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TOURISM STRATEGY, INTERIM REPORT, P HASEI, WESTERN ARCTIC VISITORS ASSOCIATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & Sector: Tourism II-25.23

Plans/Strategies

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Western Arctic

Tourism Development and Marketing Strategy

Interim Report: Phase 1

MacLAREN PLANSEARCH PELMAN ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS ADDISON TRAVEL MARKETING 8610 40313

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INTRODUCTION

In August, 1986 the consultants commenced the Western Arctic Tourism Strategy (The WATS study). During these past few months we have interviewed approximately 100 people, driven the Dempster Highway and visited each of the 11 communities. We have documented (photographs, notes, etc.) each of our visits and have worked closely with a number of individuals who are in the process of developing a travel industry product.

The following document then, is an initial (Phase 1) report on our findings to date. It includes inventory/analysis of resources and markets, a review of some of the most important issues and trends affecting both the Western Arctic Zone and the individual communi-ties and finally a preliminary list of development opportunities.

It is the result of our first series of community meetings and as such will continually be expanded as more research is carried out.

The document has two objectives;

- to capsulize the existing information on the zone; and
- to stimulate discussion on additional resources and **deve** opment opportunities, information gaps, contacts, etc.

This report will be submitted to the steering committee **at** the next meeting and will eventually be followed by more detailed reports in the eight phases to follow this one.

For the purpose of presentation, the Western Arctic Tourist Zone has been divided into three areas, as outlined by WAVA - Bear, Delta and Beaufort. From a tourism development point of view, **Aklavik** will be considered in the Delta area for this report.

1. RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS TO DATE

Following an initial meeting with the steering committee the consultants proceeded with the following activities;

- preliminary market research;
- drive of the Dempster Highway;
 - community visits;

site reconnaissance for particular development opportunities; interviews with approximately 100 individuals as well as presentations to a variety of Band councils, chiefs, Inuvik Visitors Committee, airlines, etc. (see Appendix A); contact with northern wholesalers; and

- review of reports and files.

We have also been involved in a number of action oriented activities which will have immediate impacts on visitation to the Western Arctic including;

upgrading Dempster Highway Yukon Highway Map;

- commencement of negotiations for the acquisition of the 'Norweta' for the Delta/Beaufort Area;
- promotional sheets on the Dempster Highway for the N.W.T. pavilion;
- technical assistance to and literature for the new hotel in **Paulatuk;**

updating of the Explorers Guide;

introducing new travel products to **local** wholesalers;

attendance at the Sahtu Region Economic Conference; and

- promotion of the new \$10,000 Arctic Circle Sign. Zwhe's initiative Yukon Initiative.

1.1 WE HAVE AN OVERALL APPRECIATION FOR THE UNIQUE QUALITIES OF THE MESTERN ARCTIC

Some of the characteristics that make the Western Arctic different from any other Tourism Destination Region include;

the only region where southern tourists can drive above the Arctic Circle to the most northerly town (Inuvik) in North American accessible by vehicle;

relatively inexpensive vehicular proximity and accessibility to some of Canada's most impressive natural and cultural attractions including, the mysterious Arctic Ocean, the magnificent Mackenzie River and Delta, barren lands and associated wildlife (Muskox, Caribou, Polar Bear);

- the exceptionally scenic Dempster Highway;

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opportunity to experience both the sub arctic and arctic environments;

recognition of four distinct cultures including **Inuit, Dene,** Metis and Caucasian/European;

access to one of the world's greatest trophy fishing lakes, Great Bear Lake;

three distinct modes of access to enter and experience the region;

- 1. scheduled and chartered airlines;
- 2. recreational vehicle, automobile and motor coach; and
- 3. boat or cruise vessel on the Mackenzie River.

the unique and rich natural resources of Banks Island; and the internationally known community of Tuktoyaktuk and its associated Oil and gas infrastructure.

2. OVERALL ISSUES AND TRENDS

THERE ARE NUMEROUS ISSUES AND TRENDS THAT WILL AFFECT TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

2.1 TRANSPORTATION

<u>The Dempster Highway</u> provides a unique opportunity to radically increase tourism traffic and revenue to the Western Arctic. Specific marketing could focus on such target markets as recreational vehicles, motor coach and visitors to Dawson City (which is becoming a well known national cultural attraction);

2.2 <u>ATTRACTIONS</u>

- The Western Arctic has some of the best sport fishing lakes in the world and several relatively untouched hunting areas.

<u>Inuvik</u> as a destination and a terminus to the **Dempster** Highway <u>is a great disappointment</u> to most visitors. It is considered unattractive with few tourist activities.

- There are immediately identifiable development opportunities in each community as well as obvious and demonstrated interest and support by individuals and hamlet councils.

The Western Arctic has <u>four clearly identifiable cultures</u> and at least six distinctive natural features **(eg.** Arctic **Ocean**, Delta, Mackenzie Mountains, midnight sun, permafrost etc.); and several <u>internationally known sites</u> - Great Bear Lake, Mackenzie River, Tuktoyaktuk, Banks Island. - There are two clearly defined staging areas that could serve Inuvik (primary) providing access for air/ the entire region. highway tourists to Aklavik, Sachs Harbour, Paulatuk, Ft. McPherson, Arctic Red River, Tuktoyaktuk and Fort Good Hope, and Norman Wells serving Fort Norman, Fort Franklin, Fort Good Hope. coluille Luke.

There is a need for a Western Arctic Visitors Information Centre, located in Inuvik, to promote and sell packages to all - already bave one. - is this inodequate communities in the region.

'Unlike other N.W.T. tourism zones which are closely associated with either adjacent zones or staging areas such as Frobisher visitors needs Bay or Yellowknife, the Western Arctic travel industry is linked with the Yukon Territory. The Yukon is also aware of the importance of Western Arctic development on its travel industry.

WAVA is perceived with skepticism by several government 🔊 officials in Yellowknife. AND COMMUNITIES OUTSIDE OF INULIX. WHAT is STRATESY - To CORRECT m's? ETC.?

2.4 HUMAN RESOURCES

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STRATCOY ?

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- The HTA has been instrumental in establishing the economically important big game hunts, however the system includes several inadequately trained guides which have resulted in serious complaints from hunters and threatens the long term success of this \$500,00 to \$700,000 annual business.

