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***Preliminary Report - Community Tourism
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PRELIMINARY REPORT
COMMUNITY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT
PLAN: FORT PROVIDENCE/KAKISA.

LUTRA ASSOCIATES LTD.
&
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January 1985.

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FORT PROVIDENCE/KAKISA COMMUNITY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 What is a Community Tourism Plan

In June 1984, the consulting firms of Marshall Macklin Monaghan Ltd. and Lutra Associates Ltd. were contracted by the Big River Travel Association to prepare a tourism development and marketing strategy for the region and the communities affected by the Liard Highway corridor. When completed, the community tourism plans and the regional plan will identify goals that the communities, the existing and potential tourism operators, the Big River Travel Association and the Gov't of the N.W.T. can follow to improve conditions for travellers visiting the area.

The main reason for undertaking tourism planning is to develop a logical framework for the provision of facilities, services and attractions needed to support and encourage tourism activities. The method employed to determine what is needed is via the inventorying of resources in the area, evaluating them for their tourism-related uses and determining from an evaluation of the market what is needed to satisfy and encourage visitors.

The benefits of tourism planning can be seen in local economies. Specifically, small businesses can be developed and increased employment opportunities availed to local residents. Community residents can also benefit from the development of increased local services and facilities. Tourism planning also helps to minimize conflicts which could arise from local and non-local use of the same resources.

1.2 Purpose and Scope of the Plan

The purpose of this report is to feedback to residents of Fort Providence and Kakisa, the Big River Travel Association and the G.N.W.T. the concerns, aspirations and capabilities that the communities have with respect to tourism development. This is a preliminary report only and will serve as a discussion paper to further develop a comprehensive community based tourism plan for the two communities, a plan which is compatible with the overall regional tourism plan and marketing strategy.

— Lutra —

PART 2: MAJOR PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The following sections outline major factors which may directly or indirectly impact the Fort Providence and Kakisa tourism industry.

2.1 Factors Affecting The Future of Tourism Development in Fort Providence/Kakisa

Both local and non-local political, socio-cultural and economic factors can affect the development of tourism at the community level. Major factors which could potentially impact the tourism industry either in the long or short term, in and around Fort Providence/Kakisa are:

*Government Economic Development Priorities

Policy and resource support for the development of community-based tourism activities have been formalized at both the Federal and Territorial Government levels. As a consequence, it is timely for communities/regions with tourism development aspirations to access planning, infrastructure, human development and marketing support resources. Based on current and anticipated program commitments (ie. the Canada/NWT Economic Development Agreement, the G.N.W.T. Dept. of Economic Development & Tourism, and DRIE), it is anticipated that a high level of government support will continue to the N.W.T. tourism sector at least until 1986/87 when many of these programs will expire.

*Regional Economic Development Priorities

The official opening of the Liard Highway in 1984 and the continued growth of the Big River Travel Association have perpetuated a strong regional interest in tourism development. These 1984 initiatives together with the planned Papal visit to Fort Simpson, the Nahanni National Park Management Planning process, upgrading of the Mackenzie Highway north to Wrigley and a number of celebrations and special community events have reinforced the growth of and the emphasis being place on the tourism industry in the region.

A second economic development priority in the region is the development of an economic base built on renewable resources. In this respect, various private and public sector groups wish to encourage the development of small and large scale agricultural businesses, game farms and naturalist/non-consumptive tourism activities. Both Fort Providence and Kakisa have a wealth of renewable resources (ie. the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary, community agricultural lands, etc.) which could be developed to this end.

This potential development could have a positive impact on the local tourism industry in that additional visitor attractions would be available.

A discussion of regional economic development would not be complete without some comment on non-renewable resource development in the area. Specifically, it is noteworthy that recent oil and gas development in the Mackenzie Valley did not have any significant impact on the communities of Kakisa and Fort Providence. It is therefore suggested that further work in the hydrocarbon industry in the Mackenzie-Beaufort regions will have little consequence to these communities. It is possible however that continued gas exploration in the Cameron Hills may impact land use patterns, particularly of Kakisa residents in the Tathlina Lake area.

*Local Economic Development Priorities

In terms of future economic development priorities, both communities see a future in the development of local natural resources to include utilization of fish and bison resources. Some potential is also seen in the agricultural sector. Some planning has been undertaken at the community level to develop a stronger renewable resource economy. Since the northern tourism industry is closely linked to these resources, it will be important for the communities to ensure that planning and development of each sector compliments other sectors so as not to cause conflict and competition for resources.

Traditionally, Fort Providence, as the "half-way" point between the N.W.T./Alberta border and Yellowknife, has been a major service centre for Mackenzie Highway travellers. With the opening of the Liard Hwy. and potentially increased visitation to the region, this role may be expanded.

*Political Development

On a regional level, the Decho Regional Council of which both Fort Providence and Kakisa are members, is very active. This body serves as a major lobby group for member communities and facilitates participation in a wide gambit of socio-economic and political issues. With respect to tourism development, this Council supports the growth of community-based tourism in its member communities. In line with this support, the Fort Providence Band Economic Development Committee has begun to examine tourism related opportunities which can be developed at the community level. Concerns guiding this examination include:

- 1) the expansion of services and facilities to the travelling

public; 2) the utilization of natural resources in the tourism sector; 3) community ownership and control over new tourism activities; and 4) increased economic opportunities to a wider segment of the local population.

On a local political level, there are two factors which may impact the further development of tourism in Kakisa and Fort Providence. Firstly, Kakisa is now considered a satellite community of Fort Providence. Work has been undertaken recently to develop a separate community complete with its own administrative and political infrastructure. It is anticipated that this separation may in fact take place within the next 2-3 years. Should this occur, it is suggested that much local energy will be expended on developing this local infrastructure as opposed to developed local economic opportunities ie. in the tourism sector.

Of secondary note is local political development in Fort Providence. Over the past two years, the two political/administrative bodies - the Band Council and the Settlement Council, have been seeking to amalgamate in order to better utilize available resources. To date this amalgamation has not occurred but a working agreement to address certain issues under the name of the Band/Settlement Alliance has been in practice for some two years. It is suggested that with the maintenance of three political/administrative bodies seeking to represent local interests that conflict over development priorities may arise.

*Infrastructure Development

Fort Providence already has a well established local infrastructure that lends itself well to the further development of the tourism industry. This infrastructure will be enhanced within the next two years through the construction of a local sports/recreation complex. This facility will increase the community's ability to host inter-community/regional sports and recreation functions such as hockey and baseball tournaments, regional Dene/Netis cultural events, etc.

Should Kakisa gain status as a community, local infrastructure developments will include the development of a local administrative office, distance communication systems, and potentially a community use facility such as a community hall. A central community facility is a local priority.

2.2 Tourism Potential in Fort Providence/Kakisa

The following sections provide both a detailed listing and summary of the resources of the land, people and the community as well as of organizational/human resources available for the development of tourism. To gain an appreciation of these resources, the following community overview is provided.

Fort Providence is a community of some 620 people of which approximately 85% are of Dene/Metis ancestry. The local economy is based on a mixture of wage employment, traditional pursuits of hunting, trapping and fishing and government transfer payments such as social assistance and pensions.

The community is well over 100 years old, having been first established by the Roman Catholic Church in the 1860's. First accessible by the all-weather Mackenzie Highway in the 1950's, Providence has developed and maintained a history as a regional service centre.

Kakisa is a community of approximately 40 people, all of whom are of Slavey descent and members of the Fort Providence Dene Band. The community was established in the early 1960's when residents of Tathlina Lake relocated here in order to have access to the Mackenzie Highway.

Kakisa is a traditional community with an economy based on commercial fishing, hunting and trapping. There are no municipal services in the community. All services including protection, administration, medical and education support are sought from Fort Providence. Commercial services are also sought in Hay River.

