

N	Code:	Subject:	Date of PR:	Contact:	Department:
1	91-001	Jan. 1 Disturbance at YCC Under Investigation	Jan 2, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-002	Inuvik Resident gets National Award	Jan 4, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-003	YCC Investigation Under Way	Jan 11, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-004	GNWT Supports IEA Decision	Jan 14, 1991	Casimirri	EM&R
1	91-005	Apprenticeship Award	Jan 17, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-006	Youth Initiatives Strategy	Jan 17, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-007	DM of Justice appointed to Queen's Counsel	Jan 22, 1991	McLeod	JUS
1	91-008	NWTHC Terminates its Leases	Jan 23, 1991	McLeod	JUS
1	91-009	Energy Poster Contest Winners	Jan 28, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-010	Saved by the Belt Club	Feb 4, 1991	Heath	TRANS
1		Commissioner's Award for Bravery	Feb 6, 1991	Heath	CO
1	91-011	Outstanding NWT Volunteers Sought	Feb 13, 1991	Heath	MACA
1	91-012	Raven Mad Daze Organizers	Feb 13, 1991	McLeod	ED&T
1	91-013	Political and Constitutional Issue Tops Agenda	Feb 13, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-014	Gas price differences investigated	Feb 15, 1991	Sorensen	JUS
1	91-015	\$1.1 billion budget presented	Feb 18, 1991	Sorensen	FIN
1	91-016	Lower taxes for small business sector	Feb 18, 1991	Sorensen	Finance
1	91-017	EDA signed between Canada and NWT	Feb 20, 1991	Heath	ED&T
1	91-018	Contractors required to hire local workers	Feb 22, 1991	Heath	HC
1	91-019	Fight against AIDS	Feb 22, 1991	Sorensen	HEA
1	91-020	Project team reviewing government	Feb 22, 1991	Sorensen	FIN
1	91-021	Payment schedule for Education Boards	Feb 27, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-022	Plays on substance and alcohol abuse	Feb 28, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-023	Negotiations at an impasse	Mar 1, 1991	Sorensen	JUS
1	91-024	Government contributes to Inuit conference	Mar 4, 1991	Sorensen	MACA
1	91-025	Gas price inquiry requested	Mar 6, 1991	Sorensen	CA
1	91-026	1991/92 Improvements to NWT highways	Mar 8, 1991	Heath	TRANS
1	91-027	Trapline Lifeline	Mar 12, 1991	Casimirri	C&C
1	91-028	Team up for workplace safety	Mar 18, 1991	Heath	SAPS
1	91-029	Federal airports transferred to GNWT	Mar 19, 1991	Heath	TRANS
1	91-030	Community Aerodrome Radio Station Service	Mar 19, 1991	Heath	TRANS
1	91-031	Teacher education program	Apr 2, 1991	Jewison	EDU

N	Code:	Subject:	Date of PR:	Contact:	Department:
1	91-032	Public service career training program	Apr 2, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-033	CL-215s are acquired	Apr 2, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-034	Wildlife Week	Apr 2, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-035	Photo licencing begins in NWT	Apr 5, 1991	Heath	TRANS
1	91-036	Setting direction of recreation and sports	Apr 8, 1991	Heath	MACA
1	91-037	Investments of \$3 million approved	Apr 10, 1991	Heath	ED&T
1	91-038	Outstanding volunteer named	Apr 10, 1991	Heath	MACA
1	91-039	National book festival	Apr 15, 1991	Casimirri	C&C
1	91-040	Audio Guides at Northern Heritage Centre	Apr 18, 1991	Casimirri	C&C
1	91-041	Safety and Public Services increases fees	Apr 18, 1991	Heath	SAPS
1	91-042	South Slave Divisional Board of Education	Apr 18, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-043	Language video wins award	Apr 18, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-044	VRDP agreement signed	Apr 24, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-045	Lotteries review completed	Apr 25, 1991	McLeod	SAPS
1	91-046	New ADMs for department of Transportat	Apr 30, 1991	Casimirri	TRANS
1	91-047	Williams appointed DCB chairman	Apr 30, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-048	Information for landlords and tenants	Apr 30, 1991	Heath	SAPS
1	91-049	Recall of Belden power cord set	Apr 30, 1991	Heath	SAPS
1	91-050	Mine Safety Regulations	May 7, 1991	Sorensen	SAPS
1	91-051	Tourism Awareness Week	May 8, 1991	Sorensen	ED&T
1	91-052	Report will ensure environmentally safe c	May 8, 1991	Sorensen	EM&R
1		Recipients of bravery awards	May 8, 1991	Sorensen	CO
1	91-053	Consumer Week Essay winner	May 10, 1991	Sorensen	SAPS
1	91-054	Air quality information	May 10, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-055	Wings of Change Aviation Gallery	May 10, 1991	Casimirri	C&C
1	91-056	Occupational health and safety board mem	May 10, 1991	Sorensen	SAPS
1	91-057	Agreement sets stage for oil and gas acc	May 15, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-058	Working committee with francophone grou	May 22, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-059	Rabesca is vice-chair of round table	May 23, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-060	GL joins Prime Minister's delegation	May 23, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-061	GNWT purchases broadcast rights to vide	May 29, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-062	Contract awarded for YK retail liquor out	May 30, 1991	Sorensen	LC

N	Code:	Subject:	Date of PR:	Contact:	Department:
1	91-063	Fuel for seniors policy expanded	May 30, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-064	RCMP contract extension welcomed	May 30, 1991	Sorensen	JUS
1	91-065	Uqqurmiut Centre opens	May 31, 1991	Casimirri	ED&T
1	91-066	No water... no wildlife	Jun 5, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-067	Pearson Scholarship awarded	Jun 6, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-068	Constitutional Commission established	Jun 6, 1991	Sorensen	A&CD
1	91-069	Victim Impact Statements	Jun 7, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-070	Awards honour teachers and others	Jun 7, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-071	Declaration on Arctic Environment	Jun 11, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-072	Suicide Prevention training curriculum de	Jun 13, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-073	Resource books tell story of the Sahtu pec	Jun 18, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-074	Funding support provided to NWT artists	Jun 18, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-075	GNWT and chamber sign agreement	Jun 19, 1991	Lopatka	ED&T
1		Hazard Alert	Jun 25, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-076	Child support paper released	Jun 25, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-077	Skeletal remains return to the NWT	Jun 25, 1991	Sorensen	C&C
1		Contract Information	Jun 25, 1991	Sorensen	DPW
1	91-078	Soviet delegates to visit NWT	Jun 28, 1991	Lopatka	GLO
1	91-079	Sports camp pilot project	Jun 28, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-080	\$38.5 million cooperation agreement	Jul 3, 1991	Lopatka	ED&T
1	91-081	Propane Awareness Campaign	Jul 3, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-082	Teacher education program	Jul 3, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-083	Aboriginal Affairs Initiative	Jul 5, 1991	Sorensen	A&CD
1	91-084	NWT Fitweek Prize	Jul 5, 1991	Casimirri	MACA
1	91-085	Tunuunig Theatre completes tour of Green	Jul 8, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-086	Suicide Prevention Strategy released	Jul 8, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-087	Greenlandic Theatre Group tours NWT	Jul 8, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-088	Countess Mountbatten unveils sculpture	Jul 9, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-089	Travel Assistance	Jul 11, 1991	Sorensen	AR&CD
1	91-090	Metis Nation gets Gov't Assistance	Jul 11, 1991	Sorensen	AR&CD
1	91-091	Old Stanton Hospital	Jul 12, 1991	Sorensen	FIN
1	91-092	Lake open for Rainbow Trout Fishing	Jul 15, 1991	Casimirri	RR

N	Code:	Subject:	Date of PR:	Contact:	Department:
1	91-093	Revised Statutes Take Effect today	Jul 15, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-094	New Trades Program Available for Women	Jul 15, 1991	Lopatka	DPW
1	91-095	Gwich'in Land Claim Agreement Initialled	Jul 15, 1991	Casimirri	AR&CD
1	91-096	Community Petroleum Delivery Contract	Jul 16, 1991	Sorensen	GS
1	91-097	Constitutional Commission	Jul 16, 1991	Lopatka	AR&CD
1		Contract Information	Jul 18, 1991	Lopatka	DPW
1	91-098	Medical Travel Benefits	Jul 19, 1991	Lewis	HEA
1	91-099	Justice Services Directory	Jul 19, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1		Contract Information	Jul 23, 1991	Lopatka	DPW
1	91-100	Mine Fatality	Jul 23, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-101	NWT Libraries to Receive \$1,000	Jul 24, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-102	Pregnancy and Parental Leave	Jul 25, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-103	Underground Fire at Lupin	Jul 25, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-104	Income Tax Act Amended	Jul 26, 1991	Lopatka	FIN
1	91-105	Queen of Denmark	Jul 29, 1991	Lopatka	GLO
1	91-106	Seniors' Territorial Supplementary Benefits	Jul 29, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-107	Heritage Conference to be held in Iqaluit	Jul 30, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-108	New Rules for Propane Storage	Aug 2, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1		Contract Information	Aug 13, 1991	Lopatka	DPW
1	91-109	French and Aboriginal Languages	Aug 16, 1991	Sorensen	C&C
1	91-110	Nanisivik Library Gets Grant	Aug 20, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1		Special Advisor on Gender Equality	Aug 23, 1991	(handle dist. or	JUS
1	91-111	Investigation Ordered	Aug 23, 1991	Sorensen	SS
1	91-112	Labour Standards Board	Aug 23, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-113	SCOF Recommendations	Aug 26, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-114	French Language Services	Aug 27, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-115	Interim Water Agreement	Aug 27, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-116	Justice Ministers' Meeting	Aug 28, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-117	Edmonton Consultant to Handle Investigation	Aug 30, 1991	Sorensen	SS
1	91-118	Victim Witness Assistants for the NWT	Sep 5, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-119	Western Tourism Conference	Sep 5, 1991	Enge	ED&T
1	91-120	Community Literacy Grants	Sep 9, 1991	Jewison	EDU

N	Code:	Subject:	Date of PR:	Contact:	Department:
1	91-121	First Expo '92 Corporate Partner	Sep 9, 1991	Enge	ED&T
1	91-122	Investigator says Interference Unfounded	Sep 10, 1991	Sorensen	SS
1	91-123	Fisheries Act Charges	Sep 12, 1991	Enge	TRANS
1	91-124	Emergency Preparedness	Sep 13, 1991	Lopatka	EM
1	91-125	RCMP Contract	Sep 16, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-126	New Public Library	Sep 16, 1991	Enge	C&C
1	91-127	New Visitor Centre	Sep 16, 1991	Enge	C&C
1	91-128	Measles Vaccinations	Sep 17, 1991	Casimirri	HEA
1	91-129	Deputy Judges Appointed	Sep 23, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1		Contract Information	Sep 23, 1991	Lopatka	DPW
1	91-130	Ice No Longer a Barrier	Sep 23, 1991	Enge	TRANS
1	91-131	POL Contract Process	Sep 23, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-132	Peace-Athabasca-Slave Rivers Study	Sep 27, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-133	Macpherson Literary Award	Sep 30, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-134	Inherent Right to Self-Government	Oct 1, 1991	Enge	AR&CD
1		Commissioner's Awards Committee	Oct 1, 1991	Lopatka	CO
1	91-135	Vice-President of NWT Development Corp.	Oct 2, 1991	Enge	ED&T
1	91-136	New Runway Completed	Oct 2, 1991	Enge	TRANS
1		NWT Survey of Sexual Assaults and Sente	Oct 4, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-137	Fire Escape Plans	Oct 4, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-138	Dispel Sexual Assault Myths	Oct 4, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1		Order of Canada	Oct 7, 1991	Lopatka	CO
1	91-139	No Increase in Fuel Prices	Oct 7, 1991	Sorensen	GS
1	91-140	Polar Bear Management Agreement	Oct 7, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-141	Dene Literacy Syllabus	Oct 8, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-142	Compensation Agreement	Oct 8, 1991	Lopatka	EM
1	91-143	Inuvik's Airport Road	Oct 9, 1991	Enge	TRANS
1	91-144	Business Credit Corporation	Oct 9, 1991	Enge	ED&T
1	91-145	Victim Assistance Training Program	Oct 11, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-146	Contributions to Literacy	Oct 16, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-147	Energy Awareness Week	Oct 18, 1991	Enge	DPW
1	91-148	NWT Acts Consolidated	Oct 22, 1991	Lopatka	C&C

N	Code:	Subject:	Date of PR:	Contact:	Department:
1	91-149	Top Apprentices, Tradespeople	Oct 22, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-150	New Housing Units	Oct 24, 1991	Lopatka	NWTHC
1	91-151	Aboriginal Language Preservation	Oct 24, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-152	Old Fort Providence Commemorated	Oct 24, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-153	Children's Book Week	Oct 24, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-154	Awards for Academic Achievement	Oct 25, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-155	Funding for Aboriginal Projects	Oct 25, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-156	Cost of Division Study	Oct 28, 1991	Sorensen	AR&CD
1	91-157	French Language Development	Oct 28, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-158	French Programs	Oct 31, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-159	CBA Intern in the NWT	Oct 31, 1991	Casimirri	JUS
1	91-160	Young Consumers Get Advice	Nov 1, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-161	Trap Exchange Program	Nov 7, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-162	Investigation into UNW Allegations	Nov 7, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-163	UNESCO	Nov 8, 1991	Casimirri	RR
1	91-164	Accident Prevention Plans	Nov 8, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-165	Northern Educator Appointed	Nov 13, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-166	Bickert Resigns from Judicial Council	Nov 12, 1991	Sorensen	JUS
1	91-167	Addictions Awareness Week	Nov 14, 1991	Casimirri	SS
1	91-168	Pollard New Finance Minister	Nov 14, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-169	Beatty Report	Nov 18, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-170	Improved Relations with Dene Nation	Nov 21, 1991	Sorensen	AR&CD
1	91-171	Ministers Assigned Portfolios	Nov 22, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-172	Deputy Minister Changes Announced	Nov 25, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-173	Aboriginal Language Workshops	Nov 26, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-174	Enrolment in NWT Schools	Nov 28, 1991	Jewison	EDU
1	91-175	Federal Funds	Dec 2, 1991	Lopatka	EM
1	91-176	Restraint Measures Introduced	Dec 2, 1991	Sorensen	FIN
1	91-177	Candlelight Vigil	Dec 6, 1991	Enge	WS
1	91-178	Work for Less Money	Dec 9, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-179	Government Looks to Borrow Money	Dec 9, 1991	Sorensen	FIN
1	91-180	Consolidation of Departments	Dec 9, 1991	Sorensen	GLO

N	Code:	Subject:	Date of PR:	Contact:	Department:
1	91-181	Exploration Bids Signal Upturn	Dec 10, 1991	Casimirri	EMR
1	91-182	Montreal Painter	Dec 10, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-183	Mine Safety Bill Committee	Dec 11, 1991	Casimirri	SAPS
1	91-184	Utilities Board Report	Dec 12, 1991	Casimirri	PUB
1	91-185	Seat Belt Use	Dec 12, 1991	Enge	TRANS
1	91-186	Sobriety Clause	Dec 13, 1991	Sorensen	SS
1	91-187	PR Number not used			
1	91-188	Kakwi Congratulates TFN	Dec 16, 1991	Sorensen	AR&CD
1	91-189	Aboriginal Participation in Mining	Dec 16, 1991	Casimirri	EMR
1	91-190	Anderson Report	Dec 18, 1991	Sorensen	GLO
1	91-191	Band Councils to Receive Grants	Dec 18, 1991	Sorensen	AR&CD
1	91-192	Programming to TVNC	Dec 18, 1991	Lopatka	C&C
1	91-193	New National Vision	Dec 19, 1991	Sorensen	GLO



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-001

Jan. 1 Disturbance at YCC Under Investigation

YELLOWKNIFE (January 2) - Fifty-two inmates at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre (YCC) have been temporarily relocated to other facilities in the Northwest Territories and Alberta following a disturbance at the jail yesterday.

Most will remain at the other facilities until repairs are completed at YCC.

The disturbance began at approximately 12:15 a.m. New Year's Day when inmates in four of YCC's six dorms started damaging walls and equipment. There were 76 inmates housed in these four dorms, but not all of them participated in the disturbance.

A dollar value estimate of the damage is not yet available. The disturbance is being investigated by the Government of the Northwest Territories and the RCMP.

Assisting YCC staff in dealing with the incident were members of the RCMP, the fire department, and city bylaw officers. There were no reported injuries to staff; some inmates reported minor cuts and bruises resulting from their activities during the disturbance.

The Yellowknife Correctional Centre is a medium-security correctional facility. There were 152 inmates in YCC when the disturbance occurred.

Contact: Bill DuPerron
Director, Corrections
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(403) 920-8922

or

Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7615



91-002

Inuvik Resident Receives National Award

YELLOWKNIFE (January 4) - Joyce Moen of Inuvik was recently awarded a General Educational Development (GED) National Award for earning the highest scores in the NWT on GED tests for 1989. Ms. Moen is one of only 70 people in North America -- out of 682,728 who wrote the GED test that year -- who achieved this award.

"A Grade 12 education can open many doors to employment, as well as further education and training," says Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi. "People leave school early for many reasons. The GED program is ensuring that many northerners receive their Grade 12 equivalency, and are in a position to take full advantage of the economic opportunities the NWT offers."

Ms. Moen has lived in Inuvik for the last two and a half years. Recognizing that having a Grade 12 education was essential for success, she decided to upgrade her Grade 10 standing. She contacted Arctic College's Aurora Campus in Inuvik and was told of the GED program. Ms. Moen says that reaching this goal has given her great personal satisfaction, and she has been recommending to other people that they write the exams. She has recently opened her own accounting business.

The GED tests were developed in 1942 for people who had not completed high school. The tests give people an opportunity to show they have acquired the level of learning required of traditional high school graduates. The five tests in the GED battery (writing skills, social studies, science, literature and the arts, and mathematics) are designed to measure the major concepts and lasting outcomes of a high school education. Since the GED Testing Program was established, more than 10 million adults have had their level of education formally recognized.

To be eligible to write the GED tests in the Northwest Territories, an individual must be at least 18 years old, be out of school for at least one academic year, and be a resident of the NWT for six months. GED testing is available in every community throughout the Northwest Territories. For more information on GED testing in your area, contact your local adult educator or regional Arctic College campus.

Contact: Alana Jacobs
Registrar, Certification and Student Assistance
Department of Education
(403) 873-7392



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-003

YCC Investigation Under Way

YELLOWKNIFE (January 11) - An independent investigation of the January 1 disturbance at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre is under way, says Social Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

Terry Youngman and Jeffrey Gilmour began the investigation Thursday. Mr. Youngman is a Corrections Specialist from Saskatchewan, now working for the Corrections Service of Canada. Mr. Gilmour, who is assisting Mr. Youngman, is the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Justice, Government of the Northwest Territories.

They will be looking at the cause of the disturbance, which resulted in about \$200,000 worth of damage to the facility. They will examine the actions of inmates and responses by staff at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre before and after the disturbance. Mr. Youngman and Mr. Gilmour will also review procedures associated with requesting assistance from other agencies in Yellowknife.

"The recommendations stemming from this investigation will help determine how a similar occurrence may be prevented and how security at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre may be improved," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

This independent investigation is separate from the criminal investigation being conducted by the R.C.M.P. and the Government of the NWT, which will determine whether charges will be laid in connection with the disturbance.

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or

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Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7615



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-004

GNWT Supports IEA Decision

YELLOWKNIFE (January 14) - The Government of the Northwest Territories will participate in a coordinated energy emergency response contingency plan that will be invoked if hostilities occur in the Persian Gulf, says Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Minister Nellie Cournoyea.

The Government of Canada, one of 21 member nations of the International Energy Agency (IEA), supported the January 11 unanimous decision of the IEA Governing Board to adopt the plan, which will make additional oil supplies available to world markets and reduce uncertainty and volatility in the international oil market during a period of crisis.

"It is prudent for all jurisdictions to adopt a contingency plan which will ensure a timely and coordinated response to potential oil supply disruptions should hostilities develop," says Ms. Cournoyea. She stresses there are currently sufficient supplies of oil on the world market and ample supplies of refined petroleum products such as diesel, heating oil and propane for the Northwest Territories.

The territorial government, in cooperation with the federal government, is encouraging voluntary demand restraint, or reduced oil consumption, in the Northwest Territories. If the contingency plan is invoked, all Canadians will be asked to further reduce energy consumption through such measures as reduced temperatures and lighting in buildings, and decreased travel. Crude oil or product allocation, rationing, or price controls are not part of this response effort.

Representatives of the department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources will be meeting with federal, territorial and provincial officials in Ottawa this week to discuss the Gulf situation and coordinate national and regional responses as the situation develops.

Contact: Pierre Alvarez
Deputy Minister
Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
(403) 873-7224



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-005

Yellowknife Man Wins Apprenticeship Award

YELLOWKNIFE (January 17) - Matthew Grogono, a journeyman Motor Vehicle Mechanic, recently received an award from the Canadian Municipal Vehicles and Equipment Association for academic excellence during his four-year apprenticeship.

Mr. Grogono received his certificate of qualification in October, 1989, after participating in the NWT Apprenticeship Program. The program, administered by the Department of Education, certifies apprentices in designated trades by combining classroom study with work experience.

Mr. Grogono's past honors include receiving the top award among NWT apprentices for first period Motor Vehicle Mechanics in 1987 and fourth period Motor Vehicle Mechanics in 1990. He also received the Loveseth Achievement Award from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1988 and received an honourable mention in his fourth year for earning second highest marks in the class. He now works as a motor vehicle mechanic at Carriere Toyota in Yellowknife.

"I am pleased that a national organization has recognized Mr. Grogono's hard work and achievements," says Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi.

"His success shows the high standards of apprentices in the NWT program, and I want to congratulate him on his accomplishments."

Contact: Judith Sharp
Registrar, Apprenticeship Programs
Department of Education
403) 920-8878



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-006

Youth Initiatives Strategy Announced

YELLOWKNIFE (January 17) - Youth programs in the Northwest Territories must continue to be driven by young people themselves, according to a strategy announced today by Youth Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

"They need to participate in making decisions affecting their lives," she said.

The Youth Initiatives Strategy is the first of its kind in the Northwest Territories. It formally recognizes the need to involve young people in the development of policies and programs. There are about 14,000 youths in the NWT between the ages of 12 and 24. They represent about 25 per cent of the population.

The strategy's goals are to: nurture the self-esteem of youths; develop their leadership skills; promote identification with family, community and culture; foster community involvement in dealing with youth problems; and encourage interagency cooperation and coordination at the community, regional and territorial levels.

For the 1990/91 fiscal year, for example, a total of 68 per cent of the department's total budget for youth initiatives went towards alcohol and drug prevention programs and community projects.

Mrs. Marie-Jewell says the focus will continue to be on providing contributions for young people to develop and implement projects which they feel are worthwhile. Youth groups are encouraged to submit applications for funding from the Department of Social Services for projects which work towards the goals outlined in the strategy.

As part of the strategy, the department is working with other government departments and non-government organizations to prepare a booklet listing all existing programs for youth in the NWT. The department is also preparing a package of information on how to start a youth group, and how to prepare a funding proposal.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-007

Deputy Minister of Justice Appointed to Queen's Counsel

YELLOWKNIFE (January 22) - Geoffrey Bickert, Deputy Minister of the territorial Department of Justice, was honoured yesterday in a ceremony recognizing his appointment to Queen's Counsel.

The title of Queen's Counsel is awarded to lawyers across Canada each year by the federal minister of justice. It recognizes the recipients' knowledge and contributions to law in their communities.

"I am pleased that the dedication of this senior justice official has been recognized," said Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne. "Mr. Bickert has extensive knowledge of the justice system and how it operates in the Northwest Territories."

Mr. Bickert has served as Deputy Minister with the Department of Justice since 1987. In addition to managing the department, he is responsible for providing legal advice to the Commissioner and Executive Council, and for the territorial policing agreement with the RCMP.

Prior to his appointment as Deputy Minister, Mr. Bickert was Crown Attorney and Assistant Crown Attorney with the federal Department of Justice at the Yellowknife Regional Office. His work took him on court circuit cases throughout the Northwest Territories, and he prosecuted in the first 12-person jury trial in the Northwest Territories. Mr. Bickert also prosecuted in the first successful cases in Canada under the Ocean Dumping Control Act and the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act.

Mr. Bickert was called to the Northwest Territories Bar in 1979, after articling and practising law with an Alberta firm for four years. He graduated from the University of Alberta in 1975.

Active on N.W.T. Law Society committees, he has served on the society's executive for four years. He has also served on the Canadian Bar Association National Council, Northwest Territories Law Foundation, the board of the Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society, and the Ministerial Committee on Wife Assault.

He is currently a member of the N.W.T. Judicial Council, the Law Reform Committee and the Legal Services Board.

Contact: Nancy McLeod
Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
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or

Jeff Gilmour
Assistant Deputy Minister
Department of Justice
(403) 920-6300



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-008

NWTHC Terminates its Leases

YELLOWKNIFE (January 23) - The Northwest Territories Housing Corporation has reached an agreement, with the owner of the apartments, to terminate its leases of Lanky Court and Forrest Drive Manor apartments as of January 1, 1991.

The agreement resolves a dispute that arose in 1989 between the Corporation and the owners of the buildings, a group of Edmonton investors, over the issue of responsibility for repairs to Lanky Court.

The NWTHC has operated the two buildings under long-term leases since 1975. In 1989, the NWT Fire Marshal ordered that extensive repairs be made to Lanky Court to ensure the fire safety of the building. The NWTHC and the building's owners disputed responsibility for the repairs, and the Fire Marshal ordered the building closed effective August 31, 1989, until the repairs could be completed.

Lanky Court has been vacant since that time. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation subsequently initiated foreclosure proceedings against the owners in connection with a mortgage on the building, and that matter remains to be resolved. A third-party claim filed by the owners against the NWTHC has now been withdrawn.

The Yellowknife Housing Authority continued to operate Forrest Drive Manor Apartments for the NWTHC, but with the termination of the Corporation's lease the owners took over as landlord on January 18. Tenants of Forrest Drive Manor will not be disrupted as they will continue to occupy their apartments under their present leases, which have been assigned to the owners by the NWTHC.

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or

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District Manager, Yellowknife District
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-009

Energy Poster Contest Winners Announced

YELLOWKNIFE (January 28) - Students from across the Northwest Territories illustrated the connection between energy, people and the environment in their submissions to the second annual energy poster contest sponsored by two government departments.

A total of 185 entries were received this year, more than double the 84 submissions received in 1989. Two schools in Iqaluit participated, along with J.H. Sissons School in Yellowknife, and schools in Hall Beach, Arctic Bay, Lake Harbour, Rankin Inlet, Clyde River, Norman Wells, Fort Franklin and Nahanni Butte.

The poster contest, organized by the Energy Management Division of Public Works, and the Conservation Education Section of Renewable Resources, was open to students in the Northwest Territories in Grades 4, 5 and 6.

Thirteen winners have been selected. They will receive \$50 each and their artwork will be featured in a calendar.

Winners are:

- Colleen Healey, Nakasuk School, Iqaluit. "Don't waste energy. Use Your own!"
- Jean Kigutikakjuk, Inuujaq School, Arctic Bay. "If we don't use the snowmobiles all the time, we can use the dog team."
- Paleah Black, Nakasuk School, Iqaluit. "Save today's electricity for tomorrow."
- Dean Francis Kenny, Great Grandfather Ayah School, Fort Franklin. "Keep our environment clean."
- Veronique Binette, Nakasuk School, Iqaluit. "Use natural energy instead of electricity."
- Susie Naulalik, Nakasuk School, Iqaluit. "Walk instead of using car."
- Eepa Hainnu, Quluqaq School, Clyde River. "Pollution will kill the seagulls."
- Nicole Lamden, Joamie School, Iqaluit. "What are we going to do? Think about it, what can we do?"
- Dominique Mongeau, Joamie School Iqaluit. "Let's prevent pollution."
- Russell Kinear, Joamie School, Iqaluit. "Don't kill mother nature."
- Neo Yaxley, J.H. Sissons School, Yellowknife. "Don't throw garbage."
- Amber Nordahn, J.H. Sissons School, Yellowknife. "Buy food in packages that can be recycled. Every package is recyclable."
- Warren Kusugak, Leo Ussak School, Rankin Inlet. "Don't use too much power save electricity for tomorrow."

Contact: Mary Tapsell
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-010

Saved By The Belt Club Has First Members

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 4) - Norman and Beulah Phillipot of Yellowknife are the first members of the territorial government's Saved by the Belt Club, Transportation Minister Gordon Wray announced today.

In March of 1989, the Phillipots were passengers in a vehicle involved in a head-on collision at 50 kilometres per hour. Mr. Phillipot ruptured an intestine and was in hospital for 10 days. Mrs. Phillipot fractured her pelvic bone and was in hospital for two weeks.

Mr. Phillipot was sitting in the right back seat at the time of the accident and was wearing a lap belt. Without the belt, Mr. Phillipot would have been hurled against the front passenger seat where his wife was sitting. Mrs. Phillipot was wearing a shoulder harness which prevented her from being thrown through the windshield.

Ironically, Mr. Phillipot says that at the time of the accident, he had only recently begun to wear seat belts. The 15-year resident of Yellowknife had worn seat belts religiously when living in Vancouver but had gradually lost the habit after moving to the N.W.T. It was only when seat belt use became the law that he resumed his practice of wearing seat belts.

"The Department of Transportation created the Saved by the Belt Club to help advertise the fact that seat belts work; that they reduce the risk of death or severe injury in a motor vehicle accident," Mr. Wray says.

Membership in the Saved by the Belt Club is open to NWT residents who have been involved in a motor vehicle accident in which seat belts eliminated or reduced injuries. Members receive a lapel pin and certificate. Their names are engraved on a plaque at Motor Vehicles' main office in Yellowknife.

"You might not be a member but remember, you are a potential member," says Mr. Wray. "Statistics show that the average driver has a 50/50 chance of being involved in a serious accident during his or her lifetime."

Mr. Wray adds that a survey of 9,100 motorists in the N.W.T. revealed that only 39 per cent of northern drivers wear their seat belts. In Yellowknife, 49 per cent of motorists wear safety belts. In Fort Smith, 38 per cent of motorists wear their seat belts. In Hay River, only

23 per cent of drivers wear their seat belts. Nationwide, 80 per cent of Canadians wear their safety belts.

Mr. Wray, a member of the Canadian Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety, recently set a target of 95 per cent seat belt usage by 1995.

"Obviously we have a long way to go," the minister says. "We are very concerned that the N.W.T.'s vehicle fatality rate is nearly double the national average."

Application forms for the Saved by the Belt Club are available by writing to the Motor Vehicles Division, Department of Transportation, Government of the N.W.T., P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, N.W.T., X1A 2L9, or by phoning (403) 873-7406.

Contact:	Richard MacDonald	or	Graham Gleddie
	Director		Transportation Analyst
	Motor Vehicles		Policy and Planning
	Transportation		Transportation
	(403) 873-7406		(403) 920-8756

Press Statement

Office of the Commissioner • Government of the Northwest Territories • Yellowknife • NWT

Fort McPherson Residents Receive Commissioner's Award for Bravery

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 06) - Two Fort McPherson residents have received the Commissioner's Award for Bravery at the Highest level for risking their lives to save a Whitehorse family.

Commissioner Daniel L. Norris presented the awards to Bella Rosie Robert and Abraham Stewart Jr. during a community feast and dance in Fort McPherson on Saturday, Feb. 2 in honour of the occasion.

Bella Rosie and Abraham were camping on the Peel River, in September of 1987, when they saw four people in a small boat attempting to cross the river during a severe storm with high winds and driving rain.

The four managed to reach the middle of the river before large waves swamped the boat, spilling them into the river. The Whitehorse residents were Robert O'Brien and Bill Hobson, both adults, and Matthew O'Brien, age 9, and Jacob O'Brien, age 7.

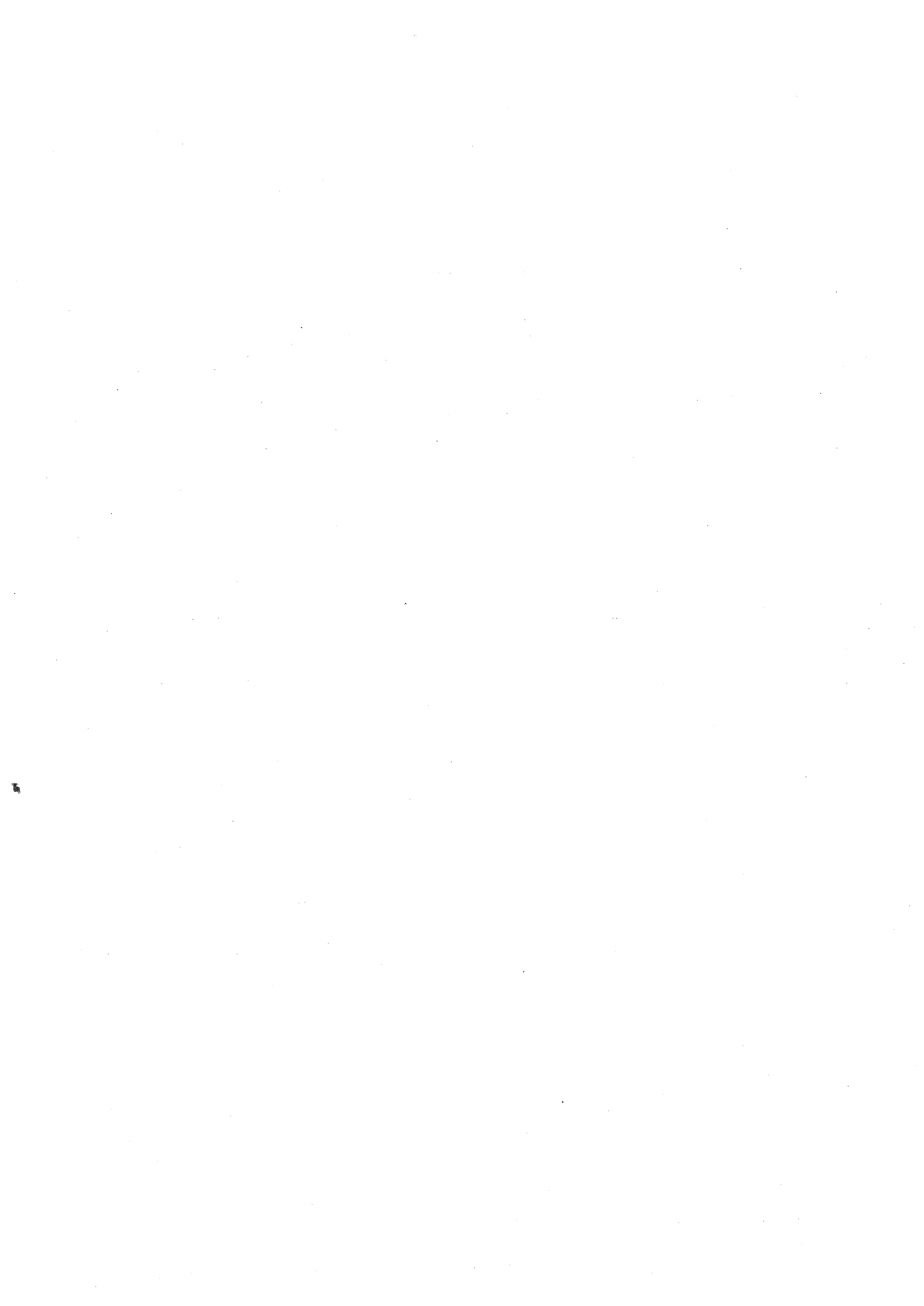
Even though their boat was too small to challenge the storm, Bella Rosie and Abraham did not hesitate to attempt a rescue —at great personal risk to themselves.

When they got close to the victims, Bella Rosie and Abraham had to shut down the motor to avoid injuring anyone. As a result, the boat rocked wildly and Abraham fell overboard. Bella Rosie was able to help him back into the boat and they continued with the rescue.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-011

Outstanding NWT Volunteers Sought

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 13) - Northern residents are being asked to nominate outstanding volunteers for a new award, says Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Tom Butters.

Municipal and Community Affairs will present two Outstanding Volunteer Service Awards each year, beginning this April, to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the quality of life in the Northwest Territories.

"We established this award not only to pay special tribute to outstanding volunteers but to also encourage voluntarism across the Territories," says Mr. Butters.

Recipients of the Outstanding Volunteer Service Award will receive a personal plaque and a letter of citation from the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Their names will also be inscribed on a permanent plaque to be displayed in the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

The award will be presented by Mr. Butters during a special ceremony in Yellowknife during National Volunteer Week, April 21-27.

Municipal and Community Affairs asks NWT residents to nominate volunteers they believe have:

- made a significant contribution over an extended period of time;
- had a consistent and continuous record of service to the public;
- shown a high degree of personal commitment to community development or service to the public, or
- helped improve the quality of life in the community, region or the Northwest Territories in general.

Nominations must be submitted by Friday, March 8. Nomination forms and guidelines are available from Municipal and Community Affairs in each regional centre and through the Sport and Recreation Division in Yellowknife.

Recipients will be selected by the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs based on recommendations from a selection committee. The committee will consist of five voting members appointed biannually by the Minister, and one non-voting representative of the department.

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Sport and Recreation Division
Municipal and Community Affairs
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Office of the Press Secretary
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91-012

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tourism Minister Congratulates Raven Mad Daze Organizers

YELLOWKNIFE (February 13) - Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Gordon Wray has congratulated the organizers of Raven Mad Daze on the event's selection as one of the top 100 events in North America for 1991.

The solstice celebration, organized annually in Yellowknife by the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce, was named to the list by the American Bus Association. An evening of summer fun and bargains, Raven Mad Daze shares the top rating with such well-known festivals as the Quebec Winter Carnival, the Charlottetown Festival, the Winnipeg Folk Festival and the International Gathering of the Clans in Nova Scotia.

"I am proud that the hard work put into Raven Mad Daze has received such recognition," said Mr. Wray. "The honour should help lure more tourists to Yellowknife and the rest of the Northwest Territories."

The top 100 events are nominated to the American Bus Association by provincial, territorial and state officials. A committee, made up of travel industry and bus operator professionals, examines the significance of the event for motorcoach travellers and other tourists, the level of community support, the functions' national reputation and attendance figures.

Events listed in the Top 100 Events for North America include cultural and historical celebrations, festivals and sporting events.

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91-013

Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Political and Constitutional Issue Tops Agenda

YELLOWKNIFE (February 13) - The Territorial government says a comprehensive approach to political and constitutional issues is essential to the future of the Northwest Territories.

At the same time, elected representatives and the people of the Northwest Territories must participate in the national debate that has resulted from the failure of the Meech Lake Accord in order to ensure their rightful place in a renewed Confederation.

"Rather than take a piece-meal approach, we must protect our interests as Northerners and as Canadians in a manner that recognizes the relationships between the various issues that are facing us at this stage in our political and constitutional evolution," the government stated in its Throne Speech, delivered at the opening of the annual budget session Wednesday.

The speech, read by Commissioner Daniel Norris, noted the government will be tabling a position paper on political and constitutional development in time to allow members of the Legislature to consult with their constituents before returning to the Assembly to address the issue later in the session.

"We have arrived at a time when critical decisions must be made. They are decisions that will affect not only our political and constitutional future, but our social and economic futures as well," the government stated. The government tabled economic and transportation strategies at earlier sessions.

Wednesday, it served notice that northern leaders must now make a commitment to the resolution of political and constitutional issues and stimulate similar commitments from other interested parties, despite "high levels of constitutional fatigue" in the country.

"The alternative is stagnation and the loss of opportunities for improvement in the political, social and economic status of Northerners."

The government noted that work must begin immediately on finalizing a number of key political and constitutional elements including: completion of claims and full implementation of the settlements with the Inuit, Dene/Metis and the Inuvialuit; the creation of Nunavut and a new territory for the Western Arctic; the development of new constitutions for the two future territories in a manner that allows for public input; and any interim amendments to the Northwest Territories Act necessary to allow for division, devolution and modernization of the Act.

Other elements included completion of the Northern Energy Accord, transfer of responsibility from Ottawa for the management of land and water and environmental assessment, and the development of aboriginal self government at the community and territorial level.

"At the same time, there must be participation by the Government of the Northwest Territories, northern organizations and residents in the process of national constitutional reform to ensure that our long-term interests are reflected in a renewed Confederation."

Those long-term interests include successful implementation of political and constitutional reforms to ensure that both Nunavut and the new western territory can seek and be granted provincial status and full participation as a member of Confederation at the appropriate time in the future.

The Throne Speech noted that northern leaders cannot afford to approach political and constitutional issues in a piece meal fashion.

"The danger is that each element may take on a life or death importance if considered in isolation, but may seem quite different if viewed in the larger context - the political, social and economic future of the Northwest Territories. The bottom line is self determination - having the capacity to make the decisions which affect our futures."

The government concluded that over the next several months residents of the NWT - as Northerners and as Canadians - would be making decisions as difficult as any they have been called upon to make before.

"We will be participating in the definition of the future of both our region and our country. In doing so, we will be affecting the welfare of generations to come."

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Press Secretary
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-014

Government Investigating Gas Price Differences

YELLOWKNIFE (February 15) - Finance Minister Michael Ballantyne says the government is investigating differences in the retail price of gasoline between northern and southern Canada.

"At the moment, the differences are quite startling. We'll do everything we can to ensure northern consumers are treated fairly," he told the NWT Legislature today.

The average price per litre of gasoline in Yellowknife is currently 24.5 cents higher than Alberta and 17.5 cents higher than the Canadian average.

Mr. Ballantyne said commercial prices in the NWT will always tend to be higher than prices in the south, a difference that reflects higher costs of transportation of the product from the refinery and the costs of maintaining a larger inventory.

"We can understand this reality. What is harder to understand is the tripling of this difference in the past eight months".

Last June, the price of unleaded regular gasoline in Yellowknife was 5 cents per litre higher than the national average. In November, the Yellowknife price was 9 cents per litre higher than the Canadian average and by January this difference had increased to 17 cents per litre.

As a result of the Persian Gulf situation, the price of fuel in market communities began to increase at the same time as in the south, but has been very slow to reflect the price declines being experienced elsewhere in Canada, Mr. Ballantyne said.

"This is a matter of serious concern to consumers in the NWT and to the government."

Mr. Ballantyne said fuel suppliers in the NWT will be asked for written explanations of the recent trends in fuel prices in the Territories in comparison with the national average.

He added that the federal government has been monitoring oil and product prices in southern Canada for some years and that it will be asked to include major centres in the NWT in their survey of fuel prices.

"If our efforts to monitor prices suggest that there are constraints to competition in this market, the results will be provided to the federal Bureau of Competition Policy for their consideration."

Mr. Ballantyne said NWT consumers have a responsibility as well as a right to competitiveness in the market place, and are encouraged to make their views known to the retailers.

"Although the Competition Bureau can initiate investigations on its own, it also looks to the public to alert it to problems. Any six Canadians concerned about abuse of market power can, by writing to the bureau, require it to investigate the need for a review of competitive practices. We must all recognize our responsibility to be active," he said.

The investigation into gas pricing will be conducted by the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and the Consumer Affairs Division of the Department of Safety and Public Services.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-015

Ballantyne Presents \$1.1 Billion Budget

YELLOWKNIFE (February 18) - Finance Minister Michael Ballantyne says the Territorial government will complete its term with a financial record that most governments would envy.

"But it hasn't been easy," he told the Legislature here Monday during his annual budget address.

Spending on discretionary government programs and services has been "cut to the bone" in order to adjust to a low growth in financial contributions from Ottawa, partly resulting from the current recession.

The budget for 1991-92 has been set at slightly under \$1.1 billion, an increase of nearly five per cent over the previous year.

The increase, he said, is less than an expected rate of inflation of 5.3 per cent and less than the government's anticipated revenue growth of 5.8 per cent.

"These closely matched rates of expenditure and revenue growth will essentially provide a balanced budget, reflecting our commitment to living within our means."

Mr. Ballantyne said he expects to leave the next government with an accumulated surplus of almost \$26 million. This is the final year of the current government's four-year term.

In addition, he noted, the government had kept tax rates among the lowest in Canada. The Territories nominal personal income tax rate is the lowest in Canada, its small business income tax rate is the second lowest and there is no Territorial sales tax.

"The average provincial debt per capita is about \$3,000 and the federal debt per capita is about \$14,000. We have incurred no debt to finance budget deficits. This is a record that most governments would envy."

Regardless, it is not the time to be complacent. Government must be prepared to make some hard decisions in order to meet the financial challenges of the 90's - decisions about what northern residents want from government and what they are willing to do without, he said.

Ballantyne Presents \$1.1 Billion Budget: Page 2

"Options need to be developed for fundamental change in the structure of government and in the way government does business."

Building on a recommendation from the Legislature's Standing Committee on Finance for a base review, Mr. Ballantyne announced he has established a project to review the operations and structures of northern government which is scheduled to report its findings this summer.

The project team is under the direction of the government's Financial Management Board and is made up of public and private sector managers as well as aboriginal northerners. A special advisor from the business sector will also provide input and advice and the operation of the project team will include community input.

"The magnitude of the fiscal problems we are likely to face in the longer term, and the competing visions of what northern government should be, leave no room for a timid approach to this project," Mr. Ballantyne said.

Despite restricted expenditure growth, members were told that room was found for a number of important initiatives in 1991-92. They include more tax relief for the small business sector.

The tax rate paid by private Canadian-controlled corporations on the first \$200,000 of business income would drop from 8 to 5 per cent. Last year the rate was cut from 10 to 8 per cent.

Other budget plans include legislation to increase the minimum wage from \$5 to \$6.50 per hour, an additional \$630,000 towards the government's Child Sexual Abuse Program and a budget of \$1.4 million to implement a food rate increase in social assistance payments.

Meanwhile, Mr. Ballantyne said it would be counterproductive to increase taxes at this time.

"We are in a recession, the full impact of the new Goods and Services Tax is not known and the relative federal tax burden in the NWT is already very high."

Because of this he has dismissed any thought of a territorial sales tax and will be leaving the NWT personal income tax rate at its present level. Fuel and taxes on cigarettes and cigars will also remain the same.

He noted, however, that the government must change the way in which it applies the tax to these commodities because of the introduction of the GST and the need to maintain government revenues at their current levels.

Ballantyne Presents \$1.1 Billion Budget: Page 3

"The changes will not result in increased prices," he said. "Similar changes were made to the application of the liquor tax January 1".

The tax rate applied to loose tobacco, however, will increase from 40 per cent to 60 per cent of the price. The tax hike represents the final phasing-in of tax increases on loose tobacco announced in 1989 and 1990 and ensures that all tobacco products are taxed at the same rate.

The winter session of the Legislature began last week. The main items of discussion include the budget itself and a position paper on Political and Constitutional Development to be tabled by the government later in the session.

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91-016

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lower Taxes For Small Business Sector

YELLOWKNIFE (February 18) - An increased minimum wage and lower taxes for the small business sector in the Northwest Territories were announced today by Finance Minister Michael Ballantyne.

Legislation will be presented to increase the wage from \$5 to \$6.50 per hour. Legislation will also be introduced to decrease the Territorial tax rate on small businesses from 8 to 5 per cent on the first \$200,000 of taxable active business income.

The minimum wage would increase April 1. Tax relief for the small business sector, the second year in a row, would come into effect on July 1.

The budget for 1991-92 has been set at slightly under \$1.1 billion, an increase of nearly five per cent over the previous year.

Mr. Ballantyne said he expects to leave the next government with an accumulated surplus of almost \$26 million. This is the final year of the current government's four-year term.

Other plans include the expenditure of \$1.4 million to provide for a food rate increase in social assistance payments, an additional \$630,000 for the government's Child Sexual Abuse Program and \$1,300,000 for the operation of alcohol and drug treatment centres near Dettah and on the Hay River Reserve.

Mr. Ballantyne noted that in addition to building the alcohol and drug treatment centre on the Hay River Reserve, the government has contributed \$3.7 million towards the construction of the treatment centre near Dettah, and to a planned centre in the eastern Arctic.

Budget highlights include:

- \$2.5 million on construction of a new ferry as the next step in the completion of the all-weather highway to Wrigley
- A new airport in Paulatuk, at a cost of \$1 million in 1991-92. An additional \$860,000 will be spent on improving the airports at Rae Lakes and Snowdrift
- \$890,000 will be spent on the community wharves program. Work will begin on the construction of breakwaters in Arctic Bay, Broughton Island, Gjoa Haven and Sanikiluaq
- An additional \$10 million for the Northwest Territories Development Corporation
- The arts and crafts industry will continue to be developed and expanded through the addition of \$270,000 in new money

Lower Taxes For Small Business Sector: Page 2

- Nearly \$5 million in capital funding to enhance visitor and park facilities in the N W T
- Arts and crafts, alcohol and drug counsellor training and interpreter-translator training programs at Arctic College will receive almost \$800,000
- The government's training-on-the-job program will receive an additional \$500,000 to meet growing demands by the private sector for trainees
- \$1.5 million will be made available for training social assistance recipients, subject to successful completion of a renewed Employability Enhancement Accord with Ottawa
- An increase of over \$1 million in the budget of Culture and Communications for the preservation and revitalization of aboriginal languages
- A \$200,000 enhancement to the Victims Assistance Program
- \$500,000 to assist the review on gender equality and related cultural issues
- \$20.4 million in new school construction in Wrigley, Rae Lakes, Grise Fiord, Yellowknife and Whale Cove and major renovations and additions to schools in Arctic Bay, Cape Dorset, Arviat, Clyde River, Iqaluit and Spence Bay
- The construction of 400 new social housing units, 168 public housing units, 170 HAP houses and 62 northern rental replacements - at a combined cost of \$57 million
- Continuation of the interim child day-care program, with creation of 210 licensed spaces and the distribution of \$1.1 million in funding to operators.
- Construction of a recreational complex in Gjoa Haven and planning for facilities in Tuktoyaktuk, Chesterfield Inlet and Pelly Bay
- Construction of libraries in Inuvik and Cambridge Bay and planning for libraries in Fort Simpson, Pond Inlet and Arviat

The winter session of the Legislature began last week. The main items of discussion include the budget itself and a position paper on Political and Constitutional Development to be tabled by the government later in the session.

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Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada



Territoires
du Nord-Ouest

news release – communiqué

Date

For release – Pour publication

SIGNATURE D'UNE ENTENTE CADRE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUE

YELLOWKNIFE (Le 20 février, 1991) -- Une entente pour l'établissement d'un programme de développement économique de 50 millions de dollars pour les Territoires du Nord-Ouest a été signé aujourd'hui par le ministre fédéral des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien, Tom Siddon, et le ministre territorial du Développement économique et du tourisme, Gordon Wray.

Cette initiative prévoit un cadre pour l'élaboration d'une nouvelle entente quinquennale de développement économique et expose les responsabilités fédérales et territoriales, les objectifs et les modalités administratives.

En vertu de l'entente, des négociations seront entamées afin d'établir des ententes de coopération pour aider les entreprises des différents secteurs, notamment ceux du tourisme, de l'art et de l'artisanat, de l'entreprenariat, de la pêche, de l'exploitation commerciale des ressources renouvelables et de la prospection minière.

Il s'agit d'un programme à frais partagés, le gouvernement fédéral fournissant 70 pour cent des fonds (35 millions de dollars) et le gouvernement territorial les autres 30 pour cent (15 millions).

"En vertu de ce partenariat, le Canada et le gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest offriront de nouvelles possibilités qui permettront de renforcer et diversifier l'économie du Territoire et d'améliorer son autonomie économique, de dire M. Siddon."

/2...

Canada

"Cette entente vise à accroître l'emploi à long terme, en particulier dans les collectivités moins développées, par l'expansion des entreprises existantes et la création de nouvelles entreprises, de souligner M. Wray. Elle aidera aussi à instaurer une économie offrant des possibilités en matière de revenus et d'emplois aussi bien dans les petites collectivités que dans les grands centres."

Les projets financés en vertu des ententes favoriseront l'instauration d'une autosuffisance économique à long terme et serviront de complément à plusieurs autres programmes de développement économique offerts par les gouvernements du Canada et des T.N.-O.

L'entente de développement économique actuelle a débuté en 1987 avec un budget d'environ 38 millions de dollars en fonds fédéraux et territoriaux, répartis selon des proportions de 70 et 30 pour cent respectivement.

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News Release/Communiqué

91-017

Economic Development Framework Agreement Signed Between Canada and N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (February 20) - An agreement to establish a \$50 million economic development program for the Northwest Territories was signed today by the Honourable Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and territorial Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Gordon Wray.

This initiative provides a framework for a new five-year Economic Development Agreement and includes an outline of federal and territorial responsibilities, objectives and administrative procedures.

Through the Framework Agreement, negotiations will commence towards reaching Cooperation Agreements to provide assistance for ventures in a variety of sectors including tourism, arts and crafts, entrepreneurship, fisheries, commercial renewable resource harvesting and mineral exploration.

The program will be cost shared, with the federal government contributing 70 per cent of the funds (\$35 million) and the territorial government contributing 30 per cent (\$15 million).

"Through this partnership Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories will provide opportunities to strengthen and diversify the Northwest Territories' economy," said Mr. Siddon. "The result will be increased economic self-reliance for the Northwest Territories."

"This agreement is meant to increase long-term employment, especially in the lesser-developed communities, through the expansion and establishment of businesses," said Mr. Wray. "It can help create an economy where income and employment opportunities exist in both the larger and smaller centres."

Projects funded under the Agreements will contribute to long-term, self-sustaining economic activity and complement several other economic development programs offered by the Government of Canada and the Government of the NWT.

The current Economic Development Agreement began in 1987 with a budget of about \$38 million of federal and territorial funding, provided through a 70/30 cost sharing formula.

Contact: Mark Hudson	or	Alan Vaughan	or	Dave Nutter
Press Secretary		Assistant Deputy Minister		Director
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-018

Contractors Required to Hire Local Workers

YELLOWKNIFE (February 22) - Contractors building NWT Housing Corporation projects must now hire local and northern workers, Minister Responsible for the Housing Corporation Tom Butters says. Tenders issued for the coming construction season are requiring that no less than 10 per cent of all payroll expenditures must go to local employees and no less than 50 per cent to northern workers from outside the community.

When projects are tendered, the community where the construction will occur will be assessed on its ability to provide local workers for the job. From this information a required level of total payroll dollars to be spent in the community and the NWT will be established, and included in the contract tender documents. The contractor must comply with the requirements or be assessed a penalty of 25 cents for every dollar shortfall on the established rate.

The process may involve consultation with community governments, adult educators, housing associations, government liaison officers, and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The availability of workers from outside of the community but within the NWT will also be examined.

"There must be opportunities for people in communities to contribute to local construction," said Mr. Butters. "In addition to income and experience, the community gains pride from being closely involved in the construction of local projects."

Four projects started in 1989 have proven that projects using local and northern workers can be successfully completed within budget.

In Fort McPherson two buildings that together contain five units were constructed by two supervisors from outside the N.W.T. who worked with nine local labourers provided by the band. Mechanical and electrical work was done by two sub-contractors from Inuvik. A total of 52 per cent of the wages went to local workers, 18 per cent to workers from within the region, and 30 per cent to workers from outside the NWT.

Nine buildings containing a total of 13 housing units were built in Pangnirtung by a predominantly local labour force. Of the workers, 21 were from Pangnirtung, two from Iqaluit, and four came from outside the NWT.

Contractors Required to Hire Local Workers: Page 2

In Coral Harbour a two-bedroom duplex was constructed by two local workers, an electrician and a plumber hired from within the region, and a superintendent from outside the NWT.

A joint venture between a local person and a Northern based firm built four housing units in Snowdrift. During construction 12 community residents and three other northerners were employed. The local workers gained experience in plumbing, electrical, carpentry and project administration.

"These projects demonstrate that workers are available who are eager to build their own homes and can work on all aspects of construction," said Mr. Butters. "With guidance and supervision, communities can participate to a greater extent in building their own public housing."

Contact: Elsa Mogensen

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or

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-019

MLAs Urged To Help In The Fight Against AIDS

YELLOWKNIFE (February 22) - Health Minister Nellie Cournoyea says 11 individuals in the Northwest Territories, ranging in age from 20 to the mid-40's, are known to have HIV infection.

The virus has been found in both males and females. Some have been active in homosexual relationships and others in heterosexual relationships, she told the Legislative Assembly Tuesday.

Ms. Cournoyea urged members to encourage their constituents to become informed about the HIV infection and to take an active stand on preventing the spread of AIDS in the NWT.

"Although treatment for infected persons has improved, there is still no cure for the disease."

The World Health Organization estimates that for every confirmed case of AIDS, there are probably from 10 to 100 other persons who are infected.

Ms. Cournoyea noted that many countries and other jurisdictions in Canada, including the NWT, have been conducting Unlinked Anonymous Surveillance testing as an attempt to estimate how many unreported infections there are in the Territories.

The testing is expected to be completed by late spring. Early results indicate some unreported HIV infections.

The procedure uses blood samples collected for other reasons, removing all identifiers and then testing it for HIV. The information obtained helps health officials to focus prevention and treatment programs and in the development of a strategy for handling HIV in the communities and throughout the Territories.

Ms. Cournoyea stated the Department of Health continues to maintain strict confidentiality on patient information relating to all conditions, including HIV and AIDS.

MLAs Urged To Help In The Fight Against AIDS: Page 2

"To date, most HIV patients have acted responsibly," she added. "One infected person has come forward to talk publicly about the personal tragedy of this illness and the threat it presents to NWT residents."

As more cases develop, the Territorial health system will be placed under greater human and financial strain in its attempt to meet the needs of infected residents, Ms. Cournoyea said. To date, the average cost of care for each client has been \$18,500, with costs of over \$60,000 in one case. The averages do not include the cost of transportation.

Meanwhile, she said her officials are continuing in their promotional efforts to educate persons about HIV and AIDS. In a massive campaign last summer, canvassers distributed 18,000 educational packages to households in the NWT.

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 Press Secretary
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-020

Project Team Reviewing Government

YELLOWKNIFE (February 22) - Finance Minister Michael Ballantyne has established a project to review the operations and structures of northern government.

The review, scheduled to be completed during the summer, will examine management and organization structures of the Territorial government and the way it does business.

Mr. Ballantyne said the existing government structure is based on the Ottawa model of the early 60s and that it has to change in order to reflect today's realities.

"It's not the time to be complacent. Government must be prepared to make some hard decisions in order to meet the financial challenges of the 90's - decisions about what northern residents want from government and what they are willing to do without, he said.

The project, announced during presentation of the Budget Speech to the Legislature, is based on a recommendation from the Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Finance.

The project team, under the direction of the government's Financial Management Board, is made up of public and private sector managers as well as aboriginal northerners. Northern businessman Jim Robertson, will co-ordinate and channel input from the northern business community. Work of the project team will include community input.

"The magnitude of the fiscal problems and the program and service delivery issues we are likely to face over the next number of years, and the competing visions of what northern government should be, leave no room for a timid approach to this project," Mr. Ballantyne said.

He noted the government had conducted program and service reviews in the past and that they had helped the government through tight financial times. The current project, however, is the most comprehensive undertaken by a northern government and will assist future government with the difficult task of managing its affairs. The four-year term of the current government ends in October.

"I don't want a flashy, political document at the end of this exercise. I want a working document that has a shelf life of 5 to 10 years," Mr. Ballantyne said.

Project Team Reviewing Government: Page 2

He added the government must avoid the debt trap southern jurisdictions have fallen into and that there was still some "breathing room" to make the necessary changes to ensure the government's financial position was not seriously eroded.

"By doing the review now and by properly planning and implementing some key changes, large tax increases and indiscriminate cutting and slashing of staff and programs can be avoided."

The review project is headed up by Garry Beatty, an experienced senior public sector manager, whose most recent posting was President and Chief Executive Officer of Manitoba Hydro. Mr. Beatty earlier served as Chief Executive Officer of the Crown Investment Corporation of Saskatchewan and as Deputy Minister of Finance and Secretary of the Treasury Board for the Government of Saskatchewan.

