

## NWT GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES

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- 94-017 Mar 29 Inuvik residents recognized for dedicated service.  
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- 94-018 Apr 7 Health bursary deadline May 1

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- 94-019 Apr 8 Maintenance enforcement program explained.
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- Apr 11 Elder Mary Kunnizzi recognized for helping others.
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- 94-025 May 2 Nine northerners honoured for teaching excellence in science, technology, and math.
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- May 5 Deputy Minister appointment. - Don Avison, Justice
- 94-027 May 5 Schuler elected chairperson of Legal Services Board.
- 94-028 May 5 NWT students participate in reading and writing assessment.
- 94-029 May 12 Student employment seminars planned.
- 94-030 May 20 Mail order cigarettes illegal without a permit.
- 94-031 May 20 Billy Bourque Memorial Aviation Endowment Fund established.
- 94-032 May 31 Harvesters program adjusted.
- 94-033 May 24 Delegations return from Europe.
- 94-034 May 27 Leadership residence approved for three years.

Year	Population	Area	Notes
1900	1,000,000	100,000	Initial settlement
1910	1,500,000	150,000	Expansion
1920	2,000,000	200,000	Industrial growth
1930	2,500,000	250,000	Urbanization
1940	3,000,000	300,000	Post-war boom
1950	3,500,000	350,000	Continued growth
1960	4,000,000	400,000	Suburbanization
1970	4,500,000	450,000	Infrastructure expansion
1980	5,000,000	500,000	Globalization impact
1990	5,500,000	550,000	Technological advancement
2000	6,000,000	600,000	Modernization
2010	6,500,000	650,000	Urban sprawl
2020	7,000,000	700,000	Current status

The data above illustrates the significant growth and urbanization of the region over the past century. The population has increased from 1 million in 1900 to 7 million in 2020, with a corresponding increase in the area covered by the urban center. This growth has been driven by industrialization, technological advancements, and globalization. The expansion of the urban area has led to the development of infrastructure, including roads, public transportation, and utilities. The region has also experienced a shift from a primarily rural to a predominantly urban population. The current status in 2020 shows a well-established urban center with a population of 7 million and an area of 700,000. The region continues to grow and modernize, with ongoing infrastructure projects and technological advancements. The urban sprawl observed in the 2010s and 2020s is a result of the continued growth and expansion of the urban center. The region's growth has been a key factor in its economic development and global integration.

- 94-035 May 30 Seatbelt safety campaign begins.
- 94-036 Jun 6 Review of young offender facilities released.
- 94-037 Jun 7 "Biodiversity works for wildlife. You can too!"
- 94-038 Jun 3 Interim Senior Administrative Officer in Iqaluit.
- 94-039 Jun 9 Nerysoo launches liquor consultations.
- 94-040 Jun 9 Our Lady of Good Hope church restored.
- 94-041 Jun 14 Senior management change announced. - Lovely, Kinloch  
Premier Cournoyea announces changes to Cabinet.
- 94-042 Jun 22 Heat trace cable - a serious fire hazard.
- 94-043 Jun 24 Outfitter charged for hunting infractions.
- 94-044 Jun 24 Directors hired to assist community justice groups.
- 94-045 Jul 5 Survey of travellers in the NWT begins.
- 94-046 Jul 5 Air quality guideline approved.
- 94-047 Jul 6 Hay River Group Home review completed.
- 94-048 Jul 8 NWT officials meet with diamond industry representatives.
- 94-049 Jul 14 Celebrity athletes to encourage students to stay in school.
- 94-050 Jul 18 Internal trade agreement recognizes Northwest Territories' special needs.
- 94-051 Jul 19 More work needs to be done on overlap and duplication to reflect northern concerns.
- 94-052 Jul 20 Six appointed to NWT Arts Council.
- 94-053 Jul 22 Consultation paper on income support reform released.
- 94-054 Jul 25 Support for emergency preparedness in Northwest Territories.
- 94-055 Jul 29 Opportunities in the mining and mineral exploration industry report shows businesses have room to grow.



94-056 Aug 4 Average arsenic levels up.

94-057 Aug 8 Canada and the Northwest Territories launch strategic initiative.

94-058 Aug 12 Liquor Law review sparks new ideas.

94-059 Aug 17 Workplace review announced.

94-060 Aug 17 Travel diaries to help identify new tourism opportunities.

94-061 Aug 18 Negotiated contract for forest fire airtanker services.

94-062 Aug 31 Mercury found in fish from Giauque and Thistlethwaite Lakes.

94-063 Sep 1 Changes to early childhood program come into effect.

Sep 9 Joe Clark to chair western NWT Constitutional Conference.

94-064 Sep 12 Commissioner for Oaths and Notary Public application fees increase.

94-065 Sep 15 Women encouraged to take control of their health.

94-066 Sep 16 "Developing an enterprising spirit".

Sep 30 Supreme Court of Canada decision on the right of accused to competent interpretation in criminal trials.

94-067 Sep 30 Public service announcements encourage healthy sexual practices.

94-068 Oct 1 Literacy projects receives funding.

94-069 Oct 3 Northwest Territories calls on Ottawa to share in the cost of the national highway program.

94-070 Oct 6 Support for Fort Simpson emergency operations centre and the NWT Emergency Measures Organization.

94-071 Oct 6 Inuit language and culture curriculum now being piloted.

94-072 Oct 7 Literacy recognition awards announced.

94-073 Oct 12 New program will enhance education and skills of social assistance recipients.

94-074 Oct 18 Two students receive community planning scholarship.



94-075 Oct 19 Raymond Tuccaro honoured

94-076 Oct 25 Canadian Children's Book Week focuses on families.

94-077 Oct 25 Education, Culture and Employment releases strategic plan.

94-078 Nov 4 Fur harvesters receive guaranteed prices.

94-079 Nov 7 Sealskin tapestry presented to Canadian Embassy in Peking.

Nov 14 Commissioner's Awards for Bravery announced.

94-080 Nov 23 New social housing rents made more equitable.

94-081 Nov 25 Director of Corrections hired.

94-082 Nov 28 Infrastructure projects in Western Arctic will create 29 jobs.

94-083 Nov 28 Infrastructure projects in Eastern Arctic will create 50 jobs.

94-084 Nov 30 Another Russian exchange creates bigger economic opportunities.

Dec 13 CDSC revises participant selection process.

94-085 Dec 7 Artists, arts groups receive funding for creative projects.

94-086 Dec 8 Languages Act brochure produced.

94-087 Dec 12 Proposals called for airtanker services.

94-088 Dec 15 Workplace review released.

94-089 Dec 16 Results of national reading and writing assessment released.

94-090 Dec 19 Joint effort made to raise awareness of land issue.

94-091 Dec 21 The first work activity project in the Canada/NWT "Investing in people" strategy begins.

94-092 Dec 21 Career planning services available in all regional centres.







# Media Advisory

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To: **All Media**

From: Art Sorensen  
Press Secretary  
Government of the NWT

Subject: DM confirmations

Date: Friday, January 14, 1994

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Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea has made the following senior level changes.

- \* **Graham Nicholls** has been appointed Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. Mr. Nicholls has been acting deputy minister of that department.
- \* **Graeme Garson**, a former Deputy Minister of Justice for the Province of Manitoba, has taken a leave of absence from his position as Principal Secretary to the Government Leader, to become Acting Deputy Minister of Justice - on an interim basis - effective Monday.

Mr. Garson fills a vacancy left after the resignation of Geoffrey Bickert. Mr. Bickert is leaving the department after seven years to pursue other options. A competition is being held to fill the deputy minister position on a full-time basis.

- \* **Bob Doherty** has been appointed to a permanent, rather than contract, position as Deputy Minister of Public Works and Services.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-001

**New Session of School-Community Counsellor Training Program Begins**

**YELLOWKNIFE (January 17) - Thirty trainees have started a new session of the School-Community Counsellor Training Program, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment announced today.**

“The first graduates of this program began working in schools in 1988, and there are now 35 School-Community Counsellors across the N.W.T.,” Mr. Nerysoo says. “They have quickly become a well-accepted and indispensable part of the school team, and have had a positive impact on students, families, communities and schools.”

School-Community Counsellors act as liaisons between the school, parents and the community. They emphasize the importance of family support for education and foster an increased sense of ownership of the school system by encouraging parents and elders to visit the classroom and participate in school projects. School-Community Counsellors also provide personal support to students who may have problems which interfere with their learning.

The training program is delivered by Arctic College at Nunatta Campus in Iqaluit and Aurora Campus in Inuvik, in partnership with Boards and Divisional Boards of Education. The two-year diploma program includes four sessions, each about two to three months in length, during which trainees attend class on campus. Each on-campus session is followed by work experience in schools and additional course work in their communities.

Training positions for the program are allocated to the Boards and Divisional Boards of Education, which work with Community Education Councils to select candidates. The candidates are expected to be well-respected in the community, fluent in the local language, positive role models for children, enthusiastic about the value of education, supportive, and sensitive to the life experiences facing youth.

**Contact: Barbara Hall**  
Director, Student Support  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7678

**John Simpson**  
Director of Policy and Programs  
Arctic College  
(403) 920-3048







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-002

**Heritage Centre Replaces Historic Grave Markers**

**YELLOWKNIFE (January 17) - Ten graves of men who perished on the John Franklin expedition or on subsequent search parties have been re-marked with wood-carved replicas of the original markers.**

This was done through the combined efforts of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and the Canadian Conservation Institute.

"We were pleased to take part in this cooperative effort to ensure the respectful recognition of early Arctic explorers and those who lost their lives in searching for them," said Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment.

Charles Arnold, Director of Culture and Heritage, also noted that the project was part of the mandate to preserve historic sites in the NWT.

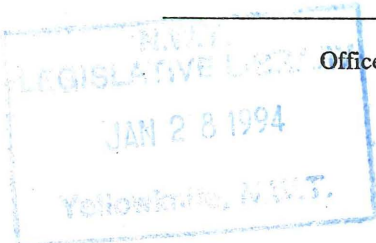
The replicas were carved by Gordon Fairbairn of the Canadian Conservation Institute, which is associated with the federal Department of Canadian Heritage. The Northern Heritage Centre provided information on the original markers and produced small metal plaques with exact duplication of the original inscriptions. These were affixed to the wood markers.

Last August, Margaret Bertulli, Arctic Archaeologist with the Northern Heritage Centre and Chuck Gruchy, Director General of the Canadian Conservation Institute, travelled to the High Arctic Islands to replace the markers which had all been removed.

Three of the graves on Beechy Island were for members of the John Franklin Expedition who died in 1846. They were John Hartnell and William Braine, who were on H. M. S. Erebus and John Torrington, who was on H. M. S. Terror. Also re-marked on Beechy Island was the grave of Thomas Morgan, who died in 1854. He was on H. M. S. Investigator, which was searching for the lost Franklin Expedition.

On Beechy Island, earlier replicas made of epoxy resin were replaced. They had not withstood the Arctic climate nearly as well as the original wood markers. Graves at other locations were unmarked when the replacements were put in.

On Griffith Island, the grave of George Malcolm (H. M. S. Resolute) who died in 1851 was re-marked. The graves of Thomas Mobley (H. M. S. Resolute) who died in 1852, and two men from H. M. S. Intrepid, George Drover who died in 1852 and John Coombes who died in 1853, were re-marked on Dealy Island. At Mount Beaufort, the grave of William Cutbush (H. M. S. Assistance) who died in 1853 was re-marked. The common grave of George Harriss and Isaac Burnett (H. M. S. Pioneer), who died in 1854, was re-marked at Eden Point. All of these men had been on searching expeditions for Franklin.





The Polar Continental Shelf Project, associated with the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, also assisted with the re-marking, by making flights available from their base at Resolute.

**Contact:**     **Charles Arnold,**  
Director, Culture and Heritage,  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7551

or

**Margaret Bertulli,**  
Arctic Archaeologist,  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment,  
(403) 920-8084









**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

93-003

**Arctic Red River's Official Name to be Changed**

**YELLOWKNIFE (January 17) - The official name for the community of Arctic Red River will be changed to Tsiigehtchic (Ts'ee-geh-chik) on April 1, 1994, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment announced today.**

In July, 1993, the Charter Community Council and the Gwicha Gwich'in Council of Arctic Red River passed a motion to change the official name of the community to its traditional name, Tsiigehtchic. A majority of residents surveyed in the community also supported the change. Tsiigehtchic means "mouth of the iron river" in the Gwich'in language.

The site of the community has been used as a seasonal fishing camp by the Gwichya Gwich'in for many generations. Each fall they would travel up the Arctic Red River to hunt and trap in the mountains. In the spring they would return by moose-skin boat to Tsiigehtchic to spend the summer fishing.

The first non-aboriginal use of the site occurred in 1868, when Jean Séguin, OMI, established a mission. In 1901 a Hislop and Nagle trading post was established, while the Hudson's Bay Company set up a post in 1902. Over the years, several other trading posts were also established.

Tsiigehtchic became a permanent settlement for the Gwichya Gwich'in in the 1950s and '60s. In the late 1970s, transportation links were strengthened with the completion of the Dempster Highway and the establishment of a ferry crossing.

The territorial government's Geographic and Community Names Policy establishes a process for the official recognition of traditional names, as replacements for current non-traditional names, for populated places in the Northwest Territories. The residents of Iqaluit, Arviat, Taloyoak, Lutselk'e and Deline have already had their community's traditional names officially adopted.

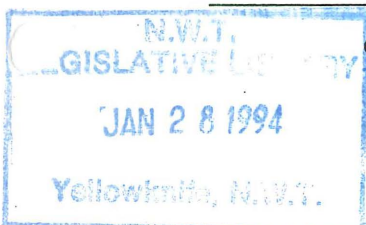
**Contact: Randolph Freeman**  
Territorial Toponymist  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-8854

**Cathy Jewison**  
Co-ordinator, Public Affairs  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-6222

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-004

**Education Being Moved Closer to Home**

**YELLOWKNIFE (January 17) - Now that more N.W.T. students are benefitting from high school programs offered closer to their homes, the Akaitcho Hall student residence in Yellowknife will close this coming June, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment announced today.**

"With the implementation of the Senior Secondary Schooling Policy, Divisional Boards of Education are offering more senior high education programs within their own jurisdictions. As a result, the number of students coming to Yellowknife to complete their senior secondary education is declining rapidly," Mr. Nerysoo says.

It is estimated that only 50 out-of-town students will be attending secondary school in Yellowknife in September 1994. Plans are to accommodate these students in homeboarding. The money saved by closing the residence is being reinvested in the delivery of quality high school programs across the North.

"After extensive consultation with the people of the N.W.T., the Legislative Assembly's Special Committee on Education recommended in 1982 that school programs to at least Grade 10 be available in all communities," Mr. Nerysoo says. "This direction from N.W.T. residents has been guiding the extension of senior secondary grades in each Divisional Board. By attending high school in their home community, or a nearby community, students benefit from the support of their family, and from programs that are based on their language and culture."

"The Department of Education, Culture and Employment has been consulting extensively with Divisional Boards on grade extensions. The Divisional Boards, and the communities they represent, support this initiative in order to improve the success of their students. All partners in education are concerned that more students graduate from Grade 12," Mr. Nerysoo added.

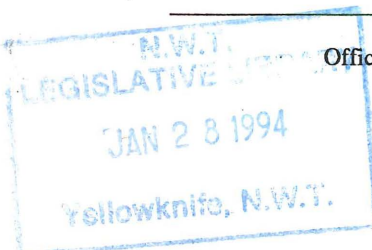
Grade extensions have resulted in definite improvements in the Grade 12 graduation rate. For example, Grade 12 programs have been extended to six communities between 1987/88 and 1992/93 -- Pangnirtung, Arviat, Pond Inlet, Igloolik, Rankin Inlet and Fort Simpson. The graduation rate in these communities before grade extensions was five per cent. Since Grade 12 was introduced, graduation has risen to an average of 15 per cent and is expected to continue to rise. The communities which sent students to Akaitcho Hall between 1986/87 and 1992/93 had an average graduation rate of eight per cent.

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The senior secondary courses available to students in smaller communities are similar to those offered in regional centres. For instance, Thomas Simpson School in Fort Simpson offers a complete set of General and Advanced core courses, as well as many optional courses.

Students who wish to take courses that are not regularly offered by their school may take them by distance education, with a local teacher supporting them in their studies. This option is pursued by students in communities across the N.W.T., including Yellowknife.

N.W.T. students follow the Alberta high school curriculum, and write the same departmental exams as Alberta students. As a result of new graduation requirements implemented in 1992/93, N.W.T. students require more credits in areas such as Northern Studies, practical arts, community service and fine arts than their Alberta counterparts in order to graduate from high school.

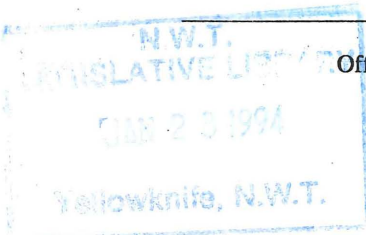
Mr. Nerysoo says he expects the remaining large student residences in regional centres will also be phased out within the next few years, as more Divisional Boards of Education offer K-12 programs in students' home communities.

Permanent staff affected by the closure of Akaitcho Hall will be eligible for the government's workforce adjustment program, which includes priority hiring status, retraining if required, or enhanced separation packages. Representatives from the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and the Department of Personnel met to discuss the issue with Akaitcho Hall staff and the Union of Northern Workers in June 1993, when the decision to close the residence was approved in principle. Another meeting was held earlier today.

Studies are being concluded on the future use of the Akaitcho Hall facility.

**Contact:** **Malcolm Farrow**  
Director  
Board Operations  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7458

**Eric Colbourne**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Educational Development Branch  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-8061



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## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-005

#### **HOUSING MINISTER DISTURBED OVER FEDERAL INACTION**

**YELLOWKNIFE (January 19) - Housing Minister Don Morin says he's "disappointed and concerned" over the federal government's lack of commitment to help with the housing crisis in the Northwest Territories.**

Federal budget cuts have severely restrained the ability of the Territorial government to deliver its social housing program at a time when over 3500 units are required.

Morin has met repeatedly with federal ministers responsible for the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation over the past two years, but hasn't been able to get a commitment to restore the money cut from CMHC to cost-share new social housing starts in the Territories.

"Reinstatement of these cuts is of very high importance to our government. Over 50 percent of Territorial residents are social housing clients."

Morin said today the Territorial government simply doesn't have the money to address the housing shortage by itself and that its funding arrangement with Ottawa is based on the assumption that money for housing would continue to be provided through CMHC.

The Territorial government is already spending about 9 per cent of its own budget on housing each year in an attempt to ease the crisis. By comparison, provincial jurisdictions spend about 1 per cent of their budgets on housing.

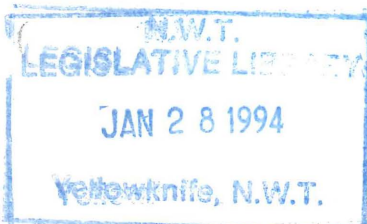
"We're doing this at the expense of other priorities because we're only too aware of the devastating impact that the housing shortage is having on our communities where overcrowded living conditions are driving up costs in other areas in order to treat the poor health and social problems that result from conditions like this."

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Morin stated the loss of CMHC funding for new social housing is having the greatest impact on aboriginal people in the NWT who make up 98 per cent of social housing clients. To make matters worse, the majority of aboriginal people do not live on reserves and are not eligible for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and CMHC's on-reserve housing program.

"This is blatantly discriminatory to aboriginal people in the Territories," he stated, noting that both levels of government must carefully and thoroughly consider all viable options, including Canada's fiduciary responsibility to aboriginal peoples, to help ease the housing crisis and address the long-term housing shortfall.

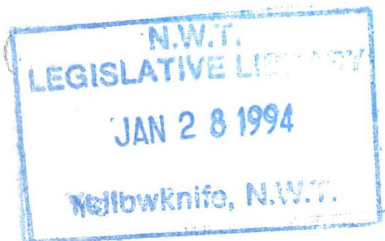
Both David Dingwall, federal minister responsible for CMHC, and Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Ron Irwin have been invited to visit a number of communities in the NWT to view the housing situation.

"A visit would do more to help them understand what poor housing conditions and overcrowding mean in human terms than a bunch of statistics on paper," Morin stated.

Among other things, those statistics note that 41 per cent of the NWT population under 12 years of age live in overcrowded conditions and do not have the type of alternative housing infrastructure that is available in southern Canada.

"And with a birthrate that is twice the national average, the situation is going to get worse unless we get our programs back on track," Morin added.

**Contact: Tony Chong**  
Acting President  
NWT Housing Corporation  
(403) 873-7875







***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

94-006

**CIBC Remains Principal Banker**

**YELLOWKNIFE (Jan. 18) - The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce will continue to be the Territorial government's principal banker.**

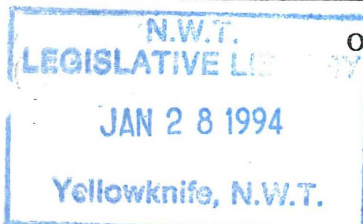
Finance Minister John Pollard said today the Bank of Commerce had the best proposal in respect to meeting the government's banking needs and that it had the most commitment and progress towards implementing on-site banking in communities and towards the hiring of aboriginal staff.

Five chartered banks made proposals to the government. Following an initial review, three of them were invited to make formal presentations.

Pollard said the government will enter into a five-year contract with the CIBC. The decision to remain with the bank was largely based on a combination of service it will be providing to the government, combined with its branch network in the NWT and plans it has for community banking initiatives.

In its presentation, the bank said it plans to use new technology to assist communities and it confirmed exclusive arrangements it has with the North West Company for the installation of debit terminals in various Northern Stores. An on-line debit terminal will make it possible for bank card holders to pay for merchandise electronically as well as to receive cash.

**Contact: Eric Nielsen**  
Deputy Minister, Finance  
(403) 873-7117



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-007

**Community-Based Teacher Education Program to Begin in Yellowknife**

**YELLOWKNIFE (January 21) - A new community-based teacher education program will begin in Yellowknife on April 1, 1994, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment and Jonas Sangris, Chief of the Yellowknives Dene Band, announced today. The project was initiated by the Band, and will be carried out in partnership with Arctic College, Yellowknife Catholic Schools, Yellowknife Education District No. 1, the Dogrib Divisional Board of Education and the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.**

The Yellowknives Dene Band initiated the project for many reasons, particularly to train more aboriginal teachers to work in Yellowknife area schools. The objective is to enhance their children's learning environment, to help strengthen aboriginal languages and culture, and to assist in preparing their people for the challenges and rewards of treaty entitlement and self-government.

It is expected that a successful teacher education program will contribute to more aboriginal students attaining high school diplomas and university degrees. This, in turn, should increase aboriginal participation in the work force, specifically within the Government of the Northwest Territories.

"I am pleased to announce the establishment of a teacher education program in Yellowknife, the community which has the largest aboriginal population in the N.W.T.," Mr. Nerysoo says. "Aboriginal educators provide a direct link to the languages and cultures of the Northwest Territories. They also act as role models, and are an important reason why more students across the N.W.T. are choosing to stay in school longer."

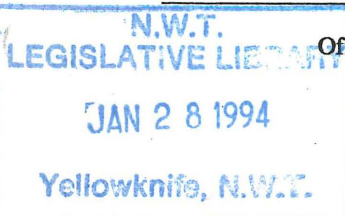
"There are approximately 969 aboriginal students, but only five aboriginal teachers, in Yellowknife and Dettah," said Chief Sangris. "We believe this project will play a major role in rectifying this situation, while also helping to decrease the high dropout rate. In the next three years, we should train about 20 people who will be able to teach elementary school. We are also working on delivering a complete Bachelor of Education Program, which would qualify people to teach high school."

The Yellowknife Teacher Education Program trainees will join 180 aboriginal teacher trainees who are registered in similar training programs in the Baffin, Beaufort-Delta, Dogrib and Kitikmeot regions. Successful trainees will receive the Arctic College Diploma in Teacher Education and the NWT Standard Teaching Certificate. Currently, Western Arctic graduates can continue working towards a Bachelor of Education degree through the Thebacha Campus of Arctic College or the University of Saskatchewan, while Eastern Arctic graduates can continue working towards a Bachelor of Education through McGill University.

**Contact:** **Darrell Beaulieu**  
Yellowknives Dene Band  
(403) 873-8951

**Malcolm Farrow**  
Director, Board Operations  
Education, Culture & Employment  
(403) 873-7458

**Dan Daniels**  
Campus Director, Yellowknife  
Arctic College  
(403) 920-3030



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## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### Ingraham Trail Land Use Plan on Hold

YELLOWKNIFE (January 27, 1994) - Officials from the territorial and federal governments have agreed to postpone the development of a land use plan for Yellowknife's Ingraham Trail until outstanding Aboriginal land claims are settled in the area.

Silas Arngna'naaq, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs says the decision was made after the Yellowknives Dene Band withdrew its support for the planning process last November.

"We feel it is not appropriate to proceed without the endorsement of an Aboriginal group currently negotiating outstanding land entitlement in the area," said Mr. Arngna'naaq.

A land use plan for the Trail would establish appropriate land uses for the area, and would provide direction for the review of development proposals.

"We are still committed to preparing a plan for future development of the Ingraham Trail. However, the land use plan will not be finalized until further progress is made on Aboriginal land entitlement", Mr. Arngna'naaq added.

The Management Committee, created to oversee the Ingraham Trail Land Use Plan project, will work to consolidate the reports and mapping created to date. The reports gather the views of those with an interest in the Trail, and the mapping provides data outlining mineral potential, environmental constraints and existing development. This information will be circulated widely and will be a useful point of reference. The information will also be useful when the planning process resumes.

The Ingraham Trail area contains a number of lakes and rivers east and north of Yellowknife. The area is serviced by NWT Highway No. 4 (Ingraham Trail) and several other smaller access roads. A portion of the area is administered by the territorial government, while the majority of the land is administered by the federal government.



There are a variety of existing land uses in the Ingraham Trail area including: seasonal and permanent homes; campgrounds; mineral exploration and development; boat launches; traditional Aboriginal uses; year round recreation; and quarrying.

For further information, contact:

David Boote

Acting Director

Community Planning Division

Municipal and Community Affairs

Government of the NWT

(403) 920-8165

Howard Madill

Acting Regional Manager

Land Resources

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

(403) 920-8165

End of Item 20.







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"It is up to the judge to decide which decisions, orders and judgments are of general public interest or importance, and it is the responsibility of the Department of Justice to decide how these tapes will be made available." Ms. Harnum explained.

The other new section, 13(5), states that the validity of any decision, order or judgment will not be affected by the tape recording issued in another Official Language.

As a linguistic ombudsman for the NWT, Ms. Harnum handles complaints and inquiries about the NWT Official Languages Act or about any other Act or Regulation relating to the status or use of Official Languages in the NWT. "I just tabled my first Annual Report in the Legislative Assembly in November, and it will be discussed in the February - March session. There are many issues to be dealt with, including clarifying the role of the Languages Commissioner, defining how the Act is to be applied, examining the funding provided by the Secretary of State (now Canadian Heritage), and the need for more information and promotion." Included in the report are 30 recommendations, which Ms. Harnum said originated from complaints, inquiries and meetings with people and groups in many communities.

-30-

**For more information contact Betty Harnum or Benoît Boutin at  
1-800-661-0889 or 873-7034.**







## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-009

#### **Cournoyea Concerned Over Cruise Testing Decision**

YELLOWKNIFE (February 4) - Government Leader Nellie Cournoyea is concerned about a decision by Ottawa to allow two more unarmed cruise missile tests over the Northwest Territories.

However, she is holding Defence Minister David Collenette to his statement that the U.S. government should not presume further tests will be allowed after the two planned for this winter.

Washington should be aware that the government is rethinking all of its military agreements with the United States, he told reporters.

Testing of cruise missiles over NWT airspace has angered residents of the Territories and has resulted in eight resolutions of the Legislative Assembly and repeated government interventions to have them stopped.

In a letter to Collenette today, Ms. Cournoyea said the Territories was encouraged by the Prime Minister's earlier decision to postpone tests planned for January 25 and to have the issue considered in a special debate in Parliament.

It was unfortunate that despite strong interventions by MPs from the NWT, a decision was made to proceed with two tests during the remainder of the northern winter," she said.

