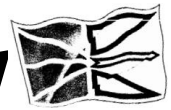


FEBRUARY 09, 2001

# Noteworthy



## 2001 Pre-Budget Consultation process announced

The Finance Minister and President of Treasury Board will hold community roundtable discussions and an Electronic Town Hall to discuss budget priorities for 2001.

The dates and locations for the roundtable meetings are as follows:

Tuesday, February 20, Corner Brook, Holiday Inn  
Wednesday, February 21, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador Inn  
Thursday, February 22, St. Anthony, College of the North Atlantic  
Tuesday, February 27, Gander, Hotel Gander  
Tuesday, February 27, Grand Falls-Windsor, Mount Peyton Hotel  
Thursday, March 1, Marystown, Hotel Marystown  
Monday, March 5, St. John's, Fairmont Hotel

Groups and individuals wishing to participate in the roundtable discussions can make arrangements by telephoning (709) 729-2944. All participants must be registered 24 hours prior to the roundtable meeting in their community.

The Electronic Town Hall will take place on Saturday, February 17, 2001 and will include participants in Clarenville, Stephenville, Port aux Basques, Labrador City, Forteau, Whitbourne, Carbonear and Burin.

The pre-budget booklet "Making Choices" is available by calling 1-888-332-7442 or on the Internet at [www.gov.nf.ca/choices/2001](http://www.gov.nf.ca/choices/2001). To access the live web cast of the Electronic Town Hall on the Internet beginning at 9 a.m. (8:30 a.m. in Labrador), go to [www.gov.nf.ca](http://www.gov.nf.ca) or [www.ce.mun.ca/townhall](http://www.ce.mun.ca/townhall).

In addition to participating in the Electronic Town Hall or in a roundtable meeting, individuals may participate in pre-budget consultations by contacting their MHA, or by

- Calling toll-free: 1-888-332-7442
- E-mailing: [choices@mail.gov.nf.ca](mailto:choices@mail.gov.nf.ca)
- Logging onto the Internet at: [www.gov.nf.ca/choices/2001](http://www.gov.nf.ca/choices/2001)
- Faxing: (709) 729-2232
- Writing: Making Choices, c/o Minister of Finance,  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, P.O. Box 8700,  
St. John's, NF A1B 4J6

## Cooperation on FORESTRY MANAGEMENT

Forest Resources and Agrifoods Minister Kevin Aylward and Innu Nation President Peter Penashue recently signed an agreement on forestry management and development in Labrador. The agreement provides for full participation by the Innu Nation in management planning, designing practices and prescriptions for ongoing operations, and exploring models for co-management of resources.

"Government is aware of the strong bond the Innu people have with the land," said the minister. "Accordingly, any development of forest resources must use an ecosystem-based approach which recognizes all of the values within the forest ecosystem."

Activities under the agreement include completing a forest management plan, guiding forestry operations in the interim, and negotiating a long-term co-management agreement between government and the Innu Nation. The province will commit over \$520,000 during the next 12 months to conclude the forest management plan and advance the Labrador forest industry. Public meetings in the near future will provide stakeholders an opportunity to have input into the plan before it is finalized.

## Continued Funding For REDAS Program

Premier Beaton Tulk and Industry Minister Brian Tobin announced that the Regional and Economic Development and Schools (REDAS) program will continue to receive federal and provincial government funding. REDAS is designed to teach young people about the economic opportunities available in the province.

Since its inception in 1999, REDAS has developed 36 learning modules in provincial schools focusing on such topics as tourism, fine arts and mining. "The learning modules will give students the skills they need to identify economic opportunities at both their local and regional levels. This is an important step in making the school learning environment more relevant to students, and in enhancing the role of education in regional economic development," said Premier Tulk.



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