

Visit www.norj.ca

All I want for Christmas... Check inside for letters to Santa from NWT students. See page 13.



Dear Santa,
My name is Nicole
Norman. I am 10



First Nation may use legal action against Jackpine

The federal government gave the go-ahead to the Jackpine Mine in spite of their promised 35-day delay because of First Nations concerns. See page 7.



Limited resident caribou, bison harvest approved

The territorial government says population numbers of certain caribou and bison herds can support non-Aboriginal harvest. See page 8.



Concerns mounting for BC Hydro's Site C dam

The Alberta government and Parks Canada have expressed concern over potential threats from the proposed dam on the Peace River. See page 9.



Biathlete just shy of Olympic qualification

Hay River biathlete, Brendan Green, is home after coming in 31st at World Cup and prepping for his last shot at making the Olympic team. See page 26.

NORTHERN Journal

\$1.00

December 17, 2013 Vol. 37 No. 33



Pam Walsh, a member of the Fort Smith community choir, belts out a holiday tune at the annual Christmas concert held at Saint Joseph's cathedral in Fort Smith last weekend. See page 15 for more photos from Christmas events across the NWT.

First Nation ordered to take down blockade
Lubicon appealing roadblock injunction awarded to company

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Lubicon Lake Nation protesters going into their fourth week of blocking access to a fracking site on their traditional territory were ordered to take down their roadblock early Monday evening by a Queen's Bench court judge in Calgary.

Despite requests by oil company PennWest Petroleum Ltd. for only a seven-day injunction, the judge granted an immediate six-month injunction on the road block in accordance with the provincial Public Lands Act.

Representatives of the Lubicon Nation are upset by the ruling and planning to appeal, claiming the court was "hostile" and refused to hear Lubicon evidence.

According to the Lubicons' legal counsel, going beyond the requested seven-day injunction requires two days' notice under the Public Lands Act, which was not given.

"Two business days were not provided to properly consider the case," said Cynthia Tomlinson, the nation's lands and

negotiations advisor. "Our legal counsel were only informed Thursday evening that this case was coming forward on Friday morning and reheard on Monday."

Tomlinson said the order "is not the end of this fight, on the land or in the courts." The nation is now calling on the international community to take notice of their struggle.

The group led by Lubicon Lake Nation Chief Bernard Ominayak first began peacefully occupying a road leading to a

site near Haig and Sawn Lakes in northwestern Alberta on Nov. 26 after PennWest began moving fracking equipment and personnel in without notice, according to the First Nation.

Ominayak said protesters are concerned with the "irreparable" damage oil and gas development has had on Lubicon lands and the abilities of members to exercise their inherent rights, without financial benefit to the people.

In a statement of claim filed Dec. 1, Ominayak argued that

the Lubicon Nation never entered into treaty with Canada and that leases issued to Penn West are thus null and void.

"This is yet another example of what the United Nations has already ruled in the Lubicon case. We as people do not have effective redress in the Canadian legal and regulatory system and it is actively being used as a tool to exterminate us in favor of natural resource development" Ominayak said following the hearing result.

Continued on page 3.

POWER SURGE TECHNOLOGIES LTD.

4 Lepine St., Hay River, NT X0E 1G1
T: 867-874-4385 F: 867-874-4383
Toll Free: 1-866-523-5437
www.power123.com

WE HAVE THE PERFECT GIFT for everyone in your family!

Televisions Home Theatre Portable Audio Bell & Virgin Cell Phones Headphones
Gaming Consoles, Games & Accessories Computers & Accessories DVD & Blu-Ray Movies
Music CDs & iTunes Cards Musical Instruments & Accessories Office and School Supplies

The Northern Journal will not publish for the next two weeks. Our next publication date is Jan. 7, 2014.

Alberta establishes Aboriginal women's councils

The government of Alberta is appointing two councils to focus on improving Aboriginal women's economic and social well-being in the province. According to a press release, the First Nations Women's Economic Security Council and the Métis Women's Economic Security Council will act as advisory groups, reporting directly to Robin Campbell, Alberta's minister of Aboriginal Relations, and be supported by a government working group including representatives from health and education. Both councils will include representatives from the Inuit community.

Redford shuffles more than half of Alberta cabinet ministers

Alberta Premier Alison Redford has sworn in 10 new ministers to her cabinet in its first shuffle since her election in 2012. The rearrangement increases the total number of ministers to 19 and associate ministers to 11, making up more than half of the Progressive Conservative caucus. Among the notable changes include Robin Campbell taking over as Environment minister for Diana McQueen, with McQueen taking over the Energy portfolio from now Municipal Affairs Minister Ken Hughes. A new ministry of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour has been added, to be led by former deputy premier Thomas Lukaszuk. Dave Hancock is the new deputy premier.

Fatal collision on Hwy. 63 near Stoney Mountain Road

Poor road conditions are being blamed for a fatal vehicle collision on Hwy. 63 that closed traffic both ways for nearly a day on Dec. 10. The collision between an armoured vehicle heading into Fort McMurray and a GMC truck happened Tuesday morning around 10:00 a.m. The truck driver was pronounced dead on scene and the driver of the armoured vehicle died later in hospital as a result of his injuries. A passenger in the armoured vehicle was uninjured. The highway was fully reopened by 11:00 p.m. the same day. Motorists were asked by RCMP to drive with caution as road conditions at the time of the accident were described as poor.



JOB SEARCH

Search by Keyword

ADVANCED SEARCH >

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

The GNWT recently decided to move all of its job postings online to gnwtjobs.ca rather than putting out print ads.

Politics Labour

Online NWT job recruitment hurts poor, say critics

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Anti-poverty activists in the NWT are concerned that the territorial government's recent decision to move all government job recruitment online will make it more difficult for citizens without

reliable internet or computer access to apply for jobs.

Yellowknife resident George Lessard, who sits on the board of the national organization Canada Without Poverty, said the new "eRecruit" system requires a level of computer literacy and access currently unavailable to many of the territory's residents to successfully apply for jobs with the government.

"What it's doing is discriminating against a particular social and economic group, the poor, and the people who don't have computers, by not allowing them to apply for jobs," he said.

As well, for users who forget their password to log into their accounts, Lessard said the process for resetting that password does not work.

"So not only is the GNWT putting up unfair and inappropriate barriers that make it very difficult for the poor to apply for work with the GNWT, but their website functions so badly that it is also a barrier for those who are not computer literate as I am and certainly excludes many from applying for GNWT jobs," he said.

Lessard said the issue could very well lead to a

longer possible to apply for a job with the GNWT without a valid email address.

He is asking the department to track technical issues raised by applicants and to develop a better technical support service for the public attempting to apply for jobs online. He told *The Journal* he is still waiting for a response, but said the minister shares similar concerns and is investigating within the department.

Jackie Bell, communications manager with the department of Human Resources, confirmed that the department is currently reviewing the concerns raised by applicants.

She said individuals are still able to apply for jobs via fax, email, post mail or in person.

None of that information is listed in the "How to Apply" section of the new website, which offers instructions solely for the eRecruit system.

However, Bell said contact information for HR service centres can be found on the website and on job posters sent out to different communities.

Bell said the GNWT recently made the shift to online advertising in response to the current trend among job seekers, which saw most applicants between Jan. 1 and June 30 of this year state they heard about the job online rather than through print advertising in newspapers.

She said alternate means are taken to make sure individuals in communities hear about jobs, via printed job posters provided to local First Nations, hamlet and Métis offices, government service and career development officers, and at Northern stores.

What it's doing is discriminating against a particular social and economic group, the poor, and the people who don't have computers, by not allowing them to apply for jobs.

*George Lessard
Canada Without Poverty*

Among the barriers it sets up are difficulties experienced when using the website, Lessard said. The GNWT launched a new Human Resources (HR) website, gnwt-jobs.ca, on Oct. 1, which requires users to create a profile using a valid email address in order to apply for jobs.

Lessard said he tried applying for a job to test the website after hearing complaints from friends and was met with technical issues. He said the pdf file for the job was missing and it took 12 days after he contacted the department for technical assistance to get a response.

human rights complaint as a violation of the right to work.

"It contravenes the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights. Therefore, any member of the public who feels that he has a problem with it has every legitimate right to go to the NWT Human Rights office and lodge a complaint against the government," Lessard said.

Weledeh MLA Bob Bromley brought similar concerns to HR minister Tom Beaulieu last week, saying he was "surprised" to learn that it's no

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Have a wonderful Christmas and a Festive Season

Smith's Landing First Nation
P.O. Box 1470, Fort Smith
X0E 0P0 867-872-4950

Photo: GNWT Human Resources

Company negotiating with one chief of split First Nation

Continued from page 1.

The First Nation had announced plans to block another access road on the First Nation's territory the week previous after hearing PennWest was moving equipment into another lease site 2 km south of the existing blockade.

With a perceived lack of movement by the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) on the issue, PennWest took matters into its own hands last Friday in a Calgary court, demanding an injunction against the blockade.

While that hearing was adjourned until Monday, Justice Tilleman ordered that the protesters could not erect any more blockades in the Sawn Lake area over the weekend.

AER staff were at the blockade site last Thursday, informing the protesters of actions that could be taken under provincial legislation.

"AER staff made the protesters aware of the provisions in the Public Lands Act that prohibits any person from blocking access to Crown land, and the remedies available to the agency administering the Act, which is the AER," AER spokesperson Bob Curran wrote in an email to *The Journal*.



A steady group of around 15 protesters has been blockading an access road to PennWest's fracking site since Nov. 26, but a court has ordered them to move.

Photo: Lubicon Lake Nation

First Nation split on development

PennWest is currently in discussions with the Lubicon's other government, headed by Chief Billy Joe Laboucan - a council criticized by Ominayak's group as being pro-industry and put in place by the federal government.

The First Nation formally split in the mid-'90s, with Laboucan's band looking to secure a land claim settlement with the federal government to boost living conditions in the community of Little Buffalo. That band was formally recognized by the provincial and federal governments

following an election in February 2013.

Though PennWest met with Ominayak's government - elected separately in May of this year - in late November, the company refused to halt production, sparking the first roadblock. There have been no meetings since.

Greg Moffatt, manager of stakeholder relations with PennWest, said the company has followed all the rules in obtaining access to the blocked site, where it had planned to build a road and well pad for a drilling operation.

"We have the authorization of the recognized leadership

for the work to be conducted. We followed all of the applicable regulations and requirements established by the provincial government to get approval for the work," he said, adding that the company also dialogued with the Lubicon Lake Nation about its work plans over the course of the year until the blockade began.

Prior to this year's elections in the Lubicon community, where both Ominayak and Laboucan won in separate elections, Moffatt said Penn West had drilled and completed over 60 wells without environmental incident and with the participation of the

Lubicon Nation, whose approved contractors and members were employed in the operations.

"The dispute, from our perspective, is really about leadership in the community and an unresolved land claim," Moffatt said.

Blockade gets nationwide support

Prior to Monday's decision, Lubicon communications coordinator Garrett Tomlinson said those engaged in the 24/7 blockade were working in shifts to get a break from the cold and see their families, and were receiving caravans of supplies from outside the community, which allowed them to set up a full-fledged camp complete with tents, a large canvas shelter and a school bus, as opposed to a line of trucks.

A social media campaign was asking for everything from winter clothing to fuel, food and water.

"It's turned into quite the traffic jam. Even if all the people left, there'd be some serious deconstruction for the oil company to go in and try to take everything out," Tomlinson said.

Security from Penn West have been parking their vehicles at the blockade from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in a

silent face off with protesters holding the road in check round the clock.

"There haven't been any confrontations. Their security personnel come and sit at one end of the road and our guys obviously aren't moving, and that's pretty well where they leave it," Tomlinson said, adding that there have not been any more incidents of the blockade being "run at" by Penn West equipment, as was recorded on video by Lubicon protesters in the first days of the blockade.

Members of the Peace River RCMP detachment have made frequent visits to the road block site over the last several weeks, taking photos and licence plate numbers.

According to Tomlinson, the Lubicon have been at the receiving end of numerous messages of support from across the country, including from the Council of Canadians, Defenders of the Land and the Six Nations Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Confederacy. He said the nation is in the process of touching base with old alliances from the 1980s, when blockades against oil and gas development were prominent on Lubicon territory.

Politics Finance

Miltenberger optimistic about raised debt ceiling

Finance ministers talk money at Meech Lake

By DON JAQUE

NWT Finance Minister Michael Miltenberger said he had a "very productive meeting" with federal finance minister Jim Flaherty while attending the national finance ministers' meeting in Ottawa Sunday and Monday this week.

Miltenberger said he pressed the federal minister on the need for the NWT to have its borrowing limits raised to allow more room for investment in major infrastructure projects.

"We need that for strategic investments with industry," he told *The Journal*.

Speaking in a phone interview from Ottawa Monday afternoon, Miltenberger said there are two major projects the government of the NWT has in mind: completing the Mackenzie Highway from Norman Wells to Wrigley, as well as a possible power line interlink with the

We need (a raised borrowing limit) for strategic investments with industry.

*Michael Miltenberger
GNWT Department of Finance*

Saskatchewan electrical grid to enable the NWT to sell electricity to the south. He said given the rapidly evolving developments of the Sahtu oil play, his government sees that road extension northward as particularly important.

Miltenberger said Premier Bob McLeod had also raised the same issues when he was in Ottawa the week previous.

Miltenberger attended a dinner with all the finance ministers Sunday night and then the formal meetings at Meech Lake Monday, but he said often the side meetings like the one he had with Flaherty can be very productive.

He said the federal minister was pleased with the performance of the NWT, calling it "a well run jurisdiction" and that it has "a clear idea of what it wants to do."


Miltenberger said because of that positive reception he is "very optimistic" action will be taken on raising the NWT borrowing limits.

The other bit of good news that came out of the meeting is that the federal government will extend funding for the Territorial Health Infrastructure Sustainability Initiative (THIS). That program, among other things, provides the funding for medical travel for NWT residents.

NU MECHANICAL

Top purveyors of heating and plumbing services would like to wish you

Happy Holidays



Fort Smith, NT.
867.872.0835
numechanical@hotmail.com

The Northern Journal is an independent newspaper covering news and events in the western Arctic and northern Alberta.

