

SUMMER 2008

“To secure the stability of a vibrant arts sector that is integral to the economic, social, and cultural fabric of the NWT, and contributes positively to the quality of life within the NWT.”

Vision of the Northwest Territories Arts Strategy

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A GNWT Newsletter for the Northwest Territories (NWT) Arts Community
Expression of the arts—a vital link to our culture and history



Photo Credit: France Trepanier

Installation view of VESSELS by artist France Trepanier which will be featured at the OSF 2008

The NWT's First Artist Run Centre - Fort Simpson, NT

Beginning in June 2008 the Open Sky Creative Society (OSCS) in Fort Simpson, NT will Open it's doors and commence operation of the first and only artist-run, year round professional public exhibition venue for contemporary art in the NWT (OSC Gallery).

The gallery and resource centre will be housed in the basement of the Village of Fort Simpson Administration Building until April 2009 when it will be relocated to the newly renovated/opened Fort Simpson Heritage Centre.

Four exhibitions are planned for 2008, the first of which will take place from June 25th-August 8th; titled: Craftwork-Craftsmanship. This inaugural exhibition will take place in conjunction with the Open Sky Festival 2008 & National Aboriginal Arts Administrators and Funders Gathering 2008 and will feature four national guest artists: Anna Torma, Alan Lacovetsky, Diane Gonthier, and Lyn Fabio as well as Lucy Simon, Phoebe Punch and Julia Tsetso from the Dehcho region.

For more information please visit the Open Sky Creative Society website at:
www.openskyfestival.ca

FESTIVALS, EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABORIGINAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

June 21, 2008

Aboriginal day is a wonderful opportunity to become better acquainted with the cultural diversity of Inuit, Métis and First Nations peoples. Watch for events happening in your community.

OPEN SKY FESTIVAL

June 27-29 2008, Fort Simpson, NT

Featuring artists and musicians from the Dehcho region and beyond. This multi-day event is a celebration of art and will feature workshops, demonstrations, traditional crafts and visual arts exhibitions, dances and stories. This wonderful event is coordinated by the Open Sky Creative Society (OSCS).

For more information visit: www.openskyfestival.ca

THE GREAT NORTHERN ARTS FESTIVAL

July 11-20, 2008, Inuvik, NT

This 10 day celebration highlights the best arts and culture that the north has to offer. Over 100 Artists from the Yukon, NWT and Nunavut gather above the Arctic Circle in Inuvik to participate in the largest Visual Arts Festival in the north.

For more information visit the festival website at: www.gnaf.org

FOLK ON THE ROCKS MUSIC FESTIVAL

July 18-20, 2008, Yellowknife, NT

Enjoy programming from local, national and international artists on the beautiful shores of Long Lake. There will be international and traditional cuisine along with arts and fine crafts at the "Art on the Rocks" area.

For more information phone: (867) 920-7806 or visit: www.folkontherocks.com



Folk on the Rocks Music Festival Photo by: F Hurcomb

MIDWAY LAKE MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 1-3, 2008, Fort McPherson, NT

Located 30km SW of Fort McPherson on Midway Lake, the festival features traditional Gwich'in singing, country music, dancing, and fiddling.

For more information phone: (867) 952-2330

END OF THE ROAD MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 7-9, 2008 Inuvik, NT

This festival takes place every summer and presents a wide variety of genres and performers from across the north and beyond. There is something for everyone at the End of the Road!

For more information visit the festival website at: www.eotrmusic.com

FRIENDSHIP FESTIVAL

August 14-17, 2008 Fort Smith, NT

The largest annual event in the town of Fort Smith, NT, brings together musicians from around the NWT.

For more information phone: (867) 872-8400

IKHALUKPIK JAMBOREE

August, 2008, Paulatuk, NT

Traditional drum dances, games, music and more. Dates TBA.

For more information phone: (867) 580-3709



FESTIVALS, EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CULTURAL OLYMPIAD LAUNCHES ARTIST REGISTRY

The Vancouver Olympic Committee (VANOC), has created an artist registry for individual artists and ensembles interested in participating in Cultural Olympiad and/or other Olympic and Paralympic Games programs. Designed as a programming resource, the registry will also serve as a central artist database that VANOC can reference for the development of future events.