2.2.1 Resources of the Land and People

Table 1 illustrates in detail the resources of the land and people. The inventory of land resources includes interesting landforms and geological sites, wildlife areas and fishing areas.

Resources of the people provides an inventory of those sites located outside of the community which have a cultural and/or traditional significance. Inventory information was gathered through discussions with local residents as well as a review of land use maps and other secondary source documents describing the land and resources.

Inventory information has been prepared for the area which is traditionally known as the Fort Providence/Kakisa hunting and trapping area. This area extends north of Willow Lake to the Horn

TABLE 1:
RESOURCES OF THE LAND AND PEOPLE

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION	BEST MODE OF ACCESS	DISTANCE FROM COMMUNITY (1 way)	BEST TIME TO VISIT RESOURCE	OTHER COMMENTS
KAKISA: LANDFORMS				
1. Lady Evelyn Falls km 170 Mack Hwy.	road	6.5 km.	Spring/summer/fall	Kitchen shelters and picnic sites. Kakisa River drops over a 15m limestone escarpment. Staircase into gorge at base of falls. <u>Swimming, fishing, hiking, photography/Hiking path to Kakisa village.</u>
2. Upper Kakisa River km. 171 Mack. Hwy.	road	12 km.	Spring/summer/fall	The Kakisa River Bridge just off the Mackenzie Hwy. allows access to this scenic river. Good grunting, berries, canoe launching and picnic sites.
Kakisa River between Kakisa and Tathlina Lakes	land or air	95 km.	Spring/summer	Rolls hills, rapids, fish, berries. Traditional travel route with many campsites. Major fish migration route
4. Kakisa Lake	boat	40 km.	Spring/summer	Sandy beaches, rolling hills, raspberries, strawberries, saskatoons, blueberries, frogberries, gooseberries. Remains of traditional camps.
Tathlina Lake	land or air	115 km.	Spring/summer	Sandy beaches, cliffs, berries, wild rice, fish, moose, geese, traditional and contemporary camps.
6. Tathlina Lake West IBP site # 25	land or air	130 km.	Spring/summer	IBP ecological site. Shallow ponds and lakes make it a very productive wildlife area.
7. Cameron Hills	land or air	160 km.	Spring/summer	Bluffs, rolling hills. Recreation potential is high.
8. Dogface Lake	land or air	200 km. (Hay River)	Spring/summer	Sandy beaches, rolling hills. High recreation potential.

this will impact on traditional area

a new site as proposed will be great for family beavers will it fly?

11?

2/5 month howd you out

Deeghane fishery, already in place

TABLE 1 cont
RESOURCES OF THE LAND AND PEOPLE

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION	BEST MODE OF ACCESS	DISTANCE FROM COMMUNITY (1 way)	BEST TIME TO VISIT RESOURCE	OTHER COMMENTS
FORT PROVIDENCE: LANDFORMS				
9. Horn Plateau	air	140 km.	Spring/summer/fall	IBP site #32. Horn Plateau is noted for large concentrations of woodland caribou, rolling landscape.
KAKISA: WILDLIFE AREAS				
10. Woodland caribou	land	80-200 km.	Fall/winter	Dogface Lake area east of the Redknife River is good caribou habitat. Found also on the south shore of Tathlina Lake.
11. Moose	land	80-150 km.	Fall/winter	Found on the south shore of Tathlina and to the west on the Kakisa R. The latter is excellent fall/winter habitat.
12. Swans & Cranes	land/boat	80-150 km.	Spring/fall	Found throughout the Cameron Hills, northeast of Spaw Lake, Tathlina Lake and lakes northeast of Kakisa Lake.
13. Geese and ducks	land/boat	throughout area	Spring/fall	Migrating bird species utilize a broad flyway during the fall and spring, resting on small ponds/lakes: Reaver, Mills, Kakisa, Tathlina Lakes. to the southeast is along this flyway.
14. Traditional Use Areas	land/boat	up to 180 km.	All seasons	Tathlina Lake, Kakisa Lake and Kakisa River corridor connecting the two lakes are the most popular contemporary use areas.
FORT PROVIDENCE: WILDLIFE AREAS				
15. Wood Bison	land/road	access approx. 15 km.	All seasons	Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary. A management plan to be approved in the

*Spring/fall
referred*

TABLE 1 con't
RESOURCES OF THE LAND AND PEOPLE

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION	BEST MODE OF ACCESS	DISTANCE FROM COMMUNITY (1 way)	BEST TIME TO VISIT RESOURCE	OTHER COMMENTS
				near future will determine domestic and commercial use of this protected herd. Sanctuary covers 6250 km ² . Pop. approx. 1000. Herd concentrated at Falaise, Dieppe, Mink, Calais Lakes.
16. Moose	boat, land	50-150 km.	Fall	Moose are hunted on the north and south banks of the Mack. River, north to the Bouvier River and on the north shore of Mills Lake.
17. Woodland Caribou	land	150 km.	Fall/winter	The Horn Plateau supports a large herd in early winter. In mid-winter the caribou move southward off the plateau. In summer, they are dispersed throughout the region. Wolves are associated with the herd in early winter.
18. Marten, mink, beaver	land	50-150 km.	late Fall/Winter <i>recreationalist</i>	The Horn Plateau is rich with marten. Mink Lake is a particularly good mink and muskrat area.
19. Sandhill cranes	land	80 km.	Spring <i>photography</i>	These cranes are found at Dieppe Lake and Calais Lake.
20. Geese and Ducks	boat, land	40-80 km.	Spring/fall <i>photography, fall hunt</i>	See Kakisa geese and duck resources. Beaver Lake is an important staging area for Canada geese. North shore of Mills Lake is an important staging area for geese and ducks, May-Sept.
21. Traditional Use Areas	land, boat	40-150 km.	Fall/winter/spring <i>scientific, big game hunting</i>	Areas of high use are: inland the North Channel and Deep Bay and the Horn R./Mink Lake Corridor.

TABLE 1 con't
RESOURCES OF THE LAND AND PEOPLE

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION	BEST MODE OF ACCESS	DISTANCE FROM COMMUNITY (1 way)	BEST TIME TO VISIT RESOURCE	OTHER COMMENTS
KAKISA: FISH RESOURCES				
22. Arctic grayling	land, boat	5-20 km.	Spring	already in use as tourist attraction Spring spawning run on Kakisa River.
23. Pickerel	land, boat	5-200 km.	Spring	Spring spawning run in the Kakisa River to Lady Evelyn Falls. Also good at Muskeg River, Tathlina and Dogface Lake.
24. Northern pike, whitefish, lake trout	boat	5-200 km.	Spring/summer	Tathlina, Kakisa, Dogface Lakes. The Kakisa River has significant movements of whitefish in the lower reaches of the river. Sports fishing at Dogface Lake. 30 lb. caught at Willow Lake.
25. Ice Fishing Lakes	land, air	80-150 km.	Winter	Winter '86 season in celebration Tathlina and Kakisa Lake. Both lakes are fished commercially. Tathlina is also commercially fished in winter.
FORT PROVIDENCE: FISH RESOURCES				
26. Pickerel	land, boat	50 Km.	Spring	Spring pickerel is particularly good at the Mackenzie River ice crossing at Dory Creek. The gravel bottom of the Horn R. is spawning ground for pickerel, pike and grayling.
27. Arctic grayling Lake trout	boat, air	40-100 km.	Spring/summer	Deep Bay, North Channel, Willow Lake are good grayling and lake trout areas. Commercial fishing also takes place in Deep Bay.
28. Northern pike	boat, air	40-100 km.	Spring/summer	Jackfish Lake, Beaver Lake are good areas for big northern pike. In early spring, the gravel bottom of Willow Lake is spawning grounds for pike and grayling.

