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MACA  
recognizes the  
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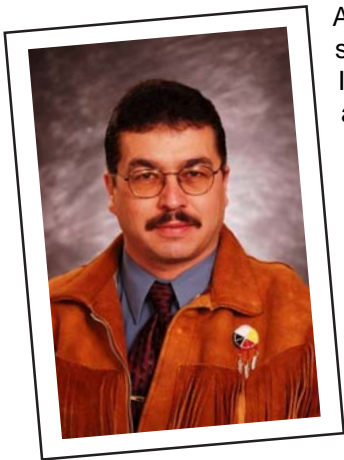
# newsletter

Holiday Edition, December 2004



## Minister's Message

Best wishes for a safe and festive season!



As the festive season approaches, I'd like to wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

I'd also like to thank you all for your ongoing contribution to the important work we do as a Department. We

have many accomplishments to be proud of over the past several months, and there are many challenges facing us in the months to come. Through our combined efforts, we will continue to work to make a positive difference in the lives of community residents.

Honourable Michael McLeod

## DEPUTY MINISTER'S MESSAGE

### A safe and happy holiday

What an incredible year it has been! As usual, Municipal and Community Affairs staff have worked really hard to represent the interests of community governments and our other stakeholders through the establishment and ongoing implementation of quality programs and services. The year 2004 has seen the Department accomplish key milestones and as the year winds up, we should take a moment to reflect upon some of these:

- Developing the framework for a New Deal for NWT Community Governments which, among other things, will provide communities with access to a broader range of revenues and increased ability to implement community priorities and infrastructure;
- Implementing the new municipal legislation which gives expanded authorities to community governments;
- Reaching agreement on the establishment of the Sport and Recreation Partners Council in order to improve the sport and recreation system in the NWT;
- Strengthening our partnerships with communities and Aboriginal governments, such as the Gwich'in and Inuvialuit, to focus on capacity building;

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## DM'S MESSAGE cont.

- Making significant progress on land administration issues, including the ATLAS GIS system as well as community-specific accomplishments like the Con-Rycon trailer park land transfer, and land transfers in Hay River;
- Partnering with the NWT Association of Communities to effectively lobby the federal government on the interests of NWT communities, including quantifying the infrastructure gap in the NWT and making compelling arguments for increased funding arrangements for our communities; and
- Collaborating with community governments to prepare for resource development, including hosting a conference on preparing for the pipeline earlier this month.



As a former municipal leader, our new Minister, the Honourable Michael McLeod, has a clear vision for our Department. He has strongly advocated with his colleagues on issues related to communities and has advanced a number of key initiatives with his commitment and dedication.

I am very proud of the work that we have collectively advanced this year! As a result of the dedication and incredible teamwork that is characteristic

of MACA staff, we continue to make great strides to advance our key goal – supporting community governments.

2005 is sure to be another vibrant year for our Department as we continue our current momentum. Our reorganization at headquarters will be informally in place in January (and formally as of the new fiscal year April 1, 2005) and I want to thank everyone for your patience and support as we have worked through this process. The reorganization will help ensure that we are positioned to support regions and communities in the best way possible.

As this year draws to a close and we wind down for the holiday season, I want to express my gratitude and appreciation for the ongoing excellent work that is consistently demonstrated by each and every one of you. MACA is making the impressive strides that we are because of our talented and committed staff. Please take time this holiday season to relax, unwind and enjoy the gifts of the season. To you and your family, best wishes for a safe, active, healthy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

See you in 2005!  
**Debbie DeLancey**

## Happy Holidays from Inuvik

This year we have decided to share our Christmas cheer with the staff of Public Works. We will be shaking it up at the Curling Club where competitive spirits are bound to show as we try to hit the button on the curling rink and win ourselves a Christmas turkey. Stay tuned for the final results!!



We would like to wish the entire MACA staff a merry, merry Christmas and a joyful New Year!

## Seasons Greetings from Sport, Recreation and Youth

The staff in our Division would like to encourage everyone to keep active and participate in community events over the holiday season.

Why not go skating, skiing or snowshoeing or simply go for a walk? You will feel better for it and will be setting a great example for others. Remember that regular activity is a good way to improve your physical and mental health.

You could also get involved as a volunteer. Giving to your community can be satisfying, fun and a great way to show your children how communities grow and become stronger.

**Best wishes in the New Year.**

## Welcome New Staff

MACA is welcoming two new Senior Managers early in the new year. **Eleanor Young** is joining the Department in Yellowknife as the Director of the new Community Operations Division. Eleanor is a former Senior Administrative Officer for the Hamlet of Holman and most recently has been coordinating much of the work of the Local Government Administrators of the NWT and the strategic communications for the NWT Association of Communities. As the new Regional Superintendent for the South Slave, **Lorraine Tordiff** will be taking up her role in the Fort Smith office effective January 4, 2005. Lorraine was born and raised in Fort Smith, and has been working with the Fort Smith Health and Social Services Board as the Director, Community Services for more than 20 years.

**Please give a warm welcome to Eleanor and Lorraine!**

## A Note from the South Slave

Thanks to the South Slave staff for their recent hard work on the Fort Resolution Co-Management Agreement. The team has developed draft policies that the Deninoo Community Council “workshopped” in mid-November and recently approved.

Several staff have been involved in interesting capital projects in the region, including the Lutsel K'e Arena and the Fort Providence Pool.