Members of the project team include:

- Chief Jim Antoine of Fort Simpson
- Knute Hansen of Aklavik, chairman of the Beaufort Delta Divisional Board of Education and Secretary Treasurer of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
- Liz Apak-Rose of Iqaluit, a teacher currently with the Baffin Divisional Board of Education
- John Sadler, an engineer from Winnipeg and former chief executive officer and director of several large crown corporations
- Frank Bogdasavich, a lawyer who was recently with the federal government's internal evaluation team in Ottawa
- Sandy Gillies of Winnipeg, a director with the Western Economic Diversification Agency.

Managers seconded to the project team from the Territorial government include:

- Don Ellis, Regional Director, Fort Smith
- Dan O'Neill, Assistant Regional Director for the Kitikmeot Region
- Gail Joyce, Director of Policy for the Department of Education
- John Bunge, Director of Policy for the Department of Transportation
- Bob Kastings, Director of Legal Services, Department of Justice
- Bob Doherty, former Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Public Works

Contact: Art Sorensen, Press Secretary
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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-021

Change in Payment Schedule for Education Boards Delayed

YELLOWKNIFE (February 27) - The Government of the Northwest Territories will not change its payment schedule to boards of education until April 1, 1992, Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi said today.

"The government recognizes that the change in payment schedules will have a significant effect on the operations of the boards of education," Mr. Kakfwi says. "We did not feel it was appropriate to change the schedule before the effects were completely assessed, and before we had time to consult in detail with the boards."

Last year the government adopted a policy to pay organizations receiving large contributions once a month, instead of once every three months. The Financial Management Board agreed to delay the changes to the payment schedule for boards of education so the financial impact could be assessed. The extension of the deadline will allow this work to be finished before any changes are implemented.

"The Department of Education plans to take advantage of the research done in the past year, and will work closely with the boards of education to ensure they receive adequate funding," Mr. Kakfwi says.

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Plays on Substance and Alcohol Abuse on Tour

YELLOWKNIFE (February 28) - A Vancouver-based theatre company will be touring the Western Arctic next month to perform two powerful, thought-provoking plays about alcohol and drug abuse.

The *Dragons Project of the Pacific Theatre* is scheduled to visit Fort Smith on March 5, Hay River on March 6, Yellowknife from March 7 to 12, Snowdrift on March 9, and all communities in the Inuvik region beginning March 13.

Since their creation four years ago, the Dragons Project's plays have been seen by more than 110,000 students and families in western Canada. Each school or community performance is followed by a question and answer session led by the actors, which addresses issues raised by the plays and provides information regarding substance abuse resources in the region. Schools booking these shows receive curriculum guides with pre- and post show activities to make optimum use of the performances.

One play, "*Say No Max*," is aimed at students in grades kindergarten to six. Exciting and fast-moving, this audience-participation play teaches elementary students how to say "No" in the face of peer pressure and the need for acceptance that pushes them to try alcohol or drugs. Issues of self-esteem and decision-making are also imaginatively explored.

"*I Am Brother of Dragons*" is a Dragons Project play suitable for students in grades 7 through 12, and their parents. It is said to be an entertaining and emotionally intense show that uses a variety of theatre styles to confront high school students and their families with the realities of drug and alcohol abuse. The play shows the destructiveness of chemical dependency, but also points towards the realistic hope available through intervention and treatment.

Youth Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell says she appreciates the leadership shown by the members of the Inuvik Lions Club, who were instrumental in arranging for the Vancouver troupe to visit the Western Arctic. The club will be funding the performances in the Inuvik region. Performances in other communities are being sponsored by the Youth Initiatives Program of the Department of Social Services.

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91-023

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Negotiations at an Impasse

YELLOWKNIFE (March 1) - Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne has expressed concern over an impasse with the Federal government in negotiations for a new RCMP policing contract.

He read a joint communique that was released today by provincial/territorial ministers responsible for policing. The communique unanimously rejects a Federal government attempt to impose "huge and unjustified" cost increases on Canadian taxpayers in municipalities policed by the RCMP.

The following is the complete text of the provincial/territorial communique:

"Ministers responsible for policing in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Northwest Territories and the Yukon expressed concern over the present impasse with the Federal Government over RCMP contract policing.

At a recent meeting with the Federal Solicitor General and the Provinces/Territories, Mr. Cadieux failed to demonstrate any flexibility on the major issues of cost sharing and further indicated his interest to terminate RCMP contract policing to the Provinces and Territories at the expiry of the existing 10-year contract on March 31, 1991.

At a meeting the following week in Toronto, Provincial/Territorial Ministers expressed astonishment, alarm and dismay that Mr. Cadieux, the Federal Solicitor General responsible for the RCMP, would adopt such a callous and inflexible attitude.

The unilateral position taken by Mr. Cadieux on behalf of the Federal Government would result in non-negotiated cost increases to the Provinces and their municipalities of up to 25 per cent per year.

The Provincial and Territorial Ministers met at Toronto on February 12th, 1991, and agreed this was a gross example of Federal high handedness in dealing with Canadians.

The Ministers also agreed that this appeared to be yet another example of the Federal Government's willingness to sacrifice a great Canadian institution, like the RCMP, to short-sighted and high-handed views of management.

The Ministers were unanimous in their commitment to assist the RCMP in finding operational efficiencies to save money and firm in their desire to pay fair cost increases based on local market conditions.

They were also unanimous in their rejection of the Federal Government's attempt to impose huge and unjustified cost increases on Canadian taxpayers in Municipalities policed by the RCMP.

The Ministers indicated they have strongly requested the Federal Government and Mr. Cadieux to reconsider their proposed termination of the RCMP services in the Provinces and Territories and vowed to fight every way possible to preserve this proud Canadian police force as a truly national presence.

The Ministers resolved to remind the Federal Government and Mr. Cadieux that those jurisdictions policed by the RCMP, the West, The North and the Maritimes, remain an important part of Canada and that the red serge of the RCMP is a vital and visible element of the ties that bind us together as Canadians."

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-024

Government Contributes to Inuit Conference

YELLOWKNIFE (March 4) — The Territorial government is providing a grant of \$100,000 to support organization of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference scheduled for Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk in August of 1992.

Tom Butters, MLA for Inuvik and Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, said today over 900 delegates, observers, media and support personnel from the Soviet Union, Greenland, the United States and Canada are expected to attend the conference.

"The entire Western Arctic region will gain economic benefits. This is particularly important in light of the current recession and economic downturn," he said.

It's not the first time the Territorial government has supported the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, held every three years. Grants were provided for conferences held in Iqaluit (1983), Alaska (1986) and Sisimiut, Greenland (1989).

The 1992 conference will be hosted by the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and the communities and people of the Western Arctic. Work is scheduled to begin immediately with the hiring of personnel to staff an office that would pull together the resources and people to organize the conference.

Tourists are already drawn to the region by the various tourism programs. The summer of '92 will see an increase in tourism due to the added attraction of the conference, combined with celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Alaska Highway, the Inuvik-based Great Northern Arts Festival and the Fort McPherson-Midway Lake Music Festival.

"By increasing exposure to local arts and crafts, cultural opportunities and experiences and travel destinations, the local economy will be stimulated to provide many opportunities that may not otherwise have been possible," Mr. Butters said.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-025

Government Requests Gas Price Inquiry

YELLOWKNIFE (March 6) — The Territorial government has asked the federal Bureau of Competition Policy to conduct an inquiry into the state of competition in retail gasoline and heating oil pricing in the Northwest Territories.

Jeannie Marie-Jewell, minister responsible for Consumer Affairs, told the Legislature today that the difference between the Yellowknife retail price for unleaded gasoline and the average Canadian price has more than tripled in the past eight months.

According to the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, the price of unleaded regular gasoline in Yellowknife - last June - was 5 cents per litre higher than the national average. In November, the Yellowknife price was 9 cents per litre higher than the Canadian average and by January this difference had increased to 17 cents per litre.

Ms. Marie-Jewell noted that as a result of the Persian Gulf situation, the price of fuel in market communities began to increase at the same time as in the south, but has been very slow to reflect the price declines experienced elsewhere in Canada.

Commercial prices in the NWT always tend to be higher than prices in the south, a difference that reflects higher costs of transportation of the product from the refinery and the costs of maintaining a larger inventory.

"We can understand this reality. What is harder to understand is the tripling of this difference in the past eight months," she said.

In her letter to the federal minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Ms. Marie-Jewell offered the assistance of staff from her department and from Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources to help the inquiry.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-026

New Ferry, Access Roads, Dust Control Program Among 1991/92 Improvements to NWT Highway System

YELLOWKNIFE (March 8) — Improvements slated for the NWT highway system in the coming year include nearly \$19 million of road reconstruction, construction of a new ferry, construction of two access roads, and an improved dust control program, says Transportation Minister Gordon Wray.

"Investments in transportation infrastructure are expensive, nevertheless, these investments are the basic preconditions for an economic future with any kind of promise," Mr. Wray told members of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Wray said \$8.4 million will be spent on the ongoing reconstruction of Highway 3 between Fort Providence and Rae-Edzo, while \$2.5 million will be spent on completing the Rae access road.

Another major component of Transportation's 1991/92 program is the \$4 million reconstruction of Highway 1 between Enterprise and its junction with Highway 3 south of Fort Providence.

The department's 1991/92 budget also includes \$2.5 million for the construction of a new ferry for the Liard River Crossing south of Fort Simpson. When the new ferry is delivered to Transportation, the existing ferry, the M.V. Johnny Berens, will be moved to the Camsell Bend Crossing of the Mackenzie River. This is a further step towards completion of the all-weather system to the community of Wrigley scheduled for 1993/94.

This year marks the debut of the Community Access Roads Program. Transportation has assigned \$350,000 to the new program which includes improvements to the seasonal road access to Jean Marie River, and the construction of a five-kilometre road from Gjoa Haven north to the Swan Lakes.

"Over the course of the next few years, I hope to see substantially larger budgets to include several more of these local community access road projects which will provide large benefits to the local economy," Mr. Wray said.

New Ferry, Access Roads, Dust Control Program
Among 1991/92 Improvements to NWT Highway System: Page 2

Transportation's budget also includes \$800,000 for an improved dust control program. This important safety measure will extend the dust-free zones to half the length of the NWT's 1,500 kilometres of gravel, all-weather roads.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-027

Trapline Lifeline Viewed By Thousands

YELLOWKNIFE (March 12) - More than 500,000 people across Canada have viewed Trapline Lifeline since the exhibition's debut two years ago, according to Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo.

The travelling exhibition, curated by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre between 1986 and 1989, has appeared at nine museums across the country, including the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, the Quebec Musée de la Civilisation and the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Ottawa. At these three venues alone, more than 300,500 visitors viewed the exhibition.

Trapline Lifeline, featuring an award-winning video, highlights the 500-year-old fur trade from an aboriginal perspective, the evolution of aboriginal lifestyles, specifically the adaptation of traditional hunting and trapping skills to a changing northern economy, and the true value of fur to Northerners.

Between now and 1992, the exhibition travels to museums in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, British Columbia and Alberta.

Despite protests from Animal Rights Coalition groups at two venues, the exhibition has received rave reviews. It has been described by trappers' groups as "vital and significant."

Pierre Bureau, Exhibition Coordinator at the Quebec Musée de la Civilisation, stated during a radio interview about the exhibition that Canadians "are being harmed by simplification of the (fur-trapping) problem. One of the purposes of the exhibition is to explain how the native people have a very high esteem for animals and the right to survival."

Mr. Allooloo suggests it may be timely to launch a European circuit of Trapline Lifeline in 1993, which is the United Nations Year of Indigenous People.

"The exhibition was designed to provoke a more compassionate view of the people whose survival depends on trapping," says Mr. Allooloo. "One way to counter the campaign against fur trapping is with innovative educational tools, such as this exhibition."

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Yellowknife, NWT
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-028

Team Up for Workplace Safety

YELLOWKNIFE (March 18) — Employers are reminded that the Safety Act requires workplaces with 10 or more people to have an Accident Prevention Program, says Minister of Safety and Public Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

"Employers and workers are not always fully aware of their obligations to safety, as clearly outlined in the Safety Act," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell. "Under the Act, employers could be fined up to \$10,000 for not having an Accident Prevention Program in place."

Accident Prevention Programs operate under the direction of a worksite committee. The committee must be made up of equal representation by employees and employers, or by a majority of employees.

An accident prevention program identifies hazards and how to eliminate them, ensures regular inspections are conducted and oversees accident investigations. Such a program helps ensure that workers are properly trained in such areas as personal protective equipment and handling of hazardous materials, and that records are kept of safety-related matters.

"Effective accident prevention programs benefit both workers and employers by encouraging them to take a more safety-wise attitude," says Mrs. Marie Jewell. "The end result can be increased morale, and a reduction in injuries, accidents, time lost due to mishaps and absenteeism."

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News Release/Communiqué

91-029

Thirty-Eight Federal Airports Transferred To The Government Of The Northwest Territories

YELLOWKNIFE (March 19) - Transport Minister Doug Lewis, Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and Gordon Wray, Minister of Transportation for the Northwest Territories, today signed an agreement to transfer the management and operation of 38 Arctic airports to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The airports and aerodromes are located at Aklavik, Arviat, Baker Lake, Broughton Island, Cape Dorset, Chesterfield Inlet, Clyde River, Coppermine, Coral Harbour, Fort Franklin, Fort Good Hope, Fort Liard, Fort McPherson, Fort Norman, Fort Providence, Fort Resolution, Gjoa Haven, Grise Fiord, Hall Beach, Holman, Igloolik, Lac La Martre, Lake Harbour, Nanisivik, Pangnirtung, Paulatuk, Pelly Bay, Pond Inlet, Rae Lakes, Rankin Inlet, Repulse Bay, Sachs Harbour, Sanikiluaq, Snowdrift, Spence Bay, Tuktoyaktuk, Whale Cove and Wrigley, NWT.

"The federal government's objective is to establish a self-sustaining airport system that promotes increased local involvement while meeting the operational objectives of the national air transportation system," Mr. Lewis said.

Under this agreement, federal land at 24 of the sites will be transferred to the territorial government from the departments of Transport and Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Federal land at Arctic Red River, Lac La Martre, Paulatuk, Rae Lakes, and Snowdrift will be transferred on completion of legal surveys. The other sites are already owned by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Transport Canada also will take action under the Western Arctic Claims (Inuvialuit) Final Agreement to acquire additional land for airport purposes at Holman, Sachs Harbour and Paulatuk.

Thirty-Eight Federal Airports Transferred

To The Government Of The Northwest Territories: Page 2

"The transfer of these airports to the Government of the Northwest Territories is yet another step in the ongoing process of giving greater provincial-type responsibilities to the territorial governments," said Mr. Siddon. "It is in keeping with the federal government's policy, announced in the Northern Political and Economic Framework of 1987, to encourage northern political evolution."

Mr. Wray said the territorial Department of Transportation is enthusiastic about the transfer of responsibilities and the benefits it will have for northern communities.

"This agreement places significant responsibility for setting transportation priorities in the hands of residents of the Northwest Territories — where it rightfully belongs," said Mr. Wray.

The federal government will provide \$12.4 million annually to the territorial government, through the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development's program of transfer payments to the territories. These funds are intended for the maintenance, restoration and rehabilitation of the airports. The transfer funds will be escalated annually, in accordance with the federal/territorial formula financing agreement .

Under this financing arrangement, Transport Canada will complete \$5.7 million of improvement projects at the airports and aerodromes this year. The projects are already under way.

Under a separate agreement, Transport Canada and NWT Transportation will contribute equally to a \$16-million Canada-NWT program to upgrade airports that were unable to be funded under the Arctic Air Facilities Agreement which expired in 1983.

Expenditures for improvements to these airports will be spread over six years and will be used to allow the sites to be certified. These airports are at Fort Franklin, Fort Good Hope, Lac La Martre, Paulatuk, Pelly Bay, Rae Lakes and Snowdrift.

**Thirty-Eight Federal Airports Transferred
To The Government Of The Northwest Territories: Page 3**

Transport Canada will retain responsibility for aviation safety, security, regulatory and air navigation services, which include airport certification, communications, operating and training standards, and levels of service for community aerodrome radio stations.

The territorial government will continue to be responsible for the provision of aviation communications and weather services on behalf of Transport Canada.

An Arctic Class 'B' airport serves a population of more than 400 that has no means of regular transportation other than air and is served by a regular, reliable air service. Arctic Class 'C' airports serve a population of more than 100.

Contacts: Helen Ouellet, press secretary
Transport Minister's office
Ottawa (613) 991-0700

Mark Hudson, press secretary
Indian Affairs and Northern Development
Hull, Que. (819) 997-0002

Doug Howard, director, Arctic Airports
Department of Transportation
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-030

Canada/NWT Increase Funding for Community Aerodrome Radio Station (CARS) Service

YELLOWKNIFE (March 19) - The governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories will increase funding to the northern Community Aerodrome Radio Station (CARS) service by \$800,000 in 1991/92, says NWT Transportation Minister Gordon Wray.

The increased funding was announced by Mr. Wray and Transport Minister Doug Lewis on Tuesday during the annual general meeting of the Northern Air Transport Association.

The governments of Canada and the NWT will each contribute \$400,000 to extend the hours of service, improve reliability and, if possible, add new CARS sites. The CARS service provides flight information to aircraft in remote communities across the Northwest Territories.

"This represents an increase of over 30 per cent in program funding to \$3.2 million. It will result in extended hours of operation at most CARS sites and, where required, seven day per week service," says Mr. Wray.

NWT Transportation and Transport Canada will hold joint consultations with the NWT aviation community to help determine where these additional funds will be directed.

Structurally, the new CARS program will concentrate its administration in Ottawa to improve coordination between the federal and territorial governments in the delivery of the program.

Contact: Doug Howard or Graham Gleddie
Director
Arctic Airports
Transportation
(403) 873-7725
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(403) 920-8756

PRESS RELEASE

On March 15, 1994, the South Slave Divisional Board called a special meeting to discuss a letter received from the Deputy Minister of Education, Culture and Employment concerning placement of a student attending High School in Hay River from Fort Resolution.

At the meeting, the Chairperson reviewed the contents of the letter from Mr. Gerein, Deputy Minister, identifying that the Executive Council of the Government of the Northwest Territories had directed the Department to provide homeboarding allowances for a student from Fort Resolution in Hay River.

The South Slave Divisional Board of Education was asked to remove the student from the student residence and place the student in a homeboarding situation. The Board was further asked to provide the funds to the homeboarding parents to be reimbursed by the Department as directed by the Executive Council. The Board has declined to make such payment as to do so would contravene our policy and convention with respect to homeboarding placements. The Board was then advised that the Department would pay the homeboarding allowance directly to the homeboarding parents without the involvement of the Board.

At the meeting, all members expressed displeasure with yet another example of the Executive Council's unwarranted interference with the jurisdiction of the South Slave Divisional Board of Education.

The Executive Council has improperly usurped the jurisdiction of the Board in contravention of the spirit and letter of the Education Act.

Based on the report contained in Learning, Tradition and Change prepared in the early 1980's, the Government of the Northwest Territories has committed itself to greater regional autonomy in matters concerning education. By involving itself in matters purely of a local or regional nature, the Board is concerned that the Executive Council is playing politics without the best interest of education at heart. Such an approach does not foster the cooperation necessary for good education in the South Slave.

- 2 -

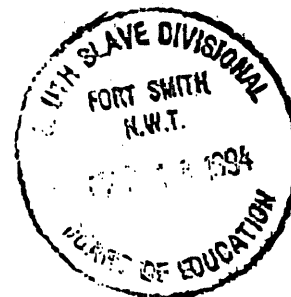
On the basis of the concern held by all members of the Board a unanimous decision was made to seek independent legal advice with respect to the authority of the Executive Council to unilaterally transfer a student from a resident situation to homeboarding status pursuant to the Education Act.

The Board intends to defend its jurisdiction and authority by every reasonable means. The Board maintains that politicians in Yellowknife with many other concerns at hand and in many cases representing very disparate constituencies are in a poor position to make decisions of an educational nature concerning persons and issues in the South Slave region. Conversely, the Divisional Board with a constituency consisting of the entire South Slave Region whom themselves represent 35 duly elected Educational Representatives have the appropriate mandate, experience and focus to determine such issues.

We urge the Executive Council to revisit decisions made with respect to education issues in any region and appropriately defer such decisions to the Divisional Board of Education responsible. Our students are our greatest resource and their interests, in contrast to the political interests of the Executive Council will be considered paramount. Upon receiving the advice of legal counsel, the Board will consider its options including, if warranted and necessary, seeking a declaration of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories that the Executive Council's decisions in the above regard are unauthorized by law.

Any request for further information or clarification should be addressed to Steven Cooper, Chairperson of the Board, at 874-6727 between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm or 874-6052 evenings or weekends.

Attached is a copy of the letter from the Deputy Minister informing the Board of the decision of the Executive Council. The names of the people involved have been removed for obvious reasons.



Mr. Jack Orchard
 Director
 South Slave Divisional Board of Education
 Box 819
 Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0

Dear Mr. Orchard:

HOMEBOARDING ASSISTANCE FOR

As you are aware, [redacted] was initially placed in the student residence in Hay River. Close relatives, [redacted] moved to Hay River this fall and [redacted] legal guardian made a request to the South Slave Divisional Board of Education requesting that [redacted] be placed with this family and that they be paid homeboarding allowances for this student. This request was denied by your Board and subsequently an appeal was made directly to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment to provide homeboarding assistance.

This matter was referred to the Executive Council and the Department has been directed to provide [redacted] with homeboarding allowances for [redacted]. I understand that staff from our Board Operations division have been in touch with you and you do not wish to process the payments of these allowances.

We will undertake to arrange the payment to [redacted]. The school in Hay River will also be contacted to verify school attendance.

Yours truly,

H. J. Gerein
 Deputy Minister

cc: The Honourable Richard Nerysoo, Minister
 Ms. Myra Mercredi, Administrator, Akaitcho Hall
 Mr. Malcolm Farrow, Director, Board Operations





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-031

New Stream of the Teacher Education Program to be Based in Keewatin

YELLOWKNIFE (April 2) - A new facet of the Eastern Arctic Teacher Education Program (EATEP) will start up in the Keewatin region in the fall of 1991, Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi announced today. The two-year training course will be run in the communities of Arviat, Rankin Inlet and Baker Lake.

"Aboriginal teachers play an essential role in providing our children with an education that recognizes their cultural heritage, and teaches them new skills from the perspective of their own cultures," Mr. Kakfwi says. "The new facet of the program is designed to increase the number of aboriginal teachers by allowing Keewatin trainees to complete the program in their home communities."

"The NWT Steering Committee on Teacher Education recognizes the importance of aboriginal teachers. It has recommended that the Department of Education set a goal that half of all teachers employed in the NWT by the year 2000 be aboriginal. This new program is another step towards reaching that goal," he added.

The initiative is part of the Eastern Arctic Teacher Education Program currently offered at Arctic College's Nunatta Campus in Iqaluit. Teacher trainees will follow the same course content, except that they will do their training in the communities, spending a large portion of their time working with students in the classroom. Instructors will be placed in each community to help the trainees with their studies.

The program will focus on training classroom assistants to become teachers. Teacher trainees from Arviat, Rankin Inlet and Baker Lake currently enrolled in the Eastern Arctic Teacher Education Program on a part-time basis will be encouraged to enrol in the new stream of the program, and there will be some opportunity for other people to enrol. There will be 15 to 20 training positions available.

Contact: Joseph Handley
Deputy Minister
Department of Education
(403) 920-6240



91-032

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Service Career Training Program Launched

YELLOWKNIFE (April 2) - The Public Service Career Training Program will be introduced April 1, Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi announced today. The program will provide training to meet the human resource planning needs of the Government of the Northwest Territories. It will replace the In-Service Training Program, the forerunner of the new program, which began training northerners for officer level positions with the territorial government in 1971. That program has undergone major revisions and is being reintroduced with a new name to recognize its broadened service and improved structure.

"The revised program will enable more people to take management and other training at the regional level so that they are better qualified for senior positions in government," Mr. Kakfwi says.

In 1989 the Department of Education commissioned a review of the In-Service Training Program to evaluate its effectiveness. An interdepartmental committee on training and staff development reviewed the resulting report, considered submissions from departments and regional offices, and prepared 44 recommendations to improve the program.

The new program will give priority to officer and management level positions within the territorial government and its agencies. Training programs will include a combination of on-the-job training and specialized courses up to six weeks in length. Although courses up to one semester will be considered in special circumstances, longer courses will be supported through other programs such as long-term education leave and the Student Financial Assistance Program.

Full-time trainee positions will continue to be advertised to the public. Trainees will receive a percentage of the target position salary while training and a permanent job when the training is successfully completed.

The program will be expanded in October, 1991, to include part-time trainees. Program staff will help departments develop training plans and coordinate training for employees in each region who have been identified by their departments as having the potential to progress to higher level positions within the territorial government once they have the

Public Service Career Training Program Launched: Page 2

appropriate training and experience. As with full-time trainees, priority will be given to employees who qualify under the government's affirmative action policy.

The procedure to allocate full-time trainee positions to departments and agencies will be decentralized. Trainee positions available each year will be allocated proportionally to the regions by a headquarters Education management committee. Applications for trainee positions will be approved by an interdepartmental committee chaired by Advanced Education in each region. It will take into account territorial and regional human resource planning priorities when making its decisions.

Procedures for acquiring trainee positions will be streamlined. A clear process for developing training plans and acquiring trainee positions will be detailed, and greater support will be provided by program staff. The details will be described in a procedures manual and brochure.

The program will provide a training coordinator in each region to work with departments, trainers and trainees to improve the training process. There will be a training specialist at headquarters to provide extra support to the regions in management training, training plan development, and provision of generic training plans. A manager and registrar at headquarters will make administration of the program more effective. Some of these positions are already in place and others will be established soon to deliver a more efficient and effective training program to prepare northerners for responsible positions with the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Contact: Rod Taylor, Manager
Public Service Career Training Program
Advanced Education
Department of Education
(403) 873-7218



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-033

Renewable Resources Acquires CL-215s

YELLOWKNIFE (April 2) — When the forest fire season begins this year, the Department of Renewable Resources will have two additional CL-215 air tankers to assist with suppression activities, says Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo.

The two air tankers had previously been utilized by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) in the Yukon. After an operational evaluation and review, DIAND's Yukon Forest Service determined the aircraft were not operating to their fullest capacity because of the Yukon geography. The air tankers were returned to the Department of Transport at the expiry of their lease agreement in December, 1990. With support from DIAND, the Government of the NWT was able to have Transport Canada reassign the aircraft to the Northwest Territories.

The CL-215 air tankers, valued at about \$7 million each, are large twin engine aircraft capable of operating from both land and water, carrying up to 5,500 litres of fire retardant, fire suppressant foam, or water. They are ideally suited for supporting ground crew firefighting forces in areas of numerous lakes, such as the Canadian Shield portion of the western arctic.

The air tankers will be based in Fort Smith and will be used throughout the western arctic and Canada. The department currently operates two other CL-215s out of Yellowknife.

The territorial Department of Government Services, on behalf of the Government of the NWT, has established a comprehensive operation and maintenance agreement with Conair Aviation Ltd. to operate and maintain the tankers for the territorial Forest Fire Management Program.

Contact: Bob Bailey
Territorial Forest Fire Centre
Department of Renewable Resources
(403) 872-2103

or

Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs
Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7615



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-034

A Week for Wildlife

YELLOWKNIFE (April 2) — A poster contest for NWT students and a display in a Yellowknife mall are two activities taking place in the Northwest Territories during National Wildlife Week April 7 to 13, says Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo.

"Water...A Mainstream Issue for Wildlife" is this year's theme for the week. The focus will be on promoting an appreciation of water as a vital component of wildlife habitat.

The poster contest has been sponsored by the Department of Renewable Resources for more than 10 years. Last year, more than 1,400 posters were sent in, and half the schools in the NWT participated. Two school awards and three class awards were presented. Ten students were chosen as first place winners. Their artwork was then sent to the national award program sponsored by the Canadian Wildlife Federation in Ottawa, where one received an honourable mention.

To help celebrate the week in Yellowknife, a display will be set up in the Panda Mall by the Department of Renewable Resources and the Canadian Wildlife Service. Brochures and posters on wildlife will be available as well as books to purchase.

Contact: Cathy Stephenson
Conservation Education
Department of Renewable Resources
(403) 920-6402



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-035

Photo Licencing Begins in the NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (April 5) - Motorists in the NWT will have their photographs on new drivers' licences under a program announced today by Transportation Minister Gordon Wray.

The new program was introduced in Yellowknife when Mr. Wray presented the NWT's first photographic licence to Yellowknife South MLA Tony Whitford at a special presentation in the Motor Vehicles office.

By June 1, all Motor Vehicles offices of the Department of Transportation will be offering the service. Residents will continue to receive renewal notices by mail, and will receive their new photo licences when they renew their driving permits. All NWT drivers are expected to have the new photo licences by October, 1993.

"Motor vehicle operators in the Territories will find the new licences more durable, and more convenient, since they will be valid for five years compared to the current two-year period," says Mr. Wray.

The licences will also be unique in North America. The title of the permit is printed in three languages: English, French and Inuktitut.

The Northwest Territories is the eighth jurisdiction in Canada to implement photo drivers' licences.

Contact: Richard MacDonald
Director, Motor Vehicles Division
Department of Transportation
(403) 873-7406

or Mike Fahey
Assistant Director, Registries
Department of Transportation
(403) 920-8633





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-036

Setting Direction of Recreation and Sport for the 1990s

YELLOWKNIFE (April 08) - "Directions for the 1990s", a territorial-wide review of the Northwest Territories' recreation and sport system, will be held in Yellowknife April 9-11, says Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Tom Butters.

The three-day conference, sponsored by the Sport and Recreation Division of Municipal and Community Affairs, will bring together representatives from about 35 NWT communities to set recreation and sport priorities for the coming decade.

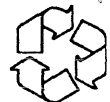
"The last such conference was held in 1983 at which time facility construction, the development of recreation leadership programs and inter-community sports competitions were the major priorities identified," says Mr. Butters.

This year's conference will open with delegates discussing successes and problems they had in the areas of leadership, sport, traditional games, community recreation, facilities, and financial management and resources for sport and recreation. Delegates will also be asked to suggest ways of dealing with the problems and building on successes.

On the second day of the conference, delegates will develop a broad list of priorities for the next decade in the areas of leadership, sport, traditional games, community recreation, facilities, and financial management and resources for sport and recreation.

During the final day of the conference, delegates will review the recommendations from Day Two and will establish immediate, short-term and long-term priorities for recreation and sport in the NWT.

Delegates participating in "Directions for the 1990s" will include mayors, councillors, senior administrative officers, youth workers, RCMP members, adult educators, Friendship Centre directors, recreation coordinators, recreation committee members, recreation maintainers and directors of volunteer agencies. These delegates represent about half of the communities in the NWT.



Setting Direction of Recreation and Sport for the 1990s: Page 2

Also participating in the conference will be representatives of the Sport North Federation, Departments of Municipal and Community Affairs, Education, Social Services, Health, Economic Development and Tourism, Public Works, and Culture and Communications.

The conference will be held in Annex Room A of the Yellowknife Inn.

Contact: **Ian Legaree**
 Director
 Sport and Recreation
 (403) 873-7245

Roslyn Smith
Consultant,
Leadership Programs
Sport and Recreation
(403) 920-6205



91-037

NWT Development Corporation Approves Investments of \$3 Million

YELLOWKNIFE (April 10) - The Northwest Territories Development Corporation has approved \$3 million in investments designed to stimulate the northern economy, says Economic Development and Tourism Minister Gordon Wray.

The Corporation will invest \$550,000 in preferred shares in the Cumberland Sound Fisheries Ltd. in Pangnirtung. Cumberland will purchase \$500,000 worth of fish annually from 50 to 60 fishermen and market those fish in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa.

Fifteen to 20 jobs in small businesses will be created through the investment of \$250,000 in preferred shares in the Business Service Centre in Cape Dorset.

The corporation will also invest \$1.5 million to build the Baker Lake Arts and Crafts Centre, which will include the production facility and manager's quarters, says Mr. Wray. The centre will produce printed products, carvings and small garments and will employ three full-time staff and engage 126 cottage industry producers.

"Studies by Economic Development and Tourism show that community arts and crafts production facilities will provide a focal point for industry development by providing raw materials and equipment, and by offering improved facilities for training and product development."

One such facility was recently completed in Pangnirtung, while other communities are targeted for subsequent years, says Mr. Wray.

The Board, during its second board meeting on March 13 and 14, also approved an investment of \$100,000 to establish an arts and crafts retail kiosk at the Ottawa Airport. This facility will be used to test market lower end NWT arts and crafts.

"NWT arts and crafts account for a small portion of the total sales of arts and crafts in Canada," says Mr. Wray. "Our products need a higher profile if they're to compete in this highly competitive market."

Twenty to 25 jobs in small business will be created through the investment of \$350,000 in preferred shares in the Rae-Edzo Dene Band Development Cooperation. It will be expanding an existing facility that will include a business service centre on the second floor.

The NWT Development Corporation was established to invest in businesses that will strengthen the arts and crafts, tourism and natural resources sectors. It will also enter into joint ventures with entrepreneurs or other development corporations.

Contact: Roland C. Bailey
Vice President
NWT Development Corporation
(403) 920-7700





91-038

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Yellowknife's Jan Stirling Named Outstanding Volunteer

YELLOWKNIFE (April 10) - Jan Stirling of Yellowknife has been selected as the first recipient of the NWT Outstanding Volunteer Service Award, according to Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Tom Butters.

Ms. Stirling will receive a plaque and letter of citation from Mr. Butters at a reception to be held in the lobby of the Legislative Assembly during National Volunteer Week, April 21-27. Ms. Stirling's name will be the first to be engraved on the NWT Outstanding Volunteer Service Award wall plaque hanging in the Legislative Assembly. Ms. Stirling will also receive a carving by Sonny MacDonald.

Municipal and Community Affairs created the Outstanding Volunteer Service Award to honour volunteers, such as Ms. Stirling, who have made truly outstanding contributions to the quality of life in the NWT, says Mr. Butters.

Ms. Stirling was a founding member of the NWT Branch of the Canadian Public Health Association. She served on its executive for 14 years before stepping down as vice-president in 1989. She was awarded an honorary membership in the Canadian Public Health Association in Ottawa in 1981.

She served on the board of directors of the NWT Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association and currently sits on an advisory committee for the association.

Ms. Stirling was also a founding member of Planned Parenthood in Yellowknife, the head of services for the Nahanni Chapter of the I.O.D.E., a member of the United Church Women's Group and its Outreach Committee, a member of the board of directors for the YWCA and Crime Stoppers, and a member of the Victims Assistance committee.

She also assisted about 30 immigrants in their move to settle in Yellowknife in 1980. Since then, she has helped an additional 70 immigrant families to resettle, including Vietnamese, Korean and Hungarian families.

For her efforts, Ms. Stirling was named Storefront Volunteer of the Year in 1984, and received the A.J. Boxer Award in 1980 for outstanding service to Akaitcho Hall students.

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Yellowknife's Jan Stirling Named Outstanding Volunteer: Page 2

Ms. Stirling has worked as a public health nurse in Yellowknife for 20 years and has been the nurse-in-charge of the Yellowknife Public Health Unit for 19 years. She is known throughout the North as a kind, caring, non-judgemental person who, despite a very busy schedule and heavy workload, always has time for people.

Honourable mention goes this year to Sheila Levy of Iqaluit; John Kuneyuna and Roger and Wilma Memogana of Holman; Brenda Shannon and Heather Murphy of Fort Liard; Betty Barnhart and Bill Dewsbury of Hay River; Donald and Simone Clark of Rankin Inlet, and Kathryn Youngblut, Christine Williams and David J. Johnston of Yellowknife.

Contact: Ian Legaree
Director
Sport and Recreation
(403) 873-7245

or Roslyn Smith
Consultant,
Leadership Programs
Sport and Recreation
(403) 920-6205





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-039

National Book Festival Celebrated in NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (April 15) - Communities across the Northwest Territories will be celebrating National Book Festival later this month with a variety of special activities, announces Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo.

"Book a Dream" is the theme of this year's festival, which will be held April 18 - 27 to celebrate Canadian literature by promoting greater awareness of Canadian books, periodicals and authors.

In Arviat, author Michael Kusugak will be at the public library on Monday night, April 22. On Tuesday, he will be talking to students at Qitiqliq School. That evening Mr. Kusugak, the author of "Baseball Bats for Christmas" and "A Promise Is A Promise," will take part in a potluck supper with the Arviat library board and the community's writing club. On Wednesday, April 24, Mr. Kusugak will meet with the Arviat adult literacy group, followed by the unveiling of the adult literacy collection donated by Arctic College.

To mark the week in Yellowknife, Fort Smith and Hay River, "Frozen In Time" author Owen Beattie will be giving a slide presentation about his research of the tragic Franklin expedition. Mr. Beattie will be in Hay River on the evening of Thursday, April 18, in Yellowknife Public Library's Meeting Room A on Friday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m., and in Fort Smith at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 20.

There will be a number of other events taking place in the city of Yellowknife during the week. On Thursday, April 25 there will be an evening of stories with Bertha Blondin and other local writers at the Tree of Peace Friendship Centre. That event is being sponsored by the Yellowknife Women's Society. On Friday, April 26 at the library, Robert Perkins will be showing slides from his Back River journey. Mr. Perkins' book "Into the Great Solitude" will be published later this year. On Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. to noon, students of Arctic College's Early Childhood Education program will hold special activities for children at the Yellowknife Public Library. Finger plays, storytelling and



National Book Festival Celebrated in NWT: Page 2

other events are planned. On Sunday, April 28, at 2 p.m. in the library's meeting room, George Blondin will be telling stories, while Read Canada will conduct reading circles for children.

On Saturday, April 27, from noon to 1 p.m., author Diane Brookes will be signing copies of her new children's counting/picture book "Passing the Peace" at Chapter III bookstore at the Yellowknife Centre Square mall.

In Rankin Inlet and Baker Lake, writer Dorothy Harley Eber will be showing slides about early 20th century life in the Keewatin. A documentor of oral history, she has worked with Pitseolak on "Pictures from my life." Mrs. Eber will also travel to Baker Lake where she will meet with elders to exchange information and provide advice on the community's efforts to develop an information resource.

In Iqaluit, "Murder In a Cold Climate" author Scott Young will give a public reading on April 21 and will also talk to school students and writers' groups, including the Baffin Writers' Project.

Clyde River will be offering a home-grown program during National Book Festival week. Two members of the library board, acting chairman Beverley Illauq and Paul Meigs, are organizing a program of local celebrities reading children's books.

For more information about National Book Festival events planned for your community, contact your local librarian.

Contact: Deloris Booker
Community Services Librarian
NWT Public Library Services
(403) 874-6531

or

Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7615





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-040

Audio Guides At Northern Heritage Centre

YELLOWKNIFE (April 18) - Cassette tape "guides" are now available at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre to help visitors understand and appreciate the exhibits, according to Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo.

The museum has prepared twenty cassette tapes to be used as oral guides to the galleries. The tapes, which must be booked in advance, are presently available in English and French. They may be borrowed free of charge along with a portable tape player and headphones.

An accompanying pamphlet featuring a floor-plan of the museum is being prepared to help visitors find their way around. The tapes are about 20 minutes long, although visitors can stop and start them as they wish. Most visitors spend at least one hour touring the museum.

The cassette tape guided tour begins with the 10-year-old, 454 kilogram polar bear in the main lobby. The tape then walks visitors through the Inuit carvings section and then the museum's galleries, providing background information about the items on display.

"The Northern Heritage Centre wants to reach as many people as possible. The tapes are one way of reaching out to the francophone community in Yellowknife and visiting francophones. They're also ideal for people who want more details about the works in the museum," Mr. Allooloo says.

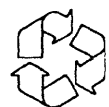
The museum's future plans are to have the tapes translated into Dogrib and other Dene languages, and also Inuktitut.

The audio guides may be reserved by telephoning (403) 920-3267.

Contact: Chris Stephens
Director
Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre
Dept. of Culture and Communications
(403) 873-7685

or **Edi Casimirri**
Public Affairs Officer
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-041

Safety and Public Services Increases Fees

YELLOWKNIFE (April 18) - The Department of Safety and Public Services is increasing the fees for various licences and permits effective June 1, 1991.

The increases will apply to fees for vital statistics certificates and amendments, lottery licensing, electrical and elevator permits, boiler and pressure vessel permits, and gas permits.

Vital statistics fees, unchanged since 1982, will bring the price of birth certificates to \$10 from \$5 and marriage licences to \$25 from \$10.

Lottery licensing fees, unchanged since 1986, will increase as follows: Licence fees for bingos and raffles will be calculated as a percentage of prize value rather than the current fixed fee; casino and nevada licence fees will remain as a fixed fee but charged on a daily basis. The new fee schedule is available from the Consumer and Corporate Affairs Division.

Electrical and elevator fees and permits, unchanged since 1989, will increase an average of 30 per cent. Interested contractors can obtain the new fee schedule from their local Electrical Inspection Office.

Boiler and pressure vessel fees and permits, unchanged since 1980, are being reclassified from square meters of heating surface to kilowatts, resulting in fewer categories. The minimum fee for annual registration will increase to \$25 from \$10. Interested contractors and owners may obtain a detailed fee schedule from the Boiler Section Office in Yellowknife.

Gas fees and permits, unchanged since 1984, will increase an average of 35 per cent. Residential gas permits will increase to \$55 from \$45 and temporary permits to \$30 from \$10. The new fee schedule is available from the Gas Section Office in Yellowknife.

Contact: Dorothy Mellor
Director, Consumer and Corporate Affairs
Dept. of Safety and Public Services
(403) 920-8054

or Ron McRae
Director, Safety Division
Dept. of Safety and Public Services
(403) 873-7996





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-042

South Slave Divisional Board of Education Established

YELLOWKNIFE (April 18) - A divisional board of education which will serve the communities of Fort Resolution, Fort Smith, Snowdrift, Hay River and the Hay River Dene Reserve has been established, Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi announced today.

The South Slave Divisional Board of Education's official establishment date will be April 1 to coincide with the start of the new fiscal year. Until July 1 the board will be in a period of transition as new operating procedures and administrative systems are put into place.

In 1982, the Special Committee on Education recommended that divisional boards of education be established in each region of the Northwest Territories, so that northerners could have greater control over their school system. The South Slave is the last region to reach divisional board status. The minister received petitions to form a divisional board from the local education authorities in each community of that region..

"The establishment of a system of divisional boards is one of the first important steps towards creating a school system that truly reflects the cultures of the people it serves, and provides meaningful education for all students," the Minister says. "I am pleased to announce that this first stage has been completed and look forward to seeing the results of the important work these boards will undertake over the next few years."

Contact: Eric Colbourne
Assistant Deputy Minister
Schools Branch
Department of Education
(403) 920-8061





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-043

Whole Language Video wins Award in International Competition

YELLOWKNIFE (April 18) - A Department of Education video explaining language teaching techniques has won a top award at the National Educational Film and Video Festival (NEFVF) competition in Oakland, California.

"Whole Language: A Northern Experience" won the Gold Apple Award for the Techniques in Teaching category. There are 136 category awards under such titles such as Arts, Sports and Leisure, and Teaching and Education, as well as six overall awards including Best of Festival and Best of Classroom. The Gold Apple is the highest award in each category. This year 1,084 entries were received.

The video shows how Coppermine teacher Donna Olsen uses a workshop approach to teaching reading and writing in her Grade 8/9 language arts class. The students are given the responsibility of deciding what they want to write about and how to approach their topic. The students help each other by reviewing drafts and making suggestions for improvements. Ms. Olsen remains in the background, making sure the class stays on track and lending support, if needed.

"This award not only recognizes that NWT schools are using the most current and effective teaching techniques, but that the Department of Education is making an effort to ensure parents and educators are well informed about how new techniques work," says Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi.

NEFVF is an independent non-profit arts organization working year-round to encourage the production, distribution and recognition of non-theatrical films, videos and filmstrips. At the core of its activities is the nationally recognized juried competition. Productions winning Gold Apple Awards can be entered in the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Science's Oscar competition in the Documentary Feature and Short Subject categories, if they meet eligibility requirements.

The footage for the video was shot in Coppermine during October, 1989, and April, 1990. The project was co-ordinated by Debby Dobson, Secondary Language Arts Specialist for the department. The video was produced by Yellowknife Films. Copies have been distributed to key educators in each region, who have been using it to orient both teachers and parents to whole language techniques.

Contact: Debby Dobson
Secondary Language Arts Specialist
Department of Education
(403) 873-7679



News Release/Communiqué

91-044

VRDP Agreement Signed Between the Northwest Territories and Ottawa

YELLOWKNIFE (April 24) - The Honourable Perrin Beatty, Minister of National Health and Welfare, and the Honourable Jeannie Marie-Jewell, Minister of Social Services for the Northwest Territories, today announced that the governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories have recently signed a cost-sharing agreement under the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act (VRDP). The agreement covers a three-year period from April 1, 1990 to March 31, 1993.

VRDP enables Canada and the Northwest Territories to share on a 50-50 basis, the costs of providing services that help persons who are physically and mentally disabled prepare for employment.

"For the 1988-90 agreement period, the shared cost for the vocational rehabilitation program in the Northwest Territories was \$763,095, with a federal contribution of \$381,547," said Mr. Beatty. The projection for 1990-92 is \$483,000 from the federal government.

VRDP supports a wide range of services to persons with mobility or sensory impairments, alcohol and drug addictions, or psychiatric, developmental and learning disabilities.

"For example, the Abe Miller Workshop, an employment preparation centre, provides day programs and vocational training to individuals with developmental handicaps from across the NWT," said Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

VRDP also supports the rehabilitation component of a comprehensive drug dependency program, as well as the provision of prosthetic devices and technical aids on an individual basis.

Recent initiatives include providing services to persons who risk losing their jobs because of a disability, and establishing appeal procedures for persons who are refused service because they are deemed ineligible.

VRDP encourages greater social and economic integration of persons with disabilities, promotes the involvement of disabled persons as consumers, and provides flexibility to the Northwest Territories, the Yukon and all provinces in their delivery of services.

Contact: Blair Parkhurst
Health and Welfare Canada
(604) 666-2083

or

Pat Felhaver
Department of Social Services
Government of the NWT
(403) 920-8921

Pour diffusion immédiate - le 24 avril 1991

**SIGNATURE D'UNE ENTENTE ENTRE LES T.N.-O. ET OTTAWA
SUR LA RÉADAPTATION PROFESSIONNELLE DES PERSONNES HANDICAPÉES**

YELLOWKNIFE - L'honorable Perrin Beatty, Ministre de la Santé nationale et du Bien-être social, et l'honorable Jeannie Marie-Jewell, ministre des services sociaux des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, ont annoncé aujourd'hui que les gouvernements du Canada et des Territoires du Nord-Ouest venaient de signer une entente de partage des frais en vertu de la Loi sur la réadaptation professionnelle des personnes handicapées. L'entente vise une période de trois ans, allant du 1^{er} avril 1991 au 31 mars 1993.

Dans le cadre du Programme de réadaptation professionnelle des personnes handicapées (PRPPH), le Canada et les Territoires du Nord-Ouest peuvent se partager, à raison de 50 p. 100 chacun, les frais des services visant à aider les personnes physiquement ou mentalement handicapées à se préparer à l'emploi.

"Pour la période 1988-1990," a déclaré M. Beatty, "les Territoires du Nord-Ouest et le gouvernement fédéral se sont partagé les frais du programme de réadaptation professionnelle en payant respectivement 763 095 \$ et 381 547 \$. On prévoit, pour 1990-1991, une contribution fédérale de 483 000 \$."

Le PRPPH donne un appui financier à une grande diversité de services offerts aux personnes affligées de troubles moteurs ou sensoriels, d'alcoolisme, de toxicomanie, ou de handicaps sur le plan psychologique, du développement ou de l'apprentissage.

.../2

- 2 -

"Par exemple," a déclaré Mme Marie-Jewell, "le centre de préparation à l'emploi Abe Miller Workshop offre des programmes de jour et de la formation professionnelle aux résidents des Territoires du Nord-Ouest qui sont handicapés sur le plan du développement."

Le PRPPH appuie également le volet "réadaptation professionnelle" d'un programme destinés aux toxicomanes, ainsi que les distributeurs individuelles de prothèses et d'aides techniques.

Parmi les initiatives entreprises récemment, mentionnons la mise sur pied de services pour les personnes qui risquent de perdre leur emploi en raison de leur handicap et l'établissement de procédures d'appel pour les personnes auxquelles on refuse un service sous prétexte qu'elles ne sont pas admissibles.

Le PRPPH stimule l'intégration sociale et économique des personnes handicapées, encourage ces dernières à intervenir en tant que consommateurs et donne une plus grande latitude aux Territoires du Nord-Ouest, au Yukon et aux provinces pour la prestation des services.

- 30 -

Renseignements :

Also available
in English

Blair Parkhurst
Santé et Bien-être social Canada
(604) 666-2083

Pat Felhaver
Ministère des services sociaux des T. N.-O.
(403) 920-8921



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-045

Lotteries Review Completed

YELLOWKNIFE (April 25) — A review of the Lotteries Act and Regulations has been completed and is available for public review, Minister of Safety and Public Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell has announced.

The review recommends more specific eligibility criteria, increased accountability in licensing, a clearer definition of organizations classified as charitable, and reducing the number of bingos held by any one organization from one per week to one every two weeks. It also recommends limiting prize money to \$5,000 per event and \$1,000 per game, to allow small groups with less prize money to compete with larger organizations.

"These recommendations will be reviewed and considered in making changes to the Lotteries Act and Regulations," said Mrs. Marie-Jewell. "They are drawn from extensive research done in the NWT and other jurisdictions, as well as input from the public, and groups who use these fund-raising methods.

The review, researched and prepared by the department's Consumer and Corporate Affairs Division, was begun in the fall of last year in response to concerns over funds being used for charitable causes, the number of events held in communities and the amount of money spent on gambling. Public opinion was sought, and 5,000 questionnaires were distributed throughout the NWT.

Lotteries include bingos, raffles, casinos and Nevada tickets.

The report is available from Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Safety and Public Services, Third Floor, Panda II Centre, Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9; or by calling 920-8054.

Contact: Dorothy Mellor
Director, Consumer and Corporate Affairs
Safety and Public Services
(403) 920-8054





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-046

New ADMs for Department of Transportation

YELLOWKNIFE (April 30) — The appointment of two new assistant deputy ministers has been announced by Transportation Minister Gordon Wray.

Andrew Gamble has been named to the new position of Assistant Deputy Minister for Planning and Development and Bruce Rattray becomes Assistant Deputy Minister for Operations. Mr. Gamble's appointment is effective immediately. Mr. Rattray, named to a vacant assistant deputy minister position, will begin his new duties in May.

Both will report to Deputy Minister Hal Gerein.

Mr. Wray says the addition of a second assistant deputy minister position reflects increasing responsibilities assumed by the Department of Transportation. In March, Transport Canada transferred ownership and responsibility for 38 Arctic airports to the Department. Last May, the department finalized the devolution of existing federal-territorial highways.

Mr. Gamble moved to Yellowknife in 1980 when he joined the then department of Public Works and Highways. He has been Director of Transportation Engineering since 1983. Most recently, he managed development of the NWT Transportation Strategy.

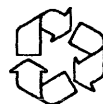
Mr. Rattray joined the Territorial government in 1982 when he moved to Inuvik. In 1984, he became Public Works' Yellowknife District Superintendent. In 1990, he became Director of the Accommodation Services Division of Public Works. Mr. Rattray is also President of the Northwest Territories Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists (NAPEGG).

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Policy and Coordination
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or

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Press Information

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91-047

Williams Appointed DCB Chairman

YELLOWKNIFE (April 30) - Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo announced today the appointment of Jack R. Williams as Chairman of the Denendeh Conservation Board.

Mr. Williams succeeds John Bayly, who announced his resignation as chairman last December. The chairman's responsibilities include chairing meetings of the 10-member advisory board and presenting the board's recommendations to the Minister of Renewable Resources. The board provides the minister with advice and guidance on wildlife matters in Denendeh.

Mr. Williams is currently employed as an Associate at the Yellowknife law firm Vertes Peterson and Schuler. He holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Victoria and a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Calgary.

Active in aboriginal politics and economics, Mr. Williams is a board member of Yellowknife Metis Local #55, vice-chairman and shareholder of the Yellowknife Metis Development Corporation and shareholder of the NWT Metis Development Corporation. He is also an avid hunter and trapper, and member of the Yellowknife Hunters and Trappers Association.

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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-048

Easy-To-Read Information Available For Landlords And Tenants

YELLOWKNIFE (April 30) — NWT Landlords and tenants who have puzzled over their rights and obligations now have easy-to-comprehend information available at their fingertips, says Safety and Public Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

The Consumer and Corporate Affairs Division of Safety and Public Services has published a new Landlord and Tenant Handbook which is written in plain language with an easy-to-read question-and-answer format.

"Rather than taking you through the legislation, the Landlord and Tenant Handbook answers the most frequently asked questions about landlord and tenant relationships," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

The new handbook deals with subjects such as tenancy agreements, security deposits, subletting, a landlord's right to enter, repairs, utilities, quiet enjoyment, rental increases, security of tenure, termination, eviction, abandoned personal property, rental officers and appeals. There are also tips for both landlords and tenants in the handbook.

The new Landlord and Tenant Handbook is free. Copies are available from the Rental Office on the third floor of the Panda Centre II in Yellowknife. Or you can order a copy by phoning (403) 920-8047 or by writing to Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Department of Safety and Public Services, P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9.

The Landlord and Tenant Handbook will soon be available in Inuktitut.

Contact: Arlene Blake
Consumer Affairs
Safety and Public Services
(403) 920-8047





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-049

Recall of Belden "Quick-Lok" Power Cord Sets Used on Certain Milwaukee Power Tools

YELLOWKNIFE (April 30) — Certain electric power tools pose a possible shock hazard because of faulty power supply cord sets, according to the Department of Safety and Public Services.

A number of eight-foot-long "Quick-Lok" power supply cord sets were miswired. They were supplied to the Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation by the Belden Electrical Wire Products for use with Milwaukee power tools.

The cord sets may be identified by the name "Belden" printed on a "CSA Cord Set" label attached to each cord set and a logo moulded on the plug cap.

The Canadian Standards Association warns that the miswired cord set is used on the following Milwaukee power tools:

MAGNUM DRILLS: Models 0124-1, 0224-1, 0234-1, 0244-1, 3300-1

D-HANDLE DRILLS: Models 1007-1, 1107-1

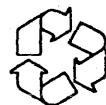
MAGNUM HAMMER DRILLS: Models 5370-1, 5372-1, 5374-1

SAWZALLS: Models 6527, 6507

MAGNUM SCREWDRIVERS: Models 6749-1, 6754-1, 6793-1, 6794-1

Milwaukee Electric is asking owners to check their power tools and if a Belden cord set is provided, return the cord set only to the following address for replacement: Milwaukee Electric Tool (Canada) Ltd., 755 Progress Road, Scarborough, Ontario M1H 2W7. The company can be contacted at (416) 439-4181 regarding questions about the recall.

Contact: William Burr
Chief Electrical Inspector
Safety Division
Department of Safety and Public Services
(403) 873-3178





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-050

Mine Safety Regulations to be revised

YELLOWKNIFE (May 7)— Minister of Safety and Public Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell has announced the action that her department will follow in dealing with the jury recommendations from the coroner's inquest into the death of Ian Curnow.

Mr. Curnow died from carbon monoxide poisoning last September while working underground at the Treminco/Ptarmigan Mine near Yellowknife.

The minister said a majority of the jury's 25 recommendations will result in the revision of 8 mine safety regulations and the drafting of 5 new ones.

Both the amended and new regulations will be sent to the mine occupational health and safety committees, unions, mining companies and industry associations for their comments.

Some of the jury's recommendations will require amendments to the Mine Safety Act by the Legislative Assembly.

The minister noted the department continues to co-ordinate all its inspection activities at all mining sites and that existing rules and regulations are being enforced. The minister also acknowledged the important role that mine occupational health and safety committees play in ensuring that working places in mines are safe.

In response to other jury recommendations, the department is consulting with the Department of Justice to determine what steps have to be taken to give the mine safety division authority to fine any person or employer who violates provisions of the Mining Safety Act.

In addition, steps will be taken by Mine Safety Division staff to ensure that mining companies use effective communication, and diagrams/pictures for training of workers who have a poor understanding of the english language before approving mine training programs as required under the act.

Meanwhile, the minister noted she appreciated the hard work of the Chief Coroner, Donna Thomas, and all the members of the coroner's jury, in coming up with their recommendations.

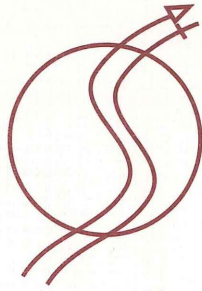
Copies of the coroner's report are available from the Chief Coroner's Office.

Contact: Walter Skelly
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*The Northwest Territories
Gender Equality Review*

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Special Advisor on Gender Equality to Visit Hay River and Fort Smith

YELLOWKNIFE (April 30) – The Special Advisor on Gender Equality in the Justice System will be visiting Hay River and Fort Smith from May 14 to 17, the office of the Gender Equality Review announced today.

Special Advisor Katherine Peterson will be conducting public meetings and workshops in Hay River on May 14 and 15 and in Fort Smith on May 16 and 17. These meetings and workshops are part of a public consultation process that will be conducted by the Special Advisor across the Territories over the one-year mandate of the Gender Equality Review.

The Special Advisor to the Minister of Justice was appointed in December 1990, by Justice Minister Michael A. Ballantyne. The Gender Equality Review headed by the Special Advisor is examining the administration of justice in the N.W.T. as it affects women. The Special Advisor has the mandate of providing the Minister of Justice with recommendations on ways to achieve gender equality and to improve the response of the justice system to problems faced by women.

In the course of the Review, the Special Advisor will be meeting with people involved in the administration of justice such as judges, prosecutors, police, defence attorneys and court workers.

In order to receive input from as many sources as possible, the Gender Equality Review will conduct public meetings and workshops across the Territories.

A public workshop will held in Hay River on Tuesday, May 14, from 9 am until 4 pm at the Ptarmigan Hotel Banquet Room. A public meeting will held on the same day and at the same place from 7 pm until 10 pm.

A public workshop in Fort Smith will be held in the Board Room of the Friendship Centre on Thursday, May 16 from 9 am until 4 pm and the public meeting from 7 pm until 10 pm.

Discussion at the workshop will focus on such issues as women as victims of violence, access to justice, services to victims, gender equality in the courts, policing, justice response to family violence and maintenance orders enforcement.

The Special Advisor will also be holding meetings with people involved in the administration of justice and with other interested groups and individuals in Hay River on Wednesday, May 15 in the Board Room, 3rd Floor, MacKenzie Place (Hi Rise), and on Friday, May 17 in Fort Smith at the Friendship Centre.

The dates of the other meetings and workshops in other regions of the N.W.T. will be determined in the coming weeks.

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Gender Equality Review
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or

Tanis Stirling
Administrative Assistant
Gender Equality Review
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Note to file:

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-051

Tourism Minister Recognizes Tourism Awareness Week

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8) — Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Gordon Wray recognized the important role tourism plays in the economy of the Northwest Territories today at the start of Tourism Awareness Week.

National Tourism Awareness Week ends May 19. During the week, members of the tourism industry stress the value of tourism to their local communities and to the Northwest Territories.

"Tourism is a growth industry. Its impact on our economy is substantial," Mr. Wray said.

There were over 89,000 visitors to the NWT last year. They spent about \$1,000 each for a total expenditure of \$89,000,000. The department's travel counselling office handled a record-setting 112,000 inquiries and provided names to over 25 NWT tourism businesses for marketing purposes.

There were 67 tourism facilities in the NWT in 1971. Now there are 224.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism supports the development of innovative and competitive tourism products, attractions and events throughout the NWT.

Financial and technical assistance is provided to the industry to aid in its development. This support has promoted more international marketing, identified regional tourism assets and expanded the role of public and private sector partnerships in all marketing efforts, Mr. Wray noted.

The primary tourism products of the Northwest Territories continue to be outdoor adventure, cultural and historical tours, sport fishing and sport hunting.

