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Premier's Awards Honour Dedicated GNWT Employees and Their Partners

YELLOWKNIFE (Wednesday, May 18, 2011) –Premier Floyd K. Roland honoured 56 recipients and several organizations with Premier's Awards for Excellence and Collaboration today. The recipients include GNWT employees, teams and their collaborative partners. A ceremony was held this morning at the Great Hall of the Legislative Assembly.

“Encouraging innovation among our public servants is one of the priorities this Assembly identified to help pursue its goal of effective and efficient government.” said the Premier. “The leadership, cross-agency collaboration and innovative ideas demonstrated by the recipients of this year's Premier's Awards and their working partners is a model for all of us and has resulted in enhanced productivity and improved services.”

The Premier's Awards were created to acknowledge the exceptional work of employees who might not otherwise be recognized for their work as public servants. Collaboration team awards recognize the outstanding achievements of GNWT employees who work in partnership with other individuals outside the GNWT to improve service for NWT residents.

This year's ceremony included the inaugural presentation of the Dave Ramsden Career Excellence Award to Sukhi Cheema, Director of Design and Technical Services for the Department of Public Services. In his nearly 30-year career with the government, Mr. Cheema has guided building design decisions on major infrastructure projects throughout the North; promoted and demonstrated sound energy management practices; and played an instrumental role in bringing northern building science and technology issues to the international level.

For more information, contact:

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Media requests for interviews with Members of the Executive Council may be directed to:

Office of the Press Secretary • Premier/Cabinet
Government of the Northwest Territories • PO Box 1320 • Yellowknife • NT • X1A 2L9
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Backgrounder

2011 Premier Award Winners

Dave Ramsden Career Excellence Award (Individual)

Mr. Sukhdev Cheema, Director, Design and Technical Services, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife

Premier's Award for Excellence (Individual)

Mr. Benoit Boutin, Senior Advisor, French Language Services, Education, Culture and Employment (ECE), Yellowknife

Premier's Award for Excellence (Team)

Community Social Work Team, Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority, Fort Smith

Ms. Tracy MacPherson, Social Work Supervisor, Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority, Fort Smith
Ms. May Tourangeau, Social Worker, Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority, Fort Smith
Ms. Joanne Gauthier, Social Worker, Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority, Fort Smith
Ms. Kristy Jones, Social Worker, Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority, Fort Smith
Ms. Mary Bishop, Social Worker, Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority, Fort Smith
Ms. Jylian MacLeod, Social Worker, Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority, Fort Smith
Ms. Roxanne Wever, Administrative Officer, Fort Smith Health and Social Services Authority, Fort Smith

Technical Support Services Group, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife

Mr. Sukhdev Cheema, Director, Design and Technical Services, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife
Mr. Richard Cracknell, Manager, Technical Support Services, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife
Mr. William Wyness, Senior Technical Officer, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife
Ms. Heather Hayne, Senior Technical Officer, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife
Mr. John Dick, Senior Technical Officer, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife
Mr. Kelvin Hawkins, Senior Maintenance Advisor, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife
Mr. Douglas McKie, Senior Maintenance Advisor, Public Works and Services, Yellowknife

Team Fire Science: SPARCS, Environment and Natural Resources, Fort Smith

Mr. Franco Nogarin, Forest Planning Officer, Environment & Natural Resources, Fort Smith
Ms. Vera Green, Fire Management Geomatics Analyst, Environment & Natural Resources, Fort Smith

Premier's Collaboration Award

Mackenzie Gas Project National Energy Board (MGP NEB) Intervention Project Team, Industry, Tourism and Investment and partners, Yellowknife

Ms. Deborah Archibald, Director, Minerals, Oil and Gas Division, Industry, Tourism & Investment, Yellowknife
Mr. James Fulford, Legal Counsel, Justice, Yellowknife
Mr. Michael Joko, Pipeline Regulatory Specialist, Industry, Tourism & Investment, Yellowknife
Mr. Roland Priddle, Roland Priddle Energy Consulting Inc., Ottawa, ON.
Mr. Wayne Taylor, W.K. Taylor Consulting Limited, Calgary, AB.

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Mr. Chris Sanderson, Q.C., Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver, BC.
Mr. Keith Bergner, Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver, BC.
Dr. Robert Mansell, Principal, Calgary, AB.

Tundra Ecosystem Research Station (TERS) and Annual Science Camp, Environment and Natural Resources and partners, Yellowknife

Mr. Steven Matthews, Wildlife Biologist, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Brenda Hans, Coordinator, Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Education, Culture & Employment, Yellowknife
Ms. Tasha Stephenson, Public Education Specialist, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Stephanie Yuill, Public Education Specialist, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Mr. Thomas Andrews, Territorial Archaeologist, Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Education, Culture & Employment, Yellowknife
Ms. Diane Baldwin, Community Minerals Advisor, Industry, Tourism and Investment, Yellowknife
Mr. Michel Rabesca, Elder, Behchoko,
Ms. Bernadette Rabesca, Elder, Behchoko
Ms. Dora Nitsiza, Elder, Whati

NWT Water Stewardship Strategy Team, Environment and Natural Resources and partners, Yellowknife

Ms. Meghan Beveridge, Advisor, Water Stewardship, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Jennifer Skelton, Advisor, Watershed Management, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Aiyana Lajeunesse, Advisor, Water Stewardship, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Katarina Carthew, Watershed Science Consultant, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Mr. Mark Warren, ADM, Corporate and Strategic Planning, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Jane McMullen, Senior Advisor, Policy, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Judy McLinton, Manager, Public Affairs and Communications, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Ella Stinson, Communications Planning Specialist, Environment & Natural Resources, Yellowknife
Ms. Carole Mills, Manager, Water Resources Division, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Yellowknife
Mr. David Livingstone, Director, Renewable Resources, Retired, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Yellowknife
Ms. Teresa Joudrie, Director, Renewable Resources and Environment, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Yellowknife
Ms. Tricia Melander-Forde, Communications Officer, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Yellowknife
Ms. Michele Culhane, Regulatory and Science Advisor, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Yellowknife
Ms. Jennifer Dallman-Sanders, Policy Analyst, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Yellowknife
Mr. Sevn Bohnet, Regional Coordinator, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Yellowknife
Mr. Joe Acorn, ASC Representative, Deh Cho First Nations, Yellowknife
Ms. Mardy Semmler, ASC Representative, Gwich'in Tribal Council, Inuvik
Ms. Joline Huskey, ASC Representative, Tlicho Territory Government, Behchoko
Ms. Freda Taniton, ASC Representative, Sahtu Secretariat Inc., Deline
Mr. Richard Binder, ASC Representative, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Inuvik
Mr. Tim Heron, ASC Representative, Northwest Territories Métis Nation, Fort Smith
Mr. Robert Sandford, Chair, Canadian Partnership Initiative of the United Nations, Canmore, AB.

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