

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



While there are a myriad of definitions for the concept of ownership of a business, the common threads of all relate to the ultimate and exclusive right to influence or control a company in order to accomplish a particular goal.

As many know already, Canadian North is owned by NorTerra Inc., which is owned equally by the Inuvialuit Development Corporation and Nunasi Corporation. IDC and Nunasi are aboriginal birthright development corporations, with a shared mandate to maximize profits, develop economic prospects and create training and employment opportunities for their respective beneficiaries. But what does this aboriginal ownership mean for Canadian North and is it in any way meaningful for our customers?

Some would argue that our ownership is immaterial. As long as the airline offers

competitive prices and good service who would give a second thought to the ownership structure? On one level, this is true, perhaps as it relates to non-beneficiaries. But consider another perspective. If the mandate of the owners is taken into consideration and if Canadian North participates in the successful attainment of those objectives, does the company's ownership not become completely relevant for all of our customers? The answer is yes. That we as an airline have been mandated to develop economic opportunities and create meaningful jobs and careers for beneficiaries and other northerners is purely a function of our ownership. Ensuring continuing and competitive air service to northern communities is also a priority (witness the pull out of service from Montreal and Ottawa to Iqaluit by Canadian Airlines in 1995 for example). If we were a publicly traded company (like Air Canada or Westjet) our owners would have only one mandate – to maximize profits. Furthermore, little or none of those profits would find their way into the hands of northerners.

So we believe the decision that led IDC and Nunasi to acquire Canadian North was visionary and well intentioned for their beneficiaries as well as a boon to the northern economy as a whole. And as northerners travel to commemorate Nunavut Day, the 75th Anniversary of Yellowknife and share in other northern celebrations it bears remembering that the ownership of Canadian North is not only about an investment in a business for financial gain. It has also ensured a safe and reliable air transportation system focused on the North, designed to provide Northerners with an essential transportation link long into the future. It is about giving control over a critical piece of transportation infrastructure to those who are most directly impacted by it.

Travel well.

Tracy Medve



## Pressurisation

### SITTING PRETTY AT 11,300M (37,000FT)

By Laval St. Germain, Director Flight Operations

How is it that I can sit in an airplane at cruise altitude and have no problems breathing?

Large pressurised jet aircraft are capable at operating at very high altitude to take advantage of the lower fuel burns available at these altitudes. If you were standing on a mountain that was 11,300m above sea level, you would only last seconds before succumbing to the effects of altitude and cold temperatures.

So, how do we make it possible to sit comfortably in your seat reading this magazine at 37,000 feet?

Pressurisation. Jet engines suck in huge quantities of air, then compress this air and accelerate it through the various compressor blades in the engine. Some of this air passes through the hot section of the engine where fuel is added and it is ignited to further accelerate this now

very hot air. This high velocity hot air passes over turbine blades and out the back of the engine which pushes the aircraft through the sky. Not all of the air passes through the hot section of the engine, we use this air to pressurise the cabin of the aircraft. To put it simply we “inflate” the cabin that you are sitting in just like an aluminum balloon,

using the high pressure air from the engines compressors. The question usually arises; “Yes, but are we adding oxygen to the cabin?” No, here’s a quick lesson on the atmosphere and human physiology;

The common misconception is that the reason we cannot breathe at high altitude is because there is less oxygen. The truth is that the percentage of O<sub>2</sub> (oxygen) in our atmosphere remains constant at about 21% regardless of altitude. The atmospheric pressure; however, decreases considerably from sea level as you climb.

*Continued on inside back cover.*

*The common misconception is that the reason we cannot breathe at high altitude is because there is less oxygen.*

# COMMUNITY PROFILE



## FAST FACTS

**Inuvik:** Means Place of Man

**Language:** Inuvialuktun

**Population:** Approx. 3,500

**Adventures:** Take a road trip up the Dempster Highway or hike along the Mackenzie River, get in touch with culture by meeting the locals or trying activities such as trapping and fishing or go sight seeing through the Mackenzie Delta including the territorial parks; Herschel Island, Happy Valley, Jak and Gwich'In Park.