"While the federal government may have received support from the opposition Block and Reform parties, and from some members of its own Cabinet, for this decision, the Territorial government remains opposed to the cruise testing component of the Canada-United States Test and Evaluation Program."

Ms. Cournoyea said she is also concerned that Ottawa decided not to inform the GNWT of the federal Cabinet's decision.

She said the Territorial government is urging Ottawa to examine the cruise missile testing issue and other northern dimensions of military activity in its pending review of national defence policy.





## **Cruise testing - page two**

"Our government is particularly interested in possible ways to ensure that the views of northern residents and governments will be taken into consideration in the development of any new policy."

She urged Defence Minister Collette to make sure the Standing Committee on Defence travels to the NWT to hear the concerns of northern people about military testing during its review of defence and foreign policy.

Ms. Cournoyea added that senior officials from both governments should arrange to meet in the near future to discuss these matters and prepare recommendations on arrangements for how consultation can take place on a regular basis, including Ottawa's plan to close some of its 37 Canadian Forces Bases.

There has been recent speculation that CFB Edmonton could be one of the bases closed in an effort to cut \$1.6 billion from the federal defence budget.

"That base provides search and rescue operations for the NWT and shutting it down would leave us in an extremely vulnerable position, she said. "The Territorial government expects to be consulted on this matter before a decision is made."

**Contact:**     **Art Sorensen**  
                  Press Secretary  
                  (403) 669-2302





## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-011

#### **True Northern Uniforms for Team NWT**

**YELLOWKNIFE (February 28, 1994) - The 1994 Arctic Winter Games will mark the first time since 1980 that Team Northwest Territories will sport true northern uniforms.**

When members of Team NWT march onto the ice for opening ceremonies in Slave Lake, Alberta, on March 6, they'll be wearing pants and fanny packs from the region north of Great Slave Lake and parkas and sweatshirts from the Keewatin.

Three NWT companies were contracted by the Government of the Northwest Territories to manufacture Team NWT's unique uniform, while a fourth was under contract to the Arctic Winter Games International Committee.

Polar Parkas and Fabrics of Yellowknife produced the pants and fanny packs. Ivalu Fabric Arts and Crafts manufactured the Team NWT parkas, while the Jessie Oonark Arts and Crafts Centre produced special sweatshirts. Arctic Canada Wholesale is the marketing agent for Ivalu and the Jessie Oonark Centre, and coordinated production.

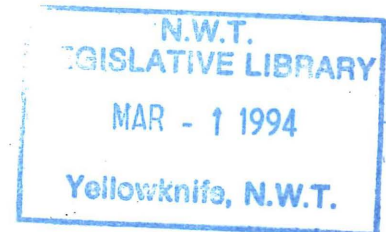
The Uqqurmiut Centre For Arts & Crafts in Pangnirtung is supplying hats to the Arctic Winter Games International Committee, although they are not part of the Team NWT uniform.

The artistic design of the Team NWT uniform - which was added to existing product lines - was created by Outcrop, a northern agency based in Yellowknife.

In the past, contracts for manufacturing Team NWT's uniforms have always been awarded to manufacturers in southern Canada, says Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Silas Arngna'naaq.

"Southern contractors have always won the contracts by under bidding northern companies. This time, we made it a requirement to keep the design and manufacturing in the northern market," says Mr. Arngna'naaq.

"Not surprisingly, we discovered northern manufacturers are just as competitive and capable of quality work as anyone else," he says.





**Arctic Winter Games Clothing - page two**

Economic Development and Tourism Minister John Todd adds that the awarding of these contracts to northern companies resulted in more than just stylish uniforms with a northern flair for Team NWT. The contracts produced thousands of hours of work and an elevated national and international profile for NWT clothing manufacturers.

"The idea to go with northern manufacturers came from the Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Finance and I think employment of northerners was the key objective. We're never going to have huge factories in the North, but we do have small operations and great potential in cottage manufacturing," says Mr. Todd.

**For more information, contact:**

**Ian Legaree**  
Director, Sport & Recreation Division  
Department of Municipal and Community Affairs  
(403) 873-7245

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343









**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-012

**Electronic Bulletin Board Helps Teachers, Students and  
Public Share Information**

**YELLOWKNIFE (February 17) - A new electronic bulletin board established and operated by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment will give administrators, consultants, teachers and students new opportunities to share information and work together, Minister Richard Nerysoo said today.**

“The size of the Northwest Territories has made it difficult for education staff and students to share information, resources and ideas face-to-face,” Mr. Nerysoo says. “The bulletin board system will help us in our on-going work to improve the quality of education in the N.W.T by providing a forum for teachers and administrators to discuss issues and share ideas. The system also offers students the opportunity to collaborate on projects and learn from each other.”

The bulletin board system, called “North of 60,” is operated by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and has been available 24 hours a day since it began operating last fall. To ensure all schools are able to access North of 60, the Department has purchased one computer, modem and necessary software for each school in the territories.

The bulletin board system provides:

- an electronic mail system;
- the opportunity for users to read information files, bulletins, or notices;
- the opportunity for users to “chat” electronically with others by typing messages which others can immediately read and respond to;
- the opportunity for public and private conferences for user groups;
- a variety of public domain software programs and utilities for both the novice and experienced computer users;
- the capability to transfer information between all users of the service;
- the opportunity to allow students from various regions to work on the projects together;
- access to INTERNET (an international electronic network) for communication and information.

There is no cost to use the bulletin board service, other than long distance charges for people dialing from outside of Yellowknife. The system cannot accept any collect or long distance phone charges. One needs only a computer and a modem to access the North of 60 bulletin board, which can be reached by dialing (403) 873-0344.

Contact:	Arnold Krause	or	Cathy Jewison
	Curriculum Co-Ordinator		Co-ordinator
	Career and Technology Studies		Public Affairs
	Education, Culture and Employment		Education, Culture and Employment
	(403) 873-7689		(403) 920-6222





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-013

**Funding Available to Record N.W.T.'s Oral Traditions**

**YELLOWKNIFE (February 25) - The Department of Education, Culture and Employment is now accepting applications for funding to record the oral traditions of the Northwest Territories, or to catalogue oral traditions already recorded. Applications will be accepted until April 1, 1994.**

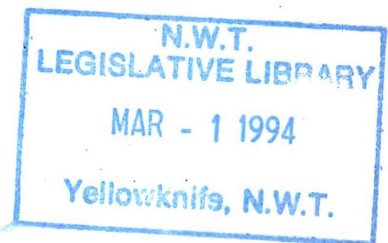
Successful applicants are required to attend a Department-sponsored workshop to receive basic training in interviewing methods, the care and use of audio and video equipment, techniques for translating taped interviews and accepted procedures for cataloguing and storing archival recordings. Last year, participants from Gjoa Haven, Igloolik, Taloyoak, Yellowknife, Rae Lakes, Omingmaktok (Bay Chimo), Cape Dorset, Holman and Fort Smith gathered in Yellowknife for this workshop.

"Oral traditions are a key aspect of the aboriginal cultures of the Northwest Territories," says Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. "Rapid social, economic, political and cultural change has interrupted the process of transmitting cultural knowledge orally. It is vital that the knowledge imparted by oral traditions is documented so it can continue to benefit future generations."

Individuals and N.W.T. organizations are eligible for funding. For application guidelines or more information, please contact the Cultural Liaison Coordinator, Cultural Affairs, Department of Education, Culture and Employment (403) 920-3102.

**Contact:** **Margaret Neigo**  
Cultural Liaison Coordinator  
Cultural Affairs  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-3102

**Cathy Jewison**  
Co-ordinator, Public Affairs  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-6222





TO: DISTRIBUTION

Part 3.

Package.

Dated: 02/16/94 at 1035.

Subject: health insurance services decentralization

Creator: MESSENGER / PWS/00

Contents: 1.

Part 3.1.

SUBJECT: health insurance services decentralization

The Health Insurance Services Division of the Department of Health is being decentralized to the communities of Inuvik and Rankin Inlet.

The Inuvik Office has been open since November 15, 1993, and provides the following services to the residents of the Western Arctic:

- 1) New health care card registration and replacement
- 2) Medical travel billing inquiries
- 3) Medical billing inquiries
- 4) Extended Health Benefits (Seniors, Pharmacare and Chronic Disease Programs)

For more information, contact:

Stephen Van Dine, Manager  
Health Insurance Services  
Inuvik Office, Bag # 9  
Inuvik, NT XOE 0T0

Phone: (403) 979-7400 or 1-800-661-0830 toll-free

Fax: (403) 979-3197

The Rankin Inlet Office will be opening on February 21, 1994, and will provide the following services to residents of the Eastern Arctic:

- 1) New health care card registration and replacement
- 2) Medical travel billing inquiries
- 3) Medical billing inquiries

For more information, contact:

Mike Fahey, Manager  
Health Insurance Services  
Rankin Inlet Office, Bag # 3  
Rankin Inlet, NT XOC 0G0

Phone: (819) 645-5150 or 1-800-661-0833 toll-free

End of Item 31.







*Press Information*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-015

**Eight N.W.T. Performers to Travel to Arctic Winter Games**

**YELLOWKNIFE (March 3) - Eight performers from the Northwest Territories will take part in the cultural program of the Arctic Winter Games, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment announced today. The Arctic Winter Games will take place in Slave Lake, Alberta, from March 6 to 13.**

The cultural contingent will include: the Rae-Edzo Dene Drummers (Tony Rabesca, Peter Eyakfwo, Peter Adzin and Joe Tlokka); Naimie (Koomook) Nooveya and Kapik (Elisha) Kilabuk, of Iqaluit, who will perform traditional Inuit throat singing; Marc D. Hoppe, a singer and musician from Norman Wells, who performs folk, blues and contemporary rock; and B.J. Fresn-Maclean, of Norman Wells, a folk singer and musician who plays acoustic guitar, acoustic fiddle and mandolin.

"I am pleased that a variety of the NWT's cultural groups will be represented at the Arctic Winter Games," Mr. Nerysoo says. "I am confident the NWT performers will make an important contribution to quality and success of the Games."

The NWT cultural contingent will stage a half-hour show each day, and will perform at various medal ceremonies. In addition, they will take part in the gala performances held on the last two nights of the Arctic Winter Games. They will join performers from Alberta, the Yukon Territory, Alaska, Greenland and Russia.

The selection of the performers, co-ordination of their trip to Slave Lake, and co-ordination of activities during the Games, has been organized by Jean M. Broda of Northern Expressions. The N.W.T. cultural contingent has been sponsored by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and Sport North Federation.

**Contact: Jean M. Broda**  
Northern Expressions  
(403) 873-9611

**M.J. Patterson**  
Manager, Cultural Affairs  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-6370







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-016

**Funding Applications For Language, Culture Projects Now Being Accepted**

**YELLOWKNIFE (March 21) - The Department of Education, Culture and Employment is accepting applications until April 15 for two funding programs that promote the languages and cultures of the Northwest Territories.**

The Language Enhancement Contribution Program funds projects which promote the maintenance, enhancement and revitalization of aboriginal languages in the NWT. Projects should encourage people to start using, or continue using, aboriginal languages in everyday life, including community activities.

Funding for this program has been provided by the federal Department of Canadian Heritage under the Cooperation Agreement for French and Aboriginal Languages in the Northwest Territories.

For more information on the Language Enhancement Contribution Program, please contact the Cultural Liaison Co-ordinator, Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Box 1320, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2L9; (403) 920-3102 (phone); (403) 873-0107 (fax).

The Cultural Enhancement Contribution Program funds projects which promote and preserve cultural identity and which enhance traditional cultures in the NWT. Projects which fulfil this mandate in a traditional context are given priority.

For more information on the Cultural Enhancement Contribution Program, please contact the Manager, Cultural Affairs, Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Box 1320, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2L9; (403) 920-6370 (phone); (403) 873-0107 (fax).

**Contact: Margaret Niego**  
Cultural Liaison Co-ordinator  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-3102

**M.J. Patterson**  
Manager, Cultural Affairs  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-6370





# Press Statement

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## **Inuvik Residents Recognized for Dedicated Service**

**Yellowknife (March 28) - Six residents of Inuvik were recognized this weekend for devotion to their work and the Town of Inuvik by Daniel L. Norris, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.**

Awards of appreciation for working behind the scenes at Grollier Hall in support of education were given to Elizabeth Hansen, Ruby Edwards, Sarah Nerysoo, Susan Gordon and Dora Ritias. Billy Moore was recognized for his many years of community service.

For the past 30 years, Elizabeth Hansen has been preparing meals for students staying at Grollier Hall in Inuvik. Starting out as a cook's helper in 1964, she has worked her way up to being part owner and vice-president of the company that now operates and manages the student residence.

Ruby Edwards, a long-term resident of the region, was also recognized for many years of service to Grollier Hall. After completing a cooking course through advanced education, Ms. Edwards developed a career as a cook at the residence.

Other members of the kitchen staff who were recognized for valuable service were Sarah Nerysoo who has worked for the residence for the past 12 years, Susan Gordon, a member of the staff since 1983, and Dora Ritias, who has spent the past 24 years working for Grollier Hall.

For 15 years of faithful service to the people of the town, long-term resident Billy Moore was recognized for keeping the sidewalks of Inuvik clean.

"It gives me great pleasure to present these people with tokens of our appreciation for their devotion and commitment to your people, your community and your territory," said Commissioner Norris during the appreciation ceremonies.

**Contact: Russ Look**  
Executive Assistant  
(403) 873-7210

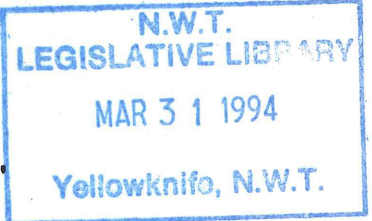




## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-017



#### **Susan Aglukark and NWT form "Winning Partnership"**

**YELLOWKNIFE (March 29) - The Arctic Rose, singer Susan Aglukark, is well on her way to joining the majestic polar bear as one of the most internationally recognized symbols of Canada's Northwest Territories.**

And the Government of the Northwest Territories hopes Ms. Aglukark's rising national and international fame will help boost the profile of her Arctic homeland.

Ms. Aglukark, a former resident of the Hudson Bay coastal community of Arviat, today signed a "Winning Partnership" agreement with the Territorial government's Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

John Todd, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, says Ms. Aglukark's growing stature as an international celebrity should provide invaluable support in promoting the NWT and its art, crafts, culture and industries such as tourism, food production and the manufacturing of clothing.

Ms. Aglukark has released three albums to date: Dreams for You, Arctic Rose and The Christmas Album. She has been honoured with several awards including the MuchMusic "Best Cinematography" award for her emotional video "Searching" and represented Canada at a World Conference on Human Rights.

"Susan has earned the respect of Canadians, not only for her remarkable talent, but also for her willingness to tackle social issues such as teenage suicide, drug and alcohol abuse and the cultural and spiritual estrangement of the Inuit people," says Mr. Todd.

Under the "Winning Partnership" agreement, Ms. Aglukark will help in Territorial government promotional programs. The 26-year-old singer will wear northern clothing and accessories and use NWT products whenever possible and briefly explain these items to southern audiences.

Ms. Aglukark will also distribute literature promoting the NWT in her travels and occasionally take part in special events such as a tour of the floe edge in Arviat next spring.

-2-



The government will provide her with a wardrobe of northern clothing to wear during performances and speaking engagements and will equip Ms. Aglukark and her band with other northern products such as luggage from Fort McPherson Tent and Canvas.

Mr. Todd describes the agreement as an economical approach to promoting the NWT, noting that "instead of spending tax dollars on creating and implementing public relations programs that may take years to bear fruit, we're simply hitching our star to Susan's rising fortunes."

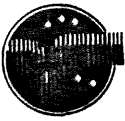
Although the "Winning Partnership" is a pilot project, Mr. Todd says he is confident that Ms. Aglukark's personal appeal virtually guarantees the success of the program.

"Let's face it, Susan Aglukark is probably the most high profile name in the Northwest Territories. She's performed in Sweden, the United States and all across Canada. She's constantly in demand."

The government will look at forming similar partnerships with other NWT artists, personalities and athletes if the Partnership program is successful, Mr. Todd added.

**Contact: Richard Bargery**  
Executive Assistant to the  
Minister of Economic Development & Tourism  
Telephone: (403) 669-2313





## Science Institute announces new research support programs

Yellowknife (April 7, 1994) - The Science Institute of the N.W.T. has established three new programs to increase northern involvement in research. The programs are the Research Assistant Support Program, the Research Fellowship Program, and the Research Associate Program. Each program is structured to support a different aspect of northern involvement in research activities.

"These new initiatives will increase northern participation with the research community," says Steve Richards, Chairperson of the Science Institute Board. "The demand for research is increasing. It's important that the North increase its capability to carry out scientific studies."

Every year, many university and college researchers spend a portion of their year in the Northwest Territories. The **Research Assistant Support Program** will provide 15 researchers up to \$1,000 each to hire northern assistants in a research project.

The **Research Fellowship Program** will provide up to \$6,000 for each of 10 northerners who wish to undertake independent research programs in the NWT. The Program can also provide grants to resident northern researchers to serve as visiting fellows/instructors while conducting research at Arctic College campuses or Science Institute research centres.

The **Research Associate Program** will offer 10 to 15 researchers, who have associate status, office space and basic administrative support in return for a commitment to work closely with the Science Institute and College on science, technology or educational matters. The total fund for this program is \$10,000.

Richard Nerysoo, the Minister responsible for Arctic College and the Science Institute, believes the new programs will help promote understanding of scientific research and projects.

"One of our goals is to build a closer link between post-secondary programs in the North and the scientific community. These initiatives will strengthen ties and will provide northerners, including college students and staff, with the opportunity to become effectively involved in science," says Mr. Nerysoo.

The new programs will begin immediately. Program information is now being distributed to the research community in northern and southern Canada.

For further information contact:

Gary White  
Director, Scientific Services  
Science Institute of the NWT  
(403) 873-7592

Sandy Osborne  
Public Affairs  
Arctic College  
403) 920-6357





94-018

*Press Information*  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Health Bursary Deadline May 1**

**YELLOWKNIFE (April 7) - The Department of Health is providing financial support to people interested in pursuing or furthering a health career in the NWT.**

Health Training Bursaries are available for full- or part-time studies in a variety of health related careers. Preference will be given to residents of the NWT who wish to work in occupations needed in the North, such as nurses, physiotherapists, medical lab technicians and environmental health officers.

Funding is also available for people preparing for a health career through preparation programs for post-secondary education, such as a Registered Nurses (RN) access or diploma program.

The purpose of the health training bursaries is to encourage and assist northerners to pursue health career related studies. This will ensure a supply of skilled health care workers and professionals for northern communities.

People who receive bursaries will be required to work in the NWT for a period of time following completion of their training. The length of service will depend on the amount of funding received.

Application forms and additional information are available from Human Resource Management, Department of Health, Government of the NWT, 6th Floor, Centre Square Tower, Yellowknife, NT, or by phoning (403) 873-7748.

**Contact: Barry Lange**  
Human Resource Management Division  
Department of Health  
(403) 873-7748







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-019

**Maintenance Enforcement Program Explained**

**YELLOWKNIFE (April 8) - An information session to explain what the Maintenance Enforcement Program is and how to access their services will be held during Law Week on April 12 at 7 p.m. at the Northern Frontier Visitors Association.**

The Maintenance Enforcement Program helps people collect maintenance (support) payments that are in arrears.

Topics to be covered during the session include an overview of the Program, how to enrol, what support is and how to get a support order. Officials with the Program, legal advisors, and members of local women's groups will be available to answer questions.

A new poster and brochure explaining the Program will also be launched during the evening. The materials stress the importance of continuing to provide for our children when a relationship breaks up. The poster and brochure, produced in English, French and Inuktitut, will be distributed across the NWT.

Since its establishment in 1989, the Maintenance Enforcement Program has worked on 714 files. Approximately 475 of those files are presently active.

"I am pleased that the Maintenance Enforcement Program has been able to help so many creditors collect support payments that they may not have received before. These payments help secure a future for our children by ensuring they are adequately provided for," said Stephen Kakfwi, Minister of Justice.

**Contact: Lou Hall**  
Maintenance Enforcement Administrator  
Department of Justice  
(403) 920-3236





# Press Statement

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## **Simon Adam Receives Commissioner's Award for Bravery**

**Yellowknife (April 11) - Simon Adam of Tuktoyaktuk has been presented with the Commissioner's Award for Bravery in recognition of rescuing two young men who had fallen through the ice.**

On October 5, 1992, two snowmobilers were out on the ice at Harbour Point near Tuktoyaktuk. While trying to cross the unstable ice, they broke through. Mr. Adam heard their cries for help and was able to rescue Edwin Avik, then nine years old, and the 16 year-old driver of the snowmobile, Quinton Kimiksana.

Both boys were taken to the Tuktoyaktuk Health Centre where they were treated for minor symptoms of hypothermia.

"There is no doubt that the daring and timely rescue of the two boys prevented a potential disaster," said Commissioner Daniel L. Norris. "Once again, northern people have shown themselves willing, ready and able to respond in a valorous manner when they are confronted by the needs of others."

The Commissioner's Award was established over 20 years ago to recognize the achievements, sacrifices and heroic efforts of people who are unique in their capacity for helping others.

**Contact: Russ Look**  
Executive Assistant  
(403) 873-7210







# Press Statement

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## **Elder Mary Kunnizzi Recognized for Helping Others**

**Yellowknife (April 11) - Mary Kunnizzi has been recognized for her many years of faithful service to the people of Fort McPherson by Commissioner Daniel L. Norris.**

At a ceremony in Fort McPherson honouring Mrs. Kunnizzi, Commissioner Norris noted her many achievements and the personal sacrifices made in helping others.

"One of the kindest acts that perhaps stands out above all others was the decision to take in and care for a lady known as 'Old Caroline'," said Commissioner Norris.

In the times when no social programs existed to care for people such as Caroline, Mrs. Kunnizzi opened her home and cared for Caroline until she died.

Mrs. Kunnizzi has spent the majority of her life in Fort McPherson helping people. At 89, she continues to work for the community assisting with the blind.

**Contact: Russ Look**  
Executive Assistant  
(403) 873-7210





# Press Statement

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## Hay River Corrections Staff Honoured

**Yellowknife (April 12) - Four Hay River corrections staff were awarded the Corrections Exemplary Service Medal at the Hay River Courthouse today by Commissioner Daniel L. Norris on behalf of the Governor General of Canada.**

Wayne Atwell, Guy Demaine, Dennis Farnham and Marcella Roy received their medals in recognition of over 20 years of service in Canadian corrections systems.

Mr. Atwell has been working in the corrections field since 1971. In 1973, he joined the Yellowknife Correctional Centre as a Corrections Officer I. Presently Mr. Atwell is employed by the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre as a Shift Supervisor.

Mr. Demaine began his career at the Prince George Corrections Centre in 1969 as an Apprentice Security Officer. He moved North in 1972 to take a Corrections Officer I position with the Yellowknife Correctional Centre. Today, Mr. Demaine is the Deputy Warden of the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre.

Mr. Farnham has worked in the corrections field for 27 years. During his career he has worked for the British Columbia Penitentiary, the Drumheller Penitentiary and the Yellowknife Correctional Centre. Presently, Mr. Farnham is the Warden of the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre.

Ms. Roy came to the Northwest Territories in 1968 and began working for the Yellowknife Correctional Centre as a Corrections Officer. Between 1977 and 1986, she worked at the Fort Smith Correctional Centre for Women. With the women's centre closure in 1986, Ms. Roy transferred to the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre where she presently works.

The Corrections Exemplary Service Medal recognizes the special obligation and hazardous conditions of service of peace officers whose duties bring them in daily contact with offenders in Canadian correctional programs.

**Contact: Russ Look**  
Executive Assistant  
(403) 873-7210







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-020

**Evergreen Signs New 5 Year  
Forest Fire Management Agreement**

**YELLOWKNIFE (April 13, 1994) - Minister of Renewable Resources Stephen Kakfwi will attend a signing ceremony at the Hay River Reserve to sign a 5 year forest fire management agreement with Evergreen Forestry Management Ltd. April 15.**

The agreement also provides an option to extend for two additional years.

Evergreen - which represents a joint venture between Hay River and Fort Providence First Nations - is being awarded this work for the third time.

"Evergreen has built a strong track record in the industry. We have been pleased with their work and professional performance in forest fire management," said Mr. Kakfwi.

The company provides employment each summer to 55 individuals from Hay River and Fort Providence. This year, the company will expand by providing an additional 5 person crew from Kakisa to provide fire management service in their area.

Under the terms of the new agreement, the company will be expected to provide fire suppression and detection services, provide fire prevention activities such as constructing fire breaks around communities; and provide assistance to the department in certain project work when required.

"The economic benefits arising from this deal extend far beyond the contract's recipients," added Mr. Kakfwi. "Everyone gains when we keep our business in the north."

The signing ceremony will take place in the Community Council Chambers on the Hay River Reserve.

For further information, contact:

**Bob Bailey**  
Director, Forest Fire Management  
Renewable Resources  
(403) 872-7700

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343





# Press Statement

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

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## Commissioner Congratulates Aklavik Adult Education Committee

**Yellowknife (April 15) - Commissioner Daniel L. Norris told members of the Aklavik Education Committee that they should be proud of their accomplishments.**

During the official opening of the Aklavik Adult Education Centre, he noted that the development of the new facility opens the doors for many who were not able to take advantage of educational opportunities in their youth.

"This new facility will provide the people of Aklavik who have the desire to improve their education, either for education's sake or to increase their chances for employment, the means to achieve that objective," said Commissioner Norris. "You will have at your fingertips the instructional and physical facilities to step into the future with confidence."

Commissioner Norris also recognized the work of the residents of Aklavik in establishing the new adult education centre.

**Contact: Russ Look**  
Executive Assistant  
(403) 873-7210









**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-022

**Cape Dorset Sets the Pace for Self-Government**

**YELLOWKNIFE (April 25, 1994) - Cape Dorset is the first community in the Northwest Territories to sign a comprehensive community transfer agreement that grants control and administrative responsibility over four major territorial government programs and services.**

Premier Nellie Cournoyea and Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Stephen Kakfwi will mark the historic occasion by attending a local celebration in Cape Dorset next month.

The agreement gives the community responsibility for the delivery of Economic Development, Social Services, Housing and Public Works programs and services, effective April 1.

"Stronger local control will mean the people of Cape Dorset, through the Hamlet Council, can work toward solutions for the issues facing Cape Dorset now and in the future," the Premier stated.

She reaffirmed the territorial government's commitment to reshaping the way it does business.

"It's time for communities to take back control and responsibility for governing their lives. Decisions that you make in administering these four government programs and services will involve your direct input and reflect your concerns," Ms. Cournoyea added.

The transfer of financial resources began April 1 and will continue on a monthly basis. Indirect funding such as employee benefits, staffing and communications were also transferred, including the ownership of four government staff housing units.

In return, the Hamlet of Cape Dorset has agreed to maintain the standard of program and service delivery, retain a high level of financial accountability, provide regular activity reports and participate in a post transfer evaluation plan. Some Territorial government policies, including those relating to business incentives and affirmative action will also be implemented. The transfer agreement enables the Hamlet to provide the transferred programs and services to the residents of Cape Dorset according to local priorities.





## Cape Dorset Signs Agreement - page two

"It's clear that community governments are ready for change," according to Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Stephen Kakfwi. "There are still a few kinks to work out, but that should be expected when people chart a new course towards self-government."

Cape Dorset began redesigning its local government structure in 1991. The Hamlet received \$50,000 to carry out a feasibility study. As an interim step towards this transfer agreement, the Hamlet has been administering three program departments as well as the Housing Association through Memoranda of Understanding since October 1993.

Inuvik is the only other community to complete a transfer plan this year. Their transfer framework agreement gives the community responsibility over bingo and lottery licensing and commits them to finding better ways to get involved in capital planning, economic development and social services.

For further information, contact:

**Bob Overvold**  
Deputy Minister  
Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs  
(403) 920-8045

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343







## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-023

#### **Community Transfer Agreement**

**YELLOWKNIFE (April 25, 1994) - The territorial government is transferring lottery and bingo licensing to the Town of Inuvik as well as agreeing to work out a better way for the community to be involved in capital planning, economic development and social services.**

The terms are outlined in a Community Transfer Framework Agreement negotiated between a group established last fall in Inuvik and the Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Stephen Kakfwi.

