

The Transporter



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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER



WORKING Together

Bursaries Awarded to NWT Students

This July, northern aviation students got a helping hand from the Department of Transportation and Canadian North with Aviation Career Development Program (ACDP) bursaries.

The ACDP, also supported by the Northern Air Transport Association, provides students with financial assistance to help them pursue their aviation career goals.

On July 26 the sixth annual ACDP ceremonies were held at Adlair Aviation in Yellowknife. Eight students received bursaries of \$5,000 each, bringing the amount of bursaries awarded over the course of the program to 48, a total value of \$240,000.

With the growing northern economy, programs like this ensure that the NWT will have a labor force to support its development.

Most students who received bursaries are already working for northern air carriers and all of them plan to stay in the North to continue their careers after finishing school.

"Employers are attracted to these



ADCP Awards presenters and recipients (L-R); back row: Paul Laserich, NATA; Tom Ruth, Canadian North; Marvin Zaorzirny, Director, Airports Division; Russ Neudorf, deputy minister, DOT; Jonathan Bembridge; Ryan Chenkie; Derrick Kocik; **front row:** Stacy Reid; Lanita Thrasher; Kyle Wheaton. **Missing:** Paul Sullivan and Omar Ashley.

northern students once they've gained the skills of their trade," says Russell Neudorf, Deputy Minister, DOT. "They know these homegrown students are more likely to stay and work in the North."

At this year's ceremony, Paul Laserich, president of Adlair Aviation, announced that his company would begin contributing a bursary to the

program with the Department of Transportation matching this donation.

The two extra bursaries will be welcomed by aviation students like Ryan Chenkie, who is training to be a pilot.

"The real cost is the flying time, paying anywhere from \$100 to \$350 an hour. You add tuition and books on top of that and it gets very expensive."

YZF Firefighters Assist at School Fire

The Yellowknife Airport fire crew were called to assist city firefighters at the blaze that ravaged Ecole St. Joseph's School on August 3.

The airport firefighters were called around 12:30 a.m. to come help fight the fire which had been burning since 8 p.m. After ensuring a large commercial aircraft had landed safely, Steve Loutitt, Acting Airport Manager, authorized the crew to take two trucks to St. Joe's.

YZF trucks dumped 34,500 litres of water and a special firefighting foam (AFFF) during the two hours they spent at the scene.

"A total of 1,420 litres of foam was used during the response," said Loutitt. "Due to the huge delivery of product, the fire was quickly brought under control."



Photo: Marilyn Robak, CBC

Firefighters fight the blaze at St. Joe's

TRANSPORTATION In Motion

Highway Celebration Planned in Yellowknife

Twenty-three years of highway reconstruction and paving between the NWT-Alberta border and



Highway 3, circa 1947

Yellowknife will come to an official end on September 9 at a public celebration in the capital to commemorate the completion.

The Department of Transportation has organized 'Paving the Way: A Celebration of Completion' at the Folk on the Rocks site on Highway 3 from 12 - 4 p.m.

Festivities kick off with a free barbecue at noon that will take place against a backdrop of live musical entertainment led by master of ceremonies, George

Tuccaro. The line up includes Diga, Leslie Bader Band, Dettah Drummers and the combined musical talents of Gerry Pye, Moses Butt, Heather Clouter, and DOT's own Richard Lafferty.

Official ceremonies are planned for 2-3 p.m. and will consist of several speakers, the unveiling of a commemorative plaque and a 32-foot mural that depicts a highway landscape, and a motorcade of antique cars that will drive through a banner to officially open the

highway.

Everyone attending the event will receive a commemorative highway map and pin, along with a piece of Highway 3 in the form of a small piece of pink chipseal rock.

Children's activities will involve onsite historical and technical displays of the highway, with prizes for participation.

Everyone will be eligible to win a number of prizes donated by local businesses. They will also be able *continued on next page...*

SAFETY Tip

Construction ahead...

Construction season continues, and as you navigate your way through work zones, remember these tips:



1. STAY ALERT

Expect anything to occur when entering a work zone.

2. PAY CLOSE ATTENTION

Signs and work zone flaggers save lives.

3. DON'T SPEED

Follow the posted speed limits in and around the work zone.

4. KEEP UP WITH THE TRAFFIC FLOW

Dedicate your full attention to the roadway and those traveling around you.

5. MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS

Avoid changing radio stations and using cellular phones

while driving in the work zone.

6. EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

Keep an eye out for workers and their equipment.

7. DON'T CHANGE LANES IN THE WORK ZONE

Any time saved just isn't worth the chance.

8. TURN ON YOUR HEADLIGHTS AND TAIL LIGHTS

Workers and other motorists must see you.

9. DON'T TAILGATE

Unexpected stops occur frequently in work zones.

10. BE PATIENT

Remember, the work zone crew members are working to improve your future ride.

Safety Tip is brought to you by Occupational Health & Safety



Bettylou Mudry Retires after 30yrs

Bettylou Mudry, Regional Manager, Finance and Administration, Hay River, retired July 28 after 30 years with the Department of Transportation. She started her career in 1976 as a finance clerk with what was then the federal Department of Public Works and Highways in Hay River.

