

The Transporter



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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER



CELEBRATING Us

YK Airport Fire Department Awards

The presentation of a Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal to Captain Greg Irvine highlighted a recent recognition event for members of the Yellowknife Airport Fire Department.

Transportation Minister Michael McLeod presented Greg with his medal, one of a series of Exemplary Service Medals awarded in Canada to recognize those men and women involved in public safety who have given long and outstanding service. The medal Greg received is awarded to members of Canadian fire services who have completed 20 years of service, at least 10 of which comprised duties involving potential risk. Exemplary service is characterized by good conduct, industry, and efficiency.

Greg's career as a firefighter began 25 years ago when he joined the Inuvik Fire

Department as a volunteer firefighter. He became part of the YK Airport Fire Department and a full-time firefighter in 1983.

Bruce Stebbing, NWT Assistant Fire Marshal, also presented Greg with a pin for 25 years of service. Stebbing also handed out long service pins to other firefighters: Pat Fowler and Dave Hessdorfer, 25 years service; Ed Kokoszka and Charlie Bourassa, 20 years; Steve Loutitt, 15 years; and Lee Stroman, Charlie Wright, and Wayne Vielhauer, five years service.

Michael Conway, North Slave Regional Superintendent, presented certificates to the fire department's newest members, Paul Hamlyn and Garret Churchill, to signify that they have completed their Airport Firefighter Certification program.



Transportation Minister Michael McLeod presents Captain Greg Irvine of the YK Airport Fire Department with an Exemplary Service Medal



Yellowknife Airport Fire Department Award Recipients (L-R):

Greg Irvine, Charlie Bourassa, Dave Hessdorfer, Pat Fowler, Ed Kokoszka, Lee Stroman, Paul Hamlyn, Wayne Veilhauer, Garret Churchill.

Highway 3 Progress Update



The arrival of cooler weather means highway construction projects are winding down for the season across the NWT, including the \$15 million reconstruction work happening on Highway 3 near Yellowknife.

Kevin McLeod, Director of Highways, says contractor RTL was expected to finish work on the project from km 290-322 by October 1, with the exception of chipsealing the section between 310-322. That remaining piece will be completed when warm weather returns next summer.

"The contractor has done a great job," Kevin says. "However, a very wet summer and fall and a shortage of skilled labour has caused the schedule to slip."

Rather than risk compromising the quality of the road by chipsealing the last 12 kilometres under less than ideal conditions, the contractor was instructed to leave that last stretch until 2006. In the meantime, plans are to have a gravel surface on that section by October 15 so that it can be traveled on.

"This long-awaited project is essentially complete," Kevin says. "Motorists will be travelling on a new highway this fall that is higher, wider, and straighter than the old section."

All those factors add up to a highway that will be much safer for the growing number of vehicles that use Highway 3.

"Safety is what it's all about," says Kevin.

DOT Remembers Fraser Weir

Jim Stevens will remember and miss the "wit and wisdom" of Fraser Weir, who died September 30 in an Edmonton hospital. He was 52.

Jim, Director of Planning and Policy, knew Fraser, Senior Policy Analyst in that division, since Fraser joined the department in 1989. He recalls that Fraser was a hard-working employee who possessed "a great knowledge of the world at large- politics, history, geography"- and an ability to channel that knowledge into the topic at hand.

"I will also remember him fondly for his ability to portray a gruff, tough image, ultimately followed at the end by a smirk or a smile," says Jim.

Jim says Fraser, who became a GNWT employee with the NWT Housing Corporation in 1985, was a man with a soft heart who needed little prompting to

speaking openly and lovingly of his wife, Delia, and his 10-year-old son, Alexander.

"Fraser was a good guy," Jim says. "We'll all miss him a lot."



Fraser Weir

Besides his wife and son, Fraser is survived by his sister, Carolyn Hutchinson, and his brother, Dixon Weir. His remains were cremated in Edmonton. A memorial service was held at St. Patrick's Church, Yellowknife, on October 6. Proceeds from charitable donations in lieu of flowers were divided between the Yellowknife Food Bank and the NWT Writer's Association.

SAFETY Tip

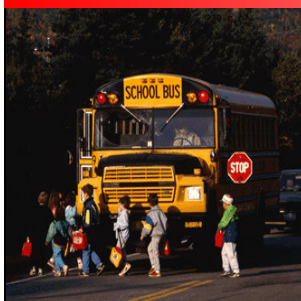
Safety Tip is brought to you by the Yellowknife Airport Fire Department



Riding The Bus

School bus transportation is safe. In fact, buses are safer than cars. Even so, last year, deaths and injuries occurred in incidents involving school buses. These deaths and injuries often did not occur in a crash, but as students were entering and exiting the bus. Familiarize your children with these safety tips:

- Have a safe place to wait for your bus, away from traffic and the street.
- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop.
- When exiting the bus, take 10 giant steps away from the bus. Remember that the bus driver can see you best when you are far away from the bus.
- Use the handrail to enter and exit the bus.
- Be aware of the traffic around you. Drivers should follow certain rules of the road concerning school buses, but not all do. Protect yourself and watch out.



"Never let the fear of striking out get in your way."