The Inuvik Transfer Committee consists of representatives from the Town of Inuvik, Ehdıit Gwich'in Council and the Inuvik Community Corporation. The group has been working on identifying local government programs and services it's prepared to begin administering on behalf of the territorial government. Committee members began the process in the spring of 1993.

"Inuvik has demonstrated that a combination of team spirit and a willingness to work together towards a common goal is the key to successfully achieving a greater degree of self-government," says Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Stephen Kakfwi. "This agreement represents a preliminary step towards that objective."

Office arrangements are being made in the Town Council office to accommodate the staffing of an economic development officer. Although the salary and benefits will be maintained by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, the staff member will begin reporting directly to the Inuvik Transfer Committee. The Committee has said that it may want to negotiate a full transfer of the position in the future.

The framework agreement also contains provisions for future negotiations. They include the:

- transfer of Social Services programs and services
- development of a Capital Planning Protocol
- the development of a Joint Community Government Model





"It's clear to me that the community is ready for more responsibility. Our government is committed in helping you achieve your aspirations for self-government and ultimately greater community-based decision making," Mr. Kakfwi added.

Inuvik is the second community in the North to formalize the transfer of government programs and services from the territorial government. Cape Dorset finalized their agreement this month and now delivers local Economic Development and Tourism, Housing, Social Services and Public Works government programs and services. The first formal transfer under the government's Community Transfer Initiative was completed with Fort Good Hope last summer.

Mr. Kakfwi introduced the Community Transfer Initiative in 1992 to reaffirm the government's commitment to reshaping northern government and help facilitate the process.

For further information, contact:

**Gary Black**  
Secretary  
Community Transfer Initiative  
Steering Committee  
Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs  
(403) 873-7910

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343







## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-024

#### **Max Melnyk Receives the NWT Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award**

**YELLOWKNIFE (April 18) - After devoting 32 years of voluntary service to various organizations in the Northwest Territories, Max Melnyk will receive a plaque and a congratulatory letter of appreciation from Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Silas Arngna'naaq in Yellowknife April 22.**

Melnyk, a resident of Norman Wells for the past ten years, will receive the 1994 Outstanding Volunteer Award at an official award ceremony hosted by Storefront Voluntary Agency. The award will be presented at the Explorer Hotel during National Volunteer Week on April 22. It is presented each year by the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs to pay special tribute to volunteers who have consistently helped improve the quality of life in their community or region.

"A lot of people do a lot for a short time and then fade away, but Mr. Melnyk has consistently volunteered in a number of areas over a long period of time," said Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Silas Arngna'naaq.

"In fact, Mr. Melnyk's contributions date back to 1962. As a board member, Mr. Melnyk helped construct the first Royal Canadian Legion in Inuvik that year," said Mr. Arngna'naaq. "And he's remained an outstanding Legion member ever since. Just five years ago, he organized a major fundraising campaign in Norman Wells to rebuild the local Legion after the one in their community burned down."

Over the years Mr. Melnyk served on the Board of Directors for a number of sporting associations such as hockey, softball, fastball and curling associations for both seniors and juniors from 1969 to 1983. From 1976 to 1979, Mr. Melnyk generously volunteered his time to teach young children the fine art of curling. He served as a St. John Ambulance First Aid instructor from 1984 to 1994. While residing in Norman Wells, he helped establish the Cadet Corps in 1985. Wherever he has resided, Mr. Melnyk consistently volunteered many hours to non-profit organizations as the local auctioneer.

Mr. Melnyk's contributions have not gone unnoticed. He has received many awards over the years. Those awards have come from the: Town of Inuvik, Inuvik Minor Softball Association, Canadian Amateur Ball Association, Municipality of Norman Wells, and Inuvik Softball Association.



## **Melnyk Receives Award - page two**

It takes a great human spirit, sense of generosity, belief in the community and tremendous personal motivation to do what Mr. Melnyk has managed to do," said Mr. Arngna'naaq. "So, it will give me great pleasure to present him with this plaque and a letter of appreciation."

A permanent plaque which hangs in the foyer of the new Legislative Assembly building will be engraved with Mr. Melnyk's name. He is the fourth recipient of the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award. He joins Mrs. Jan Stirling of Yellowknife, Donald Clark of Rankin Inlet and Larry Gordon of Inuvik.

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

This year, thirty-one residents in the Northwest Territories were nominated - the youngest being 6-year-old Kirsty Lawson of Inuvik. Miss Lawson volunteers in the Inuvik hospital two days a week with her mother - bringing in her own dolls and games to entertain sick kids and singing to patients.

The Selection Committee feel "she is an excellent example for other youth. She is showing others a great way to get to know elders."

For further information, contact:

**Ian Legaree**  
Director, Sport and Recreation  
Municipal and Community Affairs  
(403) 873-7245

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-025

**Nine Northerners Honoured for Teaching Excellence  
in Science, Technology and Math**

**YELLOWKNIFE (May 2) - Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, today congratulated the nine NWT teachers who have received the first Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence in Science, Technology and Mathematics. This is the first year this awards program has been in operation.**

"Their achievements in educating and encouraging our youth to high standards in these fields benefits students and the North as a whole," the Minister said. "A sound knowledge of science, technology and math will be essential for the jobs of the future. Through their hard work, these teachers are making a significant contribution to the North's ability to meet the challenges of the next century."

The Prime Minister's Awards are given to elementary and secondary school teachers whose work has had a major, proven impact on student performance and interest in math, science and technology. Awards are made at three levels: local, provincial/territorial, and national.

A team of eight teachers from Joamie School in Iqaluit received a provincial/territorial-level team award for their success in "Greening Joamie School." The school has taken part in the national Green School Program and last year became the first school in Canada to achieve Earth School status when students completed 1,000 environmental projects. Florence Sliney, Darlene Rissesco, Paul Meggs, Lesley Serkoak, Debbie Jabalee, Meeka Sarah Currie, Gillian Mann, and Heidi Hamburg all shared the honour of the Prime Minister's Awards. To celebrate all of the school's achievements, the students held a variety of special events on Earth Day, April 22. The school's accomplishments are also featured in a recent edition of Owl, a national magazine for children.

Arlene Yaceyko of Yellowknife received a local award after being nominated by her students and colleagues at N.J. Macpherson School. She takes a leadership role each year in organizing and hosting the school's science fair, and her love of science has "turned on" many students, her colleagues say. "She makes everything that is hard into a piece of cake!" a student adds.

The Prime Minister's Awards winners each received a Certificate of Excellence and cash awards to be used for professional development, resource materials, teaching aids or other tools to help these teachers continue to make outstanding contributions to their schools and communities.

**Contact:**     **Aileen Najduch**  
Curriculum Coordinator, Science and Math  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7675

**Florence Sliney**  
Principal, Joamie School  
(819) 979-6206







## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-026

#### **Extra Time Given to Discuss Concerns**

**CAPE DORSET (May 4) - The schedule for a consultation process to listen to community concerns and suggestions for improving the new rent scale for social housing was announced here today by Housing Minister Don Morin.**

Under this process, implementation of rent increases for social housing will now begin April 1 of next year, and rent deductions will now come into effect January 1, 1995.

The minister responsible for the Housing Corporation said the new schedule will allow communities, tenants and members of the Legislative Assembly an "additional opportunity" to express their concerns during a series of eight district consultation meetings to be held across the NWT in June.

"Concerns and recommendations from the meetings will be reviewed over the summer and any required revisions will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Social Housing in September before being finalized with Cabinet," he said.

Changes to the rent scale are designed to make sure affordable social housing is available at a rate that is equitable throughout the Northwest Territories. It will result in high-income earners paying higher rents, while lower income earners will pay less," Mr. Morin stated.

He said there are situations where tenants with household incomes in excess of \$7,000 per month are paying a monthly rent of \$32. Tenants in this kind of situation should be able to take advantage of other Housing Corporation programs to buy or build their own home.

"More social housing would then be available for the estimated 3,500 households in the Territories that are inadequately housed," Mr. Morin stated, noting that the NWT stood to lose about \$5.3 million because the Federal government is no longer prepared to subsidize the NWT's present rent scale.





The proposed rent scale includes utilities and recognizes the added costs for large families and the cost of living in different regions throughout the Territories. Consideration will also be made for units that are in poor condition and steps have been taken to make sure elders will not be affected.

Mr. Morin and Premier Nellie Cournoyea are in Cape Dorset for a Baffin Region Leaders Conference.

Delegates were told all social Housing tenants will receive a newsletter describing the new rent scale and the consultation process in May. The minister said he intends to announce the final rent scale package during the fall session of the Legislature.

**Contact:**            **Art Sorensen**  
                                 Press Secretary









# Media Advisory

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Date: Thursday, May 5, 1994  
Subject: **Deputy Minister Appointment**

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Donald J. Avison has been appointed Deputy Minister of Justice for the Territorial government. His appointment is effective June 1.

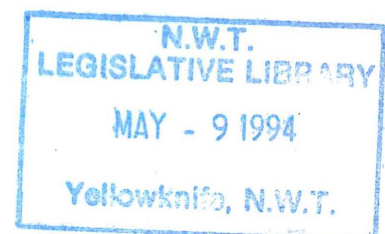
The announcement was made today by Premier Nellie Cournoyea.

Mr. Avison, 39, has been Director of the Aboriginal Justice Directorate of Justice Canada since April of 1992. From October of 1989 to March of 1992, he was responsible for the administration of NWT regional operations of the federal Department of Justice.

Immediately before that, he was a Crown Counsel with the Appellate and Advisory Unit of the department's Criminal Law Branch in Ottawa.

Mr. Avison, married with three children, also has experience as a Crown Counsel in Whitehorse, Yukon.

Art Sorensen  
Press Secretary  
Government of the NWT  
Telephone: (403) 669-2302  
Fax: (403) 873-0301







## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-026

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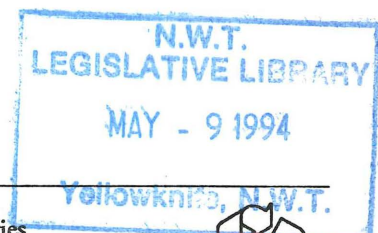
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Delegates were told all social Housing tenants will receive a newsletter describing the new rent scale and the consultation process in May. The minister said he intends to announce the final rent scale package during the fall session of the Legislature.

**Contact:**            **Art Sorensen**  
                              Press Secretary





*Press Information*

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

94-027

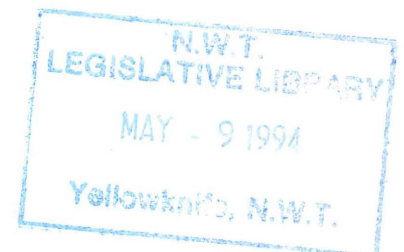
**Schuler Elected Chairperson of Legal Services Board**

**Yellowknife (May 5) - Yellowknife lawyer Virginia Schuler, Q.C., has been elected Chairperson of the Legal Services Board by the members of that Board.**

Ms. Schuler replaces Bill Adamache who resigned on March 16.

The Legal Services Board oversees legal aid, court worker services and public legal education in the Northwest Territories.

**Contact: Bruce McKay**  
Executive Director, Legal Services Board  
(403) 873-7485









## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-028

#### **NWT Students Participate in Reading and Writing Assessment**

**YELLOWKNIFE (May 5) - Students in the Northwest Territories recently took part in Canada's first national assessment of reading and writing achievement, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment said today.**

The assessment is part of the School Achievement Indicators Program (SAIP), sponsored by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada. The program is intended to measure the progress of students in reading and writing, mathematics and science in an ongoing cycle.

"These subject areas are key to a student's success in a future that will be marked by complex information and technology," Mr. Nerysoo says. "My Department is pleased to participate in this program because it improves our ability to monitor the success of curricula and school programs, and to plan for improvements. Assessments will be done in a regular cycle, allowing us to measure the progress of students and the school system over time."

In the NWT, more than 50 schools and 1,800 students, ages 13 and 16, took part in the reading and writing assessment during the last week of April. Half of the students in each age group were assessed on their reading comprehension, while the other half were assessed on their writing skills.

During the reading assessment, students were asked to read passages of various levels of difficulty and various styles, such as excerpts from novels, magazine articles, or editorials. They then answered a series of questions about these passages.

Students participating in the writing assessment were given a package of reading materials a week before the assessment. Teachers and students were able to discuss the theme of the writing question, and the students could make notes to take into the assessment. They were also allowed to use computers, dictionaries, or a thesaurus.

Ten per cent of the students participating in the writing assessment were asked to submit a sample of their best piece of writing completed as part of regular class activity. These will be assessed to determine their relationship to the SAIP writing assessment.

Results of the assessment will be presented by age group for male and female students, both nationally and by province and territory. The assessment will provide information on the performance of the school system in each territory and province. It is not designed to assess the achievement of individual school divisions, schools, teachers or students.

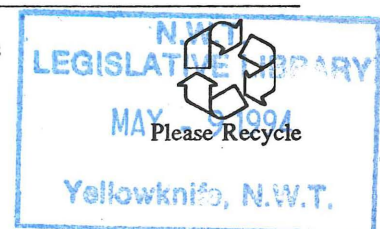
The first round of testing under the School Achievement Indicators Program took place during April, 1993, when 13-year-old and 16-year-old students were assessed in mathematics. Students in the same age groups will be assessed in mathematics again in 1997, and science in 1996 and 1999. The next reading and writing assessment will take place in 1998.

**CONTACT: Debby Dobson**  
Curriculum Coordinator, Language Arts  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7679

**Derek Green**  
Co-ordinator, Evaluation  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7680

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## Press Information

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**94-029**

### **Student Employment Seminars Planned**

**YELLOWKNIFE (May 12) - Personnel Minister Rebecca Mike says a series of information seminars for students will be held over the next few weeks.**

She said department officials will explain the government's summer student employment procedures and its Affirmative Action Policy, particularly how it is applied to students.

"The Territorial government is the major employer in the Northwest Territories and I want to reassure students that we're doing everything we can to place as many of them as possible into work situations."

Over 108 students have already been hired by the government in the first 10 days of the program. Last year the government hired 668 summer students.

Ms. Mike says she hopes to improve on last year's total, but cautioned that students shouldn't rely on government alone.

"Job opportunities are also available in the private sector and I'm hopeful that together all employers will be able to meet the employment needs of our northern students."

The first two student information seminars will be held in the auditorium of the Northern United Place on Monday, May 16th, and Friday, May 20th. Both sessions begin at 1:30 pm. Dates for regional sessions will be announced later.

**Contact: Art Sorensen**  
Press Secretary



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## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-030

#### **Mail Order Cigarettes Illegal Without A Permit**

**YELLOWKNIFE (MAY 20, 1994) - It is illegal for anyone in the Northwest Territories to import or order cigarettes through the mail without obtaining a permit in advance, cautions Tony Dawson, Director of Revenue and Asset Management for the Department of Finance.**

Mr. Dawson made this statement in response to flyers that were recently being distributed throughout Yellowknife inviting residents to order cigarettes and other tobacco products from a distribution outlet in the South.

"This kind of campaign is dangerous and misleading to the general public. It entices our residents to break the law and face paying stiff penalties," Mr. Dawson said.

According to the newly revised *NWT Tobacco Tax Act* passed in the Legislative Assembly last month, permits must be obtained from the Department of Finance before purchases are made from outside NWT jurisdiction. The permit allows residents to import tobacco and the pay the tobacco tax in advance.

There are exceptions, says Mr. Dawson.

"Any person can purchase and bring into the Territories a maximum of two cartons of cigarettes, 100 cigars or four tins of any other tobacco product six times a year from a southern jurisdiction **without a permit**," he stated.

However, these purchases must be brought into the Territories by the person for his or her own use.

Anyone found possessing or transporting tobacco products in contravention of the Act or having amounts that exceed these limits will be subject to the following penalties:

- fines of up to \$5,000, 30 days in jail, or both for a first offense.
- fines of up to \$10,000, nine months in jail, or both for second or subsequent offenses plus five times the amount of tax payable.

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**New Tobacco Tax Act - page two**

These penalties will be imposed on anyone who is found to be in possession of cigarettes and other tobacco products:

- without a permit as required;
- marked for sale in another jurisdiction; or
- found transporting illegal cigarettes.

Permits can be obtained by calling the Taxation Division in Yellowknife at (403) 920-3470 or toll free 1-800-661-0820.

For further information, contact:

**Tony Dawson**  
Director, Revenue & Asset Management  
Department of Finance  
(403) 873-7308

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343





Press Information

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-031

**Billy Bourque Memorial Aviation Endowment Fund Established**

**YELLOWKNIFE (May 20) - Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment and Gary Bohnet, Chairperson of the Metis Heritage Association, are pleased to announce the establishment of the Billy Bourque Memorial Aviation Endowment Fund.**

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment has contributed \$10,000 to the endowment fund, which will be administered by the Metis Heritage Association.

The fund is in memory of William (Billy) Joseph Bourque, a well-known northern bush pilot and businessman from Fort Smith, N.W.T. who died tragically in a plane crash at Villeneuve Airport, near St. Albert, Alberta in May, 1993.

Born in Fort Chipewyan, Alberta, Mr. Bourque spent most of his life in Fort Smith. He moved to St. Albert shortly before his death, partly to allow his children to attend university.

Of Cree descent, Mr. Bourque received his pilot's licence in 1971. Soon after, Mr. Bourque and Ernie Kuyt, a prominent biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service, began to research and document the endangered whooping crane nesting patterns in nearby Wood Buffalo National Park. This partnership would last more than 19 years.

Known as a skilled and dedicated pilot, Mr. Bourque established a charter service, Loon Air, in Fort Smith, in 1980. Mr. Bourque made a valuable contribution to the North through his work as a pilot, businessman, and community leader.

Eligibility criteria will be established by the scholarship selection committee of the Metis Heritage Association. Details will be announced at a later date.

**Contact: Cathy Jewison**  
Coordinator of Public Affairs  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-6222

**Bren Kolson**  
Executive Director  
Metis Heritage Association  
(403) 873-3505









**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-032

**Harvesters Program Adjusted**

**YELLOWKNIFE (May 31, 1994) - More hunters, trappers and fishermen who are injured while working on the land will be able to qualify for workers' compensation because of recent changes made to the Renewable Resources Harvesters Program.**

New eligibility criteria have been introduced in a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Department of Renewable Resources and the NWT Workers' Compensation Board. These criteria improve harvesters' chances to qualify for workers' compensation if they are injured.

To qualify, harvesters must now prove they are:

- regularly and actively engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing for their livelihood,
- earning at least 25 per cent of their gross annual income from harvesting,
- a resident of the Northwest Territories, and
- a holder of a General Hunting License or a beneficiary under a land claim agreement.

Under the old agreement, only harvesters who earned a minimum of \$10,000 per year were eligible for coverage. An automatic country food value credit of \$5,000 was given to each harvester towards the \$10,000 total.

"It's clear we needed to fine tune this program - largely because too many applicants were not able to meet our former criteria," said Renewable Resources Minister Stephen Kakfwi. "The price of fur fluctuates each year. Sometimes it is high, and our trappers collect a good income; other times it is low, and it creates a serious cash shortage."

"These modifications help the territorial government attain the original objective - that is, to protect the traditional lifestyle of harvesters," says John Todd, Minister Responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board.

Eligible harvesters will receive benefits based on 90 per cent of \$24,000 per year or approximately \$1,600 each month, regardless of their income. The option to purchase higher coverage through a separate WCB program is available to harvesters, whose earnings are higher than \$24,000.





## Harvesters' Program - page two

An evaluation sheet has been developed to help area renewable resources officers determine whether applicants are actively or regularly hunting, trapping or fishing for their livelihood.. Each applicant will be expected to provide:

- fur record sales
- private sale of fur as evidenced by receipt
- commercial wildlife tags used
- sale of fish under the authority of a commercial fishing or test fishery license evidenced by receipts
- yearly harvest of renewable resources for personal or family use of consumption.

Hunters, trappers or fishermen are entitled to claim all personal or commercial income made from selling their harvest; plus a minimum credit of \$7,000 for country food that is used for domestic consumption. They are eligible for compensation benefits if they earn at least 25 per cent of their total income from harvesting.

The Renewable Resource Harvesters Program is sponsored by the territorial government and will be administered by the Workers' Compensation Board.

For further information, contact:

**Doug Stewart**  
Director  
Conservation Education & Resource  
Development  
Department of Renewable Resources  
(403) 920-8716

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343

**Byron Hynes**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Workers' Compensation Board  
(403) 920-3849





## Press Information

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-033

### Delegations Return from Europe

**YELLOWKNIFE (May 24)-** Two delegations from the Northwest Territories have spent the past two weeks trying to convince European politicians to delay a regulation on importing wild furs until international standards for humane trapping methods are developed.

"The European governments weren't aware of how we live in the Territories and the potential impact of their fur import regulation on our economy and cultures," Mr. Kakwi said today. "Since over 75 per cent of our wild furs are sold in Europe, we have to do all we can to maintain the market."

Mr. Kakwi said he believes that the lobby efforts of the delegations will delay the implementation of the regulation for at least one year and that European legislators will take the opportunity to review the regulation carefully to clarify existing ambiguities.

His delegation included James Antoine, MLA Nahendeh, Chief James Ross and Sub-Chief Joseph Charlie of Fort McPherson and Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources Joe Handley. They met with representatives from the governments of Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal and France.

The other delegation was led by Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs Silas Arngna'naaq, and included Tony Whitford, MLA Yellowknife South, Tongola Sandy of Rankin Inlet and Assistant Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources Bob McLeod. They met with representatives from the governments of England, Denmark, Netherlands, Brussels and Germany as well as the European Commission which is responsible for interpreting and implementing the new import regulation.

Both delegations also met representatives from the fur industry in various countries.

The fur import regulation is scheduled to come into effect January 1, 1995. The regulation is intended to stop the import of wild furs from countries that use leghold traps or traps that do not meet international humane trapping standards.

However, the process for establishing international standards for humane traps has not yet been completed through the International Standards Organization (ISO) and there is still disagreement on the exact interpretation of key provisions in the regulation.

"This makes it impossible to meet the regulation. We were able to point out these problems during our meetings," Mr. Arngna'naaq stated.



-2-

Canada has led the world in developing humane traps and has developed its own standards. These traps, being made available in the NWT through a trap exchange program, are being evaluated through the ISO process and are expected to meet its standards.

The European fur import regulation allows countries to request a one-year suspension of the regulation if they can demonstrate sufficient progress in meeting various requirements. Canada has requested such a suspension, and the European Commission must respond by July 1 of this year.

"We spent a lot of time during our meetings explaining the efforts made by northern fur harvesters to learn how to use the new humane traps. They were surprised to learn that the Territorial government has spent over \$2 million to purchase humane traps, replace leghold traps and to train harvesters in the use of new techniques," Mr. Kakfwi said.

He notes that once a one-year delay is granted, the next step will be to complete the ISO process to establish international standards for humane harvesting methods. The Territories will be working with federal and provincial governments and Canadian aboriginal organizations to help establish the standards.

"In addition, we have to continue to lobby to make sure that the fur import regulation in Europe doesn't come into effect until these standards are completed."

**Contact: Steve Kakfwi**  
Minister of Renewable Resources  
(403) 669-2366

**Joe Handley**  
Deputy Minister, Renewable Resources  
(403) 873-7420





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-034

**Leadership Residence Approved For Three Years**

**YELLOWKNIFE (May 27) - Continuation of the Western Arctic Leadership Residence in Fort Smith has been approved for three years, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Richard Nerysoo announced today.**

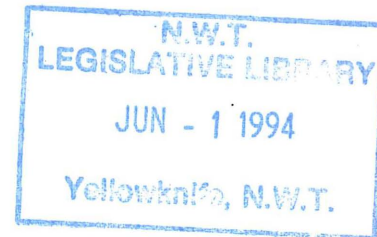
"Developing leadership among northern youth remains an important consideration for the Department," Mr. Nerysoo says. "At the same time we must continue to move to more community-based and broadly available programs, which can be accomplished through our community high school initiative."

The Minister has met with members of the board of directors to discuss changes necessary to optimize the results of the residence.

The Western Arctic Leadership Residence was established in 1990 to give northern youth increased opportunities to develop leadership skills by emphasizing academic excellence and community service.

Students in the residence receive tutoring to help them complete their high school graduation with an Advanced Diploma, and additional course work in northern issues. In addition, outdoor education helps familiarize students with living on the land, while a community service component helps them understand their role in the community.

**Contact: Robert Redshaw**  
Executive Assistant  
(403) 669-2308









**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-035

**Seatbelt Safety Campaign Begins**

**YELLOWKNIFE (May 30, 1994) - Local law enforcement agencies will be conducting seatbelt checks on roads and highways in communities across the Northwest Territories during the month of June.**

Check stops will be set up to ensure all drivers and passengers are wearing their seat belts and that child safety seats are properly secured, says Gary Walsh, Traffic Safety Program Manager for the Department of Transportation.

"While the the use of seat belts by drivers and their passengers in Canada rose to a record high of 88 per cent, the use of seat belts in the NWT is still relatively low at 60 percent.- that's a decrease of ten percent from the previous year," says Mr. Walsh.

The failure to buckle up is the leading cause of death in motor vehicle fatalities on NWT highways, he adds. Children should be properly secured in an approved child restraint system. Statistics reveal that the use of seat belts and child restraints for children continues to be very low at less than 50 percent.

"Drivers and passengers have to accept the fact that wearing a seat belt can save lives and is required by law," he says. "Failure to buckle can result in a fine and demerit points added to the driver's license."

The territorial wide seat belt safety campaign coincides with National Transportation Week, June 5 - 11. The Department of Transportation in cooperation with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and local law enforcement agencies in all the communities work together to encourage the general public to buckle up when travelling on a road or highway.

For further information, contact:

**Gary Walsh, Manager**  
Traffic Safety Programs  
Motor Vehicles Division  
Department of Transportation  
(403) 873-7419

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-036

**Review of Young Offender Facilities Released**

YELLOWKNIFE (June 6) – Triple designation of young offender facilities in the Northwest Territories presents no inordinate risk to the public, workers or inmates in the institutions provided the staff are properly trained.

That's the conclusion of an independent report, released today by Justice Minister Steve Kakfwi.

The document adds that triple designation, or using a facility for three types of inmates, should be maintained where population pressures dictate that open custody offenders need to be mixed with secure and remanded young offenders.

"It also contains a number of recommendations for change. It outlines methods to increase the security of the public, young offenders and staff while maximizing additional programming opportunities. The report is direct, practical and informative," Kakfwi stated.

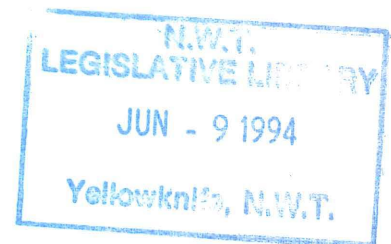
An independent review of the triple designation of the River Ridge Young Offenders Facility in Fort Smith was recommended in a motion passed in the Legislative Assembly last December. The minister supported the need for the review, but broadened it to include the other two facilities located in Hay River and Iqaluit.

The review was conducted by Hank O'Handley, assistant deputy minister of justice for Alberta, who was recommended by Thebacha MLA Jeannie Marie Jewell. He was assisted by Arnold Galet, executive director of the community corrections and release program in that province.

Their report is based on meetings and discussions with senior officials of the department of justice, representatives of various organizations including the RCMP and the Union of Northern Workers and staff at the three centres.

The reviewers were asked to determine how triple designation should be used, if at all; to identify what risks triple designation presents to the public, young offenders and staff; to assess the ability of the centres to provide necessary security levels and programming; and to examine staff training, staffing levels and staff qualifications.

**Contact:** Art Sorensen  
Press Secretary  
(403) 669-2302







## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-037

#### **"Biodiversity Works for Wildlife. You can too!"**

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 7) — More than 800 students from across the Northwest Territories took part in this year's Wildlife Week Poster Contest sponsored by the Department of Renewable Resources.**

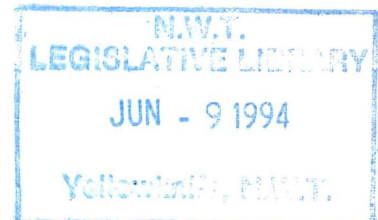
"Biodiversity works for wildlife. You can too!" was this year's theme and students were asked to illustrate the importance of biodiversity. Biodiversity means the variety of living things. A high biodiversity, that is many different plants and wildlife in an area, is a sign of a healthy environment.