TABLE 1 con't
RESOURCES OF THE LAND AND PEOPLE

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION	BEST MODE OF ACCESS	DISTANCE FROM COMMUNITY (1 way)	BEST TIME TO VISIT RESOURCE	OTHER COMMENTS
29. Whitefish, trout	boat	40-100 km.	Summer	Mackenzie River and Great Slave Lake
KAKISA: RESOURCES OF THE PEOPLE				
30. Original Kakisa camp	land	5 Km.	Summer	Hiking trail to site. Berries and some cabin remains. Needs upgrading.
31. Tathlina Outpost camp	land, air	130 Km.	All seasons.	Occupied year-round. 3 Cabins, 3 boat outfits, tents, out buildings. Original cabins were shingled with spruce bark.
32. Talking Tree	land	135 km.	Summer	Located near Tathlina camp on Kakisa River. Culturally significant area.
33. Traditional camps	land	5-130 km.	Summer	Remains of traditional camp are on the shores of Kakisa Lake and the well travelled corridor between Tathlina and Kakisa Lakes.
FORT PROVIDENCE: RESOURCES OF THE PEOPLE				
34. Big Island	boat	50 km.	Summer	Big Island Fort was built by the H.B.C. in about 1830. It was then moved to Ft. Providence. Little remains here.
35. Woman's Island	boat	50 km.	Summer	Located in the South Channel, this island is of cultural import.
36. Hills Lake/Horn River	boat, land	40-100 km.	Summer	Many traditional camps, burial sites, and sacred sites are on the north shore of Hills L, and on the Horn R.

TABLE 1 cont
 RESOURCES OF THE LAND AND PEOPLE

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION	BEST MODE OF ACCESS	DISTANCE FROM COMMUNITY (1 way)	BEST TIME TO VISIT RESOURCE	OTHER COMMENTS
				A beef ranch is located near the mouth of the Horn.
37. Axel Point	boat	25 km.	Summer	Of photographic interest are the abandoned barge and buildings located here.
38. Traditional Camps	boat	20-80 km.	Summer	Many traditional camps/burial sites are located on the shores of the Mack. R. close to Providence.

River, south to the Cameron Hills, west to Morrisey Creek and east to the shores of Great Slave Lake.

The following summary highlights resources of the land and the people which have some significance to a local tourism industry.

*Landforms

The Horn Plateau and the Kakisa River system are two of the most interesting land formations in the region and offer a wide range of tourism development opportunities. The Horn Plateau has been designated by the International Biological Program as an important ecological site because of its landscape (rolling hills and plains), vegetation and its ability to support wildlife populations. The Horn Plateau is particularly important to the maintenance of the woodland caribou.

The Kakisa River system runs through a variety of landscapes including rolling hills, plains, gorges and shallow marshland. The river system is a hiker's paradise. The upper reaches of the Kakisa River have also been designated as an important IBP site because it is a very productive wildlife area.

*Wildlife and Fishing Areas

The Fort Providence/Kakisa hunting and trapping area is rich in wildlife resources of all types. Of particular interest to the tourism industry is the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary which is easily accessible from Fort Providence. The wealth of fish resources in both the Providence and Kakisa area are also an important natural resource in the tourism industry. Currently, there is local and regional discussions taking place with regard to developing non-consumptive tourism opportunities in the Bison Sanctuary. These discussions have cited the development of naturalist and outfitting activities as appropriate for the Sanctuary.

With respect to fishing opportunities, the spring pickerel run and grayling, trout and pike sports fishing continue to be the main tourism activities. Discussions have taken place to include the development of special events around this major tourist activity. Potential activities include the staging of a local fish derby.

*Resources of the People

Although there is evidence of traditional camps and burial grounds along the main travel routes in the Fort Providence/Kakisa trapping area, few material remains are available for

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interpretative activities. The Tathlina Lake outpost camp offers the most potential in attracting tourists because this traditional camp offers year-round opportunities to experience the history and contemporary lifestyle of local Dene trappers and fishermen.

2.2.2 Tourism Attractions, Facilities and Services

Table 2 displays community based resources which are available to support and encourage the local tourism industry. The following summary highlights local infrastructure, attractions and services which are of particular import to tourism. It is noteworthy that the following summary focuses on Fort Providence because no organized services or infrastructure exists in Kakisa. For all intents and purposes, Kakisa is a residential village with a land based or traditional focus. Residents access all services from Fort Providence or Hay River.

*Accommodation and Food/Beverage Services

These facilities are available in Fort Providence for large and small groups of tourists and include convention and banquet facilities for groups of about 50. The Snowshoe Inn offers these services year-round while all other establishments operate on a seasonal (summer) basis only.

It is noteworthy that no services of this nature exist in Kakisa. Local opinion indicates that there is no desire to develop these services in the village.

*Retail and Arts/Crafts Services

Well stocked retail and arts/crafts outlets are available in Fort Providence. At least two outlets are available for all basic foodstuffs as well as for arts and crafts. Craft demonstrations are available on request via the Red Willow Society. Although crafts are produced in Kakisa, there are no retail outlets available to market these items.

*Transportation and Other Public Services

Kakisa is accessible by road and float plane. The only form of public transport (a van) is available on a semi-regular basis from Pineview Services. Local opinion indicates a desire to set up a community operated public transport system. No other transportation or public services are available at the village. It is noteworthy that Kakisa just received electrical power in the community in November 1984.

*skilled route
this is a
service business
for the residents
of Kakisa*

TABLE 2:
TOURISM ATTRACTIONS, FACILITIES & SERVICES.

RESOURCE	CHARACTERISTICS	COMMENTS
KAKISA		
1. Accommodation	No accommodation services exist. Visitors utilize facilities in Ft. Providence.	Local residents do not want the development of this type of facilities in their community.
2. Food & Beverage	No food or beverage services are available. Visitors access services in Fort Providence or at Pineview Services located mid-point between Kakisa and Providence on the Mackenzie Hwy.	per above
3. General/Retail Services	None available. Local residents shop at Providence and/or Hay River. Some arts and crafts are available at Pineview Service.	Although Kakisa had a general store at one time, local residents are reluctant to have another because it is difficult to maintain competitive prices in a small operation. There is a real need to have gas, boat and motor parts available locally. <i>? for whom</i>
4. Transportation	Kakisa Express is available on a semi-regular basis from Kakisa-Hay River. The service is available from Pineview Service @ \$35. round trip. There is no airstrip. Access is by road or float plane. Docking facilities are limited.	There is a local desire to develop a local bus service from the community itself. It is felt this would be more convenient and would provide employment to a local person.
5. Other Community Infrastructure	No basic support services are available in the community.	Moves to develop separate community status may result in the development of local infrastructure.
6. Visitor Infrastructure	Lady Evelyn Falls is closest.	Picnic sites and kitchen shelter. <i>some hunting is done no pump-out</i>
7. Local Points of Interest	Kakisa itself is unique to this region because it is the only all log village which maintains a very strong traditional lifestyle.	

TABLE 2: con't
TOURISM ATTRACTIONS, FACILITIES & SERVICES.

RESOURCE	CHARACTERISTICS	COMMENTS
8. Outfitting/Guiding Services	Although no local businesses exist for this purpose, four do teams and boat and motor outfits with guides/operators are available on an as needed basis. Constraints include the unavailability of bush supplies.	Local residents have no real desire to formalize local outfitting businesses beyond a level of organization that will better support current pursuits of commercial fishing and hunting/trapping.
9. Lodges	Deegahni (Dogface) Lake Camp is located in the Cameron Hills, 200 km from Hay River. The lodge accommodates 10 in 2 log house-keeping units. Fully equipped. Good for pickerel, pike and whitefish. Operated out of Hay River. Rates: \$50./day, \$250./wk. plus transportation and supplies. 10 sq. mi. of lake. 5-25 lb. pike in summer; 3-8 lb. pickerel in fall and spring.	The area surrounding the camp (Cameron Hills) was badly burnt recently.
FORT PROVIDENCE		
10. Accommodation	Two sources are available: Snowshoe Inn and Big River Motel. The former has year-round accommodation for 63 in 35 units. Phone, TV, kitchenettes, full bath. Rates: \$50. single, \$65. double. Big River offers accommodation for 18 in 5 units. Rates: \$30. single \$40. double. TV and laundry. Big River is closed during most of the winter season.	
11. Food and Beverage	Dining and licenced lounges are available as well e. Banquet and meeting and banquet services. Ruth's Drive-in provides take-out foods.	
12. Retail Services	Food stuffs, dry goods, hardware, oil/gas are available at the Hudson's Bay Store, Aurora Marketing and Sonny Confectionary.	

