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## ANNUAL REPORT 1976-77



# LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

#### EDMONTON, Alberta

To His Honour
R. G. Steinhauer
Lieutenant-Governor of the
Province of Alberta

Sir:

The undersigned has the honour to transmit herewith the thirteenth Annual Report of the Northern Alberta Development Council.

Respectfully submitted

Honourable Robert W. Dowling Minister of Business Development and Tourism

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Statement of the Minister	1
Northern Alberta Development Council	3
Northern Development Branch	7
Northern Alberta Development Council Activities	9
A. Student Bursary Program	15
B. Alberta North Interim Agreement	16
Northern Alberta Transportation Seminar	26

## STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER

#### STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER

Honourable R. W. Dowling Minister, Business Development and Tourism, Responsible for Northern Development

During 1976-77 I enjoyed my second year as Chairman of the Northern Alberta Development Council and with it, exposure to the exciting potential of the northern portion of the province. Northern Alberta possesses a vast area, substantial natural resources and virtually unlimited opportunity for development which will ultimately benefit all citizens of the province. However, we must be careful that other northern characteristics of sparse population, isolation and higher costs of infrastructure installation and transportation do not prevent inhabitants of the region from participating as fully as possible in the development of the region. We, as Council members, are empowered to advise the Government of Alberta on all matters pertaining to socio-economic development and government activities in Northern Alberta. On the other hand, residents of Northern Alberta must provide feedback through the public meetings of the Council so that recommendations which are presented to the government will reflect the special conditions and requirements of the North. The mechanism of the Northern Alberta Development Council thus represents a two-sided responsibility which we all take very seriously.

The future of the North will be tremendous and varied. It is the goal of the Northern Alberta Development Council to strive for balanced growth so that the unique needs of the North will combine with overall provincial priorities to maximize opportunity, while minimizing the unsettling facets of change.

## NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

#### THE NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Re-established in 1973, the Northern Alberta Development Council is designed to increase the amount of public participation in the planning and design of delivery systems for provincial government services in Northern Alberta. The Council itself, since it consists of northern residents, sees things through northern eyes, and supplies the government with a northern point of view on a wide range of issues, supplementing and complementing the perspectives of northern M.L.A.s. In addition, by means of public meetings, organized for the receipt of briefs from northern residents, the Council itself maintains its own contact with the "grass roots" of the North.

The Council has now been fully operational for three years, and has developed techniques for receiving and responding to briefs. The general pattern is that a brief is received from some member of the northern public, expressing a concern or a desire for a particular service. The Council then initiates an inquiry to the department of government concerned to determine its position. The response is then discussed by the members of Council and the information contained in it is then forwarded to the person who presented the brief. Sometimes further followup is required to clarify the response or to try to convince the department concerned to change its position.

Thus the Council provides an information service by hearing briefs from northern people and obtaining answers to their questions

and is also an advisory group to government by developing policy recommendations to the provincial Cabinet. Major areas that Council will be considering in the near future are economic development, transportation, local government, banking services, health services, infrastructure systems, education and housing. In December, 1976 the Northern Alberta Development Council sponsored a Seminar on Northern Transportation which brought together municipal representatives, Indian Chiefs, and leaders of Métis Colonies with the Minister and senior officials of Alberta Transportation to discuss the topic most frequently raised at Council's public meetings. A summary of this Seminar can be found on page 26 of this Report.

Lacking the responsibility and budget for actual delivery of the services handled by the departments, the Northern Alberta Development Council cannot directly implement changes and service improvements in the North. However, better information flowing both ways is resulting in the improvement of service delivery mechanisms to Northern Alberta.

# MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL:



Hon.R.W.(Bob) Dowling Edmonton Chairman, N.A.D.C.



