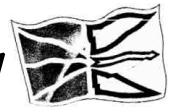


JULY 21, 2000

# Noteworthy



## ISLENDINGUR almost here

Residents and visitors will greet the Islandingur when it arrives in L'Anse aux Meadows late next week. The Islandingur will stop at 10 ports of call around the province during its tour. Concerts will add to the celebrations at each site. The initial portion of the Islandingur's schedule includes:

### L'Anse aux Meadows

Arrival: 2:00 p.m., July 28

Public boarding: 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2-4 p.m., July 29 and 30

Departure: 8 p.m., July 30

Concert: St. Anthony Stadium, 7:30 p.m., July 29

### Port aux Choix

Arrival: 11 a.m., July 31

Public boarding: 1:30-5:30 p.m. July 31

Departure: 9 a.m., August 1

Concert: Main Street, 7:30 p.m., July 31

### Norris Point

Arrival: 9 p.m., August 1

Public boarding: 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2-4 p.m., August 2

Departure: 9 a.m., August 3

Concert: Wharf, 7:30 p.m., August 2

Tourism, Culture and Recreation Minister Charles Furey is excited about the Islandingur's arrival as the date draws nearer and said the concerts will add to the festivities. "The concerts will create a wonderful atmosphere that will bring one and all into the spirit of the celebrations." ❧

## CHANGES to locked-in retirement funds APPROVED

Ernest McLean, Minister of Government Services and Lands, announced changes to locked-in retirement funds effective July 1, 2000. These changes provide the option for retirees under 65 with small pension incomes to increase income received from locked-in funds to approximately \$15,000 per year.

Also, individuals with a small balance in their locked-in accounts will be permitted to withdraw the entire amount and financial institutions will be permitted to provide a locked-in retirement income fund similar to those in other provinces. The change only affects former members of pension plans who have moved their locked-in funds to financial institutions and are governed by the province's pension legislation.

Minister McLean said the changes will be welcome by individuals who retire early. "The changes provide a good balance between the need for retired persons to have a pension for life and the need for adequate income until they are eligible for Old Age Security and Canada Pension Plan Benefits." ❧

## National shipbuilding policy set for discussion

Premier Brian Tobin and the other Atlantic premiers will discuss a national shipbuilding policy in September. A meeting in St. John's will include a forum on the country's shipbuilding industry. This announcement came out of the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers Conference in Halifax.

"The reality is, in the absence of such a policy, we are losing this sector in this country," said Premier Tobin. The problem, according to the premier, is a lack of protection from subsidized competition in other countries. However, the premier clearly stated that he is not interested in providing

subsidies. "What we are saying is that you can't expect a Canadian industry that has no assistance from government whatsoever to survive when all of their competitors are being subsidized."

As alternatives, Premier Tobin said the forum could look at disincentives for companies who attempt to fulfill all of Canada's shipbuilding needs from foreign subsidized shipyards. The premier also stated that a 25 per cent duty on foreign-built ships working in Canadian waters ought to remain and questioned whether the duty was high enough. ❧