There has been a marked decline in native craft production over why? the past ten years resulting in significant lost revenue. ALL MEUSUAL REASONS

- There is a detrimental lack of travel industry skills including

, tourism management, operations, product development, hospitality and marketing throughout the region.

- LACK OF PACKAGED " PRODUCT" TOURISM LACK OF INDUSTRY INFRASTRUCTURZE - INBOUND TOUR AREANOGHENTS - BOOKING, OF OANIZING, FACKAGING HOSTI

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MALKETING To REVIEW 3. MARKET SEGMENTS THESE SECTIONS

There are clearly defined market segments which can be divided into two lists.

By Activity

coach tours (or coach/air tours); recreational vehicle/auto traveller; bicycle/walking/canoei ng; big game hunting; sports/trophy fishing; visiting friends and relatives; business/government traveller; and non-specific tourist.

By Origin

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coach tour passengers are primarily from rural Ontario (Horizon & Atlas Tours);

recreational vehicle/auto travelers are a mix of Canadian (58%) and USA (38%) with most of the larger R.V. being U.S. 4% were foreign;

bicycle/walking/canoeing visitors are predominantly Canadian, and the number of visitors is low;

big game hunter's are approximately 200 in total with 68% from the U.S., 28\% from Canada and 4% foreign;

sports/trophy anglers (Great **Bear**) are predominantly of **Us**. origin;

- visiting friends and relatives are considered to be 90% Canadian;

business travelers are mainly Canadian with some U.S. and foreign to view oil activity; and

the non-specific tourist is visiting for a number of reasons suited to their special interests, and are **primarily** Canadian in origin.

3.1 SPECIFIC SEGMENT GROWTH

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The greatest potential for growth is within the **Dempster** Highway corridor. The coach operators do not anticipate growths beyond the 2 - 4% range over the next 2 - 3 years. Big game hunting will continue its growth over 85/86; not greater than 10% per year. Sports/trophy fishing will grow slower than in the past due to the size of facilities; the expected growth is 4 - 5 %. Business travelers will remain relatively static over the next two years due to a decline in oil activity. The greatest growth area is general tourism and the potential growth is estimated to range from 10% - 15% annually.

3.2 <u>NEW MARKET OPPORTUNITIES</u>

The development of a variety of boat cruises on the Mackenzie River has the potential for major tourism growth. Tours could consist of afternoons, evenings, full day and 3 - 4 day cruises.

A new product identified for the region is the development of Naturalist lodges which offer land or water tours to view wildlife in its natural setting. Throughout the region, the study team identified opportunities for existing lodges to expand and communities to develop new lodges which could offer a passive wilderness experience. An initial survey of this market segment indicates excellent potential for attracting wildlife enthusiasts to the region with a yearly growth.

3. 3 MARKETING LINKS

The region has a natural link to the Yukon via the **Dempster** Highway. In 1985 approximately **4,000** non-residents drove the **Dempster** Highway which is **estimated as representing** nearly 75% of the total tourist volume to the region. There are linkages with other **N.W.T.** zones, however to a lesser degree. It appears that the major source of business travelers connect to the zone via Yellowknife.

3.4 EXISTING MARKETING EFFORTS

Travel Arctic and TIANWT market the N.W.T. through activities such as Travel Trade and Consumer Shows, advertising, Explores Guide & Travel Trade Manuals. This effort tends to be generic in nature and does not focus on one region. The town of Inuvik carries out an ongoing tourism promotion activity.

Tourism Yukon (in a joint marketing effort with Alaska and N.W.T.) promote the **Dempster** Highway and the business reply cards are sent to Travel Arctic. The Visitor Information Centres in both Whitehorse and Dawson City actively promote the **Dempster** Highway.

WAVA during 1986 has not had the funds to carry out a major advertising campaign. This hopefully will change for the 1987 season. The new brochure put out in 1986 by Inuvik Region Economic Development and Tourism was very well received and it, or another style should be continued.

WAVA needs to enhance its contact with the Yukon because of the domination of that area on its total visitor counts.

- LACK OF # POR DUM - CAN WANA MARKET - WHO TO-VOMERE?. REGIMPLY - YK EDMONTON VANCOURCE YCHON - LACK OF # FOR BOTH GNAUT / TIA

4. DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNI TI ES

THE COMMUNITIES AND CONSULTANTS HAVE IDENTIFIED NUMEROUS TOURISM RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

4.1 BEAR AREA

- 4.1.1 Fort Franklin
 - Existing Facilities

See Table 4.1 located at the end of thissection.

• Resources

one of the best (and relatively untouched) sport fishing areas in the world;

several experienced native guides;

 historic boat, 'Radium Gilbert'; direct and regular links to Yellowknife and Norman Wells; untapped nature interpretation and big game hunting (Barren Ground Grizzly) area; and obvious authentic Dene culture.

•Issues and Trends

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Band Council is extremely interested in a sports fishing lodge; existing high quality lodge/restaurant management; special ARDA has provided \$25,000 for purchase of boats/ motors for outfitting; and Great Bear Lake Management Committee recommends no new lodges on the lake.

. Development Opportunities

Short Term

sport fishing lodge;

expansion (4 units) of existing lodge;

- 2 outcamps at Jupiter Bay and Deerpass Bay; and
- arts and crafts workshop.

Long Term

Juncify game outfitting; lodge development on Jupiter Bay; Alada Issues Trends, Great Bear River Canoe Route. restoration of th restoration of 'Radium Gilbert'. ANOTHER KOAT? ACTA STUDY

4.1.2 Norman Wells

• Existing Facilities

See Table 4.1 located at the end of this section.

- Resources
 - proximity to beginning of Canol Trail; access to Mackenzie Mountains;
 - excellent fishing on Kelly Lakes;
 - staging area for naturalist/sport fishing trips to Colville Lake, Drum Lake Lodge, Great Bear Trophy Lodge; and
 - access to 5 outfitting areas for big game hunts.

- access to 5 outfitting areas for Dig game nunts. - two people (one a hohanni an pelot, the other Walter Blondin Issues and Trends over flying people up Cand Irail to go telem Sing Issues and Trends

- a development plan has been proposed for the Canol Trail and there is an expressed interest by the Metis Association and Travel Arctic; and

Drum Lake Lodge is expanding and repositioning itself as a naturalist facility.