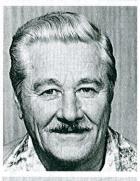
Larry Shaben MLA Lesser Slave Lake 523-4168 High Prairie 429-4631 Edmonton



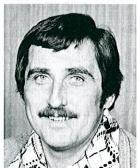
Chief Joe Dion Bonnyville 826-3333



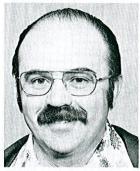
Robert Duncan Fort McMurray 743-2463



**Ike Lawrence** High Prairie 523-3358



Len Pelland Jr. McLennan 324-3604



Larry Chorney Fairview 835-2033



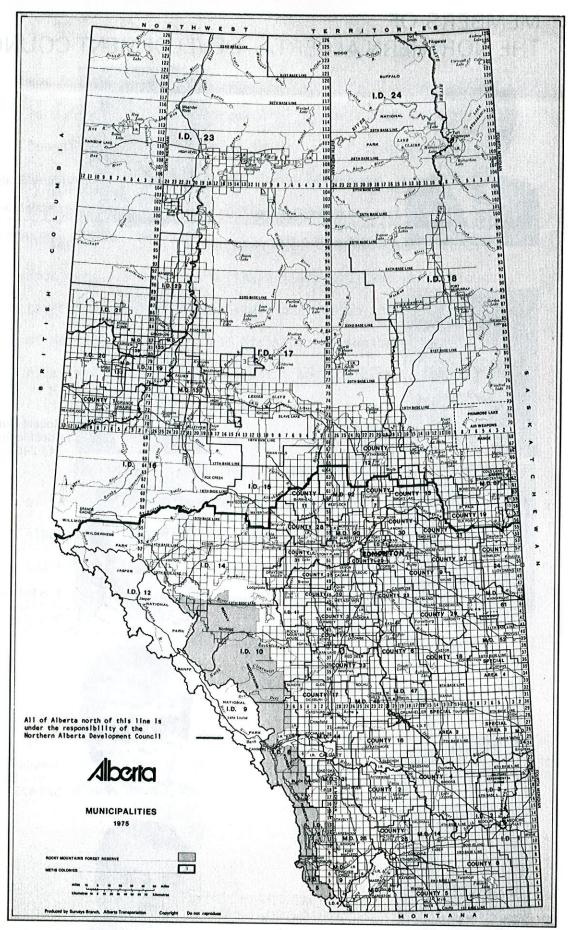
Josephine Langevin Lac La Biche 623-4232



Jim Fletcher Grande Prairie 532-2353



Stan Smith Fort Vermilion 927-3208



# NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

As well as providing support services to the Northern Alberta Development Council, the Northern Development Branch is an integral part of the Department of Business Development and Tourism. The Branch is also very much involved in advancing the Department's broad governmental goals of diversification of the industrial base, and development of Alberta's rural areas.

Northern Development is divided into two main components:

Program Development and Program Co-ordination. The Program

Development Sector has evolved from a function emphasizing

pure research and collection of data on northern conditions

into a group which assists in developing programs consistent

with the goals adopted by the Northern Alberta Development

Council. The goals are organized to cover four major areas

of emphasis: economic development, community development,

education and improvement of government services. A full

description of these goals is found in the Northern Alberta

Development Council Annual Report for 1975. Many of the

projects undertaken by the Program Development Sector continue

to be intitiated by briefs submitted to the Council.

The Program Co-ordination element of the Northern

Development Branch monitors and facilitates the activities

of various departments and agencies to achieve maximum

benefits for the North. It has continued to implement the

Alberta North Agreement with the Federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) on behalf of the province.

Negotiations are also progressing favorably toward the development of a new long term Alberta North Agreement. A summation of the projects cost-shared under the Interim Agreement during 1976-77 is included elsewhere in this Report. A full summary of the 1974-1977 Agreement is available from the Northern Development Branch.

The Branch continued to sponsor the Human Environment

Technical Research Committee of the Alberta Oil Sands

Environmental Research Program (AOSERP) and was heavily involved in the research design of activities in this area. Further work was done on assessing the viability of establishing a quarry operation for granite at Fort Chipewyan, as well as local government development in isolated areas, the Education North Project, and aspects of community economic development.

Major successes were achieved in the approval of the Northern Supplementary Fund and the creation of a Northern Water and Sewer Coordination Committee. Many field facilitation projects were also undertaken in areas such as school boundary problems, the Bankmobile project, resource and environmental impact assessments, community housing needs.

The Branch is responsible for providing the administrative and technical support to the Northern Alberta Development Council, including all arrangements for meetings, follow-through on briefs, preparation of background papers and implementation of Council

motions. The working relationship between the Northern

Alberta Development Council and the Northern Development Branch
is continuous and close.

# NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

#### NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The Northern Alberta Development Council held ten meetings during 1976-77 and received briefs from many individuals, communities and organizations, covering a wide range of topics. The Council worked to achieve action of all topics of concern and spent considerable effort to move from the specifics of the briefs to general policy recommendations to help alleviate the concerns which reoccur in briefs.

In all 77 briefs were submitted to Council, and action was taken on each one. The briefs were passed to the appropriate line departments of the provincial government for information and departmental position. This position was then considered by the Council and a decision was made whether or not the departmental position and/or action was appropriate. At this point Council directed the Northern Development Branch to work with the responsible department to achieve the necessary action. The originator of the brief was informed of the departmental position and of Council's direction.

The briefs which were submitted to the Northern Alberta Development Council during 1976-77 were as follows:

#### April, 1976 - Grande Prairie

Brief #202 submitted by community of Bluesky regarding the North Peace Gas Co-op

#### May, 1976 - Swan Hills

- Brief #203 submitted by community of Swan Hills regarding revisions to School Division boundaries.
- Brief #204 submitted by community of Swan Hills regarding many issues of concern to community, including health care, paving and recreation.
- Brief #205 submitted by community of Kinuso regarding Swan River flooding.
- Brief #206 submitted by High Prairie regarding transportation concerns.
- Brief #208 submitted by Swan Hills regarding transportation and industrial development.
- Brief #209 submitted by Swan Hills regarding health care, education, transportation, industrial development and reduced interest rates to municipalities.
- Brief #210 submitted by Swan Hills regarding transportation, health care, recreation and education.
- Brief #211 submitted by McLennan regarding utility rates in northern Alberta.
- Brief #212 submitted by Swan Hills regarding establishment of a wildlife preserve.
- Brief #213 submitted by McLennan regarding Heart River Diversion project.

## July, 1976 - Fairview

Brief #214 submitted by Fairview regarding development at Sandhill Lake

- Brief #215 submitted by Lac La Biche regarding Highway 36.
- Brief #216 submitted by Caslan Métis Colony regarding transportation concerns.
- Brief #217 submitted by Hines Creek regarding Highway 64.
- Brief #218 submitted by Spirit River regarding airport improvements.
- Brief #219 submitted by Spirit River regarding housing and land development.
- Brief #220 submitted by Spirit River regarding funding for municipal library.
- Brief #221 submitted by Spirit River regarding nuisance ground.
- Brief #222 submitted by Spirit River regarding paving of town approaches.
- Brief #223 submitted by Fairview and Cleardale regarding the Land Use Assignment Committee.
- Brief #224 submitted by Blueberry Mountain regarding the Blueberry Mountain Forest Co-op.
- Brief #225 submitted by High Level regarding Highway 58.
- Brief #226 submitted by Fairview regarding airport improvements.
- Brief #227 submitted by Fairview regarding waste management.
- Brief #228 submitted by Fairview regarding rail transportation.
- Brief #229 submitted by Fairview regarding a proposed Master Parks Plan.
- Brief #230 submitted by Savanna regarding location of teacherages and townsite.
- Brief #231 submitted by Spirit River regarding Savanna townsite.
- Brief #232 submitted by Fairview regarding street assistance, building inspectors, economic development, education and transportation concerns.
- Brief #233 submitted by Gift Lake and Whitefish Lake regarding transportation concerns.

#### October, 1976 - Grouard

- Brief #234 submitted by High Prairie regarding establishment of an Industrial Park.
- Brief #235 submitted by Big Prairie regarding the Alberta Vocational Centre program.
- Brief #236 submitted by Lac La Biche regarding economic development.
- Brief #237 submitted by Edmonton regarding financial assistance for "Operation Kannachie" a native employment program.
- Brief #238 submitted by Faust regarding Northwest Fish Co-op.
- Brief #239 submitted by Faust regarding flood and erosion problems in the area.
- Brief #240 submitted by Slave Lake regarding road improvements in the isolated communities.
- Brief #241 submitted by Slave Lake regarding economic development on Indian Reserves.
- Brief #242 submitted by Slave Lake regarding a handicraft worker at the Friendship Centre.
- Brief #243 submitted by Slave Lake regarding an alcoholism worker at the Friendship Centre.
- Brief #244 submitted by Slave Lake regarding a social aide worker at the Friendship Centre.
- Brief #245 submitted by High Prairie regarding transportation.
- Brief #246 submitted by High Prairie regarding development of Hilliard's Bay area.

