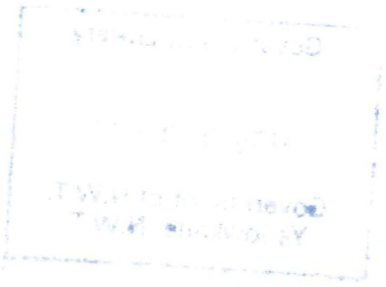

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WORKER SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM PLANNED

YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 6) - Occupational health and safety training and education programs now are available to Northwest Territories workers.

Details of an agreement providing for the development and delivery of these programs to workplaces throughout the N.W.T. were announced today by Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne and Bruce McLaughlin, minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board.

"During the past year, the Board and my officials have combined their resources to develop the program," said Ballantyne. "Over 700 workers have been trained in specific areas of work safety."

The WCB has agreed to provide funding over a three-year period for safety officials to develop a comprehensive program addressing the training needs of northern workers. Particular emphasis will be placed on the needs of small business. Small business operators have expressed support and interest in the worker safety training program.

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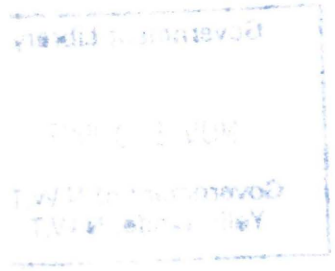

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WHALE COVE COUNCIL ENCOURAGES ENERGY EFFICIENCY

WHALE COVE (Nov. 9) - The Hamlet of Whale Cove is actively encouraging its employees to practice energy efficiency.

Over the past few years, hamlets in the Keewatin Region have realized the importance of establishing their own energy management programs. Leading the way is Whale Cove, where the council is actively encouraging its employees to use energy efficiently.

The Hamlet Council has committed funding for various improvements to its buildings. The improvements were recommended by the Department of Public Works and Highways following an energy audit of hamlet buildings. They include replacing the main garage overhead door, performing combustion efficiency servicing of heating systems in all buildings, lowering thermostat setpoints in parking garages and the firehall, replacing exterior incandescent lighting with low pressure sodium lighting, replacing interior incandescent lighting with low wattage fluorescent lighting, and partitioning the carpentry shop into heated and unheated areas. The council expects to save more than $22,000 a year with these measures.

Hamlet employees are being motivated to develop energy-conscious habits in an imaginative way. All employees will receive new winter parkas if they can reduce the amount of fuel oil and electricity consumed in their homes and workplaces by 10 per cent over last year. The council is closely monitoring fuel and electricity consumption.

Suggestions for improving employee energy efficiency in Whale Cove include:

- turning on only those lights needed in an occupied area;
- turning lights off when staff leave;
- making sure doors are tightly closed;
- tightening drafty buildings by sealing, caulking and weatherstripping unnecessary air leakage paths; and,
- setting thermostats at 20 C (68 F) when buildings are occupied and turning thermostats down a few degrees at night.

In Whale Cove, electricity costs 65 cents a kilowatt hour while fuel costs 49 cents a litre.

"The Hamlet of Whale Cove is to be commended for its initiative to combat high energy costs," said Public Works and Highways Minister Gordon Wray. "Other community governments could follow Whale Cove's lead and formulate their own plans to lower energy consumption and spending."

-30-

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COMPUTER ART EXHIBITED AT NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE

YELLOWKNIFE (November 12) - Where science and art meet, there is Digicon.

Digicon is an exhibition of more than 30 computer-generated instant photographs by David Em, former artist-in-residence at the California Institute of Technology's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. It will be on display at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre from November 14 to January 3.

Initially trained in painting and sculpture, Em now uses a computer screen as an electronic canvas, creating intricate images of extra-terrestrial fantasy worlds.

Em creates his works by adapting and exploring the fine art capabilities of computer graphics programs first developed by Dr. James Blinn for the U.S. space program. Stars, moons, special grids and architecture of the future are given a new look with Em's use of vivid, synthesized colors, unique textures and complex designs.

After the works are created, Em records each image by diverting the computer's video signals to a Dunn color graphics film recorder using 20 x 25 cm or 50 x 60 cm Polaroid color film.

The continuous evolution of computer technology helps Em in his artistic explorations. "Just as the brush was an advance over cave painting, so the vocabulary of the artist is expanded by computer technology," Em says. "Abstract symbols can easily, quickly and accurately be manipulated to create extraordinary visuals."

Em is inspired by the collaboration of artists and scientists to produce sophisticated, "crest-of-the-wave" art. "Computer art is no better than any other art form," he says. "It's different -- more capable -- and gives an artist possibilitites not found in any other medium. Awareness by scientists and artists of each other's work promises mutual benefits as inexhaustible as the technology they share."

Digicon has been exhibited in France, Germany, Italy and the United States. Em's work has been published in several journals, including Newsweek, Micro Systems and Business Screen.

Em, 36, was born in Los Angeles, but raised in South America. He has recently expanded his computer art creations to include a motion-picture film.

-30-

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PATTERSON NAMES PORTFOLIOS FOR ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY MINISTERS

YELLOWKNIFE (NOVEMBER 16) - As his first official act, newly appointed Government Leader Dennis Patterson announced the portfolios of the members of the Executive Council today in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Patterson told the House that he made an effort to provide new members of the Executive Council with duties "relevant to their experience, abilities and interests while ensuring as much continuity as possible from incumbent members.

According to Mr. Patterson, there will be a review of the portfolios following the Standing Committee on Finance review of the proposed budget and following the establishment of Cabinet's long range goals.

"In other words, the assignments should be seen as assignments in the short term with portfolio assignments for the longer term to be made in the next few months."

As Government Leader, Mr. Patterson will chair the Cabinet, the Priorities and Planning Committee and Political and Constitutional Development committee. He will also act as Deputy Chairman of the Financial Management Board. Mr. Patterson will be Minister of the Executive and Education and be responsible for Intergovernmental Affairs and for the Office of Devolution.

Nick Sibbeston will be Deputy Chairman of Cabinet and will be Minister of Economic Development and Tourism and the Science Institute.

Gordon Wray will be Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Personnel, the Equal Employment Directorate and Public Works and Highways.

Michael Ballantyne will chair the Financial Management Board and the Legislation and House Planning Committee. He will be Government House Leader and will be Minister for Finance and Justice.

Nellie Cournoyea will have responsibilities for the Department of Health and the Energy, Mines and Resources.Secretariat. She will also be the Minister responsible for the Public Utilities Board.

Titus Allooloo will be Minister of Culture and Communications and Renewable Resources. He will be the Associate Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development.

Jeannie Marie-Jewell will be responsible for the Department of Social Services, the Women's Secretariat, the Highway Transport Board and the Workers' Compensation Board. Ms. Marie-Jewell will also be Minister Responsible for Youth.

Steve Kakfwi will be Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development. He will also be responsible for Government Services and the Housing Corporation.

In announcing the new Cabinet, Mr. Patterson paid tribute to the work done by three outgoing ministers, Ludy Pudluk, Bruce McLaughlin and Tom Butters.

- 30 -

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ARTS AND CRAFTS CATALOGUE PRODUCED

YELLOWKNIFE (November 17) -- The territorial government has produced a full-color, 32-page, magazine-style catalogue depicting arts and crafts of the Northwest Territories. The catalogue is expected to increase the interest and sale of the products in southern Canada.

"It's the first time a catalogue of this magnitude has been produced. It shows the diversity of native culture in the North and how it is expressed through arts and crafts," says Nick Sibbeston, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Entitled "Spirit of the Land", the cover features an Inuit carving, a colorful Dene porcupine quill band, and a traditional winter scene of three people hitching up sled dogs.