Bettylou often acted as the Regional Superintendent for South Slave, and briefly acted as the Director of Corporate Services in Yellowknife before she was lured back to Hay River. She also won DOT's Award of Excellence in 1994.

While she decides what to do next, Bettylou will be sticking around Hay River.



Bettylou Mudry cuts into some cake at her retirement party in Hay River on July 28.

A Tribute to Bettylou

Submitted by:
**John Suwala, Highway Maintenance Engineer
Hay River**

I first spoke with Bettylou over the phone and she struck me right away as a friendly and caring soul. Our second meeting was in person when she picked me up at the Hay River Airport and welcomed me to the North. She drove me to the office via the Town of Hay River where she showed me the sights, the shopping and some of the houses. She was selling me on the community and on working in the North. I was already sold by the time I walked into the Hay River Office for the interview.

Working with the Hay River Office, I found Bettylou had cultivated a good sense of sharing and understanding. She had a strong sense of purpose and dedication for service to our staff and the Department. She is a confident and strong person with an optimistic attitude, her experience covered a lot of ground and a lot of issues. We will miss her.

She was always there when we needed her and I hope that she knows that we will be there for her too. Take care Bettylou and we hope to hear from you soon.

DM's Dues

This month, I would like to acknowledge the following employees for their hard work and contributions:

The Yellowknife Airport Firehall, for their significant assistance in fighting the fire at Ecole St. Joseph's school in Yellowknife. Their presence has been acknowledged as having a huge impact on getting the fire under control.



Congratulations to all the Highway Transport Officers (HTOs) who have received their Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) certifications. Only three of the department's HTOs have yet to be certified, but they have passed their exams and the process is underway. There has been a significant increase in the number of inspections that are conducted, including the recent brake safety check, making our highways safer for all users.

Marvin Zaozirny, Director of Airports Division, who is retiring from DOT after 27 years with the GNWT. Marvin has spent the last two in the Director's chair, and has been a dedicated member of the DOT team. Thank you for your excellent work over the years.

Russell Neudorf, Deputy Minister

'Highway Completion' continued...

to view old and new construction equipment similar to those used over the years to build the first version of the highway and subsequent upgrades.

"This is an historic accomplishment for the department and for the people of the NWT," said Deputy Minister Russell Neudorf, "The GNWT invested over \$200 million since 1983 to completely reconstruct and pave the highway that runs from the border into Hay River and on to Yellowknife."

He points out that the completion of the highway has significance beyond the NWT border because



A new and improved highway 3

of the fact that all 27,000 kilometres of the National Highway System are now paved.

"In a very real sense, this is the highway equivalent to driving the last spike in the railroad that linked Canada from east to west," he said.



Nathanial (Ned) Day cuts into a going away cake at the Inuvik Airport recently. Ned, who has just completed his heavy duty mechanic apprenticeship, is moving to Calgary to work for Shell Oil. Ned is the first apprentice mechanic employed by the airport, a position that began in 2002. All the staff at the Inuvik Airport wish Ned and his family the best of luck, and he promises to return to the community for regular visits.

AVOP training in Fort Simpson

On July 27 and 28, Bruce Ulylot, Airports Division, Yellowknife, flew to Fort Simpson to conduct an Airside Vehicle Operators Permit course, and a Restricted Radio Operators course for Fort

Simpson region employees. "The training was a success," said Scott McIntosh, Regional Airport Manager who, along with two Aurora College instructors, trained to be an instructor for future courses.



Course participants (L-R): Nathan Isiah, Ft. Simpson; Brian Kotchea, Trout Lake; Scott McIntosh, Regional Airport Manager, Ft. Simpson; Bruce Ulylot, Yellowknife; Harold Jumbo, Trout Lake; Ralph Sanguiez, Aurora College Instructor. Missing: Mickey Forrest, Wrigley; Jimmy Kotchea, Ft. Liard; Anthony Ekenale, Trout Lake; Ron Rusnell, School of Community Government.

HUMAN RESOURCE Updates

Farewell

Fort Simpson - April Bell
RL&S - (YK) Kelly Billan

Welcome

Corporate Services - (YK) Matthew Dawe
Directorate - (YK) David Maguire

Thanks to all our Summer Students

Yellowknife - Jane Borkovic, Mary Coyne, Chris Dunne, Donna Evans, Matt Green, Michelle Laroque, Lori Macmillan, Kirstin Mahler, Jessica Miller, Luc Morrison, Kevin Rattray, Meagan Shouhda, Steven Thomson, John Tram, Grant White, Chris Wong
Behchoko - Morgan Zoe; **Fort Smith** - Terrence Campbell

Fort Providence - Michael Krutko
Inuvik - Ben Wright
Hay River - Kaley Coleman, Kristy Cooper, Dustin Dewar, Kari Hergott, Rick Leonard
Enterprise - Stephanie McCabe, Serena Skavinski;

Know of any new and exciting story ideas? Contact: **Adrienne Cartwright**, Communications Coordinator, DOT: adrienne_cartwright@gov.nt.ca, Tel: (867) 873-7956 Fax: (867) 873-0363



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