### February, 1977 - Hythe

- Brief #247 submitted by Beaverlodge regarding television coverage.
- Brief #248 submitted by Hythe regarding power rates.
- Brief #249 submitted by Beaverlodge regarding a cleanup of Beaverlodge River.

- Brief #250 submitted by Keg River regarding a road connection between Keg River and Rainbow Lake.
- Brief #251 submitted by Hythe regarding Travel Alberta information centre.
- Brief #252 submitted by Hythe regarding tourism training in elementary schools.
- Brief #253 submitted by Hythe regarding seed cleaning plant.
- Brief #254 submitted by Hythe regarding Highway 49.
- Brief #255 submitted by Valhalla Centre regarding activities of Métis Local 185.
- Brief #256 submitted by Horselake Indian Reserve regarding Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.
- Brief #257 submitted by Hythe regarding health care.
- Brief #258 submitted by Grande Prairie regarding Alberta Labour legislation.
- Brief #259 submitted by Hythe regarding renovations to arena.
- Brief #260 submitted by Hythe regarding agricultural land use, toll free calling and revenue sharing.
- Brief #261 submitted by Hythe regarding swimming pool.
- Brief #262 submitted by I.D. 17 regarding High Prairie airport road.
- Brief #263 submitted by Worsley regarding nursing service.

#### March, 1977 - Bonnyville

- Brief #264 submitted by Bonnyville regarding proposed truck route.
- Brief #265 submitted by Bonnyville regarding swimming pool.
- Brief #266 submitted by Bonnyville regarding financial assistance to Dove Centre.
- Brief #267 submitted by Bonnyville regarding senior citizens drop-in centre.

- Brief #268 submitted by Bonnyville regarding use of oil royalties in paving programs.
- Brief #269 submitted by Elk Point regarding preservation of historic sites.
- Brief #270 submitted by Bonnyville regarding financial assistance for agri-plex.
- Brief #271 submitted by Bonnyville regarding upgrading Muriel Lake road.
- Brief #272 submitted by Elizabeth Colony regarding transportation.
- Brief #273 submitted by Kehewin Reserve regarding licencing a business.
- Brief #274 submitted by Bonnyville regarding picnic/trailer area.
- Brief #275 submitted by Bonnyville regarding financial assistance for establishing tree nursery.
- Brief #276 submitted by Bonnyville regarding concerns with Rural and Native Housing Program.
- Brief #277 submitted by Bonnyville regarding land parcel.
- Brief #278 submitted by Bonnyville regarding need for second fish hatchery.

Government response to briefs varies greatly from brief to brief. Certain concerns have been resolved totally; others partially; others not at all.

The detail of the present state in relation to any brief is available by contacting the office of the Northern Development Branch, Alberta Business Development and Tourism, 427-2501.

Accomplishments which the work of the Northern Alberta Development Council advanced during 1976-77 include:

#### A. Northern Alberta Development Council Student Bursary Program

The Northern Alberta Development Council Student Bursary
Program offers needy students, who have been residents of the
province for at least three years, special bursary benefits.

In return for this help the student will sign an agreement
acknowledging that he will work in a remote area of the province
for one year for each year of full bursary support. If the
student withdraws from this program he will be held responsible
for repayment of the major part of the bursary.

The remote area of Alberta is interpreted as that part of the province which is under the jurisdiction of the Minister responsible for Northern Development.

The Bursary Program is administered by a committee comprised of four members of the Northern Alberta Development Council, one representative each from the Métis Association of Alberta, the Student Finance Board and Advanced Education and Manpower. Determined by the needs of the student, the committee may grant a single student up to \$2,500 per academic year and married students up to \$4,000. Other than a tuition allowance, the bursary is paid on a monthly basis.

During 1976-77, 127 students received bursary assistance totalling \$287,129. Sixty-five students were recipients of bursary assistance for the first year, 45 for the second year and 17 for the third year. Eighty-three students are registered in the Faculty of Education, while others are studying

veterinary medicine, nursing, accounting, engineering and forestry.

