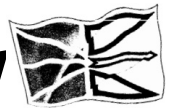


JUNE 28, 2002

Noteworthy



Calling the community

The Northeast Avalon Region of the Strategic Social Plan (SSP) is looking for a few good community representatives. In newspaper ads and memos to groups across the city, the steering committee has requested expressions of interest from volunteer organizations that want to play a greater role in the SSP.

"The SSP is very much about partnerships and working with the community," said Joan Dawe, chair of the Northeast Avalon Region Steering Committee. "We are working to improve community representation because we want the work in this region to reflect their voices and viewpoints."

The Strategic Social Plan was launched in 1998 to improve long-term opportunities for people and to better link social and economic development. Bringing government and community partners together to work for change is an important theme of the SSP.

"In this region, we have chosen early child development and poverty as two of our development priorities because we recognize that these issues have implications for all partners around the table," said Ms. Dawe.

The steering committee is looking for up to four members from volunteer groups to sit for two and three-year terms. Interested groups should contact the steering committee with expressions of interest. Submissions should include information on how representatives would network with the community and steering committee, and how they would represent a broader perspective, rather than a single agency point of view. Submissions should not exceed 750 words, and should be forwarded by Monday, August 12.

"I encourage communities to take advantage of this opportunity," said Gerald Smith, Minister of Health and Community Services and lead minister for the Strategic Social Plan. "Working together is how we make a difference in the long-term social and economic development of our province."

For more information, contact Gillian Janes, regional planner for the Northeast Avalon Region, 722-9845.

Provincial Advisory Council on Foreign Overfishing announced

Gerry Reid, Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, announced the establishment of a Provincial Advisory Council on Foreign Overfishing. The council consists of Dr. Art May, Mr. Les Dean, Mr. Earle McCurdy, Mr. Alastair O'Reilly, Mr. Bruce Wareham, Mr. Glenn Blackwood and Dr. George Rose.

"Foreign overfishing continues to be a significant problem for the industry in Newfoundland and Labrador," said Minister Reid. "As such, we have established the Provincial Advisory Council on Foreign Overfishing, so as to provide the province with good advice on how we can work to resolve the issues related to overfishing on the Nose and Tail of the Grand Banks. Collectively and individually, this group possesses a substantial level of knowledge and expertise in the fishery, and I am confident that working together, we can develop sound and rational resolutions to problems related to foreign overfishing."

The minister and the Advisory Council had their first meeting on Tuesday, June 25. The meeting was designed to outline the issues surrounding foreign overfishing, to discuss the model of custodial management which has been developed by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, and to discuss some preliminary ideas on solutions to the issue.

Voisey's Bay contracts announced

The Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Ltd. announced several summer work contracts yesterday at the Voisey's Bay and Beyond Conference in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

Torngait Services Inc. has subcontracted CHC and Universal Helicopters for air transport services; catering and housekeeping will be carried out by the Labrador Catering Ltd. Partnership; Torngait Services Inc. will be responsible for the construction camp and utilities; fixed-wing air transport will

be provided by Innu Mikun Airlines; and site medical services and security will be provided by the Labrador Catering Limited Partnership.

The building of access roads, a temporary dock and airstrip, camp expansion, and communications upgrading will begin at Voisey's Bay this year. Site preparatory work for the demonstration plant in Argentia and the Innovation Centre at Memorial University will also begin this year.