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	Marketing Programs		(403) 920-3310
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-052

Report will Ensure Environmentally Safe Development

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8) — Energy Minister Nellie Cournoyea says a report by the Beaufort Sea Steering Committee will help ensure oil and gas development in the Beaufort is guided by environmentally sensitive regulations.

The report was presented by the steering committee to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Tom Siddon earlier this month.

Ms. Cournoyea said implementation of the report's recommendations will "increase public confidence in the ability of government and industry to respond to an oil spill" should such an accident occur.

The Beaufort Sea Steering Committee was established by the federal government in September of 1990 to evaluate recommendations dealing with exploration drilling in the Beaufort made by the Environmental Impact Review Board.

The board's recommendations were based on a review of Gulf's Kulluk and Esso's Isserk drilling programs. Some of the concerns raised by the board concerned contingency planning for potential oil spills, compensation and liability, scientific research and wildlife impact reports.

The eight-member Beaufort Sea Steering Committee was made up of representatives from the Canada Oil and Gas Lands Administration, the Canadian Petroleum Association, the Government of the Northwest Territories, Government of the Yukon, the Inuvialuit Game Council, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and DIAND.

Its final report makes more than a dozen major recommendations including: contingency planning for a potential oil spill; means of determining the safe operating season; the involvement of the Inuvialuit and the scientific community in spill response; worst case spill scenarios; compensation and liability; and wildlife restoration and impact assessment methodology.

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Press Statement

Office of the Commissioner • Government of the Northwest Territories • Yellowknife • NWT

Recipients of Bravery Awards Announced

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8) — The recipients of Commissioner's Awards for Bravery at the Highest Level were announced today by Commissioner Daniel L. Norris.

Details on the time and place for presentation ceremonies will be announced once they have been made.

The awards will be presented to the following:

Roland Tungilik and Tim Kringuk of Repulse Bay:

Both men will receive an award for their attempt to save the life of Bernard Tungilik who had fallen out of a boat while checking his nets on the North Pole River, north of Repulse Bay, on July 8 of 1990.

Mr. Tungilik swam out to help the unconscious Tungilik but was unable to keep the victim's head above water and had to release him in order to swim back to shore. Mr. Kringuk, noticing the difficulties, swam out to help both men but succumbed to the cold water, but not before pulling himself and Mr. Tungilik up onto the ice where they yelled for help.

Gabriel Kaunak, Donat Milortuk and Steve Mapsalak of Repulse responded to the calls, located the victim's body about 60 feet from shore and attempted to revive him. They will receive letters of commendation from the Commissioner for their actions.

Jacob Uppik of Sanikiluaq:

Mr. Uppik will receive an award for his action in July of 1988 when he disregarded his own personal safety to paddle a makeshift raft of rotten wood to rescue a two-year-old boy. The boy was sleeping in a boat that had drifted a half mile from shore in a strong current.

Corporal Rick Sargent and Constable Dennis McGuffin:

These two RCMP officers from Fort Providence will receive an award for entering the icy and swift waters of the Mackenzie River near Providence, at great personal risk to

Recipients of Bravery Awards Announced: Page 2

themselves, to prevent the drowning of a Fort Providence teenager. The incident took place June 17, 1990.

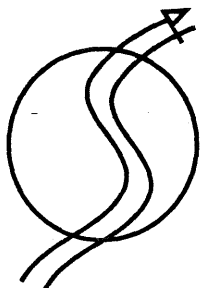
Clem Paul of Yellowknife:

Mr. Paul will receive an award for saving Trevor Teed from drowning in Harding Lake on November 11 of 1990.

Mr. Paul went out into the lake on a small fibreglass sleigh, using a rifle case and his hands as paddles. He managed to tie Mr. Teed to the sleigh and bring him back to solid ice where he was taken to safety. Unfortunately, a second victim - William George Balsillie - succumbed to the frigid water and drowned before he could be rescued.

Meanwhile, Michael Ootook and David Kamangapik of Pond Inlet will receive letters of commendation from the Commissioner for their quick action on March 11, 1990, when they took Douglas Ootoova to the local nursing station. Ootoova had been stabbed and was bleeding heavily. He was unconscious at the time and the speedy action of the two Pond Inlet teenagers could well have saved his life. Mr. Ootook was 14 years old at the time of the incident and Mr. Kamangapik was 16.

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 Executive Assistant
 to the Commissioner
 (403) 873-7332



*The Northwest Territories
Gender Equality Review*

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Special Advisor on Gender Equality Issues Discussion Paper

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8) – The Special Advisor to the Minister of Justice released a Discussion Paper that will be tabled in the Legislative Assembly, the office of the Gender Equality Review announced today.

The Gender Equality Review was established in December, 1990, by the Justice Minister to examine the administration of justice as it affects women. The discussion paper was delivered to Michael A. Ballantyne, Territorial Minister of Justice, by Katherine Peterson, Special Advisor on Gender Equality in the Justice System. The Minister of Justice will table the discussion paper in the Legislative Assembly when Session resumes in June.

The discussion paper identifies violence against women as the primary focus of the Gender Equality Review.

The discussion paper asks a series of questions about the response of the various components of the justice system to violence against women. "The paper should help focus the debate about gender equality in the justice system on an issue of primary importance to everyone in the Territories", said Special Advisor Katherine Peterson. "Issues of inappropriate attitudes and stereotypes about women, as well as the availability of support services, must be addressed within the administration of justice."

The discussion paper will be widely distributed and will be used by the Special Advisor in consultations to be conducted in communities across the Northwest Territories over the coming months. Meetings and discussions will be held with Crown prosecutors, police, the judiciary, justices of the peace, lawyers and with concerned individuals and organizations. In addition, the Special Advisor will be visiting all the regions of the Territories to conduct public meetings and workshops.

Translations of the paper into aboriginal languages are currently being prepared.

Copies of the discussion paper are available through the office of the Gender Equality Review on the Main Floor of the courthouse in Yellowknife.

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Press Information
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91-053

Consumer Week Grand Prize Winner Announced

YELLOWKNIFE (May 10) — Reshmi Prasad is the grand prize winner of the National Consumer Week Essay Contest. She was awarded \$100 in prize money for her effort.

Ms. Prasad is a student at Saint Patrick's High School in Yellowknife. Her essay "Take out the Garbage" included a detailed waste reduction plan for classrooms and schools.

Minister of Safety and Public Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell noted the student had presented several excellent ideas designed to encourage student populations to get involved in waste reduction and management.

"We hope through this contest that young consumers have learned more about possible solutions to the waste disposal problems we all face."

The essay contest was open to all Grade 10, 11 and 12 high school students throughout the NWT. National Consumer Week took place April 22nd to 28th, under the theme "Team Up for a Stronger Marketplace".

Contact: Patricia E. Severn
Consumer Affairs Officer
Safety and Public Services
(403) 873-7125



"TAKE OUT THE GARBAGE"

An Essay on Waste Reduction in My School

**For the "National Consumer Week"
Essay Contest**

Reshmi Madhu Prasad

**16 Mandeville Drive
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
tel: 873-8877**

**St. Patrick High School
Yellowknife**

"TAKE OUT THE GARBAGE!"

Consumers in the 1990's must be conscientious about waste reduction. For financial, environmental and educational reasons, schools should lead the way in promoting waste reduction programs.

This is important for the environment because dumping garbage into large landfill sites uses a lot of space and also contaminates water and air. There are financial reasons, too: *the less you waste, the less you have to buy*. This is especially important in tough economic times, when education funding is limited. But, the most important reason is that if students learn to care about waste reduction at a young age, they will also do it in the future as adults.

I wanted to find out more about waste reduction programs, so I made an appointment to see a specialist at the Department of Renewable Resources, reviewed government publications and looked in my Public Library. I came across a few ideas for how my own school could implement an effective waste reduction plan.

Reducing Paper Waste . While going through the garbage in my school, I noticed that almost 85% of it was paper. Here are a few suggestions of how it can be reduced:

- > Students can be encouraged by their teachers to use both sides of the papers. This can be done by giving extra marks to students who use both sides for essays and other assignments.
- > Each class could be given a Blue Box or other paper receptacle. The class which uses it most efficiently should be given more privileges.
- > The cost of papers and notebooks sold in the school could be increased so students would waste less.

Reducing "solid waste" . Another thing I came across in my school trashcans were tin cans. About every five out of eight students by drinks in school every day, and they throw them anywhere they wish. Students should be allowed to run a depot within the school where drink consumers can return their cans and get a refund. Students can then return them to the container depot at the the Yellowknife Recycling Depot and get their money back.

Plastic, which is also a "solid waste", is another problem. There is no program to re-cycle plastic in the N.W.T. and burning releases toxic chemicals which are harmful to the atmosphere. There are two ways by which plastics can be reduced:

- > By cleaning and re-using plastic containers, and
- > If the students bring their lunch in re-usable lunch bags, the teachers can encourage them with bonus marks and privileges.

School-wide initiatives . There are activities which can involve the whole school in a concern for waste reduction:

- > Reminders and posters can be placed in the hallways and all assignments should have a heading which says, "Use Both Sides".
- > Each class could set up its own compost heap and students could add to them with their uneaten lunch or bring materials from home. A competition with the theme "Compost the Most!" could be held, with the winning class allowed to go on a special field trip.
- > Teachers could provide incentives, by offering prizes or special activities for students who demonstrated good waste reduction practices.
- > The school could have a "Waste Reduction Week" at the beginning of the year, where students could come up with new ideas for reducing wastes.



Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-054

Air Quality Information Released

YELLOWKNIFE (May 10) — Information released today by Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo indicates that dust levels in Yellowknife during 1989 were within maximum acceptable levels for most of the year.

But 20 per cent of the samples collected in downtown Yellowknife exceeded the maximum acceptable level of 120 micrograms per cubic metre, as established under federal ambient air quality objectives.

"A steep rise in TSP (total suspended particulate) levels was detected during the month of April, 1989, when all samples exceeded the maximum acceptable level. On April 28, of that year, the level jumped to 530 micrograms per cubic metre, well over the maximum tolerable level," the information notes.

Dust levels were lowest during the winter months, when levels remained below the maximum acceptable level. During the summer and fall, dust levels generally remained in the acceptable range, but periodically exceeded the maximum acceptable level.

The Department of Renewable Resources participates in two national air quality monitoring programs. The National Air Pollution Surveillance Program (NAPS) is an urban air quality monitoring program. The Canadian Air and Precipitation Monitoring Network (CAPMoN) assesses acid precipitation levels across Canada.

The urban air quality data is based on samples taken by a monitoring station located in downtown Yellowknife. The samples, taken for 24-hour periods every six days, were analyzed for lead, arsenic, nitrate, sulphate and total suspended particulates, a parameter which includes dust.

The highest levels of TSP in Yellowknife occur after the snow melts in April and dust from accumulated road grit is blown about by the wind.

"Levels could be reduced by improved street cleaning," the survey material notes. "Alternatively, the amount of dust applied to roads during the winter could be restricted by using clean sand or by increasing snow removal on major routes to reduce the need for grit in problem areas."

Air Quality Information Released: Page 2

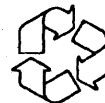
Meanwhile, acid rain readings obtained at the CAPMoN station established at the Snare Rapids hydro site, about 150 kilometres north of Yellowknife, were low.

"Rain and snow pH levels together with the low levels of the other parameters indicate there is negligible industrial pollution in precipitation at Snare Rapids," the information states.

Contact: J. W. Bourque
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(403) 873-7420

or

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AIR QUALITY MONITORING IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES 1989 DATA

The Department of Renewable Resources participates in two national air quality monitoring programs. The National Air Pollution Surveillance Program (NAPS) is an urban air quality monitoring program. The Canadian Air and Precipitation Monitoring Network (CAPMoN) assesses acid precipitation levels across Canada.

WHAT WERE THE 1989 RESULTS FROM YELLOWKNIFE?

The National Air Pollution Surveillance (NAPS) station is located in downtown Yellowknife on the roof of a two story building. Every six days a sample is collected over a 24 hour period. These samples are analyzed for lead, arsenic, nitrate, sulphate and Total Suspended Particulates (TSP) a parameter which includes dust. Results from the 1989 period are summarized below:

TABLE I

NAPS AIR QUALITY DATA 1989

EXPOSURE	LEAD	ARSENIC	NITRATE	SULPHATE	TSP
highest (24 hr.)	0.16	0.047	0.53	5.08	530
lowest (24 hr.)	0.00	0.003	0.11	0.74	7
one year average	0.05	0.013	0.26	2.36	85

Note: all units in micrograms/cubic metre ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Presently there are no national standards for lead or arsenic levels in air, however, the levels found in Yellowknife fall below any provincially set standards. Nitrate and sulphate are pollutants that frequently cause acidity in precipitation and have no set standards. Ambient Air Quality Objectives for TSP have been established under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act:

TABLE 2

NATIONAL OBJECTIVES FOR TOTAL SUSPENDED PARTICULATE (TSP)

Exposure period	Maximum desirable level	Maximum acceptable level	Maximum tolerable level
24 hours	---	120	400
One year	60	70	---

Note: all units in micrograms/cubic metre ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

The *Maximum desirable level* provides a long term goal for air quality. The *Maximum acceptable level* is intended to provide adequate protection against effects on the environment, materials, visibility and personal comfort and well being. The *Maximum tolerable level* denotes levels of air contaminants beyond which appropriate action is required without delay to protect the health of the general population.

In downtown Yellowknife during 1989, TSP levels in 80% of the samples collected over 24 hour periods were below the maximum acceptable level of $120 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

- TSP levels were lowest during the winter months when levels remained below the maximum acceptable level.
- A steep rise in TSP levels was detected during the month of April when nearly all samples exceeded the maximum acceptable level. On April 28 the highest level of the year - $530 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - was detected, above the maximum tolerable level of $400 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- During the summer and fall TSP levels generally remained in the acceptable range, but periodically did exceed the maximum acceptable level.
- High TSP levels, especially in the spring, resulted in a one year average of $85 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - in excess of the yearly maximum acceptable concentration set by the Advisory Committee at $70 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

CAN DUST (TSP) LEVELS IN YELLOWKNIFE BE REDUCED?

The highest measured levels of TSP occur after the snow melts in April and dust from accumulated road grit is blown about. TSP levels in the spring could be reduced by improved street cleaning. Alternatively, the amount of dust applied to the roads during the winter could be restricted by using "clean sand" or by increasing snow removal on major routes to reduce the need for grit in problem areas.

HOW DOES YELLOWKNIFE COMPARE WITH OTHER CANADIAN CITIES?

The following table compares the 1989 average levels of lead, arsenic, nitrate, sulphate, and TSP sampled in Yellowknife with average levels recorded during 1984-87 in some of the other Canadian cities that participate in the NAPS program:

TABLE 3
AVERAGE LEVELS OF POLLUTANTS MEASURED
AT NAPS STATIONS IN CANADIAN CITIES

CITY	LEAD	ARSENIC	NITRATE	SULPHATE	TSP
HALIFAX	0.04	0.001	0.7	4.8	35
QUEBEC CITY	0.18	0.001	1.0	2.8	46
OTTAWA	0.10	0.001	1.3	3.9	40
TORONTO	0.14	0.001	1.6	4.1	45
WINNIPEG	0.07	0.000	0.8	1.7	70
EDMONTON	0.16	0.001	0.8	1.5	90
VICTORIA	0.31	0.001	0.9	2.0	39
YELLOWKNIFE	0.05	0.013	0.3	2.4	85

Note: all units in micrograms/cubic metre ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

IS ACID RAIN MEASURED IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES?

A Canadian Air and Precipitation Monitoring Network (CAPMoN) station was established in October 1986 at the Snare Rapids hydro site (about 150 km north of Yellowknife) to measure acid precipitation and associated parameters. Results presented in Table 4 indicate low levels in precipitation at Snare Rapids of all measured parameters. Acidity in precipitation is compared based on pH measurement - lower pH values = higher acidity. Sulphate and nitrate are indirect measurements of acidic gas emissions from industrialization and automobiles.

Ammonium and calcium are measures of the acid-neutralizing capacity of the atmosphere, and calcium is also an indicator of the contribution of dust to the precipitation quality. Rain and snow pH levels together with the low levels of the other parameters indicate there is negligible industrial pollution in precipitation at Snare Rapids.

TABLE 4
CAPMoN DAILY PRECIPITATION QUALITY

STATION	pH	SULPHATE ¹	NITRATE ¹	AMMONIUM ¹	CALCIUM ¹	PRECIPITATION ²
Snare Rapids NWT (1989)	5.2	0.27	0.17	0.05	0.04	240
Cree Lake Sask. (1989)	5.0	0.49	0.40	0.17	0.09	450
Esther Alta. (1989)	5.3	0.81	0.82	0.40	0.18	250
Chalk River Ont. (1987)	4.2	2.58	2.04	0.39	0.13	778
Sutton Que. (1987)	4.3	2.13	1.90	0.40	0.18	1088

Notes:
 1 - units in milligrams per litre (mg/l)
 2 - units in millimetres per year (mm/yr)

To put the results in perspective, the 1989 data from Snare Rapids is compared with data from other selected stations in Canada. CAPMoN sites in eastern Canada (Chalk River and Sutton) are located in regions where "acid rain" is of great concern. The higher acidity (lower pH) at those stations may be due to the influence of industrial pollutants.

For More Information Please Contact:

*Pollution Control Division
 Department of Renewable Resources
 Government of the Northwest Territories
 P.O. Box 1350
 Yellowknife, NWT
 X1A 2L9*

*Phone (403) 873-7654
 Fax (403) 873-0221*



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-055

Wings of Change Aviation Gallery Opening

YELLOWKNIFE (May 10) — The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and Yellowknife skies will be buzzing with events June 1 and 2 marking the opening of the Wings of Change Aviation Gallery.

"This gallery is dedicated to over 60 years of aviation history. This will be the only museum in Canada with a gallery devoted to the story of northern aviation," says Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo.

Construction costs of the gallery were raised by a non-profit group called Operation Fox Moth Society. The exhibits were financed by Science Culture Canada of the federal Ministry of Industry, Science and Technology as well as the Canadian Studies Program of the Secretary of State.

The centrepiece of the gallery is the restored Fox Moth aircraft, which returned North in 1988 thanks to the fundraising efforts of Operation Fox Moth Society.

Surrounding displays document the relationship between airplanes and mail service, tourism, health care, air force, law and justice, and mineral exploration. In chronological order, the gallery takes visitors on a tour of aircraft history in the NWT, beginning with photographs of the two Junkers F-13 owned by Imperial Oil Ltd. which flew from Edmonton to Fort Norman in 1921 - the first commercial use of aircraft in Canada. The gallery also features a 15-minute video on the history of aviation prepared especially for this exhibition, and an imitation cockpit.

The weekend celebration, indoors, will include a ribbon cutting ceremony, the unveiling of busts of northern aviation personalities, an exhibit of aviation prints from local galleries, old and new aviation films, and paper and model airplane making demonstrations for children.

Outside, people will be able to see a number of different planes - everything from 185s to helicopters. The fly-pasts are scheduled for Saturday. Also, members of the local remote control airplane club will be showing off their planes, as will a number of pilots of ultra-light aircraft.

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Wings of Change Aviation Gallery Opening: Page 2

Everyone is invited to the gallery opening. The museum is expecting a number of aviators to attend the event, including C.H. "Punch" Dickins, who, in 1928, became the first pilot to cross the unmapped barren lands. He flew the Western Canada Airways Fokker G-CASK from Baker Lake, Northwest Territories to Stony Rapids, Saskatchewan.

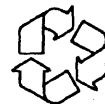
"This gallery is something all northerners can be proud of because it's an example of the kind of project that's possible if people are committed, and work together. More than 90 per cent of the funding for this project comes from outside the territorial government. Future heritage programs can take a lesson from this. I congratulate groups such as Operation Fox Moth Society, and all others involved in making Wings of Change a reality," Mr. Allooloo says.

A schedule of events for the two-day celebration will be available from the museum.

Contact: Chris Stephens
Director
Prince of Wales Northern
Heritage Centre
Culture and Communications
(403) 873-7685

or

Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-056

Occupational Health and Safety Board Members Appointed

YELLOWKNIFE (May 10) — Minister of Safety and Public Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell has appointed four people to the Mine Occupational Health and Safety Board.

The minister requested nominees from all NWT mines, the Occupational Health and Safety Committees of each mine, the Chamber of Mines, three unions and the NWT Federation of Labour. She received 22 nominees from those who responded to her request and from two other individuals.

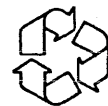
"I'm impressed with the quality of the nominees," she noted.

The appointments, effective immediately, include:

- **Gordon Nivingalok** will represent labour. Mr. Nivingalok is from Coppermine and has been working at Echo Bay Mines since 1986. Previously he worked with Dome Petroleum, Canmar Drilling and Adeco Drilling.
- **Gary Henry** will represent management. Mr. Henry is Superintendent of Safety and Environmental Monitoring at Nerco Con Mine. He has been employed in many management capacities since 1981.
- **Mike Magrum** and **Hugh Arden**, both of Yellowknife, were chosen for their knowledge of mining.

Mr. Magrum is a professional engineer with over 20 years of mining experience. He received a Mining Technology diploma from the Haileybury School of Mines and a B.SC degree in geological engineering. He is president and managing director of a northern mining consulting company and President of the Chamber of Mines.

Mr. Arden has over 26 years of mining experience at Nerco Con Mine, Discovery Mine, Echo Bay Mines, Terra Mine and Pine Point. In addition, he has spent over 20 years on road building to mine sites, on exploration work, and attending to closed-down mines.



Occupational Health and Safety Board Members Appointed: Page 2

The Mine Occupational Health and Safety Board advises and makes recommendations to the minister. It deals with matters relating to the Mine Safety Act and regulations and the occupational health and safety of people working in or around a mine. It is chaired by Chief Inspector of the Mining Safety Division Walter Skelly and includes one labour representative selected from the nominees of the workers at each mine, one management representative selected from the nominees of the manager of each mine and two other persons with an understanding of the mining industry.

The board's first meeting is scheduled for June.

Contact: John Quirke
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(403) 873-7619



Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-057

Agreement Sets Stage for oil and Gas Accords

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15) — Government Leader Dennis Patterson and Yukon Premier Tony Penikett have signed a Memorandum of Agreement on Beaufort Sea oil and gas arrangements.

The agreement, signed today in Whitehorse, sets the stage for final northern oil and gas accords between each territorial government and the federal government.

"The consensus we've reached is an important signal to Ottawa about the seriousness with which the North approaches the assumption of provincial-type responsibilities," Patterson said.

Penikett agreed:

"Our agreement is a significant step towards self-determination for both territories. It sets a cooperative benchmark for constitutional development in Canada as a whole," Penikett said.

Negotiated by Northwest Territories Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Nellie Cournoyea and Yukon Minister of Economic Development Maurice Byblow, the agreement sets out common principles designed to ensure that management and legislative regimes in the Beaufort Sea are consistent.

The memorandum reflects existing offshore accords in the East Coast and is based on the Canadian Laws Offshore Application Act. It establishes a geographical division in the Beaufort Sea, enabling each territorial government to negotiate separate oil and gas accords for their respective offshore areas.

Key elements of the agreement include:

- Establishment of a common regulatory board, under federal legislation, with equal representation from Canada, the NWT and Yukon;
- Policy issues, such as the determination of resource revenues, benefits administration and rights issuance, will be the responsibility of each territorial government on their respective sides of a geographical dividing line;

Agreements set stage for oil and gas accords: Page 2

- The dividing line will bisect Mackenzie Bay in a northwesterly direction and then extend due north; and
- The two territories will share expertise and resources and will cooperate in the implementation of their oil and gas agreements, including the development of legislation and policies to ensure that northern benefits opportunities continue to be available to residents and businesses of both territories.

Cournoyea noted that the NWT goal in negotiating an agreement with the Yukon was to develop a regulatory and administrative proposal that would meet the long-term requirements of northern people and governments while being "fair and stable" to allow industry to get on with exploration in the Beaufort Sea.

"I'm satisfied that we have met that goal," she stated.

According to the agreement, each territory will have responsibility for policy matters, such as the determination of royalties, benefits and oil and gas exploration rights in their respective offshore areas.

"At the same time, we have agreed to cooperate in the implementation of our agreements, to share expertise and resources, and to work together to develop common policies - particularly in the critical area of industrial benefits," Byblow added.

Contact: Pierre Alvarez
Deputy Minister
Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
(403) 873-7224





Press Information

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91-058

Education to Form Working Committee with Francophone Groups

YELLOWKNIFE (May 22) — The Department of Education will work with the French community in Yellowknife to find ways to enhance education for French children, Deputy Minister Joseph Handley told parents last night.

Speaking at a meeting with L'Association des Parents Francophones de Yellowknife and the Federation Franco-TeNOise, Mr. Handley agreed to form a working committee made up of representatives of the department and the francophone community.

The formation of the working committee was one of several requests the two francophone groups made of the Minister of Education earlier this year. Both sides are currently working to settle outstanding issues.

The French groups have also requested the creation of a territorial francophone school board which would be responsible for the operation of L'Ecole Allain St. Cyr in Yellowknife, starting in the fall of 1991. Other francophone communities or groups would become part of the territorial board when they wished.

"Unfortunately, there is no money in the department's budget or likely forthcoming from the federal government to create a francophone school board at this time," Mr. Handley says. "The operation of L'Ecole Allain St. Cyr will remain under the jurisdiction of Yellowknife Education District No. 1 for the time being. In the meantime, the department will take the necessary step to revise the Education Act to ensure that the management rights of the Francophone minority are recognized."

Although the francophone groups would like to see a draft of the new Education Act by April of 1992, that simply doesn't allow enough time for the different levels of consultation needed to create a new law, Mr. Handley says. The department anticipates the new Education Act will be proclaimed in September of 1993.



Working Committee: Page 2

The Department of Education will also not be able to extend French as a first language instruction to Grade 8, as requested, because of lack of funding and low numbers of students. French as a first language instruction is now available in Yellowknife from kindergarten to Grade 6.

Contact: Joseph Handley
Deputy Minister
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(403) 920-6240





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-059

Rabesca is Vice-chair of Round Table

YELLOWKNIFE (May 23) — Former Chief of the Rae Dene Band Joe Rabesca has been named vice-chair of the Northwest Territories Round Table on the Environment and Economy.

The announcement was made today by Government Leader Dennis Patterson, who chairs the Round Table.

Darielle Talarico of Inuvik, co-manager and co-owner of Western Arctic Nature Tours; Glen Warner of Yellowknife, president and general manager of Bathurst Inlet Developments Ltd.; and Meeka Kilabuk of Iqaluit, a former executive member of Inuit Tapirisat of Canada and Executive Director for the Baffin Regional Council, were appointed to the organization's executive committee. The decisions were made during a recent meeting of the Round Table in Fort Providence.

Mr. Patterson said public education with a particular focus on youth will be a priority of members. During the meeting, members met with Chairperson of the Yukon Round Table Lindsay Staples and discussed areas of cooperation, including the possibility of a joint NWT-Yukon meeting.

The NWT Round Table is a group of 13 representatives from throughout the territories responsible for advising Cabinet - through the Government Leader - on matters relating to sustainable development in the Northwest Territories. It plans to hold its next meeting in the Eastern Arctic towards the end of the summer.

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Press Information

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91-060

Government Leader Joins Prime Minister's Delegation

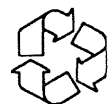
YELLOWKNIFE (May 23) — Government Leader Dennis Patterson and his wife Marie Uviluq have accepted an invitation to join Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's delegation next week for the official opening of the Masters of the Arctic Exhibition and the new Canadian Embassy in Tokyo.

The exhibition, developed by the Amway Environmental Foundation with support from the Territorial government's Department of Economic Development and Tourism, is a prestigious collection of Inuit art from the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Patterson will join Prime Minister Mulroney, the Prime Minister of Japan, the Japanese Crown Prince and the Canadian Ambassador for the official opening ceremonies. The collection, one of the finest of its kind, had previous openings in Washington and Ottawa. The opening in Tokyo will be its premiere outside of North America.

During his visit, the Government Leader will be meeting with representatives of major Japanese corporations. Discussions are expected to be wide ranging and include tourism and economic development opportunities in the Northwest Territories.

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(403) 920-3310





Press Information
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91-061

GNWT Purchases Broadcast Rights to Video

YELLOWKNIFE (May 29) — The Department of Education has purchased broadcast rights for the video of Susan Aglukark's song, "Searching."

Ms. Aglukark wrote "Searching" about five years ago while attending high school in Yellowknife. It expresses her feelings of being caught between two worlds.

"At school we learn the culture of the qablunaat (white people), while at home we learn the traditional Inuit ways. That's how we live, going back and forth all the time," she says.

"What I hope this song depicts is that our culture is important and our elders are important, but we must not lose sight of the future and the importance of knowing that whatever world we choose to live in, what we put into that world is what we will get out of it. We can be quite happy in both worlds," she adds.

The broadcast agreement will allow the Department of Education to show the video on Television Northern Canada (TVNC) for a five-year period, starting in January, 1992. TVNC is northern Canada's new educational channel, scheduled to start broadcasting next January.

"The feelings expressed in 'Searching' are common among the many young people in the NWT who must leave their home communities to attend high school," says Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi. "We are pleased to support this video because it helps students understand that they are not alone in their feelings. Susan is also an excellent role model for young people, showing them what they can accomplish with hard work and perseverance."

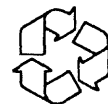
The video shows Ms. Aglukark in a number of northern and southern Canadian settings. Produced by Larry Crosley and Associates for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, it stresses thought-provoking images, rather than action. Ms. Aglukark sings "Searching" first in Inuktitut, then in English.



GNWT Purchases Broadcast Rights to Video: Page 2

Ms. Aglukark was born and raised in the Keewatin region, and her family has lived in Arviat for the past 13 years. She now lives in Ottawa, where she works as a communicator for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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(403) 920-6222





Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-062

Contract Awarded for Yellowknife Retail Liquor Outlet

YELLOWKNIFE (May 30) - A Yellowknife couple has been awarded the contract to run the city's only retail liquor outlet, according to Minister Responsible for the NWT Liquor Commission Tom Butters.

The 10-year contract, awarded to Albert and Gladys Eggenberger, begins September 1, 1991.

Construction will begin soon on a new liquor store on the corner of 51st Avenue and 49th Street. The Eggenbergers will own the building, and operate the liquor outlet on a commission basis, receiving a percentage of sales.

The building will include 4,500 square feet of retail area and 7,600 square feet of storage space, with four check-out counters. There will be off-street parking for 27 vehicles.

The Eggenbergers' proposal was chosen over five other submissions. Mr. Eggenberger was involved with the operation of the retail liquor outlet in Yellowknife from 1973 to 1984.

YK Developments has operated the retail outlet on 48th Street in Yellowknife since 1985. It recently asked to have its contract ended.

The Liquor Commission, headquartered in Hay River, is responsible for purchasing, distributing and selling liquor throughout the Northwest Territories.

Contact: Ron Courtoreille
General Manager
NWT Liquor Commission
(403) 874-2100





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-063

Fuel For Seniors Policy Expanded

YELLOWKNIFE (May 30) — The Government of the Northwest Territories will provide either wood or oil to NWT residents over the age of 60 who own their own homes, announced Social Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

The existing Wood For Seniors policy provides five cords of wood for residents over 60 who own their own homes and depend on wood for fuel. Under the new Fuel For Seniors policy, the equivalent amount of oil (2,275 litres) will be provided for seniors who depend on oil for heating their homes.

"Seniors will now have the option of applying for the five cords of wood or 2,275 litres of oil, depending on which fuel is their principle source of home energy," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

The fuel policy was established to bridge the inequity related to fuel costs between seniors in their own homes and those residing in government-subsidized accommodation.

Seniors should contact their local Social Services office for details on how the policy will be administered.

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(403) 873-7455

or

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Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7615





91-064

Ballantyne Welcomes RCMP Contract Extension

YELLOWKNIFE (May 30) — Justice Minister Mike Ballantyne welcomes today's announcement of a one-year extension to the existing contract agreement for RCMP services in eight provinces and the territories.

"The extension gives us the chance to break the current deadlock in our negotiations with the federal government. We've got some strong points to make. Hopefully we'll find a solution that's acceptable to all parties by this time next year," he said.

Federal Solicitor General Doug Lewis announced the extension earlier today.

Mr. Ballantyne said the extension is needed in order to find ways to break the impasse that occurred when provinces and territories refused to accept a new federal cost sharing ratio. The ratio would have seen Ottawa's share of providing the federal police force, in eight provinces and two territories, drop from 30 to 25 per cent.

"It would have meant an additional expenditure of \$4 to \$5 million for the territorial government this year," he said. "Not only would it have been next to impossible to make up the difference, we are not convinced there is any justification for the new ratio."

The federal government has never submitted any argument to indicate that the current ratio is inappropriate, he added.

There are about 250 RCMP in the Northwest Territories serving the needs of 65 communities. The territorial government currently pays \$22 million a year for the service.

In addition to cost sharing arrangements, Mr. Ballantyne said he is also anxious to resume discussions on other matters relating to RCMP services.

These include proposed amendments to certain specific costs associated with the contract, such as accommodation allowances and pensions, as well as measures the RCMP can take to make themselves more accountable to the contracting provinces and territories.

Contact: Art Sorensen
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(403) 920-3310



News Release/Communiqué

91-065

Uqurmiut Centre Opens in Pangnirtung

YELLOWKNIFE (May 31) — Pangnirtung's Uqurmiut Inuit Artists Association will officially open its new Centre for Arts and Crafts today.

Attending the opening ceremonies that evening will be Tom Hockin, federal Minister of State for Small Businesses and Tourism, and Gordon Wray, territorial Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

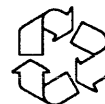
The 1,800 square metre facility will house the Pangnirtung Tapestry Studio, a retail gallery for arts and crafts, as well as meeting rooms and office space for the Uqurmiut Inuit Artists Association. Pangnirtung tapestries have an international reputation and are sold in major galleries across Canada and other countries.

The Uqurmiut Inuit Artists Association, founded by local artists in 1987, developed the plan for this centre two years ago. The artists association not only conceptualized the design idea, but also negotiated the necessary funding with the federal and territorial governments.

"A great many people have worked very hard to help build this new centre," explains Rosie Okpik, chairperson of the board of directors for the Uqurmiut Inuit Artists Association. "We invite all the people to come and join with us in celebrating this great occasion for the community of Pangnirtung."

Both the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada have made major financial contributions towards the construction and operating expenses of the Uqurmiut Centre.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism, with the Northwest Territories Development Corporation, has invested \$1.325 million in the construction and future operating costs of the new arts and crafts facility, and will play a significant role in the operation of the centre.



Uqqurmiut Centre Opens in Pangnirtung: Page 2

The Government of Canada contributed \$352,000 under the former Native Economic Development Program. The Native Economic Development Program, administered by Industry, Science and Technology, has been replaced with new aboriginal economic programs under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy.

The new arts and crafts facility is expected to provide direct and indirect employment to 160 local community members.

Contact: Craig Hall

Director, Arts and Crafts
Economic Development and Tourism
Government of the NWT
(403) 920-3182

or

Joanne Spanton

Aboriginal Economic Programs
Industry, Science and Technology Canada
Ottawa
(613) 954-4061





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-066

"No Water...No Wildlife"

YELLOWKNIFE (June 05) — The Department of Renewable Resources received nearly 1300 submissions to its annual NWT Wildlife Week Poster Contest this year.

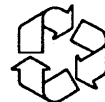
Thirty-eight schools participated, providing many children with the opportunity to think about wildlife, its significance to their community and the importance of maintaining prime wildlife habitat.

This year's theme, "Water: A Mainstream Issue for Wildlife," focused on promoting an appreciation of water as a vital component of wildlife habitat.

Mezi Community School in Lac La Martre was awarded recognition for high level of participation and quality of work submitted by its students. Awards for overall excellence in understanding and depicting the theme attractively and effectively are being presented to Grace Wheely's Grade 4 class at J.B. Tyrrell School in Fort Smith and Dana Aneliuna's class at Diamond Jenness School in Hay River. As well, 44 students have been singled out for Honourable Mentions.

The 10 first-prize winning students will receive a cheque for \$100. Their entries have been forwarded for judging in the national awards program sponsored by the Canadian Wildlife Federation. In past years, many NWT submissions have won recognition at the national level.

Contact: Cathy Stephenson
Conservation Education
Department of Renewable Resources
(403) 920-6402



winners 1991 wildlife week poster contest

NAME Willie MacDonald

AGE GRADE 8

TITLE "Water ... We Can't Live Without It, Protect Our Precious Resource"

SCHOOL Ataguttaaluk School

SCHOOL ADDRESS General Delivery

TOWN Igloolik, N.W.T. POSTAL CODE X0A 0L0

NAME Agnes Fabien

AGE 19 GRADE 12

TITLE "Water is Life"

SCHOOL Diamond Jenness School

SCHOOL ADDRESS Box 1246

TOWN Hay River, N.W.T. POSTAL CODE X0E 0R0

NAME Nicholas Cumming

AGE GRADE 4

TITLE "Every Drop Counts"

SCHOOL Nakasuk School

SCHOOL ADDRESS General Delivery

TOWN Iqaluit, N.W.T. POSTAL CODE X0A 0H0

NAME Donny Bidniak

AGE 13 GRADE 8

TITLE "Do You Want All Your Water Bottled? Save Our Rivers and Lakes!"

SCHOOL Diamond Jenness School

SCHOOL ADDRESS Box 1246

TOWN Hay River, N.W.T. POSTAL CODE X0E 0R0

NAME Jeffrey Qaunaq

AGE GRADE 5

TITLE "Some Animals Can't Run Away"

SCHOOL Umimmak School

SCHOOL ADDRESS General Delivery

TOWN Grise Fiord, N.W.T.

POSTAL CODE X0A 0J0

NAME Krista Arnault

AGE GRADE 2

TITLE "Clean Water Makes Happy Fish"

SCHOOL Princess Alexandra School

SCHOOL ADDRESS General Delivery

TOWN Hay River, N.W.T.

POSTAL CODE X0E 0R0

NAME Ashley Scarborough

AGE 7 GRADE 2

TITLE "Wildlife Survives in Clean Water"

SCHOOL Princess Alexandra School

SCHOOL ADDRESS General Delivery

TOWN Hay River, N.W.T.

POSTAL CODE X0E 0R0

NAME Ooloosie Judea

AGE GRADE 3

TITLE "Seals Are Happy In Clean Water"

SCHOOL Aqiggiq School

SCHOOL ADDRESS General Delivery

TOWN Lake Harbour, N.W.T.

POSTAL CODE X0A 0N0

NAME Jeanie Nichol

AGE 10

GRADE 4

TITLE "Water Brings New Life"

SCHOOL Territorial School

SCHOOL ADDRESS General Delivery

TOWN Norman Wells, N.W.T.

POSTAL CODE X0E 0V0

NAME Doris Thomas

AGE 16

GRADE 10

TITLE "Out of Mind (Water & Environment Today) ... Out of Sight
(Wildlife Tomorrow)"

SCHOOL Diamond Jenness School

SCHOOL ADDRESS Box 1246

TOWN Hay River, N.W.T.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-067

Hay River Student Awarded Pearson Scholarship

YELLOWKNIFE (June 6) - Cecilia Green of Hay River has been awarded the Lester B. Pearson College Scholarship for 1991/92, Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi announced today.

Ms. Green, who will graduate from Diamond Jenness Secondary School this month, will begin her two-year scholarship at Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific in Victoria, B.C., in the fall. Successful completion of the program will give her an International Baccalaureate, which provides admission to second-year studies at most universities around the world.

Lester B. Pearson College is a member of a network of United World Colleges in North America, Europe, Asia, Britain and Africa. As a United World College student, Ms. Green will join a student body made up of young people from around the world. While the colleges stress academic achievement, there is also a strong "outward bound" component and requirements for community service work.

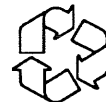
Ms. Green is the treasurer of the student council at her school, a member of the year book staff, a senior member the school's peer support team, and is the student council liaison for the Hay River Education Society. A musician who plays the piano, trumpet and recorder, she is a member of the senior band and the community choir, and has been an actress with the Hay River Drama Society for nine years. She is active in church, and has represented Hay River Roman Catholic youth at Diocesan Synod meetings. She has also participated on the school volleyball, basketball, cross-country running and track and field teams from Grades 7 to 12. In addition to all these activities, Ms. Green maintains an "A" average in her schoolwork.

An independent selection committee of northerners, including some who have attended United World Colleges, reviews applications and conducts interviews to recommend a candidate for the scholarship. The committee bases its recommendation on the student's academic achievement, community involvement, extracurricular activities and personal skills.

Other NWT students currently attending Lester B. Pearson College on scholarship are Stacey Anne Wood of Fort Simpson, who completes her program this year, and David Monchuk of Fort Smith, who is completing his first year.

Contact: Lorne Smith
Education Officer
Department of Education
(403) 873-7673

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-068

Constitutional Commission Established

YELLOWKNIFE (June 6) — A five-member commission has been selected to develop a constitutional proposal for the western Northwest Territories, Aboriginal and Constitutional Development Minister Stephen Kakfwi announced today.

The commission will be chaired by Jim Bourque, deputy minister of Renewable Resources, and includes former mayor of Sachs Harbour Les Carpenter, Yellowknife lawyer Richard Hardy, former chief Francois Paulette of Fort Smith and George Braden, deputy minister of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Both Mr. Bourque and Mr. Braden, a former government leader, are being seconded by the Territorial government to serve on the commission.

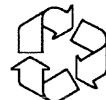
"Creation of the commission is vital to the constitutional evolution of the NWT," Mr. Kakfwi said. "Considerable progress was made in the 1980s, ending with the Iqaluit Agreement in January of 1987. Unfortunately, the momentum was lost when the land claims boundary separating the Inuit and the Dene/Metis could not be resolved."

The new initiative for constitutional development in the west was approved by the Legislative Assembly in April as an attempt to revitalize the process of constitutional development. Since then, an informal committee of western political leaders has met on several occasions to plan establishment of the commission and to identify suitable candidates to serve as commissioners.

Members of the committee included representatives of the Territorial government's Executive Council, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, the Metis Association of the NWT, the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the Sahtu Dene/Metis Council and the Dene Nation.

They finalized the commission's terms of reference and selected its members at a meeting last night in Yellowknife. The commission's terms of reference, budget and workplan are scheduled to be presented to the Legislature when it reconvenes June 25.

Contact: Art Sorensen
Press Secretary
(403) 920-3310



Victim Impact Statements To Be Introduced in Courts

YELLOWKNIFE (June 7) — The Department of Justice and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will be conducting a Victim Impact Statement pilot project in nine communities, Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne has announced.

"At the present time, there is no procedure to allow a victim to communicate directly to the court about the effects of the crime on him or her," said Mr. Ballantyne. "The victim impact statement will convey to victims the message that their views are of interest in the criminal justice system."

The objectives of the pilot project are to provide an opportunity for victims to participate in the court process and to tell the court how a crime has emotionally, physically and financially affected a victim.

The victim will be given the right to complete a victim impact statement soon after a charge has been laid against an accused person. Victim impact statements will be voluntary. They will describe the impact of the crime on the person, rather than the victim's opinion concerning the offender or sentencing. The statement will be filed in court and made available to the judge prior to sentencing of a convicted person.

The section in the Criminal Code of Canada dealing with pre-sentence reports was amended in 1988 to allow provinces and the territories to establish programs for the use of victim impact statements in sentencing proceedings.

In 1988, Mr. Ballantyne signed a "Statement of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime." This agreement, signed by all ministers responsible for criminal justice in Canada, promotes access to justice, fair treatment and provision of assistance for victims of crime.

One of the principles in the agreement states:

"Where the personal interests of the victim are affected, the views or concerns of the victim should be brought to the attention of the court, where appropriate and consistent with criminal law and procedure."

The pilot project will be carried out in Rae-Edzo, Coppermine, Hay River, Fort Resolution, Aklavik, Norman Wells, Rankin Inlet, Pond Inlet and Sanikiluaq. An evaluation will be conducted after 18 months and comments will be requested from the RCMP, courts, crown attorneys, probation officers and the defence bar, as well as from the communities and the public.

Contact: Lawrence Norbert
Coordinator, Victims Assistance Committee
Department of Justice
(403) 920-6911

or Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7615



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-070

Awards Honour Teachers and Others who Contribute to Education

YELLOWKNIFE (June 7) — The Department of Education has established two new awards to recognize outstanding teachers, as well as people outside the teaching profession who have made a significant contribution to education in the Northwest Territories, Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi announced today.

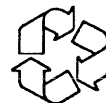
Information guides outlining the annual Excellence in Teaching Awards Program, as well as the Partners in Education Award of Excellence Program, have been mailed to schools and divisional boards of education across the Northwest Territories.

"The Northwest Territories has many dedicated people, both inside and outside the teaching profession, who make outstanding contributions to the education of our young people. Although their efforts have been greatly appreciated, these awards have been established to formally recognize their loyalty, skill and dedication," Mr. Kakfwi says.

Any certified teacher, principal, vice-principal, classroom assistant, teacher consultant or curriculum staff providing service to enhance the quality of education for students in NWT schools may be nominated to receive an Excellence in Teaching Award. Any adult member of the community may nominate a teacher, while senior high school students can nominate a high school teacher.

All nominations will be reviewed by the appropriate divisional board of education or school district. Teachers nominated who meet the selection criteria will receive a regional award, including a certificate and a pin. The nominations of the top three candidates from each region will be forwarded to the Department of Education for consideration by a review committee made up of representatives from the department, the NWT Teachers Association, the NWT Trustees Association, a Superintendent or Director of Education, and a parent. This committee will recommend to the Minister the names of people who deserve a territorial award, which will include the presentation of a certificate and plaque at an appropriate ceremony.

.../2



Awards Honour Teachers and Others who Contribute to Education: Page 2

The Partners in Education Award of Excellence Program is designed for salaried school staff, such as custodians, secretaries, teaching aides and bus drivers, as well as elders and other community members who volunteer their time to assist in education.

These nominations will follow the same review procedure as the teaching awards. All those nominated at the board level that meet the appropriate standard will receive a Partners in Education Award, Board Level, including a certificate and pin. The nominations of the top three candidates in each region will then be sent to Yellowknife, where they will be considered by a review committee made up of representatives from the Department of Education, the NWT Trustees Association, and a Superintendent or Director of Education. The committee will recommend to the Minister the names of people deserving a territorial award, which will include a certificate and a plaque presented at an appropriate ceremony.

Deadlines for nominations for each award is June 15.

Nomination packages are available from divisional board of education offices or school district offices.

Contact: **Lorne Smith**
Education Officer
Department of Education
(403) 873-7673



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-071

Declaration on Arctic Environment to be Signed

YELLOWKNIFE (June 11) — Minister of Renewable Resources Titus Allooloo will be attending a ceremony in Rovaniemi, Finland, where eight countries will sign a declaration to cooperate in protecting the Arctic environment.

The process leading to this ceremony began in Finland two years ago and is known as the Finnish Initiative. Mr. Allooloo will accompany Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Tom Siddon, who will sign the declaration on behalf of Canada.

During the past two years, officials of the eight Arctic countries have been meeting to develop the declaration. An Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy has also been developed. It is a call for action on environmental problems such as acidification, radioactivity, heavy metals and persistent organic contaminants.

The countries also plan to implement a coordinated Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program. Through this program, reports on the state of the Arctic environment will be prepared and pollutants in the Arctic will be monitored. The program will link into existing monitoring programs.

"The health of the Arctic environment is extremely important to the people of the Northwest Territories. We must do all we can to stop contaminants from entering the Northwest Territories," Mr. Allooloo said.

"Because of the Finnish Initiative, there is now international recognition of Arctic environmental problems. Our government will continue to work with Ottawa to promote actions designed to improve the Arctic environment".

Contact: Jim Bourque
Deputy Minister
Renewable Resources
(403) 873-7420







Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-072

Suicide Prevention Training Curriculum Development Project

YELLOWKNIFE (June 13)— The Department of Social Services and the Canadian Mental Health Association, Northwest Territories Division, have entered into an agreement to develop suicide prevention training curriculum suitable for the NWT.

The curriculum will be an integral part of the Government of the Northwest Territories strategy on suicide prevention, according to Social Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

"When completed and implemented, this kind of training for community caregivers will fill a major gap in the various efforts to help reduce the incidence of suicide and suicidal behaviour in the Northwest Territories."

Total cost of the joint project is estimated at \$163,900 and is scheduled to be completed by March 31, 1992.

The Muttart Foundation of Alberta has contributed one half of the cost with the Department of Social Services providing the balance.

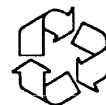
"The Muttart Foundation had indicated a desire to be involved in a number of critical social issues affecting the North. This project was viewed by the foundation as one with which it would very much like to be associated," Ms. Marie-Jewell noted.

A Joint Working Group has been established to oversee the project.

The group's membership includes representatives from the Canadian Mental Health Association, Northwest Territories Division, and the departments of Social Services, Education and Health. The Inuit Cultural Institute, the Dene Cultural Institute, the Metis Heritage Association and the Inuvialuit Social Development Program have also been invited to participate in the joint working group.

As well, the CMHA's Professional Advisory Committee will be involved in the project to review the various draft modules of the training curriculum. The committee will advise the joint working group on the cultural relevance, consistency, comprehensiveness and professional soundness of the modules as they are developed. A curriculum developer is to be hired on contract to develop and produce these materials.

Ms. Marie-Jewell explained that various individuals, who have been involved in delivering suicide prevention training in the NWT, will be asked to participate in a think tank on the issue. The think tank will assess current training methods and will share information and experience related to the delivery of suicide prevention training in the NWT.



Suicide Prevention Training Curriculum Development Project: Page 2

The curriculum will be designed to provide suicide prevention training for community and regional caregivers, both lay and professional.

Comprehensive in nature, it will cover such topics as prevention measures, attitudes, statistics, early identification, crisis intervention, bereavement counselling, treatment, and ongoing care. Special attention will also be given to issues that relate to youth and suicide as well as the regional variations in culture, language and tradition. At the present time, there is no comprehensive training program for suicide prevention being offered in the NWT that is tailored to meet these special needs of the North.

The training program is scheduled to begin during the fall of 1992. The details concerning who will have access to the training, the costs involved, the location of training events, the qualifications and screening of participants and other logistical details will be available in early 1992.

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Executive Director
Canadian Mental Health Association
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or

Angus Mackay
Coordinator
Suicide Prevention
Alcohol, Drugs and Community Mental Health Services
Department of Social Services
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-073

Resource Books tell Story of the People of the Sahtu

YELLOWKNIFE (June 18) — "In the morning when I wake up, I feel just great. In the old days at this time of the day, at the breaking of dawn, no one was still asleep. The air was filled with happiness. Even the old men would yell, it was so beautiful."

"I really love it here in these mountains. When I am away from them I look back and when the sun shines on the mountains, I am filled with longing. I feel that everything that makes me Sahtuotine is here calling to me."

Gabe Etchinelle speaks eloquently of the joys he recalls living in the traditional way. This reflection is taken from *Sahtuotine of Long Ago*, a two-volume set of books written in North Slavey and English, recently released by the Department of Education. Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi presented it to the elders of Fort Franklin during a recent ceremony.

"The elders define the world view which makes the Dene unique," says Mr. Kakfwi. "*Sahtuotine of Long Ago* tells the elders' stories of traditional Dene customs and practices, including hunting and gathering, use of plants, camp life, travel and recreation in their own words."

The illustrated collection of stories about the Sahtuotine, or people of the Sahtu region, will be used as a resource for students in Grades 7 to 9.

The two books were developed in response to concern expressed by many Dene that the older ways of teaching their children about their native languages, beliefs and values were not keeping pace in a world based on the written word. A group of Dene educators, coordinated by Fibbie Tatti, undertook the project. Faced with the challenge of developing an appropriate resource, the group turned to the elders for direction, feeling they were the people with the right and the ability to make the required decisions.

The elders not only chose the concepts for the books, they also developed them. The books tell their stories -- stories that tell who the Dene are as a people, their history and their beliefs.

"Consultation and close work with the elders were key to developing this important resource," Mr. Kakfwi says. "The approach taken with these books can easily be used to develop culturally relevant material in all other language groups."

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Slavey Language Project Coordinator
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Press Information

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91-074

Funding Support Provided to NWT Artists

YELLOWKNIFE (June 18) — Twenty-one artists will receive funding from the Government of the Northwest Territories to pursue a wide range of cultural activities promoting the arts, says Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo.

Applications for funding were screened by the six-member NWT Arts Council during its first sitting of the year. The council receives applications from northern artists and makes recommendations to the Minister on financial awards.

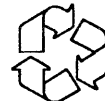
"This year's applications have shown the diversity of artistic talent present in the Northwest Territories. I'm happy to be able to support them through this program of financial assistance," says Mr. Allooloo.

This year's recipients include carvers, writers, painters, musicians, dancers and theatre and television groups from across the Northwest Territories.

They include the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre which was awarded \$10,000 to present a series of workshops on techniques in native theatre featuring the Igloodik Drama group. As well, Simon Quassa received \$8,400 to produce a traditional kayak expedition video and Lyn Atwood received \$7,500 to produce a Dogrib gospel album.

Other groups and individuals to receive funding are: the NWT Television Society, Jamie Bastedo, Great Northern Arts Festival, Lindsay Ann Cooke, Tommy Thrasher, Gaston Saravanja, Ike Angotautok, Arctic College, Holman Community Education Council, Sandy Wilson, NWT Piano Teachers, Celina Iyyiraq, Bertha Norwegian, Inuvik Choral and Theatrical Society, Inuvik Native Band, Night Sun and Carl Harrison.

Contact: Peter Cullen
Arts Liaison Coordinator
GNWT Culture and Communications
(403) 920-3103



GNWT and Chamber Sign Agreement

YELLOWKNIFE (June 19) — Economic Development and Tourism Minister Gordon Wray and NWT Chamber of Mines President Mike Magrum signed a memorandum of understanding today that commits both parties to work towards increasing industry purchases in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Wray also announced his department will be providing \$50,000 to assist the Chamber in carrying out various initiatives to promote economic development opportunities in the mining sector.

"Mining and exploration are very important to the territories and to northern business. Every year, the industry buys over \$50 million in goods and services," he said. "Of this amount, we have identified over \$20 million in northern business opportunities."

Service opportunities range from provision of accounting and engineering services to janitorial and cleaning contracts. Products purchased by industry are equally diverse. They range from sleeping supplies and bedding to vehicles and earth moving equipment.

"Exploration companies and operating mines would buy northern products and services more often if only northern suppliers knocked on their doors," says Mr. Wray. "Only twenty in a hundred suppliers visiting mining exploration companies in search of business are northerners."

A number of initiatives in the memorandum of understanding are designed to improve the situation.

They include a trade show where buyers and sellers can get together. The show will allow supplier from across the territories to establish displays or to meet purchasing agents from mining and exploration companies.

In addition, both parties have agreed to develop a business opportunities booklet that will provide basic information on mining and exploration purchases in order to help businesses identify and take advantage of opportunities. As well, the department and chamber will develop a directory of northern suppliers designed to help purchasing agents to more easily identify northern firms.

Mr. Wray said both parties realize that many mining executives feel northern businesses make few attempts to learn about the industry or its needs, while many NWT businesses feel the industry could do a better job informing themselves on new developments.

To improve communication links, the chamber will be expanding its newsletter and encouraging more northern businesses to join.

Contact: Dan Westman
Head, Business Research
Economic Development and Tourism
(403) 873-7390





Hazard Alert

Department of Safety & Public Services • Government of the Northwest Territories •
June 25, 1991

PRODUCT: GE DRIP COFFEE MAKERS

In April, General Electric Canada Inc. announced the voluntary recall of certain GE brand drip coffee makers manufactured before April, 1984. The company says a potential fire hazard may occur when a purchased thermal fuse in the coffee maker fails to function as intended.

The following coffee maker model numbers are involved in the recall: DC200(A,B,C,D and E); DC360 A; DC600 (A,B and C); DC300 A; DC400 A; DC350 A; and DC500 (A,B,C,D and E). Approximately 800,000 drip coffee makers bearing the GE name were manufactured in Canada between 1976 and 1984. GE Canada stopped making coffee makers in April 1984 with the sale of its small appliance business.

Owners of a GE brand drip coffee maker are asked to read both the model number and the date code stamped on the bottom of the unit. If the date code is after or higher than 84-04, the coffee maker is not involved. Space Maker drip coffee makers and percolators are not being recalled.

There have been reports of a number of failures of drip coffee makers in Canada, but no serious fires or injuries. The recalled coffee makers are not repairable, and owners should unplug the units and stop using them immediately.

GE Canada is offering owners \$10 for each recalled unit returned. A \$10 cheque will be mailed when the unit is received by GE Canada. GE will give customers with recalled coffee makers pre-paid mailing cartons, containing instructions on how to arrange for free pick-up by a courier.

If you have one of the coffee makers that is being recalled, call toll free 1-800-328-3462.

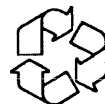
PRODUCT: UNCERTIFIED SANDWICH MAKERS

The Canadian Standards Association and Ontario Hydro are advising consumers to immediately stop using the "Super Snacker" sandwich maker and other sandwich makers that do not bear the CSA Certification Mark.

Tests by the association, conducted at the request of Ontario Hydro and as a result of the number of field failures reported, confirm that many uncertified sandwich makers are both a fire and a shock hazard.

.../2

Bill Burr, Chief Electrical Inspector • Department of Safety and Public Services
Government of the Northwest Territories
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PRODUCT: UNCERTIFIED SANDWICH MAKERS: Page 2

If you are ordering such a product by telephone or mail, specify that it must be CSA certified. If it doesn't have the certification mark, send it back to the dealer. Various brands of these sandwich makers are being advertised by mail order distributors in television commercials, flyers and newspaper ads.

PRODUCT: GARAGE DOOR OPENERS

Stanley Home Automation, a division of Stanley Canada Inc., and the Canadian Standards Association, are warning owners of certain **Stanley garage door openers** to stop using them immediately because they pose a potential entrapment hazard.

Investigation revealed that the printed circuit boards in these garage door openers may fail and cause the opener to perform in an unsafe manner. The unit may start on its own, and operate the door "up" or door "down" uncontrolled, with no reversing safety features. This behaviour in the downward motion represents the most hazardous situation. Door motion cannot be stopped by pressing the mounted pushbutton or remote control button, and leaves all safety systems inoperable. These products could cause serious injury or death, if entrapment occurs.

The garage door openers included in the recall are:
Models: 320, 440, 570, 860, 5400, 6200, 6700, 8500, 9000, 9600.

Any of these garage door openers with a date code "91 04 1" through to "91 15 5," which represent year, week and day of manufacture, marked on the nameplate located on the power head, are included in the recall. Please note garage door openers with a seven digit serial number are not affected by the recall.

Stanley Home Automation will replace or repair any recalled garage door opener. For instructions on replacement, contact Stanley Home Automation's hotline number: 1-800-323-2013.





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-076

Child Support Paper Released

YELLOWKNIFE (June 25) — The Department of Justice is participating in a nation-wide review of child support systems and is asking northerners for their comments, according to Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne.

A discussion paper prepared by the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Family Law Committee is being sent to about 100 organizations in the Northwest Territories.

"Child Support: Public Discussion Paper" is the first of two reports being released by the committee. It invites people to review the need for changes to the current child support law and to examine alternatives.

Major problems relating to current child support awards in Canada include: inconsistency between awards, inadequacy of the amounts, and inequity of the system, states the discussion paper, which was printed by the federal Department of Justice.

The federal government is responsible for child support legislation and for orders under the *Divorce Act*, although provinces and territories have jurisdiction in cases of separation, for children of common law relationships, and in paternity cases.

"The committee has started to inform the public of existing problems with child support upon family breakdown. Hopefully, northern residents, particularly those who are receiving or are paying child support, will respond to the discussion paper," Mr. Ballantyne said.

"Any standard guidelines that are developed must recognize northern concerns such as the high cost of living and alternatives to monetary support in aboriginal families. This is being looked at by our own Family Law Review Committee," he added.