TABLE 2: cont
 TOURISM ATTRACTIONS, FACILITIES & SERVICES.

RESOURCE	CHARACTERISTICS	COMMENTS
13. Arts and Crafts	Locally manufactured, nationally known moosehair tufting and porcupine quill work is available at the Snowshoe Inn arts and crafts store and the Red Willow Arts and Crafts. Craft demonstrations can be arranged through the Red Willow group.	Moosehair tufting and quill work are unique to this region of the N.W.T.
14. Transportation	Providence is accessible by water, road and air. Bus service via NWT Coachlines is available Tues., Thurs. and Sat. from Hay River/Yellowknife. Scheduled air service via Air Providence is provided to Yellowknife, Hay River, Fort Simpson at least once a week. The local gravel airstrip is serviced year-round and is 30m x 924 m. There is no adequate public docking facility in the community or at the river crossing. Existing docking facilities are privately owned.	Providence is also accessible by water (Mackenzie River) from the north and from the south via Great Slave Lake. Access by road is restricted during break-up and freeze-up.
15. Visitor Infrastructure (Campgrounds, parks, information centre, picnic area, etc.)	<p>A campground is located approx. 1.5 km. on the Providence access road. 20 pull-through sites drinking water, kitchen shelter and dumping station.</p> <p>Aurora Marketing operates a RV trailer park providing hook-up, water, dumping and shelter facilities.</p> <p>A visitor information booth operated for the first time during the summer of 1984. Resources for the booth were provided via the Settlement Council and the Big River Travel Association.</p> <p>Picnic tables are located beside the visitor information booth. Benches are also located along the river bank.</p> <p>When maintained, the community has good cross country ski trails.</p> <p>Within the community itself, little exists in the way of signage.</p>	<p>The campsite is poorly located and mosquitoes are bad in summer. Much of the site need upgrading and repair ie. gravel roads, intensive brushing program, repair of dumping and water services. Full service rates are \$10.</p> <p>Records for the 1984 summer season were not kept. The booth also lacked a full range of up-to-date info. materials.</p> <p>Ski trails are maintained by the local ski club.</p>

TABLE 2: con't
 TOURISM ATTRACTIONS, FACILITIES & SERVICES.

RESOURCE	CHARACTERISTICS	COMMENTS
16. Public Services	A 2-man R.C.M.P. detachment provides information, highway, land and river patrols. Also nursing station, elementary school, Band and Settlement Councils.	
17. Local Points of Interest	Our Lady of Providence church is over 60 yrs. old and is typical of many churches located downstream on the Mackenzie River. Cairn commemorating the Grey Nun's who start a mission school here in the 1860's. Cairn commemorating the discovery of the Mackenzie River. This historic plaque was unveiled by Queen Elizabeth II. The Slavey Language Centre has a fine collection of Dene legends and photographs which depict the history of local Dene. Also available for viewing is the chincilla range and the wood gasification plant. Both are operated by the Snowshoe Inn.	Both cairns require upgrading in painting and cleaning. Grass should be cut to facilitate access. These materials are available for viewing.
18. Local Attractions	Mackenzie Daze is held annual over the first long week-end in August. Events include sports events, traditional raft and canoe races, traditional and contemporary dances, a parade, BBQ, etc. Chinook Rendez-vous is a 2 day family event held annually during the late winter. Activities include snowmachine races, sports tournaments, dances, games, etc.	This 2 day family event has the potential of becoming a major regional event. Increased advertising and promotion is required. As per Mackenzie Daze.
19. Tourism Oriented Services		
-Community Tours	The Snowshoe Inn provides services to tour buses to include guided tour of the community, slide show, guest presentations/lectures, box lunches/meals.	Services are generally geared to seniors as these make up the majority of bus travellers to the community.
-Boat rentals	Big River offers 3 16' and 14' boats and 20 HP motors for rent. Guides are available upon request. Rates: \$50./day (gas not included).	Big River retains an outfitting licence for hunting but zone does not permit this use. Can hunt geese but there is no market.

TABLE 2: cont
 TOURISH ATTRACTIONS, FACILITIES & SERVICES.

RESOURCE	CHARACTERISTICS	COMMENTS
-Sightseeing (air)	Air Providence offers an aerial tour of the community, bison sanctuary, Kakisa, Beaver Lake Horn River. Use single engine craft, 185 (3 people) and/or one of 2 Cherokees (5 people).	Air Providence has had good response to these aerial tours.
-Sightseeing (river)	Aurora Marketing has a 25' cabin cruiser to accommodate 8, for Mackenzie River sightseeing. 1 hour cruises are approx. \$40/person.	This service is popular with bus travellers.
20. Outfitting/Guiding	<p>Aurora Marketing/Air Providence provide fly-in fishing to the east end of Willow Lake. Good trout fishing. Housekeeping cabin, HFF radio, 2 boats with 9.9 motors. June -Sept. Rates 3 people x 4 people = \$900.00</p> <p>Aurora Marketing also provides Starcraft fishing trips for 3 people (max.) from Providence Island upstream. Spring grayling fishing is popular.</p> <p>Aurora Marketing maintains a housekeeping cabin at the mouth of the Horn River. Utilized mostly in September for geese hunting. Good pike and pickerel. Rates: \$50./day plus transportation.</p>	<p>Located 85 airmiles north of Ft. Providence. Flying time is approx. 45 min. The business cannot get a lodge licence and therefore is limited to existing facilities.</p> <p>Fishing licences are available. Often works in conjunction with Brabant Lodge guiding lodge guests.</p>
21. Lodges	Brabant Lodge is located on Brabant Island, 51 air km. from Hay River and some 45 km. south of Providence. Adjacent to Big Island, the lodge accommodates 36, it is a fully serviced, licenced facility. Excellent grayling, pike, pickerel and whitefish. Convention facilities available. Open June 20-Sept. 15.	Operated out of Hay River.

Fort Providence is accessible by road, air and water. Scheduled bus and air services are available to Hay River, Yellowknife and Fort Simpson. Providence also provides medical, protection, education and administrative services.

*Visitor Infrastructure

Although no visitor services (ie. information, campgrounds, etc.) exist within Kakisa itself, picnic sites and a kitchen shelter are available at nearby Lady Evelyn Falls.

Fort Providence has a campsite located in proximity to the community, a tourism information centre (summer only) with picnic tables and benches and a privately operated RV trailer park. The campsite is not well located or maintained and has a mosquito problem in the summer. Because of these constraints, the campground is not well used. 1984 was the first summer of operation for the local tourist information centre. No records were maintained and information available on the community was not as comprehensive and as current as it could have been.

Although there is some signage on the Mackenzie Highway as one enters the community of Fort Providence, little in the way of signage exists within the community itself.

*Local Attractions and Points of Interest

The village of Kakisa is an attraction in itself as the only all log community in the region, accessible by road and with a strong traditional Dene lifestyle. The picturesque village has attracted a number of visitors who wish to catch a glimpse of the Dene lifestyle.

Fort Providence offers the visitor information on the community's history. Two cairns commemorate the work of the Grey Nun's in the 1860's and the discovery of the Mackenzie River by Sir Alexander Mackenzie. The history of local Dene has also been well recorded by the Slavey Language Centre and is available for public viewing upon request.

