

seriously northern



NORTHERNERS TELL A DIVERSE STORY ❖



Canadian North is pleased to be a supporter of the *Our Land is Our Storybook* series of children's books about the land and people of today's Northwest Territories. Mindy Willett, an educator from Yellowknife, has coordinated the project and co-written the books with storytellers from every region in the NWT. The books are illustrated with striking images by northern photographer, Tessa Macintosh.

Told in a uniquely diverse range of northern voices, books in *The Land is Our Storybook* series highlight each official Aboriginal language group in the NWT. The stories reveal a richly textured picture of life in the North today—on the trapline, around the campfire, in communities, on the job, at school, and within the outdoor school that is the land itself.

As a complete series with accompanying teacher's guide, readers will learn about the diversity of the NWT. The first two books in this series, *We Feel Good Out Here* and *The Delta is My Home*, published by Fifth House Publishers, will be released in May 2008. Canadian North is providing flights so that the story tellers can launch the books in Inuvik, Yellowknife and Calgary. For more information contact Mindy Willett at 873-9873 or at mindyw@ssimicro.com.

We Feel Good Out Here

Julie-Ann André is a Gwichya Gwich'in woman from Tsiigehtchic

in the Northwest Territories. She is a Canadian Ranger, a mother of twin daughters, a hunter, a trapper, a business owner and a student. In *We Feel Good Out Here*, Julie-Ann shares her family's story and the story of her land—Khaii luk, the place of winter fish. As Julie-Ann says, "The land has a story to tell, if you know how to listen. When I travel, the land tells me where my ancestors have been. It tells me where the animals have come and gone, and it tells me what the weather may be like tomorrow." Her home is an important part of who she is. Julie-Ann wants to help make sure that her environment is healthy, so it can continue to tell its story to her children and their children. *We Feel Good Our Here* introduces readers to Julie-Ann's world: her family, the land, and the stories that shape them.

The Delta is My Home

Tom McLeod is a gifted storyteller from Aklavik who northerners would recognize from the stories he's shared on CBC Radio North. He is of mixed cultural heritage—Gwich'in and Inuvialuit. Tom tells us about how the Mackenzie Delta floods in the spring, how his Mom makes bannock, about his first caribou hunt and about ratting (trapping muskrats) and hunting black ducks (white-winged and surf scoters) in the Delta just after spring ice break-up. With Tom and his sister Ocean we learn about life at school and around the town of Aklavik and about his community's history.



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♦ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ♦

While we are always happy to welcome visitors and our frequent travellers aboard Canadian North – we are especially pleased to pass along our special greetings to the Arctic Winter Games athletes, their coaches and other special guests. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Games, an event which has been instrumental in bringing together youth from across the circumpolar north to our NWT capital to compete in both traditional contests of Dene games and dog mushing as well as team sports such as soccer and hockey.

Canadian North has always played an active role in community events. In fact, our community participation translates into a contribution throughout Nunavut and the Northwest Territories of approximately \$1.5 million annually. The Arctic Winter Games are no exception and Canadian North is proud to be a diamond sponsor – hosting the closing ceremonies and the VIPs associated with the games. We are also delighted to recognize the commitment of many of our employees who have donated their time to help with the Games. Eighty-five per cent of our Yellowknife head office employees have signed up as volunteers and many more have taken leadership roles in organizing and ensuring the Games run smoothly.

We all understand the importance of the Arctic Winter Games and the opportunities and memories this important event creates for young people across the North. We wish everyone the best of luck and look forward to many more years of the stellar competition, winning smiles and comradeship which are a trademark of these Games.

Travel well.

Tracy Medve
President, Canadian North



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❖ SERIOUS EXPEDITION – BARBEAU PEAK ❖

Not merely content to fly high over Nunavut, two of Canadian North's employees; Captain Mike Wilson, Boeing 737 captain, and Captain Laval St.Germain, Director of Flight Operations decided to mount an expedition to climb and ski, Nunavut's highest peak, Barbeau Peak, this past summer.

Barbeau Peak 2616 m (8583 ft), located in Quttinirpaaq National Park, Ellesmere Island, Nunavut, is one of the most remote mountains on earth. Barbeau Peak is located only 880 km from the North Pole. There have been less than a dozen expeditions to this mountain, and according to the National Park staff, only two others have done it from 'sea to summit to sea', meaning to walk and ski in from the coast to the peak, and then back to the coast, a distance of 160 km.

Ellesmere Island is a spectacular wilderness, with a cold desert climate, deep fjords, rugged mountains, huge expanses of ice reminiscent of Antarctica, and rushing glacial torrents and rivers.

Wilson and St.Germain used expedition sleds and full sized expedition backpacks to haul the required 54 kg (120 lbs) each of food, tents, skis, fuel, stoves, ropes and climbing equipment across the tundra, moraines, multiple dangerous river crossings, and across the numerous crevasse filled glaciers to the peak.

After six days of effort the two were rewarded with a perfect blue sky summit day, and endless panoramas looking across the ice cap.

Canadian North was a proud sponsor of the Seriously Northern Expedition to Barbeau Peak.



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» HONOURING TRADITION: REFRAMING NATIVE ART

GLENBOW MUSEUM EXHIBITION

February 16 to July 13, 2008

Come and experience rich Native art in our new exhibition, *Honouring Tradition: Reframing Native Art*.

Past and present meet and interact in this breathtaking display of over 200 colourful objects including shirts, moccasins, baskets, paintings, photographs and mixed media works. *Honouring Tradition* challenges views which define historical art pieces as separate from contemporary Aboriginal art.

Glenbow collaborated with Aboriginal artist Frederick McDonald to bring you this exhibit. With his help, beautiful artworks were selected from Glenbow's powerful collection. The selected pieces honour the importance of community, the connection to land and place and the tradition of storytelling. Jane Ash Poitras, Gerald Tailfeathers, Allen Sapp, Bob Boyer, Joane Cardinal-Schubert, Robert Houle and Roger Craik are just a few of the artists featured in this exhibition.

Tracing History: Presenting the Unpresentable is a complimentary exhibit featuring four contemporary Aboriginal artists. Tanya Harnett, Faye HeavyShield, Terrance Houle and Adrian Stimson have all explored Glenbow's collections and respond with their own new work in this thought-provoking exhibit. Their art speaks to a sense of history that shifts between truth and fact, past and present, right and wrong. The artists make us see change as an integral part of history, identity and tradition.

"In our time of mass production, it is special to see things that were lovingly made – one piece at a time. These pieces tell stories and it is our duty to let them speak."

Frederick McDonald, Guest Curator, Honouring Tradition.



PHOTO CREDIT: JOANE CARDINAL-SCHUBERT, KAINA (61942), DAWN QUILT, 1999. COLLECTION OF GLENBOW MUSEUM.

❖ NORTHERN TRADITION ❖

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130 9 Ave SE
Calgary, AB T2G 0P3
www.glenbow.org
403.268.4100

❖ EVENTS ❖

2nd Annual Rock and Ice Ultra March 22-27, 2008 Yellowknife NT



Join extreme athletes as they compete for diamonds in the North. Cold weather, long distances and darkness are only a few of the challenges these runners face on the race. Canadian North is proud to once again be a major sponsor of the Rock and Ice Ultra and are offering discounted rates to media and racers. We've entered two employee relay teams this year and will host a breakfast tent at the starting point of the race. Join us for this seriously cool event.

Register now at www.rockandiceultra.com



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