Copies of the discussion paper, in English or French, are available from Cheryl Walker, chair of the Territorial Family Law Review Committee, or vice chair Sue Heron Herbert, at P.O. Box 1320, 4th Floor Courthouse, Department of Justice, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9. Telephone: (403) 873-7466. Written comments should also be forwarded to the above location.

Another report, scheduled to be released for public comment this October, will outline the economic implications of child support, such as economic data and the application of various support guideline models.

Contact: Cheryl Walker
Chair, Territorial Family Law Review Committee
Dept. of Justice, Government of the NWT
(403) 873-7466

or Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs Officer
Dept. of the Executive
(403) 873-7615

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Press Information

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91-077

Skeletal Remains Return to the NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (June 25) — Skeletal remains removed by Danish scientists from eastern arctic archaeological sites in the 1920's are on their way back to the NWT, Minister of Culture and Communications Titus Allooloo said today.

Mr. Allooloo met with officials of the Danish National Museum and the Panum Institute early last week in Copenhagen to officially receive the remains of about 27 Inuit which had been stored in various institutions in Denmark.

Negotiations with Danish authorities began about a year ago when the issue of the skeletal remains was raised in the Legislature along with a request to have them brought back to the Territories.

"The level of cooperation received from the Danish officials was excellent throughout the negotiations. I'm pleased the remains will be returned to their proper resting place," says Mr. Allooloo.

Joining the minister in Copenhagen were Peter Ernerk, MLA Aivilik, Ludy Pudluk, MLA High Arctic, and John Ningark, MLA Natilikmiot.

The remains are due to arrive in Yellowknife this week and will be kept in the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre until arrangements have been made for reburial in the Eastern Arctic. Community officials will be consulted to determine the most appropriate reburial site.

Contact: **Charles Arnold**
Assistant Director, Historic Resources
Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre
(403) 920-8839





Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

June 25, 1991

The following contracts have been awarded under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea. For information purposes, the names of the responsible ministers and the local MLA are listed at the start of each project announcement.

Project: Wrigley Parking Garage
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Nick Sibbeston, MLA Nahendeh

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **O'Rourke Construction Ltd** of Fort Simpson, to construct a two-bay parking garage in the community of **Wrigley**. The value of the contract is \$247,671.

The general contractor has subcontracted a local company, **Cap Mountain Ventures** of Wrigley, to haul gravel and perform the site work. The general contractor has also subcontracted two Northern companies, **Kiwi Electrical Ltd** of Fort Simpson for the electrical work and **Doug's Mechanical** of Fort Simpson for the mechanical work. In addition, the contractor has subcontracted **Igloo Building Supplies** from Hay River to supply the building materials for this project.

The site work will begin in June, 1991 and construction of the building is scheduled to start in August, after the materials arrive by barge, and be completed by November, 1991.

Project: Arviat School Additions/Renovations
Minister: Stephen Kakfwi, Department of Education
MLA: Gordon Wray, MLA Kivallivik

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **PCL Constructors Northern Inc** of Yellowknife, to add classrooms and renovate the school in the community of **Arviat**. The value of the contract is \$2,904,095.

The contractor will build 4 new classrooms and renovate the interior of the existing school including the installation of a new floor, new windows, partition walls and wood siding on the existing facility. These renovations will provide an opportunity to maximize the local labour component on this project.

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The general contractor has subcontracted **Inuvik Carpets & Interiors Ltd** of Inuvik to install the flooring and **Narwhal Plumbing and Heating** of Iqaluit for the mechanical work. The general contractor has also subcontracted **Trans Arctic Electrical and Controls** from Yellowknife for the electrical and **Rainbow Holdings Ltd** of Yellowknife for the painting.

The sitework will begin this month and construction of the building is scheduled to begin immediately after the arrival of materials by sealift in July, 1991, and be completed by May, 1992.

Project: Fort McPherson water and sewage system
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Richard Nerysoo, MLA Mackenzie Delta

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **R.T.L.- Robnson Enterprise Ltd** of Yellowknife, to construct a new water and sewage buried piping system in **Fort McPherson**. The value of this contract is \$790,409.

The contractor will construct a new system to replace a portion of the existing utilidor. The removal and disposal of the existing pipes will help maximize the local labour component in this contract.

The new system is part of a multi-year project which will eventually see replacement of both the existing water supply distribution system and the sewage disposal system for the community. The new system will include 4 additional access vaults, new insulated pipes and it will reconnect all existing services which are in the construction stage.

Construction is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of materials in July and is expected to be completed by the end of September, 1991.

Project: Fort Norman Community Hall/Arena
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Stephen Kakiwi, MLA Sahtu

A contract has been awarded to **A.T.A. Construction Ltd** of Norman Wells, to construct a community hall and complete the arena interior in **Fort Norman**. The value of this contract is \$1,076,689.

The wood-framed community hall will provide the opportunity to maximize the local labour component of the project. This is in addition to the local employment opportunities associated with the completion of the interior work for the arena and curling rink.

The completed facility will include a kitchen for community use, spectator seating for curling as well as skating events, storage rooms and an office for the facility manager.

Construction is scheduled to start after the arrival of materials by barge in June and is expected to be completed by December, 1991.

Project: Iqaluit/Baffin Vehicle Maintenance
Minister: Nelle Cournoyea, Department of Public Works
MLA: Dennis Patterson, MLA Iqaluit

A contract has been awarded to **Iqaluit Garage Ltd** of Iqaluit to perform all the maintenance and repairs required on GNWT vehicles in that community as well as in various communities in the **Baffin Region**. This three-year contract is valued at \$1,068,000.

The contractor will do regular maintenance checks, required repairs, body work and provide towing services for GNWT vehicles and heavy equipment in Iqaluit. The contractor will also be travelling to other Baffin communities on a regular basis to perform repair and maintenance services on government vehicles and equipment.

The contract will start immediately and is in effect until March, 1994.

Project: Resolute Bay Maintenance and Parking Garage
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Ludy Pudluk, MLA High Arctic

A contract has been awarded to **Hearn Stratton Construction** for the construction of a three bay maintenance and parking garage in **Resolute Bay**. The value of this contract is \$515,720.

The contractor will erect a prefabricated metal structure on a concrete pad. The general contractor has subcontracted a local contractor, **Kheraj Enterprises Ltd** of Resolute Bay, for the majority of the work.

The garage will be used by the Hamlet of Resolute Bay for the maintenance and parking of Hamlet vehicles and heavy equipment.

Construction is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of material by sealift in August, 1991 and is expected to be completed by December, 1991.

Project: Igloolik Arena/Curling Rink
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Titus Allooooloo, MLA Pond Inlet

A contract has been awarded to a joint venture consisting of two companies from Gjoa Haven, **Okkuk (1986) Ltd** and **Honco Inc**, for the completion of interior work for the arena and curling rink in **Igloolik**. The value of the contract is \$914,000.

The contractor will construct a support module, the arena and the two sheet curling rink inside the shell previously completed by **Harpe Contracting Ltd** of Yellowknife under another contract.

In addition to the arena and curling rink, the support module will contain a kitchen, washrooms, change rooms and the arena office.

Construction is scheduled to start in September and be completed by December, 1991.

Project: Whale Cove School
Minister: Stephen Kakfawi, Department of Education
MLA: Gordon Wray, MLA Kivallivik

A contract has been awarded to **Clark-Bowler Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct a school in the community of **Whale Cove**. The value of the contract is \$2,413,154.

The contractor will build a school which will contain 8 classrooms, including industrial arts and home economics classrooms. The school will also include a teachers lounge. In addition, a heated walkway will be built from the school to the existing community hall. The school will be wood framed in order to maximize the possibility of using local labour on this project.

The general contractor has subcontracted **Canadrill Ltd** of Iqaluit to do the steel piling for the foundation. **Rainbow Holdings Ltd.** of Yellowknife have also been subcontracted to do the painting.

Construction is scheduled to start in July, depending on the arrival of materials by sealift, and be completed by February, 1992.



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-078

Soviet Delegates to Visit NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (June 28) — A delegation of Soviet dignitaries from Yakut-Sakha SSR (Yakutia) will be visiting the Northwest Territories, July 2 - 9, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of the Northwest Territories, Government Leader Dennis Patterson said today.

Mr. Patterson said the memorandum will serve as an essential starting point for helping northern businesses establish joint ventures in the Yakut-Sakha SSR.

It will also help in the formation of economic ties between both regions, especially in the export of Northwest Territories expertise, products and services, he noted.

Specifically, the memorandum will encourage the exchange of experience and achievements in economic development, northern construction and town planning, the protection of the northern environment, the preservation and development of traditional ways of life and the cultures of northern indigenous people.

Mikhail Nikolaev, Chairman (President) of Yakut-Sakha SSR, along with three senior Yakut officials will tour various industrial, civic, education and medical facilities in Yellowknife, Hay River and Lac La Martre before signing the memorandum of understanding.

Once signed, the memorandum will become part of the Canada/USSR Arctic Cooperation Agreement.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-079

Sports Camp Pilot Project Begins in Coppermine

YELLOWKNIFE (June 28) — Young people from across the Kitikmeot region are being invited to participate in a sports camp pilot project in Coppermine, June 19 to August 16, according to Minister Responsible for Youth Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

The Northern Fly-In Sports Camp is a program developed by the University of Manitoba to provide isolated communities with diverse, high quality recreational, educational programs for children of all ages, as well as provide leadership training and development opportunities for youth.

"This program reaches out to a large number of children, and it channels their energies into fun and positive learning experiences," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

A number of territorial government departments are providing financial and other assistance for the project, including the Youth Initiatives Program of the Department of Social Services, the Department of the Executive, the Department of Health, and the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, Sport and Recreation Division.

Other organizations supporting the project include the RCMP, the People in Action Program, the hamlets of Coppermine and Gjoa Haven, NWT Air, Ptarmigan Airways and First Air, the municipality of Iqaluit, the University of Manitoba, Northern Stores and the Co-op in Coppermine, and Echo Bay Mines.

About 350 children and youth are expected to participate in the six components of the program: sports, outdoor education, creative arts, traditional activities, aquatics and special events. The program will be developed and taught by a combined team of northern youth hired from the community in cooperation with a team of skilled instructor/trainers sent to Coppermine by the Northern Fly-In Sports Camp program.

"A recreational program such as this one helps young people build their self-confidence, job experience and leadership skills," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

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News Release/Communiqué

91-080

\$38.5 Million Cooperation Agreement Signed

YELLOWKNIFE (July 3, 1991) - A five-year \$38.5 million Economic Development Cooperation Agreement has been signed by Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Gordon Wray, territorial Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Based on a framework Agreement, signed last February, the joint Canada-Northwest Territories Cooperation Agreement provides funding for initiatives in the areas of: fine arts, crafts and souvenirs; cultural industries; community sponsored development; minerals; agriculture; wildlife harvesting and fisheries. Funding of the agreement will be cost-shared, with the federal government providing 70 per cent and the territorial government providing 30 per cent.

Mr. Siddon noted the final agreement has been reached after extensive consultations in the Northwest Territories and that he is satisfied the Cooperation Agreement "will provide northerners with opportunities to develop viable economic ventures."

Mr. Wray agreed:

"The Agreement will enable the NWT and Canada to work towards achieving a self-supporting, economically stable Northwest Territories by promoting balanced economic growth," he said.

Tom Hockin, Minister of State for Small Business and Tourism, who attended the signing ceremony today in Yellowknife on behalf of Mr. Siddon, explained the agreement supports sound economic principles and environmental responsibility and demonstrates the federal government's commitment to sustainable development and northern self-sufficiency.

Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement will begin immediately.

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Propane Awareness Campaign Launched

YELLOWKNIFE (July 3) — The Department of Safety and Public Services wants to see an end to the number of propane-related deaths and injuries in the Northwest Territories, says Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

An eye-catching poster, a five-page booklet, labels, and a video are being distributed to encourage people to use and store propane safely.

Two children died and three others were injured last year in Cambridge Bay after sniffing propane and lighting a cigarette and a propane explosion left three men severely burned in Baker Lake. In addition, two men were severely injured in Broughton Island, and one youth was burned in Iqaluit.

Earlier this month, four adults were severely injured in Arviat. The victims had been sniffing propane and then lit cigarettes.

"What's so alarming about the statistics is that this problem didn't exist two years ago. If we can educate people now, we can stop the problem from spreading," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

The five-page cylinder-shaped booklet, prepared in English and Inuktitut, explains how to fill, transport, store and use propane cylinders safely. Four thousand copies of the bright yellow booklets have been printed and are being sent to every mayor in the territory, plus hamlet offices, school principals and fire chiefs or fire departments in every community.

The black, red and white poster features a skeletal figure hovering over a propane tank, with the words "Don't Make Propane Your Last Breath" printed across the bottom. The poster is purposely bold and frightening to emphasize that sniffing propane can be deadly.

With the cooperation of all propane distributors in the NWT, labels are being attached to propane cylinders warning that they should not be exposed to heat or flame because they may catch fire or explode. The labels also state that inhaling the vapours is dangerous, that the liquid will burn skin, and that the cylinders should only be used in well-ventilated areas.

The 30-minute video, which is being prepared by the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, will be released to all schools in the Northwest Territories later this summer.

The Department of Safety and Public Services is also drafting regulations under the Fire Prevention Act to specifically cover the storage and handling of propane.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-082

Teacher Education Program has Successful First Year

YELLOWKNIFE (July 3) — The Kw'atindee Bino Community Teacher Education Program in Edzo has met with a number of successes during the past school year, says Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi.

The pilot project was established last fall in response to the needs of various language groups in the western Arctic. It provides an alternative for Dogrib people who want to be teachers but who have family and community commitments, and are reluctant to move too far away from home for training.

The program is named after Chief Jimmy Bruneau, whose Dogrib name was Kw'atindee Bino. He had long ago envisioned a school for his people which would be run by the Dogrib, and where children would learn their traditional culture and skills, as well as those of non-native society.

Although the program is two years long, the first group of student teachers will graduate this June.

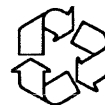
"The four students who will graduate this year had been taking the teacher education program at Arctic College's Thebacha Campus. For a variety of reasons, they had all planned to leave the program last year. However, the pilot project in Edzo not only allowed them to finish their training, but to do it in their home community," Mr. Kakfwi says.

The program is unique, because it emphasizes on-the-job training. The student teachers work in groups of three in the primary classrooms in Chief Jimmy Bruneau School. An instructor helps them plan lessons, shows them how to integrate ideas from various subjects and encourages them to design activities that are culturally relevant to the students. Afterwards, the instructor and the interns evaluate the lessons. The student teachers learn from each other, and the immediate feedback allows them to focus on any areas where they may be having problems.

"One of the benefits of this program is the fact that graduates are extremely comfortable in the classroom," Mr. Kakfwi says. "Teachers trained in a university have far less time working with students, and have to take some time to adjust to life in the classroom when they start teaching."

The trainees also spend a good deal of time learning counselling and parenting strategies. One of the philosophies of the program is that the school should be a centre for child advocacy. The graduates will leave the program prepared to help the students and their families deal with the stresses of their lives.

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Teacher Education Program has Successful First Year: Page 2

Another key element of the program is the integration of aboriginal culture and language in the classroom. Since the interns share the same cultural background as their students, they can ensure that subjects are taught in a way that builds on the students' previous experience and is appropriate to their culture and beliefs.

One of the indications of the program's success is the improved attendance of children who are in the trainees' classes. Parents are also pleased with the trainees' work.

"The Dogrib Divisional Board of Education has received a number of positive comments from parents," Mr. Kakfwi says. "Many say that for the first time, they felt they could speak to their children's teacher -- and that they could do it in Dogrib. The trainees also spend a good deal of time in the students' homes, discussing their progress with the parents."

The program got an additional boost last September, when UNESCO recognized the project as an official activity in the World Decade for Cultural Development.

"The program has other practical benefits," Mr. Kakfwi says. "The four TEP graduates, as well as one who finished the course in Fort Smith, already have housing in the community. Since finding housing for teachers from outside the community is a problem in many communities, training local people is a viable solution."

The Kw'atindee Bino Community Teacher Education Program is a joint project of Arctic College, the Department of Education, and the Dogrib Divisional Board of Education.

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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-083

Aboriginal Affairs Initiative Announced

YELLOWKNIFE (July 5) — The territorial government will host a meeting of senior provincial and territorial officials in Yellowknife July 9 and 10 to prepare for a conference of ministers responsible for aboriginal affairs.

Aboriginal and Constitutional Development Minister Stephen Kakfwi said today there is agreement from the provinces and the Yukon that a conference should be held in Toronto later this year.

Mr. Kakfwi told the Legislature that meetings of officials and ministers cannot be expected to resolve all of the outstanding issues facing aboriginal Canadians.

"Regardless, we must have a forum where national, provincial and territorial aboriginal leaders can meet and talk with responsible ministers and officials from the various levels of government," he said.

"This is what has been missing since the collapse of constitutional talks on aboriginal rights matters in 1987."

Mr. Kakfwi said he wrote to Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Tom Siddon to encourage the federal government to initiate the inter-governmental talks on aboriginal rights issues. The federal minister replied that Ottawa was not prepared to convene a conference of ministers in the foreseeable future.

"Given this response, I wrote to my provincial and territorial counterparts recommending we proceed without the federal government," he stated.

Mr. Kakfwi said he expects the initiative will result in establishing the kind of productive relationships, creative environment and political will that is necessary to restart the process of addressing outstanding aboriginal issues in Canada.

"We must use all avenues and opportunities available to establish and maintain a high and effective profile for aboriginal issues on the national agenda," he explained.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-084

Phillip Lafferty Wins NWT Fitweek Prize

YELLOWKNIFE (July 5) - Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Tom Butters presented 91-year-old Phillip Lafferty with a comfortable new chair today for winning the NWT Sneaker Day draw.

"I'm delighted to present Mr. Lafferty with a prize he will use, and encourage all northerners to follow his example and be active every day of the year," says Mr. Butters.

Mr. Lafferty, a resident of the Aven Seniors' Centre in Yellowknife, participated in various chair exercises during Canada's Fitweek May 24 to June 6.

More than 25,000 people in the Northwest Territories participated in Fitweek.

Mr. Lafferty's name was entered into a draw for a NWT prize. The NWT winner was selected in Ottawa from all the NWT entries. Participants' names were also entered into a draw for a national prize of air tickets for two across Canada. The national prize winner was student Mary-Rose Dufour of Rivière Pentecôte, Québec.

Mr. Lafferty was born in Fort Rae and lived there until 1941. He married in 1929 and has 11 children. Mr. Lafferty hunted, trapped and fished to support his family. He moved his family to Yellowknife in 1941 and built a house on Latham Island. He ran a ferry service for the men who worked at Con and Negus mines. He later worked as a labourer at Giant Yellowknife Mines.

Mr. Lafferty and his wife Mary moved to Edmonton in 1974, where they lived for 12 years, then moved to Edzo in 1986. In 1987, Mr. Lafferty moved to the Aven Seniors' Centre.

Mr. Lafferty enjoys listening to country music, fiddling, sitting outside and group outings on nice days.

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Press Information

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91-085

Tunuuniq Theatre Completes Successful Tour of Greenland

YELLOWKNIFE (July 8) — *Tunuuniq Theatre* of Pond Inlet has successfully completed a twenty-five day tour of Greenland as part of a cooperation program between the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Greenland Home-rule Government, Titus Allooloo, Minister of Culture and Communications said today.

The cast of four received rave reviews for their 18 performances along the southern coast of Greenland and in the 11 northern communities they visited during the tour.

The 45 minute performance, *Changes*, captured the attention of audiences, taking them on a journey through the cultural changes of the Inuit from traditional to modern times.

"The tour was a great success and learning experiences for our group," says David Qamaniq of *Tunuuniq Theatre*. "We hope to be a part of many more exchanges with different groups and countries."

"Exchanges such as these provide us with the opportunity to communicate, through artistic pursuits, the similarities and differences between the Inuit cultures of the Northwest Territories and Greenland," says Mr. Allooloo.

As part of the cooperation program, Greenland's *Silmaiut* will begin touring the NWT on July 16.

"I am pleased to hear that *Tunuuniq Theatre* received such a warm reception from the people of Greenland and look forward to the arrival of *Silamiut*," says Mr. Allooloo.

Presently, three members of *Tunuuniq Theatre* are participating in an International Cultural Camp in Greenland.

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91-086

Suicide Prevention Strategy Released

YELLOWKNIFE (July 8) — The territorial government's Suicide Prevention Strategy provides a foundation for communities and regions to develop their own suicide prevention plans, says Social Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell .

"This strategy gives northerners some ideas for working together to prevent the tragic problem of suicides and attempted suicides," she says. The rate of known suicides in the NWT over the last 10 years is two and a half times the national average. Among Inuit in the Eastern Arctic, the rate of known suicides is four times the national average.

The strategy emphasizes the need for inter-agency cooperation in all areas of suicide prevention, including research, training, public information, mental health promotion, identification of potential suicides, crisis intervention and treatment.

"A vital element in this strategy is the promotion of individual and community involvement and responsibility," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

To help communities develop inter-agency networks, the department is creating two pilot projects - one each in the eastern and western arctic. Experience gained from those projects will be used in the development of other networks.

The strategy also calls for the establishment of uniform training programs which are culturally relevant to meet the needs of professionals, parents, young people and other "front line" people in the communities. Entire communities can be trained in the areas of early identification and crisis intervention to be able to identify potential suicides and intervene effectively.

Youth need to become involved in preventative initiatives, the strategy recommends. Young people between the ages of 15 and 24 can be at high risk for suicide, so they need to become directly involved in developing programs to address suicide and suicidal behaviour.

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Suicide Prevention Strategy Released: Page 2

Mental health promotion is also an important component of the strategy. This would include promoting the importance of learning and developing personal resources necessary to cope with daily stresses.

The strategy also calls for more focused research into factors that contribute to suicide and suicidal behaviour in the NWT. Such research will help caregivers in their work at the community level.

The Minister notes that the strategy is flexible and will need to be modified as more information is obtained about the causes of suicide and measures which can be taken to prevent suicides.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-087

Greenlandic Theatre Group Tours NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (July 8) — A theatre group from Greenland, that delighted audiences during the Arctic Winter Games in 1989, is returning to the Northwest Territories this month, Titus Allooloo, Minister of Culture and Communications said today.

Silamiut features eight Greenlandic-Inuit musicians, dancers, and actors. The group will present workshops and presentations in Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, Rankin Inlet, Rae and Yellowknife, with local organizations in each community hosting the company.

The tour, beginning July 16 in Iqaluit, is funded and organized by the Department of Culture and Communications, with special assistance for the Pangnirtung portion provided by First Air.

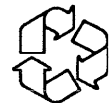
Silamiut's tour is the result of a cooperation program established in 1989 between the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Greenland Home Rule Government. Under the program, Tunuuniq Theatre of Pond Inlet represented the NWT on a tour of Greenland during May-June 1991.

During its tour of the NWT, *Silamiut* will be performing selections from its varied repertoire which reflects the strong influence of modern European theatre but remains based on Greenlandic Inuit history and culture.

One of their crowd-pleasing works is called *Uaajeerneq*. It centers on a traditional Greenlandic mask dance. While telling the story of *Uaajeernaq*, a performer prepares his make-up for a modern version of this frightening dance. He is then joined by other dancers for a scary romp through the audience. *Silamiut* will be giving workshops in the NWT on the make-up and dance techniques used in the mask dance.

The group's other works include *Tupilak*, *Arferup Tarninga*, *Zik-Zak*, and *Musik*. The latter is a collection of Greenlandic folk songs. *Tupilak*, meanwhile, is a 30-minute piece for adult audiences. It's the story of a sorcerer who conjures up trolls to kill an enemy. *Arferup Tarninga*, The Soul of the Whale and Its Burning Heart, is the tragic story of a

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Greenlandic Theatre Group Tours NWT: Page 2

raven, a whale and a girl. *Zik-Zak* is a lively piece about the zany adventure of two clowns. It is ideally suited for children between the ages of three to six.

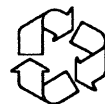
"This tour will help build stronger cultural ties with Greenland and foster further artistic and cultural exchanges among northern people," says Mr. Allooloo.

"Live theatre such as this is an art form that closely relates to the oral traditions of northern native people. *Silamiut's* tour will provide a rare opportunity to see an exciting and unusual theatre presentation," Mr. Allooloo says.

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Press Information

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91-088

Countess Mountbatten Unveils Sculpture

YELLOWKNIFE (July 9) — A sculpture created by Dolphus Cadieux was unveiled at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre Friday by the Countess Mountbatten of Burma, said Titus Allooloo, Minister of Culture and Communications.

Dolphus Cadieux, commissioned by the Royal Canadian Academy of Artists, created *Winged Spirit* to commemorate the contributions aboriginal people have made to exploration and flight in the Northwest Territories.

"The aboriginal people played an important role in the development of aviation and exploration in the North. This sculpture is a fitting tribute to all those who participated in creating such a rich history," said Mr. Allooloo.

The marble sculpture, created for the museum, is on display in the Aviation Gallery.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-089

Kakfwi Announces Travel Assistance

YELLOWKNIFE (July 11) — Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Minister Stephen Kakfwi says the Territorial government will provide travel assistance for regional delegates to attend the Dene National Assembly.

Over 400 delegates, members and observers are expected to travel to Bell Rock, a short distance from Fort Smith, to attend the annual event July 29 to August 5.

"I've been concerned that the Delta and Sahtu may decide not to attend this important Assembly because of the cost," he said. "Because of this, I decided to seek additional travel funds to be provided directly to each region on request."

Delta and Sahtu community delegates must travel by air while most other communities are able to drive to the site.

"It is important that the Dene gather together this summer to discuss the evolving political and constitutional climate as well as to update themselves on the progress being made at the regional land claims table," said Mr. Kakfwi.

He noted that the travel assistance is in addition to the \$25,000 already provided to the Dene Nation by the territorial government to offset the cost of the annual event.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-090

Metis Association Receives Government Assistance

YELLOWKNIFE (July 11) — The Metis Association of the Northwest Territories will receive core funding of \$250,000 from the Government of the Northwest Territories this year.

The total represents a one-time increase of \$50,000.

"The money will help the association meet obligations to its affiliated locals," said Stephen Kakfwi, Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development.

A cheque for \$62,500 - representing the first quarterly payment - will be presented at the association's annual general assembly July 13 and 14 in Fort Simpson by Minister of Social Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

The Metis Association locals serve an important function in communities, playing a leading role in the preservation and enhancement of the Metis culture. In addition, locals frequently assist governments by disseminating information to the people.

"We look to the Metis leadership for advice on community opinions and priorities," said Mr. Kakfwi. "We are pleased to be able to provide funding for the Metis Association to continue to work on behalf of its membership."

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-091

Old Stanton Hospital Leased to YACCS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 12) — The old Stanton Hospital and adjacent residence are being leased to the Yellowknife Association of Concerned Citizens for Seniors (YACCS), Finance Minister Michael Ballantyne announced today.

The association, which owns and operates the nearby Aven Seniors' Centre, will lease the property from the government for 24 years at an annual rate of \$250 — a nominal charge for land leases by the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs.

"Approval of this lease provides solid support for senior citizens and addresses an identified community need," Mr. Ballantyne said.

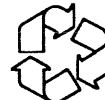
YACCS president Al Falconer said the association intends to utilize the site for independent seniors' housing and keep the existing Aven Seniors' Centre as a senior care facility.

The hospital is situated on 5.71 acres and the adjacent nurses' residence is located on 1.63 acres. The market value of the site was approximately \$2 million in 1988 and a new assessment is now being conducted. The south-east portion of the property has been leased to YACCS by the territorial government since August, 1985. The Aven Seniors' Centre is currently in operation on that site.

The old hospital has been vacant since 1988, but required heating, electrical and municipal servicing until January, 1991, when the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Board closed the nurses' residence.

The hospital was built by the federal government in 1967, and was transferred to the Government of the NWT in 1985.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-092

Lake Open for Rainbow Trout Fishing

YELLOWKNIFE (July 15) - A small lake, stocked with 3,600 rainbow trout last year, is now open for sport fishing, according to Renewable Resources Minister Titus Alloo.

The lake, yet to be named, is located about 400 metres west of the main Prelude Lake access road.

It was stocked as part of a federal-territorial sport fishing research project. In 1986, the Department of Renewable Resources and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans agreed to research lakes adjacent to highways and, where suitable, carry out test stocking with various fish species.

"We want people to enjoy fishing in the lake, but we are also asking for help in assessing the stocking program," says Mr. Alloo. The departments want to gather information about the number, size and weight of the fish caught.

A sign is posted adjacent to the nearest access point to the lake from the main Prelude Lake road. A box of questionnaires is located beneath the sign and anyone fishing the lake is asked to complete one of them.

"The questionnaires are voluntary, but we hope people will realize that the information they provide will help determine whether this kind of program should continue and how it can be improved," Mr. Alloo says.

The lake is open for fishing to holders of both resident and non-resident sport fishing licences. All NWT sport fishing regulations apply, including a prohibition on netting in stocked lakes.

Contact: **Doug Stewart, Director**
Conservation Education and Resource Development
Department of Renewable Resources
(403) 920-8716

or **Edi Casimirri**
Public Affairs Officer
Dept. of the Executive
(403) 873-7615





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-093

Revised Statutes Take Effect Today

YELLOWKNIFE (July 15) — The new *Revised Statutes of the Northwest Territories, 1988* come into force today and are now law in the Northwest Territories, announces Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne.

The statutes, which were last revised in 1974, are a necessary reference for members of the legal profession, business operators, students and anyone interested in the laws of the Northwest Territories.

"This revision consolidates the Acts in force as of December 31, 1988, and also includes Acts made after that date. The substance of the Acts has not changed, but they have been rewritten in a more readable format. Gender neutral language has been used and Latin and archaic words and expressions have been replaced," Mr. Ballantyne says.

The Revised Statutes of the Northwest Territories, 1988, have also been translated into French, in accordance with the *Official Languages Act*.

A three-volume supplement accompanies the statutes to include Acts which came into force after December, 1988. The first two volumes of the supplement have been published. Volume III, which will contain Acts made between January 1, 1991, and July 15, 1991, will be published later this year.

The *Revised Statutes*, including the supplements, are available from the Print Shop, Department of Culture and Communications, for \$400.

Contact: Diane Buckland
Legislative Counsel
Department of Justice
(403) 873-7462

or

Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
Dept. of the Executive
(403) 873-7615





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-094

New Trades Program Available for Women

YELLOWKNIFE (July 15) — A Trades Orientation Program for Women is being held in Yellowknife as part of the Department of Public Works Affirmative Action Plan to introduce women to non-traditional occupations, says Public Works Minister Nellie Cournoyea.

The 6-month program is designed to introduce women to the Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry, Welding and Automotive trades. Hands-on skill development with tools and equipment, work experience in the industry as well as life skills round out the program which started in March and will run until the end of August. Students will be encouraged to seek an apprenticeship following completion of the program.

"A tremendous opportunity is provided through this program to show women that a career in the trades can be a challenging and rewarding occupation," says Ms. Cournoyea.

The Trades Orientation Program for Women, developed in response to the Women in Trades Need Assessment completed in 1990, is delivered by the YWCA and is jointly sponsored by the Department of Public Works and Canada Employment and Immigration.

Contact: **Shauna Yeomans**
Human Resource Planning Officer
Public Works
(403) 920-8690

or

Sharon Lopatka
Public Affairs
Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7257





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-095

Gwich'in Land Claim Agreement Initialled

YELLOWKNIFE (July 15) — Gwich'in and federal/territorial government negotiators initialled a comprehensive land claim agreement in Ottawa on Saturday, Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Stephen Kakfwi confirmed today. The initialling signifies that the negotiators recommend the agreement for ratification by the Gwich'in people and both governments.

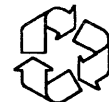
The agreement includes Gwich'in ownership of 8640 square miles of land (including 2360 square miles with subsurface rights), \$75 million dollars paid out over a 15-year period and resources royalties.

"I am pleased with the announcement by Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Tom Siddon to recognize Gwich'in ownership of 600 square miles of land in the Yukon Peel River basin," Mr. Kakfwi said. "As title to huge tracts of land in the northern territories will remain uncertain until outstanding aboriginal claims are resolved, this agreement will go a long way towards achieving that certainty which is mutually sought by governments and aboriginal peoples."

The agreement makes provision for guaranteed wildlife harvesting rights and Gwich'in participation in public government structures dealing with land, water, wildlife and environment management.

"Much work is required by our two governments over the coming weeks and months, to ensure that Canada will provide sufficient funding to implement the provisions of the claims agreement", stressed Mr. Kakfwi. He also confirmed that the territories' negotiator, Charles Overvold, has initialled the agreement on the basis that a land claim implementation plan and a Canada-Northwest Territories implementation funding agreement must be in place by the time the claim is finally ratified.

Contact: Charles Overvold
Executive Director
Aboriginal Rights & Constitutional
Development Secretariat
(403) 873-7143





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-096

Community Petroleum Delivery Contracts Approved

YELLOWKNIFE (July 16) — The Executive Council has approved the awarding of petroleum delivery contracts in 22 communities, Minister of Government Services, Tom Butters, said today.

After an extensive study of the potential economic and employment benefits which could be gained by the communities, a recommendation was made to the Executive Council to move to ten-year contracts with an additional five-year option. Prior to this time these contracts have been for five-year terms. The extension will allow fuel contractors to develop long-term business plans and secure long-term financing.

Mr. Butters commented that due to the longer contracts, it will now be viable for fuel distributors to own their own garages and possibly open the door to spin-off businesses that could operate from the same premises.

Public meetings were held in each community to explain the changes to the petroleum delivery contracts and how to submit a proposal. At these meetings submissions were invited and the selection criteria was explained. Prospective contractors were provided with sample proposal formats.

Once the proposals were closed, review teams for each region were formed. The teams, made up of regional territorial employees from the departments of the Executive, Public Works, Economic Development and Tourism and Government Services, studied the submissions and made recommendations to the Executive Council.

Of the 102 proposals received, the successful bidders consisted mainly of previous contractors with six to 21 years of community fuel delivery experience.

Contact: Lee Horn
Deputy Minister
Government Services
(403) 873-7622



Successful Contractors

Baffin

Arctic Bay	Enokseot Holdings
Broughton Island	Tulugak Co-op
Cape Dorset	West Baffin Co-op
Grise Fiord	Grise Fiord Co-op
Hall Beach	Hall Beach Co-op
Igloolik	Savik Enterprises
Lake Harbour	Kimik Co-op
Pangnirtung	J.R. Peyton Enterprises
Pond Inlet	Toonoonik Sahoornik Co-op
Resolute Bay	Resolute Bay Co-op

Inuvik

Paulatuk	James Ruben
Sachs Harbour	Ikahuk Co-op
Fort McPherson	Tetlik Co-op
Fort Franklin	Great Bear Co-op

Keewatin

Arviat	Padlei Co-op
Baker Lake	Zdyb Services
Coral Harbour	Sudliq Development
Chesterfield Inlet	Pitsulak Co-op
Rankin Inlet	M & T Enterprises
Whale Cove	Issatik Co-op

Kitikmeot

Coppermine	Coppermine Co-op
Pelly Bay	Koomiut Co-op



Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-097

Sixth Member Appointed to Constitutional Commission

YELLOWKNIFE (July 16) — Bertha Allen of Inuvik has been selected to sit on the Commission for Constitutional Development, said Aboriginal and Constitutional Development Minister, Stephen Kakfwi.

Nominations were put forward to fill a sixth position by the western Arctic Members of the Legislative Assembly for consideration by the Executive Council. Bertha Allen's name was chosen, by vote, from a field of four. Ms. Allen is the former president of the Native Women's Association of the NWT and of the Status of Women Council of the NWT. The other nominees included Sue-Heron-Hebert, Pat McMahon, and Louise Nielsen.

"I am pleased with the appointment of Bertha Allen to the commission and feel her experience and views will be a positive addition to an already strong committee," said Mr. Kakfwi.

Public hearings will be held by the commission throughout the Western Arctic. Recommendations for proposed constitutional changes will be made after an evaluation process has been completed.

The commission, chaired by Jim Bourque, deputy minister of Renewable Resources, also includes former mayor of Sachs Harbour Les Carpenter, Yellowknife lawyer Richard Hardy, former chief Francois Paulette of Fort Smith and George Braden, deputy minister of Intergovernmental Affairs. Mr. Bourque and Mr. Braden will be stepping down from their positions as deputy ministers during the commission's study.

Contact: Steve Iveson
Self Government Advisor
Aboriginal and Constitutional
Development Secretariat
(403) 873-7108





Contract Information

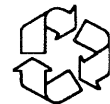
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

July 18, 1991

The following contracts were awarded recently to Northern contractors under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea.

- **Independent Electrical Service** of Yellowknife received a \$120,000 contract to provide electrical services for the Yellowknife District Office of the Department of Public Works
- **Pro-Touch Renovations Ltd** of Yellowknife received a \$114,480 contract to provide carpentry services for the Yellowknife District Office of the Department of Public Works
- A \$121,387 contract was awarded to **RTL-Robinson Enterprises Ltd** of Yellowknife for land development work in **Dettah**.
- A joint venture consisting of two Yellowknife companies, **Unico Contractors N.W.T. Ltd** and **Bond-A-Ply Roofing Ltd** received a \$197,400 contract to do a roof retrofit to the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School Residence in **Rae-Edzo**.
- **Natik Plumbing and Heating Ltd** of Cambridge Bay received a \$110,500 contract to provide plumbing services in **Cambridge Bay**.
- A janitorial services contract for \$111,000 for the **Nanisivik** community office was awarded to **121702 Canada, Inc.** of Arctic Bay.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-098

Medical Travel Benefits to Nearest Centre Only

YELLOWKNIFE (July 19) — The Minister of Health, Nellie Cournoyea, stated today that in future the Medical Travel Policy will be more strictly applied. Travel benefits will only be paid to the nearest centre that offers the required medical service. "This is not a new policy - we are simply tightening up the existing policy", she said.

The policy applies to eligible NWT residents who do not have any medical travel benefits through an employer or similar plan. The Department has sent an administrative directive to all physicians and health administrators, informing them how the "nearest centre" concept applies to medical travel benefits. This directive will come into effect on August 1, 1991.

When the "nearest centre" is in the NWT, eligible residents who have a medical referral will receive medical travel benefits for services at that designated location only. If residents choose to go on their own to another centre, no travel benefits will be provided.

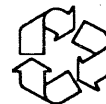
When the "nearest centre" is in the south, eligible residents will receive benefits to that location. If the resident chooses to go for care beyond the nearest designated centre, no additional travel benefits will be provided.

"We hope that the public and health professionals will support the consistent application of this policy," Ms. Cournoyea added. "We have much to gain by showing how we can make the very best use of NWT health facilities."

The Department has prepared a Clinical Services Directory to help health professionals make referrals to the "nearest centre". The Directory lists hospital services, community visits and phone numbers for facilities in the Inuvik, Kitikmeot and Mackenzie regions. The Directory will soon be expanded to cover the entire NWT and will be updated regularly.

For more information, phone (403)873-7710 or Zenith 06025 (no charge outside Yellowknife).

Contact: Ed Chown
Director, Health Insurance Division
Department of Health
(403)873-7714





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-099

Justice Services Directory Published

YELLOWKNIFE (July 19) — A directory of justice services in the Northwest Territories is now available, announces Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne.

"This brochure will help people interact with the justice system," Mr. Ballantyne says about the easy-to-read, 18-page directory.

It contains a description of the services available in the following areas: victims of violence and victims of discrimination; family and children's services; legal assistance; law enforcement; the public trustee; land titles and legal registries; NWT legislation; courts; and, corrections.

The directory also includes a listing of contacts in various organizations, including addresses, telephone numbers and facsimile numbers.

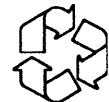
The directory was prepared in cooperation with the Department of Social Services and various boards and agencies in the Northwest Territories.

It is currently available in English and French. The next step will be to have the directory translated into other official languages of the Northwest Territories.

Copies are available from the Policy and Planning Division of the Department of Justice, 6th Floor of the Courthouse, Yellowknife, NWT. Copies can also be obtained from the various agencies listed in the brochure.

Contact: Jeffrey G. Gilmour
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Department of Justice
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Office of the Press Secretary
Department of the Executive
(403) 873-7615





Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

July 23, 1991

The following contracts have been awarded under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea. For information purposes, the names of the responsible ministers and the local MLA are listed at the start of each project announcement.

Project: Fort McPherson Health Centre
Minister: Nellie Cournoyea, Department of Health
MLA: Richard Nerysoo, MLA Mackenzie Delta

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Clark-Bowler Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct a health centre in the community of **Fort McPherson**. The value of the contract is \$2,163,906.

The facility will be wood framed in order to maximize the local labour component on this project. The Hamlet will provide the wood piles for the foundation. The general contractor has also subcontracted to a number of Northern companies for this project. **Adam's Services** of Inuvik have been subcontracted to place the piles for the foundation. **Rocky's Plumbing & Heating Ltd** from Inuvik will do the mechanical work and **Enertech Electric Ltd**, also from Inuvik will do the electrical.

Unico Contractors NWT Ltd of Yellowknife will do the roofing work and **Rainbow Holdings**, also of Yellowknife, will do the painting. In addition, **Fitzgerald Carpeting Ltd** of Yellowknife will install the carpeting.

The building will contain a health centre, an ambulance bay and staff accommodation, including three two bedroom apartments and two one bedroom apartments for nurses and other health staff. The facility will also contain a relief suite for patients.

Construction started in June, 1991, and is scheduled for completion by October, 1991.

Project: Laing Building Upgrade
Minister: Nellie Cournoyea, Department of Public Works
MLA: Brian Lewis, MLA Yellowknife Centre

A contract has been awarded to a local contractor, **PCL Constructors Northern Inc** of Yellowknife, to upgrade the Laing Building in **Yellowknife**. The value of the contract is \$1,463,501.

The contractor will renovate and upgrade the six storey Laing Building. The general contractor has subcontracted six other Yellowknife companies to help complete the work. **J & R Mechanical Ltd** will do the mechanical and **North West Electric Ltd** will do the electrical work.

Unico Roofing Ltd have been subcontracted to do the roofing. In addition, **Panda Construction Ltd** will undertake the drywall work, while the painting will be done by **Three Star Painting** and the carpeting will be provided by **Fitzgerald Carpeting Ltd**.

This contract is the first phase of a three phase project. In the second phase scheduled in 1992, the building elevator will be renovated so that it is accessible to the handicapped. The third and final phase which will include the supply and installation of standby power will be completed in 1993.

These renovations will ensure that the Laing Building will meet current National Building Code requirements, including fire safety upgrades. Construction on the first phase started in May, 1991, and will be completed by October, 1991.

Project: Arviat Two Bay Maintenance Garage
Minister: Tom Butters, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Gordon Wray, MLA Kivallivik

A contract has been awarded to a local contractor, **Leonard and Associates Ltd** from Arviat to construct a maintenance garage in the community of **Arviat**. The value of the contract is \$541,185.

The contractor will build a wood framed structure which helps maximize the local labour component on the project. The local contractor from Arviat will undertake the entire project using its own equipment and employees.

The two bay garage has been designed to meet the community's requirements and it will include extended bays in order to provide extra space.

Construction is scheduled to start in July, 1991, and be completed by March, 1992.

Project: Fort Norman HeliPort Phase II
Minister: Titus Allooooloo, Department of Renewable Resources
MLA: Stephen Kakfwi, MLA Sahtu

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **PCL Constructors Northern Inc** of Yellowknife to construct a heliport in the community of **Fort Norman**. The value of this contract is \$341,649.

The contractor will build two helicopter landing pads, a new jet fuel supply distribution system, a cold storage building and complete renovations to the existing office/warehouse building.

The general contractor has subcontracted **Litster's Plumbing and Heating** from Inuvik for the plumbing and **Fort Norman Contracting Ltd** for the earth work.



CAPITAL PROJECTS: PAGE 3

This is Phase Two of a project to complete the heliport which began construction in 1989. Phase One of the project consisted of site preparation and construction of the office/warehouse complex.

Construction is scheduled to start in July, 1991, and be completed by October, 1991.

Project: Gjoa Haven School Primary Link
Minister: Stephen Kakfwi, Department of Education
MLA: John Ningark, MLA Natilikmiot

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Harpe Contracting Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct an above ground enclosed passage between the school and gymnasium in the community of **Gjoa Haven**. The value of the contract is \$307,150.

The contractor will build a 36.3 metres long by 3.6 metres wide heated and insulated wood frame link structure which will help maximize the local labour component on the project. The link will provide a much needed all weather protected access between the two school buildings.

Construction is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of materials by sealift in September, 1991, and be completed by December, 1992.

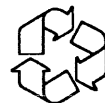
Project: 60th Parallel Visitors Centre
Minister: Gordon Wray, Department of Economic Development & Tourism
MLA: Sam Gargan, MLA Deh Cho

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Hovat Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife to renovate the Visitors Centre on Highway 1 at the NWT/Alberta border and to construct two new buildings on the site. The value of the contract is \$458,325.

The contractor will build a wood framed structure which will help maximize the Northern labour component on the project. The general contractor has subcontracted **J & R Mechanical Ltd** from Yellowknife for the mechanical work and **MacKenzie Electrical Ltd** of Hay River for the electrical work.

The information booth, exhibit area and lounge area of the existing Visitors Centre will be renovated by the contractor. In addition, new washrooms and a heritage exhibit shelter will be constructed as part of this contract. This project will also include landscaping work around the Visitors Centre, the construction of a bridge over a nearby pond and a trellis which will be connected to the various buildings around the site.

This is a two year project, with construction scheduled to start in July, 1991, and be completed by October, 1993.



Project: Gjoa Haven and Chesterfield Inlet Arenas
Minister: Tom Butters, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: John Ningark, MLA Natilikmiot
Peter Ernerk, MLA Alvilik

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Harpe Contracting Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct the first phase of arenas in the communities of **Gjoa Haven** and **Chesterfield Inlet**. The value of the contract is \$1,626,000.

This is a combined tender for the prefabricated steel buildings and foundations. The second phase of the project in 1992-93 will include the finishing of the interior of the arenas, along with the installation of the mechanical and electrical systems. Both hamlets were consulted on the design of their arenas and both contributed funds towards their project. The arena in Gjoa Haven will contain a multi purpose room and the curling rink will include a lounge area.

The general contractor has subcontracted the hamlets in both communities to complete the sitework for the arenas.

Construction is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of materials by sealift in August, 1991, and be completed by May, 1992.





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-100

Mine Fatality Under Investigation

YELLOWKNIFE (July 23) — The Department of Safety and Public Services is investigating a fatality at Royal Oak Resources Ltd.'s Giant Mine in Yellowknife.

The fatality occurred earlier today. An employee of the company was killed by a rock fall while touring the underground operations.

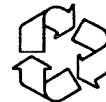
Under the Mine Safety Act, two mine inspectors from the Department of Safety and Public Services are investigating to determine circumstances surrounding the accident.

Further details may be released once next of kin have been contacted and the investigation is completed.

Contacts: Walter Skelly
Director, Mine Safety Division
Department of Safety and Public Services
(403) 873-7071

or

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Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7615





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-101

NWT Libraries to Receive \$1,000 from Women's Fraternity

YELLOWKNIFE (July 24) — The David Kootook Memorial Fund will receive \$1,000 from the Pi Beta Phi through their Arrow to the Arctic program, Titus Alloo, Minister of Culture and Communications said today.

The Memorial Fund, established almost 20 years ago in memory of an Inuit boy who died as a result of a plane crash, is used to purchase reference material for the children's collections in the NWT's public libraries. Purchases planned for the libraries this year include copies of *Living in Polar Regions* and *The National Geographic Picture Atlas of our World*.

Pi Beta Phi, an international university women's organization, has chapters throughout the United States and Canada. The membership is comprised mainly of teachers.

In the past 24 years the Pi Phi Canadian Philanthropies Committee, the Canadian chapter of Pi Beta Phi, has contributed over \$40,000 to libraries in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

These funds have been used to supplement the purchase of audio tape/book kits for elementary children; out-of-print books about the north for permanent collections; to support the David Suluk Library in Arviat; and for materials used in the libraries collections that circulate around the territories.

"Organizations, such as the Pi Beta Phi, are greatly appreciated for their support of the NWT Public Libraries. Through their generous donations our libraries have been able to expand their collections and provide a well rounded source of information for the people of the NWT," said Mr. Alloo.

Contact: Deloris Booker
Community Services Librarian
Public Library Services - Hay River
(403) 874-6531

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Press Information

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91-102

Pregnancy and Parental Leave Introduced

YELLOWKNIFE (July 25) — Amendments made to the NWT Labour Standards Act now permit both mothers and fathers to take leave from work for the birth or adoption of their child, says Safety and Public Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

Mrs. Marie-Jewell said the changes are in keeping with revisions made by the Parliament of Canada to the Unemployment Insurance Act.

"The federal amendments enhanced the benefits available to parents of newly-born and newly-adopted children. To ensure that employees in the NWT are able to take advantage of those entitlements, changes to our Labour Standards Act became necessary," said Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

The amendments will affect only those employees covered by the NWT Labour Standards Act. They do not apply to employees of the federal and territorial governments, or to employees subject to the Canada Labour Code (Part III).

There are now two categories of leave: pregnancy leave and parental leave. Pregnancy leave of up to 17 weeks is available only to the mother. Parental leave of a maximum of 12 weeks can be taken by either parent or by both, and is also available to adoptive parents.

Before the changes, the Act provided for "maternity leave" which could be taken only by the mother. The Act did not accommodate a wish by the father to take leave, nor was there any provision for leave resulting from an adoption.

Conditions dealing with eligibility as well as those specifying when the two types of leave may be taken are spelled out in the amendment and in new regulations.

Eligible parents taking the pregnancy or parental leave will receive money through the Unemployment Insurance Fund, rather than from their employers.

Contact: Eric Smith
Labour Standards Officer
Dept. of Safety and Public Services
(403) 873-7486

Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs Officer
Dept. of the Executive
(403) 873-7615





Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-103

Underground Fire at Lupin Under Investigation

YELLOWKNIFE (July 25) — The Department of Safety and Public Services is investigating the cause of yesterday's underground fire at Echo Bay's Lupin Mine, announces Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

The fire developed on a large haulage truck at the 890 level of the underground workings at the mine at about 2 p.m. yesterday. The fire engulfed the truck. The truck driver managed to evacuate the area after spotting a flash fire and was not injured.

At the time of the occurrence there were 38 workers in the mine. All took refuge in refuge stations underground. By 3:10 this morning, all had been evacuated safely and the truck fire had been extinguished.

Work at the mine is expected to resume some time today when the Lupin Mine Rescue team has completed taking air measurements for noxious gas and declared the mine safe for re-entry.

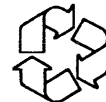
Mine rescue teams from Nerco Con Mine and Royal Oak Resources' Giant Mine in Yellowknife were dispatched to assist at Lupin, which is located 400 kilometres northwest of Yellowknife.

Under the Mine Safety Act, the Mine Safety Division will investigate the cause of the fire.

Contacts: Walter Skelly
Director, Mine Safety Division
Dept. of Safety and Public Services
(403) 873-7071

or

Edi Casimirri
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Office of the Press Secretary
Dept. of the Executive
(403) 873-7615





Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-104

Income Tax Act Amended

YELLOWKNIFE (July 26) — A recently passed amendment to the Income Tax Act will change the way small corporations in the Northwest Territories claim the lower small business corporate tax rate, said Minister of Finance, Michael Ballantyne.

Until now, Northwest Territories small businesses have had to file a separate form (T1001) in addition to the standard income tax form to receive the lower rate. As a result of this amendment, they will no longer have to file the second form.

In the February 1991 budget, Mr. Ballantyne reduced the small business tax rate from 8 per cent to 5 per cent of taxable income under \$200,000, effective July 1, 1991.

Eligible corporations with taxation years ending after June 30, 1991, will be able to start to claim the lower rate, without using a separate form. The amending legislation, passed by the Legislative Assembly on July 5, will not apply to taxation years that expired before July 1, 1991.

"This change will standardize the procedure used in the Northwest Territories with that in most provinces," said Mr. Ballantyne. " It will also ensure that companies are not denied the lower rate because they were unaware of the need to submit a separate form."

Contact: Jean Guertin
Director
Fiscal Policy
Department of Finance
(403) 920-6374





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-105

Queen of Denmark to Visit Eastern Northwest Territories

YELLOWKNIFE (July 29) — Queen Margarethe II of Denmark, accompanied by Prince Henrik, will be visiting Pangnirtung and Iqaluit on October 12 and 13, Dennis Patterson, Government Leader said today.

Queen Margrethe, who is especially interested in archaeology, art and language, will tour the community of Pangnirtung on October 12. The Queen and Prince will attend a community feast and visit the Uqurmiut Inuit Artists Association Facility and the Angmarlik Interpretive Centre. While in Iqaluit they will tour several facilities, including the Unikkaarvik Centre (Iqaluit's Visitor Centre) and the Elder's Facility.

"This visit will allow Queen Margrethe to experience the rich cultural and artistic scene in the Eastern Arctic and solidify our relations with Denmark and Greenland," said Mr. Patterson.

The visit to the eastern Northwest Territories is part of a state visit to Canada from October 8 to 16. The Queen will also visit other regions in Canada and meet with federal and provincial authorities.

Contact: Sharon Lopatka
Public Affairs Officer
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(403) 873-7257





Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-106

Seniors' Territorial Supplementary Benefit Increases

YELLOWKNIFE (July 29) — The Senior Citizens' Supplementary Benefit has been increased by 16 per cent to \$125 per month retroactive to April 1, 1991, Social Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell announced today.

The increase will affect about 1,400 seniors in the Northwest Territories.

The Supplementary Benefit is paid by the Department of Social Services to seniors who receive the federal Guaranteed Income Supplement. A rate of \$107.50 per month had been in effect since April 1990.

"The increase will help offset the higher costs of living in the North. Many senior citizens in the NWT rely on federal and territorial assistance programs as their only source of income," says Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

The increase should appear on the September cheques. Calculations are being made for the retroactive payment and it should be paid out by November.

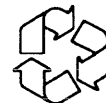
There are four main federal and territorial programs in effect to help provide for the financial needs of senior citizens. The three federally financed programs are: Old Age Security (OAS), Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) and Spousal Allowance.

OAS is payable to everyone over 65 years of age who meets the Canadian resident requirement. The GIS is income-tested and designed to provide additional income for those over 65 whose income is limited. Spousal Allowance is payable to the 60-64 year old spouse of an Old Age Security pensioner who has little or no income other than Old Age Security program benefits.

In the NWT, about eight out of every ten pensioners or 80 per cent of the Old Age Security (OAS) pensioners receive Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS). Seventy per cent of the GIS recipients receive the maximum payment.

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Backgrounder

Federal and Territorial Programs For Seniors

The following is a brief description of the various federal and territorial programs which are in effect to help provide for the financial needs of senior citizens.

- **Old Age Security**

The basic Old Age Security pension is payable to everyone over 65 years of age who meets the Canadian resident requirement. It is a program financed by the federal government. As of July 1991, the amount of the basic pension is \$369.62 per month.

- **Guaranteed Income Supplement**

The Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) is also a federal program which is income-tested and designed to provide additional income for those over 65 whose income apart from Old Age Security pension is limited. The maximum GIS payable is \$439.26. This amount of benefit is reduced through a formula based on additional income excluding the Old Age Security pension.

- **Spousal Allowance**

Spousal Allowance is a federal benefit payable to the 60-64 year old spouse of an Old Age Security pensioner who has little or no income other than Old Age Security program benefits. The extended Spousal Allowance is payable to a low income widow or widower aged 60-64. The maximum allowable payable is \$723.93.

- **Territorial Supplement**

The Territorial Supplement is a program financed by the Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Social Services. It provides additional income to Northwest Territories residents who are receiving the Old Age Security pension and the Guaranteed Income Supplement. Since April 1990, the Territorial Supplement is \$107.50 per month, paid on a flat rate to Old Age Security recipients who qualify for the Guaranteed Income Supplement.





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-107

Heritage Conference to be held in Iqaluit

YELLOWKNIFE (July 30) — The Canadian Conference on Historical Resources (CCHR) will meet in Iqaluit on August 9-12 to discuss heritage issues directly related to the North, said Minister of Culture and Communications, Titus Allooloo.

The conference group, comprised of senior heritage managers from each member provincial, territorial and federal government body, will visit several historic sites and local arts and crafts centres including Qaummaarviit Historic Park, the Baffin Cultural Centre and the Pairijiait Tigumivik Elders' Centre. Trips to Cape Dorset and Lake Harbour are also planned. They will be discussing several northern heritage issues including how heritage is preserved and encouraged in remote northern communities and how northern heritage issues vary from other regions in Canada.

From information collected during the visit to the Eastern Arctic, the CCHR will advise federal and provincial ministers on considerations for developing historic resources in the region.

"This visit will demonstrate that the majority of our northern heritage is more natural than other regions in Canada and that it is similar to that of other circumpolar countries," said Mr. Allooloo.

This is the first time that CCHR has met in the Northwest Territories.

CCHR was formed as a non-profit organization in 1982. It provides a forum for open and informal exchanges on heritage resource, conservation and management programs within federal, provincial and territorial jurisdictions. The commission studies and dispenses information on issues of current concern to the field of heritage conservation.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-108

New Rules For Propane Storage

YELLOWKNIFE (August 2) — New propane storage regulations will allow government, fire and police officials to clamp down on people who do not store propane cylinders safely, announced Safety and Public Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

"An awareness campaign has already been launched to make people aware of the dangers of sniffing propane. Now the regulations are in place to let people know that they are responsible for ensuring the safe storage of the propane cylinders they use," Mrs. Marie-Jewell says.

The regulations fall under the Fire Prevention Act of the Northwest Territories. They came into force July 26 and apply to all cylinders in excess of 2.7 kilograms (5 pounds). The maximum fine for not complying with the regulations is \$10,000.

The regulations can be summarized as follows:

1. It is illegal to have propane cylinders **INSIDE** a building. (There are only a couple of restricted exceptions to this.)
2. When propane cylinders are attached to appliances, the cylinders must be locked, chained or secured to the appliances. This can be done:
 - by a chain or cable secured by a padlock which can be opened only with a key or a cutting tool; or,
 - by a chain or cable secured with a bolt which can be opened only with a cutting tool or a wrench or other mechanical tool.
3. When propane cylinders are not attached to appliances, they still need to be secured to deter people from using them. They should be locked or chained to a permanent fixture or structure, or they could be fenced in.

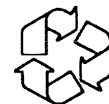
If people want to secure their propane cylinders in other ways, they need to check with the Office of the Fire Marshal, or their local fire chief or RCMP detachment.

Copies of the regulations are available from the Office of the Fire Marshal, Department of Safety and Public Services, Government of the Northwest Territories, P.O. Box 1320, First Floor, Northway Building, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9.

Contact: Kit Bell, Fire Marshal
Dept. of Safety and Public Services
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or

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Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

August 13, 1991

The following contracts have been awarded under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea. For information purposes, the names of the responsible ministers and the local MLA are listed at the start of each project announcement.

Project: Fort Franklin Fire Hall
Minister: Tom Butters, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Stephen Kakfiwi, MLA Sahtu

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Clark-Bowler Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife, to construct a fire hall in the community of **Fort Franklin**. The value of the contract is \$477,519.

The contractor will build a two bay fire hall which will include an office and equipment storage room.

The general contractor has subcontracted **Dowland Contracting Ltd** from Tuktoyaktuk for the mechanical and **McDonald Brothers Electric**, also from Tuktoyaktuk for the electrical work. **Panda Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife will do the painting and **Fitzgerald Carpeting Ltd**, also of Yellowknife, will do the flooring and carpeting.

Construction on the project started in June, 1991, and is scheduled for completion in November, 1991.

Project: Repulse Bay Quarry
Minister: Nellie Cournoyea, Department of Public Works
MLA: Peter Ernerk, MLA Aivilik

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Canadrill Ltd** of Iqaluit to develop a quarry for the community of **Repulse Bay**. The value of the contract is \$597,800.

The contractor will be working in an established rock quarry area to blast the natural rock into usable sizes. When the area is blasted, it is expected to produce approximately 15,000 cubic metres of rock. The material will be used for house pads and road embankment work in the community. This work is necessary due to the fact that sand and gravel in the area is in extremely short supply.