"The cover itself expresses the tie to the land our native peoples have in using stone and quills -- materials from the land -- as a medium for their art," the Minister says.

The catalogue's text gives the history of Inuit, Dene, and Metis arts and crafts in the North, stressing its uniqueness, and the time-honored skills of the artisans. The text includes price ranges for the products, while the back cover lists NWT dealers and Canadian wholesalers of native arts and crafts.

It also lists TravelArctic's toll free "hotline", 1-800-661-0788, where people may phone for more information about where to buy traditional arts and crafts.

Published by Outcrop Ltd. of Yellowknife, the catalogue has been inserted into this month's issue of Up here Magazine. The October/November issue, the third annual northern art showcase, is dedicated almost entirely to native arts and crafts.

"Spirit of the Land" will also be included in tourism information packages, used at trade shows, and for general enquiries about native arts and crafts.

-30-

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OVERNIGHT DAYCARE AT MARY MURPHY SENIORS HOME TO CONTINUE

YELLOWKNIFE (November 18) - Minister of Social Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell says protective overnight care will continue for the rest of the fiscal year at Yellowknife's Mary Murphy Seniors Home.

Ms. Marie-Jewell told members of the Legislative Assembly today that in response to the concerns of the residents of the home and of the public, the Department of Social Services will share the costs of an overnight resident caretaker.

She says that this type of care was not expected because the newly-opened Avens Seniors' Centre was set up for older people unable to care for themselves. Two people in this situation stayed at the Mary Murphy Home, instead of moving to the new centre. "Although the people needing the personal care adequately dealt with through homecare services during the day, major problems have occurred during the evening hours," says Ms. Marie-Jewell.

To address the problem, the minister says the cost of paying a resident supervisor/caretaker will be jointly funded by Social Services and the Yellowknife Housing Authority, which is responsible for the Mary Murphy Seniors Home. The agreement is for the rest of this fiscal year.

Ms. Marie-Jewell says officials from the Departments of Health, Social Services and the Housing Corporation are reviewing the respective roles of these agencies in providing housing and services to senior citizens.

"One of the tasks of this group will be to clarify the level of service provided by each agency in Senior Citizen homes designated for independent living."

"In this way," says Ms. Marie-Jewell, "we can ensure that our elderly residents are provided with a comfortable and secure living environment."

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PATTERSON PAYS TRIBUTE TO OUTGOING MINISTERS

YELLOWKNIFE (November 17) - Government Leader Dennis Patterson has thanked former ministers of the Tenth Legislative Assembly for their hard work, and has specifically mentioned four Ministers.

Ludy Pudluk, Red Pedersen, Bruce McLaughlin and Tom Butters are outgoing ministers from the Executive Council.

Mr. Patterson says that although Mr. Pudluk had only been a Minister since March of this year, "he quickly brought himself up to date and added much to our discussions."

Under the direction of Mr. Pedersen, "much progress has been made in countering the misguided efforts of national and international anti-trapping and animal rights groups," according to Mr. Patterson.

He notes that Bruce McLaughlin has seen a number of milestones during his four year term on the Executive Council. Mr. Patterson outlined Mr. McLaughlin's success in negotiating the costs of implementing the Young Offender legislation with the federal government and the transfer of all federal government responsibilities for health in the Baffin Region. "Mr. McLaughlin has laid firm groundwork for similar transfers in the rest of the NWT scheduled for early next fiscal year."

Mr. Patterson jokingly said it would take less time to outline the work not done by Tom Butters in nearly ten years on Executive Council than to describe what he has accomplished.

"His deep sense of public service and responsibility to all residents of the Northwest Territories has been clear for all to see. He has willingly shared his experience and wisdom with new members of Executive Councils."

Members of the Executive Council were selected by the Eleventh Legislative Assembly on Wednesday, November 11th.

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CAREER SHOW TO BE HELD DECEMBER 3

YELLOWKNIFE (November 20) - More than 40 representatives from the private sector, industry, government and post-secondary institutions will be on hand for the Department of Education's 11th annual career show. It will be held at Sir John Franklin High School, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on December 3.

Some of the representatives will discuss the variety of career options open to people. These range from jobs in the oil industry to the tourism industry, from banking to the public service. Other presenters, from a variety of post-secondary institutions, will give people some insight into how to get the right kind of education for the career they want.

The show is aimed at students who are trying to decide what they want to do when they leave school, as well as people in the workforce who are considering a career change.

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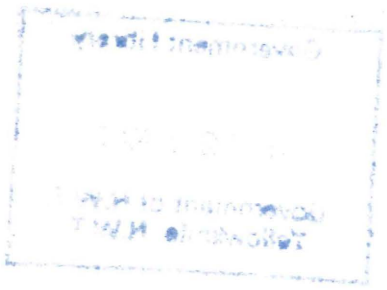

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NWT Municipal Administrators' Association Rejuvenated

Yellowknife (November 23) Yellowknife city administrator, Doug Lagore, has been elected president of the recently rejuvenated Association of Municipal Administrators of the N.W.T. (AMANOOT).

Mr. Lagore was elected to the position, along with Fred Behrens - vice-president, Terry Uyeda - secretary/treasurer and directors Jim Currie, Knute Hansen and Pat Wood, when municipal administrators from across the North met in Yellowknife, November 19-20.

AMANOOT provides increased communication and training opportunities for secretary-treasurers/managers from tax-based municipalities and hamlets. Discussions at the November meeting centred on land claims, the Municipal Employees Benefits Plan, financial assistance policies and new local government legislation.

Other business at the meeting included the presentation of the Norm Macleod Award for outstanding proficiency in municipal administration. The award for 1986 went to James Eetoolook of Spence Bay and Knute Hansen of Aklavik for their outstanding contributions to municipal government administration. Fred Behrens of Rae-Edzo received the award for 1987. Glen McLean, secretary-treasurer of the Town of Fort Smith, was recognized by the department of Municipal and Community Affairs for his suggestion regarding municipal financing which saved municipalities $2,500,000.

Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Gordon Wray, and his department's staff were thanked by the new president for their assistance and support of AMANOOT.

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HIGHLIGHTS FOR NWT OF CANADA-US TRADE AGREEMENT RELEASED

YELLOWKNIFE (November 19) - Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Nick Sibbeston has released a document on highlights of the Canada-United States Trade Agreement and its relation to the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Sibbeston says there are definite benefits to be found in the agreement for the NWT. "In general, the removal of tariffs can be expected to provide overall benefits to the NWT economy making our exports more attractive to Americans and reducing the cost of many imports from the United States."

Mr. Sibbeston says while there still needs to be a detailed examination of the final Agreement. "Our analysis shows that positive benefits will be concentrated on our base industries including fishing, trapping, crafts, mining, oil and gas."

"The Government of the Northwest Territories has specific concerns over the proposed continuation of non-tariff barriers affecting the export of ivory, sealskin products, and polar bear skins to the USA and the treatment of regional development and industries subsidies.

Mr. Sibbeston says the territorial government will not commit itself fully to supporting a free trade agreement until the federal government addresses such fundamental issues as the settlement of land claims, a northern energy accord and a northern land and resource management scheme.

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FREE TRADE GETS QUALIFIED SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENT OF NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (November 25) - Minister of Economic Development Nick Sibbeston told the House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs and International Trade today that the Northwest Territories has qualified support for free trade with the United States.