Local events which attract visitors to Fort Providence are Mackenzie Daze, held in August and Chinook Rendez-vous which is held every spring. Both community celebrations feature traditional and contemporary games, dances, sports and cultural events.

*Tourism Related Services

Kakisa has some capability to provide day trips for summer

visitors. No formal business structures exist to provide this service thus, boats, motors and guides are available on an as-needed basis. Similarly, there are 4 dogteams in the village which are available for daily outings on the land if need warrants. Both types of services are subject to availability of supplies and a local host.

Fort Providence has a full range of tourism services available to include sightseeing and fishing day trips, naturalist activities, boat rentals, and outfitting. Tourism services are designed to accommodate groups as small as 3 to bus tours of 40 or 50 people. Existing services utilize local fish and some geese and duck resources. No sports hunting activities are available for tourists travelling to the community.

There are two sports fishing lodges located within the study area. Both of these lodges, Brabant Lodge and Deegahni Lake Lodge, are operated from Hay River.

2.2.3 Organizational Skills/Human Resources

Table 3 addresses those organizational skills and human resources available and necessary for a strong, local tourism industry. In the absence of a community survey which details specific skill levels among the local population, general observations have been made with respect to these resources.

Kakisa has a strong local base of traditional skills which can be utilized in the tourism industry. What is obviously lacking in this community is the availability of business and administrative skills and structures to support the development of local tourism businesses. It is noteworthy that Slavey is the main language of the community thus, it is necessary to utilize the services of an interpreter especially when addressing local elders.

Fort Providence has both business and administrative skills and structures as well as a fairly well trained hospitality industry labour pool. The most obvious limitation with respect to human and organizational skills lies in the fact that existing tourism oriented businesses do not involve a wide community base. There are therefore mixed attitudes toward the tourism industry and some reticence to be involved in it. The Band owned Degha Enterprises has stated its interest in becoming involved in the tourism industry but will require additional business administrative skills to successfully do so.

TABLE 3:
ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS/HUMAN RESOURCES

TOURISM RELATED SKILLS/
ORGANIZATIONS

COMMENTS

KAKISA

1. Traditional/Cultural
Skills

At least 8 local ladies are recognized as proficient in the art of moosehair tufting and porcupine quill work. This skill has been carefully maintained in the community and shows potential for the tourism industry ie. local craft sales and demonstrations. Limitations to the use of these skills vis-a-vis the tourism industry include the lack of a community facility to sell or display local crafts.

One or two local men are skilled at handcrafting snowshoes and other items traditionally used in the bush. Limitations to the use of these skills in the tourism industry are noted above.

2. Outfitting/Guiding/
Bush Skills

Since commercial fishing, hunting, trapping and the maintenance of an outpost camp are regular economic activities of the local population, the majority of local residents have finally tuned bush skills. Similarly, in order to subsidize these land based pursuits, approximately 3-4 local individuals have done some guiding/outfitting on Kakisa Lake.

3. Administrative/Business
Skills/Structure

There are one or two individuals in the community who have administrative skills. These individuals are willing to utilize these skills in local business development. Currently, there are no formal administrative or business structures in place in Kakisa.

FORT PROVIDENCE

4. Traditional/Cultural
Skills

In addition to the many local women who make moosehair tuftings and quill embroideries, there are a number of local artists who are recognized throughout the N.W.T. for their paintings. John Farcy is perhaps the most well known of these. Although crafts are sold locally, there is a need to strengthen the local craft co-operative to ensure more artist input into marketing.

TABLE 3: cont
ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS/HUMAN RESOURCES

TOURISM RELATED SKILLS/ ORGANIZATIONS	COMMENTS
5. Outfitting/Guiding/ Bush Skills	<p>There are also at least 8 local drummers who perform at local functions/celebrations.</p> <p>Like Kakisa, traditional bush skills are well maintained among community residents. Similarly, approximately 6-10 local men have had some experience working at a fishing lodge (ie, Great Slave Lake lodges) or have some general guiding and outfitting experience.</p>
6. Food/Accommodation Industry Skills	<p>The Snowshoe Inn, Rig River Service and Aurora Marketing have, as long standing community businesses, trained a substantial hospitality service labour pool. Although none of these businesses are labour intensive availability of a trained local labour pool is not major problem in Providence.</p>
7. Business Skills/Structures	<p>Because Fort Providence has substantial experience in the service sector and has a fairly strong tourism related infrastructure for a community of its size, there is ample local expertise available to this industry. It is noteworthy however that the local Dene/Metis population is not as active in the local business community as the non-native population. Skills and structures do exist in the Native community to pursue business development ie, via the Dene Band Economic Development Committee and the Band owned company, Degha Enterprises.</p>
8. Administrative Skills	<p>A number of local groups and individuals have administrative skills in the area of business, sport and recreation development. With respect to the strengthening of the local tourism industry, it should be noted that many of the highly skilled persons are already managing fairly rigorous workloads. It is therefore suggested that additional administrative skills will have to be developed in the community.</p>

2.3 Community Feelings About Tourism

Over the course of community work undertaken in Fort Providence and Kakisa, a number of local groups and individuals were asked their opinion on tourism. The following points briefly summarize resident opinion about the tourism industry as a whole and about tourism as an economic activity of the community.

Kakisa

- The maintenance of a land based economy is important to local residents. It is equally important that this economy be viable which is not necessarily the case now especially for those people involved in commercial fishing. Given this, local residents are interested in supplementing their current renewable resource based economy with tourism activities.
- In supplementing the existing traditional economy with tourism development opportunities, local residents have a number of concerns which must be addressed. Specifically, it is important that: 1) these opportunities do not compete with existing resource use (ie. that they be essentially non-consumptive); 2) that these opportunities utilize local skills; 3) that a support structure exist in the community to market and management such activities; 4) that services be available to provide supplies to local outfitters (ie. gas, equipment parts, bush supplies, etc.) and 5) that Kakisa residents have ownership of and control over tourism development opportunities.
- Residents generally wish to limit tourism development to small scale projects such as day trips, boat rentals, outfitting/guiding opportunities.
- Residents would not like to see a large increase in visitation to the village as the community does not have the infrastructure or the desire to handle large numbers of tourists.
- An additional concern of Kakisa residents relates to the future status of the village. Recently, initiatives have been undertaken to establish Kakisa as an independent settlement complete with its own municipal services and infrastructure. It is the feeling of some local residents that this is a priority and should be the focus of local energies. This is to say that the development of economic opportunities should be undertaken only after the community is reorganized.
- In keeping with the above mentioned point, many local residents maintain that strong local leadership is a pre-requisite for any new development in the community. There is mixed opinion as to whether there is strong leadership in the community at this

time. Until these varying opinions are addressed, it is the feeling that little will happen vis-a-vis business or infrastructure development.

-In order to expand existing economic pursuits to incorporate some seasonal tourism activities, additional equipment will be required as well as upgrading of some existing facilities, specifically at the Tathlina Lake outpost camp.

-It is unanimously agreed that no tourism activities should occur in traditional hunting and trapping areas or near burial grounds unless this activity is monitored/controlled by local residents.

Fort Providence

-Local operators see a need for more public facilities (ie, docking facilities, picnic areas) as well as improved local services if the tourism industry is to prosper in the community. Similarly, local operators suggest that a 'hands-on' tourism awareness program for community residents would positively impact the local tourism industry.

-A tourism awareness program in the community should address the real issues associated with the industry ie. what is the actual value of the industry to the community.

-Currently it is not possible to obtain either a sports fishing or a sports hunting licence in the area. This is of concern to at least two local operators as it is not possible for them to upgrade existing outfitting operations.

-There is a strong feeling locally that the focus of tourism development in Fort Providence should be on: 1) upgrading and enhancing existing tourism infrastructure (ie. signage, attractions, points of interest and tourism related services/facilities); 2) expanding the local tourism industry to involve more segments of the local population; and 3) expanding the local tourism industry to include the utilization of other available renewable resources present in the area.