Work is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of the equipment on the sealift in September, 1991, and will be completed by September, 1992.

Project: Cambridge Bay Land Development
Minister: Tom Butters, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Red Pedersen, MLA Kitikmeot West

A contract has been awarded to a local contractor, **Fred H. Ross & Associates Ltd** of Cambridge Bay, to undertake a land development project in the community of **Cambridge Bay**. The value of the contract is \$258,070.

The contractor will supply 14,000 cubic metres of embankment material and 1,100 cubic metres of select granular materials to construct 986 metres of road and develop 28 residential lots and five industrial lots.

Construction started in July, 1991, and will be completed by October, 1991.



News Release/Communiqué

91-109

Canada and Northwest Territories Sign Cooperation Agreement for French and Aboriginal Languages in the Northwest Territories

IQALUIT, NWT (August 16) - A three-year \$30.8 million cooperation agreement to support and strengthen Aboriginal and French Languages in the Northwest Territories will be signed in the north Baffin Island community of Pond Inlet Saturday.

The agreement was announced today by Secretary of State Robert R. de Cotret and GNWT Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo.

Mr. de Cotret, in Iqaluit for a meeting of the federal Cabinet Committee on Canadian Unity, will travel to Pond Inlet with Mr. Allooloo Friday for a community visit and the signing ceremony.

Under the agreement, the federal government will provide the Government of the Northwest Territories with \$18 million to preserve and enhance the six official Aboriginal languages of the NWT, and \$12.8 million for French language programs and services.

In April, 1990, the Territorial government amended its Official Languages Act to give Inuktitut, Dogrib, Slavey, Chipewyan, Gwich'in and Cree the same official status as English and French. The NWT is the only jurisdiction in Canada to officially recognize and legally protect Aboriginal languages.

"The agreement responds to priorities identified by Aboriginal and French communities in the NWT. It supports Aboriginal people in the preservation and revival of their language and culture, an integral part of Canada's rich and diverse heritage. It also illustrates the commitment of both governments to French as an official language in the NWT," Mr. de Cotret said.

A primary thrust of the new agreement will be the support of community-based and community-directed programs intended to encourage the maintenance and use of Aboriginal languages in homes, schools and communities, and the provision of government services in French.

Mr. Allooloo said the new agreement makes a significant contribution to the Territorial Government's commitment to preserve and protect the Territories' official languages.



Canada and Northwest Territories Sign Cooperation Agreement for French and Aboriginal Languages in the Northwest Territories: Page 2

"The commitment of funds demonstrates that the Government of Canada acknowledges the importance of French and Aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories. It demonstrates that the federal government shares our belief that the survival of the North's distinctive languages is absolutely critical to the future quality of life of the Territories and its people," said Mr. Allooloo.

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Backgrounder The Languages Cooperation Agreement

Historical Context

- On June 28, 1984, the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories signed an agreement relating to Aboriginal and French languages. The Government of the NWT agreed to introduce French as an official language in the NWT and the federal government agreed to pay for all the costs associated with the provision of services in French and its implementation as an official language. In addition, the federal government agreed to provide money for the preservation, development and enhancement of Aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories.
- The initial Canada-Northwest Territories Aboriginal Languages Agreement was for a six-year period ending March 31, 1991. It provided for a maximum federal contribution of \$16 million for the preservation and development of Aboriginal languages. During this period, the GNWT contributed \$13.4 million of its own resources for joint projects under that agreement.
- Federal funding for the implementation of French as an official language in the NWT has been negotiated on a year-to-year basis since the signing of the 1984 Accord, and has totalled \$7 million as of March 31, 1991.
- In June 1984, the Government of the NWT enacted legislation recognizing English and French as official languages of the NWT and accorded the status of "official Aboriginal languages" to six Aboriginal languages in the NWT.
- In April 1990, the Government of the NWT amended its *Official Languages Act* to give Inuktitut, Dogrib, Slavey, Chipewyan, Gwich'in and Cree the same official status as English and French. As a result, the NWT became the only jurisdiction in Canada to give official recognition and legal protection to Aboriginal languages.

Backgrounder Highlights of the 1991 Cooperation Agreement

Projects Relating to Aboriginal Languages

The Cooperation Agreement enables the Government of the Northwest Territories to initiate further measures to maintain, develop and enhance the Aboriginal Languages of the NWT, building on the achievements of the previous six-year funding agreement.

The Cooperation Agreement ensures that Aboriginal people have the support necessary to strengthen their languages at the community level and will help the Territorial Government in implementing Aboriginal languages as official languages of the NWT.

The projects to be funded under the Agreement are decided upon by the two governments each year and are described in an appendix which forms an integral part of the Agreement. Federal Funding will total up to \$5.7 million for 1991/92, \$6 million for 1992/93, and \$6.3 million for 1993/94.

Highlights

- Provision of funding to develop community-based projects which will encourage and support Aboriginal language usage.
- Aboriginal languages terminology development, including the continuing standardization of the Dene languages and a review of the Inuktitut orthographies.
- Support for development of Aboriginal languages and cultural programs and materials.
- Support to the Centres for Teaching and Learning. The Centres will continue to serve as locations for the development of Aboriginal language and cultural programs and materials.
- Support for production of Aboriginal languages programming on radio and television.
- Support for development of Aboriginal language programs in day care and pre-school centres.
- Provision of interpreting and translation services in six Aboriginal languages.
- Interpreter and translator training.
- Support for the development and provision of literacy program in Aboriginal languages.

The Government of the NWT will compile information about each of its six official Aboriginal languages in the first year of the Agreement. This will provide the base for an evaluation of the projects undertaken under the Agreement.

Backgrounder Highlights of the 1991 Cooperation Agreement

Projects Relating to French

The three-year Cooperation Agreement confirms the federal government's commitment made in 1984 to cover the costs incurred in implementing French as an Official language in the Northwest Territories in accordance with the Government of the NWT's *Official Languages Act* adopted in 1984.

Federal funding for this part of the agreement comes from the Secretary of State's program of intergovernmental cooperation in promotion of official languages. The purpose of this program is to support the efforts made by provinces and territories wishing to offer services to official language communities in their own language in priority areas such as justice, social services, health and culture.

The projects to be funded under the Agreement are decided upon by the two government each year and are described in an appendix which forms an integral part of the agreement. Funding will total up to \$4 million for 1991/92, \$4.3 million for 1992/93 and \$4.5 million in 1993/94.

Highlights

- Enable the Government of the NWT to introduce bills in English and French in the Legislative Assembly and to translate the records and journals of the Assembly.
- Provide French language services in hospitals and health centres directly or with the assistance of interpreters.
- Enable the Government of the NWT to draft laws and revise statutes in French in accordance with the NWT *Official Languages Act*.
- Offer legal services in French.
- Promote the cultural development of the Francophone community in the Northwest Territories.
- Make government information materials and forms available to the public in French, including in museum and library facilities.
- Provide social services in French.
- Provide for signage in French on government buildings, highways and territorial park sites.



Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-110

Nanisivik Library Receives \$1,000 Grant

YELLOWKNIFE (August 20) — The Nanisivik Community Library is one of two organizations in Canada to receive a 1991 Reading Stimulation Grant of \$1,000 from the Canadian Federation of University Women, Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo announced today.

The grant, awarded annually, will be used to buy picture books in English, French and Inuktitut for the children of Nanisivik. Children make up 33 per cent of Nanisivik's population. Almost half of the children are under the age of seven.

"The grant gives the community library an opportunity to improve its collection and to encourage the development of literacy skills among the children of Nanisivik and Arctic Bay," says Mr. Allooloo.

The local librarian for Nanisivik, Heather Marion, prepared the application for the grant, with strong community support. Canadian North donated freight costs, which will leave the full amount of the grant available for book purchases. Funding has also been provided by the Nanisivik Community Club to purchase book display units for the new collection. The new books will be available for borrowing by the fall.

The other grant was awarded to the Summerside Public Library in Prince Edward Island.

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Nanisivik Community
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Investigation Ordered

YELLOWKNIFE (August 23) — Deputy Government Leader Steve Kakfwi said today an investigation will be held into allegations of ministerial and senior management interference in decisions made by social workers.

Mr. Kakfwi said Minister of Social Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell spoke with Government Leader Dennis Patterson Monday requesting that an investigation take place.

He added that internal and audit reviews of the department are continuing and will be examined by the government to ensure that all elements of the department's practices and procedures are scrutinized in a comprehensive and meaningful manner.

"In the short-term, however, we want to examine allegations by the Union of Northern Workers that there has been interference by the minister's office and senior civil servants."

Union allegations are based on photocopies of confidential client material obtained from an undisclosed source and turned over to the RCMP last week. For the most part, the material consists of internal memos that note sensitive client information along with personal notations by the writers.

Mr. Kakfwi said the investigation will be handled by a person outside government. The investigator, to be announced next week, will examine the documents and interview the people who wrote them to determine the validity of the UNW allegations.

Wide-spread publicity given to the union's perception of the documents and the public response it has generated has been devastating to the morale of social service staff, Mr. Kakfwi noted.

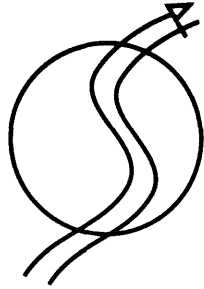
"I think that we'd be in a better position to clear the air on this matter if we could simply make the documents public," he said. "But, that's not possible. It would betray the confidentiality of our relationship with our clients and we're not prepared to do that."

The controversy surrounding the operations of the Department of Social services surfaced when the department suspected some financial irregularities and requested a detailed audit of its Yellowknife Area Office. The audit led to an admission by then Superintendent Diane Doyle that she had stolen in excess of \$75,000.

The government audit indicated there was \$265,000 in social assistance and child welfare cheques missing from the area office and the RCMP were asked to investigate the matter.

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*The Northwest Territories
Gender Equality Review*

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Special Advisor on Gender Equality to Visit 10 Communities

YELLOWKNIFE (August 23) – The Special Advisor to the Minister of Justice released today the schedule of community visits that she will be making in each of the regions of the Northwest Territories.

In each community, Special Advisor Katherine Peterson will hold a one-day public workshop, an evening public meeting and further meetings with interested individuals and representatives from the community and from the justice system.

This Fall, the Special Advisor will visit two communities in regions across the Northwest Territories, 10 communities in all.

The workshops will focus on women who have been victims of violence and on people who help victims of violence.

"The community visits are a very important part of the my work" said Ms. Peterson. "It is absolutely essential to have input from as many people as possible in the communities themselves. This is the only way to find out how justice is administered in each community, what the problems are, and how we can make changes."

The community consultations will enable the Special Advisor to make recommendations to the Minister of Justice on how to improve the justice system so that women are treated more fairly. The Special Advisor will submit a report with recommendations to the Minister of Justice in March, 1992.

In May of this year, the Special Advisor held public meetings and workshops in Hay River and Fort Smith.

.../2

The planned travel schedule for the Special Advisor is as follows:

DELTA:

Inuvik: September 16-18
Fort MacPherson: September 18-20

KEEWATIN:

Arviat: September 30-October 4
Rankin Inlet: October 4-6

BAFFIN:

Iqaluit: Week of October 21-25
Broughton Island: Week of October 21-25

KITIKMEOT:

Coppermine: Week of November 18-22
Cambridge Bay: Week of November 18-22

SAHTU:

Fort Good Hope: Week of December 9-13
Fort Franklin: Week of December 9-13

In addition, public meetings and workshops will be held in Yellowknife in January, 1992.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-112

Labour Standards Board Appointments

YELLOWKNIFE (August 23) — Alex Lacroix of Yellowknife and Frieda Martselos of Fort Smith have been appointed to the Labour Standards Board for four and five year terms respectively, Safety and Public Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell announced today.

Rosemary Cairns of Yellowknife, who has served on the board since 1986, has been named chairperson of the Board. Her term expires March 31, 1996. Roger Cousins of Iqaluit has been reappointed, and his term expires July 24, 1994. Louise Nielsen of Yellowknife is the fifth member of the Board and her term expires March 31, 1993.

The Labour Standards Board was established to act as a statutory tribunal to review rulings of the Labour Standards Officer, make decisions about those rulings, and enforce payment of confirmed certificates setting forth wages due to employees.

"Continuity on the Board is especially important when a new chairperson is selected because the volume of cases and the complexity of the subject matter requires a firm grasp of the principles of administrative law," Mrs. Marie-Jewell says.

The *Labour Standards Act* requires the Board to consist of five members, including the Chairperson, all of whom hold office for a term not exceeding five years. Members of the Board may be reappointed.

The Board reports to the Minister of Safety and Public Services, through the Deputy Minister's office.

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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-113

Patterson has no difficulty with SCOF recommendation

YELLOWKNIFE (August 26) — Government Leader Dennis Patterson says the government doesn't have any difficulties with the Standing Committee on Finance recommendation concerning the recent awarding of petroleum delivery contracts.

He said today that he will be consulting with committee chairman John Pollard on who will undertake the independent review.

"I'm assured that the process used by the government in awarding the contracts was fair and that evaluation of the proposals was consistently applied. Regardless, I'm happy to cooperate with the committee in light of the strong concerns its members have expressed."

The call for proposals resulted in recent approval of petroleum delivery contracts in 22 communities.

The new contracts provide for an additional five-year option. The extension will allow fuel contractors to develop long-term business plans and secure long-term financing.

Mr. Patterson said the independent review will, among other matters, examine documents and interview people involved in the proposal evaluation and contract awarding process. It would also examine the concerns of people or firms who presented contract proposals.

The government leader is attending the annual Premiers' Conference at Whistler, B.C., and expects to return to Yellowknife at the weekend.

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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-114

New Advisory Committee on French Language Services

YELLOWKNIFE (August 27) — Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo announced today the creation of an Advisory Committee on French Language Services.

The committee will include representatives from the Fédération Franco-TéNOise (FFT), the organization representing French speaking northerners; representatives of local Francophone associations in Hay River, Fort Smith, Iqaluit and Yellowknife; and, officials from the territorial departments of Culture and Communications, Health, Justice, and Social Services.

Committee members will exchange ideas on the implementation of French language services in the Northwest Territories. Discussions will deal with provision of language services in health, social services, libraries and other cultural institutions. The mandate of the committee does not include discussions on issues relating to education.

A preliminary meeting was held in April to discuss the committee's terms of reference. The committee is to meet four times a year. It will then submit an Activity Report to the Minister of Culture and Communications in March, 1992.

Contact: **David Porter**
Deputy Minister
Department of Culture and Communications
(403) 873-7146



Government Plans for Consultation Haven't Changed

YELLOWKNIFE (August 27) — Government Leader Dennis Patterson said today there is no reason for a northern environmental group to demand that details of a draft interim water agreement with Alberta be made public.

He said the government's plans include public input and have not changed since it announced negotiations with Alberta during the July session of the Legislative Assembly.

The process, communicated to the Coalition Against Pulp Mill Pollution, included public consultation once the draft agreement had been completed and presented to Cabinet.

"The agreement is presently being finalized by officials of both governments. It's a draft only. Nothing has been signed. A decision won't be made until the consultation process takes place," he said.

Mr. Patterson said his letter to the coalition July 9 explained the negotiating process would take place on a government-to-government basis with no other participants or observers.

"Moreover, once a draft agreement has been negotiated, we will be consulting with the Coalition and the public to obtain their input and comments before we sign anything," the letter stated.

Mr. Patterson said the government's strategy in water negotiations is the protection of both residents and the aquatic system.

"The bottom line remains that residents of the Northwest Territories must be able to drink the water and eat the fish without fear of adverse health effects."

In announcing negotiations between the NWT and Alberta, Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo explained that any agreement arising out of the talks would be an interim measure only until a full and comprehensive transboundary water agreement can be negotiated.

Contact: Art Sorensen
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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-116

NWT Hosts Justice Ministers' Meeting

YELLOWKNIFE (August 28) — Ministers of Justice, Attorneys General, Solicitors General, and Ministers responsible for Juvenile Justice from across Canada will be meeting in Yellowknife September 4 and 5.

The gathering will mark the first time the ministers have travelled to the Northwest Territories for their annual meeting.

"By coming here, the ministers will see justice issues from a different perspective. The meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for ministers to discuss the important issues facing the justice system today," Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne says.

The meeting begins Wednesday with a session for provincial and territorial ministers. Civil matters will be discussed Wednesday afternoon. On Thursday, provincial and territorial ministers will meet with their federal counterparts.

Among the topics to be discussed will be the rôle of women in the justice system. Ministers are also expected to discuss aboriginal justice issues in preparation for their attendance Friday at a conference on aboriginal justice issues in Whitehorse.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-117

Edmonton Consultant To Handle Investigation

YELLOWKNIFE (August 30) — Edmonton consultant Barry J. Burgess will conduct the investigation into union allegations of ministerial and senior management interference with social assistance payment decisions made by social workers.

The announcement was made today by Deputy Government Leader Stephen Kakfwi who also released the terms of reference for the investigation scheduled to begin next week.

Mr. Burgess, a certified management accountant, is a former assistant deputy minister of regional operations with Alberta Family and Social Services who retired from the Alberta government earlier this year.

In that position, he was responsible for managing departmental expenditures in excess of \$1 billion and a staff of 4,700 through six regional directors and the Executive Director of Michener Centre.

Mr. Kakfwi said the investigation will include interviews of Minister of Social Services Jeannie Marie-Jewell, ministerial staff, her deputy minister and two assistant deputy ministers.

The independent investigator will also interview staff of the department's Fort Smith office who are available and prepared to speak and who can provide information relevant to the entries, notes and circumstances referred to in photocopied documents obtained by the Union of Northern Workers and turned over to the RCMP.

Mr. Kakfwi said staff scheduled to be interviewed will be given reasonable notice of the request and be advised that they may have a representative of the UNW or counsel present during the interview.



Edmonton Consultant To Handle Investigation: Page 2

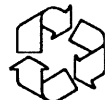
"Nothing disclosed by them will later be used against them in a civil, criminal or employment-related action or proceeding," he said.

UNW allegations are based on confidential client material obtained by the union from an undisclosed source. For the most part, the material consists of internal memos that note sensitive client information along with personal notations by social workers and senior management.

Mr. Kakfwi said the investigation will also review the systems and methods of communicating social assistance client or applicant complaints between the various levels of the department - including the minister's office.

In addition, it will consider the issue of management supervision, reporting relationships and the ultimate accountability for decisions made in the granting or the withholding of social assistance benefits.

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Terms of Reference

Review of Allegations of Misconduct on the part of the Minister and Senior Officials of the Department of Social Services

1. Review and report on whether there was, in the opinion of the investigator, inappropriate interference by senior management or the Minister in the granting or withholding of social assistance by social workers in the Fort Smith Area Office.

Conduct the review by:

- (a) Examining the photocopies of documents provided by the Union of Northern Workers to the Department of Personnel and to the RCMP.
 - (b) Interviewing such staff of the Fort Smith Area Office as are available and prepared to speak who can provide information relevant to the entries, notes and circumstances referred to in the photocopied documents. ¹
 - (c) Interviewing the Minister of Social Services, Ministerial staff, the Deputy Minister and the two Assistant Deputy Ministers upon their knowledge of the entries, notes and circumstances referred to in the photocopied documents.
 - (d) Reviewing the systems or methods of communicating social assistance client or applicant complaints between the various levels of the department, including the Minister's office.
 - (e) Conduct the Review within the context of the Act and Regulations. ²
2. Report to the Government Leader on the interviews, review, and recommendations, if any. ³

Notes:

1. The persons to be interviewed should be given reasonable notice of the request and should be advised that they may have a representative of the UNW or counsel present during the interview if they wish. Staff should further be advised that nothing disclosed by them will later be used against them in any civil, criminal, or employment-related (e.g. discipline, suspension, etc.) action or proceedings.
2. The review is not intended as a legal review of the Social Assistance Act or Regulations. However, the investigator may request such opinions or legal advice from the Deputy Minister of Justice as are necessary to properly and comprehensively examine and report on the issues.
3. The report to the Government Leader shall be confidential and may not be discussed by the investigator with any other person without the express consent of the Government Leader.

News Release/Communiqué

91-118

Victim Witness Assistants for the NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (September 5) — Victim witness assistants will soon be available in the two crown prosecutors' offices in the Northwest Territories following this week's signing of a memorandum of understanding between the governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories.

Federal Minister of Justice Kim Campbell and NWT Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne announced that the two governments will share the costs of placing a victim witness assistant in Yellowknife, and one in Iqaluit. The assistants will help victims and witnesses across the NWT.

"The assistants will help make the justice system more understandable to victims of crime, and to those who are called upon to give evidence. They will also help crown prosecutors maintain an awareness of the special needs of victims," says Ms. Campbell.

Mr. Ballantyne adds that "the focus will be on cases involving family violence, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, violence against women and other crimes against vulnerable witnesses."

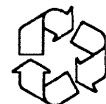
Crown prosecutors collect and present information to the judge which is needed to make an informed decision on the victim's case.

The victim witness assistants will help crown prosecutors communicate with victims and witnesses in communities, and will help prepare them for trial. The assistants will help explain the legal process to victims and witnesses, and will provide them information about the progress of their cases.

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or

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**Responsables de l'aide aux victimes et aux témoins
dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest**

Yellowknife (le 5 septembre 1991) - Dans la foulée de la signature cette semaine d'un protocole d'entente entre les gouvernements du Canada et des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, les bureaux des deux procureurs de la Couronne des Territoires du Nord-Ouest jouiront des services de responsables de l'aide aux victimes d'actes criminels et aux témoins.

La ministre fédérale de la Justice, M^{me} Kim Campbell, et le ministre de la Justice des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, M. Michael Ballantyne, ont annoncé que les deux gouvernements se partageront les frais inhérents à l'existence d'un responsable de l'aide aux victimes et aux témoins à Yellowknife et d'un autre à Iqaluit. Ces personnes viendront en aide aux victimes d'actes criminels et aux témoins dans l'ensemble des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

"Ces personnes feront mieux comprendre l'appareil judiciaire aux victimes d'actes criminels et à ceux qui sont appelés à témoigner. En outre, ils sensibiliseront davantage les procureurs aux besoins particuliers des victimes", précise M^{me} Campbell.

M. Ballantyne précise qu'"on se préoccupera surtout de la violence en milieu familial, de l'agression sexuelle, de l'abus sexuel des enfants, de la violence à l'égard des femmes et d'autres actes criminels commis à l'égard de témoins vulnérables."

Les procureurs de la Couronne réunissent et présentent aux juges des renseignements qui permettent de prendre une décision réfléchie en ce qui concerne les victimes.

Les responsables de l'aide aux victimes et aux témoins aideront les procureurs de la Couronne à communiquer avec les victimes et les témoins des collectivités et prépareront ces derniers en prévision des procès. Ils leur expliqueront les démarches juridiques et les tiendront au courant des progrès accomplis.

- 30 -

Communiquez avec: Lawrence Norbert, coordinateur, victimes
Ministère de la Justice
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(403) 873-7453

Don Avison, conseiller général et directeur
Bureau régional de Yellowknife
Ministère de la Justice du Canada
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**FEDERAL PROVINCIAL TERRITORIAL MEETING
MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR JUSTICE**

YELLOWKNIFE, NWT, September 5, 1991 -- The annual meeting of federal, provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for Justice, chaired by the Honourable Kim Campbell, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, concluded here today. This meeting followed a one-day meeting of provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for Justice, chaired by the Honourable Michael Ballantyne, Minister of Justice for the Northwest Territories.

The following issues were discussed at the joint meeting:

ABORIGINAL JUSTICE

All Ministers stressed their commitment to consultations with aboriginal peoples and with each other in the area of aboriginal justice.

Minister Campbell noted that Aboriginal People and Justice Administration, a federal discussion paper, was released to stimulate discussion to achieve a system of justice for aboriginal people that is equitable, fair and inclusive.

Ministers noted that several recent inquiries have highlighted the problems and inequities faced by aboriginal people in the justice system.

The Manitoba Minister of Justice, the Honourable James McCrae, reported on the released recommendations of the Manitoba Aboriginal Justice Inquiry and said the Government of Manitoba looks forward to working with the federal government and all Manitobans towards more appropriate justice services for Aboriginal peoples.

Ministers noted that there would indeed be an important role for the federal government in responding to these recommendations. The federal Minister of Justice reaffirmed her commitment to work closely with all parties concerned with this important matter.

Annual Conference of Federal/Provincial/Territorial
Ministers Responsible for Justice
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Conférence annuelle des ministres fédéraux, provinciaux
et territoriaux responsables de la Justice
Yellowknife (T.N.-O.)

Mr. Ballantyne urged full consultation with provinces and territories. He noted that he had made available to Ministers a Northwest Territories discussion paper which stressed the importance of innovative approaches by and for Aboriginal people.

Ministers outlined major initiatives undertaken to reform the justice system and its approach to aboriginal people.

All Ministers agreed that this was a national priority to be worked on by both levels of government and Aboriginal peoples together.

Ministers will attend on September 6 and 7 the national Aboriginal Justice Conference in Whitehorse which marks the first major opportunity for all stakeholders in the aboriginal justice system to work together to identify priorities and develop a practical agenda for change.

WOMEN AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Minister Campbell informed her colleagues that the Symposium on Women, Law and the Administration of Justice, held in June 1991 in Vancouver, was well attended and extremely productive. More than two hundred recommendations were generated in the working sessions by the participants.

Ministers received a draft report from the Working group on Gender Equality in the Justice System and adopted a statement of commitment to gender equality in the administration of justice (attached). Ministers agreed that this was an area of priority.

The Ministers also agreed to extend for six months the mandate of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Gender Equality to study the recommendations from the Women and the Law Conference. Ministers recognize the need to work closely with the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group of Status of Women officials and officials from Solicitors General.

The recommendations of the Vancouver Symposium will be published in the proceedings of the Symposium and provided to the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Gender Equality as well as the judiciary, law schools and other organizations for consideration. Minister Campbell tabled a document outlining actions that the federal department would take immediately (attached).

SEABOYER AND GAYME ("RAPE SHIELD DECISION")

There was discussion of the recent decision by the Supreme Court of Canada declaring (s.276) of the Criminal Code to be unconstitutional. Officials were asked to begin work immediately on legislation to ensure the protection of complainants in sexual assault cases. These proposals would clarify and make more precise the procedures to be followed in order to ensure the rights of complainants in sexual assault cases are protected consistent with the Supreme Court's decision. Minister Campbell noted their hope that legislation could be introduced to amend the Criminal Code in October.

A number of Ministers stated that they are committed to working with the judiciary on a priority basis to develop effective educational programs to ensure that myths and stereotypes about women play no part in the judicial system.

CORRECTIONAL REFORM AND SENTENCING

Correctional Reform

Federal government proposals aimed at updating and refining Canada's correctional legislation, policies and procedures to make them more fair, effective and in keeping with current public values were outlined. Legislation, based on extensive consultations on the proposals, is expected to be introduced this fall by the Solicitor General.

Sentencing Reform

Ministers discussed a statement of purpose and principles of sentencing, a proposal for a sentencing and parole commission as well as rules of evidence and procedure for sentencing and miscellaneous technical amendments under consideration for introduction in the House of Commons. All provincial and territorial jurisdictions questioned the need for a sentencing and parole commission. Some questioned the need for a statement of principles and the proposed content of such a statement. Several jurisdictions felt that an express reference to Aboriginal Justice should be included in the Statement of purpose and principles.

Minister Campbell agreed to take into consideration the concerns and suggestions raised by her colleagues in deciding on the legislative packages to be introduced early in 1992.

FIREARMS

The federal Minister of Justice said that it is expected that Bill C-17 which amends Canada's firearms control legislation will receive third and final reading early this fall. Ministers also discussed a series of initiatives designed to protect Canadians from both accidental and criminal use of firearms including a general amnesty and training program.

Provincial and territorial Ministers made a number of suggestions for improving the legislation. While stressing the need for ongoing consultation on the regulations and other instruments which will bring the Bill into effect, they expressed strong support for Bill C-17 and urged passage of the Bill and proclamation of companion regulations at a very early date.

USE OF DEADLY FORCE

Federal, provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for Justice agreed in principle to amend the Criminal Code to restrict the use of deadly force by peace officers.

Minister Campbell indicated that provinces and territories would continue to be consulted in order that amendments to Section 25 and in particular, subsection 25(4) of the Criminal Code can be developed.

Ministers also discussed the need to have appropriate procedures in place to conduct independent reviews in cases where deadly force has been employed.

PROCEDURES IN CRIMINAL COURTS

The Ministers expressed a common concern with trial delays and with the difficulties which have been encountered in some jurisdictions since the Askov decision by the Supreme Court of Canada.

The federal Minister agreed to consult with the provinces and territories on possible alternatives to current court procedures which cause delays with a view to introducing new legislation aimed at streamlining criminal procedures in early 1992.

UNIFIED TRIAL COURTS

All jurisdictions are moving ahead with court reform. Unified family courts have been introduced in a number of jurisdictions. New Brunswick raised the issue of a pilot project for a unified criminal court in their province. Minister Campbell agreed to explore these proposals with New Brunswick and other interested provinces.

JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

At the suggestion of the Attorney General Newfoundland, the Honourable Paul Dicks, Ministers discussed the question of judicial accountability and the desirability of amendments to the federal Judges Act in this regard. The importance of judicial education was also noted. All Ministers indicated a willingness to address these issues.

COST-SHARING

Provincial and Territorial Ministers again expressed their unanimous concern about the negative effect of unilateral federal cost sharing decisions which have limited the longstanding financial support provided by the federal government to support programs such as legal aid, young offenders and victims services.

LEGAL AID

As part of their discussion on access to justice issues, the federal Minister of Justice agreed to participate in a provincial-territorial working group of officials which will review the delivery of legal aid services to ensure that it continues to provide Canadians access to the justice system.

Ministers will meet next year in Vancouver.

September 5, 1991

**FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FOLLOW-UP ACTION TO NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON
WOMEN, LAW AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

During the course of National Symposium on Women, Law and the Administration of Justice, it became clear that:

- there was consensus on certain matters over which the Department of Justice has responsibility; and
- participants were, to a large extent, unaware of work underway or completed by the Department of Justice, particularly in the area of research.

Therefore, as a result of representations made at the National Symposium of Women, Law and Administration of Justice with respect to matters that can be acted on immediately by the Federal Department of Justice, the Department undertakes:

1. to initiate a review of ongoing federal constitutional litigation which affects women's equality and to report back on the results of the review upon completion;
2. to focus efforts immediately on improving cultural sensitization training of federal prosecutors, with special emphasis on the Territories, where the Department does all prosecutions;
3. to place special emphasis, in the Department's public legal education efforts, on the elimination of racism in Canada;
4. to forward to Symposium participants copies of research reports already completed on areas about which concern was expressed and of which participants were unaware; and
5. to make special efforts, in future, to make people aware of the availability of studies carried out and reports published by the Department of Justice.
6. to continue efforts to increase the representation of women on the bench and other senior federal appointments relating to the justice system.
7. to continue to improve human resource policies in the Department of Justice, to provide an appropriate work environment for both women and men.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT ON GENDER EQUALITY

Attorneys General commit themselves in principle to adopt the following Statement of Commitment:

Attorneys General recognize that gender equality is a fundamental principle of the administration of justice and commit themselves to

- I. Eliminating gender-based discrimination in the justice system; and
- II. Implementing corrective actions and other strategies to achieve gender equality in the justice system.

Attorneys General recognize that all women do not experience the world in the same way, and that the complex interaction of issues which affect aboriginal women, women who are members of racial minorities and others, such as women with disabilities, must be explored in order to fully address gender-based inequalities in the justice system.

Attorneys General agreed that:

- a) The justice system should consistently provide equal access to justice for women;
- b) Legal theory, common-law, and statute law must be developed equally from both the male and female perspective;
- c) Myths and stereotypes about women and their roles as litigants, accused, witnesses, and lawyers must not be present in the justice system;
- d) The justice system must take into account the disadvantages which women in conflict with the law have experienced as women;
- e) Women working in the justice system must have the opportunity to participate fully as equals.

This is based on the recognition by Attorneys General that men's and women's experiences are different and that both experiences must be recognized as equally valid and credible.

Attorneys General commit themselves in principle to:

1. Ensure that all those who work in the justice system are sensitive to gender equity and the impact gender bias has in the system.

2. Take measures to ensure that the needs of women as litigants, victims and witnesses are met.
3. Promote the awareness of public legal education programs, and in particular those programs that enhance women's access to the justice system.
4. Support and encourage the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics in its continued development of a national data base which will allow the tracking of wife assault, sexual assault and spousal homicide from the time of the initial report of the incident to police to its ultimate disposition.
5. Facilitate the equitable representation of women in the justice system with particular emphasis on women in decision-making and policy-making roles.



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-119

New Membership in Western Tourism Conference

YELLOWKNIFE (September 5) — The Yukon and Northwest Territories Governments officially joined the membership of the Western Canadian Tourism Ministers' conference last week in Kananaskis, Alberta.

The Hon. Gordon Wray, Northwest Territories minister of Economic Development and Tourism, who attended the Aug. 29 meeting, is pleased with the union.

"Bringing all six jurisdictions together can only improve tourism in Western and Northern Canada," said Wray.

Three Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) between British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and two territories were agreed to in-principle during the meeting. They include Tourism Industry Standards and Certification; Cooperative Tourism Marketing; and Sharing of Research Information.

The Standards and Certification and Cooperative Marketing MOUs were originally signed in March, 1990 by the four western provinces. The discussions focussed on including the two territorial ministers in these MOUs.

The Research Sharing Memorandum will allow for open interchange of tourism research findings between the western provinces and the territories and their respective industries.

"The MOU discussions were a positive step in government's mandate to provide private operators with the tools they need to succeed," added Wray.

"By joining with the western ministers, both the Yukon and Northwest Territories strengthen their abilities to face the tourism challenges of the future," said Yukon Tourism minister, the Hon. Art Webster.

"Not only are the two territories in an improved position, but the four western provinces will benefit from the tools and skills we bring to the table."

Alberta Tourism minister, the Hon. Don Sparrow, hosted the meeting and is confident that the greater level of cooperation between the territories and provinces will facilitate growth in the industry.

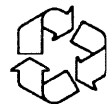


New Membership in Western Tourism Conference: Page 2

"We all agree that the Yukon and Northwest Territories will add value to any agreements made by the group. All six delegations now have a stronger basis for developing joint tourism initiatives in the future," Sparrow said on behalf of the ministers of the four western provinces.

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or **Susan Enge**
Public Affairs Officer
Department of the Executive
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91-120

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Minister Announces Community Literacy Grants

YELLOWKNIFE (September 9) — Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi marked International Literacy Day, September 8, by announcing community literacy projects which will receive funding for 1991/92. Fifteen projects have received \$235,401 from the Department of Education's Community Literacy Projects Fund and six projects have received \$39,671 from the Walter and Duncan Gordon Charitable Foundation.

The Community Literacy Projects Fund was established by the Department of Education in 1989/90 as part of the NWT Literacy Strategy. It is designed to encourage community organizations to identify and implement literacy programs that will meet the needs of their community. This year the Gordon Charitable Foundation has worked closely with the Department of Education Literacy Office to provide funding to some of the projects.

"The focus of the foundation's program in Northern Canada is on assisting northern people to realize their own priorities and shape their own future," says Jane Glassco, a foundation trustee. "Skills in literacy create opportunities for people to have more choices, greater control over their lives. We are pleased to be a partner in this process with community groups, the Department of Education and Arctic College."

Arctic College assisted with this partnership by receiving the funds from the foundation and disbursing the grants to the various projects.

"There is a good deal of work to be done to improve literacy levels in the Northwest Territories, and it takes the co-operation of many people and organizations to reach this goal," Mr. Kakfwi says. "The Department of Education and Arctic College greatly appreciate the help of the foundation in assisting communities to reach their own literacy goals," Mr. Kakfwi says.

The projects which have received support are:

The Arviat Education Council will receive a contribution of \$42,920 from the department to support that community's innovative approach to literacy programs. Over the past several years, the Education Council and the Community Training Advisory Committee have developed long-term plans for human resource development for Arviat. Developing the literacy and basic education skills of the people is a key component of the community's plan. The literacy programs are integrated with health promotion and education, the workplace, the special needs of women and the cultural life of the community. This is the third year that the department has provided support for the bilingual (English and Inuktitut) literacy programs in Arviat.

Two other projects, doing both English and Inuktitut literacy programs, have been funded in the Keewatin region. The department has contributed \$28,920 to the Baker Lake Education Council, and \$14,400 to the Chesterfield Inlet Education Council.



Minister Announces Community Literacy Grants: Page 2

A Slavey literacy project administered by the Hay River Dene Band has received \$15,400 from the department and \$4,800 from the foundation. This project will involve students in publishing Slavey newsletters and materials for the community once they have completed their basic literacy course.

An English literacy project of the Education Council in Snare Lake has received \$1,950. The grant will be used to purchase materials for students.

Two projects run by an inter-agency committee and administered by the Mary Kaeser Library Board in Fort Smith have received a total contribution of \$24,012, half from the Department of Education and half from the foundation. One is an English tutoring project and the second project will publish learners' writings collected from the region.

An English tutoring project run by the Fort Simpson Friendship Centre has received \$23,920. This innovative project has set up information tables in Fort Simpson stores to help people read labels, especially on "no-name" brands, in addition to the regular classroom and tutoring programs.

A project in English and Dogrib Literacy run by the Rae-Edzo School Society has received a total contribution of \$15,030, supported equally by the department and the foundation. Young adults in this project will have the chance to watch people do their jobs in the community as part of their literacy classes.

The Fort Franklin Education Council has received a contribution of \$15,030 supported equally by the two partners and will use drama, community radio, as well as cooking and nutrition to integrate English literacy into the community.

A grant of \$1,560 has been given to the Holman Education Council by the department to support Innuinaqtun literacy instruction in the community adult education program.

The department has provided a grant of \$11,100 to the Gjoa Haven Education Council for a parent-child English literacy project.

The department and the foundation have co-funded \$3,100 for an innovative, pilot project in Cambridge Bay that will use drama to further literacy in English and Innuinaqtun.

The Baffin Region Inuit Association has received \$31,560 for an Inuktitut literacy program that is focused on young offenders and inmates in the Baffin Correctional Centre. This project has also received funding from the NWT Literacy Council.

The Canadian Mental Health Association, Baffin Region, has received a contribution from the department to run an English and Inuktitut literacy tutoring program for the homeless in Iqaluit. This project has been co-funded by the NWT Literacy Council.

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91-121

Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Airlines First Expo '92 Corporate Partner

IQALUIT (September 9) — Government Leader Dennis Patterson says Canadian North, a division of Canadian Airlines International, has agreed to become the government's first corporate partner for Expo '92 in Seville, Spain.

He made the announcement Friday on behalf of Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Gordon Wray before an audience of 40 Baffin region tourism industry representatives. They were in Iqaluit for a series of meetings on the future of tourism in the Baffin and to attend the official opening of Iqaluit's new visitor's centre.

The corporate partnership involves a commitment on the part of Canadian North of at least \$100,000. Meetings between airline and departmental officials will take place this month to finalize details of the agreement.

Barry Rempel, General Manager of Canadian North, expressed confidence in the benefits the partnership would create for the marketing of arts and crafts, tourism and arctic foods to the European market.

"The arts and crafts, the incredible beauty and the culture of the Northwest Territories are unique and important to Canada and the world. Seville will provide an excellent opportunity to showcase ourselves to the world," he said.

Mr. Patterson said the agreement augurs well for the success of Expo '92 and the long term benefits for the North.

"The Government of the Northwest Territories has enjoyed a good working relationship with Canadian North and we share many common interests in developing a prosperous North. We worked well together at Expo '86 in Vancouver and we're looking forward to a successful venture in Seville."

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-122

Investigator Says Allegations of Interference Unfounded

YELLOWKNIFE (September 10) — Union allegations of interference by the Minister, her staff or the senior officials of the Department of Social Services are unfounded, according to an investigation conducted by Edmonton consultant Barry J. Burgess.

Government Leader Dennis Patterson released the report to the public today.

Mr. Burgess was asked to investigate the allegations that were based on confidential client material and internal memos obtained by the Union of Northern Workers from an undisclosed source and turned over to the RCMP.

"I found nothing in my review that would lead me to a conclusion that the Minister, her staff or her senior officials had issued any direction that would require social workers to issue unauthorized benefits to social allowance clients," he noted.

Mr. Burgess interviewed 14 people during his week-long investigation. He reports that three "front-line" social workers in Fort Smith were either not available or chose not to meet with him.

"It would have been helpful to meet with them to obtain their perspective ... however, I don't believe this hampered my investigation in any way. Information, pertinent to the review, was available in the form of workers' notes contained in the files which I reviewed."

Two social services staff members in Fort Smith were able to provide comments on four of the eight cases contained in the documentation, he said.

"They indicated that they had not received any direction that could be construed as exceeding policy."

Mr. Burgess' report contains six recommendations. For the most part, they are consistent with the findings of the Operational Review commissioned by the Minister of Social Services, in July of 1989, and with the findings of an interdepartmental team put together by the department, last April, to review the social assistance system.

Contact: Art Sorensen
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**REVIEW OF ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT
ON THE PART OF
THE MINISTER AND SENIOR OFFICIALS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

Conducted by

BARRY J. BURGESS

Between September 3 and 9, 1991

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Objective

The objective of this review was as set out in the terms of reference for the assignment:

"Review and report on whether there was, in the opinion of the investigator, inappropriate interference by senior management or the Minister in the granting or withholding of social assistance by social workers in the Fort Smith Area Office."

The Review

In conducting the review I examined copies of the documents which I was advised had been forwarded by Union of Northern Workers' officials to the RCMP and the Department of Personnel. The material appeared to be abstracts from Social Service files located in Fort Smith. While in Fort Smith, I examined the original files from which the documents had been copied.

I interviewed a number of people for the purpose of either obtaining background information for the review or their personal knowledge of the events or processes pertinent to the allegations of misconduct. Among those interviewed were the Minister, her Secretary, her Executive Assistant, the Deputy Minister and two Assistant Deputy Ministers of Social Services, the Fort Smith Regional Director and four members of the Social Services Fort Smith office.

I had asked to meet with three front line Social Workers in the Fort Smith area office who were either not available or chose not to meet with me; meeting with me was optional. It would have been helpful to meet with them to obtain their perspective on the handling of social assistance client complaints. However, I believe the lack of opportunity to meet with the workers did not in any way hamper my investigation. Information pertinent to the review was available in the form of workers' notes contained in the files which I reviewed.

Conclusion

I found nothing in my review that would lead me to a conclusion that the Minister, her staff or the Senior Officials of the Department of Social Services had issued any direction that would require Social Workers to issue unauthorized benefits to social assistance clients. Therefore, in my opinion, the allegations of inappropriate interference by the Minister, her staff or the Senior Officials of the Department of Social Services are unfounded.

THE REPORT

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this review was set out in the Terms of Reference for the assignment:

1. Review and report on whether there was, in the opinion of the investigator, inappropriate interference by senior management or the Minister in the granting or withholding of social assistance by social workers in the Fort Smith Area Office.

Conduct the review by:

- (a) Examining the photocopies of documents provided by the Union of Northern Workers to the Department of Personnel and to the R.C.M.P.
 - (b) Interviewing such staff of the Fort Smith Area Office as are available and prepared to speak who can provide information relevant to the entries, notes and circumstances referred to in the photocopied documents.
 - (c) Interviewing the Minister of Social Services, Ministerial staff, the Deputy Minister and the two Assistant Deputy Ministers upon their knowledge of the entries, notes and circumstances referred to in the photocopied documents.
 - (d) Reviewing the systems or methods of communicating social assistance client or applicant complaints between the various levels of the Department, including the Minister's office.
 - (e) Conduct the Review within the context of the Act and Regulations.
2. Report to the Government Leader on the interviews, review, and recommendations, if any.

Notes:

1. The persons to be interviewed should be given reasonable notice of the request and should be advised that they may have a representative of the U.N.W. or counsel present during the interview, if they wish. Staff should further be advised that nothing disclosed by them will later be used against them in any civil, criminal or employment-related (e.g. discipline, suspension, etc.) action or proceedings.

2. The review is not intended as a legal review of the Social Assistance Act or Regulations. However, the investigator may request such opinions or legal advice from the Deputy Minister of Justice as are necessary to properly and comprehensively examine and report on the issues.
3. The report to the Government Leader shall be confidential and may not be discussed by the investigator with any other person without the express consent of the Government Leader.

The report has been written without reference to case details to protect the confidentiality of clients.

BACKGROUND

At the outset of the assignment, I reviewed abstracts from the Public Service Act, the Interpretation Act, the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, as well as the Social Assistance Act and Regulations, the Social Assistance Program Manual, the report on the study of the Social Services department conducted by Peat Marwick Stevenson and Kellogg and the 1990 Annual Report of the Government of the Northwest Territories. This material provided a useful background and orientation prior to commencing the review called for by the Terms of Reference.

THE REVIEW

Documents and Files

I reviewed the copies of the documents provided to me which appeared to be abstracts from Social Services files. I was advised that this was the material provided by Union of Northern Workers officials to the RCMP and the Department of Personnel. While in Fort Smith on September 6, 1991, I examined the Department files from which these documents had been abstracted. My purpose in doing this was to confirm that the material had in fact been abstracted from Department files; to put the material into context since it was a limited abstract; and to obtain a reading of some pages which had been rendered illegible in the photocopying process.

The material reviewed consisted primarily of correspondence from Social Services headquarters officials to the Superintendent of the Social Services Fort Smith office, social workers' file notes and one file audit report. None of the material, in my opinion, constituted direction from either the Minister or Senior Officials that would cause the Superintendent or Social Workers to issue or withhold Social Allowance benefits inconsistent with policy or legislation.

Although not explicitly clear from the documentation, my perception was that the file audit was initiated by the request or action of a front line Social Worker. The outcome of the audit appears to have led to the resolution of a difficult relationship with a client who had made some unreasonable demands for Social Assistance.

Minister and Minister's Staff

In interviewing the Minister and her staff, all were consistently clear that they did not issue directions to Department officials and staff to either pay or withhold social allowance benefits. Of the eight cases included in the documents, the Minister was aware of four. Her involvement had been limited to referring the client concern to the Deputy Minister for investigation.

The majority of client calls to the Minister's office are fielded by the Minister's staff. Many involve clients seeking information on benefits or help in obtaining an early appointment with Area office workers. These clients are referred to the appropriate office supervisor or the supervisor is called by the Minister's secretary and asked to contact the client. The majority of concerns appear to be resolved at the first level of supervision.

Calls involving complex cases, policy interpretations and written complaints are normally referred by the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister's office for review. When the review is completed the Minister's office is normally notified of the outcome. The Minister is usually made aware of the more complex cases.

The Minister receives a limited number of calls directly or through her constituency office. If the client calls require follow up, they are referred to the Deputy Minister for review.

In reviewing the process for handling client concerns or complaints with Department staff, they acknowledged that in those cases referred from the Minister or her staff, the referral had been limited to a request for investigation and response to the client. There was nothing from the Minister or her staff that could be construed as direction or interference in the granting or withholding of social assistance.

Previous Minister and Staff

I interviewed the previous Minister, his Executive Assistant and the previous Deputy Minister of the Department of Social Services to compare the process followed by them in handling client concerns or complaints to that followed by the current Minister and her staff. My perception was that the process followed by the Ministers was very similar.

The major difference would appear to be that the volume of calls handled by the current Minister's office has apparently been considerably greater.

Senior Officials

I interviewed the Deputy Minister and two Assistant Deputy Ministers of the Department of Social Services. They acknowledged correspondence which they had originated and cases in which they had an involvement. Of the eight cases contained in the documents, the Senior Officials provided direction in four; the direction provided appears to have been within the limits of their authority and was not in my opinion inappropriate. In three other cases their involvement was limited to asking Area Office staff to review complaints or concerns. In the other case there appears to have been no involvement by Senior Officials.

Client complaints referred from the Minister's office normally go to the Deputy Minister with a request to investigate and communicate with the client with advice of the outcome being referred back to the Minister's office. In the revised organization of the Department of Social Services, the majority of complaints would now be handled by the Assistant Deputy Minister of Regional Operations and her Regional or Area office staff. Complex cases or those involving inter-departmental co-ordination would probably require the involvement of the Assistant Deputy Minister of Policy Development and Program Design and his staff.

The handling of complaints by the offices of the DM and ADMs appears to be appropriate. The volume of complaints being handled by the offices of the Senior Officials might be reduced if front line Social Workers were encouraged to ensure that clients were advised of their right to appeal the decisions of workers. The volume might also be reduced if the Department made it part of their standard operating procedures, that in the first instance a client had the right and was made aware of the right to a review by the Regional or Area Supervisor.

Fort Smith Staff

I travelled to Fort Smith on September 6, 1991 and met with the Regional Director and four members of the staff of the Social Services department. The Regional Director provided background information on the regional operations of Social Services. Two staff members were able to provide comments on four of the eight cases contained in the documentation. They indicated that they had not received direction that could be construed as exceeding policy. All staff that met with me offered their comments on the process for handling client complaints and concerns.

It was felt that a number of clients would tend to use the Minister's office as their first avenue of complaint or appeal if they were not satisfied with a worker's decision. Prior to her election as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, the Minister had served as chairperson of the Social Assistance Appeal Committee and may have been seen by clients as a potential advocate. Also at the time of being turned down by a worker, it is not uncommon for a client to feel somewhat hostile toward the bureaucracy and to want nothing further to do with department staff, therefore, the tendency to take their complaint or appeal to the Minister.

In spite of the approach taken by a number of clients in the past, it was felt that greater emphasis could be placed on advising clients of their right to appeal. It was also suggested that greater emphasis be placed on suggesting that clients review their concerns with the Area Supervisor or Regional Superintendent. It was felt that the majority of client concerns could be resolved locally without the need to involve the Minister's office or headquarters staff.

I had asked to meet with three front line Social Workers in Fort Smith who were unavailable or not prepared to meet with me (meeting with me was optional). Two of the workers had some involvement in four of the cases contained in the documentation. I don't believe that the investigation was impeded by not being able to meet with these workers as the documentation contained their own recollection of events as recorded in their file notes. I would have appreciated receiving their thoughts, however, on worker/client relations and the process for handling client concerns or complaints.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on my examination of documentation and files and my interviews with the Minister, her staff, Senior Officials and Fort Smith staff of the department of Social Services, I concluded that there was no evidence to support the allegations of inappropriate interference by the Minister or senior management in the granting or withholding of social assistance by Social Workers in the Fort Smith area office. It is therefore my opinion, based on this examination, that the allegations are unfounded.

I found the methods and processes used by the offices of the Minister and Senior Officials to handle calls, complaints, or concerns registered by Social Assistance clients or applicants, to be appropriate. The department of Social Services might consider initiating steps to reduce the volume of calls coming into the Minister's office, however, there is no guarantee that the steps would change the approach taken by clients or applicants.

There appears to be considerable controversy surrounding the Social Assistance program. There may be merit, therefore, in considering the introduction of a program audit function to review the administration of the Social Assistance program on an ongoing basis. A program audit function normally examines policy compliance, operating procedures and the appropriateness and functioning of current policy. It is broader in its focus than a financial audit and may be more appropriate for the Social Assistance program.

There may be a need to review the protection provided in legislation, policy and practice to guard the confidentiality of personal information which citizens/clients provide to the Government in accessing its programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following suggestions/recommendations are offered for your consideration:

1. Review the formal appeal process to see if it can be streamlined; the time required to hear an appeal may be a deterrent to clients/applicants using the process.
2. Consider a standing operating procedure that would formally recognize the Area Superintendent or Supervisor as the first level of review in the processing of clients/applicants complaints.
3. Encourage front line workers to ensure that clients/applicants are aware of their right to a review or appeal and that they are assisted in the process.
4. Consider expediting the revision of the Social Assistance program policy and procedure manual and ensuring that it is user friendly from the perspective of the front line worker.
5. Consider the introduction of a program audit function to review the Social Assistance program on an ongoing basis. The program audit function is broader than a pure financial audit and would review policy compliance, delivery operations and the viability or appropriateness of current policy.
6. Consider the adequacy of protection provided in current legislation, policy and practice to safeguard the confidentiality of personal information which citizen/clients provide to the Government in accessing its programs.

APPENDIX

MATERIAL REVIEWED

Abstracts from Social Services, Fort Smith files (Material provided by UNW to Department of Personnel).

Fort Smith, Social Services files from which documents had been abstracted.

Social Assistance program manual (policies and procedures).

Social Assistance Act and Regulations.

Abstracts from the following legislation:

- The Public Service Act
- Interpretation Act
- Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act

Peat Marwick Stevenson & Kellog study of Social Services for the Government of the N.W.T.

1990 Annual Report - Government of the N.W.T.

Press Clippings related to the allegations.



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-123

'Fisheries Act Charges Disappointing'

YELLOWKNIFE (September 12) - Deputy Minister of Transportation Hal Gerein says he's surprised and disappointed the government has been charged with violations as a result of winter road construction practices.

The charges, filed by the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans September 5, relate to the federal Fisheries Act Regulations and involve ice road construction last spring.

"The federal government's action in laying charges, particularly after the close cooperation we have had on our ice road program comes as quite a surprise," Mr. Gerein said today.

He explained the department considers the charges to be very serious with a far reaching impact on the department's winter road program.

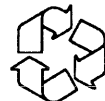
"The results of this case could potentially lead to earlier road closures or even discontinuation of winter roads in areas where they can not be constructed to the satisfaction of the federal regulatory agencies. The impact on the the NWT and communities that these roads serve could be devastating."

As part of the Department of Transportation annual winter road program, a road was constructed to connect the communities of Fort Simpson, Wrigley, Fort Norman, Fort Franklin, Norman Wells and Fort Good Hope. The road is a major transportation link for the communities for the supply of fuel, food and equipment until late spring when the river barging system then takes over. For Fort Franklin, it is the only re-supply route.

However, in early March unusually warm weather throughout the area created heavy overflows of water onto the various ice bridges. This resulted in water to a depth of up to three feet on several crossings preventing the passage of vehicles and threatening to trap commercial trucks and equipment until the following winter road season.

As a result the department initiated emergency repairs in order to reopen the highway to complete the re-supply, Mr. Gerein explained.

The normal winter road spring cleanup began in late March and involved the removal of culverts and other material, as well as the V-cutting of crossings to allow the flow of water and control erosion.



'Fisheries Act Charges Disappointing' : Page 2

"We're committed to carrying out our activities in an environmentally responsible manner. We have had no indication from Fisheries that the winter road had caused any environmental damage and in fact had been led to believe that Fisheries were satisfied with our spring cleanup actions."

Contact: D. Bruce Rattray
Assistant Deputy Minister
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920-3461



News Release/Communiqué

91-124

Funds for Emergency Preparedness in Northwest Territories

YELLOWKNIFE (September 13) — Emergency preparedness projects in the Northwest Territories will receive \$340,158 from the Canadian and territorial governments under the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP).

Federal Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness, Marcel Masse, and territorial Minister Responsible for Emergency Measures, Tom Butters, announced the contribution. The Government of Canada contributed \$172,509 and the Government of the Northwest Territories contributed \$167,649.

The funds will pay for communications equipment for Fort Liard and Fort Simpson. The funds will also go toward an ongoing project, directed by the Emergency Measures Organization of the Northwest Territories, to enhance emergency preparedness in the NWT through training and education.

"For the past 10 years, the governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories have been working together to strengthen emergency preparedness capability throughout the Northwest Territories," said Mr. Masse. "Today's projects are tangible evidence of just how fruitful that relationship has been."

"These contributions show our continued awareness and commitment to the need for emergency preparedness planning," said Mr. Butters. "They also provide us with the means to assist the planning process in helping to alleviate the potential concerns of the public for the health and property of Northerners when responding to an emergency."

The JEPP enables the federal government to contribute to or undertake jointly with the provinces and territories emergency preparedness projects that enhance the national response capability. Since the inception of the program in 1980, the Government of Canada has contributed approximately \$1 million toward joint emergency preparedness projects in the Northwest Territories.

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	Emergency Preparedness Canada		Government of the NWT
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-125

Progress Made on RCMP Contract

YELLOWKNIFE (September 16) — Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne has signed an agreement in principle for a new 20-year contract for the RCMP.

The agreement in principle calls for no change to the existing federal, provincial and territorial cost-share ratios for the next 20 years.

However, the proposed contract does require provincial and territorial governments to pay additional costs for such things as accommodation, pensions for members and public servants, unemployment insurance premiums, training costs and an External Review Committee and Public Complaints Commission, phased in over a three-year period.

The NWT, Yukon, and eight provinces have been negotiating with the federal government for a new contract for the past two years.

The federal government is responsible for policing services in the provinces and territories in the areas of drug enforcement, customs and excise, and enforcement of other federal statutes. Provinces and territories, on the other hand, are responsible for enforcement of the *Criminal Code* and provincial or territorial statutes.

In the last contract, the federal government had agreed to a 70 per cent territorial and 30 per cent federal sharing of total costs. In negotiations for a new contract, the federal government had proposed dropping its commitment from 30 to 25 per cent. This, along with substantive changes in specific items the NWT pays for, would have meant an additional expenditure of \$4 to \$5 million for the NWT.

In 1990-91, the Government of the Northwest Territories spent close to \$22,500,000 on RCMP services for the NWT. The new contract will cost the Government of the Northwest Territories an additional amount estimated at \$550,000 in 1992-93, \$1,050,000 in 1993-94, and \$1,600,000 in 1994-95.

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Progress Made on RCMP Contract : Page 2

"One of the key areas for work prior to the signing of the contracts will be financial and management accountability of the police force to the territories and provinces. We have a good working relationship with the RCMP at the "G" Division (NWT) level. However, better accountability mechanisms, both locally and at the national level, will provide cost benefits and improvements to the quality of law enforcement," says Mr. Ballantyne.

There are about 250 RCMP in the Northwest Territories, serving the needs of 65 communities.

Final agreements are expected to be in place by January 31, 1992, and the agreements would take effect April 1, 1992.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-126

New Public Library Opening in Iqaluit

YELLOWKNIFE (September 16) — A new public library for the Baffin region will be opening later this month in Unikkaarvik, a newly completed facility in Iqaluit, according to Minister of Culture and Communications Titus Allooloo.

The Iqaluit Centennial Library, in addition to standard collections, has acquired the Manning Collection of 7,000 books, maps, pamphlets and photographs of the northern and polar regions. The collection, donated to the Government of the Northwest Territories by Dr. Thomas Henry Manning in 1989, is valued at more than \$300,000. Canadian North shipped the collection to its current location free of charge.

The library has also added about 100 titles to its French video collection including documentaries for children and adults.

Unikkaarvik also houses the Baffin Regional Library which serves 5 other community libraries, deposit collections and books-by-mail service from Sanikiluaq to Grise Fiord.

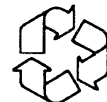
"The people of Iqaluit and the Baffin region have two fine new libraries. Their expanded collections will serve all the people of the Baffin," said Mr. Allooloo.

Unikkaarvik, the result of combining two separate projects between the Departments of Culture and Communications and Economic Development and Tourism, includes the Baffin Regional Visitors Centre and a combined office for the Baffin Tourism Association and the Baffin Regional Chamber of Commerce.

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Iqaluit Local Librarian
Baffin Regional Library
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-127

New Visitor Centre Opens in Iqaluit

IQALUIT (September 16) —Baffin Island's new regional visitor centre, has been officially opened by Government Leader Dennis Patterson and Minister of Culture and Communications Titus Allooloo.

The \$3 million building, officially opened last week in Iqaluit on behalf of Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Gordon Wray, is named 'Unikkaarvik' - an Inuit word meaning a place where legends, myths, or stories are told.

The centre will house the region's most prized arts and crafts displays, a video show room, a unique collection of historical books and an enlarged regional library.

The centre opens to a main lobby containing a 2,400 pound, life-size pink marble carving of an Inuit drum dancer. A beautiful tapestry woven by the Pangnirtung Tapestry Studio also hangs on permanent display in the lobby. The tapestry, titled "Our Ancestor's Land is our Land Now," was commissioned by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

In another corner of the centre, skulking along a simulated ice floe-edge, is a stuffed polar bear and several seals.