"There are just too many uncertainties for my government to give unqualified support to the free trade agreement," Mr. Sibbeston says. "On the surface it would appear that significant benefits would result. However, in pursuing these benefits we must exercise caution and good judgement to insure that those institutions and practices which have guided the evolution of our nation are not put in jeopardy."

In outlining the north's chronic high unemployment, its dependency on government and volatile non-renewable resource development, Mr. Sibbeston painted a bleak picture of small communities where up to 50 per cent of the Inuit, Dene or Metis people are without work.

The projected unemployment rate within five years is 20 per cent for the entire population of the north and 40 per cent for the native sector. "Conservative estimates show that in ten years, this will further deteriorate to a rate of 22 per cent for everyone and 47 per cent for the native sector.

"The public sector is the cornerstone of the economy," says Mr. Sibbeston, "last year, government had a payroll of 245 million dollars." He told the committee that the GNWT alone injected over 90 million dollars in capital expenditure into the economy in 1986.

Industries based on non-renewable development - mining, oil and gas - are subject to volatile international markets. This, says the Minister, makes employment opportunities insecure. "One of the major factors which is inhibiting the development of proven reserves of oil, gas and minerals throughout the Northwest Territories is a lack of infrastructure and secure markets."

In assessing the territorial government's view on the free trade agreement, Mr. Sibbeston said there will be lower costs to hunters, trappers and fishermen on such items as guns, ammunition, traps and motors. He added the tourism sector will also benefit from reduced equipment costs.

"As well, the lower cost of manufactured goods imported from the US will translate into savings to consumers which is especially important to NWT residents as the cost of living is 40 per cent higher on average than in the South."

The fishing industry gets a boost from the proposed elimination of a 13 per cent tariff on processed fish.

A significant 18 per cent reduction on tariffs on clothing and a removal of 6.6 per cent duty on raw furs will help the fur industry. The US is a major export market for furs.

Mr. Sibbeston expressed concern over the continuation of the US Marine Mammals Act which prohibits transportation of products from polar bears, seals, walrus or any other marine mammals. This includes such things as ivory carvings, polar bear skins and sealskin products.

"This severely limits the development of the Arts and Crafts sector and places Northwest Territories natives at a serious disadvantage with respect to Alaskan natives who are not subject to this restriction," says Mr. Sibbeston.

The US Marine Mammals Act is based on the principle of conservation. Mr. Sibbeston says the US Government be assured that the Government of the NWT places great emphasis on conservation of renewable resources as well, and that commercial development would not bias that principle.

"It is consistent with the thrust and intent of the Free Trade Agreement that native Canadians be excluded from provisions of the Marine Mammals Act. This would give them parity with their American counterparts." Mr. Sibbeston states that the Government of the NWT will continue to seek exemption for northern aboriginal people from provisions of the US Marine Mammals Act.

In the mining sector, Mr. Sibbeston explained the proposed 9.5 per cent reduction on duty imposed on equipment imported from the US and reduced tariffs on mineral exports to the US would create reduced operating costs and increased competitiveness which will stimulate exploration and production.

"Similarly," he says, "there will be reduced industry costs for the oil and gas sector." For example there will be a reduction of the 25 per cent duty on ships and offshore drilling rigs. There will also be increased access to American markets and investor confidence will increase.

Since a major boost to the mining, oil and gas industries is expected, Mr. Sibbeston told the House of Commons Committee that the federal government must address a number of outstanding issues before the Government of the NWT will lend its full support to the free trade agreement.

Mr. Sibbeston called for the resolution of issues related to land claims. "Land tenure and resource revenue sharing must be clarified. There is also a clear need for a comprehensive resource management system which is sensitive to and directed by northern interests. The establishment of this system will follow from the land claims process."

In addition, Mr. Sibbeston is insisting that a Northern Energy Accord be finalized to give northerners a measure of control over oil and gas development.

"The devolution of power and authority from the federal government must not be prejudiced by the Free Trade Agreement," says Mr. Sibbeston. "Residents of the NWT simply must be given control over the pace and type of development and provided with the tools to protect their interests."

"We want to hear from the Prime Minister and his colleagues that a free trade agreement will not inhibit the ability of northerners to develop those public and private institutions necessary to manage our land and resources."

Mr. Sibbeston says native northerners must also have assurances. "They must know that the benefits and institutions for which they have fought for so long and continue to fight for through land claims settlements will not be subject to countervail action from American interest."

"Like other developing regions of this nation," says Mr. Sibbeston, "we urge that in the context of the Free Trade Agreement, the federal government protect and enhance its ability to work in cooperation with the provinces and territories to reduce regional disparities."

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GOVERNMENT LEADER WELCOMES SOVIET CANADIAN TRANS-POLAR EXPEDITION

Iqaluit, NWT (November 24) - Government Leader Dennis Patterson has extended his formal welcome to the members of the Soviet Canadian Trans-Polar Expedition.

The group of 16 Soviets and 6 Canadians arrived in Iqaluit today for a month of rigorous training on the land and sea-ice near the community. This will be one of their final training sessions prior to setting out over the Arctic ice cap from Soviet Siberia and across the North Pole to Canada on skiis-- a distance of about 2000 kilometres.

The expedition is being undertaken as an opportunity to strenghten Soviet-Canadian relations through a peaceful cooperative effort. It will also be the first time the Arctic ice cap has been crossed on skis, considered by many to be the last difficult thing left to do in the Arctic.

The Government of the Northwest Territories will act as a facilitator to the expedition during its stay in the Baffin Region.

"The Soviet Canadian Trans-Polar Expedition is an excellent example of bridge building between two Arctic nations whose northern regions are only 1500 km apart. We in northern Canada share many common concerns with the people of Soviet Siberia and I am proud that the NWT has an opportunity to take part in this effort toward international peace and goodwill. The expedition will provide excellent role models for youth in both countries as its members demonstrate that people with different languages and cultures are able to work together cooperatively with spirit, inventiveness, enthusiasm and perserverance as they struggle toward a common goal under harsh conditions," said Mr. Patterson.

The group plans to journey by ski and inflatable raft from the northernmost tip of the Severnays Zemlya Islands in the Soviet Union to Cape Columbia on Ellesmere Island. Each team member will carry a 100 pound pack for eight to ten hours each day. The expedition will receive fresh supplies and other staples every 15 days by air drop. The team expects to start from the Soviet side in late February or early March, following a final training session in Siberia. The arduous journey is expected to take three to three and one half months.

The expedition led by Dr. Dmitry Shparo, a 45 year old mathematician and Soviet Arctic expert. He is a popular adventure author in his own country and received its highest award, the Order of Lenin, after his journey to the North Pole in 1979. He will be joined by Dr. Mikhail Malakov, a physician who will carry out medical experiments that will investigate the way the team members react to extreme stress from physical effort and cold temperatures. Another 5 Soviet team members will be chosen from the present group of 16 following the training session in Iqaluit. Each of these highly trained and experienced individuals has been chosen from the Soviet Science and Sports Academies.

One of the better know Canadians trying for a place on the team is Richard Weber of Kingsmere, Quebec, holder of 19 Canadian cross-country skiing titles. As a member of the Steger International Polar Expediton. Mr. Weber was one of only two Canadians to reach the North Pole by dog team without re-supply in May, 1986. He is a graduate Mechanical Engineer and an accomplished white water kayaking and rafting instructor.

The three other Canadians competing for a chance to go to the North Pole include well-known polar explorer, Reverend Laurie Dexter, of Fort Smith, NWT; world renowned mountain climbers Gilbert Rioux and Jacques Bouffard, of Matane, Quebec; Jerry Kobalenko, an avid skier and Senior Editor of Toronto's Outdoor Magazine; and Dr. Graeme Magor, a medical doctor and marathon runner from Mt. Hope, Ontario.

