

DECEMBER 17, 1999

Note-worthy



New Arts Centre *to house provincial gallery, museum and archives*

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador will build a \$40 million state-of-the-art facility in historic Fort Townshend in St. John's to house the Newfoundland Museum, the Art Gallery of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Premier Brian Tobin said government is renewing its commitment to preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of this province to the world. "The cultural artifacts, natural specimens, archival documents and works of art which have been accumulated over the years in these three provincial institutions are resources of global significance," said the premier.

Dr. Mary Pratt, co-chair of the premier's advisory committee for the project, said: "Beauty is not a luxury, rather it helps us transcend the ordinariness of life, so that we may taste the eternal. And beauty is found everywhere in the museum, art gallery and archives."

The new building will be christened "The Rooms", as a salute to the traditional lifestyle and unique language of the province. "Rooms" were those buildings on the shoreline where fish was processed and where nets and other equipment were stored. The Rooms is expected to take two years to complete, with the official opening sometime in 2003. ❧

GRENFELL COLLEGE TO GET NEW EXHIBITION CENTRE, STUDENT RESIDENCES

Sir Wilfred Grenfell College will also be getting a new, state-of-the-art arts facility. The province will build a \$4 million exhibition centre that will complement The Rooms.

"The exhibition centre will be a showplace for our cultural history on the west coast of the province and will be an integral part of the operation of our

other key cultural institutions," said Premier Brian Tobin.

Government is also contributing \$3 million to expand student accommodations at Memorial University's campus in Corner Brook by 300 beds. The university is contributing \$4.5 million to the total cost of the new student residences. ❧

HOUSE ADJOURNS for CHRISTMAS

The fall sitting of the House of Assembly concluded on December 14. Thirty bills were passed during the 21-day session. Following are key pieces of legislation which were given royal assent during the session:

- An Act Respecting the Operation of Mines and Mills in the Province
- Water Resources Protection Act
- Income Tax Act (No. 2) (Amdt.)
- Adoption Act, 1999
- Medical Care Insurance Act, 1999
- Apprenticeship and Certification Act
- Law Society Act, 1999
- Electrical Power Control Act, 1994 (Amdt.) and Public Utilities Act (Amdt.)
- Occupational Health and Safety Act (Amdt.)
- Wilderness and Ecological Reserves Act (Amdt.)
- Schools Act, 1997 (Amdt.)