**Environment:** Located on the Mackenzie Delta, the town is surrounded by a mix of tundra and forest. Rivers, streams and lakes run wild over the land and mountains in the distance. Caribou, muskox, arctic hares and foxes can be seen roaming the land all though the year.

**Record High:** 32.8 degrees Celsius (1999)

**Record Low:** -56.7 degrees Celsius (1968)

**History:** The Town of Inuvik was delegated in 1970 when its first mayor was elected, becoming the first town built above the Arctic Circle. In 1979, the town became part of Canada's highway system with the completion of the Dempster Highway which starts outside Dawson City, Yukon and is 736 kilometres long.

**Access:** Can be accessed via jet air service with daily flights from Yellowknife and further south cities, Edmonton and Calgary.

## Community Celebrations:

INUVIK PETROLEUM SHOW  
June 17 – 19, 2009

40TH ANNUAL NORTHERN GAMES  
August 6 – 9th, 2009

CANADIAN NORTH GREAT NORTHERN ARTS FESTIVAL

July 10 – 19, 2009 Inuvik

Since 1989, up to 80 visual artists and 40 performers from across the North gather each summer in Inuvik to celebrate the diversity that is Canada's North. They come to show their work, mentor and meet other artists, see different styles of work and learn new techniques and collaborate on art projects.

The theme for 2009 is Old Legends, New Dreams. For over 20 years we have hosted a range of artists from across the north for 10 art filled days of fun, laughter, music, and inspiration. The ability to pass on artistic knowledge and generational tradition and culture from our master artists to our new, emerging artists is vital to sustaining the uniqueness of Northern art for many years to come. [www.gnaf.org](http://www.gnaf.org) 

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# EVENTS

Canadian North offers special rates to conferences and events across the North.

Visit [www.canadiannorth.com](http://www.canadiannorth.com) to find out how to book your discounted tickets.

## Community Events

### NUNAVUT DAY

June 21 – July 1, 2009 Iqaluit

This year join Nunavut in celebrating 10 years of the territory. Visit [www.canadiannorth.com](http://www.canadiannorth.com) to find out about community events being held throughout Nunavut.

### ALIANAIT ARTS FESTIVAL

June 21 – July 1, 2009 Iqaluit

Alianait is an Inuit expression of joy and celebration and what better way to celebrate, than with 10 days of art, music, film, storytelling, circus arts, dance and theatre.

Canadian North is proud to be the Platinum sponsor of the 5th annual Alianait Arts Festival. This year's theme 'Arctic Winds' will feature wind instruments and voices from across the North and Nunavut

[www.alianait.ca](http://www.alianait.ca)

### CANADIAN NORTH GREAT NORTHERN ARTS FESTIVAL

July 10 – 19, 2009 Inuvik

See page 2.



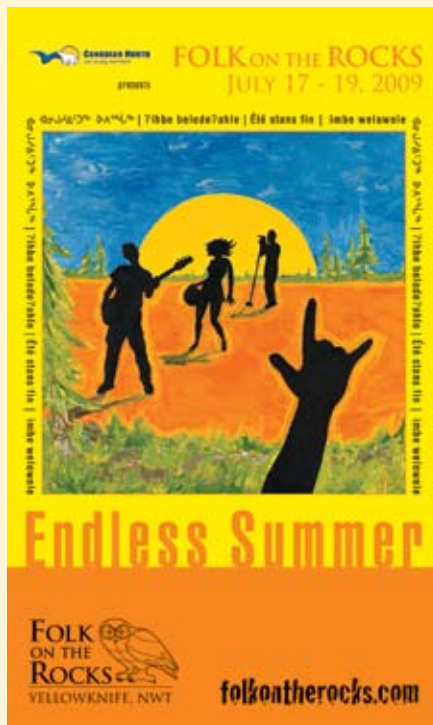
**CANADIAN NORTH**  
seriously northern

### FOLK ON THE ROCKS

presented by Canadian North  
July 17 – 19, 2009 Yellowknife

The two-day weekend event (plus the Friday opening gala Warm the Rocks) has grown into one of Canada's top summertime music and cultural festivals, drawing musicians from the NWT and Nunavut and across the globe for the North's biggest party under the midnight sun. Headliner The Sam Roberts Band will heat up the stage at this year's event, along with 24 hours of performances on five stages, including a children's area, cultural area, and beer garden promises fun and enjoyment for all ages. Along with the music, crowds can savour international and traditional cuisine at the food fair, and buy Northern creative works in the Art on the Rocks area.