Publisher & Managing Editor Don Jaque
867-872-3000 ext.21 • don@norj.ca

Editor Meagan Wohlberg
867-872-3000 ext.24 • news@norj.ca

Reporter Maria Church
867-872-3000 ext.25 • reporter@norj.ca

Comptroller Dixie Penner
867-872-3000 ext.23 • dix@norj.ca

Advertising Joshua Jorgensen
867-872-3000 ext.15 • sales@norj.ca
Ezra Black
867-872-3000 ext.11 • ads@norj.ca

Administration Jeremy Turcotte
867-872-3000 ext.26 • admin@norj.ca

Production & Graphics Sandra Jaque
867-872-3000 ext.22 • sandra@norj.ca
Paul Bannister
867-872-3000 ext.27 • graphics@norj.ca
Anna Sierra
867-872-3000 ext.20 • design@norj.ca

Advertising Deadlines

Display ad deadline is Thursday at 4:00 p.m.
Classified ad deadline is Thursday at 5:00 p.m.
Email: ads@norj.ca

Subscription Rates

(867) 872-3000

Prices include GST. \$47.25 in Fort Smith;
\$52.50 elsewhere in Canada;
\$105 in the USA; overseas \$164.30.

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Northern Journal welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and include a phone number so the author can be verified. Names will be withheld on request in special circumstances where the reasons are determined to be valid. The Journal reserves the right to edit letters for length, libel, clarity and taste. Opinions expressed in letters and columns are not necessarily those of the publisher or editor.



The Northern Journal is available in the following NWT communities:

Aklavik	Fort Resolution	Sachs Harbour
Behchoko	Fort Simpson	Trout Lake
Colville Lake	Fort Smith	Tsiigehtich
Deline	Gameti	Tuktoyaktuk
Eagle Plains	Hay River	Tulita
Ekati Diamond Mines	Inuvik	Ulukhaktok
Enterprise	Jean Marie River	Wekweti
Fort Good Hope	Lutsel K'e	Wha Ti
Fort Liard	Nahanni Butte	Wrigley
Fort McPherson	Norman Wells	Yellowknife
Fort Providence	Paulatuk	

Available in Alberta at:

Anzac	Fort Chipewyan	Kehewin
Atikameg	Fort McKay	Kinuso
Brownvale	Fort McMurray	Lac La Biche
Cadotte Lake	Fort Vermilion	Morinville
Chard	Frog Lake	Peace River
Chateh	Glenevis	Red Earth Creek
Cold Lake	Goodfish Lake	Saddle Lake
Conklin	Grande Prairie	Slave Lake
Driftpile	Grouard	St. Paul
Duffield	High Level	Valleyview
Edmonton	High Prairie	Wabasca
Enilda	Hythe	
Enoch	John d'Or Prairie	

Published weekly by Cascade Publishing Ltd.

Printed on recycled newsprint with vegetable ink at Wainwright Star Chronicle.

All of us at the Northern Journal

Wish You a Merry Christmas!



We have big plans for the Northern Journal in 2014.

To grow more and become even better.

We are optimistic that 2014 will be a very good year. We hope it will be great for you too.

ARCHIVES

15 Years Ago...

Antoine takes on Premier's seat

Nahendeh MLA Jim Antoine, a seven-year veteran in the Legislative Assembly, was elected as the new premier of the Northwest Territories last week, following a secret ballot election in the House.

20 Years Ago...

New conduct guides for legislature

Members of the Legislative Assembly unanimously approved a motion to adopt a number of conduct guidelines last week, making the Northwest Territories the first jurisdiction in Canada to have such guidelines for members of the legislature.

30 Years Ago...

Feds announce oil deals

The federal government has announced nine oil and gas exploration agreements have been signed for work in the NWT and Yukon. Eight wells are to be drilled over the next five years, with total expenditures of over \$163 million.

Issue: December 15, 1998

Issue: December 15, 1993

Issue: December 15, 1983

The Grinch who stole Parliament



Elizabeth May
MP, Saanich-Gulf Islands
Leader of the Green Party
of Canada

This is an excerpt from the Christmas letter from Green Party leader Elizabeth May to her supporters:

What I see daily as an MP is routine contempt for all our Parliamentary institutions. Bills are forced through with time allocations, breaking all historical records for shutting down debate. In the 40 year period from 1917-1957, I found

seven examples of time allocation. In the last two years, it has happened 50 times. The abuse of process in massive omnibus bills, also forced through with limited debate, without a single amendment being allowed, is also contempt of the legislative process itself.

When I had worked in the Office of the Minister of Environment in the 1980s, all the bills that went through the House were amended. Some of the government bills, such as the Canadian Environmental Protection Act were substantially changed through helpful amendments proposed by opposition MPs.

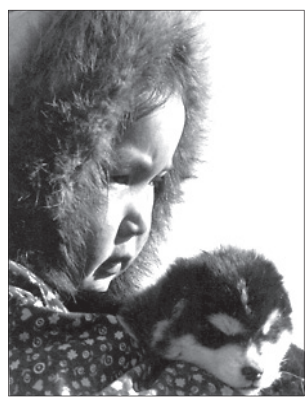
No longer. Somehow Stephen Harper seems to think that even the slightest amendment to a government bill is a political defeat which he will not tolerate. What used to be largely non-partisan exercises – the review of bills, listening to

expert witnesses and citizen groups, to consider improvements - has degenerated into a scripted exercise, an extension of the non-stop partisan warfare. It is offensive to every principle of democratic governance that the spring 2012 omnibus budget bill, C-38 – a monstrous assault on decades of environmental law - all 440 pages, attacking, gutting and repealing 70 other pieces of legislation was passed without a single change between First Reading and Royal Assent. Even drafting errors that were spotted were left intact – and had to be corrected by later government legislation.

Another feature of the current administration is Mr. Harper's systematic assault on evidence based decision making. The suppression of evidence, the lack of proper background even for the fiscal information in support of budget

decisions, is a contempt of Parliament. Our system rests on fundamental principles: government is only legitimate by consent of the governed. Parliament is supreme. And Parliament must control the public purse.

The system has been turned on its head. The Prime Minister, and his political staff, assembled in a fortress called the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), make all the decisions. It dictates to Conservative MPs what they say and how they vote. As was noted recently in an article by former Senator Lowell Murray (Sept 11, 2013, *Globe and Mail*), "Parliament is not even in the picture." All decisions are made in the Prime Minister's office where a completely non-transparent \$10 million/year operation exists to enhance the power-base for the Conservatives.



By DAWN KOSTELNIK
Hunting caribou in the Deh Cho in 1966.

In the end, 160 caribou are shot and the work begins. One hundred and sixty caribou have to be gutted and piled. Livers from the caribou are thrown in the frying pan as they are taken, or eaten warm and raw. They will not have to haul the meat home; the luxury of having an Otter fly in to pick up the meat has been prearranged. The payment for this "luxury" is that they have to pack an airstrip with their snowshoes for the plane to land on.

For two more days the men take turns trying to pack down "sugar" snow with their snowshoes. The airplane won't arrive until they return to the village to make a radio call, instructing the pilot to fly out

for the caribou meat. Six caribou a night are needed to feed the hunters and dogs

One hundred and sixty caribou piled one on the other creates a small meat mountain. Tents are used to cover the frozen flesh while the hunters' head for home. The hunters will now be sleeping in the open by the fire; it is still -35 f at night. Spruce bows are cut and woven into a platform for sleeping and sitting. Caribou ribs are hung over the fire by a three-poled tripod to cook and get slightly smoked, my goodness they are good. Tea is thick and black, sweetened with sugar and flavoured with spruce needles: the best.

A blizzard blows in on the second day towards home. George Pelletier's dogs surprise a moose on the trail. A snarling tangle of dogs taking on a bull moose is destructive. Yelping dogs are thrashed by slashing hooves, thank God the moose has lost his antlers; George can't get to his gun, it's in the carryall under the dogs and angry moose. He turns and runs back

down the trail through the sheeting snow searching for another gun. Everyone has their brake on and is waiting...howling winds carry tattered sounds of snarling yelping dogs, are there men's cries as well?

Nothing, nothing, George comes on my dad first; dad hands him his rifle and watches as he disappears back into the blowing snow. Bang, bang... the rifle is muffled in the wind-storm. George will have to snowshoe home if the moose kills his dogs. Limping but intact, the dogs carry George and parts of the moose towards home.

A shout goes up in the village, a drum sounds at the far end of town. Hunters coming, hunters coming. The heartbeat of the drum calls us to the river bank, look, look there they are, they are coming, hurry, hurry... kids empty out of the village, we are all running down the river bank, out onto the ice.

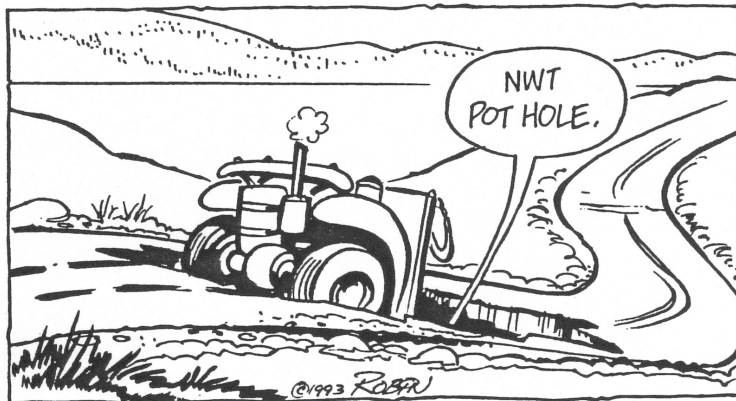
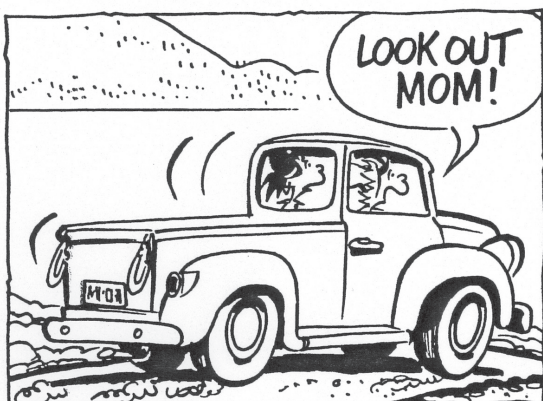
Haggard dogs and men get closer and closer, some men are riding inside the carryalls, dogs run with long tongues,

grabbing bits of snow for thirst. We don't care how tired they are we are looking for our dad's. Kids jump into the sleighs and on top of our fathers, uncles get teased as we run along side of them looking for someone else, the dogs are too tired to bite even. They are home, they are home. Inside the carryalls is a little fresh meat for tonight. We will dance to the drums and eat moose drizzled with lard.

P.S. this was a communal hunt; the Chief George Horsey distributed the meat every Saturday to the people. It took three trips for the Otter to bring the meat into Fort Norman; this food carried us through to break up. In the two weeks this trip took, my dad lost 10 pounds of weight, he says that he ate as much as he could; there was no fat on these winter caribou. Running behind a team of dogs that are weighed down makes you skinny. In order not to starve, he began to mix the dogs oatmeal into his tea for some carbohydrate.

White Girl Hunting reality: Part 3

MUKLUK



FACEBOOK
FEEDBACK

Northern Journal 2013

With construction on the YWCA-run Betty House in Yellowknife officially launched this month, governments and organizations involved are hoping the new facility will alleviate the city's backlog on low income housing, particularly for women and children in distress.



Betty house breaks ground for Yellowknife women

George Lessard: But not, of course, for what's probably the largest population of homeless in Yellowknife ... Single men.

Rita Catholique: Will be run by the YWCA. Most likely filled by Urban Aboriginals. Yes, men are on the street and they need help ASAP. -40 out there.

Join us online!
Like Northern Journal
on Facebook and get the weekly
news delivered to your feed!

Forecast

Inuvik		Yellowknife	
Wednesday			
-24 High	-27 Low	-28 High	-37 Low
Thursday			
-22 High	-26 Low	-29 High	-34 Low
Friday			
-26 High	-27 Low	-31 High	-37 Low
Saturday			
-27 High	-31 Low	-27 High	-33 Low
Norms: -22°C and -30°C		Norms: -21°C and -29°C	

Hay River		Fort Smith	
Wednesday			
-28 High	-30 Low	-26 High	-30 Low
Thursday			
-27 High	-31 Low	-28 High	-34 Low
Friday			
-26 High	-32 Low	-28 High	-35 Low
Saturday			
-22 High	-29 Low	-27 High	-33 Low
Norms: -17°C and -26°C		Norms: -17°C and -26°C	

Neil Young concerts back First Nation's oilsands fight

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Music legend Neil Young is lending his fame to help a First Nation in northern Alberta in a legal battle against oilsands development on its traditional territory.

The rocker announced last week he will play four benefit concerts across Canada in January with 100 per cent of the revenues going to assist the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN) in Fort Chipewyan take on Shell Canada's recently approved Jackpine oilsands mine expansion project.

The theme of the mini-tour, scheduled for Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina and Calgary, is "Honour the Treaties." Tickets went on sale last week, with shows selling out within days. Fellow Canadian musician Diana Krall, a jazz singer and pianist, will appear as a special guest.

Young made public his views on the oilsands earlier this year after visiting representatives of ACFN on a tour of the Fort McMurray oilsands region, comparing the area's open pit mines to the site of a nuclear bomb blast.

ACFN spokesperson Eriel Deranger said the concerts have been in the works since

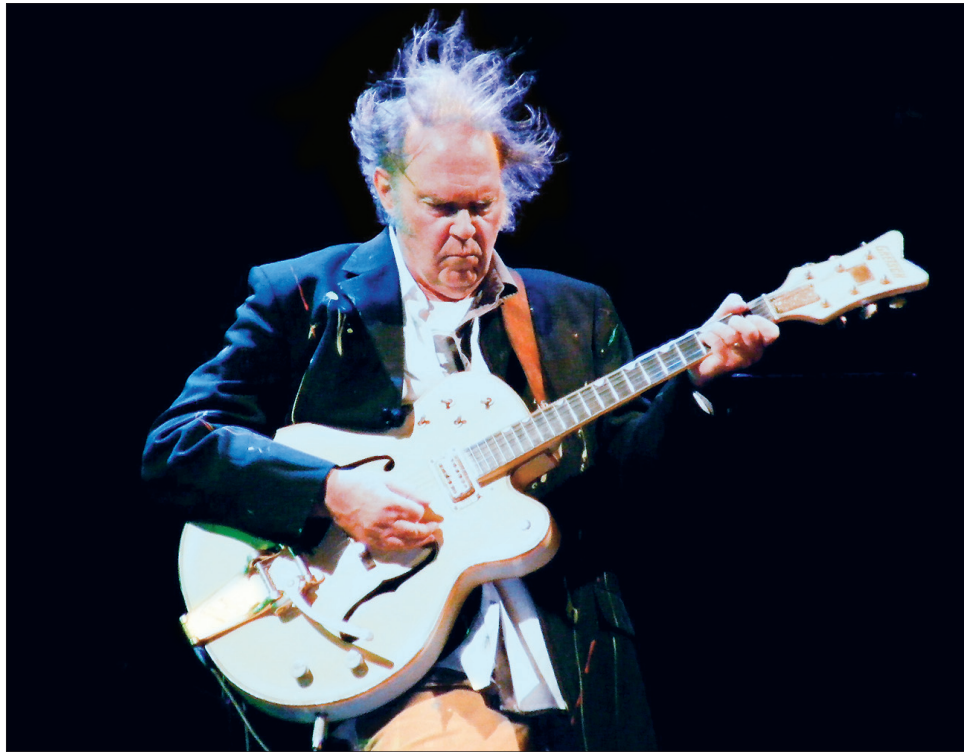


Photo: Phil King

Neil Young is performing four benefit concerts with 100 per cent of proceeds going to the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation's legal defence fund.

