HONOURABLE NELLIE COURNOYEA MINISTER OF HEALTH

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SPECIAL INITIATIVE ON COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY "NORTH OF 60" NATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

MR. SPEAKER, I WISH TO ANNOUNCE A SPECIAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE ON COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY "NORTH OF 60".

THIS PROGRAM IS A JOINT INITIATIVE OF HEALTH AND WELFARE CANADA, THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND YUKON, AND THE SCIENCE INSTITUTE OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

IT IS DESIGNED TO HELP NORTHERNERS RESEARCH PROJECTS RELATED TO COMMUNITY HEALTH ISSUES AND TO THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE TERRITORIES. THE PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE GENUINE NORTHERN INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH RESEARCH WITH NORTHERNERS IN A PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATIVE ROLE.

FUNDING WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A VARIETY OF PROJECTS, SUCH AS:

- 1. THE INVOLVEMENT OF NATIVE PEOPLE IN HEALTH CARE AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL;
- 2. THE IMPACT THAT CHANGING LIFESTYLES HAVE ON HEALTH;
- 3. THE ROLE OF HEALTH COMMITTEES IN HEALTH EDUCATION;
- 4. THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AT THE LOCAL LEVEL;
- 5. HEALTH RISKS OF EXPOSURE TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS;
- 6. MENTAL HEALTH CARE;

7. INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY IN THE NORTH AND THE PROVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES IN ISOLATED COMMUNITIES.

RESEARCHERS WILL BE INVITED TO SUBMIT LETTERS OF INTENT WHICH OUTLINE THE PROPOSED PROJECT; THE LETTERS WILL BE REVIEWED BY A PANEL COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT, HEALTH AND WELFARE CANADA'S NATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (NHRDP), THE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH NETWORK AND NORTHERN COMMUNITIES.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS MUST BE CANADIAN CITIZENS OR LANDED IMMIGRANTS AND MUST HAVE THE SUPPORT OF A FORMAL ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS THE CAPABILITY TO MANAGE ANY RESEARCH FUNDS WHICH MAY BE AWARDED. RESEARCH WILL BE CONSIDERED COMPLETE ONCE THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED WITH RESIDENTS OF NORTHERN COMMUNITIES WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE RESEARCH.

MR SPEAKER, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WELCOMES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE NORTHERNERS TO INITIATE AND DIRECTLY PARTICIPATE IN NORTHERN BASED RESEARCH IN THE HEALTH FIELD.