

The Transporter



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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER



CELEBRATING Excellence

2007 Math & Science Awards

The Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Department of Public Works and Services, is pleased to acknowledge the recipients for the 2006/2007 Math & Science Awards. The department recognizes students in grade 7, 8, and 9 who have excelled in both math and science. The 68 recipients, from 28 schools in 20 communities, are awarded a t-shirt, a book, and a certificate, as well as a calculator for those that have previously won. Congratulations and keep up the great work!

This year's winners organized by school:

?Ehtseo Ayha School	Lynette Saboarin
Yata Yukon	Dori Ann LeFoin
Ted MacKeinzo	Deninu
Hilary Andre	Pete Beaulieu
Angik School	Echo Dene
Kari Hengel	Trevor Timbre
Patrick Illasiak	Lindsay Berreault
Rosalie Krengnektak	École Allain St-Cyr
Chief Albert Wright School	Cliff Tuyishime
Tanis Niditchie	Amber O'Reilly
Brandon Andrew	École Boréale
Amber Powder	Krista Painchaud
Chief Jimmy Bruneau Regional High School	Adam Lakusta
Aaron (AJ) Steinwand	Chantay Boulanger-Rowe
Krystal Black	École St Joseph
Timerin Tinqu	Kent Nilson
Chief Julius School	Edward Hunt
Bradley Charlie	Helen Kalvak Elihakvik
Eric Blake	Rheanne Kanayok
Ashtyn McLeod	Gayle Ogina
Chief T'Selehye	Rose Inuktalik
Brad Kelly	Jean Wetrade Gamèti School
Ayla Kakfwi	Eleasha Chocolate
Tamara McNeely	Alan Wetrade
Deh Gáh Elementary and Secondary	Louie Norwegian School
Jamie Norwegian	Natasha LePage
	Lutsel K'e Dene School
	Star Catholique



Inuvik's Samuel Hearne Winners. From Left to Right: Carol Maring (DOT Sr. Finance Officer), Phillip Iatridis (winner for 3 consecutive years), Danielle DesLauriers, and Jessica Pierrot.

Michael Van Leeuwen	Trudy Dick
Shiranda Bull	P.W. Kaeser High School/
Mackenzie Mountain School	Alexandra James
Emily Collier	Nicole Labine
Nigel Gregory	Johnathon Keizer
Joshua Balanuik	Princess Alexandra School
Mangilaluk School/	Kyle McKay
Joel Ross-Gruben	Range Lake North School
Megan Driscoll	Jared Brandvold
Chelsea Raddi	Tyler Comeau
Mezi Community School	Samuel Hearne
Janelle Nisiza	Jessica Pierrot
Rhea Beaverho	Danielle DesLauriers
Adam Nitsiza	Phillip Iatridis
Mildred Hall School	Sir John Franklin
Joey Simpson	Jamie Nielsen
Karim Moussaoui	Katie Glowach
Moose Kerr School	Weledeh Catholic School
Joel Gordon	Paula Klassen
Amber Semple	Arlette Fernandez

Bear Safety Course Gives Staff Hands on Experience

Raymond Bourget Teaches Department Staff how to Protect Themselves from Bears



Raymond Bourget, Senior Wildlife Officer, shows the participants how to use bear spray correctly.

It's that time of year again, bears are out of hibernation and bear safety training is occurring. This year's "Safety in Bear Country" course, held in Yellowknife, incorporated a hands-on section, which

was a smashing success. The newly revamped course was held June 15th, with two hours of in class time followed by an hour of hands-on experience at the Yellowknife Sand Pits.

Raymond Bourget, Senior Wildlife Officer from ENR, shared his wealth of knowledge on how to store and use various bear deterrents, such as bear bangers, flares and bear spray. Shannon Gault, a junior environment technician, found the course very informative and fun.

"I had purchased some bear deterrents for when I go camping, but I didn't know which did what or how to use them. I definitely learned a lot and I think it helped

that it had a hands on section."

The course targeted employees working in the field, with Yellowknife's Highway Division staff making up the majority of participants.

Originally, the course was capped at 10 participants, but with the high demand, they were able to squeeze in 6 more participants. Karen Decker-Brien, who organized the course, hopes this will become an annual course due to the success. For more information, check out the northern and very informative DVD: *Staying Safe in Bear Country: A Behavioral-Based Approach to Reducing Risk*. It's available through the public libraries.

SAFETY TIP Bear Safety

Brought to you by the ENR Wildlife Division

While in bear country, the following precautions may help reduce your chances of encountering a bear:

- Watch for bear signs such as: tracks; droppings which contain vegetation, berries, or hair; claw marks or stripped bark on trees; torn up stumps or rotten logs; and upturned earth.
- Menstruating women should try to minimize odours through careful personal hygiene, the use of internal sanitary protection and burning sanitary materials in a hot fire.
- Where visibility is limited, make noise in order to avoid surprising a

bear. You can sing, shout, talk loudly, or carry noisemakers such as bells or air horns. However, do not become overconfident: noise may be masked by sounds such as wind or water, or may go unnoticed by a bear that is busy eating.