September, and that the tour was Young's idea.

"When he was here, after hearing about all the things that we're doing and how ACFN has basically drawn a line in the sand - our Elders' Declaration states we don't want to see development north of the Firebag

River - he really liked that and said, 'I feel like I need to do something for you.'"

Deranger said the First Nation is thrilled to be at the receiving end of financial assistance for their various ongoing legal battles.

"Legal challenges are not new to us and we have multiple

legal challenges that we've been working on over the past few years," Deranger said.

Those include a judicial review of the provincial Public Lands Administration Regulation, which Deranger said overlooks private landowners and First Nations in favour of industry; Species at Risk

Legal challenges are not new to us...Our legal defence fund is to sort of ensure that we have money to pay our lawyers across all our legal avenues that we're exploring.

*Eriel Deranger
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation*

Act violations for caribou and bison; the recent approval of Shell's proposed Jackpine oilsands mine expansion; and one against the provincial government's Lower Athabasca Regional Plan (LARP), a policy regulating land use in the oilsands region.

"We feel that LARP is giving industry major concessions to continue business as usual while continuing to degrade our treaty and Aboriginal rights. I mean, LARP was used basically to justify the decision on the Jackpine Mine, so that for us is a really important case," Deranger said.

ACFN has asked for a statutory review of LARP, which was granted. If there are failings found in the policy document, Deranger said the First Nation will likely

head towards a full blown challenge.

Money garnered from the benefit concerts will be applied across the board, Deranger said.

"Even going to the hearings for public review of any of the applications as intervenors costs quite a bit of money in legal costs, because we have to get legal analysis of all the different applications, so our legal defence fund is to sort of ensure that we have money to pay our lawyers across all our legal avenues that we're exploring," she said.

The shows are scheduled for Jan. 12 at Toronto's Massey Hall, Jan. 16 at Winnipeg's Centennial Concert Hall, Jan. 17 at the Conexus Arts Centre in Regina and Jan. 19 at the Jack Singer Concert Hall in Calgary.

Happy Holidays

Wishing you all the joys of the holidays and a new year filled with exciting educational experiences!

Cree Mitho Makosi • Tłichų Taati K'e Nezi Naxihè Hòèrà • North Slavey
Tewe Yatı Raxehé Goneezó Góyįrà Nídé • Gwich'in Drin Tsal Zhit
Shòh Ohłih • South Slavey Tewe Yatı Nahxexéh Gonezú • Chipewyan
Dzjnedhél hqzy húdhër nidé • Inuktitut ᖃᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᖃᖃᖃᖃ ᖃᖃᖃᖃ
Quviasugritsi Quviasugvingmi • Inuinnaqtun Koviahugitti koviahukvikmi •
French Meilleurs vœux • Peace to all

AURORA COLLEGE

www.auroracollege.nt.ca

780-841-0080 HIGH LEVEL 780-928-2888 LA CRETE

NORTHSTAR
CHRYSLER • DODGE • JEEP • RAM

The folks at Northstar Chrysler in High Level and La Crete must have been good last year because Santa brought them an early gift!
A sack full of savings on 2013s to share with you!

CHOOSE BETWEEN A

2013 RAM CREW CAB SLT
Regularly \$45,500
NOW \$34,140
Their gift to you, savings over \$11,000

OR

2013 DODGE DART
NOW \$16,995
that's \$600 off the listed price.

FIND A SACK FULL OF SAVINGS AT NORTHSTAR CHRYSLER, WHERE PEOPLE BECOME CUSTOMERS FOR LIFE!

www.northstarchrysler.ca



Bitumen production at Shell's open-pit Jackpine oilsands mine is expected to increase by 100,000 barrels per day.



Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation Allan Adam addresses supporters at a rally outside hearings for the Jackpine Mine expansion in Fort McMurray in October 2012. The First Nation is planning to take legal action to stop the approved mine.

Politics First Nations

First Nation to take legal action against Jackpine mine

Ottawa cuts into granted delay period to approve oilsands expansion

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Shortchanging First Nations of their promised 35-day delay, the federal government gave the go-ahead to Shell's Jackpine open-pit oilsands mine expansion project earlier this month despite concerns that its near-doubling in size will cause permanent damage to wetlands and wildlife in northern Alberta.

The Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN) of Fort Chipewyan, whose traditional territory will be impacted by the expansion, which has been fighting the project in the courts since the fall of 2012, is looking at further legal action to halt the project, which would disturb over 12,000 hectares of traditional territory, including the destruction of a 21-km section of the culturally significant Muskeg River.

"We're still waiting for a legal review from our lawyers on options and avenues, so we probably won't have a strategy until January," said Eriel Deranger, head of communications for ACFN. "But we're seriously looking into avenues for legal recourse and appeal this decision."

ACFN was promised an additional 35 days to share its concerns on cumulative environmental effects, impacts on traditional livelihoods and harvesting rights with federal representatives on Nov. 8, but Ottawa cut that period short with the final approval on Dec. 6.

Deranger said ACFN had just had a conference call with representatives from the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) two days before the decision was handed down and received no indication that final approval had been given.

"We were working under the auspice that they were consulting with us in order to make that decision, but a release was sent out Friday afternoon," Deranger said. "It's quite likely that they had their decision already made when they had the meeting with us and they made no indication of that at all."

The expansion was recommended for approval by the joint federal-provincial review panel in June, despite its report noting significant adverse impacts to populations of wildlife, wetlands, migratory birds and old growth forest, among others.

Shell maintains that the expansion will allow for a 100,000 barrel-per-day increase in production, recovering a total of approximately 325 million cubic metres of dry bitumen over its 40-year life and generating an estimated \$17 billion in royalties and taxes for the government, along with 750 full-time jobs.

Though the expansion would bring the mine's surface area up to 13,000 hectares, Shell's own environmental assessment for

the project indicates over 180,000 hectares of wetlands stand to be lost or altered as a result of the project and other oilsands activity in the region.

Shell intends to compensate for 8,500 hectares of wetland with the recent purchase of 730 hectares of former cattle pasture in northwestern Alberta. It has also proposed moving

the threatened Ronald Lake bison herd and woodland caribou populations to a conservation zone, and to create a lake stocked with fish to offset other damages.

Simon Dyer of the Pembina Institute, an energy policy think tank, said it's disappointing to see a project approved despite the company's own assessment

showing the project will exceed limits for air quality, wildlife habitat and the Athabasca River.

"The panel's decision report provides a comprehensive summary of the failures of Alberta and Canada's environmental management, with 88 non-binding recommendations to improve government oversight," Dyer said.

"Yet by recommending that the project should be approved anyway, the panel missed the opportunity to send a strong message to Canadians and our energy customers that they support evidence-based decision making and will hold governments accountable for commitments to improve environmental protection in the oilsands."

*Happy Holidays from the
Department of Environment and Natural Resources!*

**Our offices will be closed from
5:00 p.m. December 20, 2013, until 8:30 a.m. January 2, 2014.**

In case of emergency, please contact:

South Slave Region Wildlife Emergency Line 1-867-872-0400
 24-Hour Spill Report Line 1-867-920-8130
 Report a Poacher Line 1-866-762-2437

Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources

Harvest re-approved for select caribou, bison herds

By MARIA CHURCH

The territorial government has approved a limited harvest for non-Aboriginal residents that puts the Slave River lowlands bison and Beverly and Ahiak caribou back in hunters' range.

The approval will allow resident hunters to purchase tags to harvest one bull from the Beverly and Ahiak herds as well as one bison from the Slave River lowlands bison herd during the 2013-2014 hunting season.

Harvesting approval for both bison and caribou is based on conservation first and foremost, Michael Miltenberger, NWT minister of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), told *The Journal*, but policy makers must balance that with the rights of residents to hunt.

"You have people at both ends of the spectrum," he said. "Our fundamental environmental duty is to make sure we look at wildlife issues and conservation and preservation of the species."

ENR monitors caribou and bison herd numbers each year to determine if they can sustain a limited harvest from residents.

The Beverly and Ahiak barren ground caribou herds are



The Bluenose-East caribou herd, along with the Bathurst caribou herd, remains off limits to resident hunters with population surveys showing their numbers continue to decline.

Photo courtesy of Environment and Natural Resources-GNWT

both located in the far east of the territory near the Saskatchewan border where they are not easily accessible, which has allowed their numbers to remain relatively untouched.

The majority of the territory's caribou are currently under stress and have been the focus of conservation efforts,

including harvesting bans, Miltenberger said.

The Bluenose-East and Bathurst caribou herds have been off limits since 2006 for resident hunters. That ban will continue through the 2013-2014 big game season.

Survey results for the Bluenose-East herd, found mainly

in the Tliche region, show a continued decline in the number of breeding females over the past three years, dropping from approximately 51,800 in 2010 to around 34,500 this year.

The Bathurst herd, also found in the Tliche region, is similarly experiencing

declining numbers. The GNWT is currently looking at developing a joint proposal with the Tliche Government to determine future management actions to conserve the herd.

The next round of population surveys for the Bluenose-East and Bathurst herds will be done in 2015.

Herd numbers for bison in the Slave River lowlands have risen over the past years to their highest numbers since the 1980s, Miltenberger said, which prompted the harvesting approval for this season.

"The herd numbers are around 1,700 animals, which, from the opinion of a conservation and wildlife perspective, are healthy enough to sustain some harvest," he said.

An ENR spokesperson said with resident hunter numbers dropping, they have not put a limit on the number of tags as participation rates are expected to be low.

Resident harvest tags will be available in early January, and will cost \$25 for caribou and \$100 for bison.

Aboriginal bison harvesting is not under restriction, although hunters are encouraged to limit their harvest to bulls only.

Currently, residents include anyone who has lived in the NWT for at least two years. Once the GNWT's new Wildlife Act comes into effect in 2014, that requirement will drop to one year.

Happy Holidays from all of us at Wesclean!

We look forward to working with you in the New Year!



WESCLEAN
15 Industrial Drive, Hay River, NT
867-875-5100



The polar bear has been listed as a "special concern" on the NWT's list of Species at Risk.

Photo: Alan Wilson

Environment Wildlife

First species added to NWT's at risk list

By MARIA CHURCH

Four species have become the first to make the NWT's list of Species at Risk, the department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) announced last week.

Boreal caribou, Peary caribou, polar bear and the hairy braya plant have been selected as the first species to be listed since the NWT Species at Risk Act was created in 2010.

The polar bear was designated on the list as "special concern," meaning it may become endangered because of

threats and biological factors, while the other three have been listed as "threatened," meaning the species is likely to become endangered if nothing is done to prevent it.

The list of species were submitted to ENR Minister Michael Miltenberger last week by the NWT Conference of Management Authorities (CMA), the body responsible for determining the species at risk.

The four species were discussed by the CMA at a meeting held in Inuvik last October where species status reports,

the NWT Species at Risk Committee's species assessments, Crown consultation as well as public input were factored into the decision.

Over the next two years, the CMA will be developing a polar bear management plan and recovery strategies for the boreal caribou, Peary caribou and the hairy braya plant.

The CMA met again in N'dilo last week to assess the status of Dolphin and Union caribou and the northern leopard frog in the NWT. Results are expected in early 2014.

Alberta, Parks concerned with impacts of Site C dam

Hearings on third Peace River hydro project begin in Fort St. John

By MEAGAN WOHLBERG

Officials with the Alberta government and Parks Canada are voicing concern over the potential impacts of BC Hydro's proposed \$7.9-billion Site C dam on the Peace River, which they say poses threats like flooding, increased mercury levels in fish and drying out the Peace Athabasca Delta.

Hearings for the third hydroelectric project on the Peace began in Fort St. John, BC last week, with 20-plus paged written submissions coming from both Alberta's department of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD) and Wood Buffalo National Park in northeastern Alberta.

BC Hydro's W.A.C. Bennett and Peace Canyon dams have already significantly altered the flow of the river into Alberta, say both submissions, which request the hydro company do more to investigate and mitigate the potential negative downstream impacts of another dam.

As Site C will be 85 km closer to Alberta, the impact of flow fluctuations will be felt 85 km further downstream.



BC Hydro's proposed Site C dam would be the third hydro project on the Peace River, leaving residents downstream concerned with the impacts of further flow regulation.

Though the dam has the potential to have positive impacts on the ecosystem related to higher flows, the ESRD document submitted on Nov. 29 expresses a variety of concerns with potential flooding, as well as a suite of problems stemming from low flows when the dam stores water, including stoppages to ferry service and community water intake.

"BC Hydro's dams on the Peace River give BC Hydro significant control over flows in the Peace River. Relatively

short duration (1 to 2 days) decisions about flow releases from these dams can produce low flow pulses that can be detected downstream all the way to the Peace Athabasca Delta," reads the ESRD submission.

"The downstream impacts to Alberta of these pulses will depend on the length of time of these pulses and on downstream tributary flow conditions, which vary seasonally and annually. It is the combination of extended duration low flow release decisions by

BC Hydro and low natural downstream tributary inflow that are of greatest concern to Alberta."

ESRD also lists concerns with the effects on fisheries, including shifts in water temperatures that could impact spawning, the total blockage of upstream fish migration, "hydro-peaking" - which causes direct mortality to fish by stranding and dewatering eggs - and an increase in mercury levels.

"Alberta acknowledges that BC Hydro expects increases

in MeHg (methylmercury) levels in fish populations downstream of the Alberta-BC border to be temporary and within fish consumption guidelines. However, it is unclear whether Albertans are aware of this increase, the amount of the increase, and the duration of the impact," states the document.

The result could be more restrictive fishing on the Peace River, states the province.

Officials with Wood Buffalo National Park offered similar concerns to the panel, asking that cumulative impacts of all three Peace River dams on the Peace-Athabasca Delta be taken into consideration when reviewing the project.

The 33-page submission from Wood Buffalo's superintendent Rob Kent states both the Bennett and Peace Canyon dams have significantly altered the flood-dependent delta ecosystem, 80 per cent of which is located within the park's boundaries.