Submission guidelines are available at www.vancouver2010.com/en/CultureEducation/CulturalOlympiad/ArtistRegistry

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: ARTISTS ON SITE

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is currently responsible for managing over twenty contaminated sites in the Northwest Territories in various states of remediation. For human health and environmental reasons, it is often necessary to remove buildings on the sites. To preserve the mining heritage of these sites, the Contaminants and Remediation Directorate (CARD) would like to offer the opportunity for select NWT professional artists to accompany a remediation project team to one or more sites, with the objective of portraying the heritage values of the site for future generations. The intent of the program is to collect one piece of flat art resulting from a site visit from each of the participating artists. **The deadline is June 25, 2008.** For further information and to obtain a project call letter and application form contact Lorna Skinner by phone: (867) 669-2847 or email: skinnerl@inac.gc.ca

SAHTU IN THE ARTS – An Evening of Music and Storytelling

June 26, 2008, Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife, NT

The evening will feature Paul Andrew as the MC, Fiddler, Dene drummer/story-teller Leon Andrew, Thomas Manuel, and Singer/Songwriter Stephen Kakfwi.

SAHTU IN THE ARTS – Art Show Exhibit June 26-27, 2008

Artworks by twelve artists from the Sahtu region of the NWT (Fort Good Hope, Norman Wells, Deline, Tulita and Colville Lake) will be featured and on display:

June 26, 2008, Explorer Hotel, Katimavik Room, 12:00pm – 6:00pm

June 27, 2008, Arrowmakers Gallery, Explorer Hotel, 12:00pm – 8:00pm

For more information please contact: (867) 587-7168 or 873-7203

GENERAL CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Open Sky Creative Society (OSCS) will be accepting proposals from artists and curators for the 2008-2009 programming season.

Proposals postmarked by July 20th, 2008 will be considered for the 2008-2009 exhibition season running from October 2008 to March 2009. OSCS encourages proposals from artists from diverse cultural and regional communities of Canada. All media will be considered within current space and equipment limitations (for more information please contact OSCS staff). **Deadline: July 20th, 2008.**

For more information please phone: (867) 695-3005

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

NWT Artists' Newsline keeps the NWT Arts Community informed on upcoming festivals and events, announcements, artists profiles and much more.

If you want your event publicized, or if you are an NWT artist who is interested in being showcased in our Featured Artists section, please contact us at:

Phone Toll Free: 1-877-445-ARTS (2787)

E-mail: nwtarts@gov.nt.ca or

Visit our website: www.nwtarts.com





What's going on in the NWT Regions!



WHAT THE REGIONAL ITI OFFICES HAVE BEEN DOING TO SUPPORT THE ARTS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

NORTH SLAVE REGION

The Arts and Fine Crafts Sector of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment and the NWT Arts Council held an information session for NWT artists, art retailers and organizations in Yellowknife, NT on Thursday, April 24, 2008. The information session focused on the NWT Arts Branding Logo Program and the NWT Artists Database.

Regional staff provide assistance in all North Slave Region communities. The primary programs that artists have access to is the Business Development Fund (BDF) and Grants to Small Business (GSB). These programs are available and delivered by ITI staff in all regions. Within the BDF, Schedule I is specifically targeted to supporting access to traditional raw materials to help increase production and sales of arts and fine crafts.

The North Slave Regional office is preparing a new Arts and Fine Crafts Display unit to be set up in their office to help stimulate interest in locally made products and to showcase the wonderful work artists in this region produce.

SOUTH SLAVE REGION

South Slave Regional staff provide assistance to artists in communities within the region, primarily through providing access to the BDF and GSB programs.

The South Slave offices have set up six Arts and Fine Crafts display cases, three in the Hay River area and three in Fort Smith with a possibility of more displays in other locations. Each display kit showcases locally made products with information for interested buyers to contact the producer.

Staff are busy assisting clients and the local communities through various marketing and promotional efforts to ensure all upcoming arts & cultural events are well received and advertised and promoted.