The Soviet and Canadian teams have already attended a training session in the Soviet Union at which they made excellent progress in learning the language and culture of their fellow team-mates. Their time in Iqaluit will help them to become even more familiar with each other.

It will also provide an opportunity to test equipment, take extended ski trips outside the community and will help to determine the skills

of each member. By the end of this training session, Dr. Shparo is expected to make the final selection of the remaining expedition members.

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8 FROM BAFFIN RECEIVE APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

Iqaluit (November 23) - The Minister of Education, Dennis Patterson is pleased to announce that 8 Baffin students have won awards for their achievements in apprenticeship and trades training programs. The recipients were honoured at the 10th Annual Baffin Apprenticeship Awards ceremony in Iqaluit today.

Apprenticeship Award ceremonies are held once a year in each region of the NWT to recognize the achievements of outstanding graduate apprentices and trades people from across the NWT. Apprentices who achieve marks of 80% or better in their final examination are eligible for Apprenticeship Awards. Special Awards are presented to non-registered apprentices and trades people who receive marks of 80% or better. A variety of companies, associations and individuals sponsor the awards as a way of showing their support for apprentices in training.

This year, a new award has been added to the list in the Baffin - the "Ken Watchorn Award" for the top first year apprentice. Sponsored by the Baffin Divisional Board of Education, the award was created at the request of Iqaluit's 1st Air Cadet Squadron. Mr. Watchorn was a Mechanics instructor at the Gordon Robertson Education Centre and spent 11 years assisting the Cadet movement in the community until his retirement earlier this year.

Enoki Irqittuq is the first recipient of the Ken Watchorn Award. he is a registered apprentice in the Housing Maintainer trades program and is employed by the Hall Beach Housing Association. He was chosen as the top apprentice in any trade in the Baffin based on a performance evaluation from his trade instructor, his 1st Period trade theory marks, and a performance evaluation from a Journeyman Supervisor at his work site.

Grant Fredlund is the recipient of the award for the Top 2nd Period Welder. He is a registered NWT Welder Apprentice employed by the Nanisivik Mine. This award is sponsored by Back Bay Welding Ltd. of Yellowknife.

The award for the top non-apprentice to obtain the Interprovincial Red Seal in an NWT registered trades program was won by Ed Shurtleff. He completed his Journeyman certification as an NWT Oil Burner Mechanic this year, and also holds Journeyman Certification as a Gasfitter and as a Welder. The award is sponsored by Fred H. Ross and Associates. The Interprovincial Red Seal program is designed to encourage the standardization of provincial/territorial training and certification programs, thereby increasing the mobility of people employed in the construction, maintenance, repair and service trades.

Daniel Collings, employed by the Municipality of Iqaluit, won awards for both the Top 3rd Period and the Top 4th Period Heavy Duty Mechanic. The 3rd period award is sponsored by Robinson's Trucking Ltd. of Yellowknife and the 4th period award is sponsored by Esso Resources Ltd. of Norman Wells. Last year, Mr. Collings was the recipient of the Top 2nd period Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic Award.

Jawlie Akavak topped his class in the Housing Maintainer Trade Program's Minor Electric Appliance Repair Course. This award is sponsored by the Municipality of Iqaluit. Mr. Akavak is employed as a Housing Maintainer with the Lake Harbour Housing Authority. He graduated as a journeyman in 1985, but has an on-going commitment to furthering his training through courses such as this one, which are optional. Mr. Akavak also serves as a member of the NWT Housing Maintainer Trade Advisory Committee.

Charles Rothgordt is the Top 2nd Period Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic in the NWT. This award is sponsored by the Nanisivik Mine Ltd. Mr Rothgordt is employed by the Polaris Mine at Little Cornwallis Island. He also holds an NWT Journeyman Millwright Certificate and the Interprovincial Red Seal for the Millwright Trade, and was chosen as the Top 1st Period Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic in the NWT in 1986.

The City of Yellowknife's "Everette Kasteel Memorial Award" for the Top non-apprentice in the NWT to attend theory training and obtain Journeyman Status was presented to Eric Guimond. He attended the Special Journeyman level theory course for the Caprentry Trade earlier this year and was granted the Interprovincial Red Seal. His marks from this course resulted in the award. Mr. Guimond is employed by the Iqaluit Housing Authority.

Johanasie Apak is the recipient of the NWT Housing Maintainer Trade Advisory Committee's Special Award for the Top 1st Period Housing Maintainer (Iqaluit Campus). Mr. Apak is employed by the Clyde River Housing Association. He is presently attending a 2nd period Oil Burner Furnace Repair course as part of the work toward his Journey man Certification in the Housing Maintainer Trade.

The Department of Education's Advanced Educations section administers the Apprenticeship Training Program and issues certificates to qualified trades people and apprentices. The program is open to people 16 years of age and older who are residents of the NWT and have an employer who is a journeyman or who employs a journeyman in a selected trade. In most trades, a minimum education level is required in order to qualify for College level theory courses.

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N.W.T. APPRENTICES HONORED

YELLOWKNIFE (November 26) - From Inuvik to Iqaluit, more than 50 N.W.T. apprentices were honored at special ceremonies across the territories this week.

The 10th Annual Apprenticeship Awards acknowledged apprentices who have achieved the highest mark in their final branch examinations for the 1986/87 school year.

The awards are presented to those apprentices and tradespeople receiving marks higher than 80 per cent in their final examinations. Only registered apprentices are considered eligible for the Top Awards in apprenticeship categories and non-registered apprentices and tradespeople are eligible for the Special Awards.

Fifteen of the 54 people in the N.W.T. receiving apprenticeship awards for 1987 were honored at an awards banquet in Yellowknife on November 25. They are:

Michael Dentith, 1st period automotive parts;
Duncan Lalonde, 1st period carpenter;
Pierre Moreau, 2nd period carpenter;
Randy Waddell, 1st period electrician;
Ted Richard, 3rd period electrician;
Jean Paul Blanchette, 1st period industrial mechanic (millwright);
Wallace Brenton, 2nd period industrial mechanic (millwright);
Robert Tumchewics, 3rd period industrial mechanic (millwright);
Colin Steed, 1st period industrial warehousing;
Matthew Grogono, 1st period motor vehicle mechanic;
Fitzgerald Pynnaken, 1st period painter and decorator;
Tim Slamka, 3rd and 4th period plumber;
Ken Koswan, 1st period steamfitter/pipefitter;
Robert Shopa, 1st period welder.

The top non-apprentice to obtain journeyman status was John Cucheran, a heavy equipment operator with the City of Yellowknife.

Four Memorial Awards are also part of the annual Apprenticeship Awards. Recipients are chosen from across the Northwest Territories.

Matthew Grogono of Yellowknife was also presented with the Danny Magrum Memorial Award for top achievement in the first year of motor vehicle mechanics. This award was first given in 1979 by Mrs. June Magrum. Danny was a first-year motor vehicle mechanic at the time of his death.

The Fred S. Jones Memorial Award for top third year Housing Maintainer was awarded to David Iblaut of Eskimo Point. Eddy Mala of Cambridge Bay received the John Tologanak Memorial Award for top marks in the third year housing maintainer apprenticeship.

Eric Guimond, a carpenter in Iqaluit, was the winner of the Everett Kasteel Memorial Award for top non-apprentice to attend theory training and obtain journeyman status.