The report argues that flood events are needed to fill the highest perched basins (lakes and wetlands) in the flat delta area. Because peak water

levels on the rivers are not sufficient to replenish those high-level basins, overbank flows generated by ice-jams during spring break-up are required. According to Parks, those flood events have been decreasing because of upstream hydro.

"Ice-jam floods have been infrequent since the Peace River flow has been regulated, resulting in only two periods of extensive delta-wide flooding in the 45 years since the Bennett Dam was completed," states Parks' submission.

Kent states that the ecology of the delta is changing dramatically, which is affecting First Nation communities in the delta area.

"Local people are reporting that changing plant communities, water levels and use by wildlife have affected their traditional use of, and connection to, the area," the document states, noting that wetland loss has seen a near disappearance of muskrat from the delta.

Parks Canada recommends the review panel consider the full range of downstream effects, up to and including the delta, in its analysis.

Illustration courtesy of BC Hydro

Holiday Schedule

Dec. 24: CLOSED AT 3:00 P.M.
Dec. 25: CLOSED
Dec. 26 - 27: REGULAR HOURS
Dec. 30: REGULAR HOURS
Dec. 31: CLOSED AT 3:00 P.M.
Jan. 1: CLOSED

Emergency Service

Please call **872-4567** or **872-2458** for further information.

Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year
from all of us at TDC!

TDC Contracting Ltd.
FORT SMITH, NWT

DECEMBER 25, 2013

No. 875665-7823

MERRY CHRISTMAS

May your days be
MERRY and BRIGHT

7 Pine Cres.
Fort Smith, NT
867-872-2058

Inuvik-Tuk highway still waiting for contracts

By MARIA CHURCH

The \$300-million highway project that will link the communities of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk is awaiting final contracts before federal and territorial money can kickstart construction, according to NWT Transportation Minister Tom Beaulieu.

While GNWT funds for the highway are currently at their disposal, federal contributions to the tune of \$100 million are earmarked but not accessible until final contracts are drawn up, he said.

"In order to actually start spending money directly on the highway itself we have to have a contract with the builders," Beaulieu told *The Journal*.

Northwind Industries Ltd., a 100 per cent



Current construction of the Inuvik-Tuk highway is limited to access roads.

Inuvialuit owned and operated company based in Inuvik, and E. Gruben's

Transport Ltd. operating out of Tuktoyaktuk were jointly awarded the highway



A joint contract with Northwind Industries Ltd. and E. Gruben's Transport Ltd. has yet to be finalized.

contract earlier this year.

Construction has thus far been limited to the access roads in Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik, which are now 60 per cent complete. The actual highway construction has yet to begin.

"We are mobilized to move right into that, but we have to wait until the money flows before we start working on that portion," Beaulieu said.

Several permits for the

highway project, including from the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, are outstanding, but Beaulieu said he is confident they will receive approval.

The minister was in Inuvik and Tuk in early December to meet with community leaders and discuss potential concerns about the highway.

Inuvik Mayor Floyd Roland said the town would like to see improvements

to its current infrastructure, such as Airport Road, which is in poor condition and will see even more traffic once highway construction begins.

"The condition of our Airport Road is something we've been concerned about because of the heaving and some of the old culverts and the sloughing that is starting to happen on some of the embankments," he said.

Roland said ideally the town would like to see the department fund a reconditioning of the road, but after talks with the minister he said it's more likely a few key culverts will be replaced next summer.

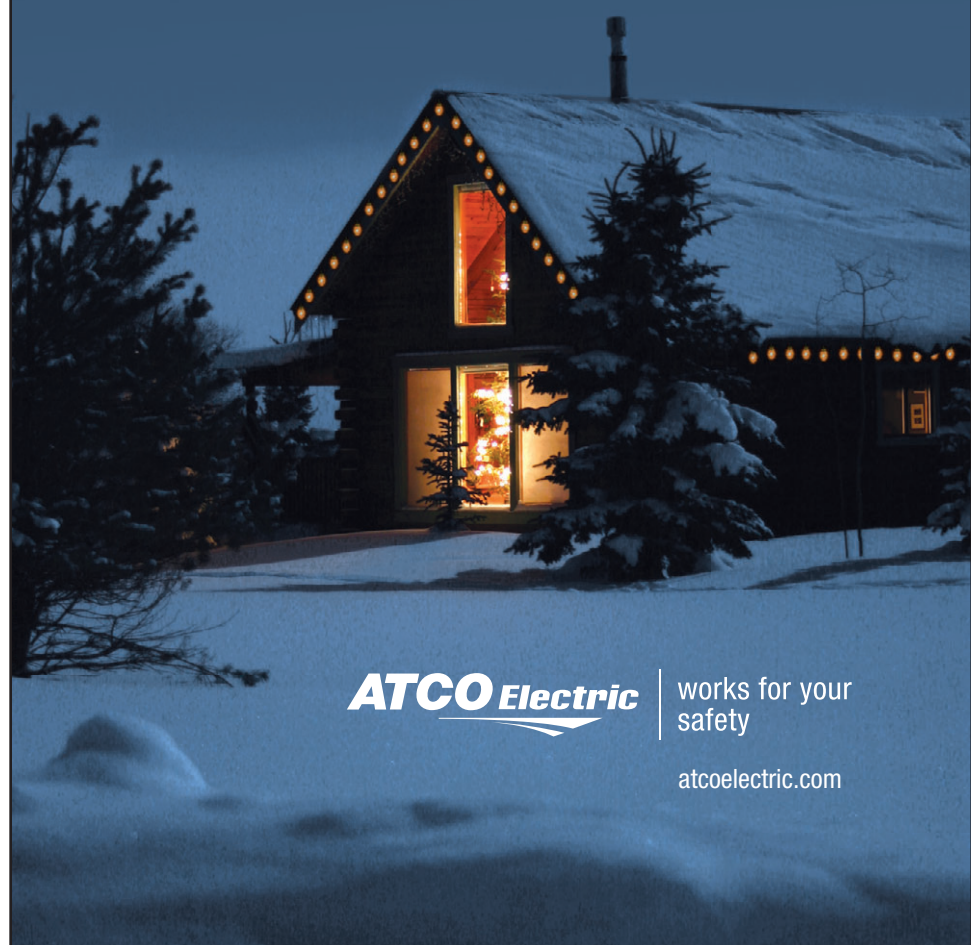
According to the department of Transportation, once completed, the highway is expected to have created 1,000 one-time and 40 long-term jobs in the NWT.

With proper highway access through the Arctic region, tourism is projected to increase by \$2.7 million per year and costs for operating the Mackenzie Gas Project pipeline would be reduced by nearly \$400 million.

Photos: GNWT Transportation

Merry & Bright

Use electricity safely. When decking your halls, replace any damaged or old lights and cords.



ATCO Electric | works for your safety
atcoelectric.com

Creating Futures

All of us at the SSDEC would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Productive New Year.

Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/SouthSlaveDEC

Visit us online at www.ssdec.nt.ca

Inuvialuit, Gwich'in land users document land changes

Researcher shares monitoring techniques at Aurora College in Fort Smith

By MARIA CHURCH

A research project from the University of Victoria is using photography and videography to document land user knowledge of environmental change with the aim of expanding scientific knowledge beyond the laboratory.

Trevor Lantz, a professor of environmental studies at the University of Victoria, is the lead behind an environmental monitoring project, which gathers interviews, photos and videos from land users to document environmental change in the North.

The project, he said, allows scientists to more efficiently direct their research efforts.

"If everyone in the Aklavik area, for example, is talking about one thing that is both concerning to them as a community, but also something that is really unusual and quite abnormal from an environmental perspective, then that message comes through really clearly through this program," Lantz told *The Journal*. "As a scientist, it helps guide where we put our limited resources and effort."

Lantz informally began working with land users in 2008-2009 when his research



Photo: Jessica Dutton

Trevor Lantz explains his research techniques to a crowded room of students and community members at Aurora College's Thebacha campus last week.

on environmental change led him to connect with Northern community members as guides and collaborators.

When Lantz and his team first heard accounts of the 1999 storm surge that flooded the Mackenzie Delta and Yukon North Slope from those in Inuvik and Aklavik, he realized there was a disconnect between scientific knowledge and land user knowledge.

"Lots of people were on the land when it happened.

Some people had to be evacuated; people who had camps out there saw the effects of it first hand. They watched the vegetation die when they were at their camps the next spring, but it was kind of off the radar of scientists and decision makers," he said.

"At the end of it we realized that what had happened here was a really big deal and it had largely fallen between the cracks in terms of being documented beyond the

local community's knowledge of it."

Lantz led his research team to begin formalizing a method by which the community could document their first hand knowledge of environmental changes and share it with scientists.

A monitoring program was later developed in participation with government and organizations in the Inuvialuit and Gwich'in settlement regions, including the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat,

the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the Mackenzie Delta Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

The monitoring program has thus far collected photos and recordings from 52 local experts at more than 270 locations over the past three years.

"People often focus on the cultural changes of the landscape and what those changes mean for the cultural significance, talking about things like place names, family traditions and stories about the land. It takes it in a dimension that often resource management and science doesn't really go and it's a really important aspect to think about," Lantz said.

A recent addition to the program has land users signing out cameras to document their day-to-day impressions on the changing environment.

Research techniques shared in Fort Smith

Lantz was in Fort Smith last week to share his research techniques at Aurora College's Thebacha campus, with about 70 people crowding in for his presentation.

Sarah Rosolen, manager of the Aurora Research Institute, which organized Lantz's visit, said she hopes research in the form of photo and video documentation by land users catches on in other communities like Fort Smith.

The research could be used to study areas of cultural importance and environmental change, she said.

"Some of the benefits that (Lantz) was suggesting is you are getting the full story when you do those interviews and when you go out on the land with people. You're not just taking the information that you want; you are taking it all and if you really listen to it, it can inform where you go," she said.

"These people are on the land and they are experts on the environment. They have a lot of knowledge there and if you listen to it, your research as a Western scientist can be so much more informed."

Rosolen said she hopes to continue working with Lantz towards cultivating land-user research in the community, particularly in the school system, but it ultimately depends on the level of local interest.

Happy Holidays

From the
Hamlet of Paulatuk

All of us at the community government would like to wish you a happy holiday and a joyous new year. We'd also like to extend our thanks to all government agencies and self-employed people in the NWT.

FIRE PREVENTION SERVICES LTD. **NORTHERN OWNED AND OPERATED**

Protecting your people and property with fire protection systems that are efficient, effective and reliable.

ALL OF US at Fire Prevention Services Ltd. would like to extend our best wishes for the holiday season. **BE HAPPY, STAY SAFE.**

DESIGN INSTALL VERIFY INSPECT & MAINTAIN

Fire Alarm Systems / Sprinkler Systems
Industrial & Commercial Special Hazards Fire Suppression Systems
Portable Fire Extinguishers & Training / Fire Protection Products & Services

CASA Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association MEMBER
CFRCA CANADIAN FIRE ALARM ASSOCIATION MEMBER
NFPA MEMBER

FIRE PREVENTION SERVICES LTD.
#1 Melville Drive, P.O. Box 2422, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P8
Phone: (867) 873-3800 / TOLL FREE in NWT & Nunavut: 1 (888) 202-4091
www.ykfireprevention.ca

Celebrate

the tradition of giving,
the beauty of the season,
and a New Year of peace
and happiness,
to all constituents
of the North.



**David Ramsay
MLA Kam Lake**

Telephone: (867) 669-2237
Toll Free Phone: 1 (800) 661-0784
Email: David_Ramsay@gov.nt.ca

Wendy Morgan, Constituency Assistant
Legislative Assembly
Telephone: (867) 669-2296
Toll Free Phone: 1 (800) 661-0784
Email: davidramsay.mla@gmail.com

www.daveramsay.ca

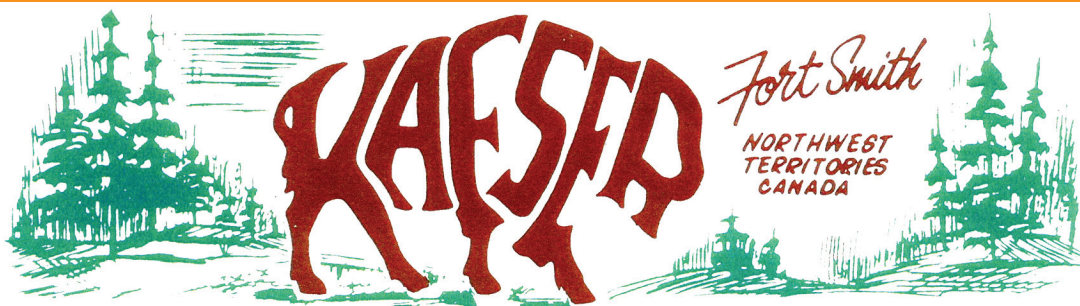


K'at'l'odeeche First Nation

Happy Holidays

from the
K'at'l'odeeche
First Nation

May 2014 seal you
in the Book of Life.
May it be a good and sweet year
for us and all the peoples
of the North.



KAESER'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE



DECEMBER 2013

Enter your name in the Drygoods store.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 REGULAR HOURS	2 REGULAR HOURS	3 REGULAR HOURS \$25 DRAW	4 REGULAR HOURS	5 REGULAR HOURS	6 MOONLIGHT MADNESS! 9 A.M. - 10 P.M.	7 REGULAR HOURS
8 REGULAR HOURS	9 REGULAR HOURS	10 REGULAR HOURS \$25 DRAW	11 REGULAR HOURS	12 REGULAR HOURS	13 MOONLIGHT MADNESS! 9 A.M. - 10 P.M.	14 REGULAR HOURS
15 NOON - 5 P.M.	16 9 A.M. - 7 P.M.	17 \$25 DRAW 9 A.M. - 7 P.M.	18 \$25 DRAW 9 A.M. - 7 P.M.	19 \$50 DRAW 9 A.M. - 8 P.M.	20 MOONLIGHT MADNESS! 9 A.M. - 10 P.M.	21 \$50 DRAW 9 A.M. - 6 P.M.
22 \$75 DRAW NOON - 6 P.M.	23 Fresh turkeys arrive! 9 A.M. - 8 P.M.	24 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.	25 Merry Christmas! CLOSED	26 CLOSED	27 9 A.M. - 8 P.M.	28 9 A.M. - 6 P.M.
29 NOON - 5 P.M.	30 9 A.M. - 7 P.M.	31 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.	1 Happy New Year! CLOSED	2 REGULAR HOURS	3 REGULAR HOURS	4 REGULAR HOURS



Kaeser's Stores Ltd.
76-80 Breynat St., Fort Smith, NT
(867) 872-2345

**BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY
from the management and staff of Kaeser's.**

Dear Santa

Love,
Fort McPherson
and Fort Smith



Dear santa Hi
my name is
Colton I have
14 people in my
family. I would
like a remote control
helicopter, a xbox 360, ps4,
ps3, a iphone 5 a iwacthand
and a ipad. How is Mrs Clause? Does
she make the best fast and cookies for
you and the elves? Thank you and
could you get me a cellphone so I
could call home from anywhere
to my house. Thank you. Love Cole.