DEHCHO REGION



The Dehcho regional office is a proud supporter of the Traditional Arts Program at the Aurora College in Fort Simpson this Program just completed its first semester this past April.

This three semester program teaches students traditional skills and how to blend old techniques with new forms. Students work with traditional materials such as hide and fur and learn how to traditionally bead, embroider and draft patterns.

(continued on next page)

The final project in the third semester will be making a parka using both traditional and conventional skills. This is the first time that this type of program has been offered in the Village of Fort Simpson. The last two semesters are scheduled to begin in September 2008 and January 2009.

ITI provided assistance to four local students to attend this program through the Business Development Fund. This program will help students pursue their goal as active arts and fine crafts producers.

Regional staff will be traveling to all of the surrounding Dehcho communities in June and July to meet with artists to discuss programs available through ITI [that can](#) provide assistance to artists such as the Grants to Small Business, Business Development Fund, [nwtarts.com](#) and the NWT Arts Branding Logo Program.

INUVIK REGION

The Economic Development Officer (EDO) for Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour and Ulukhaktok will be traveling to the communities this summer to meet with artists to talk about the NWT Arts branding logo, Artist's database, and other ITI arts and fine crafts programs:

July - Ulukhaktok, **August** - Paulatuk, **September** - Sachs Harbour

Ulukhaktok Quarry Pilot Project

The ITI Inuvik regional office has been working with the geology office (ITI) in YK to gather soapstone and alabaster stone for local carving artists. The quarrying took place in March in the community of Ulukhaktok. Seven men from the Hamlet were employed by the project and despite the attempts by mother nature to drive the men away, it was by all accounts quite successful. EDO Eugene Rees visited Ulukhaktok in mid April and was extremely pleased to find that the container unit referred to as the 'Sea-Can', was rented for storing the stone and contained approximately four thousand pounds of soapstone and five hundred pounds of alabaster.

The bulk of the stone is being sold to the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) and arrangements have been made to fly most of the stone to Inuvik, NT. It will be distributed (sold) to artists through IRC's Community Economic Development Officer.

SAHTU REGION

This summer is going to be a busy one for the Sahtu regional ITI office in Norman Wells. Staff will be traveling to the surrounding communities of the Sahtu region to promote, enhance, and increase the awareness of arts and fine crafts. This will be achieved through:

- lectures by artists and information sessions for community artists.
- assisting individual artists interested in enhancing their artistic skills, and pursuing business related goals in the arts and fine crafts industry.
- assisting with the forming of a Sahtu artists association for collective marketing and art sector development.
- working with artists to identify funding opportunities.
- identifying and strengthen the arts link to tourism.

NWT ARTS COUNCIL

The NWT Arts Council was established August 1985, as an advisory board to the GNWT. The mandate of the NWT Arts Council is to promote the arts in the Northwest Territories.

The Arts Council provides recommendations to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) on financial awards for creative artistic projects in the visual, literary, media and performing arts. This council also provides recommendations on issues and policies associated with the arts and artists.

Five members are appointed to the NWT Arts Council by the Executive Council of the Government of the Northwest Territories for a term of two years.

Members are selected for their expertise and abilities in the arts from five regions of the Northwest Territories: South Slave, Inuvik, Deh Cho, Sahtu and North Slave.

NWT Arts Council Members are:

Sonny MacDonald - Fort Smith Region

Ruth Wright - Inuvik Region

Lee Mandeville - North Slave Region

Julia Tsetso - Dehcho Region

Peggy Pouw -Sahtu Region

ECE administers the NWT Arts Council funding program for artistic projects, through the Community Programs Office, Division of Culture & Heritage.

Members meet once per year to review applications. The annual budget for financial contributions is \$355,000.

Applicants may be eligible for funding from the NWT Arts Council if:

- they have been a resident of the NWT for at least 2 years immediately prior to the deadline
- they are an emerging artist or an established artist
- they are a registered NWT organization with a mandate to enhance the arts
- their application is for a specific creative project

The deadline for applications is January 31 each year.

For more information about the NWT Arts Council or how to apply for a grant, please visit the website at:

www.nwtartscouncil.ca or

Phone: (867) 920-6370 or

email: boris_atamanenko@gov.nt.ca



Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife NT
Photo taken by Tessa Macintosh

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NWT ARTISTS DATABASE

Q:WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF NWTARTS.COM?