• Development Opportunities

Short Term

r

development of the Canol Trail including drop off and pick up area;

- Canol Trail Packages including hiking and naturalists acti vi ti es;

river Crossing and access to trail head; and

river cruises with MVSuvukti. - who owns/operatio?. CANOL ORIGNATION CANTER ing Term Bear Area/Sahter Museum Initiatives Long Term Bear Area/Sahter - secondary-Western-Arctic Visitor Information Centre including oil and gas interpretive exhibit; and construction of Kelly Lake Sport fishing Lodge. very hard 34 comp wrth quality lode breat bear.

4.1.3 Fort Norman

• Existing Faci 1 i ties

See Table 4.1 located at the end of this section.

- Resources
 - Mackenzie River/Bear River; access to 5 outfitting areas for big game hunts; Redstone River canoe route; and several quality sport fishing 1 akes.
- Issues and Trends

potential acquisition of E/1-6 outfitting area by locals.

• Development Opportunities

Short Term

boat trips on the Great Bear and Mackenzie Rivers including overnight in outpost camps; and package guided canoe trips on the Redstone and Mackenzie Rivers.

- Tate Lake Fishing Lodge; and very hard to compete with & acquisition of E/1-6 outfitting area.

4.1.4 Fort Good Hope

o Existing Facilities

See Table 4.1 located at the end of this section.

- o Resources
 - Mackenzie River and Ramparts;
 - proximity to Arctic Circle;
 - dynamic and progressive Dene community;
 - access to four big game outfitting areas including Area E-1-1 (Arctic Red River Outfitters) and E-1-2 as well as C-1, D-2, D-3;
 - historic and culturally interesting church; and
 - community atmosphere created by extensive use of log construction.
- $\bullet {\tt Issues}$ and ${\tt Trends}$

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the band council has expressed interest in acquisition of Arctic Red River Outfitters; cost Jissun $350, \infty$. the community has prepared a tourism strategy which outlines approximately 15 tourism programs and 6 tourism <code>opportun _</code> i ti es;

- traditional involvement with Colville Lake suggests combined package tours; and existing outfitter has shown interest in developing boat tours.
- Development Opportunities

Short Term

acquisition of Arctic Red River Outfitters pending detailed purchase cost evaluation and feasibility analysis;

Wes Werbowy institute a guide certification program and training workshops;

> establish a variety of river boat packages including trips to Ramparts, Fossil Lake, Arctic Circle, Ramparts, Mountain All trips could include visits to and Hare Indian Rivers. fish camps, nature interpretation hikes, photography stops tea and bannock stops and sport fishing;

> community tour and hiking trails for those arriving by boat or travelers enroute to hunting, fishing camps. Hi ki ng trails would be constructed to Ramparts and **Old Baldy; and** protection of Our Lady of Good Hope Church/Cemetery and creation of a community church/museum.

- Locke Lake Sport Fishing Lodge developed in coll aboration Colville Lake already with the community of Col vi 11 e Lake and their potential outpost camps at Lac des Bois, Lac Bel ot and Lac Maunoir; and Why would they - Fort Good Hope Cultural Centre including 2 - 4 day workshops on Dene cul ture, 1 i festyle and language. Developed i -competition ???

4.1.5 <u>Colville Lake</u>

. Existing Facilities

See Table 4.1 located at the end of this section.

• Resources

Colville Lake and the associated lakes (ales Bois,Belot and Maunoir) offer excellent sport fishing opportunities; the community is exceptionally traditional compared to other Western Arctic hamlets; Bern Brown is a nationally recognized artist; and scenic village including traditional native log cabins and

contrasting manicured landscaped and polished architecture of lodge, church, museum.

• Issues and Trends

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- the community has not progressed as much as others in the region due to its isolation and the impact of Bern Brown;
- Colville Lake Lodge is only promoted to a very exclusive market which means lower occupancy rates and less opportunity for community involvement;
 - Mr. Brown is seemingly less and less interested in promoting the lodge as he increasingly concentrates on hispainting; and

it would be advantageous to the local community if they could have involvement in the lodge in terms of its product development and promotion.

• Development Opportunities

Short Term

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community based and operated sport fishing lodge with outpost camps including additionalcabins and tent frames at outpost camps. Seven day packages could be developed with Great Bear Lodge.

Long Term

4.5 %

- Native Lifestyle Package Tours. **Summer and winter programs enabling visitors to take part** in traditional activities such as trapping, setting and pulling fish nets, wearing traditional clothes, spring hunting etc.

4.2 DELTA AREA

4.2.1 Fort McPherson

• Existing Facilities

See Table 4.2 located at the end of this section.

• Resources

proximity to outfitting areas in the Richardson Mountains; Peel River Location for visits to fish camps; Piet Van Loon art studio; several crafts people; growing sense of community and increase in community events; Fort McPherson Band Council CO. Ltd. with quality management; and historic churches, HBC post, archaeological sites, Mad Trapper Cabin.

Fort McPherson Canvas Shop. 🖌

o Issues and Trends

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keen interest and approach to Special ARDA for feasibility study and development of Visitor Service Centre;

 community is in a state of transition and developing increased interest in tourism development for travelers on the Dempster Highway;

Midway Lake presents one of the best opportunities for camp ground along N.W.T. portion of Dempster;

this is the first complete native community that motorists encounter on their drive from Whitehorse/Dawson City along the Dempster; and

several quality outfitting areas between Peel River and Yukon Boarder.

• Development Opportunities

is the the first stop for motors to Nhi T. Short Term Dempster Highway Visitors Service Centre including 7 winterized/non-winterized accommodation, restaurant, information desk, craft sales, Community tours; -Big Game Hunting Outpost Camp in the Richardson Mountains with HTA; - dog team packages to Aklavik (4 days) with Dempster Patrol Outfitters; Neil Collins -> considered underutilized. -coordinated craft production; and naturalist package tours (3 - 4 days) to Rat River and Richardson Mountains, IBP site, etc. Long Term - Midway Lake Recreational Vehicle Campground including nature interpretation services, food and camper supply sales, craft outlet, canoe rental, Stocking lake; - package tours to fish camps on Peel River; Big Game Lodge; and - Visitor Service Centre accommodation expansion and R.V. campground.