The top N.W.T. Overall Graduating Apprentice was Michael Reeves, an electrician from Inuvik.

Each apprenticeship award has been donated either by an association, company, individual, union or government department, in support of apprenticeship training.

Apprenticeship Awards ceremonies were also held in Iqaluit, Hay River, Cambridge Bay, Inuvik and Eskimo Point this week.

Award recipients are determined by staff of the Apprenticeship Program, Government of the Northwest Territories.

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MARK MALONE NAMED AS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

YELLOWKNIFE (November 30) - Government Leader Dennis Patterson has announced the appointment of the Principal Secretary. Forty-two year old Mark Malone of Paris, France began his work as political strategist last week accompanying Mr. Patterson to meetings in Ottawa and Toronto.

"Mr. Malone brings a wealth of national and international expertise to this position," says Mr. Patterson. "Through his work in the Government of Canada, with Canadian native organizations and his knowledge of northern political affairs, Mr. Malone will help broaden our methods and our thinking."

Mr. Malone, the son of a Canadian diplomat was born in Sydney, Australia and educated in Paris, France. He has two doctorates, one in Politics and the other in Law from the Sorbonne. In addition, Mr. Malone has two Masters degrees in Politics, his Masters of Business Administration, a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Arts degree.

He has been awarded a Canada Council Fellowship, Australian National University Fellowship, a Commonwealth Foundation Fellowship and the Renault Prize.

Between 1967 and 1980, Mr. Malone worked for the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa and in New York for the Canadian delegation to the United Nations. He was part of the Privy Council Office and Federal-Provincial Relations office where he was Special Advisor on Federal-Provincial Relations.

Most recently, Mr. Malone has been working as a consultant on economics and constitutional issues for Makkivik Corporation, for the Inuit Committee on National Issues, for I.T.C. and the Saskatchewan Federation of Indians, and as a special advisor to the Nunavut Constitutional Forum. He also worked with the Western Constitutional Forum.

In Europe, where he works six months out of a year, Mr. Malone was the senior consultant for a large corporation in the areas of development, taxation and telecommunications. He is the author of more than 30 publications, one of the latest being "Financing of Aboriginal Self-Government" published by Queens University.

Mr. Malone and his wife Isabelle will be settling in Yellowknife.

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SOCIAL SERVICES MINISTER PLANS PRIVATE MEETING ON DAY CARE

YELLOWKNIFE (November 30) - Social Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell plans a private meeting with federal Minister of Health and Welfare Jake Epp to discuss Ottawa's child care program.

Mr. Epp is meeting with provincial and territorial ministers on December 2nd in Ottawa to announce the federal policy on child care.

Ms. Marie-Jewell has prior commitments this week with the Executive Council which is meeting to discuss future directions for the new Government of the Northwest Territories.

As an incoming Minister, Ms. Marie Jewell helped initiate this idea and strongly supports the need for the Executive Council to plan co-ordinated and effective approaches to governing.

The Minister says a senior offical of the government will attend the meeting for the announcement of the Federal Child Care Program. She will then meet privately with Mr. Epp on December 15th to present the territorial government's position in detail.

"The federal announcement will have an important impact on the Northwest Territories and its future plans for day care support," says Ms. Marie-Jewell. "I look forward to my private meeting in December with Mr. Epp to let him know exactly where we stand on the issue.

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TWO YEAR COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT REACHED WITH N.W.T. PUBLIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION

YELLOWKNIFE (December 1) - Minister of Personnel Gordon Wray announces that Executive Council has ratified a two year collective agreement with its employees represented by the Northwest Territories Public Service Association.

Mr. Wray says the two year agreement provides a formula lump sum amount to be added to the salary grids in the first year and a 4.5 per cent increase across the board in the second year.

The agreement must be ratified by members of the NWTPSA bargaining unit before it can be signed off by the parties and put in place. The new agreement cover the period April 1, 1987, to March 31, 1989.

- 30 -

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GNWT AND TEACHERS ASSOCIATION REACHES TENATIVE DEAL

YELLOWKNIFE (December 1) - The Government of the Northwest Territories and the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association have reached a tentative settlement for a new collective agreement.

Minister of Personnel Gordon Wray says there are some improvements in benefits and working conditions. He says the contract also provides for salary increases.

President of the NWTTA Allan McDonald says the ratification process will not be completed until late December. Additional details will be given once the parties have endoresed and signed the new agreement.

The agreement covers the period of September 1, 1987, to August 31, 1988.

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AKLAVIK PROGRAM SUPPORTED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

YELLOWKNIFE (December 1) - A residential camp aimed at preventing youth alcohol and drug abuse will receive support from the Department of Education.

Minister of Education Dennis Patterson announced today the department will support the Knute Lang Camp's request for a teacher to provide an education program at the camp.

The camp, 35 miles from Aklavik, operated for seven weeks last summer as a pilot project. Many groups in the area now want to have it available to young people year-round.

The project was designed and administered by the Aklavik Alcohol Action Committee, a non-profit society composed mainly of Inuvialuit, Dene and Metis residents of Aklavik.

It is the only residential preventative and educational addictions program available for native youth in the N.W.T. The camp is staffed almost entirely by native people. Elders are an integral part of the camp, re-introducing young people ;to their traditional lifestyles and cultures.

Residents at Knute Lang learned traditional skills, including fishing, building maintenance, hunting and trapping and boating, along with many other skills taught by several groups.

The alcohol committee, local RCMP, the Department of Social Services, St. John Ambulance, the Aklavik Dene Band, the Department of Renewable Resources, the Metis Association and the Hunters and Trappers Association all contributed time and effort to the camp's success.

"This is a very worthwhile project which I feel deserves our support," says Mr. Patterson. "It is a unique program in the north, and indications are the camp is having much success with young people who are having problems with alcohol and other drugs.

"In providing a drug-free environment and an opportunity for young adults to learn traditional land skills, I am positive Knute Lang Camp will go far in helping youth get back to a healthy lifestyle.

"An important part of any such program is education and that is why the department will be providing a teaching position to the camp," he said.

The Aklavik Social Workers reported that the number of cases of youth involved in the court system last September - after the camp concluded - was only three, as compared with the usual nine.

As a result of the camp's successful first run last summer, the Action Committee is optimistic its lobbying efforts will find support for year-round operation of Knute Lang Camp, providing the program to youth in the Delta Region.

The Department of Education will provide funding for a teacher for outpost camps where there are at least 10 school-age children and the parents or guardians support the need for education. It is expected that the camp will arrange for accommodation and instructional space if necessary.

In addition to the support to Knute Lang Camp, outpost camp teachers are also funded by the department for Bay Chimo and Allen Island.

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ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM UNDERWAY

YELLOWKNIFE (December 4) -- Through a new program, students in NWT schools will have the opportunity to meet and appreciate northern artists. For northern artists, the program is a forum where they can demonstrate their skills and teach others.

Minister of Education Dennis Patterson calls the Artists in the Schools Program (AIS) an innovative, first step. "It is only the beginning of what will become a significant part of school activities and curriculum," he says.

Northerners have responded with overwhelming enthusiasm for the program and what it will offer territorial students.

"As more and more communities phase-in the AIS program, designed by the community and its schools, students across the North will have new opportunities to share, learn, and grow through the arts. It is an exciting direction with unlimited, creative potential," Mr. Patterson said.

During the first phase, six communities across the NWT are piloting the AIS program in their schools. Fort Simpson, Fort Good Hope, Holman Island, Yellowknife and Baker Lake are at various stages of developing their programs. The Baffin Region is developing a proposal for an AIS program, which could be available to all communities in the area it serves.

