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newsletter

June 2005

19 School of Community Government Graduates Honoured in a Yellowknife ceremony

The accomplishments of 19 Community Government Program Graduates were recognized on the afternoon of Thursday June 2, 2005 in the Legislative Assembly and certificates and awards were formally presented at an evening event held at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

Congratulations to each of these individuals on their dedication. Your success will inspire your colleagues and other community government employees to pursue career goals and further their education and training.

This year's graduates are:

Community Management

Marjorie Hansen, Inuvik
Elizabeth Ann McKay, Fort Resolution

Community Finance

Anne Bayha, Deline
Ruth Ann Elemie, Deline
Marty Ann Kenny, Deline
Freda Taniton, Deline
Sandra Lockhart, Lutsel K'e
Fred Rabisca, Fort Good Hope
Pauline Simba, Fort Liard
Anita Simba-Chicot, Kakisa
Louisa Wedzin, Rae
Louisa Wetrade, Gameti

Recreation Facility Operation

Shane Thompson, Fort Simpson
Ted Matto, Fort Providence
Louis Balsillie, Fort Resolution

Occupational Certification as Finance Officer

Anne Bayha, Deline
Ruth Ann Elemie, Deline
Marty Ann Kenny, Deline
Freda Taniton, Deline



Agnes Aleekuk, Holman
Jackie Nogasak-Thrasher, Tuktoyaktuk
Pauline Simba, Fort Liard
Annie Snowshoe, Fort McPherson
Susan Blake, Fort McPherson
Susan Christie, Fort Providence
Rosemary Vandell, Fort Providence

Fort Good Hope Floods!

Timeline of an Emergency

In early May 2005, worried about the rising level of the Mackenzie River which could result in the flooding of a portion of Fort Good Hope, Fred Rabisca, the Acting Senior Administrative Officer of the community called Barry Harley, Regional Superintendent of MACA, to inform him of the situation. After discussions with the Community Emergency Management Coordinator at headquarters, the Regional Superintendent advised the acting Senior Administrative Officer of the measures to be taken to prevent damage to equipment and materials stored outside of homes.

On May 11, the ice jams on the Mackenzie River caused the river to overflow and flood portions of Fort Good Hope. At the same time, the bridge on the only road leading to the municipal airport was closed because the gravel approaches were being eroded by the high water and the abutments were damaged. Fred Rabisca called the Emergency Measures Planning Committee together and initiated emergency planning to move residents out of the flooded area.

On May 12, the Community Council declared a State of Local Emergency.

On May 13, staff from the Department of Transportation flew into Fort Good Hope to evaluate the safety of the bridge. While the bridge was closed to vehicle traffic, pedestrians were able to cross on foot. On May 17, a temporary bridge was installed and traffic was able to cross to and from the airport to the community.

The community experienced flood damage to many homes and some community infrastructure (i.e. roads and ball field).

On May 18, the water level began receding, and on May 19 the Community Council terminated the Local state of Emergency.

During the rising of the flood waters, the community came together and supported those in need of assistance. The Emergency Measures Planning Committee kept everyone up-to-date on all the emergency activities that took place.

With assistance from MACA, the community government and residents are conducting repair and remediation work to return the community and the affected residences back to a usable state. MACA would like to express appreciation to the K'asho Got'ine Charter Community Council and staff and to all community residents for their extraordinary efforts and cooperation during the recent flood.



NWT to Lead Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Local Government in 2005/2006

The Ministers Responsible for Local Government from all ten provinces and three territories meet annually to discuss common issues, and identify common priorities for discussion with the federal government.

Each year, responsibility for chairing this committee rotates amongst the jurisdictions, culminating in the annual meeting being held in the chair's province or territory. The Province of Saskatchewan has been the lead this year (2004-2005), and the 2005 annual meeting is scheduled to take place September 18–20, 2005 in Regina. After this meeting, the Northwest Territories will take over as the chair for 2005-2006. As a result, the Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Local Government will be holding their annual meeting in the NWT in 2006.

Over the past few years, MACA has been an active participant in these meetings. Discussions at the annual meetings have included issues such as:

- New federal funding investments in communities and municipal infrastructure, specifically the federal New Deal which includes gas tax allocations and full GST rebates for community governments, as well as the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) Agreement;
- Partnerships with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) on issues of common interest;
- Municipal infrastructure – All provinces and territories are facing infrastructure pressures and are interested in pursuing innovative options to address these;
- Resilience and recovery of single industry communities during economic downturns;
- Common Provincial/Territorial themes – Consistent themes that all jurisdictions are working to address included water quality, municipal infrastructure, municipal legislation reform, and municipal funding arrangements; and
- Trends in municipal legislation – Municipal legislative reform across the country is focused on creating a broader more permissive framework for municipal governments that increases accountability to residents instead of to senior level of government.

MACA is looking forward to being the lead for all provinces and territories on this important forum and especially to hosting all Ministers at the 2006 annual meeting here in the Northwest Territories.

**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**

STAFF CORNER

Photos of our active MACA staff over the past few months.



The **MACA Survivors** raised \$6,745 for the Canadian Cancer Society by walking more than 260 kilometers during the 12 hour event on June 3rd. The MACA team in left to right: **Cory VanThuyne, Penny Johnson, Lindsey Oosenbrug, Amber George, Colleen Zorn, Debbie Decker, Kellie Mitchell, Carol Beck, Tammy Soanes-White, Lorraine Tordiff, Bev Stevens, Megan Beam and Jason Goudie.**



School of Community Government staff **Kevin Smith, Carol Beck, Tammy Soanes-White and Mike Yakabuski** were all smiles at the School's Completion Celebration held at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre on June 2, 2005.

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What's Going On? MACA News & Events

New Deal for NWT Community Governments

As part of the consultation process for the New Deal for NWT Community Governments, MACA staff will be visiting all regions in the NWT to discuss how the New Deal will effect your community. For more information about the New Deal, visit the MACA website at www.maca.gov.nt.ca or call (867) 873-7571.

NWT Council of Sport and Recreation Partners

The 13 members of the Council were named this month and gathered in Yellowknife on June 28-29, 2005 to hold their founding Annual General Meeting. For more information about the Council, visit the MACA website at www.maca.gov.nt.ca

GIS Portion of ATLAS Now Complete

ATLAS and the Geographic Information System (GIS) provide users with accurate and reliable maps, and written information on every parcel of land within every NWT community. It is accessible from anywhere, anytime and is easy to understand and very user-friendly. Visit the ATLAS website at: <http://gis.maca.gov.nt.ca/Website/index.asp>



At the Trans-Canada Trail Pavilion in Tuktoyaktuk, **Minister Michael McLeod**, **Mayor Jackie Jacobson**, **Premier Joseph Handley** and **Deputy Mayor Mervin Gruben**.

For more info:

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

Fort Good Hope A new fire truck for the Fire Department

Fire Chief John D. Louison and his crew, made up of Gordon Kelly, Daryl Cook and newest member Mike Wallace spent the day of Thursday, June 9, 2005, learning the ins and outs of their new fire truck.

The crew demonstrated excellent teamwork throughout the duration of the training and all four members have developed an excellent understanding of the new fire truck. David Wilcox, the Assistant Fire Marshal for the Sahtu region, was very impressed with the support and effort demonstrated by each member of the local fire department.

Once training was completed, the new fire truck was officially in service, taking over for the old truck.

Submitted by: Claude Gervais, Acting Fire Marshal