Nom: Leif

au Père Noël

bonjour père Noël pour
NOËL je veux des lego
et je veux un bébé frère
je m'appelle leif et je veux
un chien et je veux 100 dollar
et je veux du bois et je veux
toi et je veux un livre pour
ma famille et je veux un
ipad et je veux un chapeau
qui est magique
et je veux ma famille
et je veux un robot et je
veux un chandail qui est
magique et je veux des
chocolat pour mes parents
et je veux un bille de livre
joyeux Noël et bonne année

Grade 2

Leif

December 5, 2013

Dear Santa,
How are you? I was really good
this year.

This year I would like nothing.
Please help give food to the poor,
how many elves do you have

Love,
Nicholas
age 8
grade 3

Grade 3

December 11, 2013

Dear Santa
Hi how are you?
How are the elves?
This Christmas I would like
one of your elf for Christmas
please and I will want a dog
I will have cookies and your
reindeer I will have carrots
Thank you for my presents
last year I will see you in
two weeks

Abigail

Grade 2

Dear Santa,
My name is Nicole
Norman. I am 10
years old and I am
a girl from fort
McPherson, MT. This
year I was a nice girl because
I baby sat my little cousin
Dallas, helped my mom with chores
and cooking and I helped my grandma
with sewing. For Christmas I would
like a cool bike, a Barbie
house and a Barbie. How old you
Santa? When are you coming to
Fort McPherson? How are
you doing Santa?

LOVE Nicole

Grade 4

Happy Holidays

from everyone at the

NORTHERN Journal

Our next issue will be
published on Jan. 7, 2014



INUVIK Sunrise Festival

celebrating the return of the sun 200 km North of the Arctic Circle
Inuvik • Northwest Territories • Canada

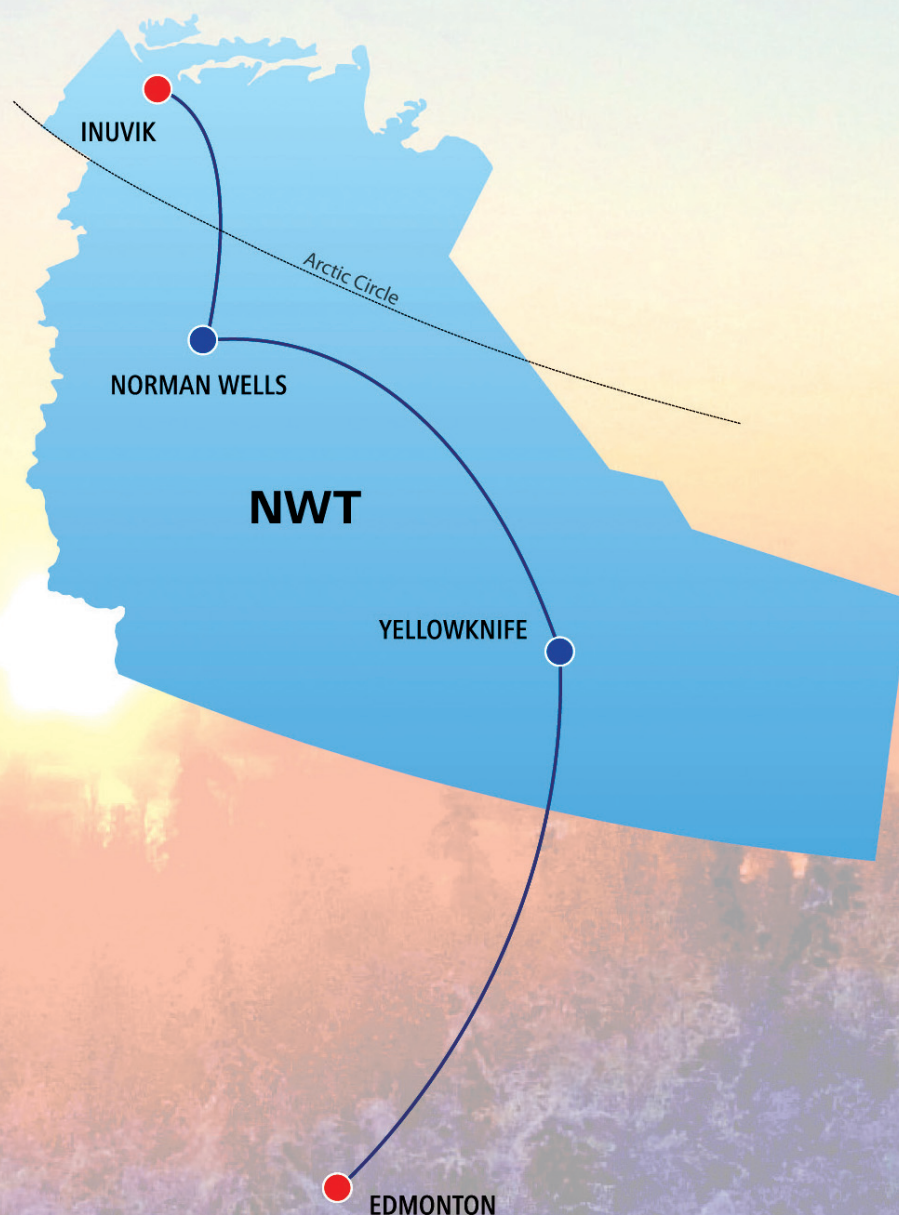
Come join us January 10-12, 2014 in Inuvik, the northernmost town in Canada, as we celebrate our first sunrise in 30 days.

Packages Include:

- Roundtrip airfare between Edmonton & Inuvik
- 2 nights' accommodation
- Airport transfers in Inuvik
- Choice of local winter outdoor adventure
- Official Order of Arctic Adventurers Certificate signed by the Mayor of Inuvik
- All for only \$1,200.*

Come to Inuvik for the sunrise, and choose how you want to enjoy the rest of your stay. Options include guiding a sled team of huskies, enjoying a scenic and leisurely snowmobile tour, driving on the famous Mackenzie River ice road or cross country skiing through the arctic landscape.

*Price is per person, based on double occupancy, plus applicable taxes.



Book your **Once In A Lifetime Arctic Experience** now by visiting www.destinationinuvik.com or by calling 867.777.8618

A limited number of spots are available!





Photo: Maria Church

The acoustics in St. Joseph's Cathedral make it the perfect venue for a holiday concert put on by the Fort Smith community choir, whose performance last weekend had the crowd bobbing along to the classic jingle, Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, joining in for a soulful version of Silent Night, and on their feet for the final song, Joy to the World.

Christmas in the NWT



Photo: Don Jaque

Firefighter Lorne Hudson and church volunteers Rita Bernhardt, Ciceron Aissoun, Ethel Chalifoux and Diane Benwell get help from Hendrik, Riley and Abby Venema organizing the bounty of this year's Fort Smith volunteer fire department food and toy drive in the Pentecostal Church basement.



Photo: Maria Church

Caroling brings out the Christmas spirit in those gathered at the United Church in Fort Smith for an evening of song last week.



Photo: Steven Krug

Inuvik's annual Skate with Santa sees youth and adults alike joining jolly ol' St. Nick on the ice.



Photo: Chuck Blyth

Even Fort Simpson's tractors and trucks are decked out in holiday lights for the annual Christmas parade, held on the first weekend of December.

Having a VERY MERRY Fort Smith Christmas!

Holiday events from Dec. 17 – Dec. 23

TUESDAY
DECEMBER 17

Drop-in Soccer
at the Rec. Centre
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Drop-in Basketball
at the Rec. Centre
8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 18

Da Vinci's Workshop
Christmas Ornaments
3:15 p.m. at Library

National Film Board Club
Animated Holiday Shorts
7:00 p.m. at the Library

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 19

Drop-in Volleyball
at the Rec. Centre
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
DECEMBER 20

Gingerbread House & Christmas Stocking Contest Deadline
5:00 p.m. at the Library

Moonlight Madness!
Select shops stay open late!

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 21

Swim with Santa
at the Pool
from 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Followed by Free Swim
until 3:00 p.m.

Gingerbread House & Christmas Stocking Contest Voting
Vote for your favourite
Gingerbread House and
Christmas Stocking
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
at the Library

Shortest Day Film Festival
1:30 p.m. Family and
Comedy Shorts
at the Library

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 22

Christmas Movie
Disney's A Christmas Carol
2:00 p.m. at the
Rec Centre

Bedtime Stories with Santa
7:00 p.m.
at the Library

MONDAY
DECEMBER 23

Christmas Bird Count
Meet at 10:00 a.m.
in the theatre at Wood
Buffalo National
Park office

Pre-School Storytime
10:30 a.m. at the
Library

Drop-in Volleyball
at the Rec. Centre
8:00 to 9:30 p.m.



**Watch for Santa
on the streets of Fort Smith!**

**MARY KAESER LIBRARY'S
GINGERBREAD HOUSE &
CHRISTMAS STOCKING
CONTEST**
SHOWCASE YOUR CREATIVITY
&
CHRISTMAS SPIRIT
**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH @ 5:00 P.M.**
**VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITES
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST
BETWEEN 1:00 - 4:30 P.M.**

Categories for adults, children & groups
Come in and vote for your favourites

**Fort Smith
Minor Hockey
50/50 Draws**
WIN BIG IN OUR BI-MONTHLY 50/50 DRAW.
All funds go to support Fort Smith minor hockey,
player development and youth athletics.
TICKETS ARE ONLY \$2.
Draw dates are December 15 and 29, January 12 and 26,
February 9 and 23, March 2, 9 and 23.

**DRIVE
SAFE
and HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**
*from the Mayor
and Council*



For additional information on events, please contact Fort Smith Town Hall at (867) 872-8400.

Four NWT hamlets elect new mayors

Fort Liard mayor acclaimed, Fort Resolution's re-elected

By MARIA CHURCH

Hamlets in the NWT have voted in four new mayors, re-elected one and acclaimed another after elections took place last week across the territory.

The elections saw 12 candidates run for mayor in five communities and 54 candidates seek councillor positions.

"A number of incumbents didn't win their seats back, particularly in the mayoral races, but for the most part it appears the elections went off pretty well," David Kravitz, from the department of Municipal and Community Affairs, told *The Journal*.

Voter turnout in general was good, he said, and in some communities better than anticipated.

Darrel Nasogaluak has been voted in as the new mayor of Tuktoyaktuk, ousting three-term incumbent Merven Gruben. Four councillors were acclaimed: Erwin Elias, Darrel Nasogaluak, Peter Nogasak and Dennis Raddi, Sr.

In Fort Liard, Morris McLeod ran uncontested



Photo: Adam Jones

Darrel Nasogaluak ousted three-term incumbent mayor Merven Gruben in Tuktoyaktuk's municipal election last week.

to retain his place as mayor of the community. Joanne Deneron, Kathie Hardisty, Barbara McLeod, Ernest McLeod, Irene McLeod and Ken Nowoselski were elected as councillors.

In Aklavik, Charles Furlong has been elected mayor, defeating incumbent Arnulf

Steinwand by 152 votes. Edwin (Eddy) Greenland, Dave McLeod, Bobbie Jo Greenland-Morgan and William (Billy) Storr were picked for council.

John Leskiw II was voted in as mayor of Enterprise with 31 votes compared to incumbent Michael St.

Amour's 17. Chaal Cadieux, John Leskiw III and Craig McMaster were all voted councillors.

In Fort McPherson, Vasilos Bill Prodromidis was elected mayor, defeating incumbent John Itsi and candidate Ruby Koe by nearly twice the votes, 101

versus 55 and 59, respectively. Leslie P. Blake, David Cook, Mary Rose Tetlich and Abraham Wilson were elected for council.

Fort Providence elected four councillors: Evelyn Krutko, Jonas Landry, Violet Landry and Pearl Leishman. Mayor Tina Gargan

was elected last year and will be serving the second of her two-year term.

Fort Resolution Mayor Garry Bailey was re-elected with 117 votes compared to Louis Balsillie's 92. Dawna Beaulieu, Frank Fabien, Angela McKay and Patrick Simon were voted in as councillors.

In Paulatuk, Tony Green, Sadie Lester, Albert Ruben, Sr. and Millie Thrasher were elected for council. Mayor Ray Ruben, Sr., elected last year, will be serving the second of his two-year term.

All candidates were acclaimed in Sachs Harbour, but an election was held to determine the length of term for the councillors. Angella Keogak, Martha Kudlak and Lena Wolki will be serving two years and Vernon-Blaine Amos will be serving for one year.

Ulukhaktok held a by-election, voting in Trudy Ann Akoaksion, Laverna Klengenber and David Kaptana as councillors.

According to Kravitz, there have been no requests from candidates for recounts.




G cascade graphics

hopes you have a safe and happy holiday!




Mikisew Cree man publishes leukemia survival story

By MARIA CHURCH

Seven years ago, David Tuccaro, Jr. was facing a death sentence.

Only 25 years old, the Mikisew Cree First Nation man from Fort McMurray was diagnosed with leukemia, a cancer that originates in bone marrow.

Today, after years of hospital procedures and a life saving bone marrow transplant, Tuccaro is a leukemia survivor with a recently published tale recounting his harrowing journey.

The book, titled *Bad to the Bone: the true story of David Tuccaro, Jr.*, was released last month, written by award-winning author Marala Scott through a series of interviews with Tuccaro.

"It's weird reading your own story, but at the same time it's humbling. The whole intent is to help as many people as possible with the story," Tuccaro shared in an interview from Los Angeles.

The intent is two-fold, he said: to encourage bone marrow donation and to provide guidance to current and future leukemia patients.

"When I was going through what I'd gone through with the leukemia, I had my doctors



Photo courtesy of David Tuccaro, Jr.

David Tuccaro, Jr. shares his story of surviving leukemia in the recently published book, *Bad to the Bone*.

telling me one thing, what to expect, and my family and friends telling me what to expect, but I didn't have a survivor telling me what to expect," he said. "That's what

the book is really about, to answer some of these questions. There needs to be somebody that has gone through this to give you the hope that you really need to get through it."

We can't predict the future or modify the past, but we can live for the glory as it happens. I spent over four months waiting for the end and while it was taunting, it brought clarity.