The program is designed to enhance the current NWT fine arts curriculum by adding to the existing program.

AIS is not limited to painting or drawing classes, says Alex Czarnecki, Fine Arts Specialist for the Department of Education.

"Communities and the schools have full control over deciding what will work in their area, and what they want to have in the AIS programs. Those options include every facet of art -- from visual mediums to dramatic, literary, and music programs.

"After examining arts programs now being used in territorial schools, the Department decided the North needed its own program; a culturally and socially unique arts curriculum which would use available resources, both inside and outside the territories. It is an opportunity to share," Mr. Czarnecki says.

Local, regional, and national professional artists and craftsmen will be invited to participate and share their talents with students on an ongoing basis. They will be in the schools all day for two or three weeks at a time.

"We want Northern students to have continuous exposure to the fine arts. We also want artists to share their talents with students and the community in space provided by the school," Mr. Czarnecki says.

A directory of northern artists is constantly being updated by the Department of Education for the program. It will provide a comprehensive list of all NWT artists, including tapestry weavers, dancers, writers, and carvers, to name a few.

Individual community steering committees, which include Regional Superintendents of Education, representatives from local LEAs, school principals, teachers, and interested community members, are being established for the arts programs. The committees will decide what shape the AIS program will take in their schools.

"We are excited about the response to this new direction and the communities' strong interest in having an Artists in the Schools program for Northern students," Mr. Patterson says.

"The schools are a natural catalyst for keeping the program alive, stimulating, exciting and rewarding for both students, teachers, and participating artists. It will ultimately be the responsibility of the schools and regional administrators to ensure that the best interests of students and the program are served," he added.

The Department of Education is available as a resource and initial facilitator for the program. It is providing $5,000 to each pilot community for program start-up and will continue to provide advice and direction as it is requested.

Each school's annual budget currently includes funding for cultural activities. The Minister of Education says future funding for AIS programs should be supported by schools through those cultural dollars.

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INCREASED USE OF REMOTE SENSING IN NWT PLANNED

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 7) - Imagery from satellites soon will be playing an important role in resource management in the N.W.T. as a result of an agreement between the governments of the Northwest Territories and Canada.

The agreement, which provides for a co-operative technology enhancement program between the Territorial government and the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS), was announced today by Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo.

Through the technology enhancement program, CCRS will transfer techniques it has developed for extracting information on satellite images of earth's surface to resource agencies in the N.W.T. Projects will demonstrate the usefulness of remote sensing in many aspects of resource management including wildlife habitat, forest inventory, fire management, wetlands mapping and land use monitoring.

Renewable Resources will act as the co-ordinating agency for the remote sensing program which will run until October 1989. Resource managers from Territorial agencies will use digital analysis equipment, on loan from CCRS, to carry out the demonstration projects. CCRS will provide a remote sensing specialist, based in Yellowknife, to provide technical assistance and training to GNWT personnel.

A similar technology enhancement program is underway in Newfoundland. Others have been successfully completed in the Maritimes, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

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NEW APPROACHES AND DIRECTIONS APPROVED BY CABINET

YELLOWKNIFE (December 4) - Following a four day strategy session at the Snare River Rapids hydro station, Government Leader Dennis Patterson says the new government will be moving rapidly in new directions.

"The Cabinet has decided to take immediate steps to develop new approaches to economic development," says Mr. Patterson. "The government also recognized that initiatives with the federal government must be pursued immediately so that results can be achieved before the forthcoming federal election."

According to Mr. Patterson, "the Cabinet believes that political development depends on economic development. Efforts to improve the economy and develop politically must therefore proceed in parallel.

"Import replacement will be a major goal of the new government's approach to the economy," says Mr. Patterson.

"This approach will not only apply to developing a strategy to replace northern consumer goods with products from the north, but will apply to existing jobs as well."

Mr. Patterson says his government will put a new emphasis on getting permanent northern residents to take better advantage of existing job opportunities in areas like mining, the transportation, communications and hospitality industry and the federal public service.

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"The new government also recognizes that education is critical to efforts to achieve affirmative action for Northerners to take advantage of existing and potential employment opportunities. Career counseling and parent education will be emphasized, and ways will be sought to make schools more effective in preparing students for these opportunities.

"The Cabinet also believes that steps must be taken to reduce dependence on welfare amongst certain categories of welfare recipients," says Mr. Patterson. "For example, ways will be sought to provide encouragement to welfare recipients who may have the ability to hunt for themselves."

Mr. Patterson says the new government also believes that the renewable resource sector provides many potential opportunities for economic development and should be a priority in a new economic plan.

The government also recognized that a transportation network, including highways, airports and marine facilities is critical to economic development. This will require intensive negotiations with the federal government.

"As far as political and constitutional development is concerned," says Mr. Patterson, "this government will put its first efforts towards encouraging the settlement of land claims."

According to the Government Leader, the opportunity exists with both the T.F.N. and the Dene/Metis claims to make substantial progress towards an agreement-in-principle within the coming twelve months. He says Titus Allooloo and Stephen Kakfwi, ministers responsible for aboriginal rights, will have Cabinets full support to move towards development of agreements-in-principle in that time.

Mr. Patterson says the new government will also pursue current devolution initiatives with vigour. "These include the transfer of health, NCPC, Arctic B&C airports and the Northern Energy Accord. These and other initiatives will require a strong inter-governmental affairs emphasis."

Mr. Patterson also notes that the new Cabinet agreed that relations with circumpolar nations are very useful in areas like northern economic development and will also be stressed by his government.

Mr. Patterson notes that the new government's plan in developing the economy must be co-ordinated with the Legislature's new Special Committee on the Economy.

The Government Leader calls the past week's strategy session a success. "One of the objects was to ensure that total government goals and objectives in fields like economic development are borne in mind by all Ministers and all department."

Another session is planned in January to include Deputy Ministers and senior Managers.

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FEDERAL-TERRITORIAL FISH-STOCKING AGREEMENT REACHED

YELLOWKNIFE (December 7) -- The federal and territorial governments have agreed upon a five-year workplan to fill lakes with fish for recreational fishing.

The agreement, signed by the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the territorial Department of Renewable Resources, covers research, assessment, stock monitoring, and public awareness.

This agreement is expected to speed-up federal/territorial efforts to successfully stock fish for recreational purposes in the N.W.T. To date efforts have been limited to a program at Polar Lake, about 60 km east of Hay River.

In 1971 it was stocked with brook trout, and in 1977 was restocked with rainbow trout. The program continued to be effective as the lake was periodically resupplied until 1986.

Two other lakes in the Yellowknife/Hay River areas were stocked with rainbow trout, but they met with limited success. It was determined that if stocking lakes for recreational fishing was to be continued successfully, more information was needed.

In 1986, the NWT Fish Stocking Committee, consisting of members from Fisheries and Oceans and Renewable Resources, was formed to develop a five-year workplan for recreational fish stocking.

The committee's workplan outlines federal and territorial responsibilities, and is designed to foster federal-territorial cooperation that will allow groups or agencies to take part in aquaculture for recreational fish stocking in the NWT.

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SOCIAL SERVICES MINISTER TOURS INUVIK REGION

INUVIK (December 11) - Minister of Social Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell visited three Mackenzie Delta communities this week as part of her initiation into her portfolios which include the Status of Women, Workers' Compensation, Highways Transport Board and Youth.

