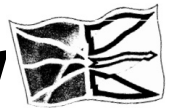


JULY 26, 2002

Noteworthy



New Load Slip System

in effect August 1

Minister of Forest Resources and Agrifoods Rick Woodford announced the new Load Slip System for the forest industry will come into effect August 1. Minister Woodford said the Load Slip System will strengthen the current process for tracking commercially harvested wood around the province and help reduce the problem of unreported harvesting and processing of timber.

"This new initiative is another example of government being pro-active in its prudent and sustainable forest management," said the minister. "The Load Slip System will provide us with more complete information concerning the use of our valuable forest resources and greatly benefit our overall management efforts. We are pleased that the system is now ready to be implemented after months of hard work by my staff to put this new initiative in place."

As of August 1, each load of commercial timber transported within the province must be accompanied by a load slip. The load slip will include details on the authority under which the wood was harvested, its origin and destination. The Load Slip System will not apply to timber intended for domestic consumption.

Minister Woodford said forestry officials will closely monitor the system to ensure compliance of the new regulations and added that anyone failing to comply will be subject to strict penalties pursuant to the Forestry Act, starting at \$500 for the first offence.

The minister also noted that similar regulated Load Slip Systems are being used in several other jurisdictions across the country, such as Ontario and New Brunswick, and have proven to be very effective in reducing the volume of illegal wood being cut. ❧

Labrador youth get profile online

A Web site that features success stories and profiles about young people across Labrador now has a brand new look! Labrador Youth Online has been redesigned to make room for more good news stories about Labrador youth, along with providing a comprehensive listing of available scholarships, and information on health, education and career planning.

Sponsored by the Labrador Region of the Strategic Social Plan, the Web site is aimed at raising the profile of young people, and the meaningful things happening in the region.

Since going online a year ago, the site has profiled about 30 young people from all five economic zones in Labrador. There are stories about young people who live, work and volunteer in their communities, and are finding success as young athletes, artists, entrepreneurs, world travelers and scholars.

"This is certainly a great way to celebrate success while promoting the goals of the Strategic Social Plan," said Gerald Smith, Minister of Health and Community Services and lead minister for the Strategic Social Plan. "The SSP talks about building healthy communities where people are actively involved, and helping young people fulfill their personal and professional goals is important to the future of communities in the region."

To read more about young people who are making a difference in their communities, check out Labrador Youth Online at www.labratoryouth.ca ❧

Local Irish dance specialist to travel to Ireland

Julie Bettney, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, and Gerry Byrne, Minister of State for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), have announced \$9,408 for a local Irish dance specialist to travel to Dublin. Shawn Silver, a professional Irish dancer, instructor and choreographer, is on his way to Ireland to study with world champions in his field. Mr. Silver can then qualify for TCRG certification; the TCRG certificate is awarded by the Irish Dancing Commission to candidates who have shown competence in teaching the ceili dances and in teaching solo dancers. There are currently no certified Irish dance instructors in Newfoundland and Labrador.

"We are pleased to provide financial support to Shawn Silver for his professional dance development," said Minister Bettney. "The Cultural and Heritage Industries component of the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Comprehensive Economic Development Agreement provides opportunities for professional development through international exchange. This project will also strengthen our cultural connection with Ireland. 2002 has been a banner year for the cultural industries in this province and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is committed to the development of this industry." ❧



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