



Status of Women Council of the NWT P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORTHERN WOMEN PREPARE FOR JOBS IN AIRPORT MAINTENANCE AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATION

TROUT LAKE/HAY RIVER – The Northern Women in Mining, Oil and Gas Project will offer two 10-day courses in Community Airports Maintenance and Heavy Equipment Operation for women in Hay River and Trout Lake this summer.

Honourable Sandy Lee, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women will be in Trout Lake on June 8, 2009 to give an opening statement at the launch of the Heavy Equipment Operator Course. The course itself will be delivered from June 8-19, 2009 by Samba K'e Development Corporation.

"I am excited and honored to celebrate the launch of this program with the Status of Women Council, our funding partners and the women of Trout Lake," said Minister Lee. "This initiative is a product of our highly successful Northern Women in Mining, Oil and Gas Project. It's just another example of how NWT women are breaking trail and demonstrating that they have a rightful place in these so-called 'non-traditional' fields of work."

The Hay River Community Airports Training Program will be delivered from July 20-30, 2009. For this course delivery, the Status of Women Council has partnered with the GNWT Department of Transportation (Airports Division), and MACA's School of Community Government. It will involve training in such areas as Airport Regulations, Equipment Operations, Surface Maintenance, Safety and Security and Inspections, just to name a few.

Applications for the Hay River Program are currently being accepted from women across the NWT who reside in communities with gravel runways. Preference will be given to applications received by June 10th.

These initiatives are funded by the Northern Women in Mining, Oil and Gas Project, with in-kind contributions by the Samba K'e Development Corporation, MACA's School of Community Government, and the GNWT Department of Transportation.

For more information, please contact Annemieke Mulders, Project Coordinator for the Northern Women in Mining, Oil and Gas Program, at 920-6177 or am@statusofwomen.nt.ca.