In Aklavik on Wednesday, in addition to touring the Joe Greenland Centre, Ms. Marie-Jewell helped celebrate the retirement of Social Services employee Rosie Pascal who has been with the territorial government for 24 years. Her friends and family held a surprise party for Ms. Pascal at the senior citizens' home where she had worked.

Earlier in the day, Ms. Marie-Jewell met with the two social workers, then with Chief James Ross and Mayor Piet Van Loon in Fort McPherson. "We met with both councils and I saw where the alcohol and drug programs were delivered from. I came away from Fort McPherson with a firm understanding of the problems which can only assist me when it comes to finding solutions."

On Thursday in Inuvik, the Minister met with the Department of Social Services employees to learn more about the issues and problems being dealt with in the region. " As well as hearing about our internal department situation, I found it helpful to hear the problems from the view of the 'front-line' workers."

She then visited more facilities and met with people from several associations who are providing alcohol and drug-related and mental health services. Ms. Marie-Jewell also met with the women of Inuvik during an informal brown bag lunch at the town hall.

Her final visit on Thursday was to the highway weigh scales with the chairman of the Highway Transport Board, John Hill of Inuvik.

"Personally I feel I have gained a tremendous amount in my first regional visit as minister. I am even more committed to the importance of travelling to communities and meeting with people to learn first hand what is important to the residents."

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ATLANTIC FISHERIES MINISTERS WELCOME NWT PARTICIPATION

YELLOWKNIFE (December 14) - Minister of Renewable Resources Titus Allooloo received a warm welcome from the members of the Atlantic Council of fisheries Ministers last Friday in Meech Lake, Quebec.

It was the first time a Minister of the Government of the Northwest Territories has attended one of the high-level meetings with the Atlantic, Quebec and federal fisheries ministers.

Mr. Allooloo notes, "our attendance is the result of lobbying by Government Leader Dennis Patterson who met with the federal Fisheries Minister Tom Siddon in late November to express concerns about the need for our involvement in Canada's fishing industry. Our invitation to attend followed quickly after that."

"The Eastern Arctic in particular has great potential for a saltwater fishing industry," Mr. Allooloo told the fisheries ministers, "but we have a tremendous amount to learn about the shrimp and groundfish (mixed variety) industry."

"Our intent is to support the development of a viable offshore fishing industry that offers long-term employment opportunities for northerners."

The meeting of the fisheries ministers addressed two specific areas important to the N.W.T. "Quotas for shrimp and groundfish for the area from Baffin Island south to the coasts of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia are crucial to us if we are to get a proper start in the fishing industry," says Mr. Allooloo.

"These quotas are now divided among Canadian and foreign commercial fishermen and we want to start negotiating our share."

As a result of his enthusiastic reception, the Minister is confident that the North's role as observer at these meetings of the Atlantic Council of Fisheries Ministers will be upgraded. In addition, Mr. Allooloo has invited all of the ministers to the Baffin region to see for themselves the development and the potential of the area's fishing industry."

- 30 -

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUNDING RECEIVED

YELLOWKNIFE (Dec. 16) - Emergency response capability in the Northwest Territories will be improved this year through funding provided by the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP).

Approval of a $175,077 contribution was announced today by Perrin Beatty, federal minister responsible for Emergency Preparedness, and Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Gordon Wray.

The JEPP enables the Government of Canada to contribute to or undertake jointly with the Territorial government emergency preparedness projects that enhance the national response capability. The program is cost-shared between the two governments.

The federal contribution will be spent on three different projects. The largest contribution, $114,750, will go towards the third year of a five-year project to improve emergency response capability throughout the N.W.T. The funding will be used to assist communities in developing emergency plans, conducting exercises testing these plans and for public awareness programs. All projects will be initiated by the Emergency Measures Organization, Municipal and Community Affairs.

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A second contribution of $54,927 will be used to purchase an emergency generator for Fort Simpson while the remaining $5,400 will be used to purchase an emergency communications system for Sachs Harbour.

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N.W.T. POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

YELLOWKNIFE (December 16) - Several Northerners have been awarded post-secondary scholarships for their outstanding academic achievement.

Fourteen N.W.T. students enrolled in post-secondary studies are recipients of the scholarships, provided by the Department of Education. It awards three types of scholarships to northern students, at various stages of their academic careers.

Students who obtain an 80 per cent average in grade 12 in the territories and who are now enrolled in post-secondary studies are eligible for the first type.

This year, Carol Boudreau of Inuvik; Walter Foddis of Pine Point; Roderick Gonzales, Andrew Pape and Treeva Readman of Hay River; and Bradley Busch, Elizabeth Hart, Revi Lau-a, David McLeod and Chantel Richard of Yellowknife were each awarded the $500 scholarship in recognition of their achievement.

A Master's Scholarship of $1,000 each has been awarded to Lorraine Hewlett of Hay River, Linda Booty and Kenneth McDonald of Yellowknife. These students are currently enrolled in a Master's Degree program and have maintained an "A" average in their fourth year of undergraduate study.

Ann Davies of Yellowknife has been awarded the department's $1,500 Doctorate Scholarship, which is available to students who have obtained an "A" average in the final year of a Master's program and who are now enrolled in Doctorate level of studies.

In announcing the awards, Minister of Education Dennis Patterson emphasized that each recipient's achievements demonstrates that N.W.T. students are able to meet high academic standards at all levels of study.

"Each student is deserving of recognition and we are proud to provide each of them with this scholarship award for their efforts," Mr. Patterson said.

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NEW RULES ON TAXATION OF TRAVEL ALLOWANCES BENEFIT NORTH

YELLOWKNIFE (December 21) - Minister of Finance Michael Ballantyne says nearly two years of lobbying has brought about new rules which allow northern residents a tax deduction for employer-assisted travel within the north. The federal budget of February 1986 restricted the deduction to trips taken from the north to southern Canada.

"The new rules mean that northern people now can take their vacation in the north and not be penalized by losing a tax deduction," says Mr. Ballantyne. "The release of these regulations has resolved our most significant remaining concern over the administration of the travel deductions."

The Government of the Northwest Territories and many other northern groups and individuals have been demanding this change since the deduction was first announced nearly two years ago. "Much of the credit must go to the former NWT Minister of Finance Tom Butters who went directly to the federal minister Mr. Wilson for action when all other avenues were closed to us," says Mr. Ballantyne.

All employees in the Northwest Territories will now be entitled to a deduction for up to two employer-assisted trips a year to any location for themselves and their families. The deduction will be limited to the least of the following three amounts:

- The amount of travel assistance received from an employer
- The actual cost of the trips
- The cost of two return trips at the lowest airfare to the nearest designated city

"I am pleased the federal government listened to the concerns of northern people and made this change," says Mr. Ballantyne.

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FIRST STAGE OF FEDERAL TAX REFORM GETS SUPPORT

YELLOWKNIFE (December 21) - Minister of Finance Michael Ballantyne supports most of the changes proposed by the federal government for the first stage of tax reform. "However, I am disappointed that more of the concerns of the Government of the Northwest Territories were not taken into account when federal Finance Minister Michael Wilson announced his tax reform plans last week," says Mr. Ballantyne.

Effective January 1, 1988 Canadians will pay a 10% tax on all personal long distance calls and on all business telephone charges. "Because of the isolation and small size of northern communities, long distance charges to an average customer in the north are over three times what they would be in the south," says Mr. Ballantyne. "When you add the ten percent tax on top, people in the north will be facing some costly telephone charges.

"We recommended that a 'cap' be put on the tax, and the House of Commons Committee reviewing tax reform agreed with our recommendation, but Mr. Wilson chose not to implement it.