[www.folkontherocks.com](http://www.folkontherocks.com)



*Continued from inside front cover.*

This drop in atmospheric pressure results in a drop in partial pressure. This drop in pressure, to put it very simply, prevents O<sub>2</sub> from being “pushed” into the lungs alveoli which directly allows transfer of O<sub>2</sub> to the bloodstream.

What the pressurisation system in the aircraft does, is it “pushes” high pressure air into the cabin after it is cooled and filtered through a cooling turbine and heat exchanger. This air increases the cabin's atmospheric pressure which allows the transfer of O<sub>2</sub> into the bloodstream, that's why you can comfortably sit there reading this magazine and the only thing taking your breath away is the stunning scenery of Canada's north out your window.

## FAST FACTS

**Maximum cruising altitude of our fleet:**  
11,300m (37,000ft)

**Average outside air temperature at 11,300m:** - 55C

**Atmospheric pressure at sea level and O<sub>2</sub> blood saturation:** 760mm/Hg and 98%

**Atmospheric pressure at 11,300m and O<sub>2</sub> blood saturation:** 160mm/Hg and 0%

**Maximum cabin altitude of our fleet (the altitude of the inside of the cabin):**  
2,438m (8,000ft)

**Highest point in Nunavut:**  
Barbeau Peak, 2,616m (8,582ft) – Ellesmere Island

**Highest point in the Northwest Territories:**  
Mt. Nirvana, 2,773m (9,098ft) – Mackenzie Mountains 



# Open Passage Expedition

SAILING THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE – SUMMER 2009



On June 6 a small crew of adventurers set sail from Victoria, BC to navigate the Northwest Passage from west to east. The Open Passage Expedition, with the help of Canadian North, hopes to round Point Barrow by the end of July and be in the heart of this famous route throughout August, with plans to be in Halifax by early October.

As leader of the expedition, I've tried to prepare the crew for a summer of raging ocean storms, cramped quarters and soggy clothes as we steer the 40-foot Silent Sound along its course.


We are on a mission to learn more about how climate change is impacting Inuit communities and tell that story to a global audience. We plan to produce a book and documentary film on this topic and we are publishing a blog on the web site [www.OpenPassageExpedition.com](http://www.OpenPassageExpedition.com) so more people can learn with us.

Scientists provide valuable data proving the Arctic is undergoing unprecedented change and showing how this threatens the wildlife

and landscape. However, we want to hear about how these changes are impacting people in their every day lives. We want to hear from the people at the centre of these international debates over sovereignty, energy, environment and wildlife conservation.

None of the crew have been to the Arctic before, but Canadian North is helping us meet those special people that make this spectacular land their home. We are truly an international crew, and we hope that our experiences adapting to foreign cultures around the globe will help us understand the Inuit culture and listen to what people have to say.

We hope that you'll catch the excitement of this journey and watch for our arrival in your community. Or follow us at [www.OpenPassageExpedition.com](http://www.OpenPassageExpedition.com) as we brave rough seas and ice in our quest to find the human face of climate change.

Cameron Dueck  
Captain, Silent Sound 

# YOUTH IN FLIGHT



Since 1998, Canadian North has been an integral supporter of Northern Youth Abroad (NYA), the non-profit organization that cultivates youth leadership, individual career goals, cross-cultural awareness and international citizenship for youth across Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Every year Canadian North donates over \$50,000 in flights, with passes covering not only travel for students, but also for hundreds of volunteers.

**Canadian North is proud to partner with NYA in helping to develop a new generation of confident leaders for the North.**



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