Fifteen television sets in a video show room offer a quiet viewing of the island's scenic mountain range, brightly-colored flora and fauna, the spirit of the Baffin people and their connection to the land.

Mr. Allooloo formally accepted the private collection of T.H. Manning. Worth over \$300,000, Manning's collection comprises of valuable historical books written on the Arctic and Antarctic. This superb collection, never published, will be housed in a humidity and temperature controlled environment.

"The collection is one of the finest of its kind and is a treasure-trove, containing many unpublished reports also on Arctic physiography," said Mr. Allooloo.

Dr. Manning was known to the Inuit as 'Kopanoak' or snow bunting. He led the British-Canadian Arctic Expedition to Southampton Island from 1936-39.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-128

Measles Vaccinations Advised

YELLOWKNIFE (September 17) — The Department of Health is alerting regional health boards about an outbreak of red measles now occurring in the Keewatin and Baffin regions.

More than 50 people in the Baffin and Keewatin have contracted red measles over the past few weeks. Most of those affected are teenagers, although some younger and older people have also been ill. People who have been in contact with measles are receiving booster shots.

Anyone unsure of their need for vaccine should consult their local Health Centre nurse or family doctor.

Red measles is a viral disease. NWT residents are asked to be on the look-out for a rash associated with a fever. Other typical signs are quite often a chest infection, followed by a fever and a rash covering the whole body.

Most young people in the Northwest Territories have already received the measles vaccine, and most people over the age of 35 had the disease when they were children. Teenagers and others, however, may need to receive vaccine boosters.

The current outbreak has spread to the Northwest Territories from Ontario. An outbreak of red measles also occurred in Quebec recently.

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Department of the Executive,
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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-129

Deputy Judges Appointed

YELLOWKNIFE (September 23) — Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne has announced the appointment of two new deputy judges for the Northwest Territories and the reappointment of two others.

The two new judges are Dolores Hansen of Alberta and Judith Webster of Manitoba. Jane Auxier of British Columbia and Patricia Cumming of New Brunswick have been reappointed.

The appointments are for two years. Deputy territorial judges have all the powers, duties and functions of territorial court judges. They fill in, as their schedules permit, when extra judges are needed for court circuits in the NWT.

Judge Auxier and Judge Cumming served as deputy judges for the NWT from July 1988 to July 1990 and July 1989 to July 1991 respectively.

Before her appointment to the Manitoba Provincial Court in 1989, Judge Webster had a distinguished litigation career with the federal Department of Justice and as counsel with the Law Society of Manitoba.

Judge Hansen, appointed to the bench in 1982, is currently President of the Alberta Provincial Court Judges' Association. She has had a distinguished judicial career with extensive work involving young offenders, child welfare and custody and child sexual abuse.

The appointments took effect September 11, 1991.

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Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

September 23, 1991

The following contracts have been awarded under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea. For information purposes, the names of the responsible ministers are listed at the start of each project announcement.

Project: Wrigley School
Minister: Steve Kakfwi, Education

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Treeline Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct a new school in the community of **Wrigley**. The value of the contract is \$1,416,791.

The school will contain 4 classrooms, a library, a kitchenette, an office and support space.

The general contractor has subcontracted a local company, **Cap Mountain Ventures** of Wrigley to haul gravel and perform the site work. The general contractor has also subcontracted two other companies, **Kiwi Electrical Ltd** of Fort Simpson for the electrical work and **Central Mechanical** of Yellowknife for the mechanical work. In addition, the contractor has subcontracted **Fitzgerald Carpeting** of Yellowknife to do the flooring for the project. The **Petanea Co-op** in Wrigley will provide accommodation for the workers on the project.

Construction of the building started in September, 1991 and is scheduled to be completed by May, 1992.

Project: Coppermine Gas Station & Airport Fuel Facility
Minister: Tom Butters, Government Services

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Hovat Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife to supply materials and construct an in-town gas station, along with a new fuel storage facility and dispenser building at the airport in the community of **Coppermine**. The value of the contract is \$1,362,945.

The contractor has subcontracted the granular earthworks to a local company, **Arctic Coast Enterprises** of Coppermine. **Polar Painting** of Yellowknife has been subcontracted to do the painting and **Back Bay Welding** of Yellowknife will undertake the tank erection. **Bartle and Gibson Ltd** of Yellowknife will also supply some of the materials for this project.

The site work started in August, 1991 along with the in-town gas station which will be operational by November, 1991. The airport fuel facility will be completed in September, 1992.

Project: Coral Harbour Maintenance Garage
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Hovat Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct a maintenance garage in the community of **Coral Harbour**. The value of the contract is \$506,817.

The contractor will build a 2-bay garage which was designed to meet the requirements of the community. The garage will also contain a workshop annex and showers for Hamlet workers. The garage will be wood framed in order to maximize the local labour component on the project.

The materials for the foundation work were air freighted into the community in order to begin work on the project at an earlier date. The foundation for this structure was already finished when the materials for the construction of the building arrived in August by barge.

The general contractor has subcontracted the framing, roofing and drywall work of the building to **Netser Brothers Construction Ltd** from Coral Harbour. In addition, **J & R Mechanical** from Yellowknife has also been subcontracted to undertake the mechanical work. **Nanook Electrical Ltd** from Coral Harbour will perform the labour for the electrical work.

Construction on the building started in August, 1991, and is scheduled to be completed by February, 1992.





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-130

Ice No Longer a Barrier

YELLOWKNIFE (September 23) — Pelly Bay is one step closer to being served by annual sealift, according to Minister of Transportation Gordon Wray.

The Canadian Coast Guard ship Des Groseilliers broke through the hard, multi-year ice at the north end of Pelly Bay September 3, fulfilling its obligation to the territorial government to investigate the ice condition in Pelly Bay. The Des Groseilliers discovered in its journey that the bay contains the type of ice which can be cut through by an ice-breaking ship during possible future annual sealifts.

Ice-bound year round and with no access to a seasonal road, Pelly Bay has been extremely costly to resupply each year. It is the only community in the Northwest Territories which relies solely on airlift for its supplies.

"This is an historic event for the NWT. It means the cost of resupplying Pelly Bay stands to drop substantially if depth of water and other conditions prove favourable enough to permit annual sealift," Mr. Wray said.

Mr. Wray said he was delighted the Coast Guard responded to his request to have the ice conditions around Pelly Bay investigated.

Until a sufficiently deep channel through Pelly Bay is charted by the Canadian Hydrographic Service, guaranteed safety of future supply ships cannot be given, he added.

"This is a federal responsibility and both John Ningark and I have been working hard to have this water charted and ice conditions verified."

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-131

Andersen named to review POL contract process

YELLOWKNIFE (September 23)— Ben Andersen, a certified general accountant, has been named to review concerns expressed by the Standing Committee on Finance regarding the recent awarding of petroleum delivery contracts by the territorial government.

The announcement was made today by Government Leader Dennis Patterson.

Mr. Andersen, now living in Port Coquitlam, B.C., recently retired as manager of the internal audit and evaluation group for the Yukon government. He has 26 years experience in government and several years experience in public practice and industry.

The territorial government's call for proposals resulted in the recent awarding of petroleum delivery contracts in 22 communities. The new contracts provide for an additional five-year option to allow fuel contractors the opportunity to develop long-term business plans and secure long-term financing.

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE
REVIEW OF PETROLEUM DELIVERY CONTRACT AWARDS**

The Government of the Northwest Territories recently awarded 22 contracts for the delivery of fuel oil in NWT communities under a Request For Proposal which attracted 102 proposals.

Concerns expressed by individuals and the Standing Committee on Finance, about the process used in awarding the contracts, specifically in four of the 22 communities, have led to a committee request for a government review.

The Government of the Northwest Territories has agreed to a review of the process employed under "Request For Proposal, Fuel Delivery Service", for compliance with the relevant sections of the Financial Administration Act and contract regulations, and the Business Incentive Policy.

The review will focus on the awarding of contracts in those communities where there has been an expression of concern. Pending the results of the review a decision will be made on whether or not to extend the review to awards granted in communities where there has been no expression of concern.

Terms:

- a) As a first step, selecting up to 5 communities for which a review will be conducted.
- b) The reviewer may conduct such interviews as considered necessary for the review.
- c) The reviewer will consider all steps in the process leading up to contract awards. This will include an examination of the request for proposal; communications materials and other aids to potential proposers; the evaluation of proposals, including the application of evaluation criteria.
- d) The reviewer shall be bound by the confidentiality clauses contained in the Request For Proposal.
- e) The reviewer shall provide a confidential report to the Government Leader by December 31, 1991.



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-132

Peace-Athabasca-Slave Rivers Study Signed

YELLOWKNIFE (September 27) — An agreement signed today by the federal government, Alberta and Northwest Territories is a positive step toward protecting the aquatic environment in the Northwest Territories, according to Minister of Health Nellie Cournoyea.

Ms. Cournoyea was in Fort McMurray to sign the Peace-Athabasca-Slave River basin study agreement on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The three-and-a-half year technical study, funded under the Canada Water Act and Alberta's Water Resources Act, will examine the cumulative impacts of development on the Peace, Athabasca and Slave rivers.

The \$12.3 million study will investigate plant, animal and human use of the river systems. It will provide data on current conditions and monitor changes.

The Government of the Northwest Territories has assisted in the development of the study program, but will not be contributing funds since the majority of the work will be in Alberta.

"Our interest in this program is to help ensure the protection of our northern environment over the long term. Changes in water quality upstream will be of concern to all Northerners, especially those who rely on the Peace Athabasca watershed for their livelihood," Ms. Cournoyea said.

The data from this study program will be compared to the data collected in the Northwest Territories under the Slave River Environmental Monitoring Program. This program examines contaminants in water sediment, aquatic animals and fish in the Northwest Territories portion of the Slave River.

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Peace-Athabasca-Slave Rivers Study Signed: Page 2

The make-up of the 21-member board which will oversee the Peace-Athabasca-Slave Rivers study was also announced today. The two territorial representatives on the board are Bob McLeod, Assistant Deputy Minister with the territorial Department of Renewable Resources, and Dennis Bevington, the Mayor of Fort Smith.

Federal, provincial and territorial government representatives first met in 1989 to discuss the need for technical studies in the Peace-Athabasca-Slave river basin. The basin includes the Alberta and Northwest Territories portions of the Peace, Athabasca and Slave river mainstem, their important tributaries and their deltas.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-133

Young Writers Win Macpherson Literary Award

YELLOWKNIFE (September 30) — Brenda Flunkie, a student at Mezi Community School in Lac La Martre, and Stacey Marcellais, a student at Charles Yohin School in Nahanni Butte, have received Macpherson Literary Awards, Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi announced today.

Ms. Flunkie has received a cash prize of \$150 for "Rain Storm in the Bush," a poem she wrote last year, when she was in Grade 7. The daughter of Freddie and Mary Adele Flunkie, she is interested in art, soccer and skiing. Ms. Marcellais has received a book prize for "Coming Home," a poem she wrote while in Grade 8.

"Literature is an important way to preserve and share our culture," Mr. Kakfwi says. "Writing encourages students to examine their surroundings and feelings before putting their ideas on paper. As a result, we are able to enjoy the many aspects of life in the Northwest Territories through the work of these young writers."

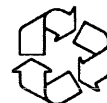
The Macpherson Literary Award was established in memory of Norman J. Macpherson, a long-time NWT educator. The award is presented annually to the winner (or winners) of a literary competition conducted by the Department of Education.

The competition is open to all NWT junior and senior high school students. Consideration is given to the grade level of the entrant, with the possibility of separate awards for Grades 7 to 9, and Grades 10 to 12.

Students may submit any number of entries in the categories of poetry, prose, essay and drama. The submission must be the students' original work and is judged mainly on creativity and style. There is no restriction on length, but the following guidelines may be used: poetry - 9 to 50 lines; prose, essay and drama - 700 words for Grades 7 to 9, and 1,000 words for Grades 10 to 12.

To encourage the development of literature in native languages, there will be two prize categories. The first is for submissions written in English or French and the second for works in any dialect of Inuktitut or in one of the Dene languages.

.../2



Young Writers Win Macpherson Literary Award: Page 2

Up to \$500 in prize money and a Macpherson Coat of Arms plaque will be made available to the winners. However, the judges reserve the right to make no award if the standard of entries does not merit it in any particular year. The judging will be done by a panel of individuals qualified to evaluate the entries in the languages in which they are submitted.

The deadline for submissions for the 1991/92 competition is June 31, 1992.

For more information on the Macpherson Literary Award, please contact: Secretary, Student Travel and Exchange Committee, Department of Education, Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2L9, (403) 873-7673.

Contact: Lorne Smith
Secretary, Student Travel and Exchange Committee
Department of Education
(403) 873-7673



Rainstorm in the Bush

by Brenda Flunkie
Mezi Community School, Lac La Martre

The rain pounds hard
And rattles on the tent panes
The wind cries in the silent pines
It's a haunting, sad refrain.

The night is black and wet and cold
Clouds hide the crescent moon
No silvery star to wish upon
This night so drenched with gloom.

Inside the tent we sit beside the stove
Our faces all aglow
The cold, wet world is far away
We talk, our voices low.

You hold me in your arms so tight
I'm sheltered, safe and warm
The glow of love lit up the night
and we forgot the storm.

Coming Home

by Stacey Marcellais
Charles Yohin School, Nahanni Butte

Seas of memories came too when I saw
The river traveled its only path
as it washed away old footprints

The village was quiet and cried
loneliness for the life that was here
Only the trees whispering and the
lapping from the land are here

The Butte stood tall and lonely yet
proud savouring the sky
No more echoes that once sang the
mountain corners on warm summer days



91-134

Kakfwi Endorses Inherent Right to Self-Government

YELLOWKNIFE (October 1) — Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development says federal and constitutional proposals leave the door open for the recognition and entrenchment of an inherent right to self-government for Canada's aboriginal people.

"There are some some major hurdles to overcome before an acceptable constitutional package is reached. But, I'm optimistic it will happen," he said today.

Aboriginal rights are expected to be a major element of discussion during the next five months as a joint parliamentary committee travels across the country seeking public input into federal proposals released by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney last week.

Mr. Kakfwi noted the serious concern raised by the leaders of the Assembly of First Nations that the proposal does not call for the entrenchment of an inherent right to self-government within the constitution.

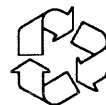
"The federal government and other governments should carefully consider the benefit of including the word 'inherent' in any constitutional amendment," Mr. Kakfwi stated. "Aboriginal people believe they have an inherent or natural right to self-government. They want this fact recognized in the constitution."

Parallel processes of consultation on the federal constitutional proposals are being initiated by various aboriginal organizations and federal and provincial governments must take aboriginal recommendations seriously, he said.

Mr. Kakfwi said the territorial government has supported the entrenchment of the right to self-government since the inaugural First Minister's Conference on Aboriginal Rights in 1983.

"Since then, we have undertaken our own initiatives to develop and implement aboriginal self-government models which best suit our northern population.

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Press Statement

Office of the Commissioner • Government of the Northwest Territories • Yellowknife • NWT

Commissioner's Awards Committee Appointments

YELLOWKNIFE (October 01) — Commissioner Dan Norris announced today the appointment of John Hill of Yellowknife as chairman of the Commissioner's Awards Committee for a three-year term. Mr. Hill replaces Dr. Walter Kupsch of Saskatchewan, who served as chairman of the committee for many years.

Mr. Hill is a long-time northerner who moved to Inuvik in 1971 as manager of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. Mr. Hill subsequently established his own business in Inuvik and has served as a member of town council and mayor. He recently moved to Yellowknife where he has assumed the duties of chairman of the Public Utilities Board.

Mr. Norris has also appointed Billy Day of Inuvik as a member of the Commissioner's Awards Committee. Mr. Day, a lifelong resident of the Delta, worked for the Department of Social Services from 1961 to 1975. He has been heavily involved with Inuvialuit organizations and the Hunters' and Trappers' Associations in the area for many years, and is currently President of the HTA in Inuvik and a member of several boards including the Inuvik Education Board and the Land Use Planning Commission.

Other members of the committee are Dean Michael Gardener of Iqaluit and Mrs. Jane Dragon of Fort Smith. The committee considers nominations and makes recommendations to Commissioner Norris regarding the Awards for Bravery and Public Service.

The Commissioner's Awards were established in 1965 to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the social, economic, cultural or political growth of the Northwest Territories, or who have risked or sacrificed their lives for the benefit of others.

Nomination forms can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Commissioner's Awards Committee, P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9.

Contact: Mrs. Gerry MacLean
Secretary
Commissioner's Awards Committee
(403) 873-7210



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-135

Pratt new Vice-President of the NWT Development Corporation

YELLOWKNIFE (October 2) — Jim Pratt has been appointed Vice-President of the NWT Development Corporation.

"The corporation plays a major role in promoting the development of the northern economy. I am pleased to see that it attracts people of Mr. Pratt's calibre," said Minister of Economic Development & Tourism Gordon Wray said today in making the announcement.

Pratt leaves his position as Vice-President of Finance and Corporate Services for the NWT Housing Corporation where he's worked for the past four years.

"It's a great challenge for me because the Development Corporation is designed to develop jobs in the North. I would like to create jobs and employ as many local people as we possibly can," said Mr. Pratt.

"We're looking at creating small business opportunities for local people who want to start their own company. The key to success for them is to start small and develop from there," emphasized Mr. Pratt.

Mr. Pratt has a Masters Degree in Business Administration, a Fellowship with the Certified General Accountants of Canada, is an Associate member with the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and is a professional purchaser.

He replaces Roland Bailey, who leaves the corporation to return to the private sector.

Contact:	Dwight Noseworthy	or	Susan Enge
	Deputy Minister		Public Affairs Officer
	Dept. of Economic Development		Office of the Press Secretary
	& Tourism		Dept. of the Executive
	(403) 873-7115		(403) 873-7343

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-136

New Runway Completed in Rae Lakes

RAE LAKES (October 2) — Construction of a new airport runway has been completed in Rae Lakes.

The \$1,424,415 project was cost-shared between Transport Canada and the territorial government's Department of Transportation.

The new runway, longer by 150 metres, is built on sturdier ground and situated at the edge of the village. It replaces a strip built on sandy soil and located right in the middle of the community.

Built alongside the new runway is a taxi-way, an aircraft parking apron and a clearing for the future construction of an airport terminal. A 2.5 km access road was also built from the community to the new site.

Poole Construction Limited (PCL), the project's contractor, hired twenty-three trainees from the community to help complete the work.

"This is a great example of co-operation and local involvement. The community benefits not only from a new airport, but also from the skills developed and wages earned. The contractor benefitted by not having to import and house a large crew," Transportation Minister Gordon Wray said today.

He added that the government met its objectives of getting a good facility at a reasonable cost while maximizing local involvement.

"When it works this well, everybody wins."

The federal and territorial governments signed a contribution agreement worth \$16.1 million last June to co-share the cost of upgrading or building seven airport runways in the North.

Rae Lakes Chief Henry Gon officially opened the new facility in a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday.

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Director, Corporate & Public Affairs
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or

Susan Enge
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Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7343



Press Release

NWT Survey of Sexual Assaults and Sentencing

YELLOWKNIFE (October 4) — A study released today confirms that in sexual assaults in the Northwest Territories the offender is usually known to the victim, those at highest risk are teenagers, and alcohol is often a factor.

The study on sexual assaults and sentencing of sexual assault offenders in the NWT was commissioned by the Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Justice and the Criminal Law Subsection of the NWT Branch of the Canadian Bar Association.

Direction for the research came from a sexual assault research advisory group. Its members included representatives from: the Canadian Bar Association, the territorial Department of Justice, the Status of Women Council of the NWT, Mackenzie Courtworkers Services, Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society, the NWT branch of the National Association of Women and the Law, Alison McAteer House, the RCMP and the Yellowknife regional office of the Department of Justice, Canada.

Funding was provided by the NWT Department of Justice and the Law Foundation of the Northwest Territories.

Data was collected from sexual assault cases dealt with in Northwest Territories courts between January 1, 1988 and December 31, 1989. A total of 261 cases were studied.

The following are highlights of the study:

- 90 per cent of the assaults were committed by someone known to the victim; 29 per cent of these were members of the victim's family;
- 29 per cent of sexual assaults included acts of intercourse;
- no actual use or threatened use of firearms was involved in any of the cases surveyed;
- physical injury to the victim occurred in at least 25 per cent of the assaults;
- at least 50 per cent of the sexual assaults surveyed occurred in the home of the victim or accused; at least 25 per cent occurred in the victim's own bedroom;
- there is evidence that some victims had been sexually abused previously and that some offenders had been victims of physical violence, parental alcohol abuse, or sexual abuse themselves;
- offenders had consumed alcohol prior to the occurrence of the offences in at least 50 per cent of the cases and were intoxicated at the time of the assault in more than 25 per cent of the cases;

NWT Survey of Sexual Assaults and Sentencing: Page 2

- in one out of three cases, the accused had a prior conviction for a crime of violence;
- those at highest risk of sexual assault were between the ages of 13 and 18; those aged 7 to 12 were at next highest risk;
- the accused pleaded guilty in more than half of the cases;
- the average sentence for adult offenders prosecuted by indictment was a jail term of 15.7 months.

The report will be of interest to legal professionals, policy makers, interest groups, and members of the public interested in gaining a better understanding of sexual assaults in the NWT. Copies are available from the Department of Justice and the Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society.

Contact: **Nora Sanders**
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or

Pearl Benyk
Executive Director
Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-137

Residents Urged To Develop Fire Escape Plans

YELLOWKNIFE (October 4) — Teaching children about fire prevention and developing fire escape plans are two things NWT residents can do to help reduce the number of fire deaths in the Northwest Territories, says the Office of the Fire Marshal, Department of Safety and Public Services.

Since 1960, more than 150 people in the Northwest Territories have lost their lives to fire. There are more fires per capita every year in the NWT than anywhere else in Canada - a fire occurs here about every two days. In 1990, a total of 184 fires were reported.

During Fire Prevention Week, October 6-12, the Fire Marshal's office is reminding people what to do to prevent fires, and what to do in case of fire.

A pamphlet is being sent to all households in the Northwest Territories. It contains information about preparing fire escape plans, fire prevention activities for children, and cooking safety tips.

Two sections of the pamphlet deal with teaching children fire safety because children start many fires. Also, many young children die because they try to hide from fires. The pamphlet encourages parents to work with their children to develop fire escape plans for their home.

NWT residents are urged to read the information in the pamphlet, then answer the quiz and send it to the Fire Marshal's office in Yellowknife. A draw will be held from all correct entries and a prize winner will be selected from each region of the NWT. Six Sony walkmans will be given away, as well as cassette tapes and folders of fire safety information.

The Fire Marshal's Office has also prepared a video on fire prevention. It is being distributed to all schools and fire departments throughout the NWT. The video shows how fires start in homes in the Northwest Territories, and what can be done to prevent them.

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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-138

Report Helps Dispel Sexual Assault Myths

YELLOWKNIFE (October 4) — The Sexual Assaults and Sentencing Study released today helps dispel some of the myths surrounding sexual assaults in the Northwest Territories, says Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne.

"The study confirms that the majority of complainants are women and children, victimized primarily by people they know, very often in their own bedrooms," Mr. Ballantyne says.

The study was funded by the Law Foundation of the Northwest Territories and the Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Justice. It contains information collected from January 1, 1988 to December 31, 1989 on sexual assault cases handled by Northwest Territories courts. A total of 261 cases were studied.

"It was beyond the scope of this study to attempt to evaluate the appropriateness of specific sentences in individual cases. The study does, however, add to the growing body of knowledge on how these crimes are committed and how they are handled by the criminal justice system," said Mr. Ballantyne.

The study indicates that 90 per cent of the assaults were committed by someone known to the victim. Those at highest risk of sexual assault were between the ages of 13 and 18, followed by those aged 7 to 12.

More than one out of four sexual assaults occurred in the complainant's own bedroom. The assault was almost always committed by an attacker who struck most often between the hours of 1 a.m. and 7 a.m.. Most often physical force, but no weapon, was used in the assault.

Where the cases were dealt with by indictment, an adult offender faced an average sentence of 15.72 months in jail. A jail sentence was imposed in 9 out of 10 adult convictions in such cases.

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Report Helps Dispel Sexual Assault Myths: Page 2

An adult offender convicted of a summary conviction sexual assault had a better than 50-50 chance of not getting a jail term. Where a jail sentence was imposed for such offenders, the average jail term was 3.25 months.

Mr. Ballantyne has referred the report to the Special Advisor on Gender Equality, Katherine Peterson, for use in her review of the treatment of women in the justice system.

The report will also be useful to those who assist victims, and those who work with offenders.

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or

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Public Affairs
Department of the Executive
(403) 873-7615



Press Statement

Office of the Commissioner • Government of the Northwest Territories • Yellowknife • NWT

Sarah Simon to Receive Order of Canada

YELLOWKNIFE (October 7) — Sarah Simon, one of Fort McPherson's most respected elders, will receive the Order of Canada for outstanding public service October 18 in Fort McPherson.

Commissioner Dan Norris, accompanied by Director of Honour Chancellory Gordon Lewis, will present the award on behalf of the Governor General of Canada.

Simon, with the help of her late husband, Reverend James Simon, dedicated their lives to helping others. Mr. Norris says the people of Fort McPherson are extremely proud to be a part of the ceremony recognizing her achievements. The Gwich'in are recognizing her efforts with a feast and celebration in the traditional style.

Over her 90 years, Mrs. Simon has been very active in the community through church and health services.

Before the establishment of a nursing station, she delivered 86 babies as midwife of the community. In 1928, both Mrs. Simon and her husband helped care for people who had been affected by a flu epidemic that hit the area.

During her work with the Church, she served as choirmaster, organist, Bible lesson reader, interpreter, Sunday school teacher, confirmation class teacher, President of the Women's Auxiliary, treaty rations distributor and concert organizer.

Mrs. Simon has also been very active in promoting literacy, helping to teach adults to read and translating for the Chief, nurses, visiting doctors, politicians and treaty parties.

She also played a significant role in the preservation of the Loucheux language, convincing the Canadian Bible Society to reprint the Loucheux Bible and encouraging younger people to cherish and use their language.

In recognition of her dedication to the community and the church, Mrs. Simon has previously received both the Commissioner's and Governor General's awards, a life membership in the Women's Auxiliary of the Anglican Church and honors from the World Council of Churches.

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

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Executive Assistant
Commissioner's Office
(403)873-7332



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-140

Three Polar Bear Management Agreements Signed

YELLOWKNIFE (October 7) — Three agreements signed this week in Inuvik and Cambridge Bay will help ensure the maintenance of healthy polar bear populations in the Western Arctic, says Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo.

Polar bear Population Management Agreements were signed by representatives of hunters' and trappers' committees and associations from the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, plus adjacent Kitikmeot communities.

The agreements were witnessed by Mr. Allooloo, Joe Allen Evyagotailak, the president of the Kitikmeot Regional Hunters' and Trappers' Association, and Andy Carpenter, the chairman of the Inuvialuit Game Council.

"These agreements were developed by blending the knowledge of hunters and scientists. With strong support and cooperation from the communities, we are adopting a system of management based on polar bear populations," says Mr. Allooloo.

The agreements cover the three Western Arctic polar bear populations, which are centred on the southern Beaufort Sea, northern Beaufort Sea, and Viscount Melville Sound.

Management objectives are set out in the agreements, as defined by polar bear users. For example, the agreements set limits on the number of females which may be harvested, to ensure productive populations for the future.

"We have two-thirds of the world's polar bears in the Northwest Territories. The communities involved in the signing are showing their willingness to take responsibility for managing polar bears and their habitat. These co-management agreements also show the rest of the world our commitment to the continued survival of polar bears in their Arctic home," Mr. Allooloo says.

During 1990 and 1991, meetings were held in virtually every community in the NWT within the range of polar bears to exchange information on the animals.

As a follow-up to those meetings, the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (WMAC) co-sponsored a workshop in Holman in June, 1991 and brought together representatives from all communities that hunt bears from the three Western Arctic populations. The seven-member WMAC was set up after the signing of the Inuvialuit final land claim agreement and includes community representatives and territorial and federal government representatives.

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Three Polar Bear Management Agreements Signed: Page 2

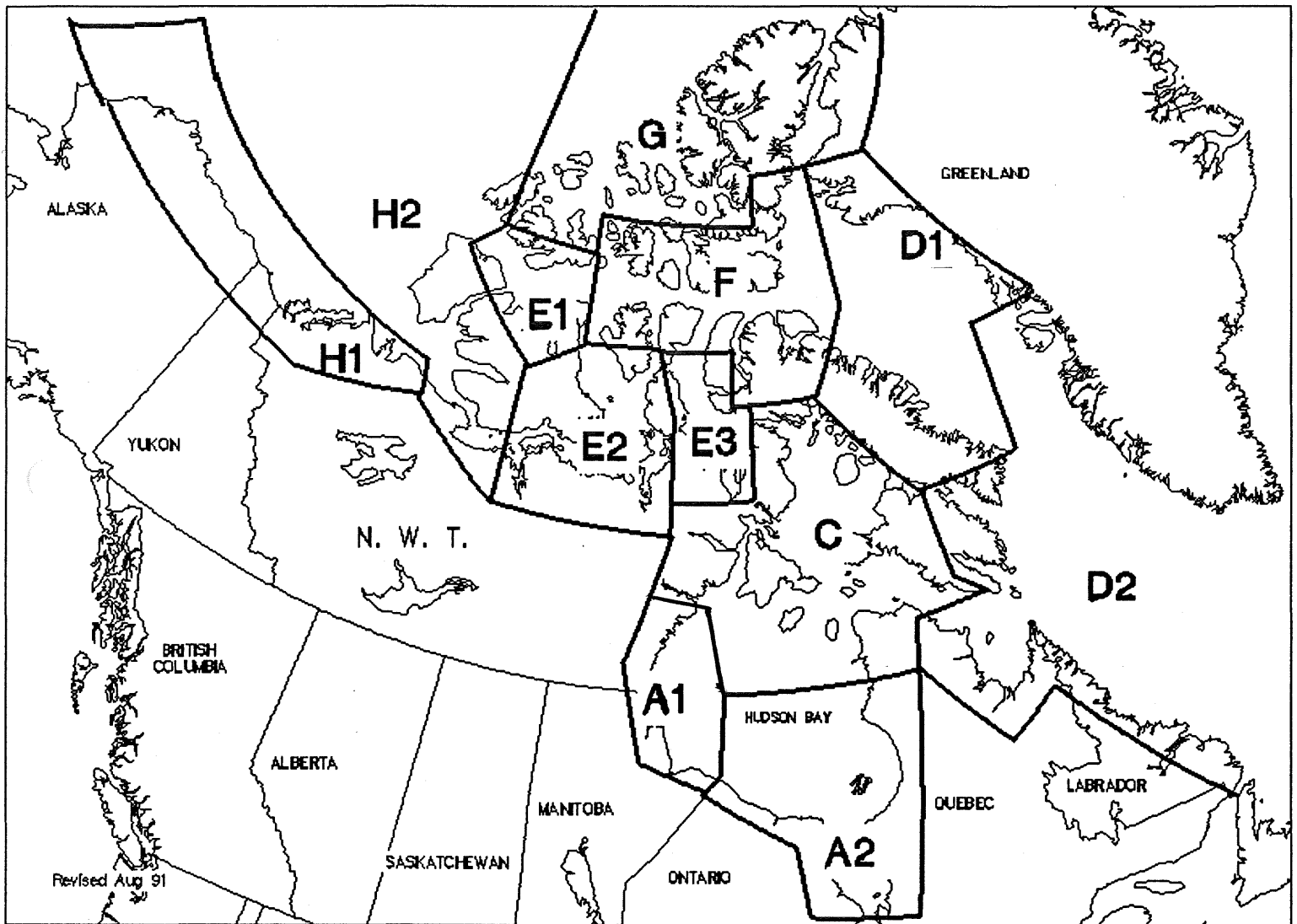
"Over the next couple of years, we hope to see polar bear management workshops take place in the Central and Eastern Arctic. The workshops will focus on the other nine polar bear populations that scientific research suggests are present in the rest of the NWT. Hopefully, these workshops will be as successful as the one held in Holman in producing inter-community agreements," says Mr. Allooloo.

Contact: Derek Melton
Assistant Director, Wildlife Studies
Department of Renewable Resources
(403) 873-7765

or

Edi Casimirri
Public Affairs Officer
Department of Executive
(403) 873-7615

CANADA HAS 12 POLAR BEAR POPULATIONS



The numbering system has been developed by the National Polar Bear Technical Committee, of which the NWT is a member.

The three agreements signed this week are for H1, H2 and E1.

The population boundaries are based on present scientific information, and could change as future inter-community agreements are prepared and signed.



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-141

Dene Literacy Syllabus Published

YELLOWKNIFE (October 8) — The first edition of *A Syllabus for Teaching Dene Languages Literacy* has been published by the Government of the Northwest Territories Language Bureau, says Minister of Culture and Communications Titus Allooloo.

Designed to teach adult speakers of Dene who are literate in English, the syllabus presents teachers with the basics necessary to conduct a literacy course.

Based on work done by Philip G. Howard, formerly the Athapaskan Linguist with the Language Bureau, the syllabus illustrates methods successfully used to teach Dene literacy. It contains detailed lesson plans, games, and alphabet charts.

"This syllabus plays an important role in conserving Dene languages and promoting literacy. It will assist people with teaching others how to read and write in the Dene languages," said Mr. Allooloo.

Copies of *A Syllabus for Teaching Dene Languages Literacy* can be picked up from the Language Bureau on the 3rd floor of the Laing Building in Yellowknife or by calling (403) 920-8671.

Contact: **Sharon Lopatka**
Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
(403) 873-7257



News Release/Communiqué

91-142

New Compensation Agreement for Northwest Territories Emergency Services Workers

YELLOWKNIFE (October 8) — A new agreement between the Government of Canada and the Northwest Territories will provide compensation for injured volunteer emergency response workers, or their heirs should they die as a result of an accident.

The agreement was signed by the Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness, Marcel Masse, and territorial Minister Responsible for Emergency Measures Tom Butters.

This agreement, intended to encourage the role of volunteers in emergency response activities, commits the Government of Canada to sharing the cost of compensation paid to registered volunteer emergency service workers in the Northwest Territories who are injured, or to the heirs of those who are killed, while training for or performing emergency response duties.

The Government of Canada will reimburse 75 per cent of payments made by the territorial Workers' Compensation Board for injury or death sustained by such workers.

Under the agreement, volunteer emergency workers must be registered with the territorial Emergency Measures Organization to be eligible.

The Government of Canada already has similar agreements with British Columbia, Yukon, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

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Regional Director
(Alberta & NWT)
Emergency Preparedness Canada
(403) 495-3005

or

Eric Bussey
Director
Emergency Measures Organization
Government of the Northwest Territories
(403) 920-6133

Inuvik's Airport Road Reconstructed

YELLOWKNIFE (October 9) — Reconstruction of a 10.1 km road linking Inuvik to its community airport has been completed.

The \$6,428,000 three-year project involved widening the road, improving its curves, drainage system and road base and paving its surface.

Minister of Transportation Gordon Wray noted that local contractors particularly benefitted from the project.

"Reconstruction work worth \$5 million went to northern contractors. Kenaston Contractors Ltd., an Inuvik-based company, provided aggregate production, drainage, grading, base and sub-base construction," he stated.

The project began in 1989, a year before the federal government turned over its responsibility for highway reconstruction to the territorial government. The Inter-Territorial Highway Transfer Agreement was subsequently signed between Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the territorial government's newly-created Department of Transportation in March 1990.

"This added responsibility has meant, in practical terms, an increase in successful northern bidding. We are glad to promote our northern contractors in projects like this," Mr. Wray said.

He noted that the Department of Transportation's plan to continue the reconstruction of the Dempster Highway in 1995 represents another positive business opportunity for northern contractors.

Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs Tom Butters represented Mr. Wray today at a ribbon-cutting ceremony held on a section of the new road. He said the project contributed not only to the local economy but to the tourism industry as well.

"The paved road is a great introduction to Inuvik for tourists arriving off the gravelled Dempster Highway, he said.

A total of \$22 million in road reconstruction and improvements were made to various highways in the NWT this summer. Of this amount, \$13.3 million was spent on improvements to 100 km of highway between Enterprise and Fort Providence.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-144

Business Credit Corporation Opens for Business

YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 9) - The Northwest Territories Business Credit Corporation (BCC) opened its doors for business October 1.

The Corporation is an independent lending agency created by the territorial government to provide term loans and loan guarantees to new or established northern businesses, according to Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Gordon Wray.

Although the government offered similar services under the Business Loan Fund (BLF), the BCC's terms of reference and loan capacity exceeds that of the BLF. For example, under the new system, businesses will be able to apply for a loan of up to \$1-million instead of the \$500,000 limit formerly available under the BLF.

"We are offering better opportunities for the ambitious and energetic business person. We have fine-tuned our operation to suit the needs of the northern economy, not just the needs of big business, but the needs of the little guy who wants to set up a shop or store in a small community," Mr. Wray explained.

The corporation's board of directors include Mary King of Hay River, Anthony Chang and Stephen Hurst from Yellowknife, Allan Woodhouse and Thomas Webster from Iqualuit, Mark Kalluak of Arviat, Gordon Peters of Holman Island, Wilfred Wilcox of Cambridge Bay and Roderick Hardy of Fort Norman. Their terms of office vary from one to three years.

Assistant Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Tourism Peter Allen will sit as chairperson of the board for a one-year term. The Board will have the authority to approve or reject proposals within authorized limits. Appeal processes are available for applicants whose requests have been turned down.

"Cabinet has selected some of the most knowledgeable and accomplished individuals from business establishments in the Northwest Territories to serve on our first board of directors. I have every confidence they will exercise sound business judgement in their decision-making," Mr. Wray stated.

Legislation defining the structure and lending powers of the BCC is outlined in the the Northwest Territories Business Credit Corporation Act. All applications will continue to be handled by the local Economic Development Officer.

Contact: Afzal Currimbhoy or
Manager
Business Credit Corporation
(403) 920-6168

Susan Enge
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Office of the Press Secretary
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Victim Assistance Training Program

YELLOWKNIFE (October 11) — The Department of Justice is sponsoring a Victim Assistance Training Program for people who help, or want to help, victims of crime, Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne said today.

About 20 people from across the Western Arctic will be attending the first session October 21-25 in Fort Smith. Another session will be held in the community December 2-6.

Participants may include school counsellors, native court workers and representatives from community drug and alcohol programs, women's shelters, friendship centres, nursing stations, community health groups, and others who assist victims in communities.

"Many organizations and individuals at the community level are already involved in assisting victims. Others are interested in helping, but may not know how to help. This training program will foster an inter-agency approach to assisting victims," Mr. Ballantyne said.

The training program has been developed specifically for the Northwest Territories. Its aim is to train people in communities who are helping victims through their work or volunteer activities so they can be better equipped to help victims as they encounter the justice system.

The five-day program includes lectures, role playing, guest speeches, assignment activities and group discussions. Participants will discuss how they perceive victims' needs, and learn how to help victims of crime.

A 100-page manual has been prepared for the program by Diana Barr, a Fort Smith teacher and former child sexual abuse consultant who has been seconded to the Department of Justice from the Department of Education to work on the project. The manual sets out a standard approach to helping victims of crime. It describes such things as how to complete criminal injuries compensation forms, protocols, and effective communications techniques.

Program participants will receive certificates from Arctic College and the Department of Justice recognizing that they have successfully completed the course.

The program will be offered in the Eastern Arctic next year.

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Victims Assistance Coordinator
Department of Justice
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or

Edi Casimirri
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-146

Seven Honoured for Contributions to Literacy

YELLOWKNIFE (October 16) — Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi recently celebrated International Literacy Day by recognizing seven northerners for their contributions to literacy in the Northwest Territories.

"The people who received literacy recognition awards are role models for others through their dedication and commitment to literacy," Mr. Kakfwi says. "Some of them have been honoured for improving their own reading and writing skills, others have been honoured for teaching other people to read and write, or for contributing to the development of written materials in the aboriginal languages of the NWT."

Mr. Kakfwi, who spent International Literacy Day in Fort Franklin, made four of the presentations following a play put on by the community's literacy project. Called "Reading . . . A Lifelong Adventure", the play involved children from the community acting out a series of favourite stories. One of the stories, *The Wish Wind*, is about a young boy who keeps asking the Wish Wind to change the seasons until he realizes that time has passed by too quickly and he has become an old man. About 150 children and adults came to the new community arena and gym to see the play.

These are the people who received Literacy Recognition Awards:

George Kodakin, of Fort Franklin, has been a major supporter of the North Slavey curriculum project since the 1970s. He has prepared many tapes, stories of the old days and the ways in which the Sahtuotine (people of the Sahtu) lived, for use in developing materials for the school and for the Department of Education.

John Tetso, of Fort Franklin, has contributed to the development of reading materials in the North Slavey language for many years. In the 1980s he worked at the language centre, produced many materials for the school and conducted language workshops for community residents. His reading and writing abilities in North Slavey make him a role model for his community.

Jane Modeste Vandermeer and **Fibbie Tatti** live in Yellowknife. They were honoured for their work in writing and publishing the two-volume set of books titled "Sahtuotine of Long Ago". They spent several years working with the elders of Fort Franklin and Fort Norman to produce a bilingual (North Slavey and English) resource book on Sahtuotine history and traditions for use in schools. Ms. Vandermeer speaks, reads and writes North Slavey, South Slavey, Dogrib and English and teaches with the Catholic School board in



Seven Honoured for Contributions to Literacy: Page 2

Yellowknife. Ms. Tatti is the Slavey Language Project Coordinator for the Department of Education and was Co-chair of the 1986 Aboriginal Languages Task Force.

Johnny Eyakfwo of Snare Lake is literate in the syllabic writing system for the Dogrib language. During the past year he has been working to become literate in the new roman orthography writing system for his language. He is an inspiration to those who taught him and a wonderful example for others to follow, as he masters the new writing system.

Mark Kalluak is from Arviat. As a young child he became ill with polio and was sent to Winnipeg for four years. Because he was homesick, he taught himself to read and write Inuktitut and English. In 1966 he started the first local newsletter in Arviat and took over a regional newsletter in 1970. He put together a book called "The Inuit Legends" in Inuktitut and developed an Inuktitut glossary. He recently established two magazines, and for the past year has coordinated an Inuktitut literacy project in Arviat.

The late **Eric Anoee** was from Arviat. He died in 1989. His award is made, in his honour, to his family. Eric was regarded as the most respected elder in his community. He taught Inuktitut to the early missionaries, developed curriculum for the school and developed a series of books on Inuit culture. He was Director of Inuit Traditions for the Inuit Cultural Institute and was made a member of the Order of Canada in 1982.

Lynn Fogwill
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-147

Energy Awareness Week Promoted

YELLOWKNIFE (October 18) — The Department of Public Works Energy Management Division will set up a number of displays across the Northwest Territories encouraging energy-efficiency during Energy Awareness Week, October 21-26.

In Rankin Inlet, a display of energy-saving products and information will be set up in the Hamlet Office Council Chamber, October 23. The Regional Energy Management Officer will be at the display to answer questions between 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. and 9 p.m..

The Regional Energy Management Officer in Inuvik will be displaying energy-efficient products and information at the Science Institute, October 24, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

During the week, the Regional Energy Management Officer for Iqaluit will be visiting schools to talk to students about using energy wisely. A display will also be set up in the mall next to the Brown Building.

In Yellowknife, in cooperation with Centra Power Inc., NWT Power Corporation and Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, a display will be set up in the Centre Square Mall, October 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. A Switch on to Energy Efficiency Quiz will be distributed to all households in Yellowknife for the chance to win energy-efficient prizes. Quizzes will also be available at the mall display.

"Energy is expensive and often a non-renewable resource. It is important that people in the Northwest Territories try to be energy-efficient. By visiting these displays the public will be able to pick up information and get advice from experts on how to make their home or business more efficient," says Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea.

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Coordinator
Energy Management Programs
Department of Public Works
(403) 873-7204





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-148

NWT Acts Consolidated

YELLOWKNIFE (October 22) — All Northwest Territories Acts in force up to December 1990 have been consolidated and may be purchased individually.

The consolidated Acts include all Acts in the Revised Statutes, 1988, all new Acts since that date, and all changes made during 1989 and 1990. The consolidated Acts will be useful to anyone interested in obtaining a copy of a particular NWT law. People will no longer have to consult two or more volumes to obtain an Act and amendments to the particular Act that were made subsequent to its enactment.

There are 218 Northwest Territories Acts and they may be purchased from the Print Distribution Centre of the Department of Culture and Communications.

Anyone interested in owning the complete set of NWT Acts can order the *Revised Statutes of the Northwest Territories, 1988*, plus Supplement Volumes I and II. Supplement Volume III, comprising Acts enacted to July 15, 1991, is now being printed.

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Department of Justice
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-149

Top Apprentices, Tradespeople to be Honoured at Awards Banquets

YELLOWKNIFE (October 22) — Top apprentices and tradespeople will be honoured during regional banquets to be sponsored by the NWT Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Board during the week of October 28. The 56 people to be honoured have received a grade of at least 80 per cent on their examinations.

"The NWT Apprenticeship Program plays an important role in establishing a stable, highly-qualified northern workforce," says Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi. "The program benefits people who are looking for a fulfilling career, as well as society at large, which needs skilled tradespeople to supply a variety of services. I want to congratulate these people on their hard work and their contribution to the success of the NWT Apprenticeship Program."

On October 29, awards banquets will be held in Inuvik, Coppermine and Baker Lake; on October 30, one will be held in Iqaluit; and on November 1, they will be held in Yellowknife and Hay River.

This year's Top Graduating Apprentice in All Trades Award goes to **Marc Swanson**, an aircraft maintenance engineer in Fort Smith.

Jimmy Hanak and **Charlie Hinanik**, residents of Coppermine and both of whom are heavy equipment operators, tied for the Top Non-apprentice to obtain Journeyman Status Award.

Likewise, **Allan Broom** of Yellowknife and **Clell Crook** of Hay River, both of whom are oil burner mechanics, tied for the Top Non-apprentice to attend Theory Training Award.

Allan Broom and Clell Crook also tied for the Top Non-Apprentice to obtain the Interprovincial Red Seal Award. The Interprovincial Red Seal ensures the tradesperson's journeyman status is recognized across the country.

Since its inception in 1964, the apprenticeship program has graduated 1,150 apprentices. There are currently 428 apprentices in 39 trades in the Northwest Territories. Of these people, 52 per cent are native, and 4 per cent are women. In all, for every 1,000 people in the active labour force, there are 18 apprentices.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-150

66 New Housing Units to Be Constructed

YELLOWKNIFE (October 24) — The Northwest Territories Housing Corporation will increase the total number of new housing units funded across the Northwest Territories for 1991/92 by 66 units.

Tom Butters, minister responsible for the corporation, said today the additional units will increase the total number of public housing units to 301. Construction of the 66 units will take place in 1992/93.

"Construction of these new housing units will help ease the severe housing shortage in the Northwest Territories," said Mr. Butters.

The Baffin District will receive 21 units, Hay River District 8, Inuvik District 14, Keewatin District 10, Kitikmeot District 8, and Yellowknife District 5. Distribution of the additional housing units is based on the latest needs survey completed by the NWT Housing Corporation.

Funding of \$9,900,000 for the construction of the new units is provided through a 75/25 cost sharing program between Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the Government of the Northwest Territories respectively.

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Northwest Territories Housing Corporation
(403) 873-7898





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-151

Funds Available for Aboriginal Language Preservation

YELLOWKNIFE (October 24) — Individuals and organizations interested in preserving aboriginal languages can now access funds for projects through the Aboriginal Language Development Contribution and Grant Program, says Minister of Culture and Communications, Titus Allooloo.

The program will provide financial assistance to support community initiatives in the maintaining, enhancing and revitalizing Aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories.

"Around the world the language and culture of aboriginal people is disappearing. These funds will help with the preservation of these languages in the Northwest Territories and hopefully encourage future generations to use their native language and be proud of their heritage," says Mr. Allooloo.

Funding for the Aboriginal Language Development Contribution and Grant Program is provided under the Cooperation Agreement for French and Aboriginal Languages in the Northwest Territories. The three-year agreement was signed in August between the governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories to support and strengthen Aboriginal and French languages in the region.

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Culture and Communications
(403) 920-3102





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-152

Old Fort Providence Commemorated

YELLOWKNIFE (October 24) — The remains of Old Fort Providence, located near Wool Bay outside of Yellowknife, have been commemorated as an historic site by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

A plaque was erected at the site this summer with the help of representatives from the Dene Cultural Institute. Designation of the site, which falls under the protection of the Northwest Territories Archaeological Sites Regulations, is part of a co-operative project between the Heritage Centre and the Canadian Parks Service.

"It is important that historical sites in the Northwest Territories be recognized and protected. The remains of Old Fort Providence can be examined by archaeologists to help piece together more of the history of the region and the Northwest Territories," says Minister of Culture and Communications Titus Allooloo.

Old Fort Providence, a North West Company and Hudson's Bay Company trading post, was one of the first posts on Great Slave Lake.

Established in 1786 by Peter Pond, a fur trader and explorer, it was used as an outpost camp for about two seasons. In 1789, Alexander Mackenzie replaced Pond as the head of the North West Company's operations in the Athabasca region and re-opened the camp as a trading post. The fort played an important role in the supplying of John Franklin's first expedition to the Arctic Coast in 1819.

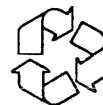
Through archaeological excavations of Old Fort Providence in the summer of 1969 and 1971 by B. Dale Perry, the remains of at least four buildings spread over one hectare were discovered. Over the years the site has decayed and become overgrown with vegetation. All that remains visible today are some stone fireplaces.

Historical sites are chosen from places recommended by the public and should have scientific, historical, cultural or public significance.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-153

Exciting Activities Planned for Children's Book Week

YELLOWKNIFE (October 24) — Residents of the Northwest Territories will join thousands of people across Canada celebrating Children's Book Week November 2 to 9.

The theme of this year's book week, "A World of Difference With Books", encourages global awareness. Events for the week, sponsored by the Canadian Children's Book Centre, are coordinated and promoted in the Northwest Territories by Public Library Services, Department of Culture and Communications.

As part of the celebration, illustrator Heather Collins and author Sharon Siamon will be touring various communities across the Northwest Territories.

Collins, who has illustrated seven Canadian children's books, will be visiting the Western Arctic with stops in Norman Wells, Fort Franklin, Fort Good Hope, Yellowknife, Rae-Edzo and Lac La Martre.

Siamon, author of ten books, including *Log House Mouse* and *Fishing for Trouble*, will travel around the Keewatin beginning her tour in Whale Cove. She will then travel on to Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake and Arviat. While in Arviat, Siamon will hold writing workshops for students in intermediate and senior grades.

"Each year that established artists and illustrators tour the North, our own residents are inspired to tap into their creative ideas and try their hand at storytelling. Young and old alike are sure to enjoy these visits," says Minister of Culture and Communications, Titus Alloo.

In Rankin Inlet, school children are entering two global awareness contests. Classes can either write a book about the environment or make art from garbage. Projects will be displayed at the John Ayaruaq Library during the week.

In Yellowknife, students from the Arctic College Early Childhood Education program will be putting on a show with storytelling puppets at the Yellowknife Public Library.

For more details on Children's Book Week activities, contact NWT Public Library Services in Hay River, or the community library nearest you.

Contact: Deloris Booker
Community Services Librarian
NWT Public Library Services
(403) 874-6531

or Sharon Lopatka
Public Affairs Officer
Office of the Press Secretary
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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-154

Six Students Receive Awards for Academic Achievement

YELLOWKNIFE (October 25) — Six territorial high school students have been recognized by Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi for their academic achievements during the 1990/91 school year.

Each of the six students attained the highest territorial mark on the 1990/91 Grade 12 Diploma Examinations which are administered to students enrolled in seven Grade 12 subjects.

Jeffrey Pinto of Sir John Franklin High School in Yellowknife receives recognition in three subjects, with the highest marks on the Biology 30, Physics 30, and Chemistry 30 diploma examinations.

An additional award for Chemistry 30 also went to Michel Haener of St. Patrick's High School, who tied with Jeffrey Pinto. The award for Social Studies 30 went to Lisa Gallagher of Diamond Jenness Secondary School in Hay River. Donna Taoussanis of St. Patrick's High School in Yellowknife receives the award for English 30. The other two awards went to Sir John Franklin High School students Timothy Tong for Mathematics 30, and Rebecca Turner for English 33.

"I congratulate each of these students for their hard work throughout the year," says Mr. Kakfwi. "Their dedication and high standard of achievement makes them role models for others."

Each award winner receives an engraved medallion and a special commendation from the Minister of Education in recognition of their achievement.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-155

Education Receives Funding for Aboriginal Projects

YELLOWKNIFE (October 25) — The Department of Education will receive \$9 million over three years to fund a variety of aboriginal language projects under a recent \$30.8 million agreement between the Territorial government, and the federal Department of the Secretary of State.

"Children are the key to preserving language and culture," says Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi. "Although parents play an important role in teaching children their original language, the school system must provide support through additional learning opportunities and the development of teaching materials."

The largest portion of the department's funding, \$5 million, will be used to provide base funding and grants for special projects to seven Teaching and Learning Centres. The centres develop language and cultural programs, teaching guides and learning materials to supplement the aboriginal language curricula. Special projects which will receive funding under the agreement will include:

- Inuktitut publications in the Baffin and Keewatin regions;
- a pre-school Inuvialuktun program in Beaufort/Delta region;
- a drumming project and a Slavey noun dictionary in the Dehcho;
- a bilingual education project in the Dogrib region;
- regional writers and illustrators workshops in the Kitikmeot;
- a high school aboriginal language instructor in the South Slave region;
- and one position for a Teaching and Learning Centre for Yellowknife Education District #2.

About \$3 million over three years has been earmarked for community-based teacher education. Last year a pilot project was established in Rae-Edzo to provide an alternative for people who want to be teachers but who have commitments that do not allow them to move too far away from their home communities. The program is unique because it emphasizes on-the-job training. An instructor helps interns plan lessons, shows them how to integrate ideas from various subjects and encourages them to design activities that are culturally relevant to the students.

Funding under the new agreement will allow a similar program to be established in three Keewatin communities (Arviat, Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet) and at the Hay River Dene Reserve. It will also cover the cost of the final year of the project in Rae-Edzo.

Arctic College will also receive \$1.3 million over three years to train aboriginal language specialist teachers.

Education Receives Funding for Aboriginal Projects: Page 2

Part of the funding will be used for aboriginal language immersion projects. These projects, which will be from two weeks to a month in length, will be initiated by community authorities and run in cooperation with the Department of Education. The department expects to receive proposals for one or more projects.

A total of \$300,000 has been set aside for aboriginal language literacy and a literacy public awareness campaign. This initiative will include developing and piloting two or three public sector workplace literacy projects in the Eastern and Western Arctic, as well as developing the groundwork for one or two private sector workplace literacy projects. It will also be used to provide funding for community-based aboriginal language literacy projects in at least five communities and to develop a system for reimbursing territorial government employees for tuition costs of aboriginal language literacy courses they have completed.

The public awareness campaign will include the production of literacy T-shirts for learners and instructors, television public service announcements, documentary videos on literacy projects, as well as posters, promotional buttons and print advertising.

The Native Teachers' Specialists Council will also receive \$30,000 to cover the costs of meetings directed towards the advancement of teaching and professional services in aboriginal language and cultural programs.

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91-156

Preliminary Cost of Division Study Released

YELLOWKNIFE (October 28) — A working document on the financial impact of dividing the Northwest Territories was released today by Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Stephen Kakfwi.

The government commissioned report isn't intended to provide a final assessment of the cost of creating two territorial governments in the NWT, he said.

"The estimates are very preliminary and are based on certain assumptions that are critical to a proper understanding of the data. Regardless, the information will provide a basis for additional studies on various options relating to potential government structures."

The matter of dividing the NWT and the creation of Nunavut isn't new. Division was seriously being considered as early as the 1960s. More recently, the federal government and the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut signed an agreement-in-principle that identifies federal and territorial support to the principle of creating a Nunavut territory.

Under Article 4 of that agreement, the territorial government and TFN agreed to a process for working towards creation of Nunavut. The process included identifying the costs of creating Nunavut.

"The territorial government and TFN want to make sure Ottawa has a clear picture of the cost of division and that federal financing of a Nunavut government will not prejudice the finances of the remaining western territory," Mr. Kakfwi said.

The document, and shorter executive summary, are both available from the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat, located on the second floor of the Laing Building in Yellowknife.

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**GOVERNMENT
OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF DIVISION



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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GOVERNMENT OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES - FINANCIAL IMPACT OF DIVISION

PHASE I REPORT - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this study is as follows:

Development of accurate financial projections of the costs and funding arrangements necessary to support two governments responsible for delivering all operations of the present Government of the Northwest Territories, ensuring that the current levels of public sector services in the North will not be eroded.

ESTABLISHING TWO NEW TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS

The Division of the Northwest Territories (NWT) has been a political and constitutional development issue for many years. The Inuit have advocated the creation of a new territory in the eastern Arctic, where the Inuit would be a majority and in a position to exercise self government through a new territorial government.

Division involves the establishment of two new territories and the creation of two new governments to replace the current Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT).

The signing of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN) Agreement in Principle in April, 1990, was a major milestone that has significantly advanced the division of the NWT. Under Article IV, the GNWT agreed to assist in the development of a process that

could lead to the establishment of the two new territorial governments in Canada's north. Subsequently, the GNWT and TFN jointly forwarded a proposal to the Government of Canada calling for the necessary federal legislation to be introduced into Parliament as early as 1992. The substantive provisions of the legislation would come into effect five years after the enactment of that legislation. The proposal was closely linked to the Claims process between the TFN and the Federal Government.

Part of the proposal that was put forward to the Government of Canada stated that "funding arrangements will ensure that, at a minimum, the current levels of public sector services in the north will not be eroded".

Given that the current GNWT infrastructure supports the delivery of services across the territories it is imperative that:

- The existing GNWT service delivery system be accurately assessed as to the fundamental requirements needed to adequately deliver services to the new Western Territory.
- The new Eastern territorial government be accurately developed so that the services currently received by residents in the area are maintained. Additionally, since a new government for the Eastern Territory will be established, legislative, executive and administrative headquarters costs will be required over and above those costs now required to deliver services to residents in the east.

-
- Both new territorial governments receive the federal financial support necessary to fund these costs; new financial arrangements will be required.

PURPOSE AND DELIVERABLES

Phase I of the assignment was to:

- conduct a detailed examination of the organization and budget of all GNWT operations, including all Departments, Corporations, Boards and Agencies. For each, the examination was to include:
 - responsibilities,
 - operating environments, and
 - structure.

The examination of the organization resulted in the determination of:

- one-time and ongoing capital costs for establishing the infrastructure for the new Eastern government,
- one-time costs of the transition from one to two governments, and
- ongoing costs of operating two governments in the place of one.

The activities undertaken were to result in a detailed outline, with recommendations, regarding the nature of the government organization of each new territory and the cost of bringing about the division of the current GNWT.

ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

The assumptions used in this cost analysis are critical to the understanding of what is, and is not, included in the estimated costs to operate two new and separate territorial governments.

THE COST ESTIMATES ARE BASED ON THE 1991/92 BUDGET FOR THE GNWT

The basis for the operational cost estimates is the 1991/92 budget for the GNWT. The source of this was the Standing Committee on Finance (SCOF) documents that specify budgets on a department-by-department basis, including the agencies of the GNWT. The "Support Documents" for 1991/92 were also used, particularly in identifying direct regional and Headquarters costs.

A fundamental assumption of this study is that the 1991/92 GNWT budget:

- accurately reflects the appropriate government cost and revenue structure relevant to the two new governments, and
- can be used as the basis for calculating the costs of Division.

The findings of this study therefore reflect a 'point-in-time' assessment of the costs of Division based on delivery of the existing portfolio of programs and services.