4.2.2 Arctic Red River

• Existing Facilities

See Table 4.2 located at the end of this section.

• Resources

- historic landmark church;
 - unique ferry access only;
 - numerous crafts people eager to produce;
- historic sites and Ramparts on Mackenzie and Arctic Red

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archaeological dig sites.

•Issues and Trends

although unannounced the experimental fish camp was extremely popular with tourists this past summer;

- band is interested in expanding fish camp as well as including a craft/food sales area; and
- band wishes to proceed slowly and realistically with tourism, development.
- Development Opportunities

Short Term

> questionable.

- tourist oriented fishing camp with two families including sale of dried fish, story telling, interpretation of fishing techniques. Also picnic tables, tent frame rentals (5) and toilets and a concession stand including sale of arts and craft, snacks, camper supplies; and arts and craft production program including winter storage
 - arts and craft production program including winter storage area of crafts.

Long Term

expansion of fish camp and addition of campsite and more tent frames (10) for rent;

additional fish camp up the Arctic Red River; and

- boat cruises to archaeological digs on Mackenzie and Arctic Red Rivers. definitely squires permission of and with Morthern Heutage

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4.2.3 Inuvi k

o Existing Facilities

See Table 4.2 located at the end of this section.

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o Resources

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community of the Midnight Sun; termination and destination on the **Dempster** Highway; natural resources of the Delta including fish, birdlife, proposed Caribou Hills National Park, Reindeer Station; proposed Chitisi (Campbell Hills) Territorial park; full tourism services; unique northern administration centre including power generator, expediting services; mixture of **Inuit**, Dene, Metis, Caucasian cultures; reputation as the most northerly town in North America accessible by highway; staging area for most communities in the Western Arctic; proximity to Herschel Island, Yukon; 6 Dan Sheep tags; and WHO HAS located on tree line and Mackenzie Delta. -

o Issues and Trends

THEM

- the overall experience upon arriving in Inuvik via the **Dempster** highway does not meet the visitors' expectations; visitors usually leave within 2 days due to the lack of attractions:
- Atlas Tours will pull out in 1987 because of poor reception ⊁ and "terrible product" in Inuvik; Whitehorse has carried out a \$600,000 Downtown Revitalization under EDA; the availability of visitor information on the resources of
- the other Delta, Bear and Beaufort communities is inade-* The travel councillors in the Visitors Centre are quate. uninformed about other communities;
 - the Dempster will have substantial increases in traffic volume over the next 5 years;

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the downtown area is generally un<u>attractive</u> and contrasts sharply with the surrounding pristine Wilderness. There is also a lack of a cohesive community image;

there is an active and progressive Inuvik Visitors Committee;

the town is an administrative center for tourism development i_n the Western Arctic (e.g. WAVA, Economic Development and Tourism, Mackenzie Delta Development Corp., IDC, Guided Arctic, Renewable Resources, etc.); and

- the 'Norweta', now in Tuktoyaktuk, is being negotiated to become a river/delta cruise boat. may be punchased by Machanyie Delta Der. Cr
- Development Opportunities

Short Term

acquisition of the 'Norweta for ¹/₂ day, ¹ and two day cruises on the Delta - including fish camp visits, overnight in Akl avi k, wi 1 dl i fe viewing, Reindeer Station Tuktoyaktuk, etc. ;

downtown revitalization including streetscape and building facade **theming**, extensive landscaping, park and activity area;

Western Arctic Visitors **Centre** construction including; comprehensive information on **Inuvik/Delta** and all other communi ti es, sales desk for sales of package tours, charter flights, coupon booklets etc. and an attraction and **enter-**

- several locations locing considered locing property Dick At 20 holds "tainment area; and Anodsmic At 20 holds "tainment area; and Producting property Dick workd. Valley Campground.

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expansion and upgrading of Chuk **Terri** tori al Park and Happy **Valley** Campground.

side mound the site.

Iniding flong Term

 Native Cultural Centre. Major cul tural tourist attraction dynamical ly presenting the 1 ifestyles of the three native cultures - possibly using artifacts from the N. W.T. Expo Pavilion. Presentation of shelter, games, foods, customs beliefs, and transitions to encourage vi si tor participation;

21 Sector Actor Repare Der Prov ' major R.V. resort campground including full services possible locations - Cemetery, Microwave Tower; Arctic College tourism management program including a variety of hospitality and tourism courses; waterfront park - marina. A comprehensive waterfront Dock activity area including working docks, barge activity, rest-12 icl nor aurant, marine and cruise boat departure; and Feos " - fly drive Dempster Packages between Whitehorse and Inuvik · CHECK OUT (R.V., automobile). - othen suggestion's raised : - roundeen / Santo Claus velle, <u>avik</u> xisting Faci 1 i ties See Table 4.2 located at the end of this section. - ogolf course - roundeen / Santo Claus velle, - northern Yusan park H. Q. - usterfrant development - permafrant development cellar (one in Colville L Small Craft Harburs) N.F.D. Program 4.2.4 Aklavik • Existing Faci 1 i ties proximity to Inuvi k, Herschel 1s1 and; really worth developing. Resources tranquil delta location; abundant surrounding wi 1 dl i fe i n Delta and nearby Richardson Mountains; HBC trading post at Old Aklavik; * Northern archaeological sites - Peel Channel, Willow River; several fish camps and summer camps; exceptional **big** game resources i n Richardson Mountains; proposed IBP site around Canoe Lake;

Dene/Inuit cultural mix; and

there are several qualified crafts people and a hi story (fur shop) of production.

- Issues and Trends
 - proximity to Inuvi k makes it a relatively inexpensive desti nation for flightseei ng, day tours and overnight cruise packages;

- provides visitor with much greater sense of delta and native community than Inuvik;
- existing lodge is usually full all summer;
- proximity to Richardson Mountains and Herschel Island suggest opportunities for outfitters;
- several groups/individuals are attempting to establish big game outfitting into the Richardson Mountains. It seems that the present stalemate willcontinue for the immediate why? future; and
 - several people would like to see the reconstruction and opening of the fur shop to rejuvenate craft production.
 - Development Opportunities

Short Term

- reconstruction of craft shop for production sales in Aklavik and Inuvik, and as an attraction for day packages and 2 - 3 day craft workshops;
- establish a big game outfitting operation under qualified management and including only experienced Dene, Inuit and Metis guides;
- community day tours including country food lunch, boat trip and entertainment;
- 2 3 day native fish camp packages at Walking River; - fly-in and

- 3 - 5 day wildlife/cultural packages to Herschel Island. * is Yuban doring anything here yet? sums to me COP= / IOC has Long Term dieles on anything that . In level,

- create a naturalist 1 edge on Peel River (MacLeods). With the hikes to Richardson Mountains; would it survive in direct competition - expansion of existing motel (4 - 6 units) to include
- serviced restaurants;
- reconstruct on of HBC trading post at 01 d Akl avi k for trips from Aklavik; and
- expansion of museum and visitors information centre.