One bursary holder is training to be a silversmith.

Bursaries were also provided to native students enrolled in the Morningstar Program at Blue Quills, which enables native people to teach after two years of university level studies. Participants are allowed an additional five years to complete the Bachelor of Education degree usually during spring and summer sessions.

It should be stressed that upon completion of his studies the student is responsible for locating his own employment. The committee will offer guidance wherever possible, but the ultimate responsibility lies with the student.

## B. Alberta North Interim Subsidiary Agreement

"Alberta North" is an enabling agreement between the Province of Alberta and the Federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion, which allows for the development of appropriate programs beneficial to Northern Alberta within provincial line departments.

The Agreement has now been fully operative for three years and has resulted in an expenditure of over \$10 million, cost-shared equally between the province and the federal government.

Negotiations are nearing completion for the implementation of a long term agreement. Projects with costs totalling \$4.8 million were approved during 1976-77.

The Opportunity Corps program, implemented by the Rehabilitation Services Division of Alberta Social Services and Community Health, operated in selected communities throughout Northern Alberta. Projects were specially designed with the intention of providing services not available through Canada Manpower or other related government services. Employing disadvantaged people, the Opportunity Corps program sought to provide them with basic life and work skills and orientation counselling in order to encourage community betterment through self-identification of needs and self-help.

The Corps operated in three areas: Janvier, Lesser Slave Lake and Fort Chipewyan-Fort Vermilion. At Janvier participants in the program continued road repairs, constructed community root houses and a change shack for the skating rink. Workers also cut and delivered firewood for senior citizens and disabled people in the community.

In the Lesser Slave Lake area the Corps was active in many communities. At Cadotte Lake pollutants were cleaned up at the dam site, a skating rink and change house were constructed and sawmill renovations were completed. At Faust, sidewalks were constructed, the firehall was renovated and surrounding area landscaped and a park was built at the senior citizens' lodge. At East Prairie the Corps built a community hall and water storage shed and gravelled driveways. At Trout Lake a new graveyard site

for the Old Post Community Association was cleared and a right of way brushed for a community road. Numerous other projects were undertaken at Wabasca, Enilda, Chipewyan Lake, Canyon Creek, Sandy Lake, Calling Lake, Widewater, Big Prairie, Little Buffalo and Slave Lake.

At Fort Chipewyan the Dore Lake campsite was completed, repairs were made to homes of the aged and infirm, and renovations were done on the community hall, Anglican Church and Baptist Church. As well, Northland School facilities were repaired, a pre-school playground constructed, and maintenance work done on Newstart trailers. At Fort Vermilion a community recreation areas constructed, bathroom facilities were installed at Centennial Hall, the Catholic School was painted and a picnic area developed.

In all locations work experience was supplemented by counselling in life skills and guidance in specialized trade skills workshops.

The Employment and Relocation Counselling Program of
Advanced Education and Manpower continued to be an important
element of the Alberta North Agreement in 1976-77. The program
was functional in Slave Lake, Fort McMurray and Grande Prairie,
and 37 housing units were added to the 90 units already assigned.
Not only are residents of isolated communities able to relocate
to towns with job opportunities, as the program also stresses
relocation from shanty areas to new homes within towns. Through

all phases of the relocation Cree-speaking counsellors are vital to the overall success of the program, and their efforts alleviated many of the potential problems resulting from relocation to a new environment.

The project's initial implementation emphasized relocating older, larger families to the growth centres, but it soon became evident that adaptation to a new environment proved too difficult for these families which had already developed structured lifestyles. So that a strong basis for success may be established to encourage other families to take advantage of the program, the program now prefers applicants who are younger and possess relatively more education.

It is noted that this program is not approximated by any other in Canada, and possesses great potential benefits to enable native people to enjoy the benefits and assume the responsibilities of modern society.

The Northern Development Branch supplied funds to operate a special language class to enable pre-school Cree children to more easily adapt to the regular school system in Grande Cache. The Branch also contributed to the funds required to operate the Adolescent Pre-Career Program in Fort McMurray. The program provides an educational alternative for junior and senior high school students who are unable to function in an existing school environment. Basic Life Skills training is emphasized as well as

standard academic courses. The experiment has been very successful in re-creating an interest in school within the program's target group.