THE ASSUMED BOUNDARY FOR DIVISION IS REPRESENTATIVE

Although the final Division boundary has yet to be determined, an assumption regarding the location of the boundary was required. The boundary selected is that identified in the Iqaluit Agreement. Therefore, the Keewatin, Kitikmeot and Baffin regions are considered part of the Eastern Territory and the Inuvik and Ft. Smith regions make up the Western Territory. This boundary is generally consistent with the government's existing administrative regions; given that no changes are being made to the administrative regions, communities that are now included in the regions, will also be locationally and administratively unaffected by the boundary. The only exception is Holman Island, which although actually situated in the Eastern area, is included in the cost estimates for the new Western Territory.

THE IMPACT OF CLAIMS HAS NOT BEEN INCLUDED

A commitment has been made to a comprehensive approach to political and constitutional development which would integrate and coordinate Division with Claims Implementation and Devolution.

If a comprehensive approach to estimating total costs of Division is to be considered, then the cost impact of Claims Implementation and Devolution must be integrated with the costs of Division using the basis established for this study. However, the Terms of Reference require that this cost analysis study deal only with the costs of Division as it relates to current government operations.

THE IMPACT OF DEVOLUTION HAS NOT BEEN INCLUDED

The costs associated with Devolution are not included in this study. For example, the transfer of responsibility for the administration of oil and gas, minerals and land and water which will include a restructuring of northern governments and additional costs (and revenues), have not been included.

The costs of both Claims settlements and Devolution will be significant. They will have significant financial implications on Division which are beyond the scope of this study.

NO SHARING OF PROGRAMS, SERVICES OR FACILITIES IS TO BE ASSUMED

In order to establish a baseline estimate for the costs required to operate two separate governments, a "no sharing rule" of programs, services and facilities was used. It is understood that this requirement was included in the Terms of Reference in recognition that:

- each government should be given the flexibility to determine its own inter-governmental relationships; and

- that it would be presumptuous for this study to assume what those relationships may be.

There may be many cost savings available through sharing between the two new territorial governments once Division has occurred but, for the purposes of this report, sharing has not been considered.

THERE IS TO BE NO REDUCTION OR ENHANCEMENT OF SERVICE LEVELS

It was recognized that the study should not be seen as an opportunity to enhance service levels, regardless of the rationale that could be put forward. A 'status-quo' level of service was the operating principle used in this regard.

THIS COST ANALYSIS IS NOT AN EFFICIENCY STUDY

It is important to realize that the cost analysis undertaken did not attempt to uncover and recommend areas where improved efficiencies of operation may exist. For the purposes of this study, the following were not undertaken:

- restructuring of organizations;
- identification of efficiencies through elimination of activity overlaps and duplications; and
- assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of existing policy and procedures.

THE EXISTING SERVICES NOW DELIVERED BY THE GNWT ARE TO BE DUPLICATED IN THE TWO NEW GOVERNMENTS

In order to provide a base upon which to estimate the costs to operate two separate governments, a specific configuration of government organization structure and program offerings is required. For the purposes of this study, it is assumed that the existing organization structure and the programs currently offered by the GNWT are

to be maintained for the two new governments. Therefore, issues around alternative structures and adjustments in programs for either of the two new territorial governments are not covered in Phase I of this study.

THE SAME LEVEL OF DECENTRALIZATION THAT CURRENTLY EXISTS IS TO BE MAINTAINED

Currently, the GNWT is highly decentralized with a number of regional offices located throughout the Northwest Territories. Of the government's budgeted 1991/92 expenditures and staffing (expressed as person-years, or PY's), 40% and 32% respectively are classed as "regional". In addition, staff budgeted within the Headquarters classification are also working in regions, bringing the totals to over 50%. For the purposes of this study it is assumed that the same level of decentralization will be employed by both new territorial governments.

THE RESULTS OF THIS COST STUDY ARE NOT TO BE VIEWED AS A "BLUEPRINT" FOR DIVISION

The study has concentrated on working closely with GNWT Deputy Ministers and appropriate staff within the various government departments of the GNWT. It has excluded "other players" (for example, the federal government): it would be presumptuous to assume that the results of this study could reflect the final government structures and program offerings for both of the new territorial governments. It is therefore inappropriate to view the results of the study as a "blueprint" for the new territorial governments.

COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN INCLUDED

Federal government costs, which would be impacted by Division, are beyond the scope of this study, but have to be dealt with in the future. As such, the total costs of Division for the federal government have not been included

in the financial analysis that is provided in this report.

EXISTING REVENUES/TAXATION REGIMES AND FEDERAL COST SHARING/FUNDING AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN ASSUMED

The existing revenue/taxation regimes and the federal cost sharing/funding agreements that the GNWT currently has with the federal government, as well as levies in the communities, will undoubtedly have to be adjusted once Division has occurred and the two new territorial governments are established. However, for the purposes of this Phase I cost analysis, the revenue, taxation, cost sharing and funding agreements and arrangements are assumed to be the same as they currently exist.

MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE COSTING IS BASED ON A NUMBER OF ASSUMPTIONS

A number of assumptions are necessary to develop reasonable and supportable costs for the municipal infrastructure required in the community which is to serve as the head office of the new Eastern Territorial government. They are as follows:

- Three representative locations for the new Eastern territorial capital are assumed. These are categorized as large, medium and small communities. Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay were selected as proxies for each category, respectively, for costing purposes only.
- Federal costs associated with municipal infrastructural development and operations have not been included.
- The community selected for the capital will be in a "tax-based" category once the new government head office is established.

CURRENT LEGISLATION WILL BE ADAPTED

In keeping with the above noted assumptions, it is also assumed that the existing legislative principles and framework upon which the GNWT is based will continue for both new territorial governments. As such, the cost analysis contained in this report allows for conversion of existing legislation for the two new governments but does not include development of any new legislation for either government. Legislative impacts of Land Claims and Devolution are similarly excluded at this time.

AGENCY REVENUES WILL NOT BE INCREASED TO COVER THE COST OF DIVISION

There are four main agencies which are responsible for their own revenue sources. These include: NWT Power Corporation, Liquor Commission, Petroleum Products (a division of the Department of Government Services) and the Workers' Compensation Board. There will be a number of additional costs to these agencies that will result from Division. It is assumed that the incremental costs of Division will not be recovered through the direct revenue sources of these agencies/organizations.

REDUCTIONS IN YELLOWKNIFE WILL BE PHASED IN OVER SEVERAL YEARS

Where positions in the GNWT Head Office functions in Yellowknife become redundant as a result of Division, they will be phased out over a period of several years during the implementation of Division. It is assumed that, for the most part, reductions can be achieved through attrition, reclassification or transfers. In addition, the impact of these reductions may be further reduced by the ongoing growth of the government as Devolution continues and as the population grows.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

Using 1991/92 Yellowknife costs as a base, Division is expected to increase annual government operating costs by \$86,869,000, or 9.6%, above the projected 1991/92 budgeted GNWT expenditures of \$909,340,000. This increase, in terms of the objects of expenditure, consists of:

- wages and salaries of \$52,172,000;
- grants and contributions of \$7,716,000;
- other O&M of \$26,981,000.

A key factor in understanding the relatively modest magnitude of this impact is the fact that the existing GNWT is highly decentralized. Over 50% of GNWT staff are already operating in regions (or performing purely regional related support functions). The only impact is therefore on those Head Office functions which must be duplicated to provide support to regional program delivery.

A second key reason for the relatively small size of the incremental cost increase (i.e. 9.6%), can be found in the area of Grants & Contributions. Most of Grant and Contribution expenditures are driven by the demands/needs of the population (e.g. social assistance, health care claim) and are incurred in the two territories on a population basis. As a result, there are no significant incremental costs associated with these major expenditure areas due to Division.

Staffing

The total staffing impact is an additional 802.9 PY's in government departments (plus 95.9 PY's in other agencies, for a total of 898.8 PY's) over the 1991/92 levels.

Wages and Salaries

Wages and salaries increase \$52,172,000 using Yellowknife base costs and a further \$6,242,000 to \$8,672,000 when factors for higher settlement allowances and recruitment costs are considered for the Eastern capital.

Grants and Contributions

Grants and contributions increase only \$7,716,000, or 2.7%, reflecting the fact that Division would not affect program delivery costs incurred directly in the regions by regional operations. The primary cause of increase relates to population increases in the community which will become the new Eastern capital.

Other O&M

Other O&M increases only \$26,981,000, or 6.6%, largely as a result of travel, materials and supplies and contracted services. Detailed estimates for each of these is provided at the task analysis level within each departmental analysis.

Some adjustments are also required to refine these results. To ensure consistency throughout the study, departments were required to cost both Eastern and Western head offices using Yellowknife cost factors as a base. In the Eastern territory, however, costs for the same goods and services will be higher than they are in Yellowknife. As a result, the Yellowknife based costs illustrated earlier must be adjusted for higher cost of living factors, and for the compensation costs which it is anticipated will be necessary to retain staff in the Eastern capital. When other O&M in the Eastern capital is adjusted for Eastern Community cost of living factors, the total incremental cost increases by an additional \$10,775,000 to \$20,570,000, depending upon the community. Incremental personnel related costs add a further \$6,300,000 to \$8,700,000 to the East and reduce Western costs by \$454,000.

In addition, in the operating cost analysis stage of the study, it was necessary to exclude the incremental facility operating costs in the new Eastern capital: this was unavoidable since it was necessary to first define the magnitude of the Head Office organization required, from which the infrastructure could be defined. This infrastructure then allowed evaluation of the annual operating costs for the facilities.

REVENUES

The revenue analysis consisted of an evaluation of the projected 1991/92 revenue sources. Where revenues are directly attributable to departments the sources of these revenues have been evaluated and, together with input from the departments, revenues have been apportioned between the two territories. Incremental revenues identified in this stage of analysis are \$18.3 million, or 6.6%, of existing GNWT revenues.

CAPITAL COSTS

The historical spending patterns for capital expenditures between Eastern and Western regions were evaluated against a 20-year Capital Needs Assessment prepared by GNWT staff. Assuming Division would have no incremental impact (and similarly no reduction), the primary objective of the evaluation of capital expenditure requirements was to determine the relative split, or apportionment, of the 1991/92 capital expenditure budget of \$172 million between the two new governments.

Based on the combined historical and projected future needs, the annual capital costs were split based on the 20-year Capital Needs Assessment between the two new governments, maintaining the total projected 1991/92 capital budget levels. Annual Capital is projected at the budgeted level of \$172.2 million, with \$93.0 million allocated to the West and \$79.2 million allocated to the East.

INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS

Creation of a new territory in the East, with a new Head Office for the seat of government, requires development of an infrastructure of facilities, equipment and services. Given the small size of the Eastern communities, it is appropriate to assume that virtually all of the infrastructure requirements for the new government will be incremental.

For the purposes of this study, infrastructure needs have been classified into three categories:

- Direct physical infrastructure:
 - government facilities necessary to meet the administrative and program delivery requirements for office space and special facilities;
 - residential facilities, both single family and multiple residential housing for government employees and their families; and
 - equipment for government offices and residential furniture.
- Municipal / community physical infrastructure:
 - utilities, including water, sewage, refuse disposal, power generation and bulk fuel storage requirements; and
 - transportation, including road network upgrades, airport upgrades and seaport facility upgrades.
- Municipal social support infrastructure, including incremental impacts on:
 - health care facilities,
 - education facilities,
 - fire protection,
 - police protection,
 - recreational and cultural facilities, and
 - municipal offices.

Three sets of costs have been developed, one for each of the representative large, medium and small communities selected. These costs range from 520 million to \$587 million.

Costs for the infrastructure were provided through the Department of Public Works and the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs.

TRANSITION COSTS

Transition costs are defined as the one time costs necessary to implement the move from one government to two, excluding the annual operating costs and the infrastructure required to operate the government. This study has identified the following transition costs:

- Legal:
 - conversion of all territorial legislation and regulations,
- Personnel:
 - recruitment,
 - severance/termination,
 - relocation,
 - training;
- Systems;
- Transition Management and organizational development; and
- An initial inventory of forms, documentation and supplies.

It is important to note that transition costs will relate to both the Eastern and Western territorial governments. The Western government will also be a new government which will require its own enabling legislation and inter-governmental agreements.

It is reasonable to assume that these costs, which are projected to be \$5.6 million in the West and to range from \$38 million to \$43 million in the East, will be incurred over a five year period.

DIVISION COST IMPACT ANALYSIS - TOTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

ITEM NO.	ANNUAL COSTS (1991 DOLLARS x1000)				
		NEW WESTERN GOVERNMENT	NEW EASTERN GOVERNMENT - REPRESENTATIVE COMMUNITIL LARGE MEDIUM SMALL		
1.0	OPERATING COSTS IN YK DOLLARS				
	Government Departments	560,921	435,288	435,288	435,288
	PERCENT OF 1991/92 ESTIMATES	61.7%	47.9%	47.9%	47.9%
	COMBINED INCREASE OVER 1991/92 ESTIMATES		86,869 9.6%	86,869 9.6%	86,869 9.6%
2.0	OTHER INCREMENTAL OPERATING COSTS				
	- SECOND ITERATION IMPACTS		21,033	21,033	21,033
	- PERSONNEL RELATED	(454)	7,006	8,676	9,735
	- REGIONAL COST FACTORS		11,504	17,779	21,962
	- FACILITY OPERATING COSTS		39,985	45,865	50,001
3.0	INCREMENTAL COSTS OR SUBSIDIES TO OTHER AGENCIES (SPLIT 50:50 WEST AND EAST)	3,915	3,915	3,915	3,915
	ADJUSTED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS	564,382	518,731	532,556	541,934
	COMBINED INCREMENTAL IMPACT (BOTH EAST AND WEST, INCLUDING OTHER AGENCIES)		173,772 19.1%	187,597 20.6%	196,975 21.7%
4.0	ANNUAL CAPITAL COSTS (SPLIT 54:46)	93,024	79,242	79,242	79,242
5.0	ANNUAL DIRECT REVENUES (Exhibit 5-1)	(178,394)	(117,701)	(117,701)	(117,701)
	NET ANNUAL COSTS	479,011	480,272	494,097	503,475
	INCREMENTAL ANNUAL FUNDING REQUIRED		161,303	175,128	184,506
ONE TIME COSTS (1991 DOLLARS x 1000)					
		NEW WESTERN GOVERNMENT	NEW EASTERN GOVERNMENT - REPRESENTATIVE COMMUNITIES - LARGE MEDIUM SMALL		
1.0	INFRASTRUCTURE		522,978	549,105	589,948
2.0	TRANSITION	5,629	37,788	42,614	42,686
3.0	TOTAL ONE TIME COSTS	5,629	560,766	591,719	632,634
NOTE: ABOVE COST ESTIMATES EXCLUDE THE IMPACTS OF THE FOLLOWING:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CLAIMS SETTLEMENTS - DEVOLUTION - CONTINGENCIES 					

POPULATION IMPACT

The population impact of Division can be estimated in both the Western and Eastern territorial government capitals. The impact in Yellowknife, as the Western territorial capital, will be a reduction in staff levels by 248.6 PY's for government departments. There are no established records on which to draw conclusions or make supportable assumptions with regard to how many of the employees affected by down-sizing will relocate. As a result, the population impact analysis on Yellowknife has not been assessed further at this stage of the study.

In the new Eastern capital, 1,051.5 PY's will be created for government departments (Head Office only) plus an additional 130 PY's in other agencies. Each community will be able to provide only a small number of people to fill these employment opportunities from their unemployment rolls.

The employees entering the community to fill these positions will bring spouses and children. A compounding, or multiplier, effect will be realized through the creation of new private sector positions with the infusion of additional capital and payroll.

An appropriate population estimate is from 4,000 to 4,500 people being added to the existing communities. This more than doubles the size of the largest community and quadruples the size of the smallest.

SUMMARY

The combined financial impact of all of the preceding costs is summarized in the facing page exhibit. This exhibit incorporates:

- Department operating costs as originally calculated using Yellowknife costs as a base;
- Incremental costs to other agencies (only incremental costs are included since current spending is fully recovered from other sources);

- Incremental operating cost factors resulting from the higher costs associated with the new Eastern territorial Head Office - including incremental facility costs for the new infrastructure and incremental costs to the municipalities;
- Annual capital costs - with no incremental impacts reflected.
- Annual revenues including initial estimates of incremental direct revenues for each department.

This summary illustrates the following impacts of Division:

- Using Yellowknife base costs, Division would cause an increase in operating costs of \$86,869,000, or 9.6%, over existing GNWT expenditures.
- Including all increment operating cost factors, Division will cause an increase in total expenditures of \$173.8 million to \$197.0 million, or 19.1% to 21.7% over existing GNWT expenditures, depending upon the community selected.
- After consideration of capital costs and incremental direct revenues, the net annual cost impact of Division is projected to be \$161,303,000 to \$184,506,000.

One-time costs represent a far larger cost factor. Incremental costs in the West are estimated at \$5,629,000, largely due to one time personnel related costs. In the East, these costs may range from \$560.8 million to \$632.6 million.

Further refinements of each of these costs is warranted as approval of Division approaches.

These costs will likely change, but should represent an appropriate order of magnitude estimate of the costs of Division under the assumptions governing this study.





Press Information

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91-157

GNWT Contributes \$150,000 for French Language Development

YELLOWKNIFE (October 28) — Financial assistance of \$150,000 has been provided to the Federation Franco-TeNOise (FFT) through the French Language Development Contribution Program, says Minister of Culture and Communications Titus Allooloo.

FFT will use the contribution to encourage the development of community based projects which support the language and cultural development of the Francophone community.

"Cultural development is important to all residents of the Northwest Territories. These funds will help make it possible for the Francophone community to preserve their language and culture," says Mr. Allooloo.

Organizations interested in accessing these funds should contact FFT.

Funds for the French Language Development Contribution program were made available through a three-year language cooperation agreement, signed in August, between the Government of Canada and the GNWT. The agreement provides for the support and strengthening of French and Aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-158

More than \$1 Million to be Spent on French Programs

YELLOWKNIFE (October 31) — More than \$1 million will be spent on French education programs across the Northwest Territories in 1991/92, Education Minister Stephen Kakfwi said today.

The funding, from the federal Secretary of State, is administered by the territorial Department of Education.

About 4,000 students learn French as a second language by attending "core" French classes, in which they learn basic communication skills. Core French is offered at 23 schools in 10 communities across the N.W.T. Another 400 students learn French through immersion programs offered at four Yellowknife schools. The immersion students study a variety of subjects, with French as the language of instruction.

The funding will also be used to support French as a first language programs. During 1991/92, Yellowknife Education District No. 1 will receive about \$200,000 to operate Ecole Allain St-Cyr, which employs two teachers and has the equivalent of 33 full-time students, from kindergarten to Grade 7. Supplementary funding has allowed the school to add a half-time teaching position, enabling the school to add Grade 7 programs this year. The school also has a half-time classroom assistant on staff.

In addition, French as a first language classes are offered to 46 students in Iqaluit. Students from Grades 1 to 12 are offered French Language Arts, while students in Grades 1 to 5 also study math in French, and students in Grades 8 and 9 take Social Studies in French.

Eleven students in Nanasivik also study French Language Arts from Grades 1 to 6.

Through the Secretary of State, the Department of Education provides funding for books, teaching materials and other resources, as well as professional development and bursaries for teachers.

French education for adults will receive a boost under a separate funding agreement with the Secretary of State. More than \$11,000 has been set aside for training territorial employees to speak French. They will be reimbursed for the cost of tuition fees for French classes at Arctic College.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-159

CBA Intern in the NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (October 31) — A Polish lawyer is spending three months in the Northwest Territories as part of the Canadian Bar Association's Eastern and Central European Legal Internship Program, announces Justice Minister Michael Ballantyne.

Ryszard (Richard) Dziub, who has a Master of Law degree from the University of Bratislava, is working for the Legal Division at the Department of Justice. He is one of 24 lawyers from Poland, Hungary and Czecho-Slovakia visiting Canada this fall under the internship program.

Mr. Dziub is from Upper Silesia, one of the most industrialized regions in Poland. He suggests Canada's economic system could be a model for Poland, which is coming out of 45 years of Communist rule.

"A society with democratic rules and a market economy is something new for more than two generations of Poles. Reforms are difficult in Poland because there aren't many models for moving from a socialist to a capitalist system," Mr. Dziub says.

While in the NWT, Mr. Dziub is interested in learning more about commercial and business law, including bankruptcy law and the laws regarding insolvency.

Mr. Ballantyne says he hopes Mr. Dziub will return to Poland with an understanding of Canada's judicial system, and also an appreciation of Canada's North. "Mr. Dziub's visit reminds us that, although not without problems, our judicial, economic, political and social systems are the envy of many jurisdictions," says Mr. Ballantyne.

Mr. Dziub may participate in a court circuit outside Yellowknife during his stay in the NWT. He will also be making a presentation to NWT lawyers on the practice of law in Poland.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-160

Young Consumers Get Advice

YELLOWKNIFE (November 1) — An information kit for young consumers will help them feel more comfortable in the marketplace, says Safety and Public Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

The kit, called **Information for Today's Young Consumers**, has been distributed to grade four students across the Northwest Territories. It includes a glossary of consumer language, bookmarks, a poster, a button, T.V. bingo games and a spending log.

A cartoon family called the "Polarbuyers" helps young people learn valuable lessons about saving, refunds and exchanges, returns, mail order buying and book and record clubs.

"The kits were produced to reach out to young people as they start understanding the concepts of money and spending. They will help children become informed consumers so they will be able to make intelligent purchases as adults," Mrs. Marie-Jewell says.

The section on refunds and exchanges, for example, explains that all sales are final in the Northwest Territories unless otherwise stated. Stores have the right to set their own policies on refunds and exchanges.

The "Polarbuyers" information sheet include consumer tips, put in cartoon scenarios, plus question and answer sections. The information sheet on record and book clubs, for example, explains that many clubs offer sign-up packages for first-time members. The first five tapes might only cost one cent, but then the club may expect you to buy several more tapes at regular club prices.

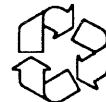
The spending log helps young consumers analyze their spending choices. Young consumers might get ideas about how to get more money, or think more carefully about how they spend their money.

The bingo game is meant to be played while watching television and is designed to teach consumers about advertising tricks.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-161

Trap Exchange Program Under Way

YELLOWKNIFE (November 7) — NWT trappers are encouraged to trade in their leghold traps for new quick kill traps.

Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo says his department expects to distribute more than 20,000 C-120 Magnum Conibear quick-kill traps this trapping season. The new traps are used for small furbearing animals such as marten or mink.

Under the trap exchange program, active trappers who have attended recent trapper workshops will receive a new killing trap for each old leghold trap they turn in. The maximum number of traps a trapper is eligible for is directly related to the average of their fur sales from 1986 to 1989.

"By October, 1992, only quick-kill traps will be permitted for hunting small furbearing animals. This exchange program will help NWT trappers acquire the proper traps before that deadline date," says Mr. Allooloo.

Leghold traps will still be permitted for the larger species such as fox, lynx and wolf until other effective and efficient killing traps are developed and approved for those species by the Fur Institute of Canada. Leghold traps are also permitted in drowning sets.

Trappers are also reminded that they are required to check their live-holding traps at least once every 72 hours. In introducing this standard, the NWT is now complying with the guidelines agreed to by all Canadian jurisdictions.

In 1993, all first-time trappers will be required to attend workshops which will cover humane trapping systems, pelt preparation and furbearer management techniques.

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Press Information

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91-162

RCMP Conclude Investigation into UNW Allegations

YELLOWKNIFE (November 7) — Government Leader Dennis Patterson said today that the process of restoring the public's faith in the Department of Social Services needs to begin now that two separate investigations into the department have found no evidence of wrongdoing.

The RCMP began an investigation August 23 following allegations made by the Union of Northern Workers (UNW) of "serious irregularities" in the Department of Social Services. The UNW gave the RCMP copies of confidential documents from the Fort Smith and Yellowknife offices of the Department of Social Services.

"The RCMP have said that the file is closed, no charges will be laid, and that no evidence of any criminal wrongdoing was found," said Mr. Patterson.

An earlier investigation conducted by Edmonton consultant Barry J. Burgess on behalf of the territorial government came to the same conclusion. Mr. Burgess reported that "...the allegations of inappropriate interference by the Minister, her staff or the senior officials of the Department of Social Services are unfounded."

Mr. Patterson said today that he believes the matter is now closed.

"I never doubted that Ms. Marie-Jewell would be found to have acted properly. We have had two investigations into the allegations, and both have come up with the same conclusion. Now we need to put all of that behind us and concentrate on ensuring that the department is allowed to get on with its important work," Mr. Patterson said.

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Press Information
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91-163

Northerners Make Presentation to UNESCO

YELLOWKNIFE (November 8) — It's important to blend traditional knowledge about the environment with current scientific practices, according to representatives from the Northwest Territories speaking at a recent international conference in Winnipeg.

"The Department of Renewable Resources has long recognized the value of traditional knowledge in making decisions about resource management," says NWT Renewable Resources Minister Titus Allooloo.

The Department of Renewable Resources financed and organized the NWT delegation to the International Workshop on Indigenous Knowledge and Community-Based Resource Management. Forty people from around the world attended the three-day workshop. Participants also made presentations to the Common Properties Conference.

Tom Unka of Fort Resolution, speaking about wood bison management in Fort Resolution, noted resource scientists are only now starting to understand that aboriginal people have a wealth of information pertaining to the management of their resources that is compatible with current scientific knowledge.

He said that it was because of this that the Denendeh Wildlife Resources Committee of the Fort Resolution Hunters and Trappers Association entered into an agreement with the Department of Renewable Resources to develop a co-management plan for the bison in the Hook Lake area.

Lucassie Arragutainaq of Sanikiluaq told delegates how Inuit in his community and Inuit of Great Whale River shared knowledge about caribou and walruses. Peter Green of Paulatuk talked about the conservation plan for the Bluenose caribou herd under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. In another presentation, Joelle Sanguya of Clyde River outlined the bowhead whale sanctuary proposal for Isabella Bay.

Meanwhile, Bob Ruttan of Alberta summarized the Dene Traditional Knowledge Pilot Project. Over the past two years, Fort Good Hope residents have been collecting traditional environmental knowledge and investigating traditional management systems.

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Northerners Make Presentation to UNESCO: Page 2

The workshop and conference were sponsored by the Man and the Biosphere Program, Canadian Commission for UNESCO, and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Research Council.

All workshop presentations, including those from the northern delegates, will be included in a book about traditional ecological knowledge which will be published later this year.

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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-164

Accident Prevention Plans Required

YELLOWKNIFE (November 8) — An information kit is being sent to all 3,500 employers in the NWT to help them understand their obligations under the Safety Act, according to Safety and Public Services Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell.

An employer in the NWT with 10 or more workers is required by law to set up and maintain an Accident Prevention Program at their workplace. Employers who fail to comply with the law could be faced with a \$10,000 fine. Employers with less than 10 workers must arrange for workers to discuss accident prevention at least once every six months.

Some employers with 10 or more employees could be ordered by the Chief Safety Officer of the NWT to establish Joint Work Site Health and Safety Committees. Two booklets in the information kit explain the responsibilities of committee members. Each member of the committee is to "encourage a constant awareness of the need for safe and competent work from all levels of the work force," states the member's guide book in the kit.

The kit also contains two booklets about the Health and Safety Program Audit. All employers in the NWT are being asked to complete the audit. It is designed to help employers analyze their workplace safety procedures. When completed, the audits are to be returned to the Chief Safety Officer at the Department of Safety and Public Services, who will evaluate the Accident Prevention Program if one has already been established, or suggest other safety measures.

The Manual for Small Businesses is for employers with less than 10 workers. It suggests how an Accident Prevention Program can be put in place in such a workplace.

Two Safety Infograms are included in the kit: one gives a brief description of the Accident Prevention Program, and the other gives information about the department's Safety Resource Centre, where people can receive safety information in various mediums.

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Press Information

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91-165

Northern Educator Appointed to Federal Commission

YELLOWKNIFE (November 13) — Long-time northern educator Liz Apak Rose has been appointed to the federal Canadian Polar Commission.

"Ms. Apak Rose has long been recognized for her excellent contributions towards creating an education system that meets the needs of northerners," says Joe Handley, Deputy Minister of Education. "We are all pleased that the federal government has also recognized her strengths, and feel confident she will make a strong contribution in representing the interests of northerners to the commission."

Ms. Apak Rose was born in Igloolik and attended school in her home community and Ottawa. After graduating from the Teacher Education Program in Fort Smith in 1974, she returned to Igloolik and taught for eight years. She then worked as the Inuktitut program specialist for the Department of Education for four years.

Ms. Apak Rose returned to school, and received a Bachelor of Education from McGill University in 1986. She then worked as an Inuktitut consultant for the Baffin Divisional Board of Education for five years, before moving to Yellowknife a few months ago to become the Inuktitut Curriculum Specialist for the Department of Education. She recently finished a secondment to the territorial government's program review committee.

Ms. Apak Rose's special interests are reading, writing and linguistics, and she has written six Inuktitut children's books. She also enjoys arranging dried flowers.

The Canadian Polar Commission is chaired by journalist Whit Fraser. The commission's mandate is to monitor the state of knowledge, in Canada and elsewhere, of the polar regions; to enhance Canada's international polar profile by fostering and facilitating international and domestic liaison and cooperation in circumpolar research; to promote and encourage national institutions and organizations to support the development and dissemination of northern knowledge; to provide information about research concerning the polar regions to Canadians and Canadian organizations, institutions and associations; and to advise the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development on matters relating to the polar regions.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-166

Bickert Resigns from Judicial Council

YELLOWKNIFE (November 12) — Deputy Minister of Justice Geoffrey Bickert has resigned from his position on the Judicial Council.

His resignation was accepted today by Commissioner Daniel Norris on the recommendation of Minister of Justice Michael Ballantyne.

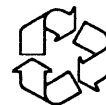
It has been traditional for the Deputy Minister of Justice to serve on the Judicial Council ever since it was created by legislation in 1978. Mr. Bickert was appointed to the council when he became Deputy Minister in 1987.

A recent court case, however, has challenged the constitutionality of the presence of the Deputy Minister on the Judicial Council. Although citing the case as the reason for recommending acceptance of Mr. Bickert's resignation, Mr. Ballantyne said he continues "to have complete faith in the structure of the Judicial Council and the contribution Mr. Bickert has made to its work".

Mr. Bickert's replacement on the Judicial Council will be appointed by the Minister of Justice named in the new cabinet.

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Press Information

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91-167

Alcohol-Free Dances Mark Addictions Awareness Week

YELLOWKNIFE (November 14) — Groups across the Northwest Territories are planning activities for National Addictions Awareness Week. They want people to realize that it is possible to have a good time without alcohol and drugs.

Alcohol-free dances will be held in almost every community during National Addictions Awareness Week November 17 - 24. Local committees are also organizing other events.

In Yellowknife, for example, there will be a kick-off bonfire at McNiven Beach, phone-in radio shows, panel discussions, mall information booths, and a wrap-up dance.

In the Kitikmeot, characters from the television program Degrassi Junior High will be touring the region during the week. The actors will talk with young people about the effects of alcohol and drug addictions.

The theme for this year's National Addictions Awareness Week is "Youth." The ongoing theme is "Keep the Circle Strong," which originated in the NWT in 1985. It was later adopted nationally as the standing theme.

"Sober dances will show young people that partying and alcohol and drugs don't need to mix. We all know that an addiction permeates everything. It can be linked with other serious social problems such as abuse, incest, suicide and family violence. The week is a celebration of what we have, and what we can achieve if we stay sober," says Bernie Doyle, Deputy Minister of the Department of Social Services.

Last year, 300 people were referred to treatment programs through the Department of Social Services. There are two treatment centres in the NWT: Delta House in Inuvik and the Somba K'e Treatment Centre on the Detah Road, near Yellowknife. A centre on the Hay River Reserve is under construction, and one for Iqaluit is under negotiation.

Sixty five campaigns were held last year in the NWT during National Addictions Awareness Week. The Zhatie Koe Alcohol and Drug program in Fort Providence won second prize for community involvement in a contest sponsored by Nechi, the teaching arm of Poundmaker's Lodge.

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Press Information

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91-168

Pollard New Finance Minister

YELLOWKNIFE (November 14) — John Pollard has been named the new Minister of Finance for the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The announcement was made today by Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea. She said the assignment of other portfolios to members of the government's eight-member cabinet would be made by the end of next week.

"Mr. Pollard's excellent record and understanding of both government and private sector financial practices, positions him well for the tough financial decisions our government will be facing over the next few years," Ms. Cournoyea said.

Members of the new cabinet took their official oaths of office Thursday during a special ceremony in this northern capital.

Mr. Pollard, member of the Legislative Assembly for Hay River, chaired the previous Assembly's Standing Committee on Finance and was a member of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. He was also a member of the Legislature's Special Committee on the Northern Economy and a member of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges.

Mayor of Hay River in 1986 and 1987, Mr. Pollard was elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1987 for his first four-year term. He was returned by acclamation in last month's election.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-169

Major Changes Recommended

YELLOWKNIFE (November 18) — Major and fundamental changes in the operation and structure of northern government are required in order to avoid the mistakes and financial distress evident in many southern Canadian political jurisdictions.

The changes include strengthening of community level governments, consolidating and simplifying territorial government departments and reducing the number of advisory boards and agencies.

The findings are contained in a report of a project review group that examined the operations and structures of northern government. The report, commissioned by the previous government, was provided to members of the Legislative Assembly Friday by Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea.

Ms. Cournoyea said she had just received the report and that she and her newly-elected Cabinet have not had the opportunity to review the document. It is currently being translated and would be formally tabled in the Legislature when it reconvenes in early December.

According to the report, the government's financial squeeze hasn't been triggered by too much "fat" in government or as a result of a "Cadillac" or over-centralized operation. But it does face an "unprecedented gulf" between available resources and demands on its resources.



Major Changes Recommended: Page 2

New funding limitations, imposed by the federal government through formula financing arrangements, coupled with soaring costs for health and education programs, have combined to place the GNWT in an extremely difficult financial position, the report notes.

“Belt-tightening approaches will not begin to cope with the problem. Tinkering with or fine tuning of programs or structures would not produce the necessary ability to control the current rate of cost escalation.”

The report concludes that community governments are under-used in the North and need to play a larger, more involved and more responsible role. They also require more control over the resources needed to do the job.

But this should not take place at the expense of the senior government, the report states.

“Community governments will not succeed without a strong territorial government. It is essential that strong leadership be working at two levels. The work of government should be shared more evenly with communities and the territorial government should transfer more responsibility and resources to communities in the area of providing services to people.”

This is not a question of further decentralization, but of enhancing the capacity of the community level of government. The territories already has the most decentralized government in Canada, the report explains.

Transfers to community-level governments over the next five to 10 years, the report suggests, might include far greater responsibility for:

- building houses
- building and maintaining local public works
- social welfare of the community and the eradication of drug and alcohol problems
- education of the young
- local community economic development





Press Information

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91-170

GNWT Wants Improved Relations With Dene Nation

RAE (November 21) — The Territorial government wants improved relations with the Dene Nation and a cooperative approach to development of aboriginal self government.

Stephen Kakfwi, speaking to the Dene Leadership Meeting here Wednesday, said the Territorial government accepts the fact that aboriginal people have an inherent or natural right to self-government.

He said the challenge facing government, the Legislative Assembly and aboriginal first nations is to find ways to live together in a single jurisdiction that recognizes and respects aboriginal rights and institutions of self government.

"Our relationship, however, has been somewhat strained in the past. The government wants to improve these relationships and to find ways we can work together - in a more cooperative fashion."

Mr. Kakfwi, and five other government ministers, were in Rae to attend the leadership meeting.

He said the government is offering a chance to restructure government to benefit native people and other northerners. The changes would see transferring control for many programs and services to community government, in line with recommendations in the Beatty Report on operations and structures of northern government.

"It's important to say that we can do some real things right now that are going to pull people back together and give the Dene some focus. We should go for it," Mr. Kakfwi said.

"I hope we can all accept the challenge to work cooperatively in order to find a successful conclusion that will benefit all of us."

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Press Information
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91-171

Ministers Assigned Portfolios

YELLOWKNIFE (November 22) — Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea has announced ministerial assignments for her eight-member Cabinet.

She said today there would be additional announcements involving senior staff of the government next week.

As Government Leader, Ms. Cournoyea will also be responsible for the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.

Other assignments:

- **John Pollard (MLA Hay River):** Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Public Utilities Board and Government House Leader.
- **Stephen Kakfwi (MLA Sahtu):** Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, Personnel.
- **Dennis Patterson (MLA Iqaluit):** Justice, Municipal and Community Affairs, Safety and Public Services, Workers' Compensation Board.
- **Tony Whitford (MLA Yellowknife South):** Health, Social Services, Science Institute.
- **John Ningark (MLA Natilikmiot):** Renewable Resources, Government Services, Women's Directorate.
- **Don Morin (MLA Tu Nedhe):** Public Works, Housing Corporation
- **Titus Allooloo (MLA Amittuq):** Education, Culture and Communications, Transportation.

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91-172

Deputy Minister Changes Announced

YELLOWKNIFE (November 25) — Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea has announced a number of senior management changes.

Pierre Alvarez has been appointed Secretary to Cabinet. He will keep his responsibilities for the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources.

As Secretary to Cabinet, Mr. Alvarez takes over the responsibilities of Louise Vertes who has resigned from her position as Deputy Minister of the Executive Department.

Other changes include:

- **Bob Overvold** is named Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs. He will keep his responsibilities as Principle Secretary until the end of December.

The new ministry consolidates the government's intergovernmental affairs office, the aboriginal rights and constitutional development secretariat and the office of devolution.

- **Larry Elkin** moves from Deputy Minister of Public Works to President of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, replacing Jake Heron. Mr. Heron is pursuing other interests.
- **Bob Doherty**, most recently a member of the review project on the operations and structure of northern government, has entered into a contract as Deputy Minister of Public Works
- **Joe Handley** becomes Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources. He will keep his current assignment as Deputy Minister of Education for an interim period.

In resigning from her position, Mrs. Vertes declined an appointment as Deputy Minister of Education, noting she wants to take the time to explore other areas of interest. She added that it's appropriate for a new government leader to change senior-level assignments and that she would be available, at a later date, should her experience be required.

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Press Information
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91-173

Aboriginal Language Workshops

YELLOWKNIFE (November 26) — A series of aboriginal language terminology workshops are being held throughout the Northwest Territories, according to Titus Allooloo, Minister of the Department of Culture and Communications.

Interpreters, translators, linguists and other language specialists will meet with representatives and elders of the communities to develop aboriginal language terms and definitions. Eight workshops will be held in Inuit dialects and Dene languages.

The first of these workshops, on the Gwich'in language, was held in Fort McPherson. A workshop on constitutional terms in all five Dene languages is scheduled for Yellowknife November 25 to 29. A Sigliqtun and Uummarmiutun Inuit language workshop will be held November 26 to 28 in Tuktoyaktuk. A Dogrib terminology workshop is scheduled for December 3 to 5 in Rae.

Additional Dene terminology workshops will be held in Hay River (South Slavey and Chipewyan) and Fort Good Hope (North Slavey). Inuit dialect workshops will be held in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay.

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Press Information

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91-174

Enrolment in NWT Schools Continues to Grow

YELLOWKNIFE (November 28) — Enrolment in NWT schools has grown for the fifth year in a row, with this year's numbers showing the biggest increase since 1972, Education Minister Titus Allooloo said today.

As of September 30, a total of 14,940 students were enrolled in NWT schools, an increase of 701 students over the same time last year. This is an increase of almost five per cent, significantly higher than the normal growth rate of less than two per cent.

"We're starting to see the results of a number of initiatives that have made the education system more relevant to the needs of northerners," Mr. Allooloo says. "Increased parental control through divisional boards of education, increased instruction in aboriginal language and culture, and instruction which builds on the experiences of each students have all contributed to the increased value northerners now place on education."

The largest growth occurred in secondary grades, which has increased by 27 per cent this year, and by almost 42 per cent in the last five years. Enrolment in all secondary grades is up, with the greatest increase coming in Grade 10 enrolments. Part of this can be attributed to Chief Jimmy Bruneau School in Edzo, which offered Grade 10 for the first time this year, and had 124 students register. However, even if these students were excluded, the growth in secondary school registrations would still stand at over 20 per cent.

Growth in secondary school enrolments are expected to continue to grow over the next ten years, as students stay in school longer.

"As school programs become more relevant for students, we find that they come to school on a regular basis. During the early 1980's, 17 to 18 per cent of all students would be truant on any particular day. Today the truancy rate has dropped to about seven per cent. As a result, students are more successful in their studies and continue on to higher grades," Mr. Allooloo says.



Enrolment in NWT Schools Continues to Grow: Page 2

The other large area of growth is kindergarten enrolment, which has increased 14 per cent over last year. This increase is due to an unusually high increase in the number of five-year-olds across the NWT. Although enrolments are expected to be the same next year, another "population bump" is expected to cause a large increase in two years.

The one area that has shown a decrease in enrolment is the primary grades. In the past, many students would fail one or more of these grades, which resulted in an unusually high number of primary students, and an unusually low number of junior high students. But with more students performing better in school, they are continuing to move on to higher grade levels.

Enrolments have increased in all regions, except for the Beaufort-Delta, which experienced an overall decline, primarily due to a decrease in Inuvik. Even communities which have shown stability or decreases in enrolments in the past are showing increases this year.

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News Release/Communiqué

91-175

Federal Funds for Yellowknife and Baker Lake

YELLOWKNIFE (December 2) — Federal Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness Marcel Masse, presented two cheques totalling \$31,000 to the Government of the Northwest Territories Saturday under the terms of the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program.

The cheques were accepted by Nellie Cornoyea, Government Leader of the Northwest Territories.

The money will help pay for emergency equipment in Yellowknife and Baker Lake. Yellowknife will receive \$24,250 for the purchase of emergency equipment to help upgrade the city's emergency communications system. Baker Lake will receive \$6,752 for the purchase of an emergency generator to be installed in the hamlet's community hall. Under the hamlet's emergency plan the hall is identified as an emergency evacuation centre.

"For the past 10 years, the Government of Canada and the Northwest Territories have been working together to strengthen emergency preparedness capabilities throughout the territories," said Mr. Masse. "These two projects are tangible evidence of how beneficial that relationship has been."

"These contributions show our continued awareness and commitment to the need for emergency preparedness planning," said Ms. Cornoyea. "They also provide us with the means to improve our emergency response capability, thereby providing better protection for the health and property of northerners during an emergency."

Under the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program, the federal government provides financial assistance to provinces and territories to enhance their emergency preparedness capabilities. Since 1983 the federal government has contributed \$1.4 million to the Northwest Territories under the terms of the program.

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91-176

Additional Restraint Measures Introduced

YELLOWKNIFE (December 2) — Finance Minister John Pollard has announced additional restraint measures to help the government soften its pressing financial situation.

The measures supplement the existing 90-day freeze on filling staff vacancies, unless they are considered essential for service to the public, and on contracting consultants.

Mr. Pollard said today the impact of the restraint measures on levels of service to the public is expected to be minimal.

He said the government's Financial Management Board has established an "overall target" of a five percent savings in its discretionary operations and maintenance budget by March 31, 1992. How much the government saves would not be known until the actual financial results for 1991-92 are in.

The new measures include:

- No new positions are to be created during the 90-day hiring freeze.
- Each minister is expected to put in place a review and approval process for duty travel. As a minimum, these measures must include severe restrictions on travel outside the NWT, advance planning to take advantage of discount fares and elimination of non-essential conference attendance.
- Reduction of expenditures on utilities and fuel. The Departments of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and Public Works are developing an energy management plan to establish specific actions to be taken to conserve energy.
- Furnishings and equipment purchases, not currently on order, are to be delayed until 1992-93 when the need will be reassessed. Expenditures on office supplies are to be restricted to urgent requirements.

Additional Restraint Measures Introduced: Page 2

- No new capital projects are to be established for the balance of 1991-92. All capital projects for which a contract has not been entered into by November 29 will be reviewed by the Financial Management Board
- Discretionary grants or contribution payments may only be made with approval of a Minister.
- Agencies whose staff are public servants are subject to the 90-day hiring freeze. They are also subject to the 90-day freeze on entering into new consulting contracts.
- All agencies are required to implement an expenditure management program, taking their own particular circumstances into account. These programs are to be submitted to the appropriate Minister for approval by January 2.

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Press Information
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91-177

Ningark Speaks at Candlelight Vigil

YELLOWKNIFE (December 6) — "Men who commit any form of violence against women must realize such behavior is wrong and must be changed," Minister Responsible for the Women's Directorate John Ningark said today at a National Day of Remembrance ceremony here.

The event, sponsored by the NWT Status of Women's Council and the Women's Directorate, was held to commemorate the massacre of 14 women at the University of Montreal December 6, 1989, and to remember all victims of violence against women. A candlelight vigil was held in the Legislative Assembly foyer at noon to mark the occasion.

Mr. Ningark stated all women have the right to live safe and healthy lives.

"I support this day of remembrance and I am hoping this event will help more people - especially men - become aware of the problem of violence against women," he said.

He added that men have to start talking about their problems, especially since the number of reported assaults against women is increasing in the North.

"I can say that my behavior and feelings about people are a result of the care and love shown to me by my older sister, my stepmother, and my wife. This, to me, is an important part of the solution to violence, he said.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-178

Ministers, Senior Management Agree to Work for Less Money

YELLOWKNIFE (December 9) — Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea, ministers and deputy ministers of the territorial government and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly have all agreed to work for less money.

Ms. Cournoyea said today her announcement demonstrates an executive and senior management commitment to tackle budget problems head on and to emphasize the need to "live within our means."

The Government Leader's annual base salary will be reduced by \$7,000, the Speaker and Minister's salaries by \$5,000 and Deputy Ministers salaries by \$2,500. The reductions will come into effect January 1, 1992.

The wage reductions supplement restraint measures introduced by the government during the past two weeks that are designed to help prevent its projected \$40 million deficit from climbing even higher before the end of the fiscal year.

In addition, Ms. Cournoyea noted, ministers will no longer be assigned government vehicles on a permanent basis. Cabinet has agreed to use the Public Works vehicle pool for government business just like all other government workers.

"With understanding and commitment, all of us have the chance to save money and develop a new style of government at both the community and territorial levels that are complimentary, supportive and unique to our own northern style and cultural traditions," Ms. Cournoyea stated.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-179

Government Looks to Borrow Money

YELLOWKNIFE (December 9) — Finance Minister John Pollard says the Government of the Northwest Territories is likely to borrow about \$50 million in order to get itself out of a financial squeeze created by the recession and lower than expected transfer payments from Ottawa.

He told the Legislature today that if government spending and receipt of revenues continues as projected, it will have to borrow the money before the end of 1991-92 in order to meet its financial obligations. The government's budget is \$1.3 billion.

"Borrowing money to finance the debt would happen only once. It must be avoided in the future by taking strong expenditure reduction measures in 1992-93," he said. "Continued borrowing to finance operating deficits is not an option."

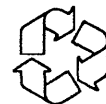
Mr. Pollard, faced with the task of putting together his first budget as finance minister, explained the Northwest Territories does not have the capacity to finance a large amount of accumulated debt. If it doesn't return to a balanced budget, the financial solvency of the government will be at risk.

Mr. Pollard said the main reason for deterioration in the Government's financial position is the low growth in the grant from Canada over the last two years because of changes the federal government insisted be part of the Canada-NWT formula financing arrangement in 1988 and 1990.

"The changes will have cost our government more than \$150 million by the end of the 1993 fiscal year," he said, adding that he expects the territories will have come through the worst of the effects of the formula changes by the end of the that fiscal year.

Mr. Pollard said reduced spending must be at the core of the government's budgetary policy.

"Putting our fiscal situation back on track means making do with less. That means making both a permanent reduction in our expenditures to eliminate the current deficit and making a reduction in our long-term rate of expenditure growth in order to match it with our growth in revenues."



Government Looks to Borrow Money: Page 2

He said short term expenditure management measures, announced over the past few weeks, are designed to reduce the government's projected deficit for 1991-92.

The measures would not solve the government's financial problems, but they would help to prevent the deficit from climbing even higher while government prepares for the longer term and the more fundamental changes needed to come to grips with the deficit.

Mr. Pollard said a leaner and more efficient government is necessary in order to recover from the current deficit position. Changes in the way the government does business are essential and recommendations of the report *Strength at Two Levels* provide some of the answers.

"Every member of the Legislature would have to play a large part in the decision making process. Fundamental change is needed and the Government can't do it alone."

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-180

Government Departments to be Consolidated

YELLOWKNIFE (December 9) — The territorial government is taking steps to consolidate departments and increase levels of responsibility at the community level.

"We know the job that has to be done and we all know that we must find a new and better way of doing things to avoid and correct the problems of the past and to build the kind of a future all of us want," Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea told the Legislature today.

She said cabinet is determined to reshape and streamline the way government does business at both the community and territorial levels.

"Government has to catch up with and recognize community ambitions and the way people at the local level want to get things done - even if that means changing the way programs and services are delivered in order to make them more relevant and to provide for more local control."

She said problems facing the Northwest Territories do not belong to any one individual or organization. They belong to everyone and a great deal of leadership, team work, hard work and common purpose will be necessary to solve them.

"The decisions won't be easy and they will require a great deal of public input, understanding and support," she said. "Both government and public expectations will have to decrease. Decisions of Cabinet and the Legislature must be based on living within our means. If we can't pay for it, we'd better not buy it."

Ms. Cournoyea said streamlining the operations and structure of government will help ease the territories tight financial position by cutting back on the number of government departments through a plan of consolidation, and by introducing efficiencies in program and service areas.

The process would also place the government in a better position to transfer increased responsibility to the community level.

She said transfers to community governments could include block or multi-year funding and that increased local controls may include responsibility for building houses, building and maintaining local public works, administration of social services, dealing with drug and alcohol problems and education of the young.

Government Departments to be Consolidated: Page 2

"We want to see community ownership of programs and services. We want to see programs and services delivered in a way that reflects the unique conditions of each community - controlled by local people who know the community and who can set their own funding priorities."

Ms. Cournoyea said recommendations of the report dealing with community self-government are of particular importance and that Cabinet will also have to deal with the institutions that will result from land claims as well as accommodating the rights of aboriginal people. The government's newly-organized Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs will take the lead role in this area.

She noted that Cabinet has already begun the process of developing plans for restructuring government. Initial steps, to be reflected in the 1992-93 budget, include:

- Consolidating the Department of Health and the Department of Social Services into one department in order to improve coordination and efficiency in responding to the health and social service needs of northern residents;
- Moving all programs dealing with education, employment and culture into one department. This will provide a renewed emphasis on the important linkage between education, employment and culture;
- Moving responsibility for the Petroleum, Oils and Lubricants (POL) program under the NWT Power Corporation in order to gain greater efficiencies in the delivery of petroleum products and their use; and
- Consolidating the remaining programs and services within Government Services under the Department of Public Works.

Ms. Cournoyea said the government intends to recommend a strategic plan to the Legislature on an implementation process and timetable for consolidating government departments and other recommendations in the report *Strength at Two Levels*. The plan would be worked out with the involvement of the various committees of the Legislature and be brought forward for a decision at the next session.

She said the strategy will include methods of dealing with recommendations of the report *Strength at Two Levels* in a way that treats the public service fairly and with respect; that takes advantage of vacant positions and trains staff for new employment opportunities; and that involves new partnerships and levels of communication between the government, Members of the Legislature, interested parties and union representatives.



Government Departments to be Consolidated: Page 3

"This kind of cooperation and openness will be extended to all areas of our work," Ms. Cournoyea stated, noting that the government knows and understands the need for a more receptive government and for enhanced levels of public consultation on legislation before it is formally considered by the House.

During the budget session, it plans to provide the Legislature with a proposal dealing with the question of access to information. The government is also prepared to give immediate attention to recommendations of the Standing Committee on Legislation concerning any improvements to the way government drafts, considers and presents legislation and regulation - particularly in respect to increased levels of public input.

"The process of government doesn't have to be too complex and difficult to understand. But it does take elected leaders and professional staff working as a team," Ms. Cournoyea stated.

"With understanding and commitment, all of us - including members of the public service - have the chance to forge new rules and styles of government at both the community and territorial levels that are complimentary, supportive and unique to our own northern style and cultural traditions."

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Major Changes Recommended: Page 3

Many of the report's recommendations involve tightened management practices within territorial government programs, noting that such improvements will be essential if cost-containment is to be achieved.

The government is "too elaborate and fragmented" with 17 departments and 375 programs. This tends to weaken the administration, the report states.

"Each separate structure adds to the cost of government, communication and coordination suffers and the result is a structure that is more cumbersome, less manageable and less effective in meeting the needs of northern communities."

As a result, the report recommends a major consolidation of existing government departments along with changes in the support structure of Cabinet committees in order to make it easier for Cabinet to implement its directions. The consolidation would cut costs and simplify and streamline the business of government - allowing it to better coordinate and focus its available resources in meeting the needs of northern communities.

The position savings realized through consolidation shouldn't significantly displace existing employees, the project review group concludes.

Through reassignment, attrition, early retirement, retraining and other workforce adjustment mechanisms, the organizational changes can be accomplished in a manner that respects the past contribution of affected employees and gives them full opportunity to play an important part in the future operation of the government, the report explains.

"The impact on staff can be largely mitigated if the changes are well planned and phased in."

A significant part of the review project's examination was directed to the improvement of service.

Major Changes Recommended: Page 4

“Productivity and organization experts around the world agree that quality improvement which results from simplification and streamlining often leads to large cost reductions.”

As restraint, consolidation and simplification become the beacons of management, it is important to emphasize improvements in quality of service to the public, the report cautions.

“Some people will have trouble accepting this, especially in the NWT where incrementalism (more money spent, more programs) has been institutionalized. It is, nonetheless, true and must become part of the management culture in the territorial government.”

In any case, the government cannot afford program duplication, overlap, lack of coordination, or programs which may have outlived their usefulness, the report states. Searching questions will need to be asked before any new program is established and all existing programs should be allowed to lapse unless they have demonstrated the highest value-for-money standards.

“Every dollar must be accounted for and every penny must be squeezed twice.”

The review group, brought together by the Financial Management Board last spring, notes in its report that governing the NWT will perhaps always be more difficult than governing a southern jurisdiction because of its large land mass, many languages, many cultures and many uncertainties. Issues like land claims, division, possible closure of mines or reduction in resource exploration, introduce a large measure of the unknown into the planning process.

“The changes proposed in this report will not reduce these uncertainties and challenges, but they will make them more manageable.”



Major Changes Recommended: Page 5

In addressing the matter of community government, the report states the structures and programs of government should be "more reflective" of northern and native culture if government is to be understood by and accessible to the public it serves.

"Most of the business of government should be done at the community level by community governments, which are ably supported by a strong territorial government," it notes. "Transferred programs and resources can be used as a foundation for greater social and economic development in the communities."

The review group concludes that traditional structures should play a role in northern community government. Simplifying and consolidating departments and programs would also make these structures less "foreign" and less complicated, and should help reduce the "distance" between the territorial government and the people it serves.

"In many cases, re-building the government along these lines means breaking with southern program and organization models, and there is nothing wrong with that," the report states.

"The government no longer needs to adopt a follow-the-leader approach. It can be the leader."

Meanwhile, the report notes that steps must be taken to cut back on the proliferation of boards and agencies in the NWT which have made it "virtually impossible" for the government and community-level governments to effectively manage the business of the North.

It cites earlier government discussion papers that indicate there were 1500 elected "politicians" in the NWT, as well as 800 statutory and other government-sponsored bodies operating in the communities. In non-taxed based communities there were over 320 special purpose bodies costing about \$66 million a year.

Major Changes Recommended: Page 6

“Layer upon layer of boards and agencies make effective decision making impossible and leave the average person bewildered at the structure of government. Both the elected official and average citizen have been made to feel powerless.”

The report explains how these structures are undermining the effectiveness of elected leaders, including members of the Legislature, members of Cabinet and community leaders. Their administrative costs are large and increasing and are drawing funds away from program services.

Because of this, and the need to strengthen community-level government, the report recommends that all boards and agencies should be assessed with a view to elimination, downsizing or consolidation.

By significantly reducing the number of these community groups, there will be new opportunities for consolidation and restructuring under the jurisdiction of the community government, the report states.

“Structures will be legitimized, numbers of groups will be reduced and community management of programs will be less complex. Funds will be directed to programs and program delivery, rather than structure and administration.

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The Project Team

"... our government is facing lower revenue growth, and increasing expenditure pressures. We must be prepared to make some hard decisions in the near future - decisions about what we expect from government, and what we are willing to do without. Through the project to review the operations and structure of northern government, we will be developing options for fundamental change in the way government is structured and in the way its programs are delivered."

- The Hon. Michael Ballantyne
Minister of Finance
Budget Address, February 1991

With that announcement, in the final year of its mandate, the Territorial government set in motion an unprecedented review process designed to produce a blueprint to preserve the government's balanced budget by recommending ways to avoid the debt-trap victimizing most southern jurisdictions.

The project group assembled to conduct the project was composed of a select group of senior executives from outside the Territorial government, community representatives, seconded government employees, and support staff.

The government's Financial Management Board felt that external specialists would bring objectivity and experience from other jurisdictions to the review team; community representatives would provide the context of the aboriginal residents of the NWT; and seconded government staff would provide vital knowledge of the organization and the environment in which it must operate.

Working under the guidance of the Project Director, the Project Group consisted of three teams. The teams were chosen to balance knowledge, skills and objectivity, and diverse cultural and geographic backgrounds. The members were:

Project Director Garry H. Beatty, President, Gabe Fiscal Management Inc.

Mr. Beatty has held a number of top executive positions including Deputy Minister of Finance and Secretary of the Treasury Board in Saskatchewan, President and CEO of Manitoba Hydro, and President of the Crown Investments Corporation in Saskatchewan. He now lives in Winnipeg.

Management and Organization

Team Leader A.M. (Sandy) Gillies

Mr. Gillie was seconded from the federal Department of Western Economic Diversification. He has had considerable experience in a range of executive roles in public administration related to social and economic development.

Members

- Jim Antoine, Chief, Fort Simpson Band
- John Bunge, Director, Policy & Coordination, GNWT Department of Transport, Yellowknife
- Dan O'Neill, Kitikmeot Assistant Regional Director, GNWT Department of the Executive, Cambridge Bay.

Service Delivery

Team Leader

John Sadler, President, John Sadler Management Ltd., Winnipeg

Mr. Sadler is a professional engineer who has served as chief executive officer in both the construction and oil and gas industries. He has also served in the public sector.

Members

- Knute Hansen, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Chairman Beaufort-Delta Divisional Board of Education, Aklavik
- Don Ellis, Forth Smith Regional Director, GNWT Department of the Executive, Fort Smith
- Bob Doherty, R. Doherty & Associates, Ottawa and Yellowknife. Mr. Doherty is a former Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Works, GNWT

Program Delivery

Team Leader

Frank Bogdasavich, Consultant Ottawa

Mr. Bogdasavich is a lawyer with executive experience in the federal Treasury Board and in economic and regional development. He also served as Deputy Minister of Social Services, Deputy Minister of Culture and Communications, and Deputy Minister of Tourism and Renewable Resources in Saskatchewan.

Members

- Liz Apak Rose, Baffin Divisional Board of Education, Iqaluit
- Gail Joyce, Director, Policy and Evaluation, GNWT Department of Education, Yellowknife
- Bob Kasting, Director, Legal Division, GNWT Department of Justice, Yellowknife

Research Assistance

- Dyan Grant-Francis, Harvest Biologist, GNWT Department of Renewable Resources, Yellowknife
- Edwin Castillo, Statistician/Research Coordinator, GNWT Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Yellowknife

Project Secretary

- Kathy Lidbury, Yellowknife



Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-181

Exploration Bids Signal Upturn

YELLOWKNIFE (December 10) — Successful bids for gas and oil exploration rights in the Mackenzie Delta and Beaufort Sea areas are a sign of confidence in the economic potential of the Northwest Territories, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Nellie Cournoyea said today.

"The results are encouraging and they also underline the importance of finalizing and implementing the Northern Accord and settling outstanding land claims so that industry activity can be administered by northern decision makers."

The accord and regulatory procedures established through land claim settlements, she noted, would ensure that economic benefits to northerners are maximized and that disruption of lifestyles and impact on the environment are minimized.