- Dere Regional Council intersted in Tentoral pars in Red & Black metros (part of Richardson's).

4.3 **BEAUFORT AREA**

4.3.1 Tuktoyaktuk

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• Existing Facilities

See Table 4.3 located at the end of this section.

• Resources

- Pingos;
- Eskimo Lakes;
- Arctic Ocean/beaches; picturesque/interesting bay; and

Beluga/Bowhead whales. - abardonical sites on doubine being excavated now by NHC • ISSGES and Trends prior to total wave distruction. Beaufirt dulling , man mode dilling islands.

- Tuktoyaktuk enjoys an international reputation. When the Intuk highway is constructed it wi 11 become a major northern destination to the benefit of Sachs Harbour, Paulatuk and I nuvi k;

its proximity to I nuvi k makes i t ideal for 1 - 3 day packages;

there are several individuals interested in operating a passenger tour boat;

whalewatching has grown at an incredible rate throughout North America;

- Tuk must undergo a major social transformation due to the loss of jobs and income. Tourism training courses will be essential ;

HTA has been unsuccessful in attracting significant numbers of Polar Bear Hunters; and' ~&[.

its Arctic Ocean location will always make it a major 'hook' for the Western Arctic.

Development Opportunities

Short Term

 1 - 3 day packages including charter flight, hotel accommodation, whalewatching, coastal cruise, Whitefish Whaling Station, Pingos Park; development of a Tourist Activity Area including Sod House, > information cultural centre in restored co-op buildings, The Bay, cruise boat wharf; and increase polar bear hunts.
 Small Cruft Harbours rrogram F. nothule in restored co-op buildings, The gaine and polling of HTA first
 Long Term naturalist and fishing resorts at Eskimo Lakes; coastal tours with overnights at Fish Camps; and over night accommodation at coastal outpost camps including

visits to archaeological site. - chas with Id tic.

4. 3. 2 Sachs Harbour

• Existing Facilities

See Table 4.3 located at the end of this section.

- Resources
 - a unique landscape "characterized by rolling hills, meandering rivers, and spectacular sea cliffs"; the most productive area in the world for muskox and abundant polar bear;
 a variety of birdlife including snow geese, gyrfalcon, sandhill crane and peregrine falcon; and
 Parks Canada proposes a 8,250 km² area and a 100 km² area at the end as a national park, eventually bringing international recognition to the area.

• Issues and Trends

Wes Werawy

- Banks Island has the potential to become one of the most unique and exclusive areas in the world for naturalist package tours;
- the HTA has a poor record of hunt management and cost control Sachs Harbour, although relatively popular with hunters has an unacceptable level of complaints caused by inadequately experienced guides. Their long term reputation is in jeopardy;
- the closed AES station has the potential to become one of the finest resort facilities in the Arctic.
- o Development Opportunities

Short Term

- institute immediately a high quality guide certification program enabling only the top 50% to 60% to become accredited. Use this action for a new product promotion with Guided Arctic Expeditions. This will increase the number of hunts per hunter and greatly improve the reputation of Arctic hunts;

convert the AES station to a first class resort including 13 Q6 double suites, seminar and conference facilities, recreation/T.V./video room, interpretation exhibit area;

- develop 2 to 5 day packages out of Inuvik including side charters to the Thomsen River, Masik Pass, Nelson Head, Gyrfalcon Bluff, a<u>rchaeological sites</u>, etc.; and community tours and visits to seal fishing camps.

Long Term

- market Banks Island as an international wildlife **and** culture area;
- four day fishing observation packages including Capron Lake/Masik Pass;
 - outpost camp at Big River including lodge? and tent frames; and

tundra excursions on 4 wheelers to visit archaeological site restorations.

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4.3.3 Paulatuk

• Existing Facilities

See Table 4.3 located at the end of this section.

- Resources
 - several excellent craftspeople and a history of excellent craft production;
 - possibly the most culturally authentic Inuit community i n Western Arctic;
 - scenic location on Darnley Bay;
 - popular and emerging Arctic Char (Ikalukpik) Jamboree;
 - historic resources including HBC sites at Cape Parry, Letty Harbour, Pearce Point and Paulatuk R.C. Mission;
 - 17 polar bear, 50 muskox and 75 barren ground caribou tags however animal concentrations are not as good as other communities;
 - excellent char fishing on Hornaday and Brock Rivers;
 - dramatic local sites including **sand** dunes of **Brock** Lagoon, cliffs and caverns of **Hornaday** River;
 - local soapstone deposits for craft production; and
 - new 37' Islander boat owned by HTA.
 - Smoking Hills.
- Issues and Trends
 - the recent Paulatuk Economic Plan indicates the community is very interested in developing their tourism resources especially guided hunts and wilderness appreciation tours and the development of a craft centre (98%);
- many of the problems associated with polar bear hunts in Sachs Harbour are also evident in Paulatuk;
 - the community <u>once had a</u> dynamic and seemingly profitable craft (sewing) production centre; and
 - the addition of a hotel will greatly increase potential for package trips from **Inuvik**.

• Development Opportunities

Short Term

Wes Webowy -

institute a credible certification for guides as wellas comprehensive guide training workshops for those who fail to meet the qualification;

establish hunting outpost camps, **possible** locations are **Delesse** Lake, **Tom** Cod Bay, Tsoko Lake, Ewariege Lake, Pearce **Point, Cape Parry** and **HornadayRiver;**

- in collaboration with HTA, and Guided Arctic Expeditions actively promote hunting for polar bear, muskox, peary Caribou, barren ground grizzly bear, fishing for arctic char, etc.; and
- use new HTA boat for packaged boat trips to Hornaday River, Paul Steen's Camp, Letty Harbour, Pearce point or Cape Perry. Two to five day packages will include, shore hikes, wildlife viewing (seals, grizzly bear) char and cod fishing, rockhounding, evening entertainment.