David Tuccaro, Jr.

The book spares no details about Tuccaro's personal life, recounting memories of him growing up as the son of David Tuccaro, Sr., the man behind Tuccaro Inc., a multi-million-dollar company based in Fort McMurray that provides support services to the oilsands industry.

Tuccaro, Sr., born and raised in Fort Chipewyan, is allegedly one of Canada's most successful Aboriginal businessmen.

Tuccaro, Jr. said his family's reaction to the book, particularly his father's, was a top concern, but they were unquestionably supportive.

"They loved it," he said. "They said it was the best thing I could have done, just get everything off of my chest. They saw the therapeutic

process that went with it as well, so they were all really proud and happy that I did it.

"Especially my father. He was so happy that I got a chance to do this," Tuccaro said.

The narrative of the book weaves in and out of Tuccaro's time in the hospital, permeated by childhood memories and stories of young adulthood.

Stirring and sometimes painful conclusions are drawn about the value of life.

"We can't predict the future or modify the past, but we can live for the glory as it happens. I spent over four months waiting for the end and while it was taunting, it brought clarity. I spent the time I had to reflect on my life, which meant facing

my demons as well," reads one passage.

While it's only been a month since its release, Tuccaro has been receiving encouraging feedback from readers, some of whom feel compelled to share with him their own experiences with cancer, he said.

"It's a relatable book. There is always somebody that you're going to know that's been through it, or is going through it."

For Tuccaro, the light at the end of the tunnel for the entire experience was meeting his bone marrow donor, Christian Holtmann from Germany, four years after the lifesaving transplant.

"I'll never forget the first meeting I had with Christian; it was the greatest moment of my life," he said.

Tuccaro said he hopes his and Christian's story inspires other to donate bone marrow.

"That is what saved my life," he said. "It's a double bonus because not only are you saving someone's life, you are also going to be a hero in someone's eyes."

For information about the book, Tuccaro's story and becoming a bone marrow donor, check out www.davidtuccaro.com/.

Christmas time is for making connections with friends and family!



Northwestel | Bringing us together. | Wishing you a wonderful Holiday Season and a New Year full of Peace and Happiness!

Happy Holidays

from the Village of Fort Simpson

We look forward to seeing you all in March for the Beavertail Jamboree.

The **COOLEST** celebration in the Deh Cho!



Webster

Female
Adult
Tuxedo Mix

ADOPT A Shelter Pet

Fort Smith Animal Society

Please leave a message at 872-5543 for details.

Webster is big, cuddly, female and full of love. Adopt her this Christmas. She is very friendly and comes running when you visit, so come on down.



- Spayed/Neutered
- Up-to-date with routine shots
- House trained

WESCLEAN NORTHERN SALES LTD.
Ph: (867) 875-5100 • Fax: (867) 875-5155
E-mail: info@wescleannwt.com • web: www.wescleannwt.com

Benjamin Moore
The Colour Experts

'Beloved' Fort Chip councillor dies in car crash

By MARIA CHURCH

Friends, family and the Mikisew Cree First Nation in Fort Chipewyan are mourning the passing of Willie Courtoreille, a band councillor who was killed last week in a head-on car collision on Hwy. 63.

Courtoreille was driving to Edmonton Tuesday morning when his truck was hit by an armoured vehicle heading to Fort McMurray. Both drivers were killed as a result of the collision.

A preliminary RCMP investigation suggests that poor road conditions caused the crash, which shut down the highway for most of the day and prompted police to ask drivers to use "extreme caution" and drive according to road conditions.

The Mikisew Cree First Nation released a statement Thursday, mourning the passing of Courtoreille, a born and raised Fort Chipewyan man who served as band councillor for more than 20 years, many of those alongside his brother, Chief Steve Courtoreille.

"We thank him for his years of service to our community and we will miss



Photo: Mikisew Cree First Nation

Willie Courtoreille served as councillor for the Mikisew Cree First Nation for more than 20 years.

him dearly as our leader, our Elder, a Husband, Father, Grandpa and most of all to so many as a caring friend," the First Nation stated.

"On behalf of all Council, and members of the Mikisew Cree First Nation, we express our sincerest condolences to his wife Marie, and all his children, grandchildren,

He always had kind words for people, and I'm not saying this just because he's gone. The real Willie Courtoreille was a very kind person and he respected other people.

David Poitras

great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchild whom he loved so much and spoke of fondly so often."

Friends share memories of Courtoreille

David Poitras grew up with Courtoreille in Fort Chip before moving to Fort Smith in 1963 and shared a story of their youth with *The Journal*.

Poitras and Courtoreille both attended the Holy Angels residential school where one year, a visiting priest gave the students a challenge: The student who could write "Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us" the most times would win a pure white sled puppy he had been breeding.

"We were all writing in every spare minute we had. We all wanted that puppy," Poitras recalled.

In the end, it was announced that Courtoreille had won the puppy, a huge disappointment for all the other young students who had been writing their little hearts out.

Around 40 years later, Poitras bumped into Courtoreille at the Wood Buffalo fire camp and brought up the memory of the priest's challenge and the white puppy, asking him what had happened to the dog.

Courtoreille's response was not what Poitras was expecting.

"He said, 'It didn't do me any good to win it,' and so I asked him, 'How come?' He

said, 'It died a month after I got it because I cheated. I had two other guys writing for me, too!'" Poitras laughed heartily at the memory.

Despite his childhood shenanigans, Poitras described Courtoreille as a respectful and kind person with a ready smile for friends and strangers alike.

"He always had kind words for people, and I'm not saying this just because he's gone. The real Willie Courtoreille was a very kind person and he respected other people," he said.

Fort Smith's Ray Sanderson Sr. worked closely with Courtoreille while they were employed with Parks Canada's fire response team for Wood Buffalo National Park.

"(Courtoreille) had a lot of knowledge of the land and water...He was very passionate about that and he liked to share it," Sanderson shared on Facebook. "Fort Chip lost a great man, brother, a great father, husband, uncle, grandfather, great-grandfather, a respected elder a true friend to all that knew him."

A viewing was held at the Serenity Funeral Home in Edmonton on Friday and a funeral will be held in Fort Chipewyan at a future date.

Merry Christmas!
Have a safe and successful holiday!

Your connection to Yellowknife, Hay River, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Red Deer and Kelowna.

Northwestern Air
LEASE LTD.

CONTACT US AT
Fort Smith, NT
Toll Free: (877) 872 2216
www.nwal.com

**NWT
MÉTIS NATION**

*Wishes you a joyous
Christmas overflowing
with fine health, warm
family and fond
memories.*

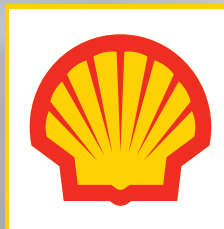


SAFELY HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

WISHING YOU AND YOURS A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING 10 MORE GREAT YEARS WITH YOU.

10
YEARS SHELL ALBIAN SANDS
 2003-2013

GREAT PEOPLE. GREAT PLACE. GREAT COMMUNITY.
SHELL ALBIAN SANDS



Yellowknife adds education to its economic quiver

City preps for expiring mines with possible post-secondary school

By JACK DANYLCHUK

“What a difference a year can make,” Yellowknife Mayor Mike Heyck said last week as he weighed the findings and recommendations of a consultant’s report on the future of the city and its economy.

Government dominates, but mining is the historic heart that continues to drive the NWT capital’s economy, and a year ago Yellowknif-ers were contemplating the rapidly approaching prospect of life without the Ekati and Diavik diamond mines.

“It’s interesting how quickly things can change in the resource sector,” said Heyck, referring to discovery of a new kimberlite pipe that could extend the life of Ekati by a decade or more beyond the previous closing date of 2019.

“I’m more optimistic about the medium-term sustainability of the diamond mining industry than I was a year ago,” Heyck said in an interview with *The Journal* after the release of the report by Calgary consultants Miller-Dickinson-Blais.

The renewed lease on life for Ekati and the promise of more mining and government jobs take some of the urgency from the report, but the city



Photo: Jack Danylchuk

Yellowknife Mayor Mark Heyck believes post-secondary education could boost the city’s economy in the wake of diamond mine closures over the coming years.

still intends to take up its 38 recommendations over the next three years, Heyck said.

“We need to prepare ourselves for that day when those mines shut down, and Yellowknife knows as well as anywhere what impact closing mines can have on a community. We need to plant the seeds for those initiatives today.”

Reflecting what they heard in interviews and hundreds

of written submissions, the consultants said the city can build its population through government jobs, attracting entrepreneurs and miners, boosting tourism and persuading residents to retire to Yellowknife.

But what stood out most for Heyck were recommendations to expand the role post-secondary education could play in the city’s economy.

“That can become a real foundational piece, and crucial to the future of the city,” said Heyck, who sees the driver of downtown renewal in a new campus for Aurora College or the branch of a southern university, or both.

In its latest budget, the territorial government shelved a proposal for a new building for Aurora College in Yellowknife, and Heyck said he fully

supports replacing crumbling schools in other communities.

“But at the same time we need to see a sign there is an appetite for the college to do right by its students and to meet the needs of future generations,” he said.

Heyck said the city has already looked at vacant office space that could be transformed into an instant campus or new space for Aurora College and held initial discussions with Yellowknife MLAs about the needs of the college.

“Our preference would be to see Aurora College expand its programming and invest in a stand-alone campus here in Yellowknife,” he said.

“But if that can’t get past the political hurdles at the territorial level, then we still need to look out for the interests of our residents and that might mean reaching out to other post-secondary institutions to see if they have an interest in coming North.”

The report also provides a clear snapshot of the territory’s economy, and could be read as a political document.

Yellowknife is the largest economy in the Northwest Territories, and “equally contributes to and benefits

from the economic activities taking place throughout the North Slave region if not the entire territory,” the report observes.

“The economies of the city of Yellowknife and the NWT are so closely connected that the city should consider its economic development responsibilities beyond the municipal boundaries and become a strong voice in the development of the territorial economy,” it urges.

While the city does not have a direct say in the employment and spending decisions of the GNWT, the report states the city is affected by territorial decisions more than any other NWT community.

The report repeats the city’s complaint that it is bearing the costs and stresses “created by people migrating from smaller, isolated communities to the city, shifting the socio-economic makeup of the population.

“The city does not hold jurisdiction over the natural resources being exploited or those being advanced for future development, yet the impacts and benefits of these projects are felt in Yellowknife more so than anywhere else.”

Environment Research

NWT scientist optimistic about devolution

Scientists gather in Halifax for Arctic research conference

By MARIA CHURCH

One of the NWT’s top Arctic scientists says devolution could be a positive factor for scientific research in the territory.

Duane Smith, co-chair of the ArcticNet and president of the Inuit Circumpolar Council based in Inuvik, said devolution in 2014 will not affect scientists’ mandates and has the potential to boost research efforts.

“Hopefully devolution will enhance and compliment some of the research within the Northwest Territories since (the GNWT) will be taking over the management of most of the land (and) are going to have to start gathering that data as well,” he said.

Smith was in Halifax last week along with hundreds of Northern representatives, industry leaders, policy makers and students for Canada’s largest annual Arctic research gathering.

Put on by ArcticNet, an arms-length network of Canadian researchers aimed at studying the impacts of climate change in the coastal Arctic, the ninth annual conference gave Arctic scientists a venue to presents their latest research.

Topics this year included Arctic sovereignty and security, climate variability, Inuit education and community health.

“Everybody’s here to share their information and to learn from each other, and it develops networking with different researchers and creates a broader understanding as to how everything is inter-related,” Smith said.

Throughout the week-long conference, the Arctic was touted as the “new frontier,” Smith noted. In the past, research in the Arctic was not done on a consistent basis, but climate change is drawing scientific attention North.

“Because the ice is receding and making the spring,

summer, fall seasons a little bit longer, it’s allowing other initiatives with longer time periods to go into the Arctic and conduct their activities, if it’s research or exploration for economic purposes,” he said.

Climate change has been a growing interest for the GNWT, according to those in the territorial government.

Brian Sieben, climate change specialist with ENR, told *The Journal* in an interview last month that climate change adaptation strategies are now being considered and implemented across several departments.

Arctic research has broad implications for both industry and conservation efforts, Smith noted, regardless of the end goal.

“The more information that’s gathered through research...provides a better understanding for everybody to make more informed decisions on whatever their objective is,” he said.



Town of Fort Smith Public Notice of Assessment

Property owners are advised that the Certified Assessment Roll 1st Revision for the Town of Fort Smith has been produced and assessment notices were mailed December 13, 2013.

If you have questions/concerns regarding your assessment please contact:

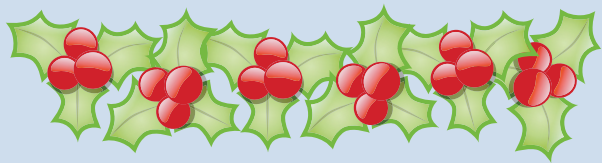
- a) The Town of Fort Smith Office at (867) 872-8400 or email the Town of Fort Smith Lands Administrator at asebert@fortsmith.ca
- b) The Assessment Office in Yellowknife at 867-873-7583

Any person who wishes to lodge a complaint must do so in writing by 5:00 p.m. January 27, 2014. The complaint must contain the name and address of the complainant, the location of the property, the complaint and the remedy being sought.

Address all complaints to:

Secretary
Municipal Board of Revision
Town of Fort Smith c/o Box 147, Fort Smith, NT, X0E 0P0

The Town of Fort Smith Assessment Roll is available for public inspection at the Town Office, during regular office hours.



A Touch of Heaven

*Would like to wish everyone
Happy Holidays!*

Come by and get 10% off all hair products.

867.872.2005
195 McDougal Road

Berro's Pizzeria



Happy Holidays!
Treat yourself to our daily specials
872.3332



WALLY'S Drugs



**Wally's Holiday
Specials!**



Naughty or Nice,
You're Always Welcome At Wally's.

SHOPPING PASSPORT

Bring your **SHOP LOCAL PASSPORT**
to get stamped at all participating Fort Smith
businesses between **DECEMBER 1-20**
and have a chance to win big prizes.

1st Prize - Return trip for 2 to Edmonton



**Big savings at the
Northern Store.**

**Come and get your
passport stamped.**

GIGI'S BAKERY



872-4444



*Best wishes
at this wonderful time of year!*

FREUND

BUILDING SUPPLIES

*Wishing all a healthy
and productive 2014!*



*Drive safely
and
Happy Holidays*



**Happy Holidays
to all of you!**

**Specials available
throughout December!**

Kelly's

★ **Open late** ★

throughout this **holiday season**
to serve you better.