Students submitted a variety of drawings to depict this theme - everything from caribou to muskox; a colorful array of flowers, trees and Arctic birds. Some students also drew pictures of the hazards that can threaten biodiversity. They included the disaster of an oil spill and air pollution.

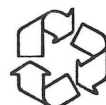
"Our youth show a remarkable awareness and concern for the preservation of the earth and its many creatures. Their concerns are not restricted only to the Arctic - they're global," says Renewable Resources Minister Stephen Kakfwi.

The 12 winners chosen this year were:

Mark Gurski, Hay River  
April Wasylyshyn, Fort Smith  
Pennie Demarcke, Hay River  
Mathewsie Inookee, Iqaluit  
Marleen Timbre, Fort Liard  
Heather Smith, Hay River  
Scott Maclean, Yellowknife  
Rejean Martel, Iqaluit  
Jackie Nutarakituq, Igloolik  
Brandy Thompsen, Fort Smith  
Donna Klondike, Fort Liard  
Amanda Ross, Norman Wells



.../2



**"Biodiversity Works for Wildlife. You can too!" - Page 2**

The 12 winners will receive a cheque of \$100 and their entries will be sent to Ottawa 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.

Thirty-nine students received "honourable mentions" for their posters and will receive memo magnets featuring a gyrfalcon, the territorial bird.

Seven class awards were given for overall participation and excellence in understanding and depicting the theme. Each winning class will receive a year's subscription to "Chickadee", a children's nature magazine.

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

or

**Susan Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Department of the Executive  
(403) 873-7343



*Press Information*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-038

**Interim Senior Administrative Officer in Iqaluit**

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 3, 1994) - An interim Senior Administrative Officer has been hired for the Town of Iqaluit.**

William Collings, an engineering consultant from Nanaimo, British Columbia, will begin carrying out his new responsibilities June 20 and will complete his term on November 30.

"We are confident that Mr. Collings will be able to resolve the most important issues before the new council assumes office," says Municipal and Community Affairs Deputy Minister David Ramsden.

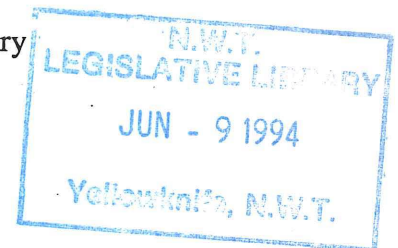
As Senior Administrative Officer, Mr. Collings will be working closely with the Town's advisory committee and the municipal administrator until municipal elections are held September 27.

Mr. Collings previously worked as Assistant Regional Engineer in the Baffin Region from 1984-86, served as Public Works Director for the Town of Iqaluit from 1982-84 and Acting Town Manager for six months in 1983.

For further information, contact:

**David Ramsden**  
Deputy Minister  
Municipal and Community Affairs  
(403) 873-7118

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 873-7343









**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-039

**Nerysoo Launches Liquor Consultations**

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 9) — The Minister of Safety and Public Services wants to know what Northerners think of the NWT's liquor laws.**

Richard Nerysoo is launching a Territories-wide strategy to seek public opinion on how liquor control practices can be made better. The initiative is part of a comprehensive review of liquor legislation that was announced last December.

"It is not enough to limit our thinking to liquor control models from other jurisdictions", said Mr. Nerysoo. "We need to know how people in communities across the Northwest Territories are feeling about the subject".

In announcing the consultation strategy today, Mr. Nerysoo emphasized the importance of including a broad range of perspectives in the review.

"What we're after is a balanced and accurate sampling of opinion. We want to hear what the liquor industry and its consumers have to say, but we also need to hear from people whose lives have been touched by the abuse of alcohol in their communities. We want to know what concerns exist in smaller municipalities and settlements, as well as in our larger centres".

Later this month, the Department of Safety and Public Services will be distributing a discussion paper and questionnaire to NWT households. "We want to bring this review to the attention of all Northwest Territories' residents and to encourage them to get involved in shaping our new liquor legislation", said Mr. Nerysoo.

The public is being invited to comment on all aspects of the liquor control framework. Some of the questions to be examined during the review will include:

- What standards should be enforced in cocktail lounges, bars and other licensed premises?
- Are adequate regulatory procedures in place for selling, distribution, importing and manufacturing liquor?
- Should the "drinking age" be raised?
- What "local options" should be available to municipal governments for controlling liquor at the community level?
- How should we deal with people who engage in the unlawful sale of alcohol?





## **Nerysoo Launches Liquor Consultations: Page 2**

Proposals for changing the Liquor Act will be outlined in a Legislative Action Paper to be brought before MLAs later this year.

"The entire process has been designed to ensure that ample opportunities are provided for businesses, social agencies and individual members of the public to critique any of the new directions we are considering", said Mr. Nerysoo. "Our intent is to end up with liquor legislation that is balanced, effective and representative of community priorities.

Mr. Nerysoo stated the consultation strategy would be coordinated by Alan Downe, who is Senior Advisor on Special Projects in the Department of Safety and Public Services.

According to Downe, project personnel will be contacting local governments, business associations and social organizations throughout the NWT and will also be travelling to several communities to hear residents' views first-hand.

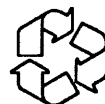
"If individuals or groups have something on their minds about the way liquor is controlled, we're really eager to listen", said Downe. "We're hoping that everyone who's interested will take a moment to write a letter, fill in our questionnaire, or give us a telephone call."

Downe worked previously with the Territorial Department of Social Services and was also involved in the administration of alcohol, drug and community mental health services. He has been a liquor inspector in Yellowknife since 1987. Before joining Safety and Public Services last July, he headed the Legislative Assembly's research unit, which provides policy analysis and reviews new legislation for MLAs.

**Contact: Robert Redshaw**  
Executive Assistant  
(403) 669-2308

or

**Alan G. Downe**  
Dept. of Safety & Public Services  
(403) 873-7365





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## News Release/Communiqué

94-040

### Our Lady of Good Hope Church Restored

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 9) — The "Sistine Chapel of the North" Our Lady of Good Hope Church in Fort Good Hope, officially re-opens Sunday, June 12, following the restoration of its extraordinary painted interior and upgrading of structural mechanical elements.**

Richard Nerysoo, Northwest Territories Minister of Education, Culture and Employment and Western Arctic M.P. Ethel Blondin-Andrew, representing Canadian Heritage Minister Michel Dupuy, will join other dignitaries in a ribbon-cutting ceremony, church service and community celebration, starting at 2:00 p.m.

Completed last fall, the three-year project was a cooperative effort funded by the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Government of Canada, the Fort Good Hope Community Council, the Roman Catholic Diocese of the Mackenzie and Fort Smith, and the Knights of Columbus. Many people in the community also made contributions in-kind to the project.

Conservators from the Art Conservation Program at Queen's University, Parks Canada and the GNWT's Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, were involved in the interior restoration of this national historic site. The Fort Good Hope Community Council administered the project and provided valuable advice to the conservators.

The project received \$400,000 in funding from the Government of the Northwest Territories. The Government of Canada contributed \$200,000 through the National Cost Sharing Program, administered by Parks Canada.

"Our Lady of Good Hope church is an important symbol to the Sahtu Dene and Metis, and has played a central role in the development of the community," Mr. Nerysoo says. "I am pleased that the Government of the Northwest Territories, in partnership with the Government of Canada, has been able to support the people of Fort Good Hope in their wish to preserve the church for future generations."

"The Department of Canadian Heritage is pleased to be a partner in the restoration of Our Lady of Good Hope Church," says Ms. Blondin-Andrew. "Working together, through mechanisms such as Parks Canada's National Cost Sharing Program, is an effective way to improve protection of heritage resources for the benefit of all Canadians."

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## **Our Lady of Good Hope Church Restored: Page 2**

Built between 1865 and 1885 by Oblate missionaries, Our Lady of Good Hope is one of the oldest surviving churches in western Canada and is noteworthy for its interior decoration which features intricately carved woodwork, painted ornamentation, panels of Biblical scenes and statuary in brilliant colours.

In 1977, Our Lady of Good Hope Church was designated a site of national and architectural significance by the Government of Canada.

**Contact: Tom Andrews**  
Culture and Heritage Division  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7688







P-06/94-49

### RÉOUVERTURE DE L'ÉGLISE NOTRE-DAME-DE-BONNE-ESPÉRANCE

YELLOWKNIFE, T.N.-O., le 3 juin 1994 — La «chapelle Sixtine du Nord», l'église Notre-Dame-de-Bonne-Espérance de Fort Good Hope, sera officiellement inaugurée le dimanche, 12 juin, suite à la restauration de son magnifique intérieur et à l'amélioration des éléments structurels et mécaniques du bâtiment.

Le ministre de l'Éducation, de la Culture et de l'Emploi des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, M. Richard Nerysoo, et M<sup>me</sup> Ethel Blondin-Andrew, députée du Western Arctic, représentant M. Michel Dupuy, ministre du Patrimoine canadien, se joindront à d'autres personnalités à l'occasion de cette cérémonie d'inauguration, qui sera suivie d'une messe et de réjouissances locales. L'événement commencera à 14 h.

Terminés l'automne dernier, les travaux, qui ont duré trois ans, ont été financés conjointement par le gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, le gouvernement du Canada, le *Fort Good Hope Community Council* et le diocèse catholique de Mackenzie-Fort Smith.

Des restaurateurs du *Art Conservation Program* de l'Université Queen's, de Parcs Canada, et du Centre du patrimoine septentrional du Prince de Galles ont participé à la restauration de l'intérieur de ce lieu historique national. Le *Fort Good Hope Community Council* a géré le projet et a fourni de précieux conseils aux restaurateurs.

Le gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest avait alloué 400 000 \$ au projet. Le gouvernement du Canada a donné 200 000 \$ dans le cadre du Programme national de partage des frais, géré par Parcs Canada.



«L'église Notre-Dame-de-Bonne-Espérance est un symbole précieux pour les Sahtu Dene et les Métis, et elle a joué un rôle primordial dans le développement de la collectivité. Je suis heureux que le gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, en collaboration avec le gouvernement du Canada, ait pu aider les résidents de Fort Good Hope à préserver l'église pour les générations à venir», a déclaré M. Nerysoo.

«C'est avec plaisir que le ministère du Patrimoine canadien s'est associé à la restauration de Notre-Dame-de-Bonne-Espérance. En formant des partenariats grâce à des programmes tels que le Programme national de partage des frais de Parcs Canada, nous développons un moyen efficace de protéger les ressources du patrimoine dans l'intérêt de tous les Canadiens et de toutes les Canadiennes» a confié M<sup>me</sup> Blondin-Andrew.

Construite entre 1865 et 1885 par les missionnaires oblats, Notre-Dame-de-Bonne-Espérance est l'une des plus vieilles églises existantes de l'Ouest canadien. Elle se distingue par ses décorations intérieures, notamment ses boiseries finement sculptées, ses ornements et ses panneaux peints aux couleurs brillantes représentant des scènes et des personnages bibliques.

En 1977, l'église a été classée lieu d'importance historique et architecturale nationale par le gouvernement du Canada.

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Renseignements :

Susan Algie  
Parcs Canada  
Patrimoine canadien  
(204) 983-4718

Tom Andrews  
Centre du patrimoine septentrional du Prince de Galles  
(403) 873-7688





# Media Advisory

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To: Northern Media

From: Art Sorensen  
Press Secretary, GNWT  
403-669-2302 (w)  
403-873-5086 (h)  
403-873-0169 (fax)

Subject: Premier Cournoyea

Date: Monday, June 13, 1994

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Premier Nellie Cournoyea has announced changes to the Territorial government's eight-member Cabinet.

The changes, effective today, include:

- The departments of health and social services, scheduled to be consolidated, will be the responsibility of the Premier.

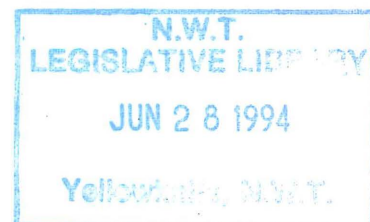
Finance Minister John Pollard, who held the Health portfolio, will continue to handle the health billings dispute with the Federal government. Education Minister Richard Nerysoo has been designated lead minister in respect to the income reform initiative.

Ms. Cournoyea also maintains responsibility for the NWT Power Corporation and the Special Advisor on Women.

- Silas Arngna'naaq leaves the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs to take over responsibility for the Department of Renewable Resources from Steve Kakfwi. Mr. Kakfwi maintains the two portfolios of Justice and Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs.
- Rebecca Mike takes on responsibility for the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. She maintains her other responsibility as minister responsible for the Department of Personnel.

The premier also announced the appointment of George Braden as her principal secretary.

Mr. Braden brings considerable experience to his assignment as principal secretary. He is a former MLA and government leader and served for a number of years as the head of the Territories' Ottawa office.







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-041

**Senior Management Change Announced**

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 14) — Ken Lovely has been appointed Deputy Minister of the Departments of Health and Social Services.**

Currently Deputy Minister of Social Services, Lovely takes on the additional responsibilities of Health in order to manage consolidation of the two departments.

The announcement was made today by Premier Nellie Cournoyea, who took over responsibility for the health and social services portfolios in Monday's cabinet shuffle.

"The first step in consolidating the departments is to move towards an integrated management regime," the Premier stated, noting that the changes will be reflected in the 1995-96 budget scheduled to be presented to the Legislative Assembly early next year.

Dr. David Kinloch, leaves his position as Deputy Minister of Health to become a Special Advisor to the Premier on Health Planning and Program Reform.

**Contact: Art Sorensen**  
Press Secretary  
(403) 669-2302







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-042

**Heat Trace Cable - A Serious Fire Hazard**

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 22) — Improperly installed heat trace cable is a serious fire hazard, warns the Department of Safety and Public Services.**

Recent fires have been linked to heat trace cable failure.

There are mainly two types of heat trace cable - field-assembled and manufacturer-assembled. The cable is applied to water pipes in buildings to prevent freezing.

Installation of field-assembled heat trace cable is covered under the Electrical Protection Act of the Northwest Territories and electrical permits are required. Installations must be completed according to the Canadian Electrical Code by qualified electricians registered in the Northwest Territories.

Investigations of incidents involving field-assembled heat trace cable show that many of the installations are being done by unqualified people. Approved manufacturers' specifications are not being followed when the cable is installed, and manufacturers' suggestions on the type of cable to use are being ignored.

Manufacturer-assembled plug-in type heating cable sets, commonly sold in hardware stores, do not require installation by qualified electricians. These sets, however, must be installed according to manufacturers' instructions.

Chief Electrical Inspector William Burr says there has been an alarming increase in the number of incidents of heat trace cable failure reported to the department.

"Residents who have heat trace cable in their homes should get it checked by a qualified electrician to make sure the cable is installed properly. People who are getting heat trace cable installed in their homes should make sure the work is done by a qualified electrician," he says.

The Department of Safety and Public Services has issued a hazard alert to all electrical and plumbing contractors in the Territories to remind them that improperly installed heat trace cable is a serious fire hazard.

**Contact: William Burr**  
Chief Electrical Inspector  
Department of Safety & Public Services  
(403) 873-7473







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-043

**Outfitter Charged for Hunting Infractions**

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 24) — Ram Head Outfitters Ltd. and its owner Stanley Simpson of Warburg, Alberta, have been charged with 34 offenses under the Territorial Wildlife Act.**

The charges were brought against the company and its owner by the Department of Renewable Resources Friday. Ram Head Outfitters holds a Class "A" outfitting licence for an area west of Norman Wells in the MacKenzie Mountains.

The charges allege a variety of offenses against the Territorial Wildlife Act which arose from incidents that took place during the 1993 hunting season.

They include allegations that the licensee provided outfitting services outside of its assigned area, that these offenses were not reported as required by the Wildlife Regulations and that harvest information required by the Department, for purposes of wildlife management, was either not provided or that some of it was falsified.

First appearance in Territorial Court for the company and Mr. Simpson is scheduled for July 4, 1994, in Norman Wells.

"Our action indicates the seriousness with which we view the responsibilities of outfitters granted licences to operate businesses that depend on the wildlife resource of the Northwest Territories," Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources Joe Handley said today, that the department's first responsibility is to the proper management of the wildlife resources.

He added that the department regrets any inconvenience the charges may create for clients or prospective clients of Ram Head Outfitters Ltd.

**Contact: Joseph Handley**  
Deputy Minister  
Dept. of Renewable Resources  
(403) 873-7420







## Press Information

# **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-044

### **Directors Hired To Assist Community Justice Groups**

**YELLOWKNIFE (June 24) — The Department of Justice has hired two directors to work with communities interested in becoming more involved in the justice system.**

Sue Heron-Herbert is the Director of the Community Justice Division. Ms. Heron-Herbert has worked for the past two years with the Department of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs as Manager of Claims Negotiation and Division Implementation. Prior to working for the government, she worked as a consultant for the Health and Social Services Committee of the Legislative Assembly, the Metis Nation of the Northwest Territories, and the Dene Nation. Ms. Heron-Herbert also held the position of Executive Director of Mackenzie Court Workers Services.

The Community Justice Division is responsible for assisting communities and regional groups in becoming more active in the justice system through activities such as crime prevention and diversion of cases to community justice committees instead of the courts.

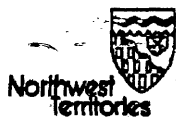
Len Davies will start in August as the Director of the Law Enforcement Division. Mr. Davies has worked in the corrections field for 15 years. He has been the Warden at the Baffin Correctional Centre for the past two years. Mr. Davies has also held the positions of Acting Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent of Programs, Group Worker and Acting Social Worker at the Saint John Regional Correctional Centre in New Brunswick and spent three years as a Police Officer in Woodstock, New Brunswick.

The Law Enforcement Division works closely with the RCMP who provide policing services under contract to the GNWT ensuring that services provided meet the needs of northerners. The division also works with communities and regions which wish to become more involved in their own policing arrangements.

**Contact: Nora Sanders**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Solicitor General Branch  
(403) 873-7005







## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-045

#### **Survey of Travellers in the NWT Begins**

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 5) — Travellers leaving the Northwest Territories by airplane or road will be asked to participate in a survey being conducted by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.**

The information collected this summer will help the department determine the size and nature of the travel industry. The questions will focus on how much money travellers spend in the NWT, what they purchase, how long they have been travelling in the NWT, and their assessment of the value and quality of northern products and services. The survey will also describe the purpose of each traveller's visit and identify their permanent place of residence.

"This particular survey is different from the previous one conducted five years ago," says Economic Development and Tourism Minister John Todd. "We were only concerned with tourists travelling in the NWT. This new questionnaire includes all travellers, including resident and business travellers."

Mr. Todd says the information will assist the government and private sector to identify the types of products, services and facilities required to service the travelling public, as well as target marketing efforts that will improve the quality of service for travellers.

Surveyors working on these questionnaires throughout the summer can be identified by their new uniforms. They will be wearing green t-shirts with the inscription 'Travel '94' emblazoned on the front. They will be approaching all travellers exiting the Northwest Territories on the Peel River Ferry; Highway 1 at Enterprise, Fort Providence; Highway 3 at Fort Liard; and at airport terminals in Rankin Inlet, Iqaluit, Inuvik, Fort Simpson, Yellowknife, Fort Smith and Hay River.

The last visitor's survey solicited information from tourists only and was conducted in 1989.

**Contact: Gary Singer**  
 Director, Policy, Planning &  
 Human Resources  
 (403) 873-7318

or

**Sue Enge**  
 Public Affairs Officer  
 Office of the Press Secretary  
 (403) 669-2241









## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-046

#### **Air Quality Guideline Approved**

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 5) — Renewable Resource Minister Silas Arngna'naaq is introducing a new guideline dealing with the emission levels for sulphur dioxide and dust in the air.**

"Most people do not consider quality of air as an element we must actively preserve - but it's one of our most precious resources. This guideline is designed to protect that quality," says Mr. Arngna'naaq.

According to the changes under the *NWT Environmental Protection Act*, representatives from industry, towns or government may be requested to take steps to reduce their sulphur dioxide or dust emissions if they cause levels in the air to exceed the new standards.

Under the guideline, levels of sulphur dioxide in the air should not exceed 150 micrograms per cubic metre ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) over 24 hours, 450  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  per hour or 30  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  annually. They are the same standards established by the Canadian government. The maximum level for Total Suspended Particulate, (dust, woodsmoke, and automobile exhaust) is 120  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  during a 24 hour period or 60  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  each year.

Sulphur dioxide or TSP levels below these standards provide sufficient protection against effects on soil, water, vegetation, materials, animals, visibility, personal comfort and well being.

"At this point the guideline only calls for voluntary control measures from polluters. But we are prepared to take a harder line to enforce the standards if the need arises," Mr. Arngna'naaq adds. "We are fortunate to live in an environment that remains largely unpolluted."

Local businesses, industry officials, government and the general public were provided the opportunity last January to examine and comment on the proposed guideline. It was formally adopted under the *Environmental Protection Act* this month.

**Contact: Joe Handley**  
Deputy Minister  
Department of Renewable Resources  
(403) 873-7420

or

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 669-2241

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Office of the Press Secretary • Government of the Northwest Territories  
Box 1320 • Yellowknife • NWT  
Telephone (403) 669-2302 • FAX (403) 873-0301



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## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-047

#### **Hay River Group Home Review Completed**

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 6) — Terminating a group home contract in Hay River was the only "logical and reasonable option" available to the Department of Social Services, according to an independent review released here today.**

The review into circumstances that led to the termination of the contract between the department and Jane and Richard Groenewegen of Greenway Holdings Ltd. was conducted by Yellowknife lawyer Donald Cooper, Q.C.

"I am convinced that the relationship between the department and the group home parents had disintegrated beyond repair," Cooper explains. "As a result, the group home could not fulfil its function nor intended purpose of providing care for certain children in need."

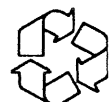
The report also notes that proper procedures were followed in terminating the contract and dismisses the opinion of the contractor that termination provisions of the document were ambiguous.

"Quite simply, I am of the opinion that there is no ambiguity whatsoever regarding the termination provisions and that notice was lawfully given" Cooper states.

The final report was presented to the Minister of Social Services Nellie Cournoyea earlier this week.

In addition to its conclusions, the report lists a number of recommendations that deal with defining the role of the group home in a more precise manner and the need for more structure governing the relationship between social workers and group home parents.

**Contact: Ken Lovely**  
Deputy Minister of Social Services  
(403) 873-7119







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-048

**NWT Officials Meet with Diamond Industry Representatives**

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 8) — Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Minister John Todd headed a delegation of Northwest Territories representatives to London, England and Antwerp, Belgium recently to meet with international leaders in the diamond industry to gain an understanding of how the industry operates.**

Members of the Northwest Territories delegation included:

- Mr. Michael Ballantyne, MLA, Yellowknife North
- Mr. Kelvin Ng, MLA, Kitikmeot
- Mr. Graham Nicholls, Deputy Minister, Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources

The delegation met some of the most important independent diamond dealers, brokers and bankers in the industry, with processors and evaluators of diamonds, with the Governor of the Province of Antwerp and the Diamond High Council. They also visited research centres and diamond sorting, cutting and polishing facilities. Meetings were also held with senior executives of the largest producer of diamonds in the world, De Beers and its diamond marketing agency, the Central Selling Organization.

"The diamond industry is unique and complex. The Government of the Northwest Territories will be facing important decisions in relation to the mining and marketing of diamonds and we need to gain a better understanding of the entire industry before these projects go ahead," says Mr. Todd.

The Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources is planning a further fact finding mission to Botswana, Africa and Australia in early fall to view operating diamond mines and meet with diamond producers, government officials, and environmental and aboriginal groups.

Mr. Todd says that these meetings will provide important background information for the GNWT during the public panel review of the BHP Minerals Diamond Mine Project expected to be established later this year.

**Contact: Richard Bargery**  
Executive Assistant  
Minister of Energy, Mines  
& Petroleum Resources  
(403) 669-2377

or

**Graham Nicholls**  
Deputy Minister  
Department of Energy, Mines  
& Petroleum Resources  
(403) 873-7224







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-049

**Celebrity Athletes to Encourage Students to Stay in School**

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 14) — Celebrity athletes from Canada, the United States and Puerto Rico will be in Norman Wells from July 14 to 17 to encourage local students to stay in school.**

Athletes who will be travelling to Norman Wells to participate in the Arctic Sportsman Weekend include:

- Ted DiBiase, the World Wrestling Federation's "The Million Dollar Man"
- Scotty "The Bulldog" Olsen, Canada's World Flyweight Boxing Contender
- Benny Ayala, former the Baltimore Orioles and New York Mets Baseball Great
- Susan Auch, Canadian Speedskating Star, 1994 Olympic silver medal winner
- Dave MacEachern, 1994 World Cup Champion Bobsledder and two time Olympian
- Dennis Marineau, member of the 1994 Canadian Olympic Bobsled Team and Canadian National Track and Field Team
- Jill Hamilton, member of the 1994 Canadian Olympic Biathlon Team
- Sharon Firth, past member of the Canadian Olympic Cross-Country Ski Team, who was born in Aklavik

The athletes will participate in a number of activities, including a stay in school rally with a picture and autograph session, celebrity softball game, golf tournament, swimming pool grand opening and party, town barbeque and the Great Arctic Sportsman Dinner and Auction. More than 300 professional and minor sports teams and organizations were contacted and asked to donate autographed memorabilia, and the items will be auctioned off. The money raised by the auction and other events will be used to establish a Sahtu Kids Educational Fund to benefit youth in the region. Major supporters of the auction include the National Football League, World Wrestling Federation, National Hockey League, Canadian Football League, National Basketball Association and Major League Baseball.

"The Arctic Sportsman Weekend will be an excellent opportunity for students to have fun, while hearing well-known athletes talk about the importance of education," says Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. "The entire community is to be congratulated for working together to encourage students to stay in school."

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## **Celebrity Athletes to Encourage Students to Stay in School: Page 2**

The Arctic Sportsman Weekend is being organized by a team of volunteers in Norman Wells, who are running the event strictly on donations. Organizations such as Canadian North Airlines, Mack Travel, North-Wright Air, InterProvincial Pipelines, Imperial Oil, Territorial Catering, Canadian Helicopters, Island Valley Oil and the Town of Norman Wells have donated the goods and services for the weekend's events. They have also contributed to fishing trips and sightseeing tours to Colville Lake and Deline on Friday, July 15, for the celebrities. Kids and residents of both Colville Lake and Deline are encouraged to meet the celebrities when they visit these communities. The celebrities will be donating their time, waiving any appearance fees, in order to communicate the importance of education to students and their parents.

**Contact: Andy Short**  
Apprenticeship Officer  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 587-2566

**or Cathy Jewison**  
Co-ordinator, Public Affairs  
Education, Culture & Employment  
(403) 920-6222







INTERNAL TRADE



COMMERCE INTÉRIEUR

**AGREEMENT ON INTERNAL TRADE****SUMMARY****July 18, 1994**

*For any additional information, contact The Internal Trade Secretariat at: (613) 954-3556*

## AGREEMENT ON INTERNAL TRADE

### SUMMARY

The **Agreement on Internal Trade** signed by **First Ministers on July 18, 1994** is the culmination of work begun by trade ministers in November 1987.

The **Agreement** is based on the operating principle that Canadian governments should ensure the free movement of persons, goods, services and investments across the country. It is comprised of six parts:

- I. a **general section**, which lays down the broad principles of application and definitions of key terms used;
- II. an **affirmation of constitutional rights** and responsibilities;
- III. a **general rules section**, which sets out the obligations for activities governed by the specific sectoral chapters;
- IV. a **specific rules section**, which sets out the particular ways in which the rules apply in the ten sectors covered by the Agreement;
- V. a section that sets out the **administrative provisions** and the **dispute resolution procedures**; and
- VI. a final section that identifies **general exceptions** and other provisions related to the operation of the **Agreement**.