"The phasing out of earned depletion will undoubtedly have a very unfavourable impact on mining, and the six-month delay in the phasing out only postpones these impacts." Some minor changes were made to the treatment of flow through shares. These changes will help make the shares slightly more attractive.

The tax reform paper issued on June 18, 1987 recommended a "put in use" rule which would have prevented companies from deducting depreciation on assets until they were used. The Northwest Territories government was concerned about that rule because of the long time period required for construction in the north.

According to Mr. Ballantyne, "the federal government will instead bring in a 'put in place' rule and a two-year limit on the time a company must wait before claiming depreciation." This was one of the main recommendations of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

"Although I am generally in favour of most of the changes in Phase I, the second stage of tax reform - Canada's sales tax will be costly for northerners."

Mr. Ballantyne explains that the federal government currently has a federal sales tax imposed at the manufacturers' level, so northerners pay about the same tax as other Canadians. "After reform of the sales tax system, this tax will be imposed at the retail level, so NWT consumers will pay much higher taxes, he warns.

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MINISTER APPROVES REZONING IN HAY RIVER

YELLOWKNIFE (December 21) - Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Gordon Wray today announced approval to rezone two lots in Delancy Estates in the Hay River/Enterprise corridor which will allow a commercial poultry operation to go ahead.

"This joint project of the Hay River Dene Band and Alberta Eggs Ltd. will, in the long run, create 40 new jobs for members of the Hay River Dene Band and inject about $5 million annually into the economy of the Hay River area," says Mr. Wray.

Residents of the Corridor and other interested parties had an opportunity to thoroughly review the proposed operation. The review process included a public meeting held in early November.

The commercial scale operation, consisting of poultry barns, and feed mill, will be required to meet all public health and safety requirements.

"Early in the new year a planning committee will be established to review and update the Hay River-Enterprise Corridor Area Development Regulations," said Wray. "This committee will include representatives from Municipal and Community Affairs and Economic Development and Tourism and invited representatives from the Town of Hay River, Hay River Dene Band, Corridor Association Group, Territorial Farmers' Association, Hay River Hunters' and Trappers' Association and other interested organizations."

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NWT'S LAURIE DEXTER NAMED TO SOVIET-CANADIAN POLAR EXPEDITION

IQALUIT (Frobisher Bay), (December 21) - NWT marathoner and polar explorer, Reverend Laurie Dexter of Fort Smith, has been selected as a member of the Soviet-Canadian Transpolar Ski Expedition following three weeks of intensive training in Iqaluit.

The announcement was made by expedition leader Dr. Dmitry Shparo at a news conference in Ottawa. Richard Weber of Cantley, Quebec, a well known polar explorer and former Canadian cross-country ski champion has also been named to the team.

The expedition is being undertaken as an opportunity to strengthen Soviet-Canadian relations through a peaceful cooperative effort. This will be the first time the Arctic ice cap has been crossed on skis, considered by many to be the last difficult thing left to do in the Arctic.

Following the announcement, Government Leader Dennis Patterson said: "Laurie Dexter and Richard Weber are well known to NWT residents both as athletes and through their participation in past polar expeditions. I congratulate them now on their selection to the team and look forward to following their progress after they leave the Soviet Arctic for their goal in the Canadian Arctic next March. I am proud of the effort toward international peace and cooperation that is represented by this expedition, and please at the opportunity that has been given for the Northwest Territories to participate."

Six Canadian and eleven Soviet athletes used Iqaluit as a training base from November 24 to December 17. At the news conference, Dr. Shparo thanked the GNWT for providing training facilities, accommodation, and support to the expedition during its only training session in Canada. The ice and snow conditions in the area surrounding Iqaluit provided an excellent ground for the Soviet Canadian team members to train, test equipment and get to know one another better, he added, and as a result all the objectives of this training session were successfully met.

Shparo also said that he is enormously grateful to the people of Iqaluit for their hospitality and friendliness during the expedition's training session. "We felt so welcome - it was like being back home in the Soviet Union among friends," he said.

Four of the six Canadians who participated in the training session have chosen to withdraw from the expedition. Shparo told media that three other Canadians will be selected in the next few days to participate in a final training session in the Soviet Union scheduled for early February. Two of them will then be selected to join seven Soviet team member finalists on the polar trek.

The group plans to journey by ski and inflatable raft from the northernmost tip of the Severnaya Zemlya islands in the Soviet Union to Cape Columbia on Ellesmere Island. Each team member will carry a 100 pound pack for eight to ten hours a day. The expedition will received fresh supplies and other staples every 15 days by air drop. The trip is expected to take three to three and one half months.

Expedition Leader Shparo is a 45 year old mathematician and Soviet Arctic expert. He is a popular adventure author in his own country and received its highest award, the Order of Lenin, after leading a successful journey to the North Pole on skis in 1979.

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EMERGENCY DISTEMPER VACCINATION PROGRAM ORGANIZED

YELLOWKNIFE (December 29) -- The territorial Department of Renewable Resources is organizing an emergency vaccination program to fight an outbreak of canine distemper.

Since October, cases of the viral disease have been reported in Cambridge Bay, Sachs Harbour, Holman, and Igloolik.

Canine distemper is highly contagious and often kills the dogs, foxes, wolves and members of the weasel family it affects. Canine distemper does not affect cats or humans.

While owners are responsible for vaccinating their dogs, the Department of Renewable Resources is providing enough vaccine to vaccinate 2,000 working dogs against the infection.

"Because so many people in the North depend on their dogs for hunting and trapping, or for guiding tourists and sport hunters, 2,000 dogs in communities above the treeline and on Baffin Island will be vaccinated," says Titus Allooloo, Minister of Renewable Resources. "Dogs already showing symptoms of the disease will not be treated."

Symptoms of the disease include lethargy, high temperature, poor appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, discharge from the eyes and nose, twitching, and paralysis of the hind quarters. All symptoms may not be present.

Infected dogs often die from secondary infections, such as pneumonia and dehydration between one and three weeks after symptoms first appear.

"Hunters and Trappers Associations will be asked to identify working dogs in their communities, and Renewable Resource Officers will administer the vaccinations," Mr. Allooloo said.

There is no cure for distemper, but the vaccine should prevent infection with the disease. Concerned pet owners should contact a veterinary service to arrange for vaccinations.

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APPOINTMENTS TO ALCOHOL AND DRUG SERVICES BOARD ANNOUNCED

FORT SMITH (December 30) - Seven N.W.T. residents have been appointed to the Board of Management for Alcohol and Drug Services, Social Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell announced today.

"The new board replaces the previous Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council, and has significantly more responsibility to the people of the Northwest Territories," Ms. Marie-Jewell says.

Nancy Austin of Yellowknife will be chairperson of the board for the next three years. Other members of the board are: Neil Colin, Fort McPherson; Reverend Irwin Holhm, Norman Wells; Chief Felix Lockhart, Snowdrift; Helen Maksagak, Cambridge Bay; Rosie Oolooyuk, Rankin Inlet; and Dr. Ross Wheeler, Yellowknife.

The Minister chose the seven board members, in consultation with the Executive Council, from twenty-two names submitted by Regional Councils, MLAs, various agencies and native organizations. Two additional appointments, including a nominee from the Baffin Regional Council, will be made in January, following further consultations by the Minister.

"These seven people were chosen because of their commitment to reducing alcohol and drug abuse in the Northwest Territories," says Ms. Marie-Jewell.

The board will be responsible for advising and making recommendations to the Minister on program funding and policy development.

The appointments take effect immediately. The board will meet for the first time in February.

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