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French Weeks' Rendez-vous de la Francophonie

YELLOWKNIFE (March 9, 2011) – During the Rendez-vous de la francophonie (French Language Weeks), from March 4 to 20, 2011, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) encourages Northwest Territories residents to celebrate French language and culture.

“In the Northwest Territories we are very fortunate to be a land of many cultures and languages,” says the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, Jackson Lafferty. “French is important not only to NWT residents but to all Canadians and we look forward to coming together with our French residents to celebrate the diversity and richness the French language brings to our territory.”

An important part of strengthening, promoting and protecting our official languages is translation services. Translators provide important services to both the government and the public. As well, translators play a large role in preventing the loss of languages by allowing others to speak their mother tongue. Each year, the GNWT translates over 1 million words into French.

ECE is hosting a French Translator workshop during Rendez-vous de la Francophonie at École Allain St-Cyr in Yellowknife. High school students can ask questions about French translation and learn what it takes to become a translator. Two French translators from ECE are hosting the workshop.

To find out more about events happening in your region, contact the Fédération du franco-ténoise at www.federation-franco-tenoise.com or the Conseil de développement économique des Territoires du Nord-Ouest (CDETNO) at www.cdetno.com.

For more information:

Benoît Boutin

Senior Advisor, French Language Services
Education, Culture and Employment
Telephone: (867) 920-6252
Email: benoit_boutin@gov.nt.ca

Amy Doerksen

Manager, Public Affairs
Education, Culture and Employment
Telephone: (867) 920-6222
Email: amy_doerksen@gov.nt.ca

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

Office of the Press Secretary • Premier/Cabinet
Government of the Northwest Territories • PO Box 1320 • Yellowknife • NT • X1A 2L9
Tel: (867) 669-2302 • Fax: (867) 873-0111