Shop Local Passport Sponsored by the Thebacha Chamber of Commerce

High school trades program held early at college

Program organizers uncertain about future federal funding

By MARIA CHURCH

With federal funding uncertain in the new year, Aurora College's intensive Trades Awareness Program (TAP) was held months early to allow South Slave students the chance to try out a trade of choice and finish out the two-part program.

TAP, now in its eighth year as a pilot project, is jointly funded by the South Slave Divisional Education Council, the NWT department of Education, Culture and Employment and a federal grant. The federal grant is the only funding that is uncertain to continue, this year's organizer, Janie Hobart, told *The Journal*.

"We'll have to wait and see until March whether the government of Canada is going to continue that funding," she said. If the grant is not renewed, the program's organizers will be looking at finding funding from other sources, including the corporate sector.

As a two-part program, TAP's introductory session is typically held at the college in the fall followed by



Tamara Lafferty of Deninu School in Fort Resolution races to hammer a nail in during the Trades Olympics.

the intensive program in the spring. With the budget on the line, organizers jumped on the opportunity to hold the intensive program early and invited 34 students to the college last week.

"We wanted to make sure that this year's kids got an opportunity to come to the intensive (program); that's why it

was held a little bit early this year," Hobart explained. The last minute planning was a challenge, she said, but with introductory TAP organized only two months ago, the similarities made it easier to remember what was required.

While the introductory session saw students try out a number of trades, the



Students compete in the blow-gun shoot using a mallet, taking a break from the week-long TAP classes.

second part had them focus on one of four trades: electrical, mechanics, carpentry or cooking.

"What we are hoping is that a number of these students will - because they enjoyed it - consider becoming apprentices within that trade," Hobart said. "Right now, the trades are the place to be."

Demand for trades workers has been steadily on the rise across the country and is expected to continue with more and more young people choosing not to study traditional professions, according to Statistics Canada data released this summer.

In the NWT, only 5.5 per cent of the population aged

25 to 64 have a registered apprenticeship certificate as highest level of education, many of whom are in the higher age range.

With the territory slated for massive development projects such as the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk highway and the Gahcho Kué diamond mine, skilled work will be required for construction as well as support services that are tied to industry.

"There are jobs out there for them and they get paid well. A lot of journeymen are earning 50-plus an hour, and some of them more," Hobart said.

The NWT offers an apprenticeship program that allows students to break up their schooling with practical, on-the-job experience. Over the four years, the students rack up almost 5,000 hours towards their journeyman certificate.

There are more than 200 recognized trades in Canada, including the traditional mechanical and plumbing trades and the less traditional, such as hairstylists, locksmiths and landscapers.

Photos: Steven Lee, SSDEC

Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority

Medical Clinic and Lab & X-Ray

Holiday Hours

December 23 **OPEN**
 December 24 **OPEN**
 December 25 **CLOSED**
 December 26 **CLOSED**
 December 27 **OPEN**
 December 28 **OPEN**
 December 31 **OPEN**
 January 1 **CLOSED**

EMERGENCY SERVICES

EMERGENCY SERVICES
 remain available
 24 hours a day.



Have a Safe and Healthy Christmas

COMMUNITY TRADING POST

FORT SMITH CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Say it in 25 words or less for only \$3.50! Extra words are 20 cents each. Business classifieds are \$10 for 30 words and 25 cents for each additional word.

Email your advertising to: ads@norj.ca
or fax it to 872-2754
or call 872-3000 ext. 26

FOR SALE: FIREWOOD. Custom cut sizes - split green, dry, bagged. Wood Gasification/Outdoor wood boilers. Delivery from Fort Smith to Hay River & Yellowknife. Contact Dave at (867) 872-3435 or cell 872-0229 or email dhehn@northwestel.net (UFN)

BLANKET CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Blanket advertising reaches all 122 weekly newspapers in Alberta and the NWT with a combined circulation of over a million readers. Call our Northern Journal sales desk at 867-872-3000 ex. 26 for details.

Announcements

DOES YOUR WIFE have dementia? Willing to talk about your experiences about caring for her? Seeking rural southern/central Alberta informal male caregivers. Participation is voluntary. Will travel to you & provide you with a \$30 gift certificate to a local grocer for a 1 - 2 hour(s) interview. Researcher: Ryan Waldorf, RN, BN; ryan.waldorf@uleth.ca. 403-332-4066 (office); 403-795-1825 (cell).

Auctions

NEED TO ADVERTISE? Province wide classifieds. Reach over 1 million readers weekly. Only \$269. + GST (based on 25 words or less). Call this newspaper NOW for details or call 1-800-282-6903 ext. 228.

WARD'S AUCTIONS Antiques/Estate Auction. Jan. 5 and 6, 11802 - 145 St., Edmonton. 780-451-4549. Taking consignments now for Feb. 8 Firearms and related auction. Online bidding and pictures at www.WardsAuctions.com.

MEIER GUN AUCTION. Saturday, December 21, 11 a.m., 6016 - 72A Ave., Edmonton. Over 150 guns - Handguns, rifles, shotguns, wildlife mounts, hunting and fishing equipment. To consign 780-440-1860.

UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION New Years Day! World Class antique furniture and collectibles. 11 a.m., Wednesday, January 1 at 1235 - 1 Ave., Wainwright, Alberta. Scribner Auction 780-842-5666; www.scribner.net.

Auto Parts

WRECKING AUTO-TRUCKS. Parts to fit over 500 trucks. Lots of Dodge, GMC, Ford, imports. We ship anywhere. Lots of Dodge, diesel, 4x4 stuff. (Lloydminster). Reply 780-875-0270. North-East Recyclers truck up to 3 tons.

Employment Opportunities

POST FRAME BUILDERS - Prairie Post Frame's premium buildings with competitive pricing has resulted in an unprecedented growth. We are looking for additional outstanding builders. Please contact Phil: phil@prairiepostframe.ca. 1-855-767-8275.

ACCOUNTANT TYPE BOOK-KEEPER required for Whitecourt, Alberta company. Must have total knowledge of all aspects of bookkeeping including accounts receivable/payable, payroll & benefits. Fax resume 780-778-2444.

JOURNEYMAN AUTOMOTIVE Service Technician(s) in Hanna Alberta. Hanna Chrysler Ltd. offers competitive wages, relocation allowance, negotiable depending on experience. Bright, modern shop. Full-time permanent with benefits. Friendly town just 2 hours from major urban centres. More info at: hannachrysler.ca. Fax 403-854-2845; Email: chrysler@telusplanet.net.

ALLAN DALE TRAILERS & RVs is growing fast and we are

seeking: Experienced RV Technicians. Motorhome experience a must. Full-time, year round employment, premium pay for your experience (\$35-\$40/hour) plus bonus plan & group employee benefits. More details online: allandale.com. Apply to: Suzette Binnie, Allan Dale Trailers & RVs, 3 Queens Drive, Red Deer, AB, T4P 0K1. Fax 403-346-3116. Email: suzette@allandale.com.

SEEKING A CAREER in the Community Newspaper business? Post your resume for FREE right where the publishers are looking. Visit: www.awna.com/resumes_add.php.

Feed and Seed

HEATED CANOLA buying Green, Heated or Spring thashed Canola. Buying: oats, barley, wheat & peas for feed. Buying damaged or offgrade grain. "On Farm Pickup" Westcan Feed & Grain, 1-877-250-5252.

WANTED. Hannas Seeds seeking distributors for forage, turf, native and reclamation seed. Good commissions. Contact Dave at 1-800-661-1529 or dave@hannasseeds.com.

For Sale

STEEL BUILDINGS/METAL BUILDINGS 60% off! 20x28, 30x40, 40x62, 45x90, 50x120, 60x150, 80x100, sell for balance owed! Call 1-800-457-2206; www.crownsteelbuildings.ca.

DISCONNECTED PHONE? Phone Factory Home Phone Service. No one refused! Low monthly rate! Calling features and unlimited long distance available. Call Phone Factory today! 1-877-336-2274; www.phonefactory.ca.

LOOKING FOR a shop? Post Frame Buildings. AFAB Industries has experience, expertise, reliability and great construction practices. For a free quote, contact Ryan Smith 403-818-0797 or email: ryan.afab@gmail.com.

METAL ROOFING & SIDING. Very competitive prices! Largest colour selection in Western Canada. Available at over 25 Alberta Distribution Locations. 40 Year Warranty. Call 1-888-263-8254.

Manufactured Homes

UNITED HOMES CANADA invites you to view our Heated display homes. Purchase today at 2012 pricing. Inventory clearance starting at \$92,500.; www.unitedhomescanada.com. 148 Eastlake Blvd., Airdrie. 1-800-461-7632.

SINGLE BEST SALE Ever with Dynamic Homes! Don't miss out! Up to \$7000. in discounts. Some restrictions may apply. Limited time offer on SRI Models. Save this Christmas. Call 1-877-341-4422.

Personals

DATING SERVICE. Long-term/short-term relationships. Free to try! 1-877-297-9883. Live intimate conversation, Call #7878 or 1-888-534-6984. Live adult 1on1 Call 1-866-311-9640 or #5015. Meet local single ladies. 1-877-804-5381. (18+).

TRUE PSYCHICS! For Answers call now 24/7 Toll Free 1-877-342-3036; Mobile: #4486; <http://www.truepsychics.ca>.

Services

DO YOU NEED to borrow money - Now? If you own a home or real estate, Alpine Credits will lend you money - It's that simple. 1-877-486-2161.

CRIMINAL RECORD? Think: Canadian pardon. U.S. travel waiver. (24 hour record check). Divorce? Simple. Fast. Inexpensive. Debt recovery? Alberta collection to \$25,000. Calgary 403-228-1300/1-800-347-2540; www.accesslegalresearch.com.

FAST AND EASY LOANS! Bad credit accepted! Get up to \$25,000 on your vehicle, mobile-home, land or equipment. 1st and 2nd mortgages. www.bhmcash.com. 403-879-9929.

DROWNING IN DEBT? Cut debts more than 60% & debt free in half the time! Avoid bankruptcy! Free consultation; www.mydebtolution.com or toll free 1-877-556-3500. BBB rated A+.

GET BACK on track! Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need money? We lend! If you own your own home - you qualify. Pioneer Acceptance Corp. Member BBB. 1-877-987-1420; www.pioneerwest.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



TRADITIONAL GAMES COORDINATOR Yellowknife, NT

The Aboriginal Sport Circle of the NWT (ASCNWT) is a non-profit organization that aims at promoting and enhancing community wellness through Sport, Cultural and Recreation. The ASCNWT supports the Physical, Mental, Spiritual, and Cultural development of our Aboriginal People through sport and healthy living by providing youth, families, and communities with Leadership and programming. There is currently a Job Opening within our organization. We are looking to hire a permanent Traditional Games Coordinator as part of our team. Reporting to the Traditional Games Manager, the Traditional Games Coordinator is responsible for developing, delivering, evaluating and reporting on all aspects of the Traditional Games Program. They are also responsible for assisting in the delivery and planning of other ASCNWT programs. These programs encourage and support NWT community resident's participation in sport, culture and recreation. As a related role, the Traditional Games Coordinator will be required to work with other sport and recreation organizations in the Northwest Territories in order to advance the priorities of ASCNWT. ASCNWT delivers programs in all communities in the NWT. An important aspect of this position is that it requires extensive travel to deliver these programs.

Qualifications:

The ideal Candidate should

- Have a Diploma or Degree in the related field
- Have experience in Sport, Culture, and Recreation
- Be politically and culturally sensitive towards our Northern Communities
- Strong Administrative skills
- Program Planning Capacity
- Class 5 Drivers License

Priority will be given to candidates of aboriginal descent. To see a detailed job description please contact our office. The ASCNWT Office is located in Yellowknife, NT. For more information on ASCNWT and our programs please visit our website at www.ascnwt.ca
Competition will be open until Jan. 17, 2014

Please submit your resume to:

Greg Hopf – Executive Director ASCNWT
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P2 Tel: (867) 669-8346
Fax: (867) 669-8327

NORTHERN JOURNAL SERVICE DIRECTORY



Chris DeWolf
872-5547
dewolf@northwestel.net

DeWolf ArtWorks offers unique promotional items, custom logo-imprinted promotional gifts, trade show giveaways, and corporate apparel with factories in Canada. I am an Advertising Specialty Institute (ASI) Program member in order to provide my clients a one-stop-shop experience and do so with the lowest prices available.

If your business is in need of any promotional items, please contact me to see how I can help.

Graphic Design • Jewelry • Art • Promotional Items

SK Moving

Household items, cars, boats, etc.
Moved anywhere in Canada.



Call for a quote
872-2196
or 872-8016 (cell)
Fully bonded.

Stan Kukovica,
Owner

Rapid Petroleum Products

Delivery of Home Heating Fuel - Private and Commercial rates available
• 24hr Gas / Diesel Pumps Available Competitive Pricing
• Use your Visa or Master Card at pump - no pin required
• Commercial Fleet Cards available with Commercial Rates



872 2585

Highway 5 and Pelican St. (beside NWT Power Corp office)



Bob McArthur
Aurora TPI Travel

Telephone: 867-872-2462 Cell: 867-872-0806
Fax: 867-872-3986 Email: bmcArthur@northwestel.net

Box 149, Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0

Home Heating Oil

For on-time or anytime delivery...call

TDC

Petroleum

872-4567

100% Locally owned and operated!
#1 Breynt Street, Fort Smith, NT

Whispering Pines Cottages

Serving you with 50 years experience

- **Enjoy:** Private, clean, comfortable year round accommodations with Free WiFi and HD
- **Relax:** with our jacuzzi tub, fireplace, BBQ yard, dishwasher, great parking and plug ins
- **Affordable Rates:** daily, weekly & monthly stays available. 4 private units. 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms to choose from.

Please Contact: Sandra Robichaud
Phone/Fax: (867) 872-2906 - Cell: (867) 621-0254
85 Pine Crescent, P.O. Box 300, Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0

www.whisperingpinescottages.ca

Safe Travels



EMPLOYMENT, TENDERS AND LEGAL NOTICES



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Corrections Wilderness Program
Reference Number: RI 438649
- Northwest Territories -**

The Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Justice, is seeking expressions of interest from local Elders, community agencies, or other interested parties in the NWT who are capable and interested in operating a Wilderness Program to provide a meaningful and cultural "on the land" program for adult offenders currently residing in NWT correctional facilities.

Expressions of interest addressed to the Contracts Administrator, Public Works and Services, Government of the NWT, 5009 49th Street, Yellowknife, NT, will be received before:

3:00 PM, LOCAL TIME, JANUARY 10, 2014.