-The Dene Band Economic Development Committee and Degha Enterprises would like to pursue the development of tourism opportunities around the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary. Until the management plan for the bison herd is finalized, the Committee would prefer to see only non-consumptive tourism activities occurring in the Sanctuary. Additionally, the Band has stated a preference to manage this type of activity so as to ensure the protection of the herd.

— Lutra —

- Many local residents do not see any direct benefits from the tourism industry because most tourism activities are handled by non-local lodges or two-three individually owned tourism businesses in the community. Since the local industry is not labour intensive, many community people do not participate in the industry on a regular basis. Given this concern there is an expressed need to develop opportunities through a collective such as the Band Economic Development Committee in order to permit a wider based of control and ownership over tourism development opportunities.
- Since fishing activities draw a good number of visitors to the area, there is a need to provide basic services and information. Of particular concern are water and garbage services. Local residents are particularly displeased with rotting fish remains which are left by visiting anglers.
- Local residents would like to place a greater emphasis on regional travel. More sports, recreation and cultural events and week-end activities are seen as a means to this end.
- Two constraints impacting tourism development in the community are the abundance of mosquitoes and dust on the highway.
- Residents are concerned that many visitors choose to travel on the land and water without guides or information from local people. Not only does this often pose a safety problem (ie. due to low water levels and subsequent motor problems) but also because of the potential exploitation of local resources without any benefit to the community. A third consequence of this situation is that unmarked burial grounds and traditional and/or contemporary camps may be vandalized by uninformed travellers.
- It is desirable to limit tourism activities in traditional hunting and trapping areas as well around burial sites unless these activities are closely monitored/managed by local residents.
- Some local opinion indicated that a community tourism plan should be developed slowly over a 1-3 year period.
- Local opinion suggests that better highway signage and resurfacing of portions of the highway near the community would encourage more travellers to stop in the community.

— Lutra —

2.4 Existing and Potential Visitors to Fort Providence/Kakisa

The following section identifies existing and potential travel to Fort Providence and Kakisa from both a regional and non-regional perspective. Existing travel patterns are described within the context of those resources which have appeal to various market segments.

Information for this section has been drawn from interviews with local residents and tourism operators as well as through discussions with non-local operators. A review of travel data compiled on the region by both the private and public sector was also undertaken.

Existing Regional Travel

Local food, beverage, service station and accommodation operators interviewed in Fort Providence cited that business and government travel accounts for the bulk of their business revenues. Regional travel for the purpose of business, pleasure or personal reasons is the second largest revenue generator. Non-resident travel accounts for a very small percentage of business revenues, varying from 5% for one operator and 20% for another. Local operators of tourism oriented businesses cater largely to non-resident travellers.

Ascertaining accurate data on the numbers, activities and dollars expended as a result of regional movement is difficult to access. We do know however that community/regional events such as sports tournaments, government related seminars and community celebrations such as Mackenzie Daze and Chinook Rendez-vous do attract a substantial number of regional visitors to the community. Similarly, spring pickerel fishing in the area also has a regional appeal, drawing visitors from Hay River and Yellowknife. The village of Kakisa experience little beyond a few personal visits in the way of regional travel. A summary of data gathered on regional travel to Fort Providence follows:

*All seasons: A conservative estimate of government and business travel to the community on a regular basis was gathered from persons working in local government affairs as well as via discussions with local food/accommodation operators. It is estimated that approximate 12 government/private business people travel to the community each month and spend approximately 1-1.5 days in the community. The duration of business stay is somewhat less than the Territorial average of 2-3 days (per 1983 G.N.W.T. Travel Survey) in this area due to road accessibility and the proximity of government administrative centres in Hay River, Fort Simpson and Yellowknife.

— Lutra —

*Spring (May-June) annually brings approximately 12 fishermen from Yellowknife or Hay River for the spring pickerel run. These anglers usually and seek accommodation in the community. It is estimated that another 12-25 anglers are drawn into the community from the region for this reason but do not seek use of local services.

*Summer (July-August) attracts a number of regional visitors to Fort Providence for sports events, political meetings and community celebrations. Estimates of visitors in these areas are as follows:

-The annual Mackenzie Daze celebration, in 1984 attracted approx. 75 people into the community for this week-end event. Yellowknife, Fort Simpson and Rae-Edzo residents made up the majority of regional visitors to this event. This celebration has in the past especially, when well promoted attracted, up to 300 people to the community. At the time of this event, most local facilities are filled to capacity.

-The annual week-end swim meet brought some 30-40 children and adults to the community from communities around the Great Slave Lake. This event does not bring much economic benefit to the community as accommodation is provided via community residents or public facilities.

-The Fort Providence Softball tournament is held annually and brings in at least 3 teams from Fort Simpson, Rae-Edzo, Yellowknife and/or Hay River. Approximately 60 regional people will travel to the community for this event. Local food and accommodation facilities are well utilized during this event.

*Fall: Some duck and geese hunting as well as domestic moose hunting activities in the Fort Providence area inspire regional travel from Hay River, Yellowknife, Fort Simpson and Rae-Edzo. Most of these activities do not result in any direct benefit to the community itself as most hunters camp and bring along their own supplies.

*Winter: The Chinook Rendez-vous is the primary winter activity occurring in Fort Providence. This event has traditionally appealed most to Hay River and Fort Simpson residents. In 1984, some 50-100 people were attracted to this event for winter sports competitions, snowmachine races, etc. Local food and accommodation establishments are generally filled to capacity during this event.

*Other: Fort Providence has appeal as a site for seminars, conferences and assemblies because it is easily accessible and

has a good local infrastructure for this type of activity. Fort Providence has from time to time hosted such events for native organizations such as the Dene Nation, Metis Association, the Native Women's Association, Native Courtworkers' Association, Native Communications' Society, etc. Although no meetings of this nature were held in the community in 1984, past gatherings of this sort have brought in from 25-200 N.W.T. resident visitors.

Additionally, for time to time, regional government seminars and conferences are held in the community bringing in 10-20 people for these activities. Similarly, regional associations such as the Big River Travel Association, the Decho Regional Council, etc. host meetings in the community bringing in an equal number of regional visitors.

It is noteworthy that community events in neighbouring communities also have a significant impact on regional travel patterns. In 1984, the Yellowknife 50th Anniversary/Homecoming celebration and the planned Papal visit to Fort Simpson positively impacted the level of travel to Fort Providence.

Potential Regional Travel

A G.N.W.T. sponsored travel industry report on the N.W.T. (An Evaluation of the Impact of Summer Tourism on N.W.T. Businesses: Report of Findings) stated that "15% of all revenues received by N.W.T. tourism related businesses were estimated to come from the local N.W.T. related traveller." This same report suggests that the growth in N.W.T. tourism related businesses will come in part (approx. 13%) from vacationing N.W.T. travellers.

Fort Providence has a great potential for increasing regional visitation with respect to both numbers and duration of stay. The following initiatives are viewed as positively impacting visitation to the community:

-The construction of a new community sports and recreation facility over the next 2 years will enable the community to host more regional and Territorial-wide events as well as entertain larger groups of people. Increased regional visitation as a result of this additional infrastructure will be in the sport/recreation and the conference/seminar markets.

-With improved organization and promotion, community celebrations have the potential of drawing increased regional visitors. In the past Mackenzie Daze has been a major regional event bringing as many as 300 visitors to the community.

— Lutra —

-A review of G.N.W.T. Explorer's Guides between 1980-83 reveals that the availability of local N.W.T. package tours has increased from 0 to 14. Essentially four types of tours are available: adventure travel; fishing; motorcoach, air/interpretive/sightseeing; and special interest. With the development of a northern tour agency (Top of the World) in Yellowknife specializing in product development and marketing support, local operators have both the potential for increases regional and non-regional travel. Special interest tour packages could be developed to appeal to regional associations and individuals ie. cross country skiing packages, spring pickerel fishing and fish derby; etc. The development of these packages would largely be directed at special interest markets.

