



Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) Launches Web Resource for Canada's Northern Territories

OTTAWA, Feb 16, 2005 – The Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA), Canada's national addictions agency, in partnership with the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon governments, has launched an important new Web resource and virtual communication forum for individuals working in the substance abuse and addictions field in the North. The Web resource can be accessed at <http://www.ccsa.ca/index.asp?ID=200>

CCSA's new Northern website provides easy, no-cost access to credible, up-to-date information, including substance abuse research, literature reviews, reports and treatment directories. The website also contains links to relevant organizations, researchers and networks in the field.

"Easy access to updated and relevant information will be essential for research, enforcement and treatment professionals as we work together to create and implement customized programs to address the unique substance abuse and addiction challenges in the Northern Territories," said Cpl. Jimmy Akavak, Drug Awareness Coordinator, V Division, Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Nunavut.

The impacts of substance abuse and addiction are far-reaching in the North, yet some communities have already developed effective responses. However, sharing information about these promising treatment, prevention and education efforts remains as great a challenge as traveling the enormous distances between some Northern communities.

"Facilitating communication with and between the Northern Territories fits well within our mandate to build partnerships and transfer knowledge," said Michel Perron, CCSA's Chief Executive Officer. "Our hope is that this Web resource will enable experts in the field to share and submit information that is relevant to the Northern context."

About CCSA – www.ccsa.ca

CCSA is Canada's national addictions agency. It was established by an Act of Parliament in 1988 to provide a national focus for efforts to reduce the health, social and economic harm associated with substance abuse and addictions.

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