- George Herman 'Babe' Ruth



YK Corporate Challenge

This year, DOT placed third overall in the 2005 Yellowknife Corporate Challenge, which took place August 29 - September 10. Northwestel was the overall winner this year. Nearly 30 employees participated in this year's Challenge: Bill Chappel, Bob Kelly, Bob Powless, Cole Crook, Daniel Auger, Dave Monroe, Donna Evans, Eric Baecker, Gregory Yates, Harris Beaulieu, John Himmelman, Kelley Merilees-Keppel, Kelly Billan, Kevin McLeod, Lynn Cook, Margaret Czyn, Michael Borden, Michael Brown, Pauleen Hogan-Christopher, Peter Laratta, Ronda Landry, Roxane Landry, Russ Neudorf, Sasha Labant, Shane Lebouthillier, Stephanie Lewis, Tony Czyn, and Wayne Overbo.



Results	
Event:	Place:
Golf	8th
Wing Eating	2nd
Running Relay	3rd
Horseshoes	2nd
Tug of War	3rd
Volleyball	5th
Basketball	4th
Overall	3rd



Some of the members of DOT's 2005 Corporate Challenge team

YK Airport Update

The \$11.2 million expansion and renovation project at YK Airport continues to move forward on schedule towards a completion date early in 2006.

Work is happening simultaneously in a number of areas inside and outside the passenger terminal building. As September drew to a close, workers were installing the baggage conveyor system and other components of the

inline baggage screening system that will be housed in the two-storey addition to the north end of the building.

At the south end of the building, preparations were underway to install a second inbound baggage carousel in a new arrivals area.

Other parts of the project that were almost ready to start were removal of the interior wall at the north end of the building to connect with the addition and set the stage for the move of the First Air ticket counters to a new location to the right of the departure area. The other airline ticket counters will follow that move in the weeks to come. The existing arrivals door will be closed for a short period of time to pour the slab and foundation for the new revolving door that will be installed at a later date.

There's still a lot more work to come. One of the major improvements that passengers will appreciate is an expansion of the secure departure lounge. Not only will it be larger, but it will also have washrooms and a small concession area.

"The overall project has gone very smoothly," says Greg Yates, Building and Planning Officer with Airports Division. "Contractors, suppliers, airport and airline staff and others involved in or affected by the construction

project have done a great job of coordinating activities in order to move the project forward and minimize impact on airport operations and users."



Preparations for the new revolving door at arrivals area



Non-secure departure lounge



Les Shaw's Family outside of boardroom LRT-2 on July 20th, 2005

Shaw Family visits the North

Members of the late Les Shaw's family from Sechelt, B.C., gathered for a photo after visiting and sharing memories with some of his former colleagues in Yellowknife during a trip to the NWT in July. Les, Regional Superintendent in Fort Simpson, and Director of Marine Services until he retired in the summer of 2004, died suddenly of natural causes in December. His parents, two brothers, and two daughters, along with their spouses and children, spent about two weeks in the NWT visiting places where Les lived and worked, and meeting friends and co-workers. Les's close friend, Pietro deBastiani, who worked in the Department of Transportation for a number of years, set up the visit and escorted the family.



Upcoming DOT Events in YK:

- Oct. 31.....Halloween Basket Draw
- Dec. 4.....Kids Xmas party at pool
- Dec. 9.....DOT Xmas party at Hot Shots
- Dec. 16.....Xmas Draw
- Every payday - 50/50 Draw**

HUMAN RESOURCE Updates

Farewell

Corporate Services - Kim Snodgrass
YK Road Licensing & Safety - Lila Whelan
Fort Providence Highways Division - Darrel Gargan
Fort Smith Highways Division - Dwayne Venema
YK Airports Division - Delia Nitu, Bill Malloch, Jackie Brien
YK Highways Operations - Dianne Betsina, Cheryl Fernandez

Welcome

YK Highway Operations - David King, Sheena Sangris
Edzo Highway Operations - Charlie Mantla
Corporate Services - Melanie Pond
YK Airports Division - Phillip Edwards, Shaun Metcalfe, Andrew Modeste
Directorate - Adrienne Cartwright

Farewell and Thank You, Summer Students

Ft. Smith Hwys Camp Lisa Baron Chelsey Baron Della Beck Noel Dube	Fort Providence Hwys Camp Kari Hergott Terry Sapp	YK Road Licensing & Safety Samera Hess	Planning & Policy Safiya Adam
Hay River Airport Nathan Clark Dustin Dewar	YK Highway Operations Talisa Cumming Michelle Larocque Cheryl Fernandez	YK Airport Matthew Green Justin Loomes Kathryn Paton Jennie Kozak Derek Wagner	Directorate Kelly Billan
Enterprise Highways Camp Jennifer Coleman Stacy Flett Richard Leonard	Hay River Regional Office Kylie Lobb	YK Highways Brad Poulter Steven Thomson Valerie Aucoin Jennifer Reid Dylan Hayne	Corporate Services Elizabeth Turner
North Slave Region Alayna Krutko	Edzo highway Ops Bobby Wanazah		YK Airports Division Peter Laratta Peter Klimas Mary Coyne Christopher Wong Donna Evans Andrea Tam James Tolley



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