Non-Regional Travel

The most recent background data available on non-regional travel (G.N.W.T. Summer Travel Surveys 1983, Canadian Facts) suggest the following trends in the northern travel industry:

-There were an estimated 44,000 visitors to the N.W.T. during the summer of 1983. This volume indicates little change from the previous year.

-The annual revenue generated by these visitors was some \$65 million. These revenue are estimated at approximately \$20 million above the previous year's revenues.

-Approximately 40% of non-resident travellers to the N.W.T. arrived via ground transport. The remaining visitors travelled by air carrier.

-Approximately two thirds of summer business and pleasure visitors visited the Fort Smith region.

-Visitors staying in hotels, lodges or motels came from Alberta (28%), United States (26%) or Ontario (16%).

-Visitors arriving to visit friends or relatives in the N.W.T. arrived from Alberta (41%), Ontario (18%) and British Columbia (13%).

-The most popular activities undertaken by visitors were shopping for crafts, fishing and visiting museums and historic sites.

These trends do not include mass mode package tours, sport fishing or hunting. Our research revealed a growth in each of these three market segments in the N.W.T. tourism industry. A strengthening domestic economy and a greater variety of product offerings are the major variables affecting this growth.

— Lutra —

Discussions with local residents and tourism operators in the communities revealed the following comments on non-regional travel.

-A local outfitter (Aurora Marketing-Willow Lake outpost camp) did not provide market share estimates. Information was provided however with respect to market segments served: repeat clients seeking low volume, low-medium priced quality experience. The majority of clients served were from Europe (Germany), the U.S.A., and B.C.

-The peak travel season is mid-June-July. Kakisa averages approximately 15 cars (non-local visitors) daily during this period. The bulk of these visitors do not stop in the community.

-The Snowshoe Inn provides services to tour buses. Estimates of travel in this area:

1980/81	=11 buses (peak year)
1982	=2
1983	=2
1984	=4-5

Evergreen Tours is the most consistent carrier. The bulk of their clientel are senior citizens. Approximately, 40-45 visitors are carried on each bus.

—Lutra—

2.5 Basic Needs for a Local Tourism Industry

Based on an analysis of community concerns, current levels of regional and non-regional visitation and community resources, the following have been identified as basic requirements which must be attended to with respect to tourism development in Kakisa and Fort Providence:

KAKISA

- 1) Tourism activities must be developed carefully and selectively so as to compliment and to some degree subsidize the existing traditional economy.
- 2) Visitation to the community must be maintained at a level acceptable to village residents.

Given these two local priorities, consideration should in the short term be given to developing small scale land-based/cultural activities (ie. the Iathlina outpost camp). Should priorities alter in the community, consideration might be given to establishing small scale community based outfitting/sight-seeing/interpretative services or services which do not require a strong community infrastructure. Constraints to the development of these or other tourism development opportunities would include:

- lack of basic community infrastructure
- lack of administrative and management skills and structures
- unavailability of basic business supplies ie. gas, equipment supplies
- lack of a solid community commitment to the development of tourism as a secondary economic base

Fort Providence

Fort Providence has a solid tourism related infrastructure which can be expanded and enhanced within the context of its traditional role as a regional service centre. A primary consideration is to ensure a wider base of community control and participation in the local tourism industry. In order to achieve this end, the following basic requirements should be met:

- A good local understanding of the tourism industry
- Local commitment to utilizing and expanding tourism related skills and support structures
- Care and maintenance of existing community facilities, tourism related infrastructure and services
- Utilization of unique available natural resources to enhance the local tourism industry.

—Lutra—

PART THREE: FORT PROVIDENCE/KAKISA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

3.1 Introduction

This section will form the basis for developing a comprehensive community based tourism plan for Fort Providence and Kakisa. This section is presented in draft form because:

- 1)finalization is subject to the completion and ratification of the regional strategy for the Liard Highway Corridor
- 2)finalization is subject to additional discussions and directions from Fort Providence and Kakisa residents.

3.2 Tourism Approach for Fort Providence/Kakisa

Within the context of the Liard Highway Corridor, the goals and objectives of Kakisa, Fort Providence and the Big River Travel Association, the general approach to tourism development in these communities may best be an expansion and enhancement of the 'status quo'. Specifically, in order for Kakisa to pursue its traditional focus to an economically viable end, it is necessary to supplement existing activities with compatible economic ventures. Small scale tourism activities may offer this alternative.

Fort Providence has excellent potential for expanding and enhancing its role as a regional service centre for both the resident and non-resident traveller. For all local residents to accrue economic benefits from the tourism industry, it is necessary to enhance the community's attractions and services and promote the community's traditional image.

3.3 Development Opportunities and Other Tourism Programs

The following is a range of tourism development opportunities and programs which might be pursued in both Kakisa and Fort Providence. These opportunities will be discussed with and evaluated by local residents. Based on these discussions priorities will be investigated in detail. Each opportunity and program is categorized under the four types of developments: 1)attraction/tour/event; 2)hospitality; 3) infrastructure ; and 4) industry organization.

Kakisa

A. Type of Development: Attraction/Tour/Event

Program Name: Iathlina Outpost Camp
Season of Use: Summer and Early Fall

— Lutra —

Project Description:

- To enhance the viability of local economic pursuits, by providing traditional land-based/cultural experience at Tathlina Lake outpost camp to include life in a traditional Dene camp fishing, geese hunting, fishing drying, traditional country foods. Provide accommodation, food and a unique traditional experience.

Program Components:

- Upgrade existing facilities to include the construction of a log guest cabin with traditional spruce bark shingled roof.
- Upgrade existing equipment to provide adequate boat outfits for guest use.
- Develop a program of excursions on Tathlina Lake and up the Kakisa River to Talking Tree and the wild rice fields.

Responsibility:

- Viewed as the main responsibility of the Tathlina Camp leader, A. Bonnetrouge in conjunction with the Dene Band Council, regional tourism officer and economic development officer.

B. Type of Development: Attraction/Tour/Event

Project Name: Kakisa Village Day Tours

Season of Use: Late spring, summer and early fall

Project Description:

- Community based outfitting/sightseeing/interpretative activities to include day trips, fishing and sightseeing on Kakisa Lake; walking tour of the community, berry picking and hiking to the original site of Kakisa.
- Employment opportunities should be shared among a number of interested local people in order to increase participation and minimize disruption to local lifestyles.

Program Components:

- Provide information on these services at the border crossing, Travel Arctic, Mackenzie River ferry, etc.
- Establish local contact and administrative point
- Obtain a ready supply of outfitting supplies
- Develop local hosting/guiding skills
- Develop a list of qualified and/or interested persons wishing to guide

Responsibility Area:

Interested local outfitter(s), the Band Economic Development Committee and the regional tourism officer.

— Lutra —

C. Type of Development: Hospitality/Information
Project Name: Tourism Awareness Program
Season of Use: N/A

Program Description:

-Kakisa should be part of a regional program which develops a strong local understanding and appreciation of the tourism industry, benefits, concerns, etc.

Program Components:

-Focus on small workshops with northern resource people. a.v. materials and examples of small, successful northern tourism businesses.

Responsibility Area:

-Big River Travel Association, TIA, regional tourism officer, Band/Settlement Alliance and community residents.

D. Type of Development: Industry Organization
Project Name: Hospitality/Guide/Host Training
Season of Use: N/A

Project Description:

-Develop 'hands-on' technical industry skills and communications skills to facilitate participation in guiding/outfitting opportunities among local interested people.

Program Components:

-Utilize the Universal Guide Training Program via Thebacha College.
-Ensure programs are delivered at the local level by skilled trainers.

Responsibility Area:

-Big River Travel Association, T.I.A., regional tourism officer and community residents.