Long Term

a major craft production/sewing centre for **wall** hangings, **mukluks** and mitts as well as more contemporary art works; and

an international level craft workshop that provides lessons in **Inuit** craft production to southern artists and interested individuals.

Observations

DEMPSTER HIGHHAY CORRIDOR

• Existing Facilities

hotels/restaurants at either end (Dawson City and Inuvik) as well as a 20 unit all inclusive motel, R.V. campground at Mile 226 - Eagle Plains;

gas only at **Fort McPherson** (Mile 345) and minor repairs at Government Maintenance Garages; and

emergency stops.

- 6 campgrounds along the route. - about only be considered to

o Resources

- the most scenic and spectacular highway in North America;
- the only highway north of the Arctic Circle and eventually the only vehicular access to the Arctic Ocean with the construction of the **Intuk** Highway; and extraordinary diversity in views, landscape types, wildlife.
- . Issues and Trends

 - the highway is the last truly frontier route in North America but is generally considered unsafe and too great a challenge for most motorists and R.V. operators. Since this is not, in fact, the case, a major promotional campaign will be necessary (once more attractions and services are in place in Inuvik and Fort McPherson);
 - the Yukon is eager to participate with any development on the **Dempster** and **will** consider cooperative construction and marketing **ventures**; and

- the R.V. market is growing at approximately 10% peryear and represents a major growth segment for proposed facilities along the highway including new visitor service centres, R.V. campgrounds, etc.
- Development Opportunities

Short Term

tourist information centre at junction of Klondike and Dempster Highway. This facility will be staffed by Yukon and WAVA councillors and will include the necessary static and audio visual information to lure the traveller onto the Dempster - if only for an initial introduction to km 31; observation point and visitor information kiosk at km 31, which is meant to expose travelers to the beauty of the Dempster;

- visitor service centre Fort McPherson including restaurant, service station, supply and craft sales, campground, and motel;
- pull off at km 61 with trails to Klondike River;
- pull off at km 73.5; that for?. Tombstone Montain. pull off at km 758: 11 br?. Tombstone Montain.
- Arctic Red River fish camp including native fish camp, craft and food concession, over night accommodate **on in 10 tent frames, picnic area; and**
- pul 1 off observation tower and interpretation kiosk with views **on to** Fort McPherson and Peel River at km 538.

Long Term

- Midway Lake R.V. Resort Campground including 30 - 40 sites, country food outlet, craft sales, amphitheatre for entertai nment, canoe rental, interpretation trai 1s, barbeque area; - write quality questionable due to severage dumping the momentary of the severage dumping the hi 11 from the campground, a faci 1 i ty including motel,

tor close Ic Danson ; migl be better at blockstone River

Development of fly/drive packages for **R.V.'s and car rentals** between Whitehorse and Inuvik.

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4.5 INVENTORY/ANALYSIS OF FACILITIES

The following tables outline all the various tourism related facilities and resources in the Western Arctic.

While most components of the tourism plant are listed (hotels, outfitters, etc.), mentions major tourism resources (natural, cultural) are also mentioned that could potentially draw people to the community.

We have also attempted to rank certain facilities into four categories in order to further the appreciation of the relevance of each to tourists. The following categories have been used:

- \mathbf{X} **<u>Poor</u>** unacceptable for use by tourists.
- ★★ <u>Acceptable</u> generally providing enough service for individual travelers but not for prepaid package tours. Lack in management, basic services or facility quality.
- $X \times \star$ <u>Very Good</u> immediate potential for improvement to high quality facility yet totally acceptable for package tours.
- * * * * \star $\frac{\text{Excellent}}{\text{and in the Arctic in general.}}$

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Component	Name	Facilities	Rating	
FORT FRANKLIN				
Accommodation	Great Bear Lake Motel	4 rooms, 12 guests dining area CAMACITY 2	*** ***	
	Great Bear Trophy Lodge	22 rooms, 44 guests, ai rstrip di ni ng area OTHER	****	
Attractions	Great Bear Lake Roman Catholic Mission			
Activities	2 dog teams HTA Outfitters - Several powerboats	35' steel hull boat		
Services	Great Bear Co-op The Bay	craft sales		
Transportation	Sahtu Ltd. Air Fort Franklin based charter			
	Nahanni Air Winter road access	(floatplane, 3 aircraft) scheduled flights		
NORMAN WELLS				
Accommodation/	Mackenzie Valley Hotel	22 rooms, 33 guests dining area	* * * * * *	
	Norwell Inn	10 rooms, 20 guests dining area	* * * * *	
	Norman Wells Inn	8 rooms, 16 guests dining area	* * *	
Restaurants	Dennie's Fast Foods Mike Mark's Chinese Food			
Campgrounds	Campground for canoeists			
Attractions	Canol Trail Oil and gas refinery			
Acti vi ti es	Mackenzie Mountain Oufitters Bear Island Outfitters Several powerboats MW Suvukti	hiking tours fishing, hiking, 10 passengers (40′)		

Component	Name	Facilities Rati	
NORMAN WELLS (Cent'd)		
Services	Norman Wells Tee Pee Craft Shop Spruce Valley Shop Arctic Cap and Sports Roman Catholic Mission	op e Valley Shop retail c Cap and Sports retail	
Transportati on	Bow and Arrow Taxi Spruce Valley Taxi Nahanni Air Services Ltd. Pacific Western Airlines Page Flight Services Ltd. Can-Arc Helicopters Ltd. Winter Access Road	Norman Wells based, scheduled and charter flights scheduled flights Norman Wells based, charters charters	
FORT NORMAN			
Accommodati on	Bear Lodge	8 rooms, 15 guests dining area	
	Drum Lake Lodge (Wrigley Lake)	35 guests, lodge, tents airstrips	
Restaurant	Metis Coffee Shop		
Attracti ons	Anglican Church Archaeological Artifacts Mackenzie River		
Activities	Several powerboats Arctic Red River Outfitters	hunting, hiking	
Servi ces	The Bay		
Transportati on	Ursus Aviation Nahanni Air Winter Road Access	Fort Norman based charters scheduled flights	

