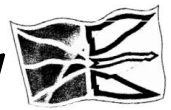


MAY 26, 2000

# Noteworthy



## GOVERNMENT releases

### Strategic Literacy Plan

Education Minister Judy Foote released the province's Strategic Literacy Plan entitled *Words to Live By* on May 18th. "Government recognizes that an educated population is vital to the future prosperity of our province," said Minister Foote. "Literacy skills are important to employment, citizenship and family life."

*Words to Live By* looks at literacy for all ages, both within and outside the formal education system. It outlines strategic directions in the areas of early literacy, the formal K-12 system, and adult education, as well as a new approach to planning and coordination.

The plan is the result of a cooperative, collaborative effort of a steering committee made up of representatives of the Literacy Development Council, government departments, learners, providers and other community agencies, and was developed in consultation with literacy stakeholders. A total of 31 stakeholder and public meetings were held across Newfoundland and Labrador, and over 50 submissions were received.

With the release of the Strategic Literacy Plan, government will embark on a new direction to enhance literacy development within the province. The Strategic Literacy Funding Committee has been established in the spirit of finding a new and better way to coordinate federal and provincial literacy funding consistent with the plan.

The province has made significant gains in literacy in recent years. "We are on our way to achieving our literacy goals in this province and today's release of the Strategic Literacy Plan indicates government's commitment to working to achieve those goals," said the minister. 🇳🇫

## YOUTH EMPLOYMENT programs HEAT UP for the SUMMER

About 2,800 students are getting ready to take part in employment programs sponsored by the Department of Human Resources and Employment. Over the summer, students across the province will work in a variety of settings through the Conservation Corps, the Student Work and Service Program (SWASP), the Summer Employment Program and cooperative education placements.

"Government is strongly committed to encouraging and supporting the future generation of Newfoundland and Labrador," said Human Resources and Employment Minister Julie Bettney. "These programs will help our young people gain work experiences that will have long-lasting benefits."

Students will do everything from perform in local theatre productions and run community recreation programs, to tour guiding, landscaping and tree planting. 🇳🇫

## Prospectors benefit from government's mining initiative

A total of 43 new prospectors have received funding under the Department of Mines and Energy's Prospectors Assistance Program. So far this year, \$106,700 has been approved in grants through the program.

The program is part of a \$22 million, five-year government and industry Mineral Exploration Program. Mines and Energy Minister Paul Dicks said the Mineral Exploration Program is

helping stimulate the exploration of Newfoundland and Labrador's mineral resources.

Under the Prospectors Assistance Program, grants of up to \$4,000 are awarded for individual prospectors working in the province who spend at least a matching amount of "in-kind" expenditures. 🇳🇫



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