The main elements of the Agreement are:

#### 1. A General Rules Framework (Chapter Four)

- The key rules are **non-discriminatory treatment** (Article 401), **free movement across provincial and territorial boundaries** (Article 402) and a prohibition on measures that operate as **unnecessary obstacles to trade** (Article 403 and Article 404).
- Other rules provide for the **reconciliation of regulations and standards-related measures** (Article 405) and for increased **transparency** (Article 406).

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## 2. Dispute Avoidance and Resolution Procedures

- The approach emphasizes dealing with problems in their **early stages**, through **informal contacts and consultations**, to prevent them becoming outright disputes.
- Procedures directly appropriate to the conditions in a particular sector are incorporated in sector chapters.
- A general dispute resolution procedure (Chapter 17) is elaborated to deal with disputes that cannot be settled at the sectoral level.
- Governments and, in certain circumstances, persons are able to participate in the Agreement's dispute avoidance and resolution procedures.

## 3. A Commitment to Future Trade Liberalization

- Governments are still able enter into new, regional or more limited, trade liberalizing agreements (Article 1801).
- An Energy Chapter is to be completed by July 1, 1995. Additional sectors or activities for future negotiations may be identified by the Committee on Internal Trade. (Article 1811)
- Sector chapters also contain specific commitments to future negotiations.

## 4. A Standstill on New Barriers

- Introducing new barriers or raising existing barriers in areas subject to future negotiations is prohibited. (Article 1811 and Article 1808)

## 5. A Limited Number of General Exceptions

- The Agreement has a limited number of general exceptions, including Regional Economic Development (Article 1802), Aboriginal Peoples (Article 1803) and Culture (Article 1804).
- The Regional Economic Development exception is subject to disciplines designed to minimize the impact on trade.

## 6. Detailed Sectoral Chapters

### The Procurement chapter (Chapter Five):

- Expands on existing arrangements, comprehensively covering goods, services and construction;
- Improves transparency in the government tendering process, including an undertaking to use electronic systems to facilitate access for all Canadian suppliers;
- Will be extended to include procurement by municipalities, academic institutions, schools and hospitals (the "MASH" sector) within 2 years;
- Commits to engage negotiations to cover Crown Corporations over the next two years; and
- When implemented, will cover public sector procurement worth over \$48 billion.

### The Investment chapter (Chapter Six):

- Ensures non-discriminatory treatment of business enterprises irrespective of where the owners reside in Canada, where the head office is located and where the firm is incorporated;
- Prohibits of the use of local content, local purchasing, and sourcing requirements, with an exception only in exceptional circumstances;
- Has a Code of Conduct on Incentives that prohibits "poaching" (incentives that result in the relocation of existing operations) and establishes an annual reporting process on incentives; and
- Sets out a programme to work towards reconciling corporate registration and reporting requirements.

### The Labour Mobility chapter (Chapter Seven):

- Limits the use of residency requirements; and
- Establishes a process for mutual recognition of occupational qualifications and requirements.

- 4 -

**The Consumer-Related Measures and Standards chapter (Chapter Eight):**

- Provides a schedule for reconciling specific consumer protection measures and a framework for dealing with additional measures;
- Restricts use of local presence and residency requirements; and
- Eliminates differential fee structures for residents and non-residents.

**The Agricultural and Food Products chapter (Chapter Nine):**

- Makes trade barriers resulting from differences in agricultural regulations and standards that *do not have a policy basis* subject to the Agreement immediately and those *with a policy basis* subject to the disciplines of the Agreement by September 1, 1997; and
- Provides for a standstill on standards-based trade barriers that are not for sanitary or phytosanitary purposes.

**The Alcoholic Beverages chapter (Chapter Ten):**

- Introduces disciplines to address long standing issues related to beer, wine and other products; and
- Incorporates specific commitments to eliminate or to review certain non-conforming measures.

**The Natural Resources Processing chapter (Chapter Eleven):**

- Prohibits the introduction of new trade barriers.

**The Communications chapter (Chapter Thirteen):**

- Provides momentum for the creation of a single market for communications services and telecommunications facilities in Canada.

**The Transportation chapter (Chapter Fourteen):**

- Phases out certain existing barriers and places a standstill on new ones;
- Sets out a process for harmonizing operating rules generally and specific commitments related to motor carrier safety and operating rules and



- 5 -

administrative requirements (including eliminating operating authority requirements for extra-provincial trucking operations); and

- Provides for expanding coverage of municipal governments by July 1, 1996.

The **Environmental Protection** chapter (Chapter Fifteen):

- Helps to ensure balance between trade and environmental objectives;
- Provides for harmonizing measures related to environmental protection; and
- Is the first specific chapter on environmental protection to be included in an intergovernmental trade agreement.



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-051

**More Work Needs To Be Done on Overlap and Duplication  
To Reflect Northern Concerns**

**Yellowknife (July 19) — Premier Nellie Cournoyea says she supports the principle of reducing overlap and duplication by governments but that more work needs to be done to reflect the concerns of northerners.**

The Premier was in Ottawa yesterday at a First Ministers meeting where some jurisdictions signed off an Efficiency to the Federation Agreement and Action Plan. During the meeting, Ms. Cournoyea stressed that the NWT is not like the other parts of Canada and that we need an action plan that is tailored to our special needs.

"Before the Government of the Northwest Territories can agree to an action plan, federal proposals and objectives in areas such as environmental management, wildlife conservation and protection, and food inspection must be consistent with the provisions of land claims agreements," says Premier Cournoyea. "Aboriginal interests must be taken into account, especially in the areas of environment and wildlife."

Territorial officials and federal officials from the Government Renewal Secretariat will be working together to refine a joint action plan prior to federal Minister Marcel Massé's proposed visit to the North later this summer.

**Contact: Eric Nielsen**  
Deputy Minister  
Department of Finance  
(403) 873-7117

or

**Jean Guertin**  
Director, Fiscal Policy  
Department of Finance  
(403) 920-6374







**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-052

**Six Appointed to NWT Arts Council**

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 20) — Six northerners have been appointed to the NWT Arts Council, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment announced today.**

The Arts Council's mandate is to nurture and promote the arts in the Northwest Territories, and is made up of six members who are appointed by the Executive Council for a two-year term. Members are selected for their expertise in the arts, and represent the six regions of the NWT.

"These individuals bring to the Council a wide range of experience in the arts," Mr. Nerysoo says. "I look forward to the contributions they will make to enhancing artistic activities in the Northwest Territories."

The new members of Arts Council are:

- John Sabourin of Fort Simpson, A Dene visual artist who works in acrylic and oil paint, and pen and ink. He has been a featured artist at the Great Northern Arts Festival in Inuvik and has worked as a territorial representative for NWT carvings, prints and artwork at Expo '92 in Seville, Spain. Mr. Sabourin represents the Great Slave region.
- Gabriel Nirlungayuk of Pelly Bay, who has become one of the NWT's most successful performing artists. He is directly involved in the performing arts industry as both a traditional Inuit drummer and dancer, and as a contemporary performer. He has organized and coordinated groups of other NWT performers and has recorded, packaged and marketed his own music. Mr. Nirlungayuk represents the Kitikmeot region.
- Susan Rose of Inuvik, a noted visual artist and organizer of arts activities. She is a trained artist who has demonstrated strong organizational abilities, particularly in her work with the Holman Eskimo Co-operative as a craftshop manager, and in her work as a co-ordinator of the Great Northern Arts Festival. Ms. Rose represents the Mackenzie Valley and Delta region.
- Elisapi Davidee of Iqaluit, who has been extensively involved in the organization of Inuit cultural groups and activities, and is experienced and accomplished in the broadcast media. Ms. Davidee represents the Baffin region, where she is familiar with artists in all areas of the arts: visual, literary and performing.

## **Six Appointed to NWT Arts Council: Page 2**

- Michael Kusugak of Rankin Inlet, a well-known and well-respected writer of children's books who also has experience in arts administration, having managed the arts and crafts shop in Rankin Inlet and sat on the Canadian Eskimo Arts Council. Mr. Kusugak represents the Keewatin region.
- Vicki Tompkins of Yellowknife, a noted visual artist who works in watercolour and oil paint, and in three-dimensional sculpture. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in arts education, including drama, and has exhibited her own work in a number of individual showings. Ms. Tompkins represents Yellowknife.

The Council meets at least twice a year to advise the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment on issues and policies concerning the arts and artists, and to make recommendations on financial awards to NWT residents planning to undertake creative projects in the visual, literary and performing arts. In 1994, this program granted \$214,000 in funding to 37 projects. Applications for funding were received from 72 groups or individuals.

**Contact:** Peter Cullen  
Arts Liaison Coordinator  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-3103



***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

94-053

**Consultation Paper on Income Support Reform Released**

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 22) - A consultation paper intended to spark discussion on the reform of income support programs in the NWT has been released to the public, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment announced today.**

Creating Choices: Solving the Income Support Puzzle outlines the range of income support programs offered to NWT residents including social assistance, unemployment insurance, childcare and student financial assistance. The paper focuses on the needs of people, and looks at families and children, youth, adults, elders and the community.

"Preliminary consultations have shown that northerners want more productive lifestyles and alternatives to welfare -- such as training and jobs," Mr. Nerysoo says. "People have suggested this can be accomplished through improved access and stronger links between programs like childcare and job training."

The reform of income support programs is part of the initiative to reshape northern government which the GNWT has been carrying out for the past three years. In October of last year, the federal government also announced its plans to revamp Canada's social security programs, and is currently working with its provincial and territorial partners in developing options for reform.

"We want changes to income support programs in the NWT to reflect northern traditions and values, and we want northern people to have a say in that reform by putting their priorities and communities first," Mr. Nerysoo says.

Creating Choices will be circulated widely across the NWT and will be available in community offices, libraries and bookstores.

**Contact: Conrad Pilon**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Income Support Reform  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-6160



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## News Release/Communiqué

94-054

### Support for Emergency Preparedness in Northwest Territories

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 25) —** The federal government's contribution toward three projects to improve emergency preparedness in Northwest Territories was announced today by Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Secretary of State (Training and Youth) on behalf of Honourable David Collenette, Minister of National Defence, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness.

The projects include upgrading the communications equipment and facilities at the City of Yellowknife's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and purchasing a multi-purpose emergency response vehicle for Yellowknife, which carries extrication, rescue, and dangerous goods response equipment. The City of Yellowknife contributed to both projects.

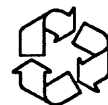
Also funded was the upgrading of communications equipment on the Hay River Reserve. The reserve now has a fully operational VHF communications system with a repeater and telephone interconnect which links the band office with vehicles, the RCMP, the Town of Hay River and government agencies.

"Good communications and appropriate equipment are often the key in saving lives and property in an emergency," said Ms. Blondin-Andrew. "I am delighted that the federal government is continuing its support for projects to improve emergency preparedness in northern communities."

Ms. Pat McMahon, Mayor of Yellowknife, who received the federal contribution on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories, said "federal JEPP funding has helped Yellowknife to be better prepared to meet our responsibilities to our citizens. I am pleased the federal government was able to contribute cost-sharing for these two important projects. A properly equipped EOC and a multi-purpose emergency response vehicle will enable the city to mount an appropriate response to a dangerous goods incident or any other emergency."

The federal government's contributions of \$80,000 toward the rescue vehicle for Yellowknife, \$2,480 toward the communications equipment for the Yellowknife

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## Support for Emergency Preparedness in Northwest Territories: Page 2

Emergency Operations Centre and \$12,513 for upgrading the communications equipment on the Hay River Reserve were provided under terms of the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) which enables the Government of Canada to contribute to — or to undertake jointly with the provinces and territories — emergency preparedness projects that enhance the national response capability.

This JEPP funding was provided for in the February 1994 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework. Today's announcement is an example of how the federal government is prioritizing its spending so that it can better serve Canadians by making efficient use of their tax dollars.

Since JEPP began in 1980, the federal government has contributed approximately \$1.7 million to Northwest Territories under the program, including today's announcement. In the Northwest Territories, the Emergency Measures Organization of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs administers the involvement of the Government of the Northwest Territories and municipalities' in JEPP.

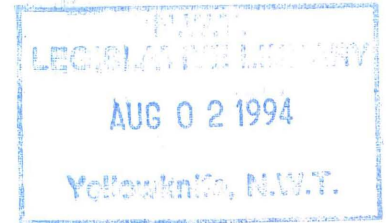
<b>Contact:</b> <b>Jim Hoffman</b>	<b>or</b>	<b>Eric Bussey</b>
Regional Director		Director
(Alberta and Northwest Territories)		Emergency Measures Organization
Emergency Preparedness Canada		Government of the NWT
(403) 495-3005		(403) 920-6133





Press Information

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



94-055

**Opportunities in the Mining and Mineral Exploration Industry  
Report Shows Businesses Have Room To Grow**

**YELLOWKNIFE (July 29) —** A study commissioned by the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources to identify NWT business potential within the mining and exploration industry shows that there is room for NWT businesses to capture more of the dollars spent.

The study found that in 1992 NWT operating mines expended \$207.5 million. Of that, only 17 per cent was spent in the NWT. Exploration companies spent \$11.4 million, with 29 per cent of the expenditures staying in the North.

John Todd, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources noted that, "there is plenty of room for the present and future expansion by NWT businesses and suppliers".

The study also indicated that some of the key factors that will determine just how much of this future business stays in the NWT rests with local business people and how aggressively and competitively they pursue these opportunities.

The report is available through the Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Mines and local Economic Development and Tourism offices. Copies may also be obtained from Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources.

**Contact: Bernie Scott**  
Socio-economic Advisor  
Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources  
(403) 920-6422







*Press Information*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-056

**Average Arsenic Levels Up**

**YELLOWKNIFE (August 4) — Levels of arsenic in Yellowknife air increased during 1993, according to a report released today by the Department of Renewable Resources.**

Arsenic levels rose to an annual average of 0.015 micrograms per cubic metre, up from previous averages that ranged between 0.006 to 0.010 from 1989 to 1992.

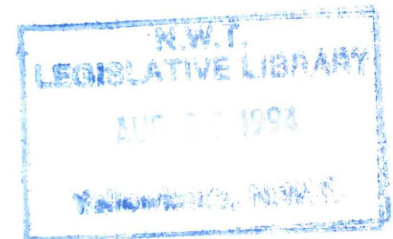
The information has been forwarded to Health Canada for assessment.

Levels of total arsenic in downtown Yellowknife air are routinely monitored by the department. The lowest levels of arsenic were measured during 1989 to 1992. Levels in 1993 were slightly less than they were in 1986.

The report notes that a survey of arsenic levels deposited in snow over the past winter shows that the highest concentration continues to be in the vicinity of Royal Oak Giant Mine.

Copies of the report can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Division at (403) 873-7654.

**Contact: Joe Handley**  
Deputy Minister  
Renewable Resources  
(403) 874-7420

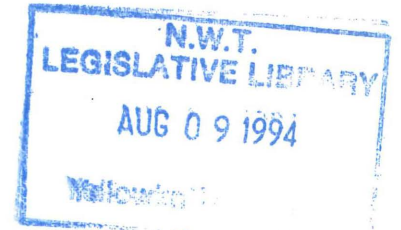




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## News Release/Communiqué

94-057



### Canada and Northwest Territories launch Strategic Initiative

**YELLOWKNIFE (August 8) —** The Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Secretary of State for Training and Youth, on behalf of the Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, federal Minister of Human Resources Development, and the Honourable Richard Nerysoo, Northwest Territories Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, today announced funding for a series of innovative projects to help social assistance recipients.

“Investing in People” is a two-year initiative which provides specialized counselling, career and employment development, life skills, on-the-job experience and education to social assistance recipients. The initiative has been designed to test new community-based employment development approaches across the Northwest Territories.

The federal and territorial governments are committed to jointly investing in people as a means of advancing Social Security Reform in the Northwest Territories and in Canada. The “Investing in People” initiative will be supported as a National Strategic Initiative, a key element of Social Security Reform. It provides governments with a unique mechanism to experiment with program designs that will support future policy development.

“This initiative is a major step forward in our efforts to help people on social assistance achieve self-sufficiency. “Investing in People” is an example of the commitment of government to renew and revitalize Canada’s social security system,” said Blondin-Andrew. “Today’s announcement reflects the commitment of both the federal government and the Government of the Northwest Territories to establish priorities in spending so that they can better serve Canadians by making efficient use of tax dollars.”

“Investing in People will create opportunities, primarily for aboriginal people, by involving community-based sponsors, including land claims groups, Arctic colleges, municipal governments and hunter/trapper associations,” said Nerysoo. “Through this initiative we will develop and test innovative models for training in remote northern communities which will bridge the traditional and modern wage economies.”

.../2

## **Canada and Northwest Territories launch Strategic Initiative: Page 2**

The total contribution from both levels of government for the two-year joint initiative will be up to \$8 million. These costs will be shared 50/50 between the federal and territorial governments, each contributing \$1 million for 1994/54 and \$3 million for 1995/96. Secretary of State Blondin-Andrew and Minister Nerysoo look forward to jointly evaluating the success of this initiative in the Northwest Territories.

The federal government's portion of this initiative's funding falls within the framework set in the February 1994 federal budget.

**Contacts: Alec Jasen**  
Minister Axworthy's Office  
(819) 994-2482

**Esther D'Amours**  
Strategic Initiatives  
Human Resources Development Canada  
(819) 952-5767

**David Gilday**  
Director  
Career Development  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7146



## Backgrounder

# “Investing in People” A Joint Strategic Initiative of the Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories

“Investing in People” is designed to help people gain control over their economic well-being by providing specialized career planning, counselling, career and employment development, life skills, on-the-job experience and upgrading services to social assistance recipients through community-based pilot projects. The initiative is innovative in that it creates new developmental opportunities for primarily Dene, Metis and Inuit social assistance recipients by using social assistance and an incentive allowance to create a productivity-based form of income support.

The projects which make up “Investing In People” involve community-based sponsors, including land-claims groups, Arctic colleges, municipal governments and hunter/trapper associations to develop and test new models for training social assistance recipients in remote northern communities. These projects will develop innovative models for bridging the traditional and modern wage economies found in northern territorial and provincial communities.

All of the projects will run for two years and costs will be shared equally between the federal and territorial governments.

### **The Projects**

The following projects make up the “Investing In People” Initiative developed by the federal and territorial governments under the Strategic Initiatives Program.

#### **Inuvik Region Work Activity Pilot**

In the Inuvik Region, the Gwich'in Tribal Council is delivering a work project which will provide education, life skills, and on the job training to 30 social assistance recipients.

In Inuvik, Tsiigehtchic (Arctic Red River), Fort McPherson and Aklavik participants will receive training in work related to the construction area. In Aklavik, specific training opportunities will be offered in care giving for the elderly, tourism, and security.

#### **Kitikmeot Work Activity Project**

In the Kitikmeot Region, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association is working with Arctic College to provide education, life skills training, and a variety of employment opportunities for 15 social assistance recipients in Cambridge Bay.

#### **Fort Smith Region**

In the Fort Smith Region, the community of Fort Resolution has recently reopened the saw mill. Trained workers are needed to support this activity. The Metis Association have also proposed a work activity project for this community. Developmental work is under way to combine these needs and provide the work training, education, life skills training and counselling services to social assistance recipients.



### **Baffin Work Activity Pilot**

In the Baffin Region, the Departments of Education, Culture and Employment, Social Services and Renewable Resources are working together to further develop resource-based projects which will also include education, life skills training and other types of work experience. They will be targeted to young social assistance recipients who have less than a Grade 10 education.

### **Keewatin Work Activity Pilot**

In the Keewatin Region, the Aiviit Hunters and Trappers Association is prepared to sponsor the Southampton Island Caribou Project in Coral Harbour.

With the involvement of the GNWT Departments of Education, Culture and Employment, Social Services, Renewable Resources and Economic Development and Tourism the project will provide education, life skills training, and on the land training to 10 social assistance recipients. Besides hunting, the participants will be trained in preparing the meat properly for sale commercially.

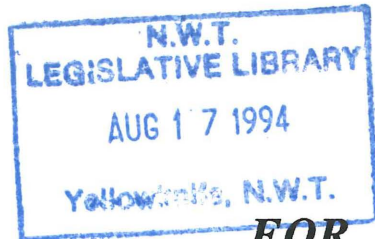
### **North Slave Region**

Initial meetings have taken place to develop a project which will take advantage of employment opportunities available in the North Slave Region, and will include a strong education and life skills development focus.

### **Northern Skills Development Program (NSDP)**

NSDP will provide adult basic education, life skills, traditional knowledge and work experience to 15 social assistance recipients in each of 10 communities. The NSDP Instructor, with the assistance of the Community Social Service Worker and a Career Development Officer will provide individualized support and assistance to the participants.

The NSDP pilot projects will start September, 1994 in: Iqaluit, Tuktoyaktuk, Pangnirtung, Deline, Arviat, Hay River, Baker Lake, Rae/Edzo, Gjoa Haven and Yellowknife.



## Press Information

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-058

### **Liquor Law Review Sparks new Ideas**

**YELLOWKNIFE (August 12) — Northerners have been flooding the Liquor Law Review with a host of suggestions about NWT liquor control practices.**

A consultation strategy was launched in June to seek public opinion on liquor legislation in the Northwest Territories.

"So far, the response has been tremendous", said project coordinator Alan Downe. "People are writing us letters, coming out to meetings, calling us on the phone and sending in questionnaires with their ideas about improving liquor control laws. I figure that, in one way or another, we've already heard from close to four hundred people".

Input has come from a range of sources and from all regions of the NWT. "We're hearing from liquor licensees and industry associations, but also from community leaders, elders and groups or individuals who have interesting ideas to share".

The consultation initiative is part of a comprehensive review of liquor legislation that is being carried out by the Department of Safety and Public Services.

Comments, to date, have focused on almost all aspects of the way liquor sales, distribution, possession and consumption is regulated in the Northwest Territories.

A frequent concern has been raised about illegal liquor sales taking place in many communities. "Almost everywhere we've gone, folks have been making it clear that they're fed up with bootleggers and that they want more effective legislation to help them deal with the problem", said Downe.

People have also brought up concerns over youth access to liquor, with many calling for the drinking age to be raised to 21 years. Other proposals have recommended that new legislation should restrict the sale of liquor to pregnant women.

There has been some interest in seeing expanded options for the control of liquor by community governments and through local plebiscites. Other comments have proposed revamped systems for licensing and inspecting bars, new rules for off-sales and closing hours, more effective ID cards, increased public education and better control over cleansers or health products that contain alcohol.

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## **Liquor Law Review Sparks new Ideas: Page 2**

"There has been no shortage of input", said Downe. "We're hoping that people will keep on contacting us and telling us what's on their minds. I'm sure there are still lots of ideas about how liquor control systems can be made better".

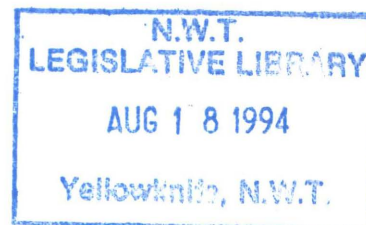
Proposals for changing the Liquor Act will be outlined in a Legislative Action Paper to be brought before MLAs later this year.

**Contact: Alan G. Downe**  
Safety & Public Services  
(403) 873-7365





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



94-059

**Workplace Review Announced**

**YELLOWKNIFE (August 17) — A workplace review has been established to examine the working environment provided in the Keewatin Regional Health Board administration based in Rankin Inlet.**

The announcement was made today by Premier Nellie Cournoyea, responsible for the departments of Health and Social Services, and Elizebeth Hourie Palfrey, chairperson of the board.

The independent review will be conducted by labour relations specialist Donald Munroe, Q.C., of Vancouver, a former chair of the Labour Relations Board of British Columbia.

His work is expected to be completed in October and will include recommendations dealing with the working environment for staff and its impact on delivery of services to clients. It will also review the application of government and health board policies and procedures as they relate to the investigation of human resource complaints at the Keewatin Regional Health Board.

**Contact: Art Sorensen**  
Press Secretary  
(403) 669-2302



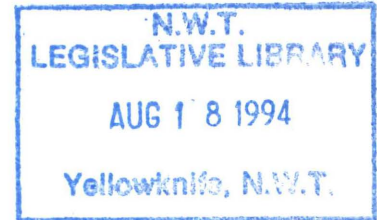




*Press Information*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-060



**Travel Diaries to Help Identify New Tourism Opportunities**

**YELLOWKNIFE (August 17) — This summer about 1000 tourists are being asked to complete a "diary" of their travel experiences in the Northwest Territories.**

The completed diaries will help communities, tourism operators and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism identify new opportunities, correct specific problems and measure tourism impacts within communities.

Tourists entering the Northwest Territories have been receiving the diaries since the beginning of August.

The diaries include a summary of tourists' daily expenditures on transportation, accommodation, food, crafts and other items, a record of what they did during their stay and what they liked or disliked about their visit. At the end of their trip, tourists will complete a report card on their visit.

As an incentive for tourists to return the completed diary, one entry will be randomly drawn for an all expense paid trip to the Northwest Territories worth up to \$5,000.

**Contact: Dan Westman**  
Manager, Economic Planning  
Department of Economic Development and Tourism  
(403) 873-7394

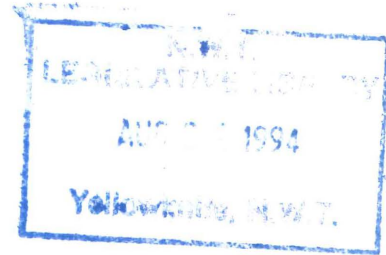








**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



94-061

**Negotiated Contract for Forest Fire Airtanker Services**

**YELLOWKNIFE (August 18) — Public Works and Services Minister Don Morin is expecting to complete negotiations with Fort Smith Dene-Metis Holdings Ltd. for the provision of facilities and services for Renewable Resources' Forest Fire Management Program by the end of November.**

Mr. Morin said today he is looking for a deal that will give "the best value" at a cost to government that is comparable to what it normally spends for airtanker services in the Northwest Territories. About \$ 5.5 million is spent annually on this service.

"We also want to make sure that construction and operating benefits of a new facility in Fort Smith remain in the Territories. That means a negotiated contract will have to reflect 100 per cent NWT ownership and investment, northern subcontractors, equipment and labour.

Renewable Resources Minister Silas Arngna'naaq said he expects completion of a negotiated contract will provide a significant opportunity for northern companies currently in the aviation industry that are interested in participating in the project.

The project would involve construction of airtanker hanger and maintenance facilities in Fort Smith. About 70 jobs would be provided during the one-year construction period. Between 25 to 60 jobs could be created after construction, depending on the amount of other business opportunities resulting from the facility.

**Contact: Bob Doherty**  
Deputy Minister  
Public Works and Services  
(403) 873-7114









**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-062

**Mercury Found in Fish from Giauque and Thistlethwaite Lakes**

**YELLOWKNIFE (August 31) — Trace levels of mercury have been found in fish from Giauque and Thistlethwaite Lakes by Health Canada. Based on the level of mercury found, occasional consumption of fish from these lakes does not pose a health hazard to consumers.**

The lakes are located 85 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife and are mainly used for sport fishing.

The mercury contamination was discovered during a Health Canada evaluation of fish collected from a study carried out under the Arctic Environmental Strategy by the Water Resources Division, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

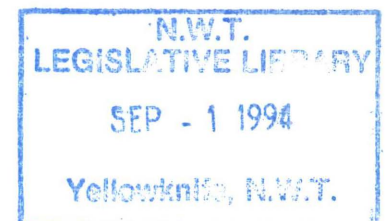
The Department of Health and Social Services advises people to limit the quantity of fish they eat from these lakes. No more than one fillet per week of lake trout or northern pike should be eaten from Thistlethwaite Lake. Whitefish and suckers can be eaten in any quantity because of their low fat content. Mercury collects in fat.

Because of a slightly higher concentration of mercury in Giauque Lake, consumption of fish from this lake should be further limited to one fillet every two weeks.

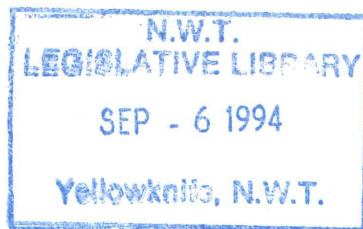
Under the Arctic Environmental Strategy, a priorities committee made up of aboriginal organizations and federal and territorial officials determines when and how waste sites across the North should be cleaned up. As there is no known reclamation process to remove mercury from lakes and the contamination does not pose a health risk as long as consumption is limited, the committee has decided that higher priority sites will be dealt with first.