Component	Name	Facilities	Rating
FORT GOOD HOPE			
Accommodation	Rampart's Hotel	4 rooms, 12 guests dining area	* * * * * * *
Attracti ons	Our Lady of Good Hope Church Mackenzie River	Father Emile Petitot murals	
Acti vi ti es	Several powerboats HTA Outfitters Tony Grandejambe Contemporary Hamlet Office	fishing, hunting outfitter large public space	
Servi ces	The Bay Co-op		
Transportati on	Taxi Nahanni Air Services Ltd.	scheduled flights	
CONVILLE LAKE			
Accommodation	Colville Lake Lodge	cabins, 12 guests outpost, 10 guests	* * * *
Attracti ons/	Roman Catholic Church Museum Log Cabins Art Gallery Colville Lake	Bern Brown paintings	
Acti vi ti es	Several powerboats		
Transportati on	Nahanni Air Services	scheduled flights	

Component	Name	Facilities	Rating
FORT McPHERSON			
Accommodation	Caribou Motel (closed) and restaurant	6 units dinning area	**
Campground	Nutiulure Campground	20 sites	****
Attractions	Peel River Dempster Highway Fort McPherson Canvas Shop Piet Van Loon Peel River Information Centre	crafts, tent making artist studio	
Activities	7 dog teams several powerboats Dempster Partol Outfitters	14′ - 18′ fishing, wildlife	
Servi ces	The Bay Tetlit Co-op Krutko's General Store Wheton Gas Bar (under construction)		
Transportation	PMB Taxi Kenn Borek Air	scheduled flights	
ARCTIC RED RIVE	<u>R</u>		
Accommodati on	Mackenzie River Fish Camp Transient Centre	not available fortourist	S
Attract ons	Fish Camps craft shop	open part time	
Activit es	Several powerboats		
Transportati on	Ferry service connects to Dempster Highways		

TABLE 4.2: EXISTING TOURISM RESOURCES FOR THE DELTA AREA

Component	Name	Facilities Rati	ing
INUVIK			
Accommodation	Eskimo Inn	78 rooms, 156 guests ***	
	Finto Motor Inn	31 rooms, 47 guests ****	
	Inuvik Inn Mackenzie Hotel	5 rooms, 10 guests ** 38 rooms, 74 guests *****	*
	Sitidgi Lake Fishing Lodge	dinning area **** 2 cabins, 6 guests, *** 2 tents	^
Campgrounds	Chuk Territorial Park Happy Valley Campground	campground, 20 units campground, 17 units	
Restaurant	Anton's Dinning Lounge The Back Room Inuvik Deli and Bakery Raven's Nest The Roost Mad Trapper The Wolf's Den	restaurant restaurant restaurant restaurant restaurant lounge lounge & cabaret	
Attracti ons	Mackenzie Delta Igloo Church		
Activities	Mackenzie River Cruises Several power boats Visitors Information Centre Guided Arctic Expeditions Beluga Tours Inuvik Marina Outfitting Inuvik Charter Bus Service	Fort Simpson to Inuvik wholesaler - outfitter outfitters freighter canoes city tours	
Services	The Bay Several retail stores Marine Service Ulu Foods Northern Images Inuvik Parka Enterprises	full range of services marine supplies game meats/country foods crafts hand crafted clothing	
Transportati on	Delta Cabs Inuvik Taxi Airport Bus Service Avic Popt a Car	taxi taxi	
	Avis Rent a Car Aklavik Flying Services Ltd. Aklak Air Ltd. Antler Aviation Ltd. Inuvik Coastal Airways Ltd. Kenn Borek Air Ltd. Pacific Western Airlines Ram Air Charter Ltd. Trans North Air Nahanni Air Services Sunrise Helicopters	Inuvik based, charters Inuvik based, schedule flights Inuvik based, charters Inuvik based, charters Inuvik based, schedule flights schedule flights Inuvik based, scheduled flights scheduled flights scheduled flights Inuvik based, charters	

Component	Name	Facilities	Rating
AKLAVIK			
Accommodation	Mcleod's Motel Arey's Cafe Bed and Breakfast	lodge, 6 guests restaurant 3 rooms	**
Attractions	Historic Church Museum proximity to Richardson Mountains Herschel Island		
Activities	HTA several power boats		
Services	The Bay		
Transportation	Aklavik Taxi Arey's Taxi 12 passenger van 6 passenger ATV Kenn Borek Air Ram Air	scheduled flights scheduled flights	

RATING: * Poor ** Acceptable *** Very Good **** Excellent

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TABLE 4.3: EXISTING TOURISM FACILITIES FOR THE BEAUFORT AREA

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Component	Name	Facilities	Rating
TUKTOYAKTUK			
Accommodation	Nunuksivik Lodge	7 rooms, 14 guests dinning area 24 rooms	*** ***
	Pingo Park Lodge Ltd.		**
	Eskimo Lake Fishing Lodge	dinning area 8 rooms, 16 guests	*** ***
	Hotel Tuk Inn	dinning area 14 rooms, 31 guests dinning area	*** **** ***
Restaurant	Igloo Café	restaurant	
Attracti ons	Our Lady of Lourdes Mission Boat Sod House Cemetery Dew Line Site Oil/gas camps Beluga/Bowhead Whales Tuk Bay Beaches Whitefish Whaling Camp Pingo National Landmark	historic boat under construction	
Activities	3 dog teams several power boats	3 passenger boats (20 max	.)
	Tuk Tuk Tours Tuk Enterprises Ltd. HTA Outfitters	tours biggame hunts	
Servi ces	The Bay Christina Felix Paraks	handcrafted clothing	
Transportati on	Polar Cabs Tuk Taxi Kenn Borek Air Aklak Air Ram Air Ice road to Inuvik	scheduled flights scheduled flights scheduled flights	
SACHS HARBOUR			
Accommodations	Banks Island Lodge	lodge, 5 units	* *
	Potential accommodation at Atmospheric Environment Services	dinning area 13 units meeting rooms	

Component	Name	Facilities	Rating
SACHS HARBOUR (C	ent' d)		
Attractions	Banks Island wildlife resources proposed Banks Island National Park		
Activities	4 dog teams HTA Outfitters several power boats	big game hunts	
Services	Ikahut Co-op	retail	
Transportation	Aklak Air Kenn Borek Air	scheduled flights scheduled flights	
PAULATUK			
Accommodati on	Thrasher Hotel (new) Transient Centre	6 rooms, 12 guests dinning area	*** *** **
Attracti ons	Catholic Mission Historic House Hornaday River		
Acti vi ti es	several power boats HTA Outfitters	18' Lunds big game hunts, 37' islander	
	3 dog teams		
Servi ces	Inupiam Store (Co-op)	retai l	
Transportati on	Kenn Borek Air Aklak Air	schedule flights scheduled flights	

RATING: * Poor ** Acceptable *** Very Good **** Excellent

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5. PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR DETAILED STUDY AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Approximately 6 - 8 projects will be selected for detailed consultant input including prefeasibility, product development, marketing, planning etc.