A: NWTarts.com is a GNWT-run website and public profile internet presence that provides NWT artists an opportunity to advertise their work or be listed as an artist or craftsperson. The website is intended as a **one stop shop** for “who is who” in the NWT Arts Industry, and showing what each artist produces, for those artists who wish to provide visual/audio material for the website.

Q: WHAT IS THE NWT ARTS DATABASE?

A: The NWT Arts Database is a directory of artists, suppliers, funding agencies, and related industry information. The database provides the information that nwtarts.com uses when enquiries are made via nwtarts.com.

Q: WHY IS THERE A DATABASE?

A: The need for a database was identified in a report by the Arts Strategy Advisory Panel, *ITI developed the database because of this recommendation and in recognition of the need to better define the NWT arts sector in terms of number of producers and what they are producing. This is critical information to assist with marketing efforts.*

Q: HOW WILL HAVING A PROFILE ON NWTARTS.COM BENEFIT ME OR MY ORGANIZATION?

A: Potential customers will know who you are, what you do, what you create or what services you provide.

Q:WHAT TYPE OF INFORMATION CAN I PUT IN MY PROFILE?

A:Your artist’s profile can include: an artist biography, Images or sound or video clips of your work, an image of yourself, contact information and direct links to your website.

Q: HOW DO I BECOME PART OF THE DATABASE?

A: Registration packages are available online at www.nwtarts.com or at your Regional ITI Office. Inclusion in the database is a **free** service.

Q:HOW CONFIDENTIAL IS THE INFORMATION THAT WILL BE COLLECTED ON THIS DATABASE?

A: Confidentiality is based on how the individual artist wishes his or her information to be profiled. There are two ways to be profiled:

- a) Public** – As a public member you agree to have the information you provide shared on the website www.nwtarts.com and to have a profile of yourself, and any images / bio and contact info that you provide our office, on the internet.
- b) Private** - Your information will not be publicly profiled on the Internet or other GNWT publications **without prior consent**.

It is entered into the database system (with or without images) for data gathering purposes for GNWT staff. Being a part of the system even as a *private* member still allows GNWT staff the ability to adequately assess the needs of the arts sector, and contact artists who may be interested in participating in specific promotional opportunities or events.

- c) Why is this important?**

It provides valuable information on statistics for and about NWT artists and the type of products produced in the NWT. When advocating for programs and funding this statistical information is critical to back up industry support requests.

Q: WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO SIGN THE NWT ARTS AUTHORIZATION / RELEASE FORM.

A: Because you own the copyright in your artwork and images, the GNWT needs your permission to put this information on our public websites or ITI publications, as detailed in the release form.

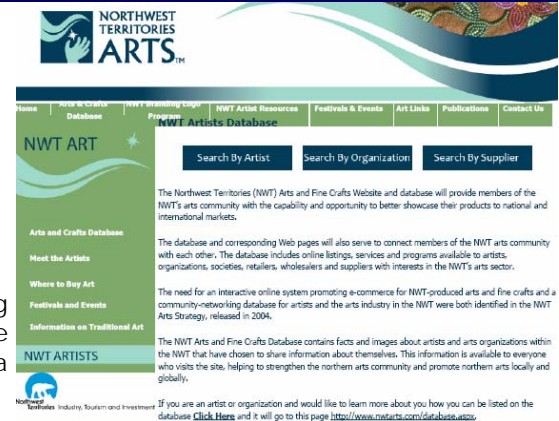
Q: IF I SIGN THE AUTHORIZATION/RELEASE FORM, DOES IT AFFECT THE COPYRIGHT OF MY ORIGINAL WORK?

A: No, you retain the copyright to your artwork and images, whether your work appears on the website or not. Your permission is required for your work to be represented on the website because you own the copyright and will continue to do so. Any other use of your artwork, by ITI or any others, requires your approval.

Q: WHAT IS THE GNWT DOING TO PROTECT THE IMAGES I PROVIDE FOR THE DATABASE?