The federal government announcement Monday that Shell Canada bid over \$53 million for exploration rights to three parcels of land in the Delta. A fourth parcel, in the Beaufort Sea area, was awarded to a consortium led by Chevron Canada Resources and Amoco Canada Petroleum Company Ltd. with a bid of \$3.2 million.

"The bids are encouraging because they come during a difficult economic time for the oil and gas industry. They provide a signal that the industry's major players recognize the exploration potential of the Mackenzie Delta area," Ms. Cournoyea stated.

And that positions us well for the future, she added, noting that completion of a Northern Accord will see the transfer, from the federal to the territorial government, of legislative and administrative responsibilities for the oil and gas sector in the NWT as well as a portion of the revenues.

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Press Information
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-182

Montreal Painter Captures the North

YELLOWKNIFE (December 10) — Arctic Vision, a travelling exhibit by Montreal painter Gaeton Pilon, is on display in the mezzanine gallery at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

The exhibition of 24 paintings, in water colours and oils, illustrates Pilon's vision of the North. During the summer of 1990, he explored Iqaluit, Resolute Bay, Eureka, Otto Fjord, and D'Iberville Fjord.

"Mr. Pilon's paintings are a colourful representation of images from the Arctic," says Culture and Communications Minister Titus Allooloo. "He has captured the free spirit of our land, culture and people."

The paintings will be on display here until January 31.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-183

Mine Safety Bill Committee Formed

YELLOWKNIFE (December 11) — A special committee is being established to develop mine safety legislation for the Northwest Territories, Safety and Public Services Minister Dennis Patterson told the Legislature today.

The committee will have an independent chairman who is knowledgeable in mining, two representatives from industry and one representative each from unionized and non-unionized labour.

Mr. Patterson said the committee's work will lead to a new Mine Safety Act for introduction at the Legislative Assembly's fall session in 1992 or, at the latest, during its budget session of 1993.

"We want to allow those directly affected by the legislation to participate in its formation. That approach will create a better climate for its administration and its effectiveness," Mr. Patterson stated.

He noted that good health and safety legislation must satisfy three requirements. It had to be acceptable to workers, achievable by management and enforceable by regulatory agencies.

Meanwhile, a proposed new Mine Safety Bill, tabled in the previous House, will not go forward in its present form, but the government still wants to consider initial comments on the draft bill and its regulations.

"Many interested parties have already given a great deal of thought to the tabled document and we don't want their efforts to be lost," Mr. Patterson said.

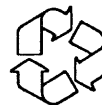
He added that interim amendments to the existing Mining Safety Act will be introduced at the 1992 budget session. Some of the proposed changes result from a coroner's inquest into the death of a miner in Yellowknife last year.

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Press Information

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91-184

Utilities Board Report Released

YELLOWKNIFE (December 12) — A Public Utilities Board review of how the Northwest Territories Power Corporation intends to calculate its cost of providing electricity was released here today.

The board's recommendations will result in a process that should provide northern consumers with a better understanding of how much it costs the power corporation to supply its customers with electricity, according to the board chairman John Hill.

Once the figures are known, the Public Utilities Board will be in a better position to rule on proposed rate increases, he added.

The board is an independent body responsible for the regulation of energy utilities in the NWT. It held a public hearing recently into a submission by the power corporation on how it plans to calculate the cost of providing service to its customers.

The power corporation operates 52 generating plants across the Territories. Most of the operations are thermal-electric (diesel-generated), but the corporation also has two hydro electric systems.

It also sells wholesale electric power to two utilities which, in turn, retail it to customers in Yellowknife and Hay River. The corporation supplies an additional 13,720 customers, including three large mine sites and commercial and domestic users.

Recommendations of the Public Utilities Board include steps designed to ensure the power corporation's cost of service review results in the best possible data on which to build a fully-regulated, efficiently run utility.

Mr. Hill said he expects revenue requirements of the power corporation to be filed with the utilities board before April 1, 1992, and that the submission will include a request for an interim refundable rate increase.



Utilities Board Report Released: Page 2

"The board will expect to be provided with evidence that such an increase is necessary to ensure the corporation's financial viability," he added.

Toward the end of 1992, the power corporation is expected to file its cost of service study, incorporating the Board's recommendations together with a rate zone proposal. The board will conduct public hearings before issuing a final decision.

Mr. Hill said a full general rate application, including a refined cost of service analysis, is expected to be filed with the board early in 1993.

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Press Information

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91-185

Seat Belt Use Increasing

YELLOWKNIFE (December 12) — The number of residents in the Northwest Territories using their seat belts has increased by almost thirty per cent compared to last year.

Minister of Transportation Titus Allooloo reported in the Legislative Assembly that department statistics indicate 68.9 per cent of northerners are now buckling up. This represents an increase of 29.9 per cent from last year. Only 39 per cent were using their seat belts in 1990 compared to just 10 per cent in 1989.

As a result, Mr. Allooloo says the rate of vehicle fatalities dropped to 1.5 per 10,000 vehicles in 1990 - one of the lowest rates in the country- from 4.2 per 10,000 vehicle fatalities in 1989.

"I would like to see us achieve the national objective of 95 per cent seat belt usage rate by 1995," said Mr. Allooloo. "This will assist us in preventing the unnecessary deaths of motorists and pedestrians who use our roadways."

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-186

Whitford Supports Sobriety Clause

YELLOWKNIFE (December 13) - Social Services Minister Tony Whitford says alcohol and drug agencies in Iqaluit and Pangnirtung have until February 1 to adopt the government's sobriety clause.

"It's my intention to ensure that complete abstinence from the use of alcohol and drugs is endorsed by all community-run agencies, as unanimously as it was endorsed by the Board of Management for Alcohol and Drug Services," he told the Legislature here today.

He said failure to adopt abstinence provisions, set out in contribution agreements between the government and the agencies, will result in a freeze on government funding until the communities involved establish new societies that will accept the conditions.

The Board of Management for Alcohol and Drug Services, appointed in 1988 from individuals nominated by the Legislative Assembly and various regional and aboriginal organizations, advised former Social Assistance Minister Jeannie Marie-Jewell last year of the need for alcohol and drug services personnel and counsellors in the NWT to be examples for the people they were treating.

It recommended that alcohol and drug services personnel and counsellors in the NWT - including board members - should abstain from the use of alcohol and drugs. It noted that leadership is critically important for resolving issues and that role modelling is one of the most effective agents for social change.

The former minister took the advice seriously and inserted a clause in contribution agreements to the Territories' alcohol and drug societies requiring their workers to abstain from alcohol and drugs in order to receive government support. So far, 40 of 42 agencies have accepted the abstinence provision.

Mr. Whitford said Friday he agreed with the need for the clause.

"Alcohol, drug and substance abuse are among the most serious problems we face in the Northwest Territories," he said, noting that he shared the view of many people that alcohol, drug and substance abuse is one of the most serious social, economic and spiritual problems in the Northwest Territories.

"However, there have been some problems. They include enforcement of the provisions that deal with abstinence and the fact that the societies in Iqaluit and Pangnirtung still refuse to accept the abstinence provision."

Whitford Supports Sobriety Clause: Page 2

Mr. Whitford said that because of this, he will be developing a process, in consultation with community societies and the Board of Management for Alcohol and Drug Services, that is clear, reasonable and practical for them to use.

He would also ensure enough money is provided to the societies in Iqaluit and Pangnirtung to continue their services until February 1, 1992, by which time the government expects them to have adopted the abstinence provision.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-187

Joint Forestry Co-operation Agreement Signed

YELLOWKNIFE (December 16) - A five-year \$2,714,000 Forestry Cooperation Agreement, to boost the forest industry in the Northwest Territories, has been signed.

The joint Canada-Northwest Territories agreement was announced by two federal and two territorial ministers today.

Unable to attend an official signing ceremony, both Frank Oberle, Minister of Forestry, and Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, endorsed the cooperation agreement from Ottawa today.

Minister of Economic Development and Tourism John Pollard and Minister of Renewable Resources John Ningark also initialled the document on behalf of the territorial government.

Based on a Framework Agreement signed last February, the cooperation agreement provides funding for initiatives in the areas of reforestation and intensive forest management planning; research, marketing and technology; public information, education; and administration. Funding will be cost-shared, with the federal government contributing 70 per cent and territorial government providing 30 per cent at \$1,900,000 and \$814,000, respectively.

"The governments of Canada and the NWT have long acknowledged the importance of the land and renewable resources to the economic, social, environmental and spiritual well-being of northern Canadians," said Mr. Oberle. "The initiatives we plan to finance through this agreement, however, will be based on our national commitment to sustainable development."

In addition, Mr. Siddon said he was optimistic the enhancement of the North's underdeveloped forest industry will especially contribute to the economic health of the private sector and to small communities, in particular.

"At a time when government spending is being severely curtailed, we expect the funding opportunities contained in this Agreement to contribute to the economic health in our forest sector," said Mr. Pollard. "The potential to stimulate growth in some of the smaller communities, some which lie in close proximity to prime forestry development areas, looks very encouraging."



Joint Forestry Co-operation Agreement Signed: Page 2

Mr. Ningark was pleased to note that an important component of the agreement deals with community-based forest inventories and a comprehensive resource management plan in the Liard Valley.

"In cooperation with the communities of Fort Liard and Nahanni Butte, work is already underway to prepare this management plan. And work has begun on a community forest inventory project near Fort McPherson," said Mr. Ningark.

Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement will begin immediately.

The Forestry Agreement is one of three identified under the Framework Agreement to be implemented this year. In July, a five-year \$38.5 million Economic Development Cooperation Agreement was signed by federal and territorial governments. The third agreement, with Industry, Science and Technology Canada, is currently under negotiation.

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B a c k g r o u n d e r

History

Management of forest resources and responsibilities for fire control in the NWT was devolved from the Federal Government on April 1, 1987. Prior to this date, forestry responsibility was administered by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and other Federal Departments.

The Government of Canada, in adopting *A National Forest Sector Strategy for Canada*, and *A Framework for Forest Renewal* recognizes the long term potential and strategic issues facing forestry and the forest sector.

The GNWT has prepared and started to implement a new economic development strategy, *Building on Strengths: A Community-based Approach*. One of the components of this strategic plan is *Renewable Resources: Building on a Tradition*, which includes plans for wood and other forest products developments. Two other sub-component plans, *Tourism: the Northern Lure* and *Small Business: Big Potential*, are closely tied to the forest resource.

The GNWT was one of the first jurisdictions in Canada to implement a sustainable development policy to ensure the long term availability and economic viability of its forest resources.

The Government of Canada, in 1989, emphasized the national importance of the forest sector by establishing a separate Department of Forestry with a commitment to sustainable forest development.

The Department of Renewable Resources of the GNWT has started to develop specific forest policies and in 1990, adopted a new Forest Fire Management Policy. This new policy, while recognizing the important natural role of fire in northern forests, establishes a strong fire control capability for the protection of human life, property, renewable and cultural resources. The GNWT is currently preparing a forest management policy which should be completed within a year.

The Forest Resource

Forest land area in the NWT consists of 61.4 million hectares, about 18 per cent of the NWT's total land area. The forested lands are 100 per cent publicly owned, with some 4 per cent currently reserved for parks.

Significant forest areas are concentrated in the Upper Liard, Hay River, and Southern Mackenzie forest sections of the Boreal Forest Region. The predominant species are white and black spruce, jack pine, and poplars. Jack pine is heavily used for fuelwood. White spruce is the most important commercial tree species and has been the only species used to any great extent in the NWT.



Highlights of the Canada-GNWT Forest Cooperation Agreement

The purpose of this Agreement is to help foster the development of a healthy and growing forest industry through the following initiatives from 1991 - 1996:

- to ensure long-term economically accessible timber supplies
- optimizing use of NWT's forest resources
- contributing to the economic health of the NWT forest sector

Programs Relating to Forest Resource Management and Development

Reforestation and Intensive Forest Management - this program is designed to develop reforestation planting programs in the NWT including a forest nursery.

Applied Research, Marketing and Technology Transfer - this program is designed to conduct forestry research for the better planning and management of NWT forests, identify research advisory processes, and develop a forest management policy. This program will also provide for community inventories and integrated resource management planning.

Public Information, Education and Agreement Support - this program is designed to increase awareness of NWT residents of the Agreement's goals and objectives and to facilitate a better understanding of the NWT forest environment.

Administration, Monitoring and Agreement Support - this program contributes to the central administrative, communications, and evaluation activities established by the Agreement.





Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-188

Kakfwi Congratulates TFN

YELLOWKNIFE (December 16)- Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Stephen Kakfwi congratulated the Tungavik Federation today for signing a final agreement in Ottawa during the weekend.

"It's an important and happy occasion for the Inuit of Nunavut and TFN," he stated, noting that a key element of the claim agreement is the establishment of a process for creation of a Nunavut Territory.

The final agreement, yet to be ratified, makes a commitment on the part of the federal government to recommend legislation to Parliament for the creation of a Nunavut Territory and government.

The land claim settlement will give the beneficiaries about 350,000 square kilometres of land and \$580 million paid over 14 years. With a guaranteed interest rate of 9.36 per cent, the total cash contribution will be over \$1 billion.

The settlement will also provide Inuit with harvesting rights and economic opportunities related to wildlife resources and for participation in resource royalties, government employment and government contracting. In addition, a training trust of \$13 million will be established to help ensure beneficiaries are prepared to participate in the implementation of their settlement.

Mr. Kakfwi said the question of a Nunavut boundary is scheduled to be settled by a territory-wide plebiscite scheduled for March 16, 1992. The date was chosen to avoid any confusion between the vote on a boundary and subsequent vote on ratification of the agreement.



Kakfwi Congratulates TFN: Page 2

Meanwhile, the final agreement also provides for the negotiation of a political accord which will set out the timing, financial principles and types of powers to be provided to a Nunavut government. The accord will confirm the kinds of commitments needed for the creation of Nunavut, including those outlined in a joint letter to Ottawa signed by the Territorial government and TFN in October, 1990.

That letter made division conditional on adequate funding from the Government of Canada to support the Nunavut government, Mr. Kakfwi explained, adding that there had to be enough money made available to ensure that delivery of programs and services in the western territory would not be prejudiced.

He noted that negotiations will continue on an implementation plan and on the resolution of overlapping interests with other aboriginal groups.

“With a great deal of hard work, continued cooperation and commitment by all residents of the NWT, our constitutional aspirations will be realized.”

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-189

Report Released on Aboriginal Participation in Mining

YELLOWKNIFE (December 16) — The second of three reports promoting Native participation in mining was released today in the Northwest Territories by the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources.

"It's a useful resource for both mining companies and aboriginal people," according to Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Minister Nellie Cournoyea.

She said it demonstrates that higher levels of aboriginal participation in the mining industry can be developed and that mining companies can work together to achieve positive results.

The report is based on a study begun in 1989. It includes a checklist to assist mining companies contemplating work on or near Aboriginal lands; a summary of a number of socio-economic agreements; case studies of programs and policies designed to improve the well-being of Aboriginal peoples; and initiatives undertaken by mineral associations to increase Aboriginal participation in mining.

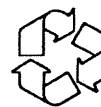
An earlier report, covering the first phase of a three part study, was released in February, 1991. It included demographic information, an annotated bibliography and a list of government policies and programs. A third report is expected to be released in 1992.

The reports are the work of an intergovernmental group that initiated a project with mining companies and Aboriginal associations in 1989 to increase native participation in the mineral industry. The group's objectives included matching aboriginal lifestyles with mineral industry employment opportunities and boosting native participation in mining.

Copies of the report are available from the Mineral Policy Division of the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources in Yellowknife.

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Press Information
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91-190

Anderson Report Released

YELLOWKNIFE (December 18) — Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea has released copies of a report on the awarding of petroleum delivery contracts in the Northwest Territories.

The report, prepared by Ben Anderson, a certified general accountant from British Columbia, was delivered today to the Legislative Assembly's Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance and the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Ms. Cournoyea received the document Tuesday, stating that its findings have prompted the government to ask Mr. Anderson to present a follow-up report by mid-January with recommendations for improving the process used in the awarding of petroleum delivery contracts.

"Once his second report has been received, Cabinet will be reviewing both documents and will be in a position to discuss them with the committees."

Meanwhile, Ms. Cournoyea stated the government will be putting a freeze on all new 1992-93 petroleum delivery contract awards until Cabinet has decided what steps are necessary to ensure contracts are awarded in a "fair and consistent manner."

The Territorial government's call for proposals last year resulted in the awarding of petroleum delivery contracts in 22 communities. A review of the matter by the Standing Committee on Finance led to a government-initiated review of the contract awards.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-191

Band Councils to Receive Grants

YELLOWKNIFE (December 18) — Dene Band Councils in the Northwest Territories will receive financial assistance from the Territorial government.

Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea said the grants are intended to help the councils prepare for discussions about community transfer agreements. The grants range in value from \$6,700 to \$10,000 depending on the number of people each council represents.

Many communities in the NWT have expressed an interest in assuming more powers and responsibilities from the Territorial government, Ms. Cournoyea told the Legislature Tuesday, noting that band councils have been the traditional self governing structure in Dene communities since the signing of treaties in 1899 and 1921.

“Despite establishment of public, municipal bodies in many Dene communities, band councils have remained a vital and important institution and they will continue to play an important role in the future.”

Financial assistance to the band councils will help them to develop processes that will take full advantage of the government’s determination to provide opportunities for increasing levels of authority and control at the community level, she said.

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Deputy Minister
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Press Information

91-192

GNWT Contributes Programming to TVNC

YELLOWKNIFE (December 18) — The Government of the Northwest Territories has developed several programs to air on Television Northern Canada (TVNC), according to Minister of Culture and Communications Titus Allooloo.

The People, produced by Tom Shandel of the Department of Culture and Communications, will present major documentaries on subjects of special interest to northern aboriginal people. The documentaries will be followed by a talk show hosted by Yellowknife's Cindy Gilday to place the information into a northern context.

The 90 minute show will be aired on Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (MST) and repeated on Saturdays at 8 p.m..

Beginning on Tuesday, January 14, *The People* will begin a special mini-series devoted to the state of aboriginal affairs in Canada. The series, titled *As Long As the Rivers Flow*, consists of 5 one-hour documentaries focussing on native subjects across Canada from a native perspective. The series is introduced by native actress Tantoo Cardinal (*Dances with Wolves*) with music by internationally-respected Mohawk conductor/composer John Kim Bell.

The People continues its season with documentaries on traditional native justice alternatives, uranium mining, the fur trade, pregnancy and alcohol, Dene history and traditional knowledge, Inuit culture, pollution in the Soviet Arctic, circum-polar relations, and a magnificently photographed three hour mini-series from the British Broadcasting Corporation on nature in the North, *Kingdom of the Ice Bear*.

The Tube, a half-hour issue oriented teen program produced by Culture and Communications' Dino Schiavone, will be aired on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. MST.

Hosted by a group of young northerners, *The Tube* will focus on the positive aspects of growing up in the North. The show will cover entertainment features on fashion, music, sports, and school events. It will also tackle such issues as how AIDS, the environment, education, and the legal system affect the youth of the Northwest Territories. Profiles of young northerners who are involved with interesting and exciting projects or careers will also be featured.



TVNC Programming Contribution: Page 2

The first show of *The Tube*, on January 15, will provide an overview of what the season will be like. Stories ranging from hi-tech sneakers to the Degraasi High tour during Drug and Alcohol Week will be presented.

To encourage the youth of the Territories to take pride in themselves and their cultures, *The Tube* will present stories in the various official languages of the Northwest Territories. It will also encourage viewers to send in their ideas of what they would like to see on the show.

The Department of Education and Arctic College are also contributing programming to TVNC.

The Department of Education will broadcast one half-hour of elementary programming and one half-hour of junior/senior high programming each day, from Monday to Friday. Some of these programs, which will be of interest to the general public, may also be broadcast on the weekends. Programs which provide support to teachers in remote schools, who are working with limited resources, will be emphasized. Although the Department of Education will eventually produce its own programs, these broadcast during the first year will be produced by other educational television agencies.

Beginning January 13, Arctic College will be offering four courses on TVNC in English and Inuktitut. Students will be given reading assignments, participate in group discussions and be able to speak with course instructors over the phone. Accounting - Level 1 will be broadcast on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. MST. Introduction to Human Development will be aired on Mondays at 7 p.m. MST. On Wednesdays at 6 p.m. MST students can take part in Directorship Training in Inuktitut and at 6:30 p.m. in English. A Children's Literature course will be broadcast on Thursdays at 6 p.m. MST.

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Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91-193

Cournoyea Calls for New National Vision

OTTAWA (December 19) — Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea today challenged First Ministers to develop a new national vision designed to excite Canadians and stimulate the wavering economy.

"The challenge is to develop a new vision of Canada that everyone can work towards - that kicks in now and builds momentum as the economy recovers."

She said a renewed emphasis on northern development, particularly the creation of new transportation infrastructure in the Northwest Territories, must be part of the vision.

Ms. Cournoyea said development in the NWT is sluggish because of a lack of transportation infrastructure. Investment is needed in roads, harbours and wharves to stimulate investment opportunities.

The benefits of northern development would mean more than creation of a stable economic base for northern residents. The spin-offs would benefit all regions of the country, she told the prime minister and premiers meeting here to discuss the Canadian economy.

It was the first time the Territories' has been a full participant in a First Ministers' meeting on the economy. Ms. Cournoyea emphasized the unique nature of the NWT and the opportunities it presented to Canada in its search for economic recovery.

"Every dollar spent on development in the Northwest Territories creates over 81 cents of benefit in the rest of Canada. Every job created in the Northwest Territories supports 1.7 jobs in the rest of Canada.," Ms. Cournoyea said.

"The need for a northern vision, within a new national economic initiative, is as real today as it was for Sir John A MacDonal. His dream of a national railway opened up the markets of western Canada to eastern Canadian businesses."

Conference Board of Canada calculations show implementation of the an existing Territorial government transportation plan would result in a four-fold return to the national economy. It has the potential of putting Canadians to work, creating up to 170,000 person years of employment over 20 years, she said.



Cournoyea Calls For New National Vision: Page 2

Ms. Cournoyea stated Canada must view the NWT as an exciting and lucrative market area for southern manufacturers and suppliers.

A number of new mineral properties may be reaching the development stage and its potential for oil and gas is well known. In addition, there are rich opportunities for enhancing employment in fur harvesting, fishing, the lumber industry and tourism.

"The opportunities in these areas have barely been scratched," she said, noting that maximizing them are of particular importance to aboriginal people who form a majority in the NWT.

However, in return for sharing in the benefits of northern development, the Territories must be satisfied that environmental concerns it has about developments such as hydro dams and pulp mills in the southern provinces are being addressed. There had to be a new spirit of cooperation.

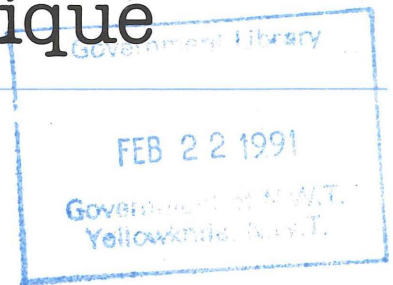
Contact: **Art Sorensen**
 Press Secretary
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news release – communiqué

Date

For release – Pour publication



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN CANADA AND THE NWT

YELLOWKNIFE (February 20, 1991) -- An agreement to establish a \$50 million economic development program for the Northwest Territories was signed today by the Honourable Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and territorial Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Gordon Wray.

This initiative provides a framework for a new five-year Economic Development Agreement, and includes an outline of federal and territorial responsibilities, objectives and administrative procedures.

Through the Framework Agreement, negotiations will commence towards reaching Co-operation Agreements to provide assistance for ventures in a variety of sectors including tourism, arts and crafts, entrepreneurship, fisheries, commercial renewable resource harvesting and mineral exploration.

The program will be cost-shared, with the federal government contributing 70 per cent of the funds (\$35 million) and the territorial government contributing 30 per cent (\$15 million).

"Through this partnership, Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories will provide opportunities to strengthen and diversify the Northwest Territories' economy," said Mr. Siddon. "The result will be increased economic self-reliance for the Northwest Territories."

"This Agreement is meant to increase long-term employment, especially in the lesser-developed communities, through the expansion and establishment of businesses," said Mr. Wray. "It can help to create an economy where income and employment opportunities exist in both the larger and smaller centres."

.../2

Projects funded under the Agreements will contribute to long-term, self-sustaining economic activity and complement several other economic development programs offered by the Government of Canada and the Government of the NWT.

The current Economic Development Agreement began in 1987 with a budget of about \$38 million of federal and territorial funding provided through a 70/30 cost sharing formula.

- 30 -

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Department of Safety & Public Services • Government of the Northwest Territories •
June 25, 1991

PRODUCT: GE DRIP COFFEE MAKERS

In April, General Electric Canada Inc. announced the voluntary recall of certain GE brand drip coffee makers manufactured before April, 1984. The company says a potential fire hazard may occur when a purchased thermal fuse in the coffee maker fails to function as intended.

The following coffee maker model numbers are involved in the recall: DC200(A,B,C,D and E); DC360 A; DC600 (A,B and C); DC300 A; DC400 A; DC350 A; and DC500 (A,B,C,D and E). Approximately 800,000 drip coffee makers bearing the GE name were manufactured in Canada between 1976 and 1984. GE Canada stopped making coffee makers in April 1984 with the sale of its small appliance business.

Owners of a GE brand drip coffee maker are asked to read both the model number and the date code stamped on the bottom of the unit. If the date code is after or higher than 84-04, the coffee maker is not involved. Space Maker drip coffee makers and percolators are not being recalled.

There have been reports of a number of failures of drip coffee makers in Canada, but no serious fires or injuries. The recalled coffee makers are not repairable, and owners should unplug the units and stop using them immediately.

GE Canada is offering owners \$10 for each recalled unit returned. A \$10 cheque will be mailed when the unit is received by GE Canada. GE will give customers with recalled coffee makers pre-paid mailing cartons, containing instructions on how to arrange for free pick-up by a courier.

If you have one of the coffee makers that is being recalled, call toll free 1-800-328-3462.

PRODUCT: UNCERTIFIED SANDWICH MAKERS

The Canadian Standards Association and Ontario Hydro are advising consumers to immediately stop using the "Super Snacker" sandwich maker and other sandwich makers that do not bear the CSA Certification Mark.

Tests by the association, conducted at the request of Ontario Hydro and as a result of the number of field failures reported, confirm that many uncertified sandwich makers are both a fire and a shock hazard.

.../2

Bill Burr, Chief Electrical Inspector • Department of Safety and Public Services
Government of the Northwest Territories
Box 1320 • Yellowknife • NWT
Telephone (403) 873-7473 • FAX (403) 873-0117



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PRODUCT: UNCERTIFIED SANDWICH MAKERS: Page 2

If you are ordering such a product by telephone or mail, specify that it must be CSA certified. If it doesn't have the certification mark, send it back to the dealer. Various brands of these sandwich makers are being advertised by mail order distributors in television commercials, flyers and newspaper ads.

PRODUCT: GARAGE DOOR OPENERS

Stanley Home Automation, a division of Stanley Canada Inc., and the Canadian Standards Association, are warning owners of certain **Stanley garage door openers** to stop using them immediately because they pose a potential entrapment hazard.

Investigation revealed that the printed circuit boards in these garage door openers may fail and cause the opener to perform in an unsafe manner. The unit may start on its own, and operate the door "up" or door "down" uncontrolled, with no reversing safety features. This behaviour in the downward motion represents the most hazardous situation. Door motion cannot be stopped by pressing the mounted pushbutton or remote control button, and leaves all safety systems inoperable. These products could cause serious injury or death, if entrapment occurs.

The garage door openers included in the recall are:
Models: 320, 440, 570, 860, 5400, 6200, 6700, 8500, 9000, 9600.

Any of these garage door openers with a date code "91 04 1" through to "91 15 5," which represent year, week and day of manufacture, marked on the nameplate located on the power head, are included in the recall. Please note garage door openers with a seven digit serial number are not affected by the recall.

Stanley Home Automation will replace or repair any recalled garage door opener. For instructions on replacement, contact Stanley Home Automation's hotline number: **1-800-323-2013**.





JUN 26 1991

Government of N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

June 25, 1991

The following contracts have been awarded under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea. For information purposes, the names of the responsible ministers and the local MLA are listed at the start of each project announcement.

Project: Wrigley Parking Garage
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Nick Sibbeston, MLA Nahendeh

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **O'Rourke Construction Ltd** of Fort Simpson, to construct a two-bay parking garage in the community of **Wrigley**. The value of the contract is \$247,671.

The general contractor has subcontracted a local company, **Cap Mountain Ventures** of Wrigley, to haul gravel and perform the site work. The general contractor has also subcontracted two Northern companies, **Kiwi Electrical Ltd** of Fort Simpson for the electrical work and **Doug's Mechanical** of Fort Simpson for the mechanical work. In addition, the contractor has subcontracted **Igloo Building Supplies** from Hay River to supply the building materials for this project.

The site work will begin in June, 1991 and construction of the building is scheduled to start in August, after the materials arrive by barge, and be completed by November, 1991.

Project: Arviat School Additions/Renovations
Minister: Stephen Kakfwi, Department of Education
MLA: Gordon Wray, MLA Kivallivik

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **PCL Constructors Northern Inc** of Yellowknife, to add classrooms and renovate the school in the community of **Arviat**. The value of the contract is \$2,904,095.

The contractor will build 4 new classrooms and renovate the interior of the existing school including the installation of a new floor, new windows, partition walls and wood siding on the existing facility. These renovations will provide an opportunity to maximize the local labour component on this project.



The general contractor has subcontracted **Inuvik Carpets & Interiors Ltd** of Inuvik to install the flooring and **Narwhal Plumbing and Heating** of Iqaluit for the mechanical work. The general contractor has also subcontracted **Trans Arctic Electrical and Controls** from Yellowknife for the electrical and **Rainbow Holdings Ltd** of Yellowknife for the painting.

The sitework will begin this month and construction of the building is scheduled to begin immediately after the arrival of materials by sealift in July, 1991, and be completed by May, 1992.

Project: Fort McPherson water and sewage system
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Richard Nerysoo, MLA Mackenzie Delta

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **R.T.L. - Robinson Enterprise Ltd** of Yellowknife, to construct a new water and sewage buried piping system in **Fort McPherson**. The value of this contract is \$790,409.

The contractor will construct a new system to replace a portion of the existing utilidor. The removal and disposal of the existing pipes will help maximize the local labour component in this contract.

The new system is part of a multi-year project which will eventually see replacement of both the existing water supply distribution system and the sewage disposal system for the community. The new system will include 4 additional access vaults, new insulated pipes and it will reconnect all existing services which are in the construction stage.

Construction is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of materials in July and is expected to be completed by the end of September, 1991.

Project: Fort Norman Community Hall/Arena
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Stephen Kakfwi, MLA Sahtu

A contract has been awarded to **A.T.A. Construction Ltd** of Norman Wells, to construct a community hall and complete the arena interior in **Fort Norman**. The value of this contract is \$1,076,689.

The wood-framed community hall will provide the opportunity to maximize the local labour component of the project. This is in addition to the local employment opportunities associated with the completion of the interior work for the arena and curling rink.

The completed facility will include a kitchen for community use, spectator seating for curling as well as skating events, storage rooms and an office for the facility manager.

Construction is scheduled to start after the arrival of materials by barge in June and is expected to be completed by December, 1991.

Project: Iqaluit/Baffin Vehicle Maintenance
Minister: Nellie Cournoyea, Department of Public Works
MLA: Dennis Patterson, MLA Iqaluit

A contract has been awarded to **Iqaluit Garage Ltd** of **Iqaluit** to perform all the maintenance and repairs required on GNWT vehicles in that community as well as in various communities in the **Baffin Region**. This three-year contract is valued at \$1,068,000.

The contractor will do regular maintenance checks, required repairs, body work and provide towing services for GNWT vehicles and heavy equipment in Iqaluit. The contractor will also be travelling to other Baffin communities on a regular basis to perform repair and maintenance services on government vehicles and equipment.

The contract will start immediately and is in effect until March, 1994.

Project: Resolute Bay Maintenance and Parking Garage
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Ludy Pudluk, MLA High Arctic

A contract has been awarded to **Hearn Stratton Construction** for the construction of a three bay maintenance and parking garage in **Resolute Bay**. The value of this contract is \$515,720.

The contractor will erect a prefabricated metal structure on a concrete pad. The general contractor has subcontracted a local contractor, **Kheraj Enterprises Ltd** of Resolute Bay, for the majority of the work.

The garage will be used by the Hamlet of Resolute Bay for the maintenance and parking of Hamlet vehicles and heavy equipment.

Construction is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of material by sealift in August, 1991 and is expected to be completed by December, 1991.

Project: Igloolik Arena/Curling Rink
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Titus Allooloo, MLA Pond Inlet

A contract has been awarded to a joint venture consisting of two companies from Gjoa Haven, **Okkuk (1986) Ltd** and **Honco Inc**, for the completion of interior work for the arena and curling rink in **Igloolik**. The value of the contract is \$914,000.

The contractor will construct a support module, the arena and the two sheet curling rink inside the shell previously completed by **Harpe Contracting Ltd** of Yellowknife under another contract.

In addition to the arena and curling rink, the support module will contain a kitchen, washrooms, change rooms and the arena office.

Construction is scheduled to start in September and be completed by December, 1991.

Project: Whale Cove School
Minister: Stephen Kakfawi, Department of Education
MLA: Gordon Wray, MLA Kivallivik

A contract has been awarded to **Clark-Bowler Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct a school in the community of **Whale Cove**. The value of the contract is \$2,413,154.

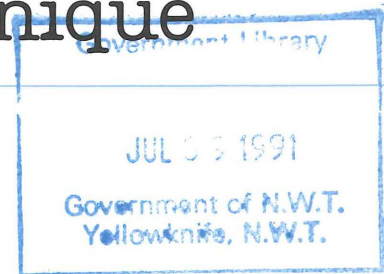
The contractor will build a school which will contain 8 classrooms, including industrial arts and home economics classrooms. The school will also include a teachers lounge. In addition, a heated walkway will be built from the school to the existing community hall. The school will be wood framed in order to maximize the possibility of using local labour on this project.

The general contractor has subcontracted **Canadrill Ltd** of Iqaluit to do the steel piling for the foundation. **Rainbow Holdings Ltd.** of Yellowknife have also been subcontracted to do the painting.

Construction is scheduled to start in July, depending on the arrival of materials by sealift, and be completed by February, 1992.



news release – communiqué



Date

For release – Pour publication

\$38.5 MILLION COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED

YELLOWKNIFE (July 3, 1991) -- A five-year \$38.5 million Economic Development Cooperation Agreement has been signed by Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Gordon Wray, territorial Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Based on a Framework Agreement that was signed last February, this joint Canada-Northwest Territories Cooperation Agreement provides funding for initiatives, in the areas of: fine arts, crafts and souvenirs; cultural industries; community sponsored development; minerals; agriculture; wildlife harvesting and fisheries. Funding for the Agreement will be cost-shared, with the federal government providing 70 per cent and the GNWT providing 30 per cent.

Mr. Siddon noted the final agreement has been reached after extensive consultations in the Northwest Territories and that he is satisfied that this Cooperation Agreement "will provide northerners with opportunities to develop viable economic ventures."

Mr. Wray agreed:

"The Agreement will enable the NWT and Canada to work towards achieving a self-supporting, economically stable Northwest Territories by promoting balanced economic growth," he said.

Tom Hockin, Minister of State for Small Businesses and Tourism, who attended the signing ceremony today in Yellowknife, on behalf of Minister Siddon, explained, "the Agreement supports sound economic principles and environmental responsibility and demonstrates the federal government's commitment to sustainable development and northern self-sufficiency."

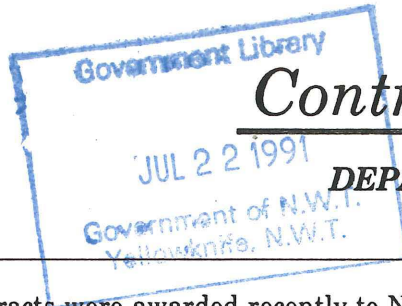
Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement will begin immediately.

- 30 -

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Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

July 18, 1991

The following contracts were awarded recently to Northern contractors under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea.

- **Independent Electrical Service** of Yellowknife received a \$120,000 contract to provide electrical services for the Yellowknife District Office of the Department of Public Works
- **Pro-Touch Renovations Ltd** of Yellowknife received a \$114,480 contract to provide carpentry services for the Yellowknife District Office of the Department of Public Works
- A \$121,387 contract was awarded to **RTL-Robinson Enterprises Ltd** of Yellowknife for land development work in **Dettah**.
- A joint venture consisting of two Yellowknife companies, **Unico Contractors N.W.T. Ltd** and **Bond-A-Ply Roofing Ltd** received a \$197,400 contract to do a roof retrofit to the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School Residence in **Rae-Edzo**.
- **Natik Plumbing and Heating Ltd** of Cambridge Bay received a \$110,500 contract to provide plumbing services in **Cambridge Bay**.
- A janitorial services contract for \$111,000 for the **Nanisivik** community office was awarded to **121702 Canada, Inc.** of Arctic Bay.

Office of the Press Secretary • Government of the Northwest Territories
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Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

July 23, 1991

The following contracts have been awarded under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea. For information purposes, the names of the responsible ministers and the local MLA are listed at the start of each project announcement.

Project: Fort McPherson Health Centre
Minister: Nellie Cournoyea, Department of Health
MLA: Richard Nerysoo, MLA Mackenzie Delta

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Clark-Bowler Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct a health centre in the community of **Fort McPherson**. The value of the contract is \$2,163,906.

The facility will be wood framed in order to maximize the local labour component on this project. The Hamlet will provide the wood piles for the foundation. The general contractor has also subcontracted to a number of Northern companies for this project. **Adam's Services** of Inuvik have been subcontracted to place the piles for the foundation. **Rocky's Plumbing & Heating Ltd** from Inuvik will do the mechanical work and **Enertech Electric Ltd**, also from Inuvik will do the electrical.

Unico Contractors NWT Ltd of Yellowknife will do the roofing work and **Rainbow Holdings**, also of Yellowknife, will do the painting. In addition, **Fitzgerald Carpeting Ltd** of Yellowknife will install the carpeting.

The building will contain a health centre, an ambulance bay and staff accommodation, including three two bedroom apartments and two one bedroom apartments for nurses and other health staff. The facility will also contain a relief suite for patients.

Construction started in June, 1991, and is scheduled for completion by October, 1991.

Project: Laing Building Upgrade
Minister: Nellie Cournoyea, Department of Public Works
MLA: Brian Lewis, MLA Yellowknife Centre

A contract has been awarded to a local contractor, **PCL Constructors Northern Inc** of Yellowknife, to upgrade the Laing Building in **Yellowknife**. The value of the contract is \$1,463,501.

The contractor will renovate and upgrade the six storey Laing Building. The general contractor has subcontracted six other Yellowknife companies to help complete the work. **J & R Mechanical Ltd** will do the mechanical and **North West Electric Ltd** will do the electrical work.

Unico Roofing Ltd have been subcontracted to do the roofing. In addition, **Panda Construction Ltd** will undertake the drywall work, while the painting will be done by **Three Star Painting** and the carpeting will be provided by **Fitzgerald Carpeting Ltd**.

This contract is the first phase of a three phase project. In the second phase scheduled in 1992, the building elevator will be renovated so that it is accessible to the handicapped. The third and final phase which will include the supply and installation of standby power will be completed in 1993.

These renovations will ensure that the Laing Building will meet current National Building Code requirements, including fire safety upgrades. Construction on the first phase started in May, 1991, and will be completed by October, 1991.

Project: Arviat Two Bay Maintenance Garage
Minister: Tom Butters, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Gordon Wray, MLA Kivallivik

A contract has been awarded to a local contractor, **Leonard and Associates Ltd** from Arviat to construct a maintenance garage in the community of **Arviat**. The value of the contract is \$541,185.

The contractor will build a wood framed structure which helps maximize the local labour component on the project. The local contractor from Arviat will undertake the entire project using its own equipment and employees.

The two bay garage has been designed to meet the community's requirements and it will include extended bays in order to provide extra space.

Construction is scheduled to start in July, 1991, and be completed by March, 1992.

Project: Fort Norman HeliPort Phase II
Minister: Titus Allooloo, Department of Renewable Resources
MLA: Stephen Kakfwi, MLA Sahtu

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **PCL Constructors Northern Inc** of Yellowknife to construct a heliport in the community of **Fort Norman**. The value of this contract is \$341,649.

The contractor will build two helicopter landing pads, a new jet fuel supply distribution system, a cold storage building and complete renovations to the existing office/warehouse building.

The general contractor has subcontracted **Litster's Plumbing and Heating** from Inuvik for the plumbing and **Fort Norman Contracting Ltd** for the earth work.



CAPITAL PROJECTS: PAGE 3

This is Phase Two of a project to complete the heliport which began construction in 1989. Phase One of the project consisted of site preparation and construction of the office/warehouse complex.

Construction is scheduled to start in July, 1991, and be completed by October, 1991.

Project: Gjoa Haven School Primary Link
Minister: Stephen Kakfwl, Department of Education
MLA: John Ningark, MLA Natilikmiot

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Harpe Contracting Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct an above ground enclosed passage between the school and gymnasium in the community of **Gjoa Haven**. The value of the contract is \$307,150.

The contractor will build a 36.3 metres long by 3.6 metres wide heated and insulated wood frame link structure which will help maximize the local labour component on the project. The link will provide a much needed all weather protected access between the two school buildings.

Construction is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of materials by sealift in September, 1991, and be completed by December, 1992.

Project: 60th Parallel Visitors Centre
Minister: Gordon Wray, Department of Economic Development & Tourism
MLA: Sam Gargan, MLA Deh Cho

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Hovat Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife to renovate the Visitors Centre on Highway 1 at the NWT/Alberta border and to construct two new buildings on the site. The value of the contract is \$458,325.

The contractor will build a wood framed structure which will help maximize the Northern labour component on the project. The general contractor has subcontracted **J & R Mechanical Ltd** from Yellowknife for the mechanical work and **MacKenzie Electrical Ltd** of Hay River for the electrical work.

The information booth, exhibit area and lounge area of the existing Visitors Centre will be renovated by the contractor. In addition, new washrooms and a heritage exhibit shelter will be constructed as part of this contract. This project will also include landscaping work around the Visitors Centre, the construction of a bridge over a nearby pond and a trellis which will be connected to the various buildings around the site.

This is a two year project, with construction scheduled to start in July, 1991, and be completed by October, 1993.



Project: Gjoa Haven and Chesterfield Inlet Arenas
Minister: Tom Butters, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: John Ningark, MLA Natilikmiot
Peter Ernerk, MLA Aivilik

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Harpe Contracting Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct the first phase of arenas in the communities of **Gjoa Haven** and **Chesterfield Inlet**. The value of the contract is \$1,626,000.

This is a combined tender for the prefabricated steel buildings and foundations. The second phase of the project in 1992-93 will include the finishing of the interior of the arenas, along with the installation of the mechanical and electrical systems. Both hamlets were consulted on the design of their arenas and both contributed funds towards their project. The arena in Gjoa Haven will contain a multi purpose room and the curling rink will include a lounge area.

The general contractor has subcontracted the hamlets in both communities to complete the sitework for the arenas.

Construction is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of materials by sealift in August, 1991, and be completed by May, 1992.



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Government of N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

DIAND INCREASES SUPPORT FOR INDIAN AND INUIT STUDENTS

YELLOWKNIFE (July 24, 1991) -- In response to the dramatic increase in applications, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) has increased its 1991-92 University/College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEP) funding to \$366,000, a 65 per cent increase from last year.

Funded by the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program of DIAND and administered by the Government of the Northwest Territories, UCEP provides financial support to eligible candidates to upgrade their education to meet college or university entrance requirements.

"UCEP funding reflects Canada's commitment to supporting Indian and Inuit access to post-secondary education," Lorne Tricoteux, Regional Director of Indian and Inuit Affairs Program said.

Since its inception four years ago, DIAND has provided over \$1.2 million in UCEP funding to the GNWT from which 169 Indian and Inuit students have been funded. In this fiscal year it is expected that the program will fund in excess of 60 students.

The costs of tuition, books and supplies, travel and living allowances are covered under the program and to qualify for UCEP funding you must be status Indian or Inuit, a resident of the N.W.T., and 20 years of age or older.

For further information and application forms contact the GNWT, Department of Education at 1-800-661-0793. **The deadline for applications is August 16, 1991.**

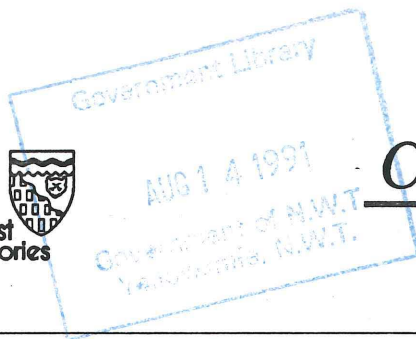
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Canada



Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

August 13, 1991

The following contracts have been awarded under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea. For information purposes, the names of the responsible ministers and the local MLA are listed at the start of each project announcement.

Project: Fort Franklin Fire Hall
Minister: Tom Butters, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Stephen Kakfwi, MLA Sahtu

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Clark-Bowler Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife, to construct a fire hall in the community of **Fort Franklin**. The value of the contract is \$477,519.

The contractor will build a two bay fire hall which will include an office and equipment storage room.

The general contractor has subcontracted **Dowland Contracting Ltd** from Tuktoyaktuk for the mechanical and **McDonald Brothers Electric**, also from Tuktoyaktuk for the electrical work. **Panda Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife will do the painting and **Fitzgerald Carpeting Ltd**, also of Yellowknife, will do the flooring and carpeting.

Construction on the project started in June, 1991, and is scheduled for completion in November, 1991.

Project: Repulse Bay Quarry
Minister: Nellie Cournoyea, Department of Public Works
MLA: Peter Ernerk, MLA Aivilik

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Canadrill Ltd** of Iqaluit to develop a quarry for the community of **Repulse Bay**. The value of the contract is \$597,800.

The contractor will be working in an established rock quarry area to blast the natural rock into usable sizes. When the area is blasted, it is expected to produce approximately 15,000 cubic metres of rock. The material will be used for house pads and road embankment work in the community. This work is necessary due to the fact that sand and gravel in the area is in extremely short supply.

Work is scheduled to start immediately after the arrival of the equipment on the sealift in September, 1991, and will be completed by September, 1992.

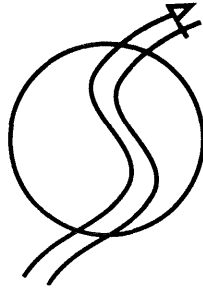
Project: Cambridge Bay Land Development
Minister: Tom Butters, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
MLA: Red Pedersen, MLA Kitikmeot West

A contract has been awarded to a local contractor, **Fred H. Ross & Associates Ltd** of Cambridge Bay, to undertake a land development project in the community of **Cambridge Bay**. The value of the contract is \$258,070.

The contractor will supply 14,000 cubic metres of embankment material and 1,100 cubic metres of select granular materials to construct 986 metres of road and develop 28 residential lots and five industrial lots.

Construction started in July, 1991, and will be completed by October, 1991.





*The Northwest Territories
Gender Equality Review*

Press Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Special Advisor on Gender Equality to Visit 10 Communities

YELLOWKNIFE (August 23) – The Special Advisor to the Minister of Justice released today the schedule of community visits that she will be making in each of the regions of the Northwest Territories.

In each community, Special Advisor Katherine Peterson will hold a one-day public workshop, an evening public meeting and further meetings with interested individuals and representatives from the community and from the justice system.

This Fall, the Special Advisor will visit two communities in regions across the Northwest Territories, 10 communities in all.

The workshops will focus on women who have been victims of violence and on people who help victims of violence.

"The community visits are a very important part of the my work" said Ms. Peterson. "It is absolutely essential to have input from as many people as possible in the communities themselves. This is the only way to find out how justice is administered in each community, what the problems are, and how we can make changes."

The community consultations will enable the Special Advisor to make recommendations to the Minister of Justice on how to improve the justice system so that women are treated more fairly. The Special Advisor will submit a report with recommendations to the Minister of Justice in March, 1992.

In May of this year, the Special Advisor held public meetings and workshops in Hay River and Fort Smith.

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The planned travel schedule for the Special Advisor is as follows:

DELTA:

Inuvik: September 16-18
Fort MacPherson: September 18-20

KEEWATIN:

Arviat: September 30-October 4
Rankin Inlet: October 4-6

BAFFIN:

Iqaluit: Week of October 21-25
Broughton Island: Week of October 21-25

KITIKMEOT:

Coppermine: Week of November 18-22
Cambridge Bay: Week of November 18-22

SAHTU:

Fort Good Hope: Week of December 9-13
Fort Franklin: Week of December 9-13

In addition, public meetings and workshops will be held in Yellowknife in January, 1992.

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Contract Information

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

September 23, 1991

The following contracts have been awarded under the authority of Minister of Public Works Nellie Cournoyea. For information purposes, the names of the responsible ministers are listed at the start of each project announcement.

Project: Wrigley School
Minister: Steve Kakfwi, Education

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A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Treeline Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct a new school in the community of **Wrigley**. The value of the contract is \$1,416,791.

The school will contain 4 classrooms, a library, a kitchenette, an office and support space.

The general contractor has subcontracted a local company, **Cap Mountain Ventures** of Wrigley to haul gravel and perform the site work. The general contractor has also subcontracted two other companies, **Kiwi Electrical Ltd** of Fort Simpson for the electrical work and **Central Mechanical** of Yellowknife for the mechanical work. In addition, the contractor has subcontracted **Fitzgerald Carpeting** of Yellowknife to do the flooring for the project. The **Petanea Co-op** in Wrigley will provide accommodation for the workers on the project.

Construction of the building started in September, 1991 and is scheduled to be completed by May, 1992.

Project: Coppermine Gas Station & Airport Fuel Facility
Minister: Tom Butters, Government Services

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Hovat Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife to supply materials and construct an in-town gas station, along with a new fuel storage facility and dispenser building at the airport in the community of **Coppermine**. The value of the contract is \$1,362,945.

The contractor has subcontracted the granular earthworks to a local company, **Arctic Coast Enterprises** of Coppermine. **Polar Painting** of Yellowknife has been subcontracted to do the painting and **Back Bay Welding** of Yellowknife will undertake the tank erection. **Bartle and Gibson Ltd** of Yellowknife will also supply some of the materials for this project.

The site work started in August, 1991 along with the in-town gas station which will be operational by November, 1991. The airport fuel facility will be completed in September, 1992.

Project: Coral Harbour Maintenance Garage
Minister: Tom Butters, Municipal and Community Affairs

A contract has been awarded to a Northern contractor, **Hovat Construction Ltd** of Yellowknife to construct a maintenance garage in the community of **Coral Harbour**. The value of the contract is \$506,817.

The contractor will build a 2-bay garage which was designed to meet the requirements of the community. The garage will also contain a workshop annex and showers for Hamlet workers. The garage will be wood framed in order to maximize the local labour component on the project.

The materials for the foundation work were air freighted into the community in order to begin work on the project at an earlier date. The foundation for this structure was already finished when the materials for the construction of the building arrived in August by barge.

The general contractor has subcontracted the framing, roofing and drywall work of the building to **Netser Brothers Construction Ltd** from Coral Harbour. In addition, **J & R Mechanical** from Yellowknife has also been subcontracted to undertake the mechanical work. **Nanook Electrical Ltd** from Coral Harbour will perform the labour for the electrical work.

Construction on the building started in August, 1991, and is scheduled to be completed by February, 1992.



Press Statement

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Commissioner's Awards Committee Appointments

YELLOWKNIFE (October 01) — Commissioner Dan Norris announced today the appointment of John Hill of Yellowknife as chairman of the Commissioner's Awards Committee for a three-year term. Mr. Hill replaces Dr. Walter Kupsch of Saskatchewan, who served as chairman of the committee for many years.

Mr. Hill is a long-time northerner who moved to Inuvik in 1971 as manager of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. Mr. Hill subsequently established his own business in Inuvik and has served as a member of town council and mayor. He recently moved to Yellowknife where he has assumed the duties of chairman of the Public Utilities Board.

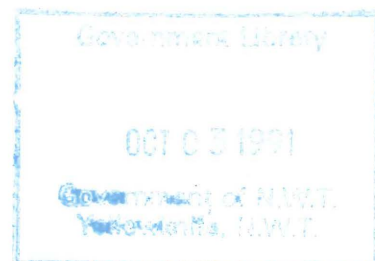
Mr. Norris has also appointed Billy Day of Inuvik as a member of the Commissioner's Awards Committee. Mr. Day, a lifelong resident of the Delta, worked for the Department of Social Services from 1961 to 1975. He has been heavily involved with Inuvialuit organizations and the Hunters' and Trappers' Associations in the area for many years, and is currently President of the HTA in Inuvik and a member of several boards including the Inuvik Education Board and the Land Use Planning Commission.

Other members of the committee are Dean Michael Gardener of Iqaluit and Mrs. Jane Dragon of Fort Smith. The committee considers nominations and makes recommendations to Commissioner Norris regarding the Awards for Bravery and Public Service.

The Commissioner's Awards were established in 1965 to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the social, economic, cultural or political growth of the Northwest Territories, or who have risked or sacrificed their lives for the benefit of others.

Nomination forms can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Commissioner's Awards Committee, P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9.

Contact: Mrs. Gerry MacLean
Secretary
Commissioner's Awards Committee
(403) 873-7210



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NWT Survey of Sexual Assaults and Sentencing

YELLOWKNIFE (October 4) — A study released today confirms that in sexual assaults in the Northwest Territories the offender is usually known to the victim, those at highest risk are teenagers, and alcohol is often a factor.

The study on sexual assaults and sentencing of sexual assault offenders in the NWT was commissioned by the Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Justice and the Criminal Law Subsection of the NWT Branch of the Canadian Bar Association.

Direction for the research came from a sexual assault research advisory group. Its members included representatives from: the Canadian Bar Association, the territorial Department of Justice, the Status of Women Council of the NWT, Mackenzie Courtworkers Services, Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society, the NWT branch of the National Association of Women and the Law, Alison McAteer House, the RCMP and the Yellowknife regional office of the Department of Justice, Canada.

Funding was provided by the NWT Department of Justice and the Law Foundation of the Northwest Territories.

Data was collected from sexual assault cases dealt with in Northwest Territories courts between January 1, 1988 and December 31, 1989. A total of 261 cases were studied.

The following are highlights of the study:

- 90 per cent of the assaults were committed by someone known to the victim; 29 per cent of these were members of the victim's family;
- 29 per cent of sexual assaults included acts of intercourse;
- no actual use or threatened use of firearms was involved in any of the cases surveyed;
- physical injury to the victim occurred in at least 25 per cent of the assaults;
- at least 50 per cent of the sexual assaults surveyed occurred in the home of the victim or accused; at least 25 per cent occurred in the victim's own bedroom;
- there is evidence that some victims had been sexually abused previously and that some offenders had been victims of physical violence, parental alcohol abuse, or sexual abuse themselves;
- offenders had consumed alcohol prior to the occurrence of the offences in at least 50 per cent of the cases and were intoxicated at the time of the assault in more than 25 per cent of the cases;

NWT Survey of Sexual Assaults and Sentencing: Page 2

- in one out of three cases, the accused had a prior conviction for a crime of violence;
- those at highest risk of sexual assault were between the ages of 13 and 18; those aged 7 to 12 were at next highest risk;
- the accused pleaded guilty in more than half of the cases;
- the average sentence for adult offenders prosecuted by indictment was a jail term of 15.7 months.

The report will be of interest to legal professionals, policy makers, interest groups, and members of the public interested in gaining a better understanding of sexual assaults in the NWT. Copies are available from the Department of Justice and the Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society.

Contact: Nora Sanders
Director, Policy and Planning
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or

Pearl Benyk
Executive Director
Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society
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Sarah Simon to Receive Order of Canada

YELLOWKNIFE (October 7) — Sarah Simon, one of Fort McPherson's most respected elders, will receive the Order of Canada for outstanding public service October 18 in Fort McPherson.

Commissioner Dan Norris, accompanied by Director of Honour Chancellory Gordon Lewis, will present the award on behalf of the Governor General of Canada.

Simon, with the help of her late husband, Reverend James Simon, dedicated their lives to helping others. Mr. Norris says the people of Fort McPherson are extremely proud to be a part of the ceremony recognizing her achievements. The Gwich'in are recognizing her efforts with a feast and celebration in the traditional style.

Over her 90 years, Mrs. Simon has been very active in the community through church and health services.

Before the establishment of a nursing station, she delivered 86 babies as midwife of the community. In 1928, both Mrs. Simon and her husband helped care for people who had been affected by a flu epidemic that hit the area.

During her work with the Church, she served as choirmaster, organist, Bible lesson reader, interpreter, Sunday school teacher, confirmation class teacher, President of the Women's Auxiliary, treaty rations distributor and concert organizer.

Mrs. Simon has also been very active in promoting literacy, helping to teach adults to read and translating for the Chief, nurses, visiting doctors, politicians and treaty parties.

She also played a significant role in the preservation of the Loucheux language, convincing the Canadian Bible Society to reprint the Loucheux Bible and encouraging younger people to cherish and use their language.

In recognition of her dedication to the community and the church, Mrs. Simon has previously received both the Commissioner's and Governor General's awards, a life membership in the Women's Auxiliary of the Anglican Church and honors from the World Council of Churches.

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

Contact: Russ Look
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Fort McPherson Residents Receive Commissioner's Award for Bravery

YELLOWKNIFE (Feb. 06) - Two Fort McPherson residents have received the Commissioner's Award for Bravery at the Highest level for risking their lives to save a Whitehorse family.

Commissioner Daniel L. Norris presented the awards to Bella Rosie Robert and Abraham Stewart Jr. during a community feast and dance in Fort McPherson on Saturday, Feb. 2 in honour of the occasion.

Bella Rosie and Abraham were camping on the Peel River, in September of 1987, when they saw four people in a small boat attempting to cross the river during a severe storm with high winds and driving rain.

The four managed to reach the middle of the river before large waves swamped the boat, spilling them into the river. The Whitehorse residents were Robert O'Brien and Bill Hobson, both adults, and Matthew O'Brien, age 9, and Jacob O'Brien, age 7.

Even though their boat was too small to challenge the storm, Bella Rosie and Abraham did not hesitate to attempt a rescue—at great personal risk to themselves.

When they got close to the victims, Bella Rosie and Abraham had to shut down the motor to avoid injuring anyone. As a result, the boat rocked wildly and Abraham fell overboard. Bella Rosie was able to help him back into the boat and they continued with the rescue.

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or

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Press Statement

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Recipients of Bravery Awards Announced

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8) — The recipients of Commissioner's Awards for Bravery at the Highest Level were announced today by Commissioner Daniel L. Norris.

Details on the time and place for presentation ceremonies will be announced once they have been made.

The awards will be presented to the following:

Roland Tungilik and Tim Kringuk of Repulse Bay:

Both men will receive an award for their attempt to save the life of Bernard Tungilik who had fallen out of a boat while checking his nets on the North Pole River, north of Repulse Bay, on July 8 of 1990.

Mr. Tungilik swam out to help the unconscious Tungilik but was unable to keep the victim's head above water and had to release him in order to swim back to shore. Mr. Kringuk, noticing the difficulties, swam out to help both men but succumbed to the cold water, but not before pulling himself and Mr. Tungilik up onto the ice where they yelled for help.

Gabriel Kaunak, Donat Milortuk and Steve Mapsalak of Repulse responded to the calls, located the victim's body about 60 feet from shore and attempted to revive him. They will receive letters of commendation from the Commissioner for their actions.

Jacob Uppik of Sanikiluaq:

Mr. Uppik will receive an award for his action in July of 1988 when he disregarded his own personal safety to paddle a makeshift raft of rotten wood to rescue a two-year-old boy. The boy was sleeping in a boat that had drifted a half mile from shore in a strong current.

Corporal Rick Sargent and Constable Dennis McGuffin:

These two RCMP officers from Fort Providence will receive an award for entering the icy and swift waters of the Mackenzie River near Providence, at great personal risk to