For more information, check out the ENR Wildlife Division website: <http://www.nwtwildlife.com/>

CELEBRATING *Us*

Yellowknife Airport Electrician Gives His Time to Victims of Hurricane Katrina

Werner Klinger, Yellowknife Airport Electrician, is known throughout the North for bringing his helping hands to airports and finding solutions to tough problems.

This past April, Werner spread that notoriety across the continent when he went to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to put his hands to work helping families displaced by hurricane Katrina.

"I was at my church a while ago and I saw a poster looking for volunteers to help build houses," says Werner.

"My wife knew I had been interested in doing it for a while so she said that I should just go ahead and do it."

When he arrived in Baton Rouge, Werner headed straight to the build site. On the first day, the teams gathered and made a plan of action. The goal was to build three houses in two weeks.

With nearly 700 volunteers on hand for the project, the work went fast.

"It was like the houses just flew up around us," says Werner.

"There were so many people who were eager to help."

With volunteers bringing all different levels of skill, Werner worked alongside seasoned construction professionals and people who were swinging a hammer for the first time.

"Everyone learned from each other and there was a real sense of camaraderie," says Werner.

"At the start of the build we met the families we would be helping, making it that much more impor-



One of the build team supervisors and Werner Klinger sitting on what will soon be a new house for Hurricane Katrina victims

tant that we got the job done."

Beverly and Cecil Gentry, the family who Werner's build team was helping, were more than grateful for the work being done on their behalf.

After living in a FEMA relief trailer for 18 months, they were ready for a fresh start in a new home.

"The people down there are so brave picking up after that kind of devastation and starting a whole new life. It was the least we can do for them, they are the real heroes," says Werner.

At the end of the two weeks Werner was on his way back to Yellowknife, and the Gentry's were on their way to a new life.

Premier's Award of Excellence Recognizes One of Our Own



Premier Joe Handley (Left) presents Ron Hamilton with his plaque at the Premier's Award Ceremony held June 15th at the Legislative Assembly.

On Friday, June 15th, the recipients for the 2007's Premier's Award for Excellence celebrated their achievements at the Legislative Assembly during Public Service Week.

From all the public servants of the GNWT, three individuals were recognized this year, and one of them was our very own Ron Hamilton, the Highway's Fleet Manager in Hay River.

"The awards are given to employees who show excellence, innovation and dedication in their work, which is exactly what Ron has demonstrated over the years," said Deputy Minister Russ Neudorf.

Since 1995, Ron has been refurbishing snowblowers across the North. Instead of throwing the machines out, Ron sends them down to Quebec where they are 'rehabilitated' and sent back as powerful modern machines with the capability of 20 more years of service.

Over the past decade, nine snowblowers have been rehabilitated, which has saved the government over \$900,000.

"New ones cost about \$350,000 and we save about \$100,000 by rehabilitating the old ones, so it's

like we get a free snowblower for every three that we do," said Ron.

In the next few years Ron hopes to send rehabilitated machines to Fort Good Hope, Fort Liard, Fort McPherson and Ulukhaktok. This summer, Ron will visit these communities to determine which snowblower is the worst for wear, and therefore, the next candidate to get revamped.

"Ulukhaktok will probably be up next due to its remote location. The snowblowers are the lifelines for the airports, so if they don't work then there's trouble." Congratulations on your prestigious award Ron!



Rebuilding machines like this 1983 Vohl Snowblower has saved the government over \$900,000

To see more pictures from the event and all the award winners, check under the Premier's Photo Gallery at: <http://www.premier.gov.nt.ca>

Human Resources Updates

Farewell:

Bob Kelly - Manager, Public Affairs
Cory Noseworthy - Finance & Admin Coordinator
Jaqueline Brien - Administrative Assistant
Rodney Hildebrandt - Project Manager
Stephanie Lewis - Driver Medical Assessment Officer

Welcome:

Karl Richard - Licensing Agent, Bilingual
Laura Love - Technical Officer
Peter Buell - Assistant Director, Marine Services
Rebecca Alty - Communications Coordinator
Sam Gamble - Commercial Development Officer

DM's Dues

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

First off, I would like to congratulate the staff in our department who were awarded the Premier's Award of Excellence this year. Ron Hamilton was recognized for his excellent work in retrofitting snowblowers, and the website group- Doug Krause, David Maguire, Eric Baecker, Adrienne Cartwright and Bob Kelly- received a team award for their work on the innovative web solution that powers the new departmental website.

Spring is always a challenging time of year for the Department of Transportation, as we switch from winter to summer operations. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of all operational staff in ferries, highways, and marine in maintaining our transportation system as safe as possible.

I would also like to thank Al Kaylo and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing staff for their work on improving front line service at issuing offices across the North. Al and his staff put together a workshop for issuing agents that was attended by people from across the territory where issuing agents learned about customer service and efficient issuing of Drivers Licenses and GIC's.



Check out *The Transporter* online at:
www.dot.gov.nt.ca

Do you have any new and exciting stories? Contact: Rebecca Alty, Communications Coordinator, DOT: rebecca_alty@gov.nt.ca, Tel: (867) 873-7956 Fax: (867) 873-0363