A: These Qs and As were produced to better explain the uses of the database, website, and related copyright issues. Current registration packages will provide a section to ask permission to place the wording "Copyright Notice" as a watermark across images received by artists. A Copyright Ownership Disclaimer will be put on the front page of the site to ensure that all users of the site are aware that the works on the site are the copyright of each artist and require approval of the artist for any other use.

For more information about the NWT Artists Database please visit: www.nwtarts.com or email nwtarts@gov.nt.ca or contact your regional office toll free at: 1-877-445-ARTS (2787)



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NWT ARTS BRANDING LOGO



Photo taken by: Pat Kane

Q: WHAT IS THE NWT ARTS BRANDING LOGO?

A: The NWT Arts Branding Logo is an image designed to be attached to Art and Fine Craft products created by NWT Artists that will "Create a visual identity for the Arts and Fine Crafts of Canada's NWT".

Q: WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

A:

- Will allow consumers to easily and instantly identify NWT Art.
- Will create a distinct image for NWT Art from arts produced in other Territories
- This new image will help artists and arts organizations market their products to consumers.
- Will increase products marketability and authenticity as being a "created-in-the-Northwest-Territories" product.
- Will provide NWT artists free advertising through GNWT marketing efforts

Q: WHY IS THERE A NEED FOR A LOGO?

A: The NWT has been without an image to identify NWT art since division of the NWT 1999. The need for a distinct image was identified in the 2002 Arts Strategy Advisory Panel's report "A Vision for the Arts in the NWT". The new Logo fulfills the GNWT's commitment to developing a unique merchandising identification system to authenticate Made-in-the-NWT arts and fine crafts products.

Q: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NWT ARTS BRANDING LOGO PROGRAM?

A: The Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) will implement the Program through ITI regional offices.

Q: HOW DOES THE GNWT ENSURE CONTROL OF THE LOGO?

A: Guidelines and standards have been developed for the use of the logo to ensure a clear and consistent image representing the quality and distinctiveness of "Created in the NWT" art and fine crafts products. The GNWT has initiated steps for trademark protection of the logo.

Q: WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO USE THE PROGRAM?

A: Except where permission is otherwise granted, individual artists must be residents of the NWT.

Q: HOW DO I BECOME PART OF THE PROGRAM?

A: Registration packages are available at www.nwtarts.com or at your local Regional ITI office.

Q: HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAM COST TO JOIN?

A: This Program is FREE!!

Q: WHAT TYPES OF PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO REGISTER?

A: Price Tags, stickers, posters and tent cards and electronic copies of the logo are available.

(These items come in various sizes, including options in French)

Users may use the logo to develop their own types of promo materials at their own cost.

Please note that use of the logo must comply with the Program Guidelines and Standards of use.

Q: WHAT DOES THE LOGO REPRESENT?

A: The main goal when developing the Branding Logo was to represent all forms of art in the NWT.



Trade-mark owned by the Government of the Northwest Territories

The Hand represents "Handmade" supporting all of the arts of the NWT to which artistic energy is given. The Aurora represents the "flow of expression" between the artists and the larger community. The North Star represents the creative product as being "unique - made in the Northwest Territories".

Q: HOW WAS THE LOGO DEVELOPED?

A: Fort Smith artist Chris DeWolf created the design that inspired the NWT Arts Branding Logo. It was chosen by representatives of the NWT Arts Council following a territory-wide Request for Submissions.

For more information about the NWT Arts Branding Logo Program please visit: www.nwtarts.com or email nwtarts@gov.nt.ca or contact your regional office toll free at: 1-877-445-ARTS (2787)

FEATURED ARTIST: Mary Okheena



When Mary was a child, she watched her father, Artist Jimmy Memorana, make prints at the Holman Co-op. This third generation Inuit artist began her own career in 1977 and has exhibited throughout Canada and the United States. Excelling at the stencil technique, Mary achieves subtle and luminous gradations of color in her depictions of animals and human figures. It's the freedom of expression that draws Mary to create. "I can play with the design until I'm pleased with it!" Mary's primary activities are Stencil Printmaking and embroidery wall-hangings.