The source of the mercury is the Discovery Mine which operated from 1946 to 1969. Mercury was used in the mine's milling process. Mercury escaped to the tailings areas and was also vented up the stack. In 1965, a dam on the tailings containment area was breached and tailings were deposited directly into Giauque Lake.

**Contact: Jack MacKinnon**  
Head, Environmental Health  
Department of Health and Social Services  
(403) 873-7061







## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-063

#### **Changes To Early Childhood Program Come Into Effect**

**YELLOWKNIFE (September 1) — A number of changes to the Department of Education, Culture and Employment's \$2.3 million Early Childhood Program (the former Child Day Care Program) will come into effect on September 1, Minister Richard Nerysoo announced today.**

"These changes respond to concerns expressed during consultations the Department has carried out over the past year, including last fall's symposium which brought together more than 80 people working in the field of child care and early childhood education," Mr. Nerysoo says. "The changes are also based on the experiences of staff in managing the program since the interim program came into effect in 1989."

The changes strengthen the support provided by the program and improve access to child care services. The following changes come into effect on September 1:

- The user subsidy available to assist parents in accessing early childhood programs is being expanded to include parents who are employed or training part-time and require part-time child care. This assistance will also be available to parents who are not employed or involved in training, but whose children are at risk and would benefit from a program of early intervention.

The User Subsidy will now be based on a means test, rather than an income test, so that families will be treated more equitably according to their means and the cost of child care.

- Contributions to assist with the start-up costs of early childhood programs will be enhanced to promote more openings in the communities for infants and children requiring additional support. This contribution will also now be available to assist with the start-up of part-time and after-school programs.

- Contributions supporting the on-going costs of operating early childhood programs will also be enhanced. More funding will be available for programs which provide for early intervention and the development of infants and children with special needs, as well as for those which operate part-time and after school. The contributions will be made quarterly and in advance, based on anticipated attendance.

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## **Changes To Early Childhood Program Come Into Effect: Page 2**

To encourage the operators of early childhood facilities to hire qualified staff, Education, Culture and Employment is proposing to introduce wage enhancements for people who work in licensed programs and to work in partnership with Arctic College to offer a diploma or certificate program in Early Childhood Education in 1995. Before this latter change is implemented, however, the Department will further consult with stakeholders to develop a comprehensive and community-based training program for child care providers, which will be available to people across the N.W.T.

Education, Culture and Employment is also working with the Department of Health and Social Services to develop new approaches which will promote community-based early childhood development in general, and will increase the territorial government's support for early intervention programs for children at risk.

"While parents have the primary responsibility for child care, we also understand that access to child care services is essential if northerners are to be able to work or take education and training programs," Mr. Nerysoo says. "We also know the importance of the early years to a child's overall development and must ensure high quality early childhood programs -- quite simply, they are an investment in our future.

"Consultations with interest groups and those directly involved in providing child day care services has indicated that to achieve these goals our current support programs must be changed. We will continue to consult with our stakeholders as the program evolves and improves," Mr. Nerysoo adds.

**Contact: David Gilday**  
Director, Career Development  
Education, Culture and Employment  
873-7146





**CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT STEERING COMMITTEE**

P.O. BOX 2940  
4908 - 48TH STREET  
YELLOWKNIFE N.W.T.

X1A 2R2

Telephone: 403-873-4440  
Facsimile: 403-873-9298

**NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

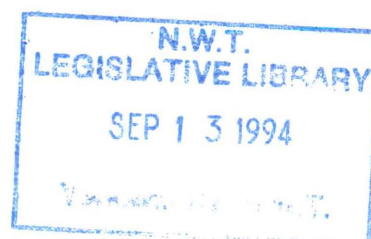
**Joe Clark to Chair Western NWT Constitutional  
Conference**

Yellowknife (September 9, 1994) The Right Honourable Joe Clark will Chair this fall's First Constitutional Conference leading to the creation of a new western territory.

Fred Koe, Chairman of the Constitutional Development Steering Committee, the group which is guiding the western NWT constitutional process, made the announcement today in Yellowknife.

"Mr. Clark is an eminent Canadian and a respected statesman, both in Canada and internationally. The work to be done at the Conference is significant and requires someone with his skill, background and experience. As former Prime Minister and later, when he presided over the Charlottetown Accord talks, he became familiar with aboriginal and constitutional issues. He gained considerable knowledge and insight through his work with federal, provincial and territorial Ministers and aboriginal leaders. During the talks, he performed effectively, with considerable heart, and earned the respect of northern leaders," said Mr. Koe.

Mr. Clark is currently the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for Cypress. He has also served as Secretary of State for External Affairs and as President of the Privy Council.



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Mr. Clark recently established Joe Clark and Associates, in partnership with the international accounting firm Ernst & Young and the Alberta law firm Milner Fenerty. Based in Calgary, the firm will provide advice and counsel to Canadians interested in business opportunities internationally and to foreign companies interested in Canada.

"I am honoured to be invited to assume this role in the evolution of the constitutional process in the NWT," said Mr. Clark, in accepting the position.

The First Constitutional Conference is scheduled to take place in Yellowknife, from November 28-December 2, 1994. Approximately 150 participants from western NWT communities will attend. A process for participant selection is being developed by the CDSC, which will hold a round of community information meetings prior to the Conference to help people become familiar with the themes and issues that will be discussed.

**CONTACT:**

Fred Koe, CDSC Chairperson  
669-2268

Steve Iveson, Executive Director  
Charles McGee, Assistant Director  
Sharon Hall, Communications Director  
873-4440



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-064

**Commissioner For Oaths And Notary Public Application Fees Increase**

**YELLOWKNIFE (September 12) — Application fees will increase effective September 15 for people wishing to become a commissioner for oaths or notary public.**

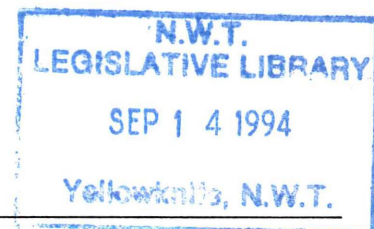
The application fees have not been increased since they were introduced in 1968. The increase, ranging from \$45 to \$70, will bring the fees in line with fees charged in other jurisdictions.

The fees apply to all applicants, including territorial and federal government departments who were previously exempted.

Commissioner for oaths and notary public appointments normally last three years. Articling law students who are appointed notaries public while they are articling and lawyers who are appointed notaries public while practising law in the NWT do not need to renew their terms.

The new application fee to be appointed or reappointed a commissioner for oaths will be \$50. The fee to be appointed or reappointed a notary public will be \$75.

**Contact:** Nancy Robert  
Administrator  
Commissioners for Oaths and Notaries Public Program  
Department of Justice  
(403) 873-7424



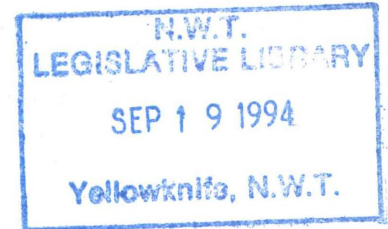






**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-065



**NWT Women Encouraged to Take Control of Their Health**

**YELLOWKNIFE (September 15) — A series of educational materials developed by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Status of Women Council of the NWT encourage women to take a more active role in their own health.**

The materials have been developed under the Women's Health Project in consultation with health care providers, consumers and social agencies. The three-year project was initiated in 1992 to address some of the health concerns of northern women.

The theme of the project, *It's Your Body, It's Your Health, It's Your Decision*, reinforces the right and responsibility of each woman to take care and control in personal health matters.

The first stage of the project focused on the development of pamphlets, a video and television public service announcements. The pamphlets address the issues of self-esteem, health rights and responsibilities, and safer sex. They are available in English, French and Inuktitut. An audio tape of the self-esteem pamphlet has also been produced in English, French and Inuktitut. A video titled *Our New Sexuality: Living with HIV/AIDS* is based on a workshop conducted with northern women in which they explore their feelings and experiences related to the influence and pressures of HIV/AIDS in their environment. Five television public service announcements have also been produced to raise awareness of the risk of unsafe sex practices and to encourage communication between women and their sexual partners on the issues of STDs and AIDS.

First stage materials are now being sent to women's groups, health care providers, friendship centres, social service workers and schools across the North.

The second stage of the project will build on information developed in the first stage paying particular attention to adolescent women and well women care.

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## **NWT Women Encouraged to Take Control of Their Health: Page 2**

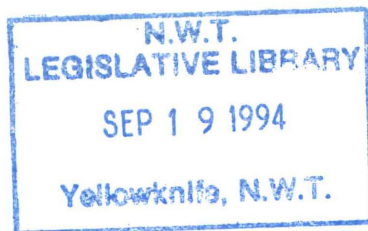
Stage two materials are currently being produced in partnership with the Yellowknife YWCA, Native Women's Association of the NWT and the Canadian Cancer Society/NWT. The materials include a self-esteem video aimed at adolescent women, a video on preventing breast and cervical cancers, and a poster promoting the use of traditional knowledge in prenatal care.

Stage two materials will be available in the spring of 1995.

**Contact: Lou Richard**                      **or**  
Acting Manager, Health Promotion  
Health and Social Services  
(403) 873-7559

**Lynn Brooks**  
Executive Director  
Status of Women Council of the NWT  
(403) 920-6177





## Press Information

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-066

#### **'Developing An Enterprising Spirit'**

**YELLOWKNIFE (September 16) — Communities across the North are gearing up for Community Government Week September 26 - October 2. Boxes of posters, information kits and newsletters have already been mailed to local councils, schools and government offices to help organize events.**

Community Government Week is held each year to promote the awareness and understanding of the role and importance of community government.

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs has been working with the NWT Association of Municipalities each year to help communities prepare and plan events and activities.

"Community Government Week is a time to pay tribute to the tremendous efforts community leaders are making toward improving the quality of life in the communities. The process of taking more control and responsibility over governing at the community level has begun. Now it's time to encourage others to also play a part in that transition," says Rebecca Mike, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.

The theme 'Developing An Enterprising Spirit', draws attention to innovative ways entrepreneurs, local businesses or development corporations are using to enhance their local economy.

"When individuals show an energetic nature towards creating new opportunities for themselves or the larger community, the results prove to be tremendously positive," says Pat McMahon, President of the NWT Association of Municipalities. "It's the level of enthusiasm or the enterprising spirit that creates a brighter future within a community and that sometimes determines its very well-being."

The information kits house suggestions for organizing community events. There are tips for planning a local community government week in the community from passing a council resolution, establishing a planning committee, to appointing an overall coordinator. A sample council resolution is enclosed, as well as an order form for requesting certificates of appreciation for volunteers who help organize local events and activities.

The kits also include activity suggestions for schools. They include tips on organizing a poster contest, display, mock council meeting, councillor/municipal worker-for-a-day, open house, trivia contest, meet the council or a school play.

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**'Developing An Enterprising Spirit': Page 2**

Activity suggestions for local councils, groups or organizations have also been provided. They include suggestions for holding an open house, council's breakfast, career fair, councillor-for-a -day, displays and demonstrations, mock council meeting, community feast, and sporting events.

Community Digest, a newsletter produced in both English and Inuktitut for Community Government Week, is being distributed throughout the Northwest Territories. It presents a collage of stories that display how communities are showing an enterprising spirit for creating new economic opportunities within their own community. The newsletter will be distributed in two northern papers: Nunatsiaq News and News/North.

**Contact: Brian Burrill**  
Municipal & Community Affairs  
(403) 920-6308

**or Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
Department of the Executive  
(403) 669-2241

Languages Commissioner of the N.W.T.

Commissaire aux langues des T.N.-O.  
UQAUHLIRINIRMUT KAMISINAUYUQ NUNATTIARMI  
Júhdá Hínéné Gogha Xədə Hek'éyədihádi  
Jadızı Nēne Xa Yatı K'eyı?ı  
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Pikiskwiwineh Okimaw Kiwitin Ohci



## NEWS RELEASE

### OFFICE OF THE LANGUAGES COMMISSIONER OF THE NWT

#### **Supreme Court of Canada Decision on The Right of Accused to Competent Interpretation in Criminal Trials**

Yellowknife, N.W.T. (September 30, 1994). Ms Betty Harnum, the NWT Languages Commissioner, declared that "the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision on the right of accused to competent interpretation in Criminal trials has major implications for people of the Northwest Territories". The right to the assistance of an interpreter is guaranteed by Section 14 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, whenever a party or witness does not speak or understand the language of proceedings. This applies to any language. This is the first time that this section has been considered by the Supreme Court, so they issued 75 pages of reasons.

The decision says, in summary, that:

1. The accused in criminal proceedings has the right to interpretation that is:
  - a) competent (that is, by someone trained to do court interpreting);
  - b) accurate (that is, that the details of the original and the interpretation must be the same, nothing should be added or changed);
  - c) impartial (that is, done by someone who does not have any conflict of interest with the case or any party in the case);

- d) contemporaneous (that is, the interpretation must occur immediately after the original, and not be delayed for long periods; eg. question is asked, interpretation follows immediately; answer is given, interpretation follows immediately);
- e) complete (that is, everything that is said in the original must be interpreted).

The court said that these rules must be followed precisely for indictable (serious) offences, but that for summary (less serious) convictions the standards may be a little more relaxed. The Court said they were not asked to consider interpretation for civil or administrative proceedings, but that different rules might apply. The costs of such interpretation are usually paid by the courts for accused persons and witnesses, but the courts do not always pay the costs of interpretation in civil or administrative proceedings.

The Languages Commissioner is pleased that these standards have been established for court interpretation. "The NWT is one of the few jurisdictions in Canada to have excellent training programs for interpreters and translators especially for native languages. There are courses at Arctic College, in the departments of Justice, Health and Social Services, as well as some on the job training at Language Bureau" said Ms Harnum. "We can be proud of these accomplishments" she said. "Even the Supreme Court of Canada recognizes their importance".

**For more information, call Betty Harnum or Benoît Boutin at 1-800-661-0889 or 873-7034 at Yellowknife.**





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-067

**Public Service Announcements Encourage Healthy Sexual Practices**

**YELLOWKNIFE (September 30) - A new series of television public service announcements produced by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Status of Women Council of the NWT encourage women to make healthy decisions when it comes to having sex.**

The five public service announcements have been produced to raise awareness of the risk of unsafe sex practices and to encourage communication between women and their sexual partners on the issues of STDs and AIDS.

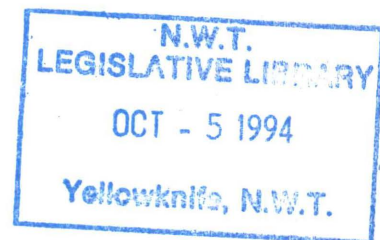
The public service announcements tackle the issues of the right to say no, the right to use protection, what sexually transmitted diseases are, how to prevent transmission, and how parents can address the issue of sexually transmitted diseases with their children.

The commercials will be aired for the first time during National AIDS Awareness Week, October 3 to 9, on TVNC and CBC North.

**Contact: Laurie Vallillee**  
Senior Health Promotion Consultant  
Health and Social Services  
(403) 873-7313

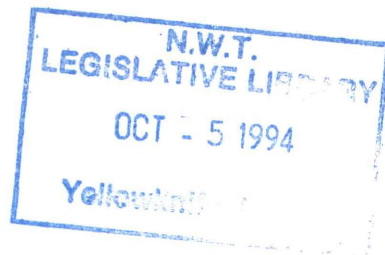
or

**Lynn Brooks**  
Executive Director  
Status of Women Council of the NWT  
(403) 920-6177









94-068

## LITERACY PROJECTS RECEIVE FUNDING

**YELLOWKNIFE (October 1)**- Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Richard Nerysoo and Joyce Fairbairn, federal minister with responsibilities for literacy, have marked the beginning of NWT Literacy Week, October 1 to 8, by announcing 35 literacy projects that will receive funding for 1994/95.

"I am pleased to celebrate NWT Literacy Week by recognizing the commitment and dedication of community organizations and northern residents in improving literacy rates," Nerysoo said.

"The Community Literacy Projects Fund enables each community to set its own priorities in the area of literacy, and then address those priorities in a way that is locally appropriate," he added.

Senator Fairbairn noted the federal government's contribution of \$250,000 to Arctic College will provide literacy programs to Northerners wanting to improve their skills. She added that the partnership between the federal government, the Government of the Northwest Territories and Arctic College has built an important range of literacy programs and services throughout the NWT.

Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Secretary of State for Training and Youth, joined Nerysoo and Fairbairn in congratulating the recipients of the grants.

"The \$100,000 grant to the NWT Literacy Council will enable the Council to provide support and leadership for the literacy community, and to organize activities such as the NWT Literacy Week for the benefit of the people of the Territories," she stated.

The Government of the Northwest Territories, through the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and the Government of Canada, through the National Literacy Secretariat, cost-share projects in support of literacy throughout the Northwest Territories.

Joint funding between the Federal and Territorial governments provides approximately \$700,000 for literacy initiatives throughout the Northwest Territories. NWT Literacy Week celebrations include a territorial-wide writing contest and a "read for fifteen minutes" event, as well as a number of locally organized activities.

### CONTACT:

**Mark Cleveland**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7252

**Yvette Souque**  
Program Consultant  
National Literacy Secretariat  
(819) 953-5286



## LITERACY PROJECTS 1994

The following projects are funded jointly by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and the National Literacy Secretariat.

### BAFFIN REGION

COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:

The **Baffin Regional Agvvik Society** in Iqaluit has received \$21,080 to deliver a literacy and life skills program for women who are involved with the Qimaavik shelter. The project is designed to enable the women to comfortably use their skills in the community and improve their educational and employment options.

The **Baffin Divisional Board of Education** in Cape Dorset has received \$11,000 for an individualized basic education program. The program is an alternative to formal classroom education for young adults who have dropped out of school, providing them with the skills to re-enter the system.

COORDINATED BY ARCTIC COLLEGE:

**Arctic Bay, Broughton Island, Cape Dorset, Clyde River, Hall Beach, Igloolik and Pond Inlet** - \$25,000 to deliver basic level Inuktitut reading and writing instruction.

**Grise Fiord** - \$20,000 to deliver literacy instruction in a multi-level learning environment with small group activities tailored to individual needs.

**Iqaluit** - \$5,685 to develop and field test literacy promotional booklets for children.

### DEHCHO REGION

COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:

The **Jean Marie River Dene Band Council** has received \$16,200 to deliver a literacy class for adult residents who want to increase their level of formal education.

### INUVIK REGION

COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:

The **Native Women's Training Centre** in Inuvik has received \$28,684 to deliver a full-time literacy and life skills program to assist unemployed people who wish to enter or re-enter the workforce. This has been a successful program for a number of years.

The **Ingamo Hall Friendship Centre** in Inuvik has received \$17,880 to train volunteer tutors and facilitate their interaction with adult residents, as well as to coordinate literacy public awareness activities. This project will involve more than 50 people in literacy activities.

The **Aklavik Gwich'in Band** has received \$15,000 to deliver a part-time literacy class for 20 weeks to unemployed older adults. The goals of this project are to improve students' employment opportunities and to provide an opportunity for elders to improve their English communication skills.

COORDINATED BY ARCTIC COLLEGE:



Gwich'in, Sahtu and Inuvialuit Communities - \$45,000 to deliver work specific literacy training which will be incorporated into the workplace for 10 participants in each community.

#### KEEWATIN REGION

COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:

The **Sappujjijit Friendship Centre** in Rankin Inlet has received \$25,712 to provide a broad spectrum of literacy programs. Sappujjijit will operate a drop-in literacy program for young women and their children, train volunteer tutors and facilitate their interaction with adult residents. They will also advocate on behalf of literacy in the community by providing services and activities which foster public awareness of literacy issues.

The **Whale Cove Training Advisory Committee** has received \$12,000 to provide a 12-week literacy program for adult residents and produce a monthly newsletter.

#### KITIKMEOT REGION

COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:

The **Cambridge Bay Centennial Library** has received \$18,272 to carry out two family literacy programs in conjunction with each other. One is for parents and grandparents who want to help their children through school, but lack the literacy skills to do so. The other program is designed to help these children develop oral language skills in both Inuinnaqtun and English.

The **Pelly Bay Community Education Council** will receive \$3,000 towards a literacy program that will develop a larger and more skilled workforce.

COORDINATED BY ARCTIC COLLEGE:

**Cambridge Bay** - \$11,400 for a program to work with small groups of adults who have a limited ability to read and write in English or Inuinnaqtun.

**Coppermine** - \$17,200 for a basic literacy program to be provided for adults with special needs to prepare students to enter more advanced programs of study.

**Coppermine** - \$5,400 to deliver a literacy program for elders focused on speaking, reading and writing in English.

**Gjoa Haven** - \$9,724 to assist learners in developing learning materials that focus on the community and use both daily and traditional activities as topics.

#### NORTH SLAVE REGION

COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:

The **Rae-Edzo School Society** has received \$24,580 to deliver a community-based English literacy program. The program will encourage an integrated learning experience for all participants by training and coordinating tutors, organizing work placements for learners and developing new literacy materials.

The **Yellowknife Association for Community Living** has received \$10,300 to provide the opportunity for adults with intellectual disabilities at the Abe Miller Centre to expand their knowledge in the area of literacy.



**COORDINATED BY ARCTIC COLLEGE:**

**Ndilo** - \$23,820 for the Yellowknife Dene Band, the College and a general contractor to provide reading, writing and mathematical skills instruction using classroom and construction materials as well as work experience.

**Yellowknife, Ndilo and Dettah** - \$25,000 for the College, North Slave Career Centre and the Yellowknife Correctional Centre to work together to provide a storefront tutor, recruiting and matching centre and extend services to inmates, home care or hospitalized persons and seniors.

**Snare Lake** - \$25,000 to deliver two literacy projects.

**SAHTU REGION**

**COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:**

The **Fort Good Hope Community Education Council** has received \$19,400 to deliver a literacy program for adults and elders who want to acquire, develop and improve their literacy skills. This is the third consecutive year the project has been offered.

**SOUTH SLAVE REGION**

**COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:**

The **Soaring Eagle Friendship Centre** in Hay River has received \$15,800 for two literacy programs which will facilitate, encourage and assist adults who want to increase their reading and writing skills in English.

The **Mary Kaeser Library Board Literacy Program** in Fort Smith has received \$12,980 for a volunteer literacy tutoring program which will provide an opportunity for adults to upgrade their basic literacy skills.





COORDINATED BY ARCTIC COLLEGE:

**Fort Smith and various communities in the Western Arctic** - \$20,000 for the production of a promotional video encouraging youth and adults to stay in school or upgrade their existing level of education.

**Lutsel'ke** - \$10,000 for learners to write and illustrate a series of short booklets on aspects of traditional Chipewyan lifestyle in both Chipewyan and English.

#### SOUTH SLAVE/DEHCHO REGIONS

COORDINATED BY ARCTIC COLLEGE:

**Fort Simpson and Hay River** - \$14,250 for a literacy analysis to be performed in band offices, sawmills, the forestry industry and the marine industry to determine the literacy skills in various occupations.

**Fort Simpson, Fort Liard, Fort Smith, Lutsel'ke, Hay River, Hay River Reserve, Fort Providence and Fort Resolution** - \$21,700 for workshops that will be given in eight communities to enhance literacy skills and awareness. Participants will write scripts and deliver performances.

**Trout Lake and Wrigley** - \$11,800 for part-time women's literacy projects.

#### EASTERN ARCTIC

COORDINATED BY ARCTIC COLLEGE:

**Iqaluit (Arctic College Head Office East)** - \$50,000 for a curriculum specialist to develop, support and revise adult basic education curriculum in Inuktitut and English.

#### WESTERN ARCTIC

COORDINATED BY ARCTIC COLLEGE:

**Fort Smith (Arctic College Head Office West)** - \$50,000 for a curriculum specialist to develop, support and revise adult basic education curriculum in the Dene languages as well as English.

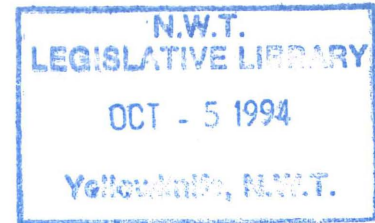
#### NORTHWEST TERRITORIES WIDE

COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:

**Read Canada NWT** has received \$7,860 to promote reading as a daily activity in the lives of children throughout the Northwest Territories. Projects will include forming and operating reading circles throughout the Northwest Territories, as well as the organization of other special events that promote reading.

The **NWT Literacy Council** has received \$3,500 to cover part of the cost of publishing selected writing submitted to the 1992 NWT Writing Contest. One thousand copies of the publication Northern Writes '93 will be distributed to schools, adult learning centres and libraries.





94-069

## **Northwest Territories Calls on Ottawa to Share in the Cost of the National Highway Program**

**YELLOWKNIFE (October 3) - Northwest Territories' Transportation Minister John Todd is urging the federal government to provide leadership in the implementation of a National Highway Program.**

The National Highway Policy Study, completed in 1992, resulted in a consensus of all provincial and territorial governments and the federal government concerning the definition of the 25,000 km National Highway System, design and operation standards, and the needs of each jurisdiction. The study also proposed a cost-sharing formula between governments.

"We have all the elements in place for a National Highway System except Ottawa's funding commitment," said Todd. "The federal government receives \$4.5 billion annually from fuel taxes related to road use. Surely a reasonable share of those funds should be returned to the highway system."

Todd made the remarks prior to a meeting of "Team West", the transportation ministers of the Western Provinces and Territories, scheduled for October 4 in Winnipeg. The Team West meeting precedes the Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety in Winnipeg, October 5.

Team West members have adopted a joint position statement on financing the National Highway System. In their statement, they noted that Canada is the only federal state without a national program for major highway links, and has the lowest percentage of road related spending by a national government. The National Highway System supports interprovincial and international trade and travel, furthering Canadian national interests.

"We in the West are united in our support for a National Highway Program. Our Premiers have agreed that a modern national highway system is vital to Canada's competitiveness, and have proposed that a National Highway Program constitute a major part of a new strategic National Infrastructure Program," said the Minister.

Todd added that the National Highway segment in the Northwest Territories has the only gravel surfaced section on the entire National Highway System. Upgrading of this link will encourage resource development for the benefit of all of Canada.

Contact: Andrew Gamble  
Deputy Minister  
Department of Transportation  
(403) 873-7934



**WESTERN AND TERRITORIAL TRANSPORTATION MINISTER'  
COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF WESTERN TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES**

**JOINT POSITION STATEMENT OF THE WESTERN PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES  
ON FINANCING THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM**

After five years of cooperative effort by all provincial and territorial governments, and the federal government, the National Highway Policy Study was completed in 1992. A consensus of all parties has been achieved on: the definition of the National Highway System (NHS); design and operational standards; the needs in each jurisdiction; and a cost-sharing formula between the federal and provincial/territorial governments. *The only outstanding issue is the federal government's commitment to funding its share of a national program.*

The Western Provinces and Territories believe that the federal government should accept an appropriate level of responsibility for a National Highway System. It is incumbent on the federal government to now make a commitment to funding the NHS, that adequately reflects Canadian national objectives, for the following reasons:

- \* the economic benefits from the proposed improvements to the NHS, to highway users and the community, would exceed the costs; users' savings alone from reduced travel time, vehicle operating costs, and property damage, are estimated at \$1.1 billion annually; every year, 160 lives would be saved, and 2300 personal injuries would be prevented, as a result of the improvements;
- \* the NHS supports interprovincial and international trade and travel, furthering the Canadian national interest;
- \* Canada is best served by an approach to national transportation policy that integrates all modes, addressing national highway infrastructure investment issues with national rail, air, and marine policy development;
- \* Canada is the only federal state without a national program for major highway links; we are virtually alone in not having significant ongoing national government participation in support of national highway transportation infrastructure (see the attached table); our level of capital and maintenance investment in highway infrastructure is among the lowest of OECD countries;
- \* Canada trails all other federal states in the percentage of road related revenues spent in support of the road system; the federal government receives approximately \$4.5 billion annually from its taxes on fuel, yet spends only in the order of one-tenth of this amount on highway infrastructure; the federal government has an obligation to return to the highway system a reasonable proportion of funds received from road use related taxes.