E. Type of Development: Infrastructure-Industry Organization
Project Name: Kakisa Tourism Support Structure
Season of Use: N/A
Project Description:

-Develop a central community contact and administrative structure and/or system to assist all local operators.

—Lutra—

-In the short term this system may have to work in conjunction with an existing body, possibly the Band Economic Development Committee of the Dene Band Council. In the long term a local system which will in all likelihood evolve from a separate village administration, can help fulfil this function.

Project Components:

- In the short term, it would be expedient of the Band Economic Development Committee to retain an economic development/tourism officer in the village to address the development of viable economic opportunities.

Responsibility Area:

-Band Economic Development Committee/Band Council, Settlement Council, interested community residents as well as existing tourism operators in Fort Providence.

Fort Providence

A. Type of Development :Attraction/Tour/Event

Project Name: Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary Outfitting

Season of Use: Summer and Fall

Project Description:

-The Band Economic Development Committee in conjunction with the G.N.W.T. Dept. of Renewable Resources is interested in developing naturalist/interpretative/sightseeing activities in the Sanctuary in the short term. In the long term, once the management plan is completed for the Sanctuary, it is possible that sports hunting activities may be considered.

It is proposed that a base camp be set up in the Sanctuary near the planned scientific research station between Dieppe and Callias Lakes. Transport through the Sanctuary would be on horseback.

Project Components:

-Prior to approval of the herd management plan approval, work must be undertaken between the Band and the G.N.W.T. to examine the extent to which this activity can take place.

-A list of guides should be developed and should be trained under the Universal Guide Program.

-Facilities must be developed at the proposed base camp to include the construction of 2 guest tentframes, a staff tentframe and a cook shack.

-Arrangement, must be made to retain pack horses for the season, care for them and keep them during the winter months.

Responsibility Area:

-Band Economic Development Committee, Dept. of Renewable Resources and other interested local groups and individuals

B. Type of Development: Hospitality/Information
Project Name: Signage and Information Program
Season of Use: N/A
Project Description:

This is a multi-faceted program to upgrade and improve signage and information about Fort Providence and Kakisa.

Project Components:

- better information at the border crossing ie. coloured destination map; points of interest, etc.
- informed personnel at the border crossing
- an information stand on the Mackenzie River ferry
- better community entrance and in-town signage specifying services and points of interest
- colourful signage and road turn off points denoting wood bison viewing areas
- signage to denote the extent of the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary
- improved and updated community brochures for each of Kakisa and Fort Providence
- signage with respect to garbage disposal
- a wider range of community and regional information packages available to the community tourism information booth
- development of published promotional materials on community/regional celebrations.

Area of Responsibility:

G.N.W.T. Dept. of Highways, Dept. of Economic Development & Tourism, Dept. of Renewable Resources, I.I.A., Big River Travel Association, community groups and individuals.

C. Type of Development: Infrastructure
Project Name: Upgrade Community Infrastructure
Season of Use: N/A
Project Description:

- There is a well developed tourism-related business infrastructure in Fort Providence. Also, there is informed local opinion that community services and facilities must be upgraded and enhanced to expand the local tourism market.

— Lutra —

Project Components:

- Relocate the existing campground to below the R.C.M.P. barracks where there is less of a mosquito problem. OR
- Undertake a major brushing, road upgrading, water and garbage service program in the existing campground.
- Develop a public boat launch/dock facility in the community as well as better public launching facilities at the Mackenzie River crossing.
- Upgrade and repair community sidewalks
- General grass cutting / ground maintenance and glycerine pellets to control mosquitos
- Upgrade and maintain cross country ski trails
- Repair and maintenance of historic plaques and the graveyard
- Asphalt paving at access to community AND/OR
- Calcium on highway and access road to control dust
- Improve community and public water and garbage services.
- Upgrade the loop road through the community, past the graveyard
- Locate a picnic site near the historic plaques.

Responsibility Area:

- Community government, G.N.W.T. Dept. of Local Gov't. Economic Development & Tourism, Highways and Big River Travel Association

D. Type of Development: Attraction/Inn/Event
Project Name: Community Celebration Program
Season of Use: N/A
Project Description:

- Historically, the Chinook Rendez-vous Winter Carnival and Mackenzie Daze have attracted a large number of visitors for surrounding communities. At times, the community's adult population has almost doubled as a result of these events. Recently however, due to inadequate facilities and lack of promotion regional attendance to these events have been less than 100 people.

Project Components:

- Develop a year-round Committee to address the development of existing and new celebrations (ie. a fish derby around the spring pickerel run)
- Develop a slate of unique events and activities with travel incentives such as cash prizes and trophies

— Lutra —

- Develop rapport with potential industry sponsors ie. Labbats, Holson's, etc. as well as with Territorial sport and recreation associations
- Develop a well rounded promotional program for the community
- Utilize all available community facilities and interest groups.
- Develop a pool of local volunteers.

Responsibility Area:

- Band/Settlement Alliance and community service groups.

E. Type of Development: Attraction/Tour/Event - Infrastructure
Project Name: Jackfish Lake Development Program
Season of Use: Summer
Project Description:

- Nearby Chan Lake offer some picnic sites and a kitchen shelter. There is no drinking water available, fishing is poor and mosquitoes are bad. It is therefore desirable to develop an alternate public facility in the area. Jackfish Lake has been proposed by the Band as an alternative namely because of the availability of drinking water, good pike fishing, sandy beaches and access.

Project Components:

- Campground development program.
- Upgrading of road access.

Responsibility Area:

- G.N.W.T. Dept. of Economic Development & Tourism.

F. Type of Development: Hospitality/Information
Project Name: Tourism Awareness Program
Season of Use: N/A
Project Description:

- Fort Providence should be part of a regional program which develops a strong local understanding and appreciation of the tourism industry to include the benefits of such, concerns, etc.

Program Components:

- Focus on small workshops with northern resource people, a.v. materials and examples of small successful northern tourism businesses.

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Responsibility Area:

-Big River Travel Association, T.I.A., regional tourism officer, Band/Settlement Alliance and interested community service groups and individuals.

G. Type of Development: Industry Organization

Project Name: Hospitality/Guide/Host Training Program

Season of Use: N/A

Project Description:

- Develop technical 'hands-on' industry skills as well as communication skills in order to facilitate a wider base of community involvement in the local tourism industry.
- Develop a local labour pool of skilled competent guides.

Project Components:

- Utilize the Universal Guide Training Program via Thebacha College
- Ensure the delivery of training programs at the community level by highly skilled trainers.

Responsibility Area:

-Big River Travel Association, local business, interest residents and regional tourism officer.

H. Type of Development: Industry Organization

Project Name: Arts and Crafts Organization

Season of Use: N/A

Project Description:

-Historically the Red Willow Society has had a working membership of over 50 local women. The Society has developed and marketed local arts and crafts and specializes in the unique art of moosehair tufting and porcupine quill embroidery. Currently, the Society is having organizational problems which are preventing it from being as effective as it might be.

Project Components:

- Undertake intensive management and organizational workshops to reactivate the Society and its important socio-economic role in the community.
- Conduct an information program to address the role of arts and crafts in the local tourism industry to include constraints and benefits.

Responsibility Area:

Red Willow Society in conjunction with the Dept. of Economic Development & Tourism as well as the N.W.T. Native Women's Luta

Association.

- I. Type of Development: Industry Organization
- Project Name: Local Business Development
- Season of Use: N/A
- Project Description:

-In order to widen the base of community control, ownership and participation in the local tourism industry, it is necessary to develop new business and administration skills in the community. An expressed local concern/interest is the development of opportunities by the Band Council in the bison sanctuary.

Project Components:

- Identify interest individuals wishing to pursue business development training
- Develop both programs and support structures which focus on financing, product development, quality control, staff management, etc.

Responsibility Area:

- Deqha Enterprises, the Band owned economic development corporation is in conjunction with various government agencies. Participation and assistance should be solicited from the existing tourism business community in Fort Providence.

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