The Branch continued to support a local government experiment in each of the seven communities who are members of the Isolated Communities Advisory Board (Loon Lake, Peerless Lake, Trout Lake, Little Buffalo, Cadotte Lake, Chipewyan Lake and Sandy Lake). The Branch provides funds to pay the salaries of a secretary-treasurer in each community. Assistance to help meet travel expenses was offered to residents of Northern Alberta in some cases so that they could attend public meetings of the Northern Alberta Development Council to submit briefs.

The Northern Water Supply Program is implemented by the Earth Sciences and Licensing Division of Alberta Environment. The purpose of the program is to provide a source of potable water in unorganized northern communities where residents do not possess the finances to build them. From 1974 through 1976, over 300 wells and other methods of obtaining water were delivered to Northern Alberta. During 1976-77 thirty wells were dug and water treatment plants were constructed at Paddle Prairie Métis Colony, Little Buffalo and Calling Lake.

The Northern Electrification Program provided electrical service to isolated northern communities under the guidance of the Northern Alberta Electrification Committee. The distribution system was installed at Chipewyan Lake in 1976-77 to bring the

three year program to a successful completion.

The Mackenzie Highway Service Facility project was finished in 1976-77. Funded by Alberta Transportation and cost-shared under the Alberta North Agreement, the installation of traveller services on the Mackenzie Highway encouraged the growth of High Level as a regional centre.

The Land Tenure Secretariat was established to resolve long standing land residency grievances in Alberta's northern "Green Zone" and to promote orderly growth in isolated communities.

The Secretariat is supervised by a Committee composed of the Ministers of Energy and Natural Resources, Municipal Affairs and Native Affairs.

A grant of \$40,000 was supplied by the Northern Development Branch to Alberta Pe-Ta-Pun to aid its subsidiary company, New Dawn Housing Ltd., in regard to the problem of insufficient working capital. New Dawn manufactures log housing packages for native people as well as other forms of structures.

Alberta Housing and Public Works and the Northern Development Branch provided a grant to construct an experimental log building on the Kikino Métis Colony utilizing innovative techniques and materials. The Branch also assisted the Savanna Agricultural Society in the development of a hamlet subdivision and the Action North group in High Level with the planning necessary to build a facility to house the alcohol rehabilitation program.

The office of the Northeast Alberta Regional Commissioner

composed a community plan for Fort Chipewyan which analyzed existing physical structure and requirements for the future.

The provision of a basis for determining local priorities will be utilized by the Commissioner and the Northern Development Branch to co-ordinate activities of government in the community.

As well, Alberta Transportation upgraded the roads in Fort Chipewyan.

During 1976-77 the Native Secretariat continued with its program of providing core funding to various native organizations to foster socio-economic development in isolated areas. Recipients were the Isolated Communities Advisory Board, Pe-Ta-Pun at Lac La Biche and the Native Area Development Committee at Grande Cache.

The Regional Services Branch of Alberta Business Development and Tourism supplied a grant of \$20,000 to match funds raised by municipalities and groups in the Lac La Biche region to hire an economic development co-ordinator and to broaden public participation in the process of regional development. In a similar way the Northern Development Branch supplied a grant to Victor Lake Co-op Ltd. at Grande Cache to enable the group to begin planning for future socio-economic development, and to the Alberta Trappers Central Association to help recruit new members from the isolated areas of Northern Alberta.

Economic development was further stimulated by the Branch as it funded a feasibility study for a tree nursery at Kikino

series of socio-economic profiles of northern communities and health units and conducted an analysis of social characteristics of the Lac La Biche area.

The following is a listing of projects authorized for cost-sharing under the Alberta North Agreement in 1976-77:

	Authorized Amount	DREE Commitment
Sector One: Life Improvement & Commun	ity Services	
Program 1.1: Life Improvement		
1.1.1 - Opportunity Corps Janvier \$ 1.1.2 - Opportunity Corps Slave Lake 1.1.3 - Employment & Reloc. Couns. 1.1.4 - Opportunity Corps Ft. Chip/	247,166 1,010,479 210,000	123,583 505,239 105,000
Ft. Vermilion  1.1.5 - Language Class Grande Cache  1.1.6 - Pre-Careers Ft. McMurray	539,030 5,000 5,000	269,515 2,500 2,500
Program 1.2: Community Extension 1.2.8 - ICAB	35,000	17,500
Program 1.3: Community Services  1.3.1 - Northern Water Supply 1.3.2 - Electrification 1.3.3 - Mackenzie Service Facility 1.3.5 - Land Tenure 1.3.6 - Pe-Ta-Pun 1.3.7 - Kikino Stackwall Housing 1.3.8 - Savanna Townsite Plan 1.3.9 - Ft. Chip. Community Plan 1.3.10- Ft. Chip. Streets Phase 1 1.3.11- Action North Centre	931,550 164,000 138,000 346,260 40,000 8,000 4,600 80,000 347,600 1,200	465,775 82,000 69,000 173,130 20,000 4,000 2,300 40,000 173,800 600
SECTOR ONE TOTALS:	4,112,885	2,056,442

	Authorized Amount	DREE Commitment	
Sector Two: Community Economic Development			
Program 2.1: Economic Development			
2.1.9 - Native Economic Development 2.1.11-Rural Development Project 2 2.1.12-Victor Lake Co-op 2.1.13-Alta. Trappers Association 2.1.14-Kikino Tree Nursery 2.1.15-Mgt. Monitoring New Dawn 2.1.16-Aspen Utilization Study 2.1.17-C.E.E.D.S. Janvier 2.1.18-C.E.E.D.S. Lesser Slave Lake 2.1.19-C.E.E.D.S. Ft. Chip/Ft. Vermil 2.1.20-Northeast Alta. Regional	143,000 20,000 7,100 5,000 27,800 6,000 15,000 20,384 217,001 ion 36,420	71,500 10,000 3,550 2,500 13,900 3,000 7,500 10,192 108,500 18,210	
Development Plan 2.1.21-Ft. Chip. Community Interaction	20,000 n 5,000	10,000 2,500	
SECTOR TWO TOTALS	522,705	261,352	
Sector Three: Planning and Management Program 3.1: Planning & Management 3.1.4 - Alberta North Assessment			
Task Force  3.1.5 - Alberta North Planning  3.1.6 - Demograhic Study  3.1.7 - Social Characteristics	36,500 24,000 5,000 8,000	18,250 12,000 2,500 4,000	
SECTOR THREE TOTALS	73,500	36,750	
SECTOR ONE, TWO & THREE TOTAL	4,709,090	2,354,544	

## NORTHERN ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR

#### NORTHERN ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR

Over the last three years almost 300 briefs have been presented at public meetings to the Northern Alberta Development Council, and of these over 1/3 dealt with questions pertaining to transportation (roads, airstrips, rail lines, trucking regulations, highway signs, maintenance). With ample evidence that the residents of Northern Alberta are particularly concerned with the proper development of this vital series of services, the Northern Alberta Development Council, in conjunction with Alberta Transportation, decided to sponsor the Northern Alberta Transportation Seminar on December 8-10, 1976 in Grande Prairie.

Participation was limited to northern residents as representatives of northern towns, villages, counties, municipal districts, improvement districts, Indian Reserves and Métis Colonies were invited to discuss transportation priorities and delivery systems with senior officials of Alberta Transportation.

The opening address was delivered by Honorable Dr. Hugh Horner, Deputy Premier and Minister of Transportation. Dr. Horner emphasized that Northern Alberta continues to be a major priority area of Alberta Transportation and that considerable effort would be directed towards further enhancing the services available in the North. He noted that transportation is the key not only for northern development, but for the economic diversification of the entire province, as people and goods must be moved quickly and efficiently.

Nine seminar sessions investigated the proposed North

West Rail Authority, the Motor Transport Board, Construction

Problems and Access to Isolated Communities, Weight Limit Problems,

Air Transportation, Safety Objectives and Problems, Bridges

and Alternatives, Major Development Roads and Improvement

District Advisory Committees and Their Relationship to Alberta

Transportation.

Both Dr. Horner and Honorable R. W. Dowling, Chairman of the Northern Alberta Development Council, were available for private meetings with groups or individuals throughout the proceedings. On the final day of the Seminar both Ministers participated in a "hot seat" session and a press conference.

A printed conference report is available from the Northern Development Branch, Alberta Business Development and Tourism.