

Winners of Drop the Pop NWT Challenge Announced

YELLOWKNIFE (April 12, 2006) – NWT schools rose to the challenge and an impressive 1,920 students made the pledge to Drop the Pop for 5 days, from March 27th-31st, 2006. Students throughout the north also created projects that encouraged healthy drinking choices by participating in nutrition presentations, smoothie-making sessions, and even a contest for the best tasting smoothie.

Overall, there were 13 schools that participated in the challenge by choosing healthier and more traditional beverages over high-sugared drinks – this accounts for approximately 21% of the NWT student population.

The 2006 winners are:

Population 50-121: Helen Kalvak Elihakvik, Ulukhaktok

Population 122-176: ?ehtseo Ayha School, Deline

Population 177-300: Mangilaluk School, Tuktoyaktuk

Population 300+: Weledeh Catholic School, Yellowknife

Highest Ratio: K'álemì Dene School, Ndilo

All schools will receive a special Drop the Pop NWT participation package and prizing.

This year, 5 schools took home \$2,000 for their school. The winning schools will be able to use the funding to buy healthy eating and active living equipment.

Based on the original concept developed by the Government of Nunavut, the Drop the Pop NWT Challenge was initiated by the Departments of Health and Social Services and Education, Culture and Employment; Inuvialuit Regional Corporation; Dene Nation; the NWT/Nunavut Dental Association and Health Canada.

For more information, contact:

Elsie DeRoose
Team Leader, Health Promotion
Department of Health and Social Services
Tel: (867) 873-7904
healthpromotion@gov.nt.ca