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## 2005 Health Status Report Released

**YELLOWKNIFE (November 17, 2005)** – The 2005 Health Status Report was released today by Health and Social Services Minister Michael Miltenberger. The report presents information on health conditions and some important determinants of health in the Northwest Territories (NWT). The report highlights the major illnesses and causes of death in the NWT, and also examines the some of the social and economic factors and personal behaviors that contribute to the health of the population.

The report is intended to serve several objectives: first, to inform people about the health and well-being of the population; second, to inform the public, practitioners and decision-makers about the challenges and opportunities that stand on the path toward health and well-being; and third, to measure changes in population health and well-being over time, and examine differences within the NWT. These objectives all serve the same goal – improved health and well-being for all residents of the Northwest Territories.

“The Northwest Territories has made improvements in some areas but continues to struggle in others. As a territory we need to decrease the number of heavy drinkers and smokers, become more active, and eat healthier and more nutritious food,” said Minister Miltenberger.

The last Health Status Report was published in 1999. The 2005 report presents many of the same indicators using the same population health approach. The 2005 report focuses on describing health conditions over time, and it makes some comparisons between small communities, regional centers, and Yellowknife.

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