Contractors may obtain the documentation from the following:

General inquiries to: Contracts Administrator
Procurement Shared Services
Government of the NWT
Phone: (867) 873-7230
Fax: (867) 920-4112
E-mail: pwstenders@gov.nt.ca

For contract opportunities visit
www.contractregistry.nt.ca

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

FORT SMITH HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Fort Smith Housing Authority is accepting Proposals for Custodial/Caretaker Services at the Sunset Chalet Senior Citizen's Home for a three (3) year period ending March 31, 2017.

Proposal packages are available at the Fort Smith Housing Authority office, #89 King Street, Fort Smith, NT. Please note that the Fort Smith Housing Authority Office will be closed from December 23, 2013 to January 2, 2014.

Closing date and time for this proposal is January 8, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. local time.

For additional information please contact:

Kim Olsen, Manager
Fort Smith Housing Authority
#89 King Street, P.O. Box 1287
Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0
Telephone: (867)872-2646 ext. 24
Fax: (867) 872-4450

LOWEST OR ANY PROPOSAL
NOT NECESSARILY ACCEPTED.

A satisfactory criminal records check of selected proponents is required.

We thank all those that apply, however, only those proponents selected for further consideration will be contacted.



We have **JOB OPPORTUNITIES** for:

- TRUCK DRIVER (Cremona and Westlock)
- PROJECT COORDINATOR - ESTIMATOR
- PROJECT MANAGER - SITE SUPERINTENDENT

Your passion for the construction industry, work ethic and strong commitment to safety will be rewarded with a competitive salary. In addition, you will enjoy comprehensive health benefits. This is an exciting opportunity to make your mark in the construction industry. Furthermore, you will enjoy being part of a working environment that promotes personal and professional growth in an atmosphere of trust, respect, collaboration and safety. If you believe you have what it takes to work with construction professionals, Apply Today! Please forward your resume to: shawn@gabrielconstruction.ca
Fax: (306)757-6764



Christmas Seals

*Breathing Matters!
Give Generously*

THE LUNG ASSOCIATION™

www.ab.lung.ca 1-888-566-5864

When You Can't Breathe, Nothing Else Matters.



RURAL WATER TREATMENT (Province Wide)

Iron Filters • Softeners • Distillers • Reverse Osmosis
"Kontinuous Shock" Chlorinator
Patented Whole House Reverse Osmosis System

Water Well Drilling - Within 150 miles of Edmonton, Red Deer, Calgary (New Government water well grant starts April 1/13)

Time Payment Plan O.A.C. for water wells and water treatment

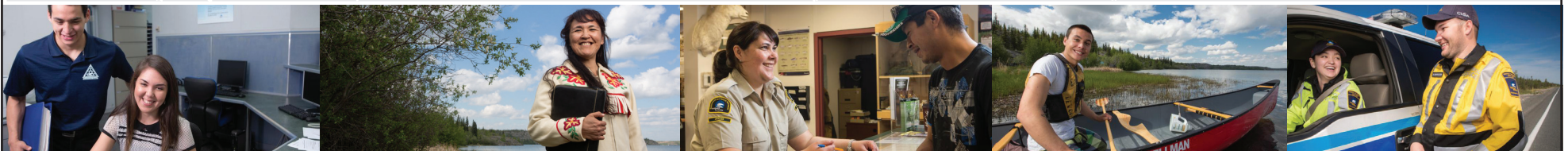
1-800-BIG IRON (244-4766)

BIG IRON Drilling Ltd. View our 29 patented and patent pending inventions online at www.1800bigiron.com

NORTHERN Journal
WWW.NORJ.CA

**Do you have something to sell?
Call 872-3000 to place your ad TODAY!**

BALANCE Life. EXPERIENCE Living.



Come work with us! Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Job opportunities

The GNWT is responsible for providing programs and services to 44,000 residents across 33 communities in the Northwest Territories. This requires a large and diverse group of employees dedicated to, and reflective of, the public we serve.

The GNWT offers a variety of benefits that help our employees manage their work/life balance. Our generous compensation package includes salary, pension, annual leave and other benefits.

If you are interested in working for the GNWT, consider applying by viewing current opportunities at www.gnwtjobs.ca.

Don't forget to join our talent community to receive automated job alerts so you don't miss out on our exciting career opportunities!



GNWTJOBS.CA



SPORTS BRIEFS

Cold weather in Hay River forces AWG biathlon trials indoors

Athletes competing for 16 spots on the NWT biathlon team at the 2014 Arctic Winter Games were forced indoors during trials in Hay River last week due to -30 degree weather. The competition was moved inside the Hay River's community school last Thursday where the biathletes simulated the skiing and shooting event. Thirty-five youth were signed up to compete for the chance to represent the NWT as biathletes in Fairbanks, Alaska in the new year. The cold snap that was felt across the NWT last week also canceled the Polar Cup.



Photo: Yellowknife Ski Club

Inaugural Tour de Yellowknife a friendly, fun competition

Dozens of skiers showed up Sunday for the first ever Nordic Tour de Yellowknife, held by the Yellowknife Ski Club as a free, fun, family event. The cross-country race, held in conjunction with Sports Day in Canada, allowed skiers ranging from beginners to experts a chance to practice classic and free technique in a fun while competitive environment. The event was open to ages eight and up, with the midget racing a total of 3.75 km, youth 5 km and adults/juniors 7.5 km. To check the standings from the Tour de Yellowknife, go online to <http://skiyellowknife.com/nordic-tour-de-yellowknife/>.

NWT Biathlete just misses Olympic mark at World Cup

Brendan Green preps for last shot at Olympics

By MARIA CHURCH

Brendan Green had one goal in mind going into the World Cup Biathlon races in Austria last weekend: If he could make the top 30, he would be going to the Olympics.

When the whistle blew and it was Green's turn to launch into the fray of the world's elite athletes powering through the men's 10-km race, there was no shortage of pressure for the Hay River hero.

Not long after his start, snow started falling heavily on the racers, but Green kept up a good pace. The shooting held him up for a few precious seconds, with Green missing the last shot of his prone stance and one while standing.

As Green pushed through the finish line, what he couldn't know was that he was only one-tenth of a second behind 30 other skiers.

"Point-one seconds over the length of a biathlon race is such a small small fraction of time. To miss my Olympic qualification based off that was really difficult to mentally grasp and absolutely heart breaking," Green shared in an email with *The Journal*.



Green races to the finish line at the World Cup in Austria.

Photo courtesy of Brendan Green

Biathlon races are done in intervals so the competitors have no way to judge the other skiers' times or to physically race against them.

"If only I knew it was going to be that close, (there are) things I would have or could have done differently," Green said. "My head was spinning after with 'what if' scenarios - areas where I could have made up that time."

A 31st place finish amongst hundreds of elite world-class athletes is no small accomplishment, but for Green,

who would regularly finish in the top 30 prior to a crippling injury last year, it was devastating.

"I couldn't help but feel deflated and crushed," he said. "I've worked so hard to get back to elite level racing. It's been a roller coaster of a ride going from the best shape of my life two years ago, to all of a sudden ending up on an operating table undergoing surgery, only to find myself undergoing another major surgery just 12 weeks after the first. It's been tough."

Green was out of commission for much of 2013 recovering from a herniated disc in 2012, which put a halt on his pre-qualifications for the Olympics.

Training for the world-class biathlete started up again this summer and he has been at it non-stop ever since.

"I'm not going down without a fight," he said.

Last shot at Olympics

While he missed his chance to qualify for the Olympics at the World Cup, Green has one more chance to make it to Sochi 2014 at the domestic Olympic trials in Canmore, Alta.

The Hay River biathlete will be among several of Canada's top athletes putting everything on the line at the trials this Saturday and Sunday, competing for one open spot on the Olympic team.

"It's hard to say what my chances are," Green said. "I'm certainly a favourite heading into the event, but it's sport, which means anything can happen and there are a lot of hungry guys racing for their Olympic dream as well. I'm ready to race and focus on what I can control."

Greetings of the Season

Because we truly appreciate your business we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your patronage and extend our wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.

WALLY'S DRUGS
Breynat Street, Fort Smith • (867) 872-2134

Happy 65th Birthday Jack!

From Me, four boys and two girls.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
FROM THE PRINCE OF WALES NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE

Christmas Hours
Museum
Open Dec. 21 to 30, 2013, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Open Dec. 24 and 31, 2013, 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Closed Dec. 25, 26, 2013 and Jan. 1, 2014

NWT Archives
Closed Dec. 21, 2013 through Jan. 1, 2014

Museum Café
Closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 6, 2014
www.pwnhc.ca

NWT Archives/Bern Will Brown/N-2001-002: 7189

Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre Northwest Territories Education, Culture & Employment

Dwight Yoakam headlines Fort Smith birthday party

By DON JAQUE

Country music star Dwight Yoakam performed at a giant private party in Fort Smith Saturday night, hosted by a woman celebrating her 50th birthday.

Ann Lepine has always been a Yoakam fan and decided her 50th needed to be celebrated in style. She went all out and threw an unforgettable party.

Yoakam was two hours late for the bash because his private jet flying out of California had trouble and was forced to turn back. The jet was substituted for another and the country superstar made it to Fort Smith's iconic Roaring Rapids Hall by midnight on Saturday night.

After singing *Happy Birthday* to his host Ann, he launched into a medley of almost non-stop singing into the wee hours of the morning, to the delight of the ecstatic guests.

"Ann told me to sing lots of old ones," said the talented musician, and so the crowd got to hear many of his hits, plus songs from his latest album.



Photo courtesy of Dwight Yoakam

Dwight Yoakam and his country band from Los Angeles performed for a private party in Fort Smith Saturday night, playing non-stop for nearly two hours, singing many of his best known hits.

The party started with dinner for the 165 invited guests. The NWT's North Country Rock opened the show to warm things up. When Yoakam arrived at midnight, 40 lucky, mostly female fans

selected by Lepine lined up to get their picture taken with him in an alcove hidden from view. Then he, in his trademark stetson with his four-person backup band dressed in sequined jackets, jumped

on stage for the performance.

The happy guests were enthralled with the undertaking by Lepine and her family. Relatives were brought in from Uranium City, Saskatoon and Yellowknife. Her

daughter Charlene, who lives in Grande Prairie, was not supposed to be able to attend, but showed up as a surprise guest. She took over the mic and toasted her mother saying that she grew up listening to Dwight Yoakam. She said she remembers whenever her mother cleaned the house, Yoakam tunes were played, at volume.

Popular since the early 1980s, Yoakam has recorded more than 21 albums and sold more than 25 million records. Of those, 12 were gold and nine were platinum albums, including the triple platinum album, *This Time*.

When Yoakam sang *A Thousand Miles from Nowhere*, the hit song off that biggest selling album, he introduced it saying, "Never have the words to this song been more true than right now when I am singing it in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories."

The name of the extraordinary party guest was supposed to be a secret in Fort Smith, but as is the case in small Northern towns, the word got out and spread quickly a few days

in advance of the party. Social media was abuzz in the community with all kinds of speculation. Lepine told the crowd before dinner that when some of the stage crew arrived by plane the day before, there was a line of vehicles at the airport hoping to catch a glimpse of the country star. She had to ask her guests not to post photos and comments about the event during the performance with their phones. She said there are a lot of Dwight Yoakam fans who would like to be there and might even show up, hoping to get in.

Lepine said she began planning the event last February and kept it a secret all that time. She said having Dwight Yoakam actually come to her community and perform was like a dream.

"It was something I thought could not happen, but it did. It was so awesome."

At 2:00 a.m., Yoakam and his musicians and crew departed and the delighted crowd started to settle down and head off into the night. "Nobody will ever top this party!" announced one guest.

Happy Holidays from all of us at



Polar Vision

We'll be SEEING you in 2014.



Where quality comes first and service comes naturally.

Polar Vision is 100% Inuit owned. We proudly support:

- Inuit Shareholders
- The Environment of NWT and Nunavut
- Inuit Culture and Social Well-Being

Polar Vision

113, 5109 48th Street (in the Nunasi Building) Yellowknife • Tel: (867) 920-4500 • TollFree: 1 (866) 944-7466
Fax: (867) 873-4550 • Email: polarvision@ssimicro.com • www.polarvision.ca

HOURS: Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm



2013's have got to go!

PLUS get
\$500

to use towards accessories
or maintenance plans with
every 2013 purchase.



COSTCO
WHOLESALE
ELIGIBLE COSTCO MEMBERS
RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL
\$1,000
ON MOST NEW VEHICLES



2013 **F150** SUPERCREW 4X4 XLT #13T671

MSRP \$43,349
Delivery Allowance \$9,250
Kingland Discount \$2,957
Holiday Cash Bonus \$500

SALE PRICE \$30,642

Own For Only **\$278 @ 3.49%**
financed bi-weekly for 60 months
with \$0 down payment.



2013 **FOCUS** TITANIUM #13A08

MSRP \$29,049
Delivery Allowance \$4,250
Kingland Discount \$1,429

SALE PRICE \$23,370

Own For Only **\$220 @ 5.69%**
financed bi-weekly for 60 months
with \$0 down payment.



2013 **F150** SUPERCAB 4X4 XLT #13T643

MSRP \$40,049
Delivery Allowance \$9,250
Kingland Discount \$2,561
Holiday Cash Bonus \$500

SALE PRICE \$27,738

Own For Only **\$252 @ 3.49%**
financed bi-weekly for 60 months
with \$0 down payment.



2013 **F150** SUPERCREW FX4 4X4 #13T664

MSRP \$58,899
Delivery Allowance \$9,250
Kingland Discount \$4,513
Holiday Cash Bonus \$500

SALE PRICE \$44,636

Own For Only **\$399 @ 3.49%**
financed bi-weekly for 60 months
with \$0 down payment.



Trust the experts who know your Ford best at Kingland Ford Sales Ltd. in Hay River, NT.
Subscribe to our quarterly newsletter at inquiry@kinglandford.com!



Kerry Setzer
Sales & Leasing



Donna Lee Jungkind
Vehicle & RV Sales



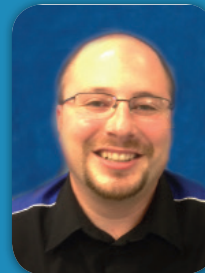
Lorraine Peterson
Fleet Manager



Spencer King
Dealer Principal



Steve Moll
Sales Manager



Matt Morse
Sales & Leasing



Tina Melvin
Sales & Leasing

**Call Tina today
for Pre-approval!
1-800-661-0716**



Kingland Ford Sales Ltd.

922 Mackenzie Highway, Hay River, NT
Phone: 867-874-7700 . Toll Free: 1-800-661-0716 . Fax: 867-874-7716
Email: sales@kinglandford.com www.kinglandford.com www.kinglandsaleshr.com