The following is a partial list of those to be considered. (*) indicates recommendations by the consultants and (**) indicates those that will be automatically included under the existing mandate.

- 1.* Fort Good Hope Band Council Purchase of Arctic Red River Outfitters - Feasibility Study and Business Plan (pending additional funds from SpecialARDA).
- 2.* Fort Franklin Band CouncilSportsFishing Lodge Prefeasibility and Product Development.
- 3.* Fort McPherson Band CouncilVisitors Service Centre-Prefeasibility and architectural design.
- 4. Inuvik

'Norweta' River Cruise - Feasibility Study (under another contract with EDA);

- * Downtown Beautification Master Plan, theme, landscaping and cost estimates;
- * Happy Valley Campground Expansion;
- **- Western Arctic V i s i t o r s Centre Feasibility Study and Architectural Plan; and

New R.V. Resort Campground Master Plan.

- 5. Sachs Harbor
 - *- Conversion of AES to Naturalist Lodge, Product Development and Marketing Strategy.
- 6. Paulatuk
 - * Hotel Promotion Brochure and Package Tour Development;
 - Craft Centre Development; and
 - *- Marketing of Big Game Hunts.
- 7. Aklavik
 - -Lodge Development product development and marketing assistance.
- 8. Fort Good Hope
 - Boat Cruise package tour development and marketing assistance.

9. Fort McPherson

H.L.A. Wien to do this -

- **- Visitor Service Centre Prefeasibility Study, product development and marketing;
- *- Band Council or HTA Big Game Outfitters product development; and
- *- Midway Lake Preliminary Master Plan and Product Development.
- 10. Arctic Red River
 - ****-** Fish Camp and Craft Sales product development and marketing.
- 11. Norman Wells
 - Canol Trail Product Development and Marketing Strategy.

12. Colville Lake

- Sportfishing lodge product development and training.

13. Fort Norman

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*- Location and **prefeasibility** of sportfishing lodge.

APPENDIX A - PRELIMINARY CONTACT LIST

WAVA

Rev. Ken Snider, Inuvik Eugene Pascal, Aklavik Charlie Snowshoe, Fort McPherson Tony Grandejambe, Fort Good Hope Victor Botari, Inuvik

William Nosogaluak, Tuktoyaktuk Eugene Pascal, Aklavik Randy Pokiak, Tuktoyaktuk

Victor **Botari, Inuvik** Ken Snider, **Inuvik** Charlie Snowshoe, Fort McPherson

Tony **Grandejambe, Fort Good Hope** Larry Wallace, Norman **Wells** Judith Wright, Fort Norman

ARCTIC - YZF

Peter Neugebauer Dave Lapp Kelly Wilson Al Kaylo Keith Thompson **Cherly** Grant-Gamble

EDA - YZF

Ron O'Brien Altaf Lakhani

TOP OF THE WORLD TOURS - YZF

Darlene Mandeville Kim Warner

TIA - NWT - YZF

Klaus Roth Esther Braden

TOURI SM YUKON

George Tawse-Smith George Sinfield Don Weisbeck Robert Clark Thorn Stubbs

Association President Beaufort Area Vice president Delta Area Vice President Bear Area Vice President Secretary Treasurer

Beaufort Area Directors

Delta Area Directors

Bear Area Directors

Whi tehorse

HARVEY ASSOCIATES AD AGENCY

Jan Harvey

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TOURI SM YUKON

Akio Saito

HERITAGE BRANCH

Dale Perry

GO COMPANY

Shirley Budzimski

YUKON VISITORS ASSOCIATION

Whi tehorse

Inuvik

Dave Phillpot

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Fred Koe Frank **Dielak** John **Colford** Andy Anderson

RENEWABLE RESOURCES

Paul Craft Lan Ross Walter Bayha Ron **Graff**

GUIDED ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS

Yellowknife

Tuktoyaktuk

Fort Franklin

Inuvik

Terry Cook

Inuvik

MACKENZIE DELTA NATIVE GROUP

Bob Simpson

TOWN OF INUVIK

John Hill Tom **Detlor** Mayor Pl anner

Dawson Creek

Whitehorse



Mark Smith Lorna Corbett

HORIZON HOLIDAYS

Stephen Burnett

PWA

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Dale Vance Dave Moody Bruce Watson Ken Gray

DRUM LAKE LODGE

Paul Wright Judith Wright

COLVILLE LAKE LODGE

Bern Brown

GREAT BEAR TROPHY LODGE

Jerry Fink

INUVIK VISITOR COMMITTEE

Ken Snider Dick Hill Victor **Botari** Laurie **Allan** Larry **Springay** Peter Guther Kim Staples Meredith Hodges

ESKI MO SUN

Steiner Asbjormsem

MCKENZIE HOTEL

Walter Willkomm

FINTO INN

Harold Wulf

KEN BOREK AIR

Whitehorse

Toronto

Inuvik Vancouver Calgary Edmonton

Miki O'Kane Ken Thompson Annette Lester Joey Amos Pam **Bourque** Laurie **Wallbrook** Theodore **Debassige** Stuart **Wallis** SACHS HARBOUR

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Les Carpenter Andy Anderson Floyd Sydney Roy Goose

TUKTOYAKTUK

John Steen Andy York John McLeod Dennis Thrasher

FORT FRANKLIN

John Jordon Ed Phillips John Yukon Sheila McDonell Roger Kuptana Mahel Kudluk Doug Wood Vince Steen Fred Pokiak Don Tetrault

Bob **Duncun** John Tetso