The staff in the South Slave would like to say a special thanks to Grace and the crew at Community Financial Services, for their support! As well, a big thanks to all of the Headquarters staff that have assisted by providing program/policy advice!

## School of Community Government December 2004 - UPDATE

The School of Community Government continues to develop and deliver capacity building opportunities to NWT community governments.

### Current initiatives include:

- The Community Finance Program is working closely with the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association to deliver a nationally accredited Certified Aboriginal Financial Managers designation.
- We have recently completed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Transportation to deliver Community Airports Maintenance and Management Training.
- We are working closely with Aboriginal organizations to meet self-government implementation needs.

Since last March, 16 community government employees have been certified in 6 professions and the School is currently working to develop certification tools for: Community Works Foreman; Recreation Coordinator; Community Land Management Officer; and Recreation Facility Operator.

### Upcoming Events

MACA is hosting “Eye on Today” a Good Governance Conference in Yellowknife, April 12 – 14, 2005, in partnership with other departments, LGANT and NWTAC. The conference will focus on innovative governance practices and will showcase NWT best practices and models. Information packages and registration forms for the conference will be mailed out in late January. And early in the New Year watch for the School of Community Government 2005-2006 Training Calendar to be released.

Do you have  
something you would like to  
see included in the MACA newsletter?  
We are always looking for content submissions.  
Please forward your ideas to:  
[amy\\_hacala@gov.nt.ca](mailto:amy_hacala@gov.nt.ca)

**2** things never to  
leave unattended:  
**SMALL CHILDREN & CANDLES**  
especially together!

Wishing you and yours a very  
Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year from the  
Office of the Fire Marshal.

## five fire safety tips for the holidays

### Buy a freshly cut tree!

If you want to have a real tree for Christmas this year, get a tree that is freshly cut. It will stay green longer and be less of a fire hazard.

### Be careful what you burn!

Never burn gift wrappings, boxes, cartons, and other types of packing in the fireplace. They burn too rapidly and generate far too much heat.

### Don't overload wall outlets!

There is often a tendency to overload wall outlets during the holiday season. This is an unsafe practice and should be avoided even for short durations.

### Be cautious about cooking!

Grease and fat fires are a leading cause of home fires in Canada, so be extra careful when doing this kind of cooking.

### A fiery combination

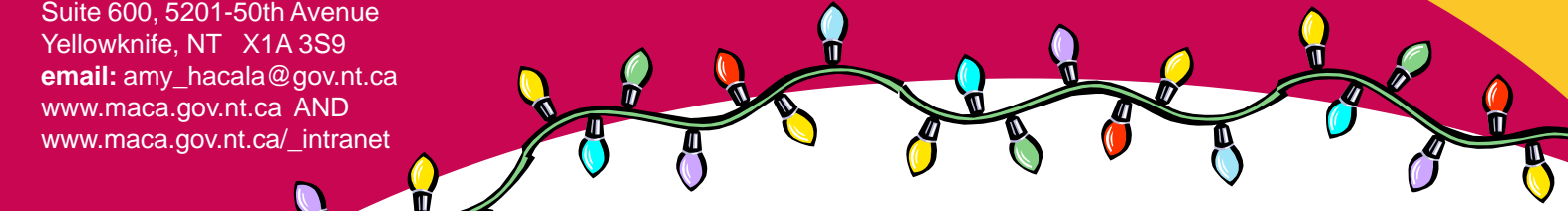
Avoid using angel hair (glass wool) together with spray-on snowflakes. This combination is highly combustible.

## Contact us at:

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## For more info:

Contact your Regional Superintendent to learn more about MACA's programs and services.



5 Years Service



10 Years Service



15 Years Service



20 and 25 Years Service

## Long service awards: 390 years of knowledge and expertise

### 5 years

Sharon Firth  
Gwen Mercredi  
Jake Heron  
Jean Ducasse  
Paulette Mercredi  
Moira Duggan  
Joe Bailey  
Chris Hewitt  
Terry Testart  
Val Taggart  
Caroline Welch  
Shirley Mair

### 10 years

Anita Villeneuve  
Bertha Harrison  
Don Gillis  
Joyce Lillegran  
Trish McFaul  
Malcolm MacPhail  
Colleen Zorn  
Bessie Erasmus  
Brian Austin

### 15 years

Mike Gagnon  
Ron Rusnell  
Sheila Bassi Kellett  
Marilyn Napier  
Dan Schofield  
Joanne MacNeil  
Terry Kungl  
Gary Schauerte

### 20 years

Ian Legaree

### 25 years

Jim Stewart  
Cheryl Carrier  
Rod Taylor  
John Picek

\* PLEASE NOTE \* Photos on the left are of the Long Service Award recipients from Headquarters only.

## Happy Holidays from the EMO Be Prepared & Be Safe

The Emergency Measures Organization wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Ensuring that your family is safe and protected is important all year round but perhaps a special reminder is in order in preparation for the holiday break. We would like to remind everyone that being prepared for the unexpected is as easy as ensuring you have certain supplies organized and stored in your home.

Such things include: one or more flashlights/batteries, extra blankets, an adequate supply of wood if you have a wood burning stove in your home, emergency candles, proper medical supplies, and food and water for at least three days for all household occupants. A checklist of suggested materials and supplies, along with more useful emergency preparedness information can be found on the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada website at: [www.ocipep.gc.ca](http://www.ocipep.gc.ca).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the EMO staff:

**Eric Bussey** (920-6133), **Kevin Rowe** (873-7083),  
**Debbie Decker** (873-7785)