Mary has many accomplishments, some recent ones include completing the Traditional Arts Program at Aurora College in Inuvik, NT in 2005 and representing the Northwest Territories (NWT) as a cultural ambassador at the 2007 Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse, YT.

Mary will travel from her home in Holman this summer to attend the 2008 Great Northern Arts Festival in Inuvik, NT.



For more information about Mary visit her artist profile at the NWT artists database at: nwtarts.com



Photo Taken at the 2007 Opening by: Estelle Marcoux

THE Great Northern Arts Festival

The IDC/NorTerra Great Northern Arts Festival is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this summer in Inuvik, NT, and offers ten days of art workshops for the public, family events, nightly entertainment, traditional dance, drumming, throatsinging and an Arctic fashion show. Featuring over 100 artists from Canada's northern climes, it has become the largest northern arts festival in Canada. 40 public workshops are being offered this year in painting, carving, printmaking, basketry, beading, sewing, writing, filmmaking and the performing arts - along with the one-of-a-kind opportunity to see Inuit, Inuvialuit, Gwich'in and Dene artists practicing their crafts and honing their art in the comfortable, modern setting of the Midnight Sun Recreation Complex. Headline Inuit performer Lucie Idlout will make her return to Inuvik on July 12 to entertain the Festival crowds with her take on 'Inuk Rock', playing songs from both her award-winning debut CD as well as her brand-new upcoming album.

Recently rated as one of the Top 25 Festivals in North America by Rand McNally Maps, visitors come from all over the world - many in vehicles on an adventure of a lifetime - driving up the Dempster Highway to Inuvik, a full-function town of 4000 located on the banks of the famed Mackenzie River. Others fly in on direct flights from Edmonton, Yellowknife and Whitehorse, taking advantage of great half-price summertime fares. Regardless of how they get to Inuvik, the visitors to the Great Northern Arts Festival come in for a unique experience in the summertime Arctic Circle - all under the magnificent midnight sun with 24 hours of daylight!

More information can be found on this year's festival by visiting the festival website at www.gnaf.org.



THE MARK OF AUTHENTICITY

The new Northwest Territories Arts Logo and Branding Program lets buyers know that the arts and fine crafts they are purchasing were created in the Northwest Territories.

Find out how you can use the NWT Arts mark to promote your product, service or performance. The Program is free and registration is easy.

For more information please visit:
www.nwtarts.com,
email: nwtarts@gov.nt.ca
or phone: (867) 873-7227



NWT ARTISTS DATABASE

If are an NWT artist or organization who is interested in having a FREE profile listed on the NWT Artists' Database, please contact us at:

Phone Toll Free: 1-877-445-ARTS (2787)

E-mail: nwtarts@gov.nt.ca or
Visit our website: www.nwtarts.com

GNWT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

This newsletter is created by the Government of the Northwest Territories and is designed to help the NWT arts community stay up to date with the current "happenings" in the industry.

There are two GNWT Departments that have shared interests in supporting the arts — **Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI)** and **Education Culture and Employment (ECE)**. ECE supports the creative aspects of the arts, while ITI's primary role is helping the business side of arts. At times, it is difficult to clearly distinguish these roles.

ECE's Role in Supporting NWT Arts

Since 1985, ECE has supported the NWT Arts Council as it strives to stimulate and promote northern art. The Council's role is to provide recommendations to the Minister of ECE regarding financial awards and workshops. If you would like to apply for funding, please consult the Arts Council website for an application at:

pwnhc.learnnet.nt.ca/artscouncil

ECE also has a Support to Northern Performers' Program designed to aid in the development and promotion of performing arts and Artists in the NWT at local and regional public festivals and events.

Consult the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre website at:

pwnhc.learnnet.nt.ca/programs/index.htm

ITI's Role in Supporting NWT Arts

ITI recognizes the importance of tradition and the economic potential of the NWT arts and fine Crafts industry. ITI's support is provided through the Business Development Fund and Grants to Small Business program. ITI, through the new Branding Logo, also supports marketing and promotional efforts nationally and internationally by bringing awareness to the importance and value of traditional art and fine crafts in the NWT. For more information please visit ITI's website at:

www.iti.gov.nt.ca/artscrafts

www.nwtarts.com