It is not necessary for all jurisdictions to agree on how the federal government should finance its share of a National Highway Program, nor is it necessary to achieve a common means of financing such a Program in each jurisdiction. It is entirely within the domain of the federal government to find its share of funding, through internal economies and reallocations, within its overall budget process. Each jurisdiction should take responsibility for financing its share of National Highway Program projects, and for decisions on its level of participation in the Program.

However, Western governments take the position that any federal funding proposal should be consistent with the following principles:

- \* federal funding must be a national program, available to all provinces and territories, in accordance with the allocation and cost-sharing formulae agreed upon in the National Highway Policy Study; it must not be introduced as a series of divisive regional offset programs;
- \* although the level of federal funding must reflect the priority of the NHS within the federal government's overall budget, it should be considered in relation to the amount presently received by the federal government from taxes on fuel;
- \* recognizing the fiscal difficulties faced by all, jurisdictions may participate in the program at the levels of funding they consider affordable, and may phase-in their participation, but over the long term, all jurisdictions should be eligible for their total allocation from the NHS Fund.

Premiers have concurred that a modern national highway system is vital to Canada's competitiveness, and have proposed that a National Highway Program constitute a major component of a new strategic National Infrastructure Program.

The Western Provinces and Territories are prepared to commit an appropriate level of funding to NHS projects, through reallocations within their existing budgets. It is time for the federal government to acknowledge its national responsibility and make the necessary financial commitment to a National Highway Program.





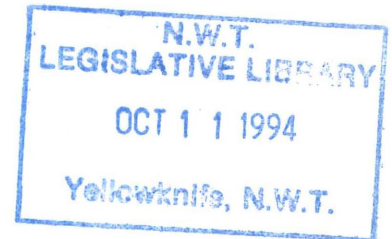




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## News Release/Communiqué

94-070



### Support for Fort Simpson Emergency Operations Centre and the NWT Emergency Measures Organization

**YELLOWKNIFE (October 6) - The federal government's contribution toward two projects to improve emergency preparedness in the Northwest Territories was announced today by Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Secretary of State (Training and Youth), on behalf of Honourable David Collenette, Minister of National Defence, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness.**

The projects include contributing toward half the cost of renovations to the Fort Simpson Emergency Operations Centre and half the cost of purchasing an emergency generator so that the Emergency Operations Centre can be fully operational at all times, including during electrical power outages. The Government of the Northwest Territories contributed the other half of the funds.

The other project receiving a federal contribution is the Northwest Territories' second five-year Emergency Measures Program which develops and maintains an emergency measures capability within the government, industry and all communities in the Northwest Territories. Community services, planning, research and training are among the activities currently being undertaken. The federal government contributed 40 per cent of the funds and the territorial government contributed the other 60 per cent.

"A well-equipped Emergency Operations Centre in Fort Simpson will greatly enhance the ability of emergency response organizations to better serve the village and the surrounding population," said Ms. Blondin-Andrew. "I am also pleased that the federal government is continuing to support the Emergency Measure Organization's efforts to improve emergency preparedness and response capabilities throughout the Northwest Territories."

The federal government's \$36,554 contribution toward the Emergency Operations Centre in Fort Simpson and the \$156,846 toward NWT's Emergency Measure Program were provided under terms of the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) which enables the Government of Canada to contribute to -- or to undertake jointly with the provinces and territories -- emergency preparedness projects that enhance the national response capability.

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**Support for Fort Simpson Emergency Operations Centre and the  
NWT Emergency Measures Organization: Page 2**

This JEPP funding was provided for in the February 1994 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing framework. Today's announcement is an example of how the federal government is prioritizing its spending so that it can better serve Canadians by making efficient use of their tax dollars.

Since JEPP began in 1980, the federal government has contributed approximately \$2.1 million to the Northwest Territories under the program, including today's announcement.

In the Northwest Territories, the Emergency Measures Organization of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs administers the involvement of the Government of the Northwest Territories and municipalities in JEPP.

**Contact: Don Campbell**                      **or**                      **Eric Bussey**  
A/Regional Director                      Director  
(Alberta and Northwest Territories)      Emergency Measures Organization  
Emergency Preparedness Canada      Government of the Northwest Territories





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

94-071

**Inuit Language and Culture Curriculum now Being Piloted**

**YELLOWKNIFE (October 6) - Inuuqatigiit, a curriculum which enhances and enriches first language and culture for Inuit students, is being piloted in schools in the Baffin, Keewatin, Kitikmeot and Beaufort-Delta regions, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment announced today.**

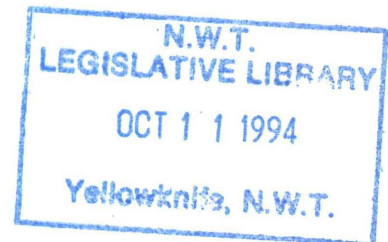
"Inuuqatigiit will create a stronger link between Inuit philosophy and traditional approaches to education, and the current school system," Mr. Nerysoo says. "This link will give Inuit communities a more visible role in their children's education which will help reinforce the identity of Inuit students."

Inuuqatigiit, designed for students from kindergarten to Grade 12, is the first curriculum designed in the North which reflects the Inuit perspective. "Inuuqatigiit" means Inuit to Inuit, people to people, or family to family. It also implies a togetherness and unity between people. Enhancing unity for the benefit of students, teachers, schools and communities is the most fundamental goal of the curriculum.

The curriculum will be used by Inuinait, Inuvialuit and Inuit across the NWT. To ensure that the concerns and priorities all Nunavut regions are well-represented, Inuuqatigiit was developed by an advisory committee of Inuit educators from the four regions in which the curriculum will be used. These committee members have worked extensively with people in their regions, including educators, parents, key community members and elders. The elders have played a central role, by providing important resource information and validating the curriculum as work has progressed. It is the knowledge of the elders that gives the curriculum the true essence of Inuit culture.

"The development of Inuuqatigiit represents many hours of research, discussion and validation of the information gathered. I would like to thank the members of the advisory committee for their hard work and dedication," Mr. Nerysoo says.

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## **Inuit Language and Culture Curriculum now Being Piloted: Page 2**

Members of the Inuuqatigiit advisory committee are: Rose Marie Kirby of Inuvik, representing the Beaufort-Delta; Mille Kuliktana and Rosemarie Meyok, both of Coppermine, representing the Kitikmeot; Guita Anawak of Rankin Inlet, Eva Noah of Baker Lake and Elisapee Karetak of Arviat, representing the Keewatin, and Naullaq Arnaquq of Iqaluit, representing the Baffin region. The committee's work has been co-ordinated by Liz Apak Rose, the Inuktitut Curriculum Co-ordinator for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

**Contact: Brian Menton**  
Director, Curriculum Services  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7441

or

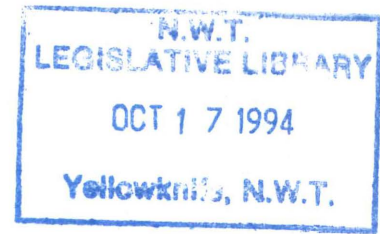
**Cathy Jewison**  
Co-ordinator, Public Affairs  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-6222







94-072



## Literacy Recognition Awards Announced

**YELLOWKNIFE (October 7) — Education, Culture and Employment Minister Richard Nerysoo celebrated NWT Literacy Week by recognizing five northerners for their contributions to literacy in the Northwest Territories.**

"The intention of these awards is to honour the achievements of individuals whose dedication to literacy makes them role models for others in their communities and across the NWT," Mr. Nerysoo said.

"Some have been recognized for improving their personal level of literacy and others have been honoured for their work in promoting and fostering literacy within their community," he added.

The Minister announced this year's award winners in the Legislative Assembly this week. They are:

**Margaret Kannak**, of Rankin Inlet, for her dedication and perseverance in overcoming extraordinary challenges to complete the Adult Basic Education English program. Ms. Kannak is recognized as a source of inspiration for others in her community who wish to complete their education.

**Pat Aklunark**, of Rankin Inlet, for her work as the student coordinator of three highly successful AIDS awareness plays produced and performed by the students of the Rankin Inlet Community Learning Centre. Ms. Aklunark is recognized as an excellent role model and leader amongst her peers.

**Edward Oudzi**, of Colville Lake, for his work in the delivery of the Hareskin language program at the Colville Lake School. Despite being hearing impaired, Mr. Oudzi has been very successful in developing the student's interest in learning their dialect. He is recognized for his remarkable courage and caring which make him a well-respected role model in the community.

**Gord McSwain**, of Yellowknife, for his exemplary efforts as a student in the Tree of Peace Adult Education Program. Mr. McSwain has greatly improved his personal level of literacy and looks forward to reading with his new son. He has demonstrated a strong commitment to his own learning as well as that of his family.



**Literacy Recognition Awards Announced: Page 2**

**Edna Elias**, of Cambridge Bay, for her work on behalf of literacy throughout the NWT. Ms. Elias founded the NWT Literacy Council and served as its first president. She has demonstrated a commitment to literacy as both a dedicated learner and a facilitator of other people's learning. She is recognized as an excellent role model and leader for the cause of literacy in the Northwest Territories.

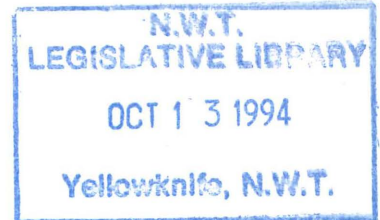
**Contact: Mark Cleveland**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7252

or

**Cate Sills**  
Manager, Literacy & Adult Education  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-3482



94-073



## **New Program will Enhance Education and Skills of Social Assistance Recipients**

**YELLOWKNIFE (Oct. 12) — The Department of Education, Culture and Employment and Arctic College have recently signed contribution agreements to deliver the Northern Skills Development Program (NSDP), Minister Richard Nerysoo announced today. Courses offered under the program are intended to strengthen job readiness skills of social assistance recipients. NSDP is a community-based program which will provide participants with academic upgrading, including aboriginal language literacy, personal and career counselling, traditional knowledge and life skills.**

The department signed one Contribution Agreement with Arctic College for \$502,901 to deliver programs in the Eastern Arctic. The department signed another agreement with the College for \$479,158 to deliver programs in the Western Arctic. This will result in the delivery of ten courses in communities across the North.

"Innovative approaches to training and skills development are needed if the NWT is going to meet the challenges of the new century -- and the Northern Skills Development Program is a strong step in this direction," Mr. Nerysoo says. "Working in partnership with local businesses, councils and government offices, Arctic College will help social assistance recipients develop skills and improve their level of education. Client counselling will include developing career paths aimed at employment or further training."

The NSDP Instructor, with the assistance of the Community Social Service Worker and a Career Development Officer, will cooperatively provide support and assistance to the participants. This team approach will strengthen the service to participants and will help them develop individual career plans. When needed, pre-employability training and vocational training combining both on-site and off-site training, job search techniques, job search assistance, mentoring, and any other activities designed to help meet NSDP's objectives may also be provided.

In 1994-95, Arctic College will deliver NSDP to 15 social assistance recipients in each of the following five communities: Baker Lake, Arviat, Gjoa Haven, Pangnirtung and Iqaluit. In addition, the College will also deliver NSDP to 12 social assistance recipients in each of the following five communities: Yellowknife, Déline, Hay River, Tuktoyaktuk and Rae Edzo.

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94-075

## **Raymond Tuccaro Honoured**

**YELLOWKNIFE (October 19) — Raymond Tuccaro was awarded the Corrections Exemplary Service Medal in the Great Hall of the Legislative Assembly today by Justice Minister Stephen Kakfwi on behalf of the Governor General of Canada. He is the first aboriginal Corrections Officer in the Northwest Territories to receive the medal.**

Mr. Tuccaro started his corrections career in 1970, after attending the Northern Institute of Technology in Alberta. In the early 1970s, he started one of the first land programs in northern corrections teaching hunting, trapping and basic survival skills to inmates.

In the past 24 years, Mr. Tuccaro has worked for the Yellowknife Correctional Centre and the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre.

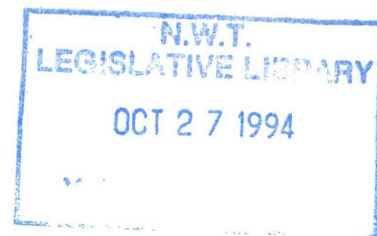
Mr. Tuccaro currently works as a Corrections Supervisor at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre.

Since the creation of the Corrections Exemplary Service Medals in 1984, six Northwest Territories Corrections Officers have been honoured.

The Corrections Exemplary Service Medal recognizes the special obligation and hazardous conditions of service of peace officers whose duties bring them in daily contact with offenders in Canadian correctional programs.

**Contact: John Dillon**  
Coordinator  
Corrections Service  
Department of Justice  
(403) 920-8922





94-076

## Canadian Children's Book Week Focuses on Families

**YELLOWKNIFE (October 25) — Two top Canadian illustrators of children's books will be touring NWT communities to celebrate Canadian Children's Book Week November 12 to 19.**

Vladyana Krykorka is best known to Northerners for her work illustrating the books of Rankin Inlet author, Michael Kusugak, including "Northern Lights, the Soccer Trails" and "Baseball Bats for Christmas." She will be making presentations at libraries and schools in Cambridge Bay, Fort Simpson, Yellowknife and Hay River.

Ms. Krykorka was born in Prague and moved to Toronto in 1968. After graduating from the Ontario College of Art, she illustrated textbooks for educational publishers and was a magazine art director for a number of years. Her children's story illustrations have won various prizes. This year she was among ten finalists for the Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award for outstanding children's book illustration for "Northern Lights, the Soccer Trails."

Barbara Reid's unique three-dimensional illustrations with plasticine have earned her an international reputation in children's book art. Sometimes referred to as the "Queen of Plasticine" she is perhaps best known for her Zoe series of board books including "Zoe's Rainy Day" and "Zoe's Snowy Day," and for the fantastic art accompanying Joanne Oppenheim's "Have You Seen Birds?" Both bodies of work have received international awards.

Ms. Reid, who lives in Toronto, has most recently published "Playing with Plasticine," a how-to book for children. During Book Week she'll be making presentations to the children of Clyde River, Iqaluit, Nanisivik, Igloodik and Pond Inlet.

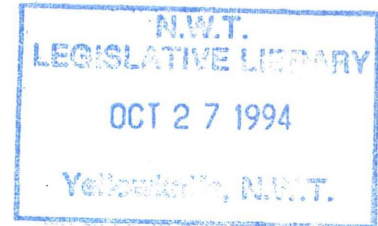
Canadian Children's Book Week, now in its 18th year, is a national event sponsored by The Canadian Children's Book Centre. This year's theme, "Families... Read Together!" is designed to promote reading as a good way for families to spend time together and strengthen family ties.

Children's Book Week events are being planned across the NWT. For information about local activities, contact your local school or library.

**Contact: Janet M. Geddes**  
NWT Library Services  
(403) 874-6531







94-077

## Education, Culture and Employment Releases Strategic Plan

**YELLOWKNIFE (October 25) —** The strategic plan that will guide the direction of Education, Culture and Employment's programs and services for the next 15 years is now available to the public, Minister Richard Nerysoo announced today.

"Communities in the North have been -- and continue to be -- challenged to find ways to maintain their traditions, while continuing to adapt to social, technological and political change. As well, the people of the Northwest Territories are contending with the same fiscal realities as many other jurisdictions," Mr. Nerysoo says. "Choices will have to be made about how we organize, fund and deliver education, culture and employment programs and services now and in the future."

People: Our Focus for the Future, A Strategy to 2010 was developed in consultation with people and organizations across the NWT over the past year and a half. Ideas and comments were received from elders, educators, students, community and aboriginal groups, as well as business and industry. They addressed a broad range of issues, and made suggestions on ways to enhance culture and tradition, improve the delivery of educational programs, how to improve links between work, education and training and how to strengthen local decision-making.

Specific concerns voiced by stakeholders included the need to: establish an early childhood learning system; improve student achievement; develop a comprehensive system of post-secondary education in the NWT; improve support to communities for cultural programs; and develop a territorial system of information networks.

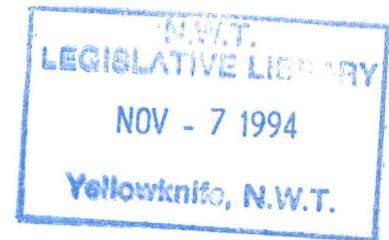
The strategic plan further develops a community-based model for education, culture and employment programs and focuses on three major strategic concepts. The first of these is to strengthen links between all phases of the learning cycle, from early childhood to adult education, into a continuum of life-long learning activities. The second strategic concept is to enhance community control and ownership of education, culture and employment programs through changes to the Education Act. The third strategic concept is the establishment of a community learning network which would link all community-based programs and services through a single organization.

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## **Education, Culture and Employment Releases Strategic Plan: Page 2**

"The release of the strategic plan marks the beginning of a new period of planning and activity for Education, Culture and Employment in the NWT," Mr. Nerysoo says. "The focus of that planning and activity over the next fifteen years will be on the people and communities in the Northwest Territories."

**Contact: Gail Joyce**  
Director, Policy and Planning  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 920-6220



94-078

### Fur Harvesters Receive Guaranteed Prices

**YELLOWKNIFE (November 4) — A new fur pricing initiative that helps stabilize the price of fur and the income of trappers in the North is being introduced by the Department of Renewable Resources this fall.**

Effective November 4, the new Fur Pricing Program will offer NWT fur harvesters guaranteed prices for fur. The program will apply to seven different furbearing species which include: coloured fox, Arctic fox, marten, beaver, mink, muskrat and seal.

Fur harvesters will receive the following prices this season:

Species	1st Payment (Immediate)	2nd Payment (Fall)	Total Minimum Price
Seal	\$ 25	\$ 5	\$ 30
White Fox	\$ 25	\$ 13	\$ 38
Coloured Fox	\$ 20	\$ 13	\$ 33
Marten	\$ 55	\$ 20	\$ 75
Mink	\$ 25	\$ 7	\$ 32
Beaver	\$ 25	\$ 15	\$ 40
Muskrat	\$ 2	\$ 1	\$ 3

"The Department arrived at these rates by analyzing previous market prices, reviewing previous harvest levels, assessing the population of each species and examining current market trends for each species - except seal, says Renewable Resources Minister Silas Arngna'naaq.

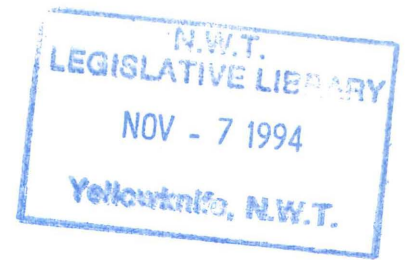
He says the price of seal was set to give the Department of Renewable Resources the opportunity to accumulate a supply of good quality seal pelts before seeking a potential market.

The Department consulted with fur harvesters all across the North before it developed this two-payment system. Under the Fur Pricing Program, harvesters will receive the first payment upon delivery of the product and the remaining portion in the fall just before the start up of the next harvesting season.

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94-079

### **Sealskin Tapestry Presented to Canadian Embassy in Beijing**

**BEIJING (November 7) — Premier Nellie Cournoyea presented a sealskin tapestry on behalf of the people of the Northwest Territories to the Canadian Embassy in Beijing yesterday.**

The tapestry, made by several women in Holman Island, depicts the renewable resource-based economy of the Northwest Territories.

During the presentation to Canadian Ambassador to China Fred Bild, Ms. Cournoyea noted that the tapestry will remind embassy staff and visitors of Canada's polar region and its people.

The tapestry stresses the importance of the land to the aboriginal people of the North and how they continue to live in harmony with nature. It shows how the traditional pursuits of fishing, hunting, and trapping for food, clothing and fuel are part of their daily survival both economically and spiritually.

Premier Cournoyea is in China as part of the Canadian Trade Mission.

**Contact: Terry Foster**  
Special Projects Officer  
Economic Development and Tourism  
(403) 920-3191





# Press Statement

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

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## Commissioner's Awards for Bravery Announced

**YELLOWKNIFE (November 14) — Ten NWT residents were recognized for acts of bravery today by Deputy Commissioner Helen Maksagak.**

Moses Aliyak of Rankin Inlet received the Commissioner's Award for Bravery at the Highest Level for rescuing his wife and nephew from a polar bear attack near their summer camp in July, 1994. Mr. Aliyak received cuts and scratches while trying to scare the bear away.

Three Cambridge Bay residents, Peter Evalik, Richard Evalik and Grant Corey, received the Commissioner's Award for Bravery at the Highest Level for saving Theresa Keadjuk and Mary Kilaodluk on January 1, 1993. The three men crawled through a smoke-filled house to find the women and drag them to safety. Shortly after rescuing the women, the house was engulfed in flames.

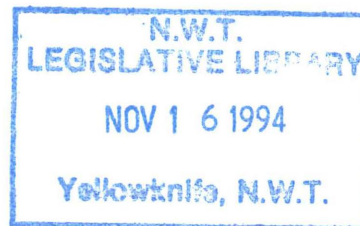
Peter Moosenose and Frankie Nitsiza of Wha Ti received the Commissioner's Award for Bravery at the Second Level for saving eleven-year-old Larry Flunkie from drowning in Lac La Martre lake on August 12, 1993. Frankie Nitsiza began swimming toward Larry but had to return to shore because of the cold water. Meanwhile, Peter Moosenose was able to start a boat and get to the area where Larry had gone underwater. Mr. Moosenose dove into the water and pulled the boy off the lake bottom.

Alfred Nitsiza and Lloyd Bishop received Letters of Commendation for their part in the rescue of Larry Flunkie. Mr. Nitsiza and Mr. Bishop performed two-man CPR on the boy when he was brought to shore.

Dennis Klengenberg and Kevin Niptanatiak of Coppermine also received Letters of Commendation for rescuing each other after their snow machine broke through the ice near the mouth of the Coppermine River on November 7, 1993.

The Commissioner's Award for Bravery was established over 20 years ago to recognize the sacrifices and heroic efforts of people who voluntarily place themselves in danger to help others.

**Contact: Russ Look**  
Executive Assistant  
(403) 873-7210



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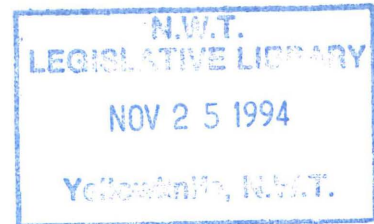
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94-080

## **New Social Housing Rents Made More Equitable**

**YELLOWKNIFE (November 23) — Don Morin, Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation, has released a new social housing rent scale.**

"The new Rent Scale reduces the rents of low income tenants and increases the rents of higher income tenants," he said. "It gives the breaks to those, such as elders, who need them the most. The Scale treats all tenants more fairly."

Rent decreases will be implemented beginning April 1, 1995. Rent increases will be phased in over a four-year period, starting April 1, 1995.

Social housing rents are based on the tenant's income. The rent charged is a percentage of the tenant's income, up to a maximum rent established by the Housing Corporation.

Under the new Rent Scale, nearly 70 per cent of tenants will have their rents reduced or unchanged. All tenants will pay no more than 30 per cent of their income for rent.

Low-income earners will be charged a fixed rent of \$32 a month. This group includes disabled persons living on pensions, full-time social assistance recipients, persons living on workers' compensation benefits, independent operators principally engaged in hunting, fishing or trapping and persons living on widows' or survivors' pensions.

The new Scale encourages education and employment. "Instead of discouraging people from finding jobs and going to school, the new Rent Scale will provide them with incentives to improve their lives," says Mr. Morin.

The amount of rent paid by low-income earners has been reduced. Under the current Rent Scale, tenants on social assistance who take low paying jobs, would automatically have their rent increased to 25 per cent of their income. Under the new Scale, these low income tenants' rent will start at 6.4 per cent of their income.

Training allowances and government-funded child care subsidies will no longer be included in the income assessed for rent. Also, tenants who leave their home communities temporarily to get training in another community will be able to get social housing immediately when they return.

The new Scale also includes a Basic Household Deduction of \$400 and a Cost of Living Deduction which varies by community for all tenants. Those tenants who occupy units that are in poor condition may receive additional rent deductions.







## NEW SOCIAL HOUSING RENT SCALE FACT SHEET

### 1. PROBLEMS WITH THE CURRENT RENT SCALE

The current rent scale has not been revised since 1983. It is out of date and does not treat all tenants fairly. The problems with the current Rent Scale include:

- Only the income of the head of the household is assessed when establishing the rent. This means that some households, where a disabled person or a senior is named the head of the household pay a fixed rent, usually \$32, even though other household members are earning high incomes.
- Communities were divided into two categories: Homeownership Communities and Non-Homeownership Communities. The maximum rents in Non-Homeownership Communities have been kept artificially low. As a result households, with identical incomes, living in similar houses in different communities pay very different rents. Also, high income earners living in Social Housing in those communities pay very low rents.
- In communities with low maximum rents, GNWT employees living in Social Housing pay much lower rents than they would in comparable GNWT staff housing.
- Tenants are discouraged from seeking more education because training allowances and child care subsidies are assessed when establishing rents.

### 2. THE NEW RENT SCALE

Social Housing rents are geared to the tenant's income. The rent is a percentage of the income, up to a maximum rent established by the Housing Corporation.

The Rent Scale deals with how much rent is charged to each household not with whether people are eligible for Social Housing.

The new Rent Scale was established after extensive consultation with people across the NWT. It addresses the inequities in the old Scale and treats all tenants fairly.

- All tenants will pay no more than 30 per cent of their income on rent.
- Rents will be assessed on household income, rather than the income of the head of the household.
- Income earned by individuals from the following sources will be exempted for purposes of calculating rent:
  - Disabled persons receiving Disability Pensions
  - Social Assistance payments
  - Workers' Compensation Board Benefits
  - Income earned traditionally by independent operators principally engaged in hunting, fishing or trapping
  - Widows or Survivors' Pensions
- Education will be encouraged. Training allowances and government funded child care will not be included as assessable income when establishing rent. Also, tenants who



leave their home communities temporarily to get training in another community, will be able to get Social Housing immediately when they return. The Corporation is working with the department of Education, Culture and Employment to ensure that rents charged to students living in social Housing will be consistent with rents charged for student housing.

- Employment will be encouraged by starting rents at 6.4 per cent of income, for lowest income tenants.
- All tenants receive a Basic Household Deduction of \$400 per month from the total Household Assessable Income.
- All tenants receive a Cost of Living Deduction from the total Household Assessable Income. This deduction varies by community and the size of the family.
- Tenants may receive a rent reduction if their units lack basic facilities or are in poor condition.

### 3. IMPLEMENTATION

- All rent decreases will become effective April 1, 1995.
- Rent increases will be phased in over four years, starting April 1, 1995, according to the following schedule:

April 1, 1995 - 30 per cent of the increase.

April 1, 1996 - an additional 30 per cent of the increase

April 1, 1997 - an additional 30 per cent of the increase

April 1, 1998 - the remaining 10 per cent of the increase

### 4. HOMEOWNERSHIP

- There are about 1,500 families living in Social Housing who earn enough income to afford homeownership. Many of these families are eligible for the Corporation's Homeownership Programs. They will be encouraged to move out of the Social Housing into their own homes. If these families move out of social housing, 1,500 units will be available for low income families.
- Several hundred families living in Social Housing have incomes above the CNIT. These tenants will be required to move out of Social Housing by April 1, 1997. If they do not develop or work on plans to provide other housing for themselves by September, 1995, these tenants will have their rents increased to the full amount on April 1, 1996.
- Tenants with incomes above the CNIT will receive counselling over the next four months on the housing options available to them. They will be able to get help from the Corporation under the Direct Lending, Interim Financing, Forgivable Loans, Sale of Housing Packages or Counselling Services Programs. These tenants could also get mortgages from banks to finance their own units.
- GNWT employees in rental units who do not choose homeownership will be encouraged to move into alternative housing, where available.

### 5. EFFECTS OF THE CHANGES





- Operations and Maintenance costs for Social Housing are cost-shared by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). However, the CMHC contribution is based on the Federal rent scale which is different from the NWT rent scale. The current Rent Scale results in a significant loss in Federal funding. Failure to change the rent scale will result in a loss of \$8 million dollars in Federal funding annually.
- Rents will decrease for 30 per cent of tenants; stay the same for 38.5 per cent of tenants and increase for 31.5 per cent of tenants. Those with the lowest incomes will have decreases and those with the highest incomes will see increases.
- More housing units will become available for low income people. This will help alleviate the severe housing shortage and overcrowding in NWT communities.





94-081

## Director of Corrections Hired

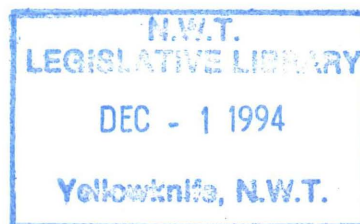
**YELLOWKNIFE (November 25) — Stephen Kakfwi, Minister of Justice announced the appointment of Margaret Ravensdale as Director of Corrections today.**

Ms. Ravensdale has 17 years of experience in the corrections field. For the past four years she has worked as the Director of the Fort Saskatchewan Correctional Centre, the largest correctional centre in Alberta. Ms. Ravensdale was recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the Metis Wilderness Correctional Camp at Lac La Biche, Alberta.

From 1986 to 1990, Ms. Ravensdale worked for various branches of the Alberta Solicitor General's Office including Director of Community Corrections and Coordinator of the Provincial Parole Program. Ms. Ravensdale started her corrections career in 1975 with the Correctional Service of Canada.

She is the first women to hold the position of Director of Corrections in the Northwest Territories.

**Contact: Nora Sanders**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Solicitor General Branch  
(403) 873-7005





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## News Release/Communiqué

94-082

### Infrastructure Projects in Western Arctic will create 29 Jobs

**YELLOWKNIFE (NOV. 28) - Five projects approved under the Canada/Northwest Territories Infrastructure Program will create 29 short and long-term jobs in two communities in the western Northwest Territories. These projects represent an investment of over \$600,000 in community buildings and facilities.**

The joint announcement was made today by the Honourable Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment of the Government of the Northwest Territories, and the Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Secretary of State for Training and Youth and Member of Parliament for the Western Arctic. The announcement was made on behalf of the Honourable Nellie Cournoyea, Premier of the Northwest Territories, the Honourable Ronald A. Irwin, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and the Honourable Arthur C. Eggleton, President of the Treasury Board and Minister responsible for infrastructure.

The hamlet of Rae-Edzo will undertake four separate projects at a cost of \$549,536. The community's recreational facilities will be upgraded at a cost of \$262,250. This project includes building a new children's playground, upgrading two basketball courts, enhancing and cleaning up the beach, and creating a new park. A new track and field facility will cost \$153,670. As well, \$71,950 will be spent on the community's security: developing and enhancing fire breaks and upgrading fire fighting and security skills. An additional \$61,666 will be spent on renovating and enhancing historical sites, including relocating and renovating the historic mission, developing the graveyard into a respectable cemetery, and buying and installing historical site plaques. The federal and territorial governments' shares amount to \$468,665, while the municipality is contributing \$80,871.

The Salt Plains Reserve near Fort Smith will receive \$61,373 to clear a right-of-way for a power line to the settlement of Salt River. Electricity will improve the standard of living in the community and alleviate some of the difficulties faced by the residents.

"It is important to note that the submissions received from the two municipalities each had the full support of the local community, the Band and the Metis local. This is a clear example of cooperation among various parties to achieve common goals," said Ms. Blondin-Andrew.

Mr. Nerysoo added, "Strengthening partnerships between government, business and communities to provide training and employment is a key aspect of my departmental strategic plan. These communities will benefit not only from the enhancements that are

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## **Infrastructure Projects in Western Arctic will create 29 Jobs: Page 2**

needed, but also from the employment opportunities and job-skills training which can be transferred to other economic sectors in the North".

The Canada-NWT Infrastructure Program is a cost-shared program designed to meet the infrastructure needs and priorities of local communities. The federal government will contribute up to \$5.4 million, which will be matched by the territorial government. The \$10.8 million contribution will be spent over a three-year period, which allows for greater opportunity and flexibility for construction activity in NWT communities. It is hoped that a further \$1.6 million from potential municipal contributions could increase the total funding for infrastructure projects to over \$12 million.

"I am very pleased that we were able to support these projects. This first round of applications involve much needed repairs and upgrades to the infrastructure in each of the communities and will enhance, over the long term, the quality of life in our area," Ms. Blondin-Andrew said. "Through the Infrastructure Works program, a cooperative initiative of the federal, territorial and municipal levels of government, we are meeting the commitment of the federal government, outlined in our document Creating Opportunity, to improve community infrastructure and to help put Canadians back to work."

**Contact: Chester Spry**  
DIAND - Economic Services  
Government of Canada  
(403) 920-8104

**or Mark Cleveland**  
Education, Culture & Employment  
GNWT  
(403) 873-7252

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## News Release/Communiqué

94-083

### Infrastructure Projects in Eastern Arctic will Create 50 Jobs

**YELLOWKNIFE (Nov. 28) — Thirteen projects approved under the Canada/Northwest Territories Infrastructure Program will create 50 short and long-term jobs in five communities in the eastern Northwest Territories. These projects represent an investment of over \$800,000 in telecommunications and community buildings and facilities.**

The joint announcement was made today by the Honourable Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment of the Government of the Northwest Territories, and Mr. Jack Anawak, Parliamentary Secretary, Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and Member of Parliament for Nunatsiak. The announcement was made on behalf of the Honourable Nellie Cournoyea, Premier of the Northwest Territories, the Honourable Ronald A. Irwin, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and the Honourable Arthur C. Eggleton, President of the Treasury Board and Minister responsible for Infrastructure.

A permanent network television facility will be built in the hamlet of Taloyoak at a cost of \$160,000. The project, sponsored by the Hamlet of Taloyoak, also includes a community television production centre and a studio for the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation. The federal and territorial governments will each contribute \$60,000; the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation will contribute an additional \$40,000.

Pelly Bay will receive \$88,880 to expand its administrative complex, which currently houses the community office and radio facility. The community's requirements have grown considerably since the complex was originally built in 1979.

"The new television facility at Taloyoak and improvements in community broadcasting at Pelly Bay will help preserve and enhance Inuktitut and the Inuit culture," said Mr. Anawak.

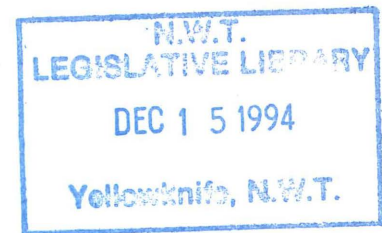
Rankin Inlet will receive a total of \$308,890 to undertake six separate projects: \$89,430 will be spent on renovating the hamlet warehouse; \$88,000 on renovating a church into a friendship centre; \$44,860 on renovating the community recreation complex; \$43,000 on renovating a municipal staff house; \$28,000 on installing a water and sewer system at a community facility; and \$15,600 to renovate the local day care and safe shelter.

Four separate projects in Baker Lake will be funded to a total of \$204,720: \$73,320 will be spent on renovating the old community hall as an historical site and museum; \$62,980

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## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CDSC Revises Participant Selection Process

Yellowknife, (December 13, 1994) **The process for selecting public participants to the First Constitutional Conference has been changed to allow selection closer to the community.**

CDSC Chairperson Fred Koe announced today that responsibility for selection of public participants for the conference will now be given to each region and tax-based municipality to be handled by their own process. A formula which balances the number of participants from each municipality and region has been worked out based on population. It is outlined in the attached list.

During a recent round of public information meetings by the Constitutional Development Steering Committee, many people said they want selection to be made closer to the community and according to locally acceptable methods, rather than by elected CDSC members. The CDSC's Participant Selection Sub-committee was to have made the selection.

"With the conference limited to 150 participants, the task of achieving fair and balanced representation among the public participants is very difficult. We hope that by making these changes in response to public input, we will be able to satisfy most concerns," said Mr. Koe.

Regions and tax-based municipalities are being asked to take into account the CDSC principles for selection: equal representation of men and women, aboriginal and non-aboriginal people and representation from youth and elders.

The application deadline for public participants is December 16, 1994. Application forms are available at community council and band offices and from the CDSC Secretariat. The CDSC Secretariat will continue to receive applications at its Yellowknife office and will forward them to regions and the tax-based municipalities after the deadline. The CDSC hopes to be able to announce names of participants by December 31, 1994.

The First Constitutional Conference for a new western territory is scheduled to take place at the Explorer Hotel in Yellowknife from January 19 - 22, 1995. The purpose of the Conference is to bring together elected and public participants from all 34 western NWT communities to work toward building a consensus on a constitution and new form of government for the western territory in preparation for division on April 1, 1999.

Conference participants will discuss constitutional issues under five themes: Process, Principles, Structure, Powers and Representation. They will make recommendations on broad principles and options for a constitution and system of government for the new western territory and on how the remaining stages of the process should be completed.

**CONTACT:**

Fred Koe, Chairperson, CDSC  
669-2268

Sharon Hall, Communications Director  
CDSC Secretariat  
873-4440

**DISTRIBUTION BY REGION AND MUNICIPALITY  
PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS TO BE SELECTED UPON APPLICATION**

Inuvialuit Region	3
Gwich'in Region	3
Sahtu Region	3
Deh Cho Region	3
Dogrib Region	3
Treaty 8 Region	2
North Slave Metis	1
South Slave Metis	1
Inuvik	3
Norman Wells	1
Fort Simpson	2
Yellowknife	11
Hay River/Enterprise	3
Fort Smith	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>



94-084

### **Another Russian Exchange Creates Bigger Economic Opportunities**

**YELLOWKNIFE (November 30) — Semyon N. Nazrov, the Minister responsible for the State Committee for Construction in the Russian Republic of Sakha (Yukutia) will be flying into Yellowknife next week to meet with NWT business representatives.**

Mr. Nazrov will be making a presentation on the economic opportunities available to northern businesses under the Sakha government's major 1995/96 housing program. According to Mr. Nazrov, the Sakha Republic intends to construct 1 million square metres of housing, including at least 2,000 single detached homes.

The NWT and Yellowknife Chambers of Commerce and the NWT Construction Association is hosting Mr. Nazrov's presentation to be held at the Northern Frontier Visitors Association, December 5th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

This latest Russian exchange was initiated under the Northern Management Program - a joint management agreement established between the Sakha government and the Government of the Northwest Territories. The agreement is designed to help the Republic of Sakha develop capital projects on its own and set up a management organization using the expertise of the NWT private and public sector. The agreement is also designed to generate greater opportunities for NWT businesses to provide goods and services.

Mr. Nazrov's visit is the latest in a series of exchanges that have taken place with the Russian Republic over the past ten years. The Territorial Government has been involved in technical and scientific exchanges with Russia since 1984, through the support and assistance of the Government of Canada.

The building of a small village by NWT companies, near Yakutsk, the capital of the Sakha Republic, was one project arising out of those exchanges. NWT companies received \$11 million in contracts on that project.

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**Another Russian Exchange Creates Bigger Economic Opportunities: Page 2**

The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development are providing funding and other forms of assistance to the Territorial Government for these exchanges, and are assisting with this visit.

The Russian Republic of Sakha has a population of 1.3 million. Its area, climate and geography are largely similar to the geography of the Northwest Territories.

**Contact: Randy Cleveland**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Public Works & Services  
(403) 920-8673

or

**Sue Enge**  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of the Press Secretary  
(403) 669-2241







94-085

## **Artists, Arts Groups Receive Funding for Creative Projects**

**YELLOWKNIFE (December 7) — Thirty-one NWT artists and arts groups will receive funding from the Government of the Northwest Territories in 1994/95 to carry out a variety of creative projects, Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, announced today.**

"The arts play an important role in expressing and communicating the rich heritage of the NWT's cultural groups to each other, and to people living outside the Territories," Mr. Nerysoo says. "I am pleased to support these artists in their work."

The applications were screened by the NWT Arts Council, which recommended to the Minister that they be approved for funding. The Council's mandate is to nurture and promote the arts in the Northwest Territories. It is made up of six members who are appointed by the Executive Council for a two-year term. Members are selected for their expertise in the arts, and represent the geographic and cultural regions of the NWT.

The Arts Council meets at least twice a year to review funding applications, with deadlines set for January 31 and April 30. This year more than 66 proposals were received and reviewed by the council.

Sculptors receiving support in 1994/95 include Looty Pijamini of Grise Fiord, who has been funded to produce a series of up to 10 carvings including at least one sculpture on the theme, Fox Turn to Woman. Dolphus Cadieux of Yellowknife will receive funding to create a sculpture out of leg-hold traps in honour of NWT trappers.

Other visual artists receiving funding include Eileen Desjarlais of Lutselk'e, who will create a series of hunting, gathering and storage bags with original illustrations on the bags, and Zack Kunuk of Igloolik, who will carry out pre-production work on a film based on the Inuit legend of Atanajuat, which means "fast runner."

Musical projects receiving support in 1994/95 include one organized by the Sahtu Music Society, which will bring a mobile recording studio to Norman Wells and record eligible musicians.

Other artists and organizations who have been approved for arts funding in 1994/95 are:

- Inuvik Choral & Theatrical Society, to present an original theatre piece in a dinner theatre setting
- Native Communications Society, Yellowknife, to hold workshops in which computer animation techniques are adapted for storytelling by native artists

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## Artists, Arts Groups Receive Funding for Creative Projects: Page 2

- Randy Sibbeston, Fort Simpson, to record a demo of original material
- Jewel Bailey, Yellowknife, to create a series of paintings of Yellowknife area flora in acrylics and watercolour
- Maryanne Reimer, Inuvik, to continue recording an album of original songs
- Leslie Leong, Fort Smith, to create and show 25 multi-image photography pieces titled, Forgotten North
- Eric Fuglsang, Yellowknife, to make a demo recording of original songs
- Ejetsiak Pitseolak, Iqaluit, to carve images of animals
- John Blondin, Yellowknife, to create and present a performance of dance and movement
- Cliff Burns, Iqaluit, to complete a series of short stories titled, Stories of a Far-off Place
- Marianne Bromley, Yellowknife, to complete a novel in progress
- Sundog (Doug Villeneuve), Inuvik, to make a demo recording of 6 original songs
- Ross Burnet, Yellowknife, to do a video installation piece exploring the nature of television and television viewers
- Kathleen Haist, Hay River, to write short stories about a young girl and boy growing up in and around Yellowknife
- Tuktoyaktuk Recreation Committee, to present traditional drum dancing workshops
- Andrew Hammond, Yellowknife, to sculpt a life-size figure from granite
- Larry Gray, Fort Smith, to record a demo of eight original songs on an environmental theme
- Bernard Ouellette, Fort Smith, to photograph the seasons in the South Slave
- Sherry Antonishen, Yellowknife, to write a script and workshop a scene for a movie titled Debt Fever
- Ann Kasook, Inuvik, to record five original songs
- William Wade, Fort Smith, to record an album of original songs
- Michael Maitland, Yellowknife, to attend a workshop at the Canadian Film Centre to workshop his piece Goin' Home
- Paul C. Macdonald & Melanie Hall, Yellowknife, to record a demo of original songs
- Blue Tundra, Inuvik, to complete a demo recording of four to six original songs
- Paul Nicklen, Yellowknife, to photograph northern wildlife for possible publication as a coffee table book

**Contact: Charles Arnold**

Director, Culture and Heritage  
Department of Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7551





94-086

### **Languages Act Brochure Produced**

**YELLOWKNIFE (December 8) — A brochure on the NWT Official Languages Act has been developed to help people and organizations understand language laws in the Northwest Territories.**

The publication, *Languages of Our Land*, was developed by the Official Languages Unit of the Department of the Executive and the Department of Justice, in collaboration with Languages Commissioner Betty Harnum.

It provides basic information on the purpose and contents of the Official Languages Act, its legal status and application, the nature of the rights guaranteed in the Act and the role and responsibilities of the Languages Commissioner.

The brochure is published in all of the Official Languages of the NWT: French, English, Chipewyan, Dogrib, Slavey (North and South), Gwich'in, Cree, and Inuktitut (including Inuvialuktun and Inuinnaqtun). The Office of the Languages Commissioner and the Official Languages Unit will be distributing the brochure to all communities of the NWT, including schools, organizations involved in language issues, and departments and agencies of the GNWT.

Production of the brochure was funded by the Canada-NWT Cooperation Agreement for French and Aboriginal Languages in the NWT and by the Territorial government.

**Contact: Official Languages Unit**  
(403) 920-6960

or

**Office of the Languages Commissioner**  
(403) 873-7034 or 1-800-661-0889





94-087

## **Proposals Called For Airtanker Services**

**YELLOWKNIFE (December 12) - The Government of the Northwest Territories will call for proposals from Northern air companies for the provision of airtanker services over a five-year period beginning with the 1995 season.**

It will also continue negotiations with Dene/Metis Holdings Limited of Fort Smith for the provision of an airtanker hanger and maintenance facility in that community.

Three airtanker services contracts are proposed: two to operate and maintain two CL-215 bomber groups and one to supply, operate and maintain a land-based bomber group. A group consists of one or more air tankers and associated bird dog aircraft.

"This is a significant opportunity for northerners to participate in these large contracts, worth many millions of dollars annually and which have previously gone to southern companies," says Minister of Public Works and Services Don Morin. The department is responsible for calling for the proposals.

Renewable Resources Silas Arngna'naaq says this opportunity provides northerners with a greater chance to participate in developing fire fighting technology and expertise in the northern air industry.

Five-year terms have been approved in order to allow northern operators sufficient time to assume the financial and other commitments required for contracts of this nature.

**Contact: Bob Doherty**  
Deputy Minister  
Public Works & Services  
(403) 873-7114





94-088

## Workplace Review Released

**YELLOWKNIFE (December 15)** - An independent review of the workplace environment provided in the Keewatin Regional Health Board was released today in Yellowknife by Premier and Health and Social Services Minister Nellie Cournoyea.

The review, by labour relations specialist Donald Munroe, Q.C., was presented to the executive committee of the health board by Chairperson Elizabeth Palfrey during a meeting in Rankin Inlet.

In the 24-page report, Munroe notes the health board had passed through a period of "intense public scrutiny and swirling rumors", but describes current working relationships as sound.

He notes the relationship between management and staff is within the desired norm, that employees are dedicated to meeting the board's mandate and that the working morale is generally constructive.

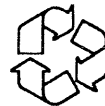
"I hope that the community at large will now give the board some much-needed breathing space ... to enable it to concentrate on the fulfillment of its important mandate. It is time to reduce public rhetoric and to de-escalate the tensions."

Munroe's recommendations deal with processes designed to avoid future workplace problems in the Keewatin Regional Health Board.

They include finalizing a memorandum of understanding that clearly outlines the relationship between health boards and the Department of Health; the provision of counselling to former and present employees of the board who request it; the need to review the government's Sexual Harassment Policy; the provision of cross cultural training; and starting new discussions with the union on the resolution of outstanding employee grievances

"Ms. Palfrey and I are in agreement on what has to be done," Cournoyea said today. "The recommendations are sound and steps are already well underway to meet a number of them."

**Contact:**      **Ken Lovely**  
Deputy Minister  
Health and Social Services  
(403) 920-6173









94-089

## **Results of National Reading and Writing Assessment Released**

**YELLOWKNIFE (December 16) - The results of the first national assessment of student achievement in reading and writing will provide the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and the public with valuable information to improve school programs, Minister Richard Nerysoo said today.**

The assessment is part of the School Achievement Indicators Program (SAIP), sponsored by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada. The program is intended to measure the progress of students in reading and writing, mathematics and science in an ongoing cycle. The program began in 1993, when students were assessed in mathematics.

Thirteen-year-old and 16 year-old students across Canada were assessed on their reading and writing skills in April of this year. One-half of the students in each age group did the writing assessment, while the other half completed the reading assessment. In the Northwest Territories, the participation rate for the reading assessment was 64 per cent for 13-year-olds and 81 per cent for 16-year-olds, while the participation rate for the writing assessment was 81 per cent for 13-year-olds and 82 per cent for 16-year-olds.

For the reading assessment, students were required to read passages of various levels of difficulty and various styles, such as excerpts from novels, magazine articles, or editorials. They then answered a series of questions about these passages.

Students participating in the writing assessment were given a package of materials relating to the writing topic to read a week before the assessment. Teachers and students were able to discuss the theme of the writing question, and the students could make notes to take into the assessment. They were also allowed to use computers, dictionaries, or a thesaurus.

Student performance was described using five levels -- Level 1 was the lowest, while Level 5 was the highest. Seventy-seven per cent of the 13-year-olds who took part in the writing assessment achieved at an acceptable level (Level 2 or higher), along with 66 per cent of the 16-year-olds (Level 3 or higher). In reading, roughly half of the 13- and the 16-year-olds achieved at an acceptable level.

Results of the assessment are presented by age group for male and female students, both nationally and by province and territory. The assessment provides information on the performance of the school system in each territory and province. It is not designed to assess the achievement of individual school divisions, schools, teachers or students.

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment is already using information from the School Achievement Indicators Program to make improvements in the school system. The Department has launched a numeracy and literacy strategy designed to improve achievement among NWT students, based on the results of the mathematics assessment conducted in April, 1993. Projects that have already taken place include:

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- a math camp to prepare more Grade 9 students to enter the academically challenging mathematics courses in high school;
- department staff working with education departments in the Western provinces and the Yukon to develop a common math curriculum;
- the preparation of a guide for Grade 7 to 9 teachers on teaching reading and writing in the NWT.

"We need to know a great deal more about our students if we are going to implement changes that result in improved achievement," Mr. Nerysoo says. "Participation in the School Achievement Indicators Program is an important step, but we will also have to learn more about our students' backgrounds, learning styles current achievements and the teaching methods currently used."

Future initiatives in the numeracy and literacy strategy include assessing the reading and writing skills of Grade 3 students in English, Inuktitut and the Dene languages, participation in an international study of Grade 3/4 students, Grade 7/8 and Grade 12 students in mathematics and sciences, as well as additional student and teacher surveys.

"Parents also have an important role to play in helping to improve their children's reading and writing skills," Mr. Nerysoo says. "Research clearly demonstrates that children who have books in their homes and whose parents read to them have a head start when it's time for kindergarten, and that success carries on throughout the school years."

Thirteen-year-old and 16-year-old students will be assessed in mathematics again in 1997, and science in 1996 and 1999. The next reading and writing assessment will take place in 1998.

<b>Contact: Brian Menton</b>	<b>or</b>	<b>Debby Dobson</b>
Director		Curriculum Coordinator
Curriculum Services		English Language Arts
Education, Culture and Employment		Education, Culture and Employment
(403) 873-7441		(403) 873-7679



94-090

## Joint Effort Made to Raise Awareness of Land Issue

**YELLOWKNIFE (December 19) — Posters, booklets, fact sheets, and radio and television messages are being developed to help Nunavut residents make an informed choice in an upcoming referendum this spring, says Municipal and Community Affairs Minister Rebecca Mike.**

The referendum to be held April 10, 1995, will set the direction of each community's municipal land administration for the next 20 years. It will ask voters whether or not they want the local government in their community to be able to sell municipal lands.

"One community may vote in favour of selling municipal lands while another may vote against it in favour of a lease-only policy. If a community votes 'no' and opts to implement a lease-only policy, the decision will be upheld for the next two decades," says Ms. Mike.

Voters will be exercising their rights defined under the Nunavut Final Land Claims Agreement, says Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. President Jose Kusugak.

According to Section 14.8.1 of the Agreement: *Between the first and second anniversary of the date of the ratification of the Agreement, the Territorial Government shall conduct a referendum within each municipality to determine whether a majority of the municipal voters are in favour of restricting alienation of Municipal Lands."*

Both the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs and NTI are working together to finalize information packages that will contain a variety of fact sheets which explain and highlight the implications of a yes or no vote. Community groups, organizations, associations or individuals interested in obtaining a more comprehensive understanding of the differences between selling or leasing land only will be able to access that information through NTI or regional offices of the department.

Between the months of February and April, officials from the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs in association with NTI will be flying into as many communities as possible to assist local Councils during public forums or discussions about the referendum question, says Ms. Mike.

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## **Joint Effort Made to Raise Awareness of Land Issue: Page 2**

Various radio and television messages will be produced in three languages: Inuktitut, English and Inuinnaqtun. The television messages will be aired on TVNC during prime time Inuit programming during the month of February and March 95. In addition, public service announcements will be sent to community radio stations and the CBC two weeks before the referendum to remind Nunavut residents to vote.

The results of the referendum in each community will be based on a simple majority vote - over 50 per cent of municipal voters. Municipalities which receive a majority 'no' vote and thereby choose a land lease-only policy, will continue to hold title to all municipal land and act as a landlord for community lots.

Since the mid-1980s, the Government of the Northwest Territories has implemented a lease only practice. The purpose of this policy was designed to prevent excessive land disposition prior to land selection by NTI as part of the settlement of land claims. In the Western Arctic, a "land lease only" policy has been maintained up until the passage of settlement legislation in a particular claim area.

**Contact:**    **Vern Christensen**                    **or**                    **Sue Enge**  
                  A/Deputy Minister    Public Affairs Officer  
                  Municipal & Community Affairs    Office of the Press Secretary  
                  (403) 920-6355    (403) 669-2241

**or**

**Lazarus Arreak**  
Director of Communications  
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.  
(403) 819-979-3232



94-091

**The First Work Activity Project in the Canada/NWT  
"Investing in People" Strategy Begins**

**YELLOWKNIFE (December 21) — The Department of Education, Culture and Employment has signed a \$151,000 contribution agreement with the Gwich'in Tribal Council to provide community-based education, work experience and support services to up to approximately 30 social assistance recipients.**

The Gwich'in Work Activity Project began in Aklavik in mid-November, with 17 participants, who are taking part in individually-designed life skills programs, education, counselling and work experience.

Work experience in Aklavik is being made available through Tribal Council activities such as construction of the Knute Lange Camp, which is a cultural and healing camp, taking care of the elderly at Joe Greenland Senior Citizens Centre, tourism activities and office administration.

Early in the new year, the Gwich'in Tribal Council will also offer Work Activity Projects to up to an additional 10 participants in Fort McPherson, Tsiigehtchic and Inuvik, where work experience will take place on certain construction sites of Tetlit'zheh Construction Ltd. Eligible social assistance recipients are referred to the Gwich'in Work Activity Projects by the community social service worker, career counsellor or Gwich'in counsellor.

"We need to experiment with these kinds of community-based projects as a basis for enabling people to gain the necessary skills and knowledge to participate more fully in our economy and to start down the road to increased self-reliance," says Richard Nerysoo, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. "I am very pleased to see this initiative and leadership in my home region."

The Gwich'in Work Activity Project is part of the Investing in People Initiative, a two-year pilot program. Human Resources Development Canada, under its Strategic Initiatives Fund, and the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, will share the cost of Investing in People on a 50/50 basis, up to a total of \$2 million in 1994-95 and \$6 million in 1995-96.

**Contact: Mark Cleveland**                      **or**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Culture and Careers  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7252

**Charlie Furlong**  
Aklavik Gwich'in Tribal Council  
Aklavik, NT  
(403) 978-2340





94-092

### **Career Planning Services Available In All Regional Centres**

**YELLOWKNIFE (December 21) — Northerners have improved access to career planning services now that Career Centres are open in each regional centre, Education, Culture and Employment Minister Richard Nerysoo said today.**

“With the recent opening of the North Slave Career Centre in Yellowknife, resources are now available in each region to help the people develop the skills they need to successfully compete in today’s competitive job market,” Mr. Nerysoo says.

Career Centre staff provide career counselling and assistance with career planning, as well as information on Education, Culture and Employment’s training programs. Staff may also offer specialized workshops on topics such as resume writing and interview preparation, and participate in community career events, such career fairs, information sessions on post-secondary education or math and science conferences for young women.

Each Career Centre has a resource library with information on occupations, labour market information, career development and planning, as well as university and college calendars. Centres also have some computerized career planning programs available. Computers are available to the public for typing personal resumes and covering letters.

The Career Centres focus on helping people plan their careers and develop the skills needed to find a job -- they do not refer people to specific jobs.

Career Centres are located in Inuvik, Fort Smith, Iqaluit, Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet and Yellowknife.

**Contact: Mark Cleveland**  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Culture and Careers  
Education, Culture